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THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY,

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

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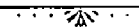
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FORTNIGHTLY

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SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1900.
ONE PENNY.

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1892, 2/- to 10/- ..	" 6	1	13	0	" " " 7d. ..	0	19	0	
*Brit. South Africa, 1891, 1/2d. to 8d. ..	" 4	4	5	0	" " " 2d. on 4d. ..	1	7	0	
" " 1896, 1/2d. to 1/- ..	" 4	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, 1c. to 50c. ..	" 12	0	11	0	" " " 1c. brown ..	2	0	0	
" " 1 to 65 ..	" 5	3	14	0	*British Honduras, 1882, 6d. yellow ..	2	14	0	
1898, Maple leaf, 1c. to 10c. ..	" 4	0	2	0	" " " 1/- grey ..	2	5	0	
*Gambia, 1887, 1/2d. to 1/- ..	" 4	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, 1890, 1c. to 2 pence ..	" 4	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 3p. ..	" 7	0	4	0	*Ceylon, 2.50 lilac ..	2	10	0	
*New South Wales, O.N., 1d., 2d., 2 1/2d., 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., B.G. & Co.'s No. 36 ..	3	3	0	
Brazil, 180r. standing figures ..	" 2	14	0	0	*Württemberg, 1858, 18k. blue ..	1	16	0	
" 300r. " " ..	" 3	14	0	0	" " " 1863-4, 9kr. black brown ..	2	5	0	
*Egypt, 1866, 5 plastra ..	" 0	16	0	0	" " " 1873, 70k. mouve ..	3	8	0	
1866, 10 plastra ..	" 0	19	0	0	*Tuscany, 2 quat. black one greyish ..	1	0	0	
*Tunis, 1888, 5 franca ..	" 1	0	0	0	*Sweden, 1858, 12 o. ultramarine ..	1	7	0	
*Hanover, 10g. green ..	" 2	10	0	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	0	Naples, 1/2 Tornese Cross, superb copy ..	3	10	0	
*Buenos Ayres, in Pecos, blue ..	" 1	10	0	0	Mauritius, 1848, 1d. earliest state of Plate, superb copy ..	9	10	0	
Peru, Medio Peco, yellow ..	1 fine	2	10	0	" " " ad. ..	16	0	0	
" " rose ..	"	9	10	0	*Surinam, 1899, Provisional, 50c., 1 gul. and 2 gul. 50c. ..	10	0	0	
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The STAMP COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY.

With which are incorporated the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly" and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."
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No. 131.—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

WORLD'S RICHEST WOMAN IS A STAMP COLLECTOR.

FROM Portland, Maine, the "Weekly Philatelic Era" whispers us that Miss Hetty Green, of New York, reputed to be a millionairess more times over than any other woman in the world, is a stamp collector. Well, Miss Green is rich enough to buy herself all the scarce varieties if she wants them; and whether the "Era's" statement is true or not, we know that, in another sense, Miss Hetty Green has indubitably "got the stamps."

STAMPS USED ONCE TOO OFTEN.

JAMES J. COX, Postmaster of Rosslea, in the County Fermagh, has been on his trial before the Magistrates of the Rosslea Petty Sessions, charged with—in plain language—using stamps that had been used already. Three or four instances of this were brought home to him, and the Court imposed a fine of £200, with the alternative of six months' imprisonment in each case. The warrant was stayed for fourteen days to enable defendant to memorialise to get the penalties reduced.

PHILIPPINE REMAINDERS FETCH A BIG PRICE.

FROM a correspondent on the spot, Mr. A. R. Wilson, and from the "Metropolitan Philatelist," of New York, we receive news of the sale of the Philippine Remainers. It appears that the lot was knocked down for \$50,300 Mexican, after very spirited bidding. It is a pity by the way that a note on this subject in "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News," evidently written in haste at the last moment, is likely to seriously

mislead those who read it. In the first place, if our information is correct, the stamps were not bought by a German firm, but by a New York syndicate of dealers, for whom Messrs. Keller acted as agents. Again, \$50,300 Mexican is not the equivalent of £10,000, as Mr. Ewen evidently imagines. The Mexican dollar is worth roughly three-fifths of the dollar of Uncle Sam; therefore, £6000 is approximately the amount realised by the sale of the Philippine Remainers. But even that is an astounding price.

Mr. Charles J. Phillips, by the way, in an article in the "Monthly Journal," written in anticipation of this sale, warns philatelists that the coming of this huge remainder (amounting in some instances to millions of specimens of one variety), must necessarily affect the quotations for Philippines in the forthcoming "Gibbons Part II." In some cases there may be no fall at all—nay, possibly an appreciation—but one or two lines must inevitably show a heavy decline in price.

CLEANED STAMPS FROM THE CONTINENT.

VERY pertinently Mr. W. Dornier Beckton writes to the "London Philatelist" warning collectors against pseudo unused stamps sent on approval at low prices by the lesser Continental firms. These "unused" stamps are in very many cases cleaned copies, priced very moderately (for unused) to entice the unwary bargain hunter. "A word of caution in time may prevent too confiding collectors being fleeced," says Mr. Dornier Beckton; and we trust it may!

THE TAPLING COLLECTION: A SUCCESSION.

REGARDING the scandalously lackadaisical attitude of the British Museum authorities towards the Taping collection, already alluded to in the *Fortnightly*, Mr. Nankivell makes the suggestion that the specimens of all new stamps received by this country from the headquarters of the Postal Union at Berne, should, "with the consent of the Post Office, go to the formation of a National collection, with the Taping collection as their basis." Who is to move in the matter? Mr. Nankivell asks; and echo answers "Who?"

THE STAMPS-REMOVED-FROM-LETTERS NUISANCE.

WE are reminded of this subject of stamps removed from envelopes by two things—firstly, by the case of an unspeakable Turk, one Tahir Nazim Effendi, who has been prosecuted for "unstamping" all the mail matter in his district; and, secondly, by a new device adopted by the American postal authorities with a view to showing at what stage in each journey a letter "sheds" its stamps. A handstamp, resembling an ordinary postmark, is impressed upon any envelope or wrapper coming to hand in a stampless state. Its inscription reads:

"Postage Stamp Removed before Receipt —," with the name of office and date.

'Tis a business-like notion, and if it were adopted by every country in the Postal Union it might be possible to so narrow things down as to ultimately detect the individuals who sometimes make quite a respectable haul by filching stamps in transit.

MAKING THE DEFINITION FIT THE CASE.

It seems to have escaped notice that a curious definition of a stamp dealer has been framed by the Executive of the Paris Philatelic Exhibition. In their prospectus dealers are described as "those who hold a license for the sale of stamps or who occupy a shop, as well as those persons who are notoriously known to be thus engaged."

There are many men "notoriously known to be thus engaged" who neither hold a license nor occupy a shop; and at these our Parisian confrères are having a sly dig, perchance.

COMPARATIVE VALUES OF THE PENNY PLATE NUMBERS.

Another correspondent of the "Bazaar," on the subject of the British plate numbers—Mr. James Young, of Glasgow—has "gone over" 19,237 of the plate-numbered penny reds, and reports the following results:—

Plate No.	No. of Copies	Plate No.	No. of Copies	Plate No.	No. of Copies	Plate No.	No. of Copies
71	60	112	32	152	54	190	246
72	80	113	49	153	26	191	229
73	92	114	27	154	78	192	288
74	105	115	23	155	79	193	362
76	79	116	35	156	108	194	119
78	99	117	74	157	74	195	277
79	113	118	77	158	112	196	317
80	96	119	92	159	91	197	110
81	111	120	139	160	100	198	276
82	44	121	57	161	33	199	197
83	32	122	145	162	68	200	294
84	76	123	81	163	70	201	309
85	95	124	100	164	71	202	319
86	81	125	74	165	85	203	208
87	79	127	60	166	71	204	304
88	21	129	59	167	129	205	261
89	85	130	72	168	85	206	250
90	87	131	54	169	58	207	216
91	72	132	15	170	154	208	211
93	76	133	17	171	351	209	253
94	70	134	134	172	215	210	158
95	87	135	24	173	53	211	87
96	65	136	37	174	454	212	239
97	74	137	80	175	95	213	233
98	69	138	113	176	120	214	207
99	68	139	42	177	209	215	202
100	66	140	209	178	46	216	215
101	51	141	33	179	122	217	212
102	76	142	20	180	50	218	187
103	50	143	30	181	287	219	92
104	36	144	53	182	47	220	194
105	16	145	99	183	100	221	136
106	54	146	98	184	296	222	128
107	39	147	120	185	68	223	57
108	42	148	88	186	109	224	62
109	18	149	98	187	195	225	5
110	54	150	194	108	76		
111	56	151	48	189	62		

The commonest in Mr. Young's lot is therefore plate 174. Perhaps some reader of the *Fortnightly*, statistically inclined, will take this plate as his unit and work out the relative scarcity of the other numbers.

A RUBBER STAMP POST IN THE EAST.

THE "Philatelic Journal of India" brings us news of yet another new paper in the philately of the East—the Local Post of Chagai, to wit. This it seems was a private post started in 1898 by Captain Ware, in connection with the Seistan & Nashki route, from British Baluchistan to Meshed in Persia. The labels were hand-impressed with a rubber stamp.

Messrs. Gibbons' Catalogue.

CONCLUSION OF MR. LOWE'S REVIEW, AND A FEW CRITICISMS FROM OTHER SOURCES.

During the last few years, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., finding their competitors in business under-selling them, at least as regards the commoner used stamps, have tried to reduce their prices, so as not to be under-sold. But have they effected their purpose, or would further reductions in price effect it? We think not.

Whatever prices Messrs. Stanley Gibbons sell at, the smaller dealers will sell cheaper; they are forced to, otherwise they cannot sell at all. In the case of unused current stamps a limit is soon reached. All dealers have to buy at the same figure and there can be but little difference in the prices they sell at. With used stamps the case is however, very different. To take an instance, some one wishes to sell one hundred used five shilling Cape of Good Hope stamps. He takes them to 391, Strand. If the firm happen not to have many copies of the stamp in stock they will give him a good price for them. Suppose, however, they have already what they consider a sufficient supply they will probably be unwilling to buy. The owner then goes to a smaller dealer and offers the stamps again. The dealer says "oh yes, the stamp is catalogued at a shilling, but I always sell at half catalogue price. I cannot give more than 4d. a piece even for picked copies, and some of yours are heavily postmarked." Eventually the owner is persuaded to take 3d. each for the stamps and the dealer makes a good profit by selling them at 8d. or 9d. apiece. The stamp trade is carried on under conditions different from those affecting other businesses. The value of a stamp depends, as the value of everything else, on supply and demand, but the conditions determining the demand are peculiar. The demand for wheat is almost constant and therefore if the supply is increased by a good harvest the price of wheat falls. The fall in the price to a certain extent increases the demand but the increase is relatively small. In the case of stamps, however, the demand is regulated by a number of factors not the least of which is the catalogued price. In the case of 5/- Cape catalogued at 1/- we may safely affirm that for ten collectors who are willing to pay 1/- for it there are hundreds who would be glad to buy it at 6d. If it were catalogued 2/- nearly all the collectors who are now willing to buy it at 6d. would be ready to give 1/- for it. If, on the other hand, the catalogue price were 6d., a large proportion of these same collectors would refuse to pay more than 3d. or 4d. for it.

The fact is every collector wants to buy as cheaply as possible and as the ordinary collector uses the catalogue as a standard price list he considers every stamp cheap which is offered to him substantially below catalogue price. The result we arrive at is simply this, that however cheaply Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co. are willing to sell, a large number of collectors will imagine that their prices are high. We see no way out of the difficulty; it arises out of the fact that collectors are human beings and are therefore, by nature, bargain hunters. If Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co. choose to be the largest stamp dealing firm in the kingdom they must take the consequences. We cannot help them out of the difficulty. We may point out to collectors that though there are many stamps which can be purchased through Exchange Societies, and from dealers also, at half catalogue price, there are a great many others which cannot be bought, except at catalogue price or over. But if the collectors reply:—"Very well! We will buy those stamps that we can pick up cheap and we will do without the others," these collectors are free to do so, and some of them will do it notwithstanding anything we or anyone else may say on the subject. H.F.L.

SOME BRITISH STAMPS UNDERPRICED.

Although an admirable catalogue—more so, perhaps, as a handbook than as a guide to values—Messrs. Gibbons' "British Empire" is distinctly not well done in the matter of Great Britain. The system of dealing with the plate-numbers

is incongruous and leads to many anomalies. The pricing of some of the 2½d. plates is amazing. Plate 2, wmk. anchor, is put at 9d. and plate 3, same wmk., at 4d., whereas the prices should be plate 2, 4d.; plate 3, 9d. Again, plate 3 with wmk. orb., which is far rarer than the other two stamps already named, is priced at 3d. Eightpence would be nearer the mark. Mr. C. Nissen, who has handled many thousands of the 2½d. stamps, cannot agree that plates 4 to 16 should be marked at 1d. apiece. He would mark them thus:—

Plates 5, 6, 10	...	...	4d.
Plates 7, 8, 9, 11	...	...	3d.
Plate 12	...	...	2d.

As regards the 3d. stamp, the plate 4, emblems, is priced 8d., the same plate with spray of rose at 6d., and plate 21 at 2s. The last is the commonest of the three, while the plate four, wmk. spray of rose, is undoubtedly the rarest of all the 3d. stamps with large letters. The 4d. stamps are also priced below their true values. Other plate numbers underpriced are 6d., chestnut, plate 12; 6d., grey, plate 12; 9d., straw, plate 4, emblems; 1s. green, plates 7, 8, and 11.

On the other hand some are priced too high, such as the 1853, 2s. 6d. on blue; 1880, 4d. grey-brown, wmk. garter; 1880, 1s. orange-brown, wmk. spray; and a number in the line engraved series. The prices for many of the unused stamps are far too low.

A POINT ABOUT BRITISH COLUMBIA.

"One who does not believe in catalogues" writes:—

Messrs. Gibbons', from their 1900 catalogue, omit the 10 cents and 1 dollar British Columbia, perf. 14, as being "unissued stamps." On referring back to my old catalogues I find, in the one published September, 1895, that these two stamps were priced at £6, each *used*. Now there are only two deductions to be made from this: (1) the statement that they were not issued is untrue, or (2) Messrs. Gibbons wished to buy two stamps which they can never even have seen, at a remarkably low price.

Also, to be consistent, the 1d. slate blue on blued paper of Barbados, 1852 issue, ought to be omitted. The handbook on "Barbados" says, "prepared for use, but not issued." To this we must, in common fairness, object that with regard to Messrs. Gibbons' quotation for used specimens of the 10 cents and 1 dollar British Columbia, there is a third possibility—the quotation might have been purely and simply a mistake, based on inaccurate information.

The War's Philatelic Side.

THE March Issue, just to hand, of the "Mitteldutsche Philatelisten Zeitung," makes mention of the label illustrated here—a War Stamp, or Frank, employed by the Free State Commandos. We gather that the stamp is on yellow paper and is gummed and perforated. The stamp received by Herr Glasewald bears the postmark "Modder River, Nov. 15th," in addition to the usual field-postmark of the Orange Free State, whatever that may be.

To Mr. Charles Purdom we are indebted for several envelopes from South Africa, all bearing the Army post-mark as illustrated in the last *Fortnightly*. There is one, however, that shows the letters "B.O." after the words "Field Post Office" in the outer circle; and we notice that this has, in lieu of the usual "office number," simply a star.

Lieutenant Stanley Castle, only son of Mr. M. P. Castle, is "at the front." Every philatelist will heartily wish him much glory and a safe return.

A correspondent in South Africa writes: "I hear of varieties of the Z.A.R. all round, but have seen none. Some of the Transvaal officials are stamp collectors; so I fancy curious varieties will abound. I don't fancy the stuff as there is no absolute need for it. I saw in one of the papers that one of the great stamp speculators in the Pretoria Post Office was killed in one of the recent engagements."

News Notes from all Quarters.

Mons. Pourquery de Boisserin is the Henniker Heaton of France. He is trying to get the French inland letter rate reduced from 15 to 10 centimes.

Nothing is so "gloriously uncertain" as the prices realised by philatelic literature at auction. Many choice items in the Westoby Library went for trifling sums. A set of eight volumes "London Philatelist," seven of them half-bound, was secured for £1 10s.; while a set of twelve volumes of the famous old "Stamp Collectors' Magazine" realised only £2 0s.

It seems that the notorious Richard Wolle (the American philatelic swindler whose portrait appeared in the *Fortnightly* on the occasion of his last conviction) is again in trouble. From a letter to the "Weekly Philatelic Era" it appears that this individual has now turned his attention to the faking of paper money. Wolle is now in custody at St. Louis, Mo.

The membership of the American Philatelic Association now stands at 502. Why have we no society or club in the United Kingdom with a membership equally large?

Mr. J. McEwen has found a specimen of the Canada 2 cents on 3 cents showing "F" instead of "E" in the word "cents."

Two correspondents of "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" have seen specimens of an interesting variety of the Jamaica 2½d. provisional of 1890. Therein the last letter "Y" consists of a "K" with the downstroke chipped off.

A new version of the old million-stamps story: Some three or four years ago a wealthy man of Chicago told a young woman that he would provide for life for a protégé of hers, a helpless man, if she would collect a million postage stamps. She has done so, but in the meanwhile the helpless man has not only recovered his health, but has made a fortune of a quarter of a million, while the young woman's parents have died and left her in straitened circumstances. The story ought to end by the marriage of the young woman and her protégé. But (says the "Globe") the latter is already married to a woman who has an intense dislike of the young woman, and who now will not permit her husband to help her, either directly or indirectly.

According to the "Metropolitan Philatelist's" detailed list of the U.S.A. stamps ordered to be printed for the current year only 1,000 of the 50 cents "Postage Due" stamps are requisitioned, as against 7,200,000 of the 1 cent and 13,080,000 of the 2 cents. The 50c. stamp must be terribly hard to get.

The British Colonial "Remainders."

TO THE EDITOR, "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY."

DEAR SIR,—In "Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal" of January 31st, appears an article on "The Remainders of Unused English Colonial Stamps," in which doubt is cast on the list of these stamps that was commenced in "The Stamp Collectors' Guardian." Now I can vouch that every variety in that list came from improper sources, some in large and others in small quantities. It is all very well to say that those which came out in very small quantities should not be condemned, but how do we know the number that may be behind them? Why not be straightforward and admit that a few have come out in this manner, so that collectors may exercise their own discretion in buying?

I quite agree that the De la Rue remainders are the most dangerous, but as these are now the subject of an official investigation, I am not able to enlarge on this subject. Suffice it to say that the quantity now on the market is not likely to be increased by a further leakage.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

London, February, 1900.

H. A. McMILLAN.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MARCH 17, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

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The result of the War Fund Prize Competition is disappointing in the extreme, the entrants being less than a dozen! We had hoped to see a goodly muster of *Fortnightly* readers entering the arena of competition, not so much for the sake of the prizes offered, but for the good cause concerned. The stamps sent in will have been submitted to Mr. M. P. Castle for adjudication ere this issue of the paper is published, and in the next *Fortnightly* a full statement of the results will be given.

* * *

A COMPLETE index to volume V. of the *Fortnightly*, completed by the issue of our last number will we trust, be ready by the end of the ensuing fortnight. Owing to the expense of its production and the important question of the postage-limit we must make a nominal charge of 1½d. per copy, postage paid, for this index. Readers requiring it are requested to order early, and a copy will then be forwarded with the next number of the *Fortnightly*.

As in past years the proprietors of the *Fortnightly* will publish a special binding case and will also undertake to bind readers' volumes at the price of 2s. 6d., including binding case, index and return carriage. An announcement to this effect appears elsewhere.

The promised article on Egypt, by Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., is unavoidably held over.

In the next "Fortnightly" will appear an article on types of Adelaide postmarks, by the Rev. P. E. Raynor, supplementing that gentleman's interesting article in this number under "Forgers and their Work."

The War Auction takes place on Wednesday week (the 28th). Don't forget it! Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, the auctioneers, will send anyone a catalogue who drops a shilling in the tambourine.

Regarding the complaint that no good philatelic library exists in this country, Mr. W. Denison Roebuck writes: "The Leeds Philatelic Society has a good library, which is in charge of the Public Librarian of Leeds, and is accessible at all hours when the library is open."

We stand corrected for having said that, since Tapping's death, philately has had no representative at St. Stephen's. Mr. A. Preston Pearce reminds us that Mr. Henniker Heaton admits the ownership of a small collection, and adds that a titled supporter of the present Government is an ardent collector of fiscals.

Our "Collectors' Guide to Values" has brought us many congratulatory letters from all quarters. We regret that, owing to two absences from town, we are unable to continue the "Guide" in this number. It will appear again in our next, and thereafter, we trust, there will be no further break in the series.

Mr. Morley's Telegraph Catalogue.

A REVIEW BY INTERVIEW.

TO Mr. Walter Morley's enterprise we owe the first complete catalogue of the Telegraph Stamps of the World. This, a neat book of 180 pages, remarkably well printed and illustrated, has just been published at the price of 5s.—a little dear, perhaps, but luxuries "come high" as the old saying says. That this book will prove to be a luxury in the sense of value, but at the same time a real necessity to all telegraph collectors from the point of view of their own interest, I do not for a moment doubt.

I found Mr. Walter Morley in a cosy den at the back of a cosy house at Hither Green, standing behind a horizontal pair of well centred grass plots, surrounded by a generous margin of flower bed. I venture to commend this description to the house agents of Hither Green desiring to secure further philatelic tenants.

This idea of mine of getting a man to talk about his own book paves the way to a confession, hereby freely made, that I know very little about telegraph stamps myself. The little I know, however, would tempt me to learn more, if I had but the time.

On first opening Mr. Morley's Catalogue of the World's Telegraphs I was struck, nay astounded, by the small aggregate of varieties listed therein; and this point formed the subject of my first question.

"Yes," said Mr. Morley, "there are surprisingly few telegraphs; I haven't counted them, but I think there are less than 3500 varieties listed in my book. Very many countries, of course, like Great Britain, have no separate telegraph issues or are abandoning the distinct telegraph stamps. But on the other hand there are some that have recently adopted special stamps for telegraphic purposes."

"Indeed?"

"Yes—Venezuela and Guatemala, for instance. Ecuador had no telegraph stamps prior to 1892; Nicaragua made a start in 1891. Persia has recently surcharged stamps "Service" for, I think, telegraphic duty; but as to Persia, I am not yet in a position to speak positively. Paraguay, you will remember, surcharged a great many of its telegraph stamps for postal use; this has made the unsurcharged stamps quite scarce."

"And telegraph collecting—is it on the increase?"

"Yes; and the catalogue will help it, I daresay. It has long been wanted, and I am selling a fair number; but of course it is something of a venture, as all the blocks have had to be specially made, and the difficulty has been, not only to get the blocks made but to secure good copies of all the varieties to photograph. An interesting country just now of course is the Orange Free State. The Transvaal has no Telegraphs. Speaking of South Africa, here's quite a scarce stamp—the special label issued by Renter's Agency during the Matabele War."

"Are any telegraphs really very rare?"

"Rather!" said Mr. Morley with emphasis. "Rarer than people think. Here's a scarce thing—the Indian 1 rupee grey, imperf. For a long time the existence of this stamp imperforate was not credited; Mr. Stewart Wilson himself doubted it; but I secured the unsevered pair shown in my catalogue (cut No. 250a) and that clinched the matter."

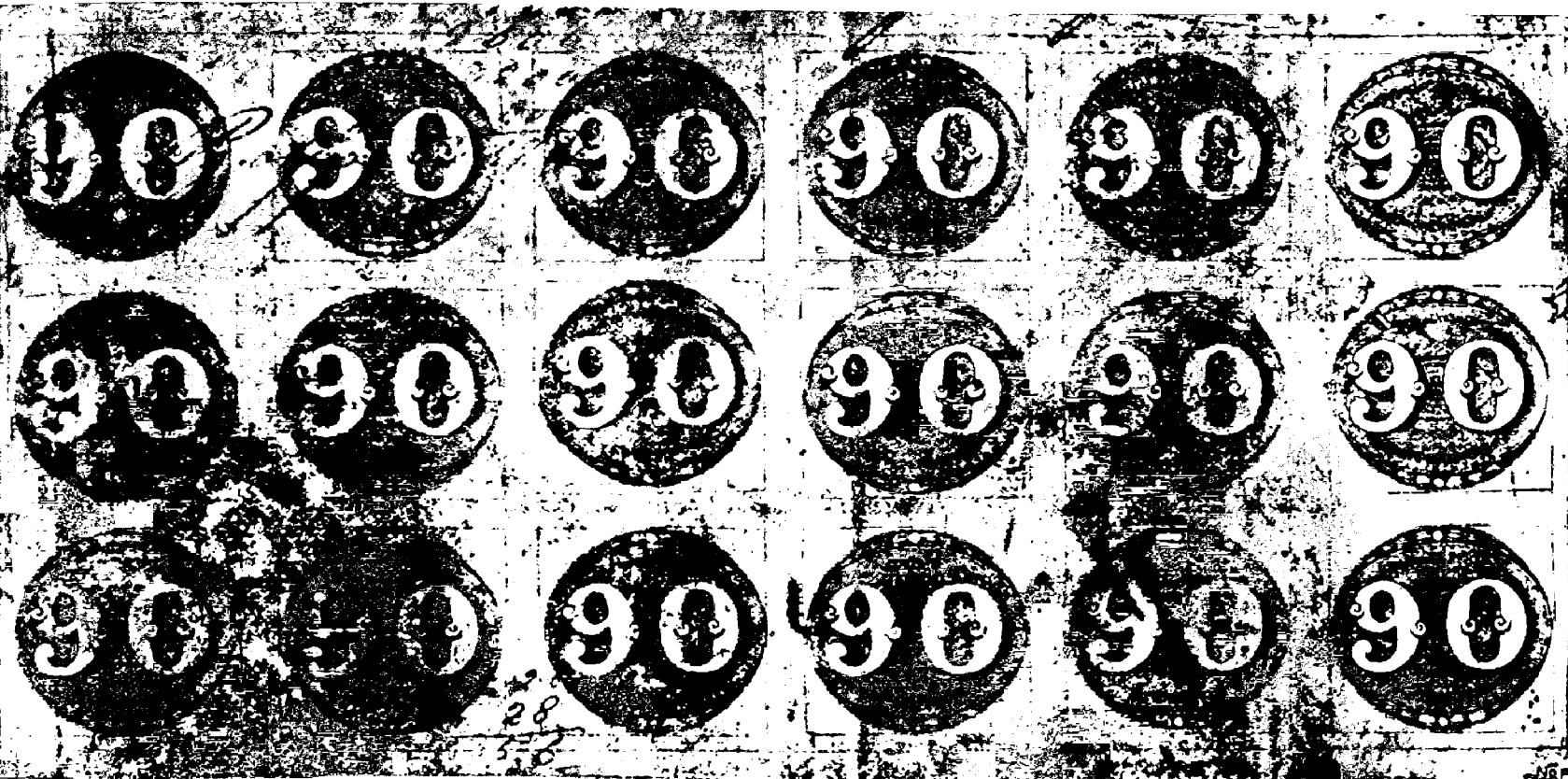
"Any reprints, or remainders?"

"Reprints? Only Belgium and Russia, so far as I know, apart from the American Companies' stamps which of course have been very extensively reprinted. Remainders have come on the market from Hungary, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Austria, and Cuba. The Cuban remainders used to be quite an annual affair, but its strange that I have never heard of remainders of either Porto Rico or the Philippines."

"Going?" as I rose to depart. "Good bye!" And Mr. Morley returned to his task of pricing a fat book full of fiscals.

P.C.B.

Complete Pane of the 90 Reis of Brazil, now in the possession of Mr. Evan T. Roberts, the author of this Article.



THE STAMPS OF BRAZIL, 1840 to 1890.

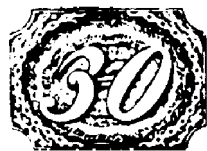
BY EVAN T. ROBERTS.

(Being a Paper read before the Manchester Philatelic Society, January 12th, 1900.)

PART I.—NATIVE ENGRAVED FIGURE ISSUES.

It is a great credit to the nation of which I write that it was the first country, outside of Great Britain, to adopt and to put into practical use the great postal reforms which had already been of such great benefit to the United Kingdom. It is commonly reported that the Brazilian Consul in London at that time was the means of introducing postal reform into Brazil.

The idea was taken up by the Emperor, Don Pedro, with enthusiasm, and in November, 1842, a long and comprehensive



Second Issue



First Issue.



Third Issue.

decree was published from the Palace of Rio-de-Janeiro, creating postage stamps, and also letter-carriers to deliver the correspondence, which formerly had to be fetched from the Post Office.

As this decree is very long, and, moreover, has a great deal of matter in it that would not interest the student of Brazilian stamps, a few only of its articles directly affecting the issue of stamps will be noticed here.

The decree is dated November 23rd, 1842, and numbered 255.

ARTICLE 1.—Eight months after the publication of the present decree all newspapers and Governmental Acts shall be prepaid: letters and other mail matter shall be prepaid one month after said publication.

ARTICLE 5.—The prepayment shall be effected by means of stamps of the values of 30, 60 and 90 reis, as shown in Model 1.

ARTICLE 9.—Before forwarding the letters the postmaster will cause a cancellation seal to be affixed on the stamps, so as to render them useless, without, however, destroying them. When this shall not be done in the mailing office, then it shall be done in the receiving office.

ARTICLE 10.—Anybody who should counterfeit any of the above mentioned stamps shall be punished by a fine of 100,000 reis and by three months imprisonment.

The rest of the decree is taken up with the details of the creation of letter-carriers.

Now as to the stamps themselves:—

FIRST ISSUE.—LARGE WHITE FIGURES.

Date of Issue.—January 1st, 1843. I have taken this date as that on which these stamps were issued on the strength of the provisions of the decree, and in defiance of the generally accepted date, which is July 1st, 1843.

Values.—30, 60 and 90 reis, roughly speaking about equal to 1d., 2d. and 3d., as the value of the milreis was then high.

Description.—Printed in black for all three values, and consisting of large white ornamental figures within an oval

of white, engine-turned lines, the whole surrounded by four black lines forming a rectangle 29×27 mm. in size, and touching the oval in one or more places. The chief part of the background is composed of small square dots, formed by the intersection of the white lines of the engine turning. These black dots are arranged in alternate large and small diamonds of 9 and 12 dots respectively. Inside the lines of the oval there are four concentric ovals, each separated from its neighbours by a more or less distinct line. Each value has its own distinct characteristics, as follows:—

In the 30 reis the tail of the 3 is split up into two curls, and these two curls are level with each other. There is no shading in the straight commencement of the 3.

In the 60 reis the top of the figure 6 ends in a curl, which form an almost complete circle.

In the 90 reis the inside shading of the head of the 9 goes only half way round.

Paper.—A white hand-made wove, varying very considerably in thickness from a very thin to quite a thick substantial paper. There are many shades of colour of this paper. There is a greyish white, a bluish white, and generally the thick paper will be found to be of a pronounced yellow colour.

Gum.—Thin, clear, and yellowish in shade; does not stain the paper.

Method of Manufacture.—Printed by means of copper-plates in the following manner: in sheets of 60 stamps divided into three panes, one for each value, each sheet being in size 13 inches by 8½ inches inclusive of margins. The upper pane of a complete sheet is that of the 30 reis value consisting of 18 stamps in 3 rows of 6 enclosed by a thin black line forming a rectangle. Below this is a thicker black line extending right across the sheet from edge to edge, and underneath this is the pane of 60 reis consisting of 24 stamps in 4 rows of 6, also with a thin black line surrounding it and also the same straight line across the sheet. The lowest pane is that of the 90 reis value, in number of stamps exactly like that of the 30 reis, and also with the lines encircling the stamps. It is not known whether these stamps were sold to the public in entire sheets or whether they were cut into panes of each value and thus sold. A curious thing about these stamps is that identical numbers of each value, 30 reis and 90 reis, were printed, and yet the 90 reis is at least three times as hard to get as the 30 reis.

Varieties.—There is one rather prominent variety of the 90 reis. It is that the large white figures are outlined on the inner side as well as on the outer side. This variety only occurs once on the sheet, in the second stamp from the left in the last row.

There is also a variety of the 60 reis. I cannot say on how many stamps this variety occurs, but on every copy of the 60 reis that I have in my collection, it is found. Between the right hand edge of the large white figure 0 and the extreme edge of the oval, there is a small black line, extremely minute and not easily discovered, except with the aid of a good glass.

Remarks.—During the last few months much new matter concerning these stamps has come to light. Two complete panes of the 90 reis have been found in their native country, and have as a matter of course come to England. A very careful examination of these panes and other large blocks makes it certain that more than one plate was used for the printing of these stamps. It is not yet possible for me to say in what order these plates were made and used. The chief differences are in the position of the corner stamps as regards their closeness to the outer marginal lines and in the leaf-like ornaments in the top and lower parts of the ovals surrounding the large figures.

When seen in large blocks these slight differences are very easily distinguished. Some single specimens of the 90 reis values show very distinct signs of having had the black shading of the figures redrawn and made deeper, owing no doubt to the original shading wearing out very quickly. In some specimens, and this most frequently on the 90 reis on very thin white paper, the large black oval can be seen on

the reverse side in greenish black, the ink having gone through the paper and turned green in colour owing to its age and probably to something used in its manufacture.

All the stamps of this first issue were very irregularly laid down on the plate, some being higher in the rows than others. It seems probable that all were put on with a single die, and the leaf, ornaments and the lines round the stamps and on the margins put on by hand afterwards.

The postmark is generally a large circle with date and also a town-name within two straight lines in black, red, blue, carmine. Stamps on the original cover may be found uncancelled, having been used as seals to fasten covers together before the days of ready-made envelopes.*

SECOND ISSUE.—SLANTING FIGURES.

Date of Issue.—July 1st, 1844.

Values.—As last issue, 30, 60 and 90 reis.

Description.—Slanting italic figures on an engine-turned background of white lines, with the four corners bowed inwards. Printed in black for all values and imperforate. Size 23×18 mm.

Paper.—White wove, hand-made, and varying very much in colour. Thin greyish white. Thin bluish white. Thin and thick yellowish, and a thick brownish paper. In some instances the paper is remarkably thin and almost transparent.

Gum.—Thin, clear; yellowish in colour; crackly in appearance; apparently does not affect the paper in any way.

Method of Manufacture.—Copper-plate printed in sheets of 100 in 10 rows of 10 stamps. This has been in doubt, owing to no entire sheets having been seen; but I am assured, on eminent authority, that the above statement is correct.

These stamps, like their predecessors, are laid down on the plate in a very irregular manner, some being a long way apart, whilst others are touching each other. In this issue there is also a thin black line which runs around the margins of the entire sheet. The printing of these stamps was very badly done, some are in a rich deep black, while others look like skeleton-outline copies. The paper was used as it was bought and whether it was creased or not, appears to have made no difference to the printer. At times the ink was used very thin and sometimes applied too freely. Altogether, a fine example of bad workmanship on the part of the native printers.

Nearly a year later three more stamps of the same series made their appearance.

Date of Issue.—May 23rd, 1845.

Values.—180, 300, and 600 reis.

These now rank among the rarest stamps of Brazil and are really very much scarcer than is thought by many people.

Design.—Similar to the stamps already described, but with an extra line drawn around the figures at a little distance away and the figures are smaller.

Paper.—Thin ashy grey and yellowish, the latter being slightly thicker than the greyish printed in black.

Gum.—Thin and clear in colour, and in some copies cracks the paper. It has been stated in *Philatelic Journals* lately that a Brazilian paper recently took a census of the numbers of these slanting-figure stamps existing in that country. The number certainly was very small and I do not think that the stamps have yet reached their true level of value.

On September 26th, 1846, yet another value of these stamps appeared, this concluding the set as catalogued:—
10 reis black.

This was printed in the same manner as the 30, 60, and 90 values, and on the same paper as these.

The 10 reis stamps are frequently found in very large blocks owing to their being used to pay large amounts of

*This habit of applying the stamp to the back instead of the front of the envelope appears to have clung most tenaciously to the Brazilian people. We have, in our own collection, specimens of the first "Southern Cross" issue, postmarked "London." These stamps had been used as seals by the senders, had escaped cancellation at Rio and were duly postmarked by a zealous postal official on their arrival in this country.—Ed.

postage. I have seen the entire back of a letter covered with a block of 20 of them; and the envelope could not be opened without tearing across the whole block. I have lately tried to reconstruct a plate of these stamps, and am inclined to think that more than one plate must have been used in the printing. However I am not yet able to say this with any degree of certainty.

I have also a strip of the 10 reis with margins showing no outer line, such as I find on all the others: and this, I think, points clearly to more than one plate.

THIRD ISSUE: UPRIGHT FIGURES.

Date of Issue.—1st January, 1850, for all values except the 20 reis which appeared on 23rd August, 1850.

In this issue the design has undergone a great alteration. The background has been altered and the figures are now upright and the size of the stamps is less than before.

Values.—10, 20, 30, 60, 90, 180, 300, 600 reis, all printed in black and imperforate.

Design.—White upright figures of value on white engine-turned lines within a rectangle, 100 stamps on sheet divided into two panes of 50 by a white space between the panes. There are no lines on the margins in this issue.

Paper.—White, wove, hand-made, and showing the following variations of colour, &c.: Greyish white, bluish white

and yellowish white, varying in thickness from very thin to thick.

Gum.—Thick and yellowish and thin and clear. The thick gum affects the paper and makes it liable to crack, if handled too much or in a rough manner.

Remarks.—In this issue we find many specimens coming from worn plates. These plates were in use a very long time, but in this case there *must have been* new plates made, as no plates, either steel or copper, would last 16 years without renewal.

FOURTH ISSUE: UPRIGHT FIGURES.

Date of Issue.—February 27th, 1854. On this date the two values, 10 reis and 30 reis, appeared printed in blue, of which there are a great many shades. It is not worth while going into details of these stamps, as the plates of the preceding issue were utilised for the printing, the blue stamps being as a matter of fact, used concurrently with the 10 reis and 30 reis in black. It has been stated in many catalogues and papers that these blue stamps were used as newspaper stamps exclusively. This I do not think was the case as I have found them used together on the entire original. The paper of the stamps is often stained blue by the too liberal use of the ink in printing.

(To be Continued).

Our Review of Reviews.

The Portuguese Volunteers' Own!

We have read all the references to the special stamp prepared for the use of the Portuguese Civil Sharpshooters (in other words, the Lisbon Volunteers) published in the "Monthly Journal," the "American Journal of Philately," and other papers; and we look in vain for any evidence that this stamp will be anything more than a local—interesting doubtless, but still only a local. We gather that the Civil Sharpshooters of Lisbon, by a Royal Decree promulgated in the July of last year, are now in the enjoyment of the boon of free postage. But is such free postage limited to the confines of Portugal? or have these Volunteers' stamps—or to be strictly accurate, franks—any locus standi in the eyes of the Postal Union? Perhaps one or another of the *Fortnightly's* good friends in Lisbon, will kindly help us.

Varieties of the 5c., 1847, Geneva.

Mons. Moens gives us in the *Timbre Poste* a short article descriptive of the varieties of this stamp. The stamp of January 1847, showing figure "5" with a straight head, first appeared with large letters "I.H.S." in the glory above the word "Tenebras." The letters were found to be too big, almost filling the space within the rays, so they were effaced and replaced by smaller letters; but the work of erasure was very imperfectly done, and in some specimens the old "I" and the old "S" can be very clearly distinguished.

Variety No. 1 has a thin line extending upwards from the left frame of the shield to a level with the upper part of the "T" of "Tenebras."

Variety No. 2 shows the same line, but shorter. Here the line stops at the banderole, about on a level with the bottom of the "T" of "Tenebras."

Variety No. 3.—Here one finds only the small letters "I.H.S.," the larger characters having been removed. The line crossing the banderole has also gone, and in its place is a white line showing the position it occupied.

Re-enter Bussahir.

Bussahir is whitewashed. We shall now collect Bussahir—those of us who collect Indian Native States at all! Major Evans, in one of his excellent articles on the Native States stamps in the "Monthly Journal" shows that whereas, in 1895, there appeared to be excellent reason for denouncing the Bussahir labels as speculative and unnecessary, there is now equally good ground for regarding the issue as quite an honest one, and moreover, not at all blameworthy in a philatelic sense, "the State Post Office doing legitimate business for some three or four years without making any appeal for philatelic assistance." Prodigious!

The Bussahir stamps are printed from engraved dies, and have a sewing-machine perforation. The monogram overprinted on every specimen is thus described by Major Evans:

Upon each stamp is impressed, in a second colour, a monogram, consisting, I am told, of the letters "R N S" which are the initials of a son of the Raja who started the local postage system. To my eyes the monogram appears to be formed of two letters only, "R S," but as the name of the Raja's son seems to be written either as "Raghu Nath Singh," or "Raghnath Singh," the two letters would be quite sufficient. According to a letter from the postmaster at Rampur, dated October 3rd, 1899, this gentleman had died some months previously, and since his death no more stamps had been printed, but the stock on hand was being sold, either to collectors or for use. It would seem, therefore, that the stamps, and perhaps the local posts also were an experiment which has not been found successful, and that neither are likely to survive their originator.

Most welcome of all is the statement that the Bussahir post will shortly be abandoned. We have quite enough to engage our attention without these Bussahirs and Dhars and Charkharis. They Bhor us!

Philatelic Press Jottings.

Messrs. Mekeel, of "Weekly Stamp News" fame, have absorbed that well known and once famous journal, the "Post Office."—Yet another new stamp paper, the "British and Colonial Philatelic Advertiser," published by Mr. W. E. Barker, of Sheffield. It is an advertiser pure and simple, and it remains to be seen whether such a publication can succeed in this country.

Other Papers we have Received.

Since the preparation of our last "Review" we have received the following: The "London Philatelist" and the "Philatelic Record" (London); "Revue Philatelique Belge" (Brussels); "Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde" (Holland); "American Journal of Philately" (New York); "Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser" (Birmingham); "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" (Norwood).



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.]

Spain, 1852, 5r. green.—How many of these counterfeits must exist in collections! More than a dozen have come to my knowledge in a few weeks, writes the Editor of the "Mitteldentsche Philatelischen Zeitung." Apart from the false die showing only 5 instead of 6 rust strokes (which are too thick and too wide apart from one another), the letters and figures are totally defective.



GENUINE.



FORGED.

Compare, e.g., the 8 in the years' date figure, the top line and its framing, etc. The paper of the forgery is much thinner, the colour somewhat darker, and often the well known lithographer's strokes are visible.

THE 3d. SOUTH AUSTRALIA, WITH RED SURCHARGE.

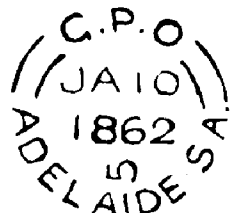
BY THE REV. P. E. RAYNOR.

I have recently seen a rather clever "fake" of this comparatively scarce stamp, and I think it would be as well to put philatelists on their guard.

When it was submitted to me I first noticed that the colour of the surcharge was very bright, in fact a vermilion. The next glance revealed that the perforation was 11½, the stamp being known only with the perforation 10. Further inspection showed that the postmark was



The 1872 Type of Postmark.



The previous Type of Postmark.

of a type later than the issue of the genuine stamp. An outer circle enclosed the word "Adelaide" at the top of the postmark, and a portion of an inner circle united the "Adelaide" with the "S.A." at the bottom. This style of postmark was not introduced until the end of 1872 (earliest date in my possession Nov. 1, '72); i.e., more than 2 years after the currency of the 3d. with red surcharge; the previous type of Adelaide postmark was G.P.O. at top, Adelaide at bottom, with portion of circle connecting the two, but no outer circle at all.

Examined under the microscope, however, it appeared that the postmark was

over the surcharge. The puzzle was to account for the appearance of this interesting stranger. At first I imagined that an ordinary purple 3d. had been chemically changed to blue, and the surcharge then printed; but the blue colour seemed too true for that. Further examination under a powerful glass solved the mystery. A black surcharge had been almost entirely erased and a red one printed over it. The missing portion of the postmark had then been carefully printed, or otherwise "manipulated," over the reddened surcharge. Careful measurement further showed that the surcharge was slightly larger than the genuine. The wrong perforation was, of course, in this instance, guide enough to the advanced collector; but as it is quite possible that the forger may be more wide-awake in doctoring other specimens, I give the chief points of difference:—

GENUINE.

Perforated 10.

Surcharge, 17½mm. long.
" fig. 3. 4mm. high.
" PENCE, 3mm. high.

Colour of surcharge
More carmine than vermilion.

FORGERY.

Perforated 11½.

Surcharge, 18 mm. long.
" fig. 3. 4½mm. high.
" PENCE, 3½mm. high.

Colour of surcharge
Bright vermilion.

In the forged specimen the wmk. was not clear; probably it was the first type of star, as the second type is generally plainly visible. P. E. R.

OUR ADVERTISEMENT RATES.

The Rates for Advertising in the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly" are as follows:—

Pages of Two Columns.

For One Insertion—	£ s. d.
Whole Page	5 0 0
Half Page	2 15 0
Quarter Page	1 10 0
One-Eighth Page	0 15 0

For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Page	per ins. 4 0 0
Half Page	do. 2 5 0
Quarter Page	do. 1 5 0
One-Eighth Page	do. 0 12 6

Pages of Three Columns.

For One Insertion—	£ s. d.
Whole Column	1 15 0
Half Column	0 18 0
Quarter Column	0 10 0
One Inch	0 5 0

For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Column	per ins. 1 3 0
Half Column	do. 0 15 0
Quarter Column	do. 0 8 6
One Inch	do. 0 3 6

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of three words a rd.

Address all letters: The Advertisement Manager, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

Philatelic Societies' Reports

LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the eighth meeting of the current session, the London Society took action on the Exchange question, resolving that once a month a special meeting be held for the exchange of stamps among the members.

CARDIFF PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

This Society was inaugurated on the 6th November last, membership being limited to residents of Cardiff and the district within ten miles around. The president, Mr. Walter Scott, at the first meeting, gave a paper on the advent of postage stamps and his experiences of collecting, extending back to the early sixties. At the second meeting, the members studied the stamps of Great Britain, the president giving a very able paper and exhibiting his collection, which was admired by all present. One stamp in this collection is doubtless unique, viz., the 3d. of 1870 in green colour imperforate.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the eighth meeting, on Friday, Jan. 26th, the President was in the chair, and twelve other members were present.

The Hon. Sec. read a short paper on the question of a colour chart, and after some discussion, the following resolution was carried unanimously; "That the members of this Society, feeling that a complete and reliable colour chart can only be produced at very considerable cost, and in a size too great to be of any practical use, have decided to abandon their contemplated scheme with regard to its compilation."

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING of this society was held on Wednesday, March 7th, at Sisson's Chambers, High Street, Sheffield. The vice-president (Mr. Metcalfe) occupied the chair. The subject for discussion was "The collection of used versus unused stamps." A very interesting discussion ensued, it being generally agreed that there was no strict rule. For some countries, such as the Central American Republics, it was considered best to collect only used specimens, whilst for others, such as Great Britain and Colonies, unused stamps were best to collect, both from a financial and an artistic point of view.

COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

At the forty-ninth meeting of the Board of Governors (Mr. P. F. Bruner presiding) Mr. Scott read the Treasurer's Report, showing a cash balance of \$539.17 exclusive of U.S. bonds.

The Special Committee appointed to try and procure new quarters for the Club, having examined a number of buildings, but found nothing suitable, was now discharged; and a new Committee, consisting of Messrs. O'Donohue, Lull and Scott was elected in its place.

On February 12th, the Board of Governors held their fiftieth meeting, Mr. Bruner presiding. The Secretary having read a letter from the Secretary of the Section on Philately of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences regarding the Club's proposed donation of a gold medal to be awarded at the Second Philatelic Exhibition, it was moved, seconded and carried that an appropriation of twenty-five dollars (\$25) be voted for the striking of a gold medal as suggested, and that the Treasurer mail a cheque forthwith for that amount.

ALBERT PERRIN, Hon. Secretary, 351 Fourth Avenue, New York, U.S.A.

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.



Bosnia.—The new stamps are identical with the old, but for the transposition of the numerals from the top to the bottom angles, as shown in the annexed illustration.

Dominican Republic.—We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a specimen of the 1c. "Columbus" stamp in a new colour—green.

Federated Malay States.—Here is a new headline for philatelic albums. Stamps of the tiger's head type have been seen with the name of the country barred out and the words "Federated Malay States" overprinted in two lines.

Guatemala.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 10c. red (bird issue) with black overprint in three lines: "1000-1-centavo."

German Colonies.—German Empire stamps of the old type are being used for the Marian Islands and the Carolines, surcharged respectively "Marianen Inseln" and "Karolinen Inseln" in the usual diagonal style.

Japanese China.—We now give a full list of the Japanese stamps surcharged for use in China, as fully described and illustrated in the last *Fortnightly*. Six of the stamps have a red surcharge, and seven a black, as follows:

Adhesives.

- 5r. slate, red surcharge.
- 1s. brown, ..
- 2s. green, ..
- 3s. maroon, black surcharge
- 4s. red ..
- 5s. orange, red surcharge.
- 8s. olive ..
- 10s. blue, black surcharge.
- 15s. violet ..
- 20s. orange ..
- 25s. green, red surcharge.
- 50s. brown, black ..
- 1y. carmine ..

Malta.—Mr. W. R. Gatt writes "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" to the effect that farthing stamps will shortly be issued for local newspaper postage.

Morocco.—Three new "Courier Posts" have been created—with stamps, of course.

Alcazar-Ouazan.—The stamps of this post we have not yet seen.

Mogador-Agadir.—For this route the "Timbre Poste" chronicles seven labels, as follows:—

- 5 centimos green and red.
- 10 .. ultramarine.
- 20 .. claret.
- 25 .. violet.
- 40 .. yellow-brown.
- 50 .. brown.
- 1 peseta resedas.



Tangier-Arzila: From the "American Journal of Philately" we get tidings of the Tangier-Arzila stamps—eight in number:—

- 5c purple
- 10c orange red
- 15c yellow
- 25c blue
- 50c brown
- 1 peseta yellow brown
- 2 .. slate
- 3 .. emerald green



Philippines.—A flutter has been caused by the appearance of the 50 cents Philippine stamp on unwatermarked paper. Mr. Bartels has investigated the matter on behalf of the "Metropolitan Philatelist" only to find that, even at the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, it is still "wrop in mystery," the officials there having been under the impression that all the 50 cent U.S.A. stamps on unwatermarked paper had been disposed of long before the surcharging for use in the Philippine Islands commenced. However, the fact remains that there are two varieties of the 50 cents orange surcharged for Philippine use—one watermarked "U.S.P.S.," one unwatermarked.

"Thus far," adds Mr. Bartels, "the unwatermarked is as common as the watermarked, if not more so!"

Puerto Rico.—Kindly note the only proper and authorised spelling of the name. "Porto" must go, and "Puerto" supply its place. The new surcharged stamps for use in the island (for it seems the statement that unsurcharged U.S.A. stamps were to be used referred only to a temporary arrangement) will be surcharged "Puerto Rico," and there will consequently be another complete set for collectors to buy. According to Mr. J. M. Bartels, the well informed Washington correspondent of the "Metropolitan Philatelist," the following supplies have been requisitioned:—

- 500,000 1c.
- 1,000,000 2c.
- 100,000 2c. envelopes.
- 10,000 5c. envelopes.
- 25,000 1c. postal cards.

Turks Island.—A complete new set is "tipped" for the coming summer, with 2s. and 5s. stamps added to the

existing values. The principal feature of the design will be the Coat of Arms of the Colony.

United States.—Some details are given in the "Metropolitan Philatelist" as to an interesting innovation shortly to be made in American postal affairs—namely, the issue of 2c. postage stamps in book form.

It has been found that sheets of stamps in their present shape will not be adapted for use in book form, but that new plates will have to be made for this purpose. The pages of the books will consist of blocks of six stamps only, perforated three times [? twice—Ed., S.C.F.] vertically and once horizontally, thus leaving a straight edge on the outside of each stamp, making it impossible for any specimens to appear perforate on all four sides.

The plates are to consist of 360 subjects instead of 400 as usual. After each two horizontal rows there will be a space of some width allowing a fair margin on the outside of the stamps after cutting them apart. New perforating machines will be required which skip every alternate row.

The first order of the department calls for 100,000,000 stamps in this shape, which supply is expected to last for one year. As stated before only 2c. stamps will be sold in book form.

New Zealand.—Our illustration shows the type of the new "Unpaid" stamps. The watermark is N.Z. and Crown; the perforation 11. The values (all being printed in green and red on white paper) are 1d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 10d., 1s., 2s.



LANCIES AND FLIPPANCIES
By ALFRED JINGLE.

Author of "Gossip of the Hour" in former issues of the Fortnightly.

Perhaps you remember that little fancy of the "London Philatelist" about a keen stamp specialist who decided over his breakfast toast to specialise Patagonia; visited all the leading dealers before tea-time, ruthlessly forcing cheques for big amounts on each and all of them; sorted out and mounted all his specimens before he went to bed; boomed the country for all he was worth, and sold the collection for an incredible amount within a month! Perhaps you read the little satire?—perhaps you didn't. It doesn't matter a centavo, anyhow.

What I want to say is this, that I can beat the story in real life. The man I'm thinking of is a genuine hustler. Always on the hustle. Repose is a thing he doesn't understand.

Well, the other morning he took down his new Gibbons and he picked out four nice countries to specialise in—four, mark you! that'll show how he hustles. He rushed off to Gibbons and Peckitt and Gwilt and Bright and Ginn and Hadlow;

he scattered his ducats about with sinful liberality, and—now take a big breath!—by eleven o'clock a.m. he was complete, absolutely complete, in the four countries he had selected. By twelve all the stamps were hinged, and by one o'clock he had posted the whole collection to the *Fortnightly* for the War Fund, like the good patriotic hustler he is.

Eh? That's a bit spry, isn't it? The countries? Well, I don't know whether I shall be betraying any confidence—no, I suppose not! The four countries, gentle subscriber, were Bhor, Las Bela, Kishengarh, and Wadwhan—all States comprised within our Eastern Empire. There were nine stamps in all.

* * *

Now don't send me any rude remonstrances on postcards, but work it on your friends. Dear readers, work it on your friends! Tell them afterwards that A. Jingle is again at his old post in the *Fortnightly* office, and they'll understand!

* * *

I remember being much impressed in the days of my blood-and-thunder reading, by a fine, rugged passage in a book called, I think, "Turnpike Ted, or the Knights of the King's Highway." It was a vigorous brand of literature, done up in an illuminated cover that would have turned the grandest of Seebecks sick with envy. The passage I refer to ran something in this wise:—

"No, Tom," said the man in the Torn Crape Mask, "slit my weasand if I like the plan! There's clean work and there's dirty work, and there's some holding high station as does dirtier jobs than Turnpike Ted, of the Great North Road, would stoop to! Give me an honest thief who works straightforrad before any of your crib-crackers and wipe-fakers as prays on the wimmen and the younkens."

Good old Ted! how his eloquence won upon my youthful fancy and brought the tear of regret to my eye that the days of High Toby were gone for ever! But, seriously, there is an aristocracy of crime just as there are ranks and degrees in all the walks of life. There exist honest rogues (to borrow the daring paradox of Turnpike Ted) who would scorn to do the things that are sometimes done by men in silk and broadcloth. Unhappily many mean actions have to be placed to the

account of persons associating themselves with our hobby; but I think the meanest, dirtiest form of theft is that which has several times recently been perpetrated upon our philatelic auctioneers. Persons have entered the offices of these gentlemen to "view lots," and, under cover of the trust reposed in them by reason of their respectable appearance, have stolen stamps from the sheets they inspected!

I was astounded when I first heard of it. I can imagine nothing meaner than this. A man guilty of this sort of thing is in my opinion far worse than a horse-thief, far more contemptible than a house-breaker; for he is a poltroon who fears to be "an honest thief" and "work straightforrad." The friend of my youth, Turnpike Ted, would never have stooped to such a "dirty job" as this.

Let the thief or thieves beware, for should a capture be made—and that is not beyond the range of possibility!—there will be no talk or thought of "lushing up."

["Further "Fancies and Flippancies" by Mr. Alfred Jingle will appear in our next issue but one—i.e., No. 133—weather and police permitting. A. J. is too good to be given away with every number, or thinks he is.]

CHEAP SETS.		Per Set	Per 12 Sets.
6 Borneo, 1897, 1c.-8c.	9d.	6/-	
10 Canada,	3d.	1/3	
30 " fine set,	2/-	18/-	
5 Costa Rica, '83-'87 (Cat. 3/-)	9d.	6/-	
10 Guatemala,	1/-	7/-	
6 Hayti,	5d.	3/6	
30 " very fine set,	5/6	55/-	
6 Labuan, 1897, 1c.-8c.	9d.	6/-	
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"CALIFORNIA" Stamp Exchange Club, established January, 1899, membership 55, several members having been ordered to Africa, there is room now for some others. Best reference necessary. Rules on application.—John Johnston, Moss side, New Deer, Aberdeenshire.

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/-; Wurtemberg, first issue, 18kr. 8/6; (1857) 18kr. 13/6; (1858) 18kr. 10/-; (1863) 18kr. 4/6; (1868) 18kr. 10/- Hundreds of other rare old Colonials, European, American, &c. Cheaper than the auctions and you pick what you like! H. A. McMILLAN, 3, Cusitor Street, Chancery Lane, London, E.C.

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The Business Side of Philately.

The Hunter auction sale, held in New York under the auspices of the Scott Stamp and Coin Company, was perhaps the biggest thing of its kind since the memorable De Coppet sale of, we think, 1892. There were few such sensational prices as were recorded on the disposal of the De Coppet stamps; still the sale was a most successful one, good stamps in first rate condition fetching most satisfactory prices. "Condition" told heavily for or against, for the "American Journal of Philately" tells us in its review of the sale that while "every fine specimen of a rare stamp realised a gratifying figure, the slightest injury or damage immediately resulted in a tremendous fall in price."

We reproduce here a few of the principal realisations, "translating" the prices at the rate of 4s. to the dollar:—

- Baltimore, 1846, 50 black on white, on original letter, cancelled, £51.
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- 1c. magenta, block of four showing both types, lightly cancelled, £28.
- 1856, 4c. blue, paper coloured through, wide margins, the two lower corners have been torn off and restored, but the design is untouched, on original cover, used, £87.
- Great Britain, 1840, 1d. black, "V. R." in upper corners, Maltese cross post-mark, £14 12s.

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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.

- Grenada, 1882, 1d. orange and green, manuscript surcharge in black ink, used, £7 8s.
- 1d. orange and red, manuscript surcharge in red ink, used, £10 12s.
- Mauritius, 1848, bluish paper, 1d. red (No. 9 on plate), early state, £12 4s.
- New Brunswick, 1851, 1sh. bright red-violet, fine margins on two sides, cut close on other two, small spot on back, £16.
- Roumania, 1858, 54pa. blue on green, on original cover, £18.
- 10spa. blue on rose, on large piece original cover, lightly cancelled, £33.
- Spain, 1853, Madrid, 3c. bronze, cut close at bottom, o.g., £18.
- Switzerland, Basle, 1845, 2½r. o.g., £6 8s.
- Geneva, 1843, 10c. yellow green, both halves unsevered, on original cover, one with small tear in margin, but design untouched, cancelled, £17.
- Federal Administration, 1840-50, 4c., large margins, on original cover, cancelled, £20.
- Turks Islands, 1873-79, 1sh. violet, perfs. touch design on two sides, unused, £19.
- 1881, 2½d. on 1sh. slate, type 1, horizontal pair, blank margin at left, o.g., £16 8s.
- Tuscany, 1852, 60c. brown red, used, £10 8s.
- Western Australia, 1865-69, Crown and C.C., perf. 12½, 2d. pale lilac error, used, £10 8s.

The total realisation was £5,500; and this for a collection which, according to Mr. Hunter's calculations, cost him originally only £1,600!

Some very satisfactory results were registered at Pattick's auction on the 6th. For instance: Mauritius, Large Fillet, 2d. blue 7/10; Labuan, 1883, one dollar in red on 16 cent blue, unused, £3 10s.; Hong Kong, 90 cents yellow brown, £4; and Austria, 1850, one krenzer yellow, unused, £4.

Mr. Charles Purdon, of Lambeth, notifies us that, owing to indisposition, his business is now being managed by his partner, Mr. Herbert Johnson. The same cause has led to a temporary suspension of Mr. Purdon's monthly circular.

We understand that Messrs. Plumridge and Co., meditate a revival of their "Sales by Private Treaty." Undoubtedly the idea is a good one.

Some fine Colonials were disposed of advantageously at Messrs. Venton, Bull and Cooper's sales of January 18th and 19th, and February 1st and 2nd. It is an old thing, but true, that auctioneers have their specialties just the same as dealers, certain countries realising better prices at one firm's sales than at those of another. However there is seldom any uncertainty as to the fate of good stamps in first class condition.

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Buyers unable to attend the Sales personally can send bids direct.

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Always mention the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY in answering Advertisements.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, Literary, Fine Art, Philatelic Auctioneers, and

47, Leicester Square, LONDON, W.C.,

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RARE POSTAGE STAMPS A SPECIALITY.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that their next Sale will take place 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 on application.

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.

Following Sale will consist of the Fine Collection of the late Major W. J. Myers, by order of the Executors, and will include a number of Fine and Rare Stamps.

Other Sales on:—1900.—April 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.

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£2 10s. Prize Third Monthly Competition.

We are offering the above Prize to Purchasers of our 1/- Packet of Stamps for March. In the Packet there are 25 different stamps, the following among them:

Newfoundland, Cabot Issue, the landing of Cabot. Uruguay, 5 mils blue. South Australia, new ½d. green. Iceland, 3 aur. yellow. Hungary, new issue. Bermuda. British Guiana, 1882. China, 2 cents, used. Hong Kong, 4 cents grey. Dutch Indies, 10c., Queen's head. Ivory Coast, Egypt, Columbia (obsolete), etc., etc.

This Packet will be sent for 1/- post free.

Every stamp in fine condition; the packet is entirely different from the January and February ones, and is in itself well worth the 1/- asked.

Full particulars of the Competition will be sent with the packet, or can be seen in the March number of

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2/6 on blue paper	3 6
10/- ultramarine	1 3
20/- green	3 6

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1d., 1883, first type	0 6
3d., " "	0 6
1894. Waggons with Shafts.		
½d. grey	0 3
1d. red	0 1½

Transvaal—continued.

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2d. bistre	0 3
6d. blue	0 9
Waggon with Pole.		
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1d. carmine	0 1
2d. bistre	0 2
3d. mauve	0 5
6d. blue	0 5
1/- green	1 6
½d. on 1/- green, 1895	0 2
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1d. black	0 5	1844. Waggon with Shafts.	
1d. per doz.	1 0	2d. bistre	0 3
3d. yellow on orange paper	4 0	6d. blue ..	0 9
2/6 on blue paper	3 6	Waggon with Pale.	
10/- ultramarine ..	1 3	½d. grey	0 2
20/- green	3 6	1d. carmine	0 1
TRANSVAAL.		2d. bistre	0 2
1d., 1883, first type	0 6	3d. mauve	0 5
3d.,	0 6	6d. blue ..	0 5
1891. Waggon with Shafts.		1/- green	1 6
½d. grey	0 3	½d. on 1/- green, 1895	0 2
1d. red ..	0 1½	1d. on 2½d. violet ..	0 3
		6d. rose pink, 1895 (Postzegel) unused	0 10

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Helligoland 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.			
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Newfoundland, 1869, 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, 4d in red used	1	5	0
Selangor, Gibbons' No. 3, unused	1	15	0
Tasmania, 1871 78, 5, unused	0	18	0
Victoria, 1862, 6d. orange, used, superb	12	10	0
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Commencing at 6.30 p.m. sharp.

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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.

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THE

STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 132—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1900.

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"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 30 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—1s. per annum, or 5s. for three years.

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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 quoted Special Bargains, Rarities, and prominent Alterations in Price.

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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.

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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.

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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.—APRIL 5th and 6th, 26th and 27th; MAY 10th and 11th, 24th and 25th; JUNE 7th and 8th

APRIL 5th and 6th. A FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION including the following:—

HAMBURG, 9 sch., perf., used. OLDENBURG, 1 gr., moss green, fine. FRENCH COLONIES, a fine lot including many scarce varieties. TRANSVAAL, 3d., 6d., 1s. with red surcharge. 1877-82 1s. green, surcharged, a horizontal tête bêche pair. 1878, 1d. red on blue twice surcharged. 1895, 1d. on 2½ two blocks of 30 with inverted surcharge. 6d. blue on green, fine roulette, surcharge inverted. SWAZIELAND, fine lot of errors, unused block of 2/6 and 5/. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE Woodblocks 1d. (2) 4d. (5). Prov. 1d. on 2d. twice surcharged. Scarce GRIQUALANDS. NATAL, 1st. issue, 1d. buff and 1d. blue, 6d. green very fine and 1s. very fine, 1s. green with curved surcharge in carmine. ORANGE FREE STATE, Prov. 3d. on 4d. twice surcharged. UNITED STATES, Periodicals complete up to \$60. BRITISH HONDURAS, 3ct. on 3d., perf. 12½. VIRGIN ISLANDS, 1st issue, 4d. an unused sheet. WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 1861, 4d. vermilion, rough perf.

A large quantity of unused sheets of stamps of various Countries, a very fine collection of entires, mostly unused, 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 dates are being rapidly filled up.

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Valuations made if required.

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Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM," LONDON. Telephone Number, 5076 Bank. ESTABLISHED 1761.

W. H. PECKITT,

Dealer in Rare Stamps,

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NEW ISSUES.

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Selection sent on Approval.

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STAMP COLLECTORS' FORNIGHTLY.

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.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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Notable Stamp Collectors.

I.—Mr. M. P. CASTLE, J.P.

ONE finds difficulty in believing that Mr. M. P. Castle, Vice-President of the Philatelic Society, London, is fifty years of age. Yet such is the case. Mr. Marcellus Purnell Castle was born at Westminster, on October 28th, 1849, and went to King's College School for his education for the first half of it. Afterwards Merton College claimed him; then he took a year in Germany, staying at Frankfurt-on-



Main. In that year Mr. Castle sustained the first serious "set-back" in his philatelic career. He had been a collector since early knickerbockerhood and in Germany somebody able to recognise a really good thing when seen decamped with the whole of his accumulation. It was a bad blow to an ardent young collector, and for some six or seven years Mr. Castle's philately was simply a memory. In 1873 he again began collecting, and five years later he

went in for philately strong and steep. Mons. de Ysasi proposed him as a member of the Philatelic Society—that was in 1879—and in two years more he was a committee member. The year 1891 saw him selected to the vice-presidential chair

that he still so worthily occupies. A great sensation was occasioned in 1893 by the sale of Mr. Castle's Australian collection for £10,000. His attention just now is focussed upon European adhesives.

Mr. Castle is a travelled man, a talented writer on Philately, a genial and ready speaker. He has done almost every corner of Europe and has been all round the world. What he does not know about Philately generally, and about the stamps of very many countries in particular, is not knowledge.

Philately at Home and Abroad.

"TAKE MY LIFE, BUT NOT MY STAMPS!"

HATS off to Miss Walton, the plucky postmistress of Van Wyk's Vlei, in the "revolting" district of Cape Colony. When the rebels smashed Miss Walton's telegraph instruments, she merely wept—and any woman can do that—but when they tried to lay hands on the stamps (doubtless with felonious intent to surcharge same), she cried "No! shoot me dead if you like, but I will never, never yield up the keys of the post office!" and she never did. She got all the stamps away, safe and unrebarged.

Hats in the air, then, for Postmistress Walton, who has saved us from another provisional issue!

AUCTIONEERING de LUXE IN LEICESTER SQUARE.

EVERY philatelist ought to see the palatial new rooms in which Messrs. Puttick & Simpson now conduct their sales. They would delight the artistic senses of Sir Joshua of immortal memory could that distinguished artist revisit his former home. We have always been comfortable at "Puttick's" sales, but a "comfortabler" time than ever now looms before us. The rooms are appointed in perfect taste and apparently without the slightest regard for pounds, shillings and pence. Every philatelist, we say again—whether he wants to catch the auctioneer's eye or not—ought to have a look round "47 Leicester Square" in its new form.

LORD BATEMAN; A PEER WITH AN IDEA.

LORD BATEMAN, writing from Shobdon Court, his Herefordshire seat, makes the following brilliant remarks in a letter to the Editor of the "Morning Post."

If the present ordinary postage stamp, price one penny, was to change colour and develop into a war stamp, price twopence, and if the present halfpenny stamp was to be increased in value to one penny, how much extra revenue would accrue to the Chancellor of the Exchequer? It would appear that such an indirect tax, payable by people at their own option, would bring in a substantial revenue, would relieve many prospective victims of the extra income tax, or a part of it, and hurt nobody in particular.

And the "Morning Post" permits itself to approve the notion.

The stamp collector (says the "Post's" leader-writer) is like all the other men who make collections: he is not greatly concerned to make it evident to the outsider why he is so deeply interested in the matters that engross him. If he is told, for example, that the design of such-and-such a stamp is very beautiful, he is apt to reply that the stamp itself is extremely common. If he is told that the design is ugly, he will very likely say that you are right, but that the stamp itself is almost priceless because the printer made the fourth letter in "Halfpenny" an "E" instead of a "F." Still, there are moments when he descends from these austere heights, and is glad to be able to display a specimen which has some other right to be considered than that of mere rarity. In times of this sort he would be glad to possess a couple of stamps that would remind him of the days through which we are now passing, and of the way in which the nation has realised its duty.

Would he? would he? This is just where the "Morning Post," of which we hoped better things, begins to talk through its hat. And the paper goes on, most unfelicitously, to cite the case of the South American Republics, "the chief part of whose revenue is supposed to be earned by the manufacture of stamps for the albums of schoolboys." We don't seriously suppose that the "Morning Post" would like to see our own country sink to such a level as that; but the cloven hoof is clearly shown in the concluding passage of the article:—

If Lord Bateman's suggestion was to be adopted, philatelists all the world over would be *practically compelled* to contribute towards the cost of the war, for they all need these stamps, and most of them would buy them at almost any cost. And why should not the enthusiast be used to the advantage of the nation?

"Practically compelled!"—that's just the part of it we don't care for. There should be no compulsion in charity.

AUCTION SALE OR UNIVERSITY BOATRACE?

The Saturday on which this issue of the *Fortnightly* makes its appearance is "Boatrace Day," and many philatelists will be "torn by conflicting emotions," as they say in the penny novelettes. They will be doubtful which to attend—the historic struggle of the rival Blues, or the Auction Sale, to be held at the same time, by Mr. Plumridge, in the Chancery Lane Arbitration Room. Doubtless the Boatrace will "have it" in the majority of cases, but in that event the few stalwarts who stick to their philatelic guns will be rewarded with plenty of bargains in Chancery Lane. The sale is a good one, numbered among the lots being such stamps as the Barbados 1d. on 5/- (two types); Tuscany, 2 sold and 6o crazie, unused; Nova Scotia, 1/-, etc., etc. The sale will be continued on the Monday (April 2nd), and thus will be quite a Saturday-to-Monday affair. However the jaded bidders and their cheque books will be given the Sunday off.

HENNIKER HEATON FOR ST. MARTIN'S-LE-GRAND.

Will the Duke of Norfolk resign the Postmaster-Generalship now that he is going out to fight the Boer? The Duke himself, it is said, is prepared to resign office, recognising that it is unusual for the responsible head of a great public department to retain his official position during an absence so long as the period for which his Grace expects to be at the seat of war. Some of the Duke's Ministerial colleagues have, however, represented to him that present circumstances are unprecedented, and justify a departure from custom, especially as it is understood that arrangements could be made for the discharge of the duties of the Postmaster-Generalship whilst the Duke is at the front. As the Ministerialists appear to be in perplexity on the subject (remarks the "Daily News") we may make a suggestion to them. Why not appoint a temporary Postmaster? A gentleman who would doubtless be ready to undertake the duties may be found in their own ranks. If appointed Postmaster only for a day, Mr. Henniker Heaton would make things hum.

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.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.	Unused mint	Used average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1891-93. Stamps of British South Africa with black surcharge, "B.C.A.," perf. 14.				
1d. black	3		3	
2d. green and vermilion	4		1/4	
4d. brown and black	6		1/6	
6d. ultramarine	2/6		1	
6d. blue	9		7/9	
8d. rose and ultramarine	1		1/1	
1/- grey-brown	1 6		1/6	
2/- vermilion	3/		3/	
2/6 purple	3/6		3 6	
3/- brown and green	4 6		1/	
4/- grey-black and vermilion	6/			
5/- orange-yellow	7/6			
10/- green	15			
£1 blue	65/			
£2 red	90/			
£5 olive-green	130/			
£10 brown	250/			
1892. Surcharged with value in black, in two lines.				
3/- on 4/- black and vermilion	27/6			
4/- on 5/- yellow	8			
1895. Surcharged in one line "One Penny."				
1d. on 2d green and vermilion	3/6			
1895. De la Rue printing (known as "Nigger" type): no wmk.: perf. 14.				
1d. black	3			
2d. green	6			
4d. buff	1/			
6d. ultramarine	1/6			
1/- red	6 6			
2/6 mauve	7/6			
3/- yellow	8/		1/6	
5/- olive	11/			
£1 orange	60/			
1897. Same, but wmk. Crown and CA., perf. 14.				
1d black	1/4			
2d green	1/9			
4d brown	1/6			
6d. ultramarine	1/6			
1/- red	3/			
Watermarked CC., perf. 14.				
2/6 black and mauve	5/6			
3/- black and yellow	6/6			
5/- black and olive	12/6	3/	2/	
£1 black and blue	50/			

1898. *New type with "Nigger" device on white ground; wmk. C.A.; perf. 14.*

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1d. ultramarine	1/2	
2d. yellow	3	
4d. red	6	
6d. green	8	
1 - lilac	1/4	

Watermarked CC., perf. 14.

2 6 ultramarine .. ..	..	..	3 3	
3 - green .. ..	..	..	4	
4 - red .. ..	..	..	5/	
£1 lilac .. ..	..	..	25	
£10 yellow	£12	

With black surcharge "One Penny" in two lines.

1d. on 3 1/2 black and green	1/	1
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1898. *Provisional Stamp, "Internal Postage."*



1d. red & blue, imperf.	3	
1d. red & blue, perf. 12	2/	

NOTE. In the 1895 issue we have not listed the £10 and £25 for the reason that it is doubtful whether they were ever available for postage. Messrs. Gibbons, in their 1900 catalogue, aver that the stamps are known only with the overprint, "Specimen."

We have priced very few of the B.C.A. stamps used, because with few exceptions the stamps must be worth about the same in either state. The 3s values, however, are all very common used as this denomination is largely utilised for fiscal purposes; and it is impossible to distinguish the postally used specimens from those used for the revenue.

Again, as the issues are all recent we have not troubled to price average unused copies, as average copies would be in mint state.

BRITISH COLUMBIA AND VANCOUVER ISLAND.

1861. *No. watermark, perf. 14*

2 1/2d. brown-rose .. ..	..	..	12	9	12	8/
2 1/2d. rose .. ..	..	..	12	9/	12	8/

As a used copy of the 2 1/2d. light brown is not known to exist imperforate it is surmised that it was never issued in this condition.

VANCOUVER ISLAND.

1865. *Wmk. Crown and CC., imperf.*

5 cents rose .. ..	..	..	..	..	£18	£12
10 cents blue .. ..	..	..	100	70/	65/	30

Perf. 14.

5 cents rose .. ..	..	..	12/	9	12	8/
10 cents blue .. ..	..	..	12/	9/	12	8

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

1865. *Wmk. Crown and CC., perf. 14.*

3d. pale blue .. ..	..	..	2/6	1/6	4/	2 6
3d. blue .. ..	..	..	2/6	1 6	4	2/6

1867. *The same, surcharged with new values; CC., perf. 14.*

2c. black on brown .. ..	..	..	2 6	2	4/	3
5c. black on red .. ..	..	..	12/6	10	12 6	9
10c. lake and blue .. ..	..	..	100/	..	..	..
25c. violet on yellow .. ..	..	..	5/6	4/6	8/	5/6
50c. red on violet .. ..	..	..	16/	12	25/	20
1d. green and green .. ..	..	..	200/	..	..	..

NOTE. According to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, the 10c. and 1 dollar stamps were never issued, but it is a singular thing that this firm at one time gave prices in their catalogues for used copies! We should be glad to see any evidence that any reader of the S.C.F. can adduce tending to settle the point one way or another.

The same, perf. 12 1/2.

5c. black on red .. ..	..	..	40/	..	40	30
10c. blue on red .. ..	..	..	50/	..	50/	35/
25c. violet on yellow .. ..	..	..	18/	..	25/	20/
50c. red on violet .. ..	..	..	30/	..	30/	22
1 dollar green on green ..	..	..	70/	..	70/	50

(In our next number we shall price British East Africa, and perhaps also British South Africa.)

A Gossip about Entires.

ENTIRES!—Yes, that's the word—but it does seem to want explaining, and my use of it recently got a friend into hot water at home, and all through the mid-day delivery of a postcard on which was inscribed—"Am sending on that Entire this afternoon." The better-half, who was so, entirely, came to the conclusion that her weaker moiety had been led astray and broken the pledge, and—expecting a brewer's dray up to the door every minute—prepared herself to send back the hateful barrel. It did not come, however.

"That's what you call an Entire, is it?" she peacefully snorted about 6 p.m., as her husband handed her a postcard from South Africa, which was enclosed in an envelope left by the postman half-an-hour previously.—"Why can't Jim write plain English?" she went on, to which he coolly replied that he believed that the word was to be found in the dictionary, and that it was used philatelically to mean envelopes, wrappers and postcards in an uncut or entire condition whether used or unused. He also explained that, owing to the difficulty of keeping up his collection of adhesive stamps without spending a small fortune thereon, owing to the multiplicity of New Issues both speculative and unnecessary, he had lately purchased two or three packets of entires from an advertiser in his pet stamp journal (which was published twice a month) and found them quite interesting.

Stamp collectors in general, and especially the readers of the S.C.F., of course, do not need to have such explanations made to them, being perfectly well aware how many beans make five—no, I mean, how many perforations there are in two centimetres on the edge of a buff reply card of the early English type. At a gathering of a few of these lately I ventured, however, to ask the question. One had no idea they were perforated, having seen only white cards with linen hinges; another knew because he had counted them on a half sent to him for a single, and there were five; a third, being very precise, begged his pardon, and assured him there were only four and a half; while two others declared as positively there were four; and the remaining one said six or seven at least. This seemed puzzling, but it happens that they were all right; for the only perforations of white cards are 7, and, presumably because this thickness of card was destructive of the needles, it was abandoned, having also been used for the buff ones; after which both 4 and 6 were in use for a time on all the reply issues, and finally settled down to present method of 9 holes in 40mm., or what is commonly called, perf. 5. ;

As every collector, who is a collector, and not a mere accumulator, knows of the varieties of perforation of stamps in general use both at home and abroad, and searches for them, he might at least make a little collection of his own country's cards and envelopes, even if he does not care to go in for the wrappers, which are a little awkward to keep except in a folded condition. I was looking over an English collection the other day which consisted of 150 specimens of cards as officially issued, and 170 envelopes with the well known embossed stamps and this was not by any means as complete as would be that of an English Specialist. Several of these were duplicates really, but of varying shades of printing, &c., and for those who like to go in for the various values, simple and compound, from 1/2d. to 5/., "stamped to order," there are possibilities of a few hundreds more to take in those with dates in plugholes, five florets, nine florets and combinations of various kinds.

Then as to Registration envelopes, there is a still greater variety of official issues, but as these are extremely awkward to arrange in an entire condition, there are few people that collect them, and as the stamps on them do not pay postage, but only an extra fee for the insurance of their contents, even collectors of other entires leave these severely alone. Still, they are interesting in a way, and having over three hundred in my collection, I shall be pleased to give any reader of this who wishes for information the benefit of the little I have, if he will write to me (enclosing stamp if reply wanted direct), care of the Editor.

HAWK-EYE.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MARCH 31, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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.

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Six Months (12 numbers)	...	1	6

Subscriptions and other business communications should be addressed to the Manager, 77-78, High Holborn, W.C.



ALTHOUGH our War Fund Prize Competition was disappointing in point of numbers, the Results of Our Competition. additions to the gifts that had already been received by the Hon. Secretaries of the Philatelists' War Relief Fund. Mr. M. P. Castle's task of adjudicating the competition was one that occupied but a few moments. The first prize of £3 cash is easily carried off by Mr. W. Benham, of Twyford, Berks; the second award of £2 cash (for the greatest number of stamps sent in), goes to Mr. W. Sparks, of Lewisham, London, S.E.; and the ladies' prize of £1 cash is awarded to Mrs. Vardy, of Weybridge. A consolation prize of 10/-, with which we desire to associate an honorable mention, goes to Mr. W. R. Lane Joynt, of Dublin. Every competitor receives a prize.

THE egregious Mr. Griffen, well-known by name to our readers, and to those of "Truth," has been doing his level utmost to induce the Griffen's Claws. Governments of New South Wales and Victoria to issue special stamps in aid of the War Funds. In the case of the authorities in Victoria there is danger that Mr. Griffen's mischievous advice will be followed. All honour, then, to the Philatelic Society of Victoria for its prompt and emphatic protest conveyed in a letter to the postal authorities over the signature of the indefatigable hon. secretary, Mr. D. Abraham. It is this same Mr. Griffen who claims to be an ardent and earnest philatelist. He is about as much use to Philately as was the late Nathan Seelbeck.

As application to the Inland Revenue to be allowed to give Coloured illustrations of new issues in the Philatelic Illustrations. S.C.F. as is now being done in Messrs. Senf's "I.B.J.," has brought us the following uncompromising reply:—

"I am directed by the Board of Inland Revenue to acquaint you that they are unable to accord their permission to the illustration—by means of coloured facsimile Postage Stamps—of the publication entitled *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*."

To this decision we have no alternative but to bow. At the same time it is distinctly unfair that while we are debarred from circulating coloured illustrations, the copies of the "I.B.J.," containing same, are allowed freely to circulate in this country. What we may not do is of course permitted to the Utlander. In some things we Britishers seem to need a little judicious Krugerism.

Types of Adelaide Postmarks.

AN ARTICLE THAT WILL INTEREST ALL COLLECTORS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIAN STAMPS.

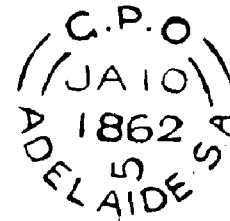
BY THE REV. P. E. RAYNOR.

TYPE I. was in use as early as 1855, when stamps were first issued. Following the English fashion it was at first stamped in colour by the side of the stamp, the latter being obliterated with a black circle (sometimes bearing a number) enclosed in bars. Towards the end of 1858 the stamps began to be generally obliterated with the postmark of Adelaide itself, green being the usual colour.

Originally the die bore no number beyond the date of month and year: but some time between 1855 and 1858 a number was introduced below the year, and curiously enough, was inserted sideways. The highest Adelaide number I have seen is 7—the numbers, presumably, referring to the different mails.

Type II. was in use from 1855 (or earlier) till 1862 or 1863 for stamping the incoming mail (on the back of the envelope). Here again the earliest type was without additional number. In this mark the number was placed sometimes above, and sometimes below the date of month and year. The highest number I have come across is again 7.

Blocks of Type I and II. are unfortunately mislaid.



Type III.



Type IV.



Type V.

Type III. appears to have been introduced in January, 1862. This type is about as common in black as in green, showing that the black colour was now superseding the green. The use of this type only lasted 9 months, as it was superseded in October, 1862 by the style illustrated in Type IV. This was occasionally impressed in blue or green after its first introduction, but the black soon became universal.

The older types of postmark continued in use in country offices to a much later period: but here I am dealing only with the Adelaide varieties.

A new die similar in type to number III. but with "Adelaide" at top, and S.A. at bottom appears from time to time in 1866 and 1867. Type IV. also had two variations, with G.P.O. at top, and "Adelaide" at bottom; and with "Adelaide" at top (no G.P.O.) and S.A. at bottom: but the style of postmark was the same in all three varieties.

Type V. first appeared in Nov., 1872, and continued in use with little variation up to the 90's;—but I have not attempted to trace the modern varieties.

THE STAMPS OF BRAZIL, 1840 to 1890.

By EVAN T. ROBERTS.

(Being a Paper read before the Manchester Philatelic Society, January 12th, 1900.)

PART I. (Continued).—FIFTH FIGURE ISSUE.

Date of Issue.—June 2nd, 1861. On this date two new stamps of an entirely new design and of different values from any that had yet appeared were issued.

Values.—280 reis dull vermilion-red and 430 reis lemon-yellow (which in heavily printed copies is almost orange-yellow).

These must have been brought out for the purpose of pre-paying the postage of letters to some particular place, which as yet I have not been able to discover. Probably the 280 reis franked letters to New York and the 430 reis those coming to Great Britain.

Gum.—Clear and thin.

Size of Impression.—19 × 15 mm. Both stamps imperf.

Design.—These two stamps are very similar in design, but are not from absolutely the same die, as some slight variations can be traced in them.

280 REIS.—Engraved on copperplate on white and yellowish white wove paper. Thin and soft. The central oval is formed of an engine turned design with a wavy edge. This wavy outline touches the outer lines of the stamp in four places. The centres of the 8 and 0 are very deeply shaded, and the ink chips off in small pieces, especially in the very heavily inked specimens. Not counting the boundary line, there are fourteen horizontal lines in each of the two lower corners.

430 REIS.—This is almost exactly like the 280 Reis. The wavy outline of the central oval only touches the outer border line in three places. There are sixteen horizontal lines of shading in the right hand bottom corner and fifteen in the left hand bottom corners.

Both stamps show the peculiarities of copper-plate engraving in a very marked degree. The figures are plainly to be seen on the back of the design, of course in reverse.

The 280 reis is said to have been recently reprinted from the original plate by a native engraver who stole the plate. The colour of these reprints is carmine red instead of vermilion red.

THE PERFORATED SERIES.

The series of stamps that now come before us are one of the most mysterious issues that I know of. They are the same stamps as those we have just been considering, namely, issues 2, 3 and 4. They now appear perforated 13½ all round in a very rough jagged perforation in which the machine used did not remove all the paper from the holes. The history of this issue is shrouded in darkness. As yet no official information has appeared concerning them. Again it is uncertain whether they appeared in the early part of the year 1866 or in October 1866. Moens says October, 1866, and tells us they appeared *after* the issue of the new series that had been ordered from the U.S.A. On the other hand, Lindenburg has the idea they came out before that date.

The generally accepted story as to the perforation is as follows: The Postmaster General at that time either bought or had lent to him a perforating machine which belonged to an English Bank in Rio de Janeiro. This was placed in the Public Hall of the head post office in Rio, and was used to perforate the sheets of stamps by the clerks, or the public indiscriminately. They must have been perforated hastily as we find the stamps imperf, both horizontally and vertically. All the stamps are of the rarer kind, and doubtless would be scarcer still, but for the abundance of forged perforations which are in existence. However, the forger generally made the perfs too many, or too few. The only genuine perforation is 13½.

PART II.—AMERICAN ENGRAVED SERIES, 1866 to 1878.

After the perforated figure issue of 1866 we find a new state of things arising in the postal affairs of Brazil.

The stamps last described seem to have occasioned a good deal of dissatisfaction, owing doubtless to their ugliness and the absence of perforation. Accordingly foreign skill was requisitioned and on account of the beauty and cheapness of their work, a firm in the United States secured the order for a new series of stamps. These were manufactured at New York by the American Bank Note Co. They are engraved on steel and perforated in the well known perforation 12 of that Company.

July 1st, 1866:

Head of the Emperor Don Pedro. Full face for all the values except the 20 reis and 200 reis, which are in profile. Each value has a different frame.

Size of Impression.—10 reis and 80 reis, 20 × 26 mm.; 20 reis, 23 × by 28 mm.; 50 reis, 22 × 26½ mm.; 100 reis and 500 reis, 20½ × 25 mm.; 200reis, 28 × 24 mm. All engraved on white and yellowish wove paper in two varieties, thick and thin. Perforated 12.

- 10 Reis, vermilion, dark vermilion.
- 20 Reis, red lilac, brown lilac.
- 20 Reis, violet, mauve.
- 50 Reis, blue, dark blue.
- 80 Reis, dark violet, mauve, slate.
- 100 Reis, green, yellow-green and shades of green.
- 200 Reis, black, grey black.
- 500 Reis, orange, orange yellow.

The 10 reis is to be found imperf. between and imperf. altogether.

The 50 reis may be found on bluish paper probably caused by the blue ink of impression staining the paper, and also the 100 reis on greenish paper owing doubtless to the same cause.

In 1868 the values 10 reis, 20 reis, 50, 80 and 100 reis, began to appear on blue paper. These stamps appear to have been sent out by the Bank Note Company to the Brazilian Post Office as an experiment.

About this time there were many trials of new agents and inks as preventives of the fraudulent re-use of the Brazilian stamps, but nothing was actually settled, and the stamps were again printed on the white paper. The agent used in this paper seems to have been prussiate of potash, which will, in the presence of damp, go blue in patches.

Gradually, as this perforated issue became exhausted, they were replaced by others of the same types, but rouletted instead of perforated.

I have not been able to get at the reason for this change in the manner of separating the stamps. The rouletting was not well done, and some of the specimens met with are very much off-centre. The paper is still thin, and thick white wove and yellowish wove. Gum thickly put on, and slightly yellowish in colour.

These stamps appeared in the following order;—July, 1876, 100 reis green; January, 1877, 200 reis black; June, 1877, 500 reis orange; July, 1877, 10 reis red, 20 reis brownish-lilac, 50 reis blue, 80 reis slate. Of this series there is said to be in existence the 200 reis black, rouletted vertically and perforated horizontally. This I give on the authority of Scott's "Advanced Catalogue."

Taken altogether, this series of stamps is much rarer than the perf. 12 owing to its being used for a short time only. The sheets bear on the margins an inscription in English, and also in Spanish, of the name of the company supplying them—The American Bank Note Co.

On August 21st, 1878, appeared a bi-coloured stamp of quite a different design, printed like those I have just described by means of steel plate engraving on white and yellowish white wove paper by the American Bank Note Co.

Value.—300 reis. Colours, yellow and green (the frame is yellow, the centre green).

Size of impression.—24 × 29 mm. *Perforated* 12.

There are in this stamp some curious features. The two sides of this stamp are by no means alike, thus showing that the engraver who drew it was able to make better use of his tools on one side than the other. This feature is readily noticed when the stamp is examined carefully. A variety of paper also may be seen; it is tinted green and is of two shades. Whether this stamp was ever issued rouletted is an open question. Some maintain it was so issued, while others are equally strong that it was not so issued. Be that as it may, I believe a copy said to be rouletted was sold by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson in 1896 and was said to have realised £2 16s., but I have not heard whether it was sold or not.

Another fact which is noteworthy is that this stamp was known to have been printed and described in 1873, but for some reason—doubtless good to the postal officials—was not issued until 1878.

In 1878 began to appear a complete new series of stamps. This is rather a long set and the values came out in a very haphazard order. The *design* is a full-face head of Emperor with white beard within a different frame for each value with the exception of the 20 reis, which has the head in profile. Engraved on steel by the American Bank Note Co. and printed on thick and thin white and yellowish white wove paper without watermark. Perforated 12, printed in sheets of 100 in 10 rows of 10, with Spanish and English inscriptions on the margins. *Size of impression*, 26 by 20mm.

The values appeared in this order:—

Jan. 16th, 1878.	10 reis	red, deep red.
May 29th ..	20 ..	violet, light violet.
July 4th ..	100 ..	green.
Aug. 21st ..	260 ..	brown.
Aug. 10th, 1879.	80 ..	carmine.
Aug. 28th ..	50 ..	light blue, blue, dark blue.
Sept. 1st ..	200 ..	black.
Sept. 1st ..	300 ..	yellow-brown, light and dark.
End of 1879	700 ..	reddish brown.
"	1000 ..	purple-grey, slate-grey.

All the values are to be had imperf., these coming from the remainders which were sold to dealers during the last few months.

The 100 reis, is found on greenish paper, and the 50 reis, on bluish caused by the staining of the paper during the printing through the imperfect wiping of the plates.

The 20 Reis, is found on paper which the gum has rendered transparent, and the whole of the design can be seen through the back.

(Part III. of Mr. Roberts' paper, which we hope to publish at an early date, will deal with all the later Brazilian stamps down to 1890).

Forgeries of the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. C. J. Phillips, in the current "Monthly Journal" warns collectors against the following forgeries recently offered him:—

3 **3**

GENUINE. FORGED.

1800-81. "3," in black, on 3d., lilac-rose. The figure in the forgery is too thin, and the knobs on the ends of the figure are small and thin.

One
Half-penny

GENUINE.

One
Half-penny.

FORGED.

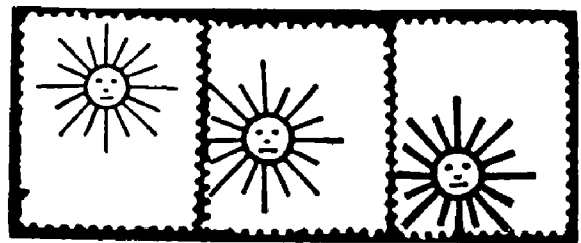
1882. 4d., in black, on 3d., claret, wmk. Crown and CC. This stamp is becoming rather scarce, and the surcharge has been badly imitated. In the genuine there is a full stop after "penny," and the letters are sharp and clear, and the "O" of "One" is thin at top and bottom: in the forgery the stop is omitted, the letters are blurred and badly shaped, and the "O" in "One" is almost the same thickness all round.

Our Review of Reviews.

Three Types of the Argentine Watermark.

In Messrs. Senf's excellent paper, the "Illustrirtes Briefmarken Journal," we find a mass of interesting information relating to the sun watermark of Argentina, collated from various authoritative sources. We give an almost literal translation of this excellent paper:—

The well-known sun watermark, with which the stamps of the 1892/93 issue of Argentine are provided, has given little occasion for philatelic study or discussion. But a Mr. A. Baudouin has made a careful examination of a large number of specimens showing this watermark, and has found, quite unexpectedly, that there are three types of sun, which can be easily distinguished one from another. In a double number for May-June of the "Revista de la S.F.A." the said gentleman set forth the results of his investigations, and we shall use these as a basis for the remarks that follow:—



FIRST TYPE.—The watermark has thin strokes and is not visible at first sight. Of the 16 sun-rays some touch the inner circle, some do not. The eyes are marked by 2 little dots, without eye-brows; the nose is represented by a dot, the mouth by a thin stroke. The diameter of the circle is 5 mm.

SECOND TYPE.—Here the general characteristics are the same, but the circle has a diameter of 6 mm., and the watermark is now readily well visible.

THIRD TYPE.—The watermark is thicker. Eyes, nose, and mouth are more pronounced. The sun-rays are considerably thicker, and all of them touch the circle, the diameter of which is 7 mm. This type of the watermark is very distinct.

As regards the paper, that showing watermarks 1 and 2 comes from the Fábrica Nacional of Zarate, and is of irregular thickness. The paper provided with the 3rd type of the sun watermark is of German origin and is of equal thickness and regular texture throughout.

Mr. Baudouin finds that the watermark type 1 (which was the earliest type) may be found on all the values of the issue of 1892/93; but in the case of the ½ C. only on the stamps of the ultramarine shade; and in the 1 peso only on the blood-red colour. Hence type 1 does not exist on the ¼ C. slate blue or the 1 peso dark carmine. The "Columbus" stamps of 1892 have only type 1. Type 2 also occurs on all stamps (excepting the Columbus of course), while type 3 on the 2 pesos has only recently been found.

When examining whole sheets of 100 stamps, Types 1 and 2 have been found together on the one sheet.

The author expressed the opinion that on this point only the leading Argentine Philatelists, especially the Director Rodolfo Laass, of the Compañía Sud-Americana de Billetes de Banco, in Buenos Ayres, could give a satisfactory explanation.

And in the July-August number of the "Revista," the latter gentleman, accepting the challenge, attempts an explanation of the occurrence. He cannot speak positively, however; he can only express an opinion. The watermark may, says the Director Laas, have been worn out, or may have been altogether useless after having been used for a large quantity of paper. Again, it may have been in the process of re-making that the difference in the size of the circle, and other little deviations have arisen. This last hypothesis has, in our view, much in its favour, because by means of the printings adequate proof could be adduced that the two watermarks existed on Argentine paper, one after another, but not one beside the other.

The closing remark of this otherwise excellent article is beyond us. Doubtless our translator (for the *Fortnightly* has to "put out" its German work now) has got a trifle mixed because of his non-acquaintance with philately and its technicalities.

Mr. Yari Defends Philately.

A DOLL of words has been fought between Mr. Y. Yari and Mr. J. W. Palmer in the correspondence columns of the "Pall Mall Gazette," on the subject of the suggestion made by the latter gentleman that there should be a special issue of Natal stamps in aid of the sufferers from the war. Mr. Yari has scored all along the line in his self-imposed task of defending Philately from the proposals of one who has always posed as an ardent friend of the hobby. "Save us from our friends!" We confess that we find Mr. Palmer's attitude in this matter incomprehensible.

Iceland Stamps: A Guide for Beginners.

"Hobbies" is a bright weekly journal for fretworkers, photographers, fanciers of anything, and collectors of everything, from door-knockers to postage stamps. In a recent number we find an interesting sketch of the Philately of Iceland—not of much value probably to the advanced specialist, but an acceptable guide for the beginner. We give the article almost in its entirety:—

The appearance of a new Icelandic stamp is a matter of such rare occurrence (Iceland having not yet entered the stamp trade), that the present occasion may be seized for a short review of the stamps of the "Land of the Geysers." Iceland, though a dependency of the Danish crown, enjoys almost as much autonomy as a self-governing British Colony, such as the Cape or New South Wales or Canada.

Yet, the writer points out, the stamps are identical in general design with those of the mother country; and there is the same crown watermark.

Twenty-eight stamps (including the new 4 aur, just issued) comprise the sum total of the main varieties of Iceland. If we take in also certain varieties of perforation, colour, &c., the total does not exceed fifty-six stamps.

At one time, and that not so many years ago, a complete used set of the stamps of Iceland could be got together for very little money; but of late there has been a great appreciation of values, due to the discovery that many varieties were considerably scarcer than anyone had imagined. It is in the "skilling" values (1873-6) that we find the principal rarities, the 2 skilling blue being catalogued at 20s.

used, and being, in the opinion of many authorities, cheap at that. Four of the Iceland stamps of the first issue (the 2, 4, 8 and 16 skilling) exist imperforate, but in Gibbons' catalogue one finds a footnote expressing doubt as to whether these stamps were ever issued to the public in this condition. In our own opinion "doubt" is hardly the word. We think it even possible that they are merely proofs on watermarked paper.

Students of the weird in stamp perforations will find that some strange freaks have been perpetrated upon the "skilling" stamps of Iceland. The 2, 4, 6 and 8 skillings are well known with "compound perforation 14 by 13"; and Mr. R. Tyeth Stevens, writing in "Morley's Philatelic Journal" announces the discovery of a specimen of the 8 skilling perforated thus:—

In 1876, consequent upon a similar change of currency in Denmark, the "skilling" was abandoned as the unit of value of the Iceland stamps; and the "aur" was adopted in its stead. One hundred "aur" go to make up one krona, equal to about 1s. 2d. British money. Thus the "aur" of Iceland is substantially the equivalent of the "ore" of Denmark.

Regarding the stamps priced in aur there is little of importance to note until one comes to the provisional surcharges of 1898. There was apparently a temporary shortage of 3 aur stamps in that year, and so the 5 aur value was surcharged with the word "prir" or something that looked like the word "prir."

As a matter of fact what looks like a "P" in the overprint of these stamps is really a Saxon character known as "thorn," and standing for "th." Thus the word is, as near as possible, "thir." There are two distinct types of the word; and when, later on, the figure "3" was added (in red) to the surcharge to make its object quite clear to any barbarians from Europe who might be visiting the island, two further types were created, making four types in all, of these provisional stamps. All are surprisingly scarce in view of the recent date of their issue.

The official stamps of Iceland call for no comment, save that here again the imperforate specimens of the skilling issue, seen in some collections, are probably proofs.

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TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

TWO subscribers to the *Fortnightly* having invited our opinion and advice regarding an advertised issue of further shares by Messrs. C. H. Nunn, Graves & Co., Limited, we wrote that firm requesting to be favoured with balance sheets (if any) or other documents that would enable us to judge of the security offered. Under date March 17th we received the following reply:

"We thank you for your favour to hand, re shares in our Company, and beg to inform you that no further shares will be issued for the present."

Now in view of the fact that the advertisement offering these shares for public subscription appeared in Messrs. Nunn, Graves & Co.'s paper, the "*Stamp Collectors' Journal*," dated February 15th, this sudden determination to issue no more shares "for the present" is beyond our understanding. We should have liked some particulars as to the progress achieved by this small company since its incorporation some fifteen or eighteen months ago; but, of course, the reply we have received is (in view of the object of our question) an answer with which we must rest content. Messrs. Nunn, Graves & Co., however, must, in the circumstances, allow us to say that we see no reason to recommend their shares for public investment.

Mr. E. D. Frank, of Frankfort-on-Main, calls our attention to the peculiar obliteration applied to a post-card he has addressed to us. The postmark reads: "Frankfort (Main) Ausstellung fur Krankenpflege," with the date. The cancellation owes its origin to a kind of Health Exhibition recently held, whereat a special post office was established. The obliteration, Mr. Frank informs us, is official.

We have received two further letters on the subject of the publication of auction prices in support of the remarks contained in the recent letter of Mr. Joynt, of Dublin. Taken on the whole, however, the consensus of opinion among the readers of the *Fortnightly* is distinctly against the systematic reporting of the philatelic auctions, and thus we regret that we shall be unable to do more than publish brief extracts from time to time.

"W. H. T.," a Cheshire reader, has been struck by the fact that many of the Belgian stamps are cancelled not with an ordinary postmark, but with a sort of running band, which looks as though it were applied by means of an inked wheel run over a whole strip of stamps in one operation. It is probably this look about it that prompts "W. H. T." to ask us whether these stamps are genuinely used, or whether they are government remainders. We think he need be under no illusion on this score; the postmark is we believe the ordinary type of postmark applied in Belgium to newspaper packages. "W. H. T." will we think find that the cancellation appears only on the stamps of low value.

An old and valued reader of the *Fortnightly* tells us that he is glad to note the disappearance of the cantankerous element which so long disfigured the paper. If this gentleman means by the cantankerous element the spirit of vigorous and outspoken criticism of all things shady he uses rather an unfair expression; and, if that is being cantankerous, we fear we shall have to resume our cantankerousness in

the very near future, unless one or two people who shall at present be nameless promptly amend their ways. However, we think we quite understand what our correspondent really means, and we are indebted to him for his good wishes.

A reader at Cromer has cheered us greatly by his sympathetic, not to say flattering, remarks regarding the *Fortnightly*. On the subject of philatelic journals generally, he writes:—"I like yours best, thoroughly enjoying the "humourous way things are put, a feature sadly wanted to "my mind in some of the others, for although unnecessary "issues, frauds, etc., are serious matters, still I like to take "my philately like life—not too seriously." Thanks; but our reader must know that apart from the column by Alfred Jingle the *Fortnightly* likes itself to be taken very, very seriously indeed.

We think our readers will find this issue of the *Fortnightly* eminently worthy of being called a good all round number. At an early date we shall commence publication of what we think our readers will find a most interesting series of articles. These will be of an autobiographical character, and will be from the pen of Mr. Walter Nathan, one of the best known "amateur dealers" in stamps in this country. We regret, however, that we again have to hold over Mr. Johnson's article on the stamps of Egypt.

Fifth Volume of the "Fortnightly."

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

THE Index to Volume V. of the *Fortnightly* (Nos. 105 to 130) is now ready and will be forwarded to any address for 1½d. post free. A special binding cover has been prepared—see illustration. This can be purchased at the *Fortnightly* office for 1s., or will be sent post free for 1s. 3d. Index and cover together, 1s. 4d., post free. In former years many readers of



the *Fortnightly* have elected to entrust the binding of their numbers to the proprietors of the paper. We enjoy the same facilities as of old for doing this work cheaply and expeditiously. We can bind the numbers sent in by any reader for 2s. 6d., this sum to include the cover, the index, and also return carriage to the owner.

Readers desiring to avail themselves of this offer should at once send in their numbers, postage paid, to the Manager, the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C. All orders will be executed in rotation.

War Auction a Howling Success.

PATRIOTIC PHILATELISTS BUY STAMPS AND THINGS AT UNBUSINESSLIKE PRICES IN ORDER TO HELP THE WAR FUND.

ON Wednesday afternoon and evening last the usually decorous precincts of the St. Martin's Town Hall at Charing Cross were disturbed by strange sounds. Passers-by might have thought a pro-Boer meeting was being nipped in the bud. As a matter of fact it was "all along of" the Philatelic War Fund Auction, held under the genial sway of Mr. Walter Bull, relieved (when he got tired) by Mr. William Hadlow. The sale was held in the spacious Council Hall. 'Twas well, for about 120 philatelists—perhaps more, for we lost count after the hundred—were assembled to bid for the fine stamps and other things donated to the Fund. The sale was a howling success in the most literal sense of the word; for on the smallest provocation the patriotism in the air made itself felt—and heard.

Mr. Woolf ably recited "The Absent-Minded Beggar," and "God Save the Queen" was lustily sung by all present.

To mention all the well-known people in the room would take more space than we can give. We noticed Mr. M. P. Castle, Major Evans, Mr. Gordon Smith, Mr. J. R. F. Turner, of Oxford, and Mrs. Turner, Mr. Oldfield, Messrs. John and Arthur Tilleard, Mr. Ehrenbach, Mr. Wickham Jones, Lieutenant Napier, Major-General Allison; and in short, almost every prominent philatelist, amateur or professional, in London.

Mr. Gwyer, of G. Hamilton-Smith & Co., bought the "star" lot of the sale—the 3 lire Tuscan, unused—for £93. "Comic relief" was furnished in the shape of a box of cigars which sold for 22s. A miscellaneous lot—a veritable "surprise packet"—realised £2 10s. A Kruger sovereign, given by Mr. Wallace, brought £2.

The spirit that prompts a man to buy a thing he doesn't want, and pay an absurd price for it, animated all present.

When a collection was made after the rendering of "The Absent-Minded Beggar," a 10 pfennig piece was found in the hat, dropped therein by some "A.M.B." present in mistake for a shilling. Mr. Bull promptly put the coin up for sale, and after spirited bidding the poor little German penny realised 5/-. Mr. Wichmann at this juncture made the suggestion that all the gentlemen who had competed for the coin should pay for their bids. All did so; and thus 10 pfennig became about 15/-. The "Absent-Minded Beggar" collection totalled £5 7s., of which sum 10/- was given by the reciter himself.

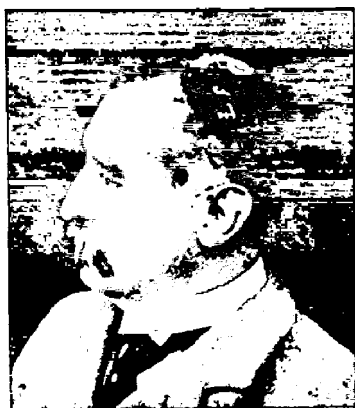
THE WAR AUCTION PHOTO.

By flash-light (which filled the vast room with smoke) a photograph was taken of all present by the London Stereoscopic Company. Copies will be sold at 3s. 6d. apiece; and each copy sold will mean a shilling added to the Fund.

A telegram came from Messrs. Brown & Skipton, of Salisbury, "hoping record sale proceeding." Then someone brought in the news of General Joubert's death. It was excursions and alarms and droll incidents all the time from three o'clock to past nine at night, when the sale concluded.

THE TOTAL REALISED.

The exact total realised by the Sale was £1002 17s. 0d. At one time it was feared that the thousand would not be reached, but Mr. J. W. Jones, Mr. Castle, Mr. Nankivell and others stepped into the breach with additional ammunition, and soon, amid the cheers, the thousand went up.



MR. WALTER BULL,
Joint Hon. Secretary and Hon. Auctioneer.

Mr. Oldfield made an efficient scorer, calling out each "century" of pounds as soon as it was reached. Mr. Castle made a genial little speech at the close, thanking Mr. Walter Bull, Mr. Hadlow and all concerned. Mr. Bull, in responding, said his work for the scheme had been freely given. It was a work of love. Cheers, "God Save the Queen," and curtain.

THE SECRETARIES OF THE FUND.

CHATS WITH THE TWO PHILATELISTS WHO DID THE WORK.

For the eminently satisfactory results of the scheme to raise a special philatelic contribution to the War Funds, we are all indebted in a very large degree to the energetic honorary secretaries, Mr. Walter Bull (of Venton, Bull and Cooper) and Mr. Herbert R. Oldfield.

Mr. Bull, seated in his cosy private room in Old Jewry—where, although within a stone's throw of bustling Cheapside, scarcely a sound can be heard—told me the story how the Philatelists' War Relief Fund came to be.

"The whole thing really originated," said he, "in a remark made by Mr. Castle. 'Couldn't we do something?' he said; and then the idea was broached of a Philatelic Auction Sale in aid of the War Fund. Well, nothing came of it just at the time; but I thought it over on my way home, and afterwards I wrote Mr. Castle, telling him, if anything was done, that I would do all I possibly could to help."

In the way of conducting a sale free of all cost to the Fund?"

"Exactly. Well, Mr. Castle brought the matter before the



MR. HERBERT R. OLDFIELD,
Joint Hon. Secretary.

Philatelic Society, but at first it was not well received. The objections were not of a very serious character, however, and ultimately the idea was adopted. A representative committee of collectors and dealers was elected, Mr. Oldfield and myself were, as you know, appointed Joint Hon. Secretaries, and there you are!"

"I should like to add," said Mr. Bull, "that the trade as a whole have been very good—very good indeed. I do not

think there is one among the leading dealers who has not given generously to the Fund himself, besides working hard to get others to do the same."

Mr. Herbert R. Oldfield left off scrutinizing a bundle of musty parchments in the offices of Messrs. Oldfield, Bartram and Oldfield, Solicitors, of Telegraph Street, and willingly chatted about the War Fund. We have more than a suspicion that Mr. Oldfield likes Philately better than Law; and small blame to him.

"Satisfied? Yes, I think we have done fairly well," was his reply to a question as to the results of the scheme generally. "I think the total will be a good £1000, and that's not bad. I must say that I expected a little more support from the provincial societies. The idea, of course, was that this should be quite a general movement—among philatelists, of course—but on one ground or another many of the country societies declined to associate themselves with the thing at all. From the Birmingham Society and one or two others we had subscriptions; but there was only one Society outside the London Society which helped us materially—I refer to the Herts Philatelic Society."

"And the reason? Jealousy?"

"I hardly think so. Where could jealousy come in? However, the result is a good one, and although some of the Societies have held aloof, it is only fair to add that many of their individual members have given most generously."

vi. Supplement to the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

NOW READY!

The Second Edition of the

Universal Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the World

Illustrated with thousands of engravings of stamps, and including all known standard varieties issued to March, 1900.

Price 1s. 3d., post free.

JUST RECEIVED.—Samoa, *Provl. Govt.*, 3d. to 2/6, complete set of 8, 7 6. Japanese China, 5 rin to 1 yen, complete set of 13, 8 6
Monthly List of Philatelic Novelties, 6d. per annum, post free.

WHITFIELD KING & CO., IPSWICH.

The second edition is in no sense a reprint of the first; it has been revised throughout, a large portion has been entirely re-written and re-arranged, and the whole re-set in fresh type. The alterations are very numerous and important, and all the errors and omissions discovered in the first edition have been corrected in the second.

Every Stamp is Priced, either used or unused, or both, so that collectors desiring to know the value of any particular stamp will not be met with a disappointing blank space on referring to the Catalogue.

Great care has been taken in the pricing of stamps in this edition in order that the true market value of every stamp at the present time may be given, and the book be a *reliable collector's guide*.

The same, bound in cloth, gilt lettered on sides and back, and interleaved throughout with plain white paper of good quality for MS. notes. 2 6 post free.

Kindly note that we have Removed from Room 220, Mansion House Chambers, to Rooms 175 and 176 (Ground Floor), in the same building.

Periodical Sales by Auction of Postage Stamps

Messrs. JOHN EDWARDS & Co.,

Beg to announce that their NEXT SALE will take place

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the 10th and 11th April, 1900,

AT ANDERTON'S HOTEL, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Commencing at 5.30 p.m. sharp each evening, when they will sell a fine Valuable Private Collection, in Lots, including amongst other **RARITIES**:—

SPAIN, 2rls., 1852, a magnificent block of 4 used on piece with 2 of 6rls. and 8 of 5rls. of the same issue; superb specimens of the 2 reales of 1851 and 1853, and MADRID, 3 cuartos, on entire. FRANCE, superb copy of the 20c. blue, error of 1849. BRITISH GUIANA, a matchless pair of the 1c. crimson of 1851; a superb copy of the blue circular stamp, &c. Superb copies of the 1/- of NOVA SCOTIA and NEW BRUNSWICK, and other rare NORTH AMERICAN and WEST INDIES in splendid condition. BRITISH EAST AFRICA, mint set of the provisionals surcharged on the Company issue, and rare provisionals of BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA. FINE CEYLON and CAPE. Rare AUSTRALIANS in mint condition, &c., &c.

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.

JOHN EDWARDS & CO., ROOMS 175-176, Ground Floor. **Mansion House Chambers, London, E.C.**

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New Issues

in Postage, Fiscal, Telegraph and Railway Stamps.

Approval Selections.

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offered for well-assorted lots of the old red Newspaper Tax Stamps.

Parcels must be sent on approval.

Good Copies only wanted.

Always mention the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY in answering Advertisements.

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.

Cartagena (Colombia).—We understand from the "P.J.G.B." that, owing to the same cause that necessitated recent provisionals from this district, stamps of 1c. and 2c. had to be made from blocks of the 5c and 10c. by cutting off the labels at top and bottom, and inserting the word "CORREOS" at top, and the value at bottom. Parts of the old figures of value can still be seen after the new value has been put in, and from this it can be seen that both the new values were made from the same plate. In the sheet of 60 every 10th stamp is a converted 10c., while the rest are all made from the old 5c. blocks. They are roughly perforated and have the way lines printed across them like the provisional 5 and 10c.

Adhesives.

- 1c. brown on buff.
- 2c. grey-black on buff.

Corea.—The new set, announced to appear early this year, is now, we understand, in an advanced state of "preparedness." There will be fourteen values in all.

Ecuador.—The current set is completed by the issue of the 1 and 5 sucres, and various other values surcharged "Official." The "P.J.G.B." lists them as follows:—

Adhesives.

- 1 sucre, yellow-brown with black centre
- 5 " violet " "

Officials.

- 1 centavos, orange surcharge black.
- 5 centavos, " " "
- 1 sucre, " " "
- 5 sucres, " " "

Japanese Corea.—It appears that the full set of the current Japanese stamps has been surcharged for use at the Japanese post offices in Corea, in a manner similar to that adopted for "Japanese China." The surcharge is again in Japanese characters and consists merely of the one word, "Corea." We have not yet seen the stamps, our authority for the statement being the "Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung."

Kishengarh (India).—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., specimens of five stamps of this Punjab state, the designs of which we have already illustrated in the *Fortnightly*. There are two issues as follows:—

1st Issue (unperf):
1 anna green.

2nd Issue (perforated):
½ anna dull green.
½ " blue green.
1 " violet.
1 rupee green.

To say that the "perforation" of the second issue is "rough" would be to trifle with the language. At first glance

one gets the impression that the paper has simply been folded and then torn, but a closer look shows that the labels are recently perforated—after a fashion.

Liberia.—We are indebted both to Messrs. Hayfield King and Co. and Mr. H. L. Whitman for specimens of the Liberian stamps in new colours conforming to Postal Union requirements. The stamps sent are:

- 1 cent, dark green.
- 2 cents, red.
- 5 cents, blue.

Also the same three values surcharged "O.S." as follows:—

- The 1c. with red surcharge.
- " 2c. " black "
- " 5c. " red "

The above was written for our last issue, but was unavoidably crowded out at the time of going to press.

Samos.—We announced in a former *Fortnightly* that Turkey contemplated a special issue for the Island of Samos. Behold the chaste design. The values and colours (according to the "Timbre Poste") are:—

- 5 parales, black on blue-grey.
- 10 paras " "
- 20 paras, black on white "
- 1 grosion " "

"Paras" we know, but "grosion" is a novelty.

Seychelles.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a specimen of the 15 cents stamp in new colour—blue.

South Australia.—New reply post card, 1d. by 1d. has appeared bearing the stamp shown here. Colour, rose on buff.



Trinidad.—We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a number of items regarding this country. The 5d. stamps are withdrawn and the 10/- are exhausted. No more of these values will be issued. The 5/- stamps are to be changed in colour.

Wurtemberg.—The two new values, 30 pf. and 40 pf. are now to hand; and we are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for specimens.

Adhesive.

- 30 pf., black and orange.
- 40 pf., black and red.

THE BUSINESS SIDE OF PHILATELY.

We are asked to state that Messrs. John Edwards and Co., have removed their offices from the first floor of Mansion House Chambers, Queen Victoria Street, to Rooms 175 and 176 on the Upper Ground Floor of the same building.

Philatelic Societies' Reports

THE BRISTOL AND CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE fortnightly meetings of this society have been held regularly this year, but Mr. T. C. Cartwright, the hon. librarian, is so fully occupied in the work of sending newspapers, &c., to the Gloucestershire Regiments in South Africa, that he has not been able to attend any of the meetings, and send us, as he usually does, reports thereof. He now informs us that two very interesting papers on "The Stamps of Victoria" have been read by Mr. R. Dalton, illustrated by a splendid collection of about 2,000 stamps, mounted on over 150 sheets, shewing the various shades and dates of issue, and enlarged photo-printed copies of some of the first issue were presented by him to the members present, that they might the better examine and compare the several differences therein. In the laureated series evidence was given that some of the dates in the catalogues are incorrect, as specimens were shown with postmarks on them of an earlier date. It is to be regretted that more members did not avail themselves of the opportunity of hearing and seeing so carefully prepared and instructive a paper, which more than fully occupied two evenings in reading and illustrating. At the next meeting, on April 5th, a paper will be read by the president, Mr. P. J. Lloyd, on "The Stamps of the United States."

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE meeting of the Leeds Society on Feb. 20th took the form of an "At Home," with Mr. Eugene Egly, when the members were very hospitably received, and there was a display of the different stamps used by the various Foreign Powers which have established Post Offices in the Ottoman Empire.

Mr. Egly, in illustration of his remarks on the subject, exhibited a fine series of stamps of the Levant specially mounted on cards, and also a large number of entires.

A very useful donation to the Society was made on behalf of Mr. F. Leake, of Leeds, in the form of a great number of forged stamps, mostly in complete sheets, and the best thanks of the Society were voted to him for his kindness.

COMING EVENTS IN PHILATELY.

- March 31st & April 2nd. Messrs. Plumridge and Co.'s Auction at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C.
- April 3rd and 4th. Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's Sale at 47, Leicester Square, W.C.
- April 5th and 6th. Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper's Sale at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross.
- April 9th. Mr. W. Hadlow's Sale at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet Street 5 o'clock.
- April 10th & 11th. Messrs. John Edwards & Co.'s Sale at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet St., London, E.C.

On Tuesday and Wednesday next the stamps sold at Puttick's will be those of one of the brave fellows we have lost in the Transvaal. Major Myers, of the King's Royal Rifles, fell at Colenso. His collection, contained in twelve morocco bound volumes, was a marvel of neatness and careful arrangement. Not a remarkably good collection, save in Afghans which are wonderfully well represented.

J. W. JONES,

61, CHEAPSIDE, (*first floor*), LONDON, E.C.,

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Two Collections commenced 30 years ago, Comprising a fine assortment of medium Rarities, and stamps difficult to meet with. The unused principally in mint condition.

MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION SCANDANAVIAN, practically complete, rich in rare shades and minor varieties.

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All at Moderate Prices.

SPECIAL.— Finest Stamp Mounts, 1s. per 1000. POST FREE.

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NEXT SALE on MARCH 31st
(2 o'clock), and APRIL 2nd
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Room, 63 and 64, Chancery
Lane, W.C.

A fine general Sale, comprising
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Colonial Stamps.

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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 %
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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.

Always mention the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY in answering Advertisements.

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 April 3rd & 4th, and will consist of the fine collection of Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps formed by the late Major W. J. Myers, offered by order of the Executors, and includes amongst other fine and rare stamps:—

Gibraltar, complete; Naples, ½ tornese, arms and cross; Spain, Madrid, 3 cuartos, 1853, 2 reales; Afghanistan, a very fine and rare lot, including several "tablets," &c., &c.; India, ½ anna red, and no wmk. 2a. green, unused, &c.; Gwalior, 1st issue, several; Ceylon, 1/9, perf. and imperf.; Cape, fine woodblocks; Mauritius, Post paid 1d. and 2d., fine, &c.; Natal, a very fine lot of unused, and 1d., 3d., 6d., 9d. and 1/- of the first issue, &c., &c.; Transvaal, a number of scarce unused; Zululand, 5/-; British Columbia, 5 cents, imperf. and 1 dollar, perf. 12½, &c.; Newfoundland, 6d. and 6½d. scarlet, 1/- orange, and others; New Brunswick, 6d. and 1/-; Nova Scotia, 1/-; United States, Agriculture, Navy and Justice, complete, unused; Nevis, 6d. green, unused; St. Lucia, wmk. CA., 1/- black and orange, and 6d. lilac and 1/- orange-brown, all unused; St. Vincent, ½d. on 6d. pair, 1d. on 6d. pair, and 4d. on 1/-, all unused, and many other West Indians; British Honduras, 6d. yellow, unused; Columbia, a fine and rare lot; Brazil, slanting figures, 180, 300 and 600 reis, &c.

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 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.

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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.

BRITISH PLATE NUMBERS.

½d. red, unassorted plates, 2/- 100; 15/- 1000.
1d. " " " " " 1/3 1000; 7/6 10,000.
1d. " imperf., 4/6 1000.

Approval Books of all varieties, at reasonable prices, sent to responsible applicants.

CHAS. NISSEN & CO., 77-78, High Holborn, W.C.

(KINDLY NOTE THE CHANGE OF ADDRESS).

POSTCARDS, ENVELOPES, &c.

A Priced List of Packets of these, from 20 for 1/-, to 100 all different for 12/-, used and unused, can be had on application. A fine set of 500 Varieties for £6, unused or partly used, as may be preferred, with or without several Envelopes and Wrappers: some of which are catalogued from 1/- to 15/- each.

BEN WEBSTER, 15 Paultons Sq., Chelsea, S.W.

BELOW AUCTION PRICES

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

5d. in 1/- Discount allowed.
This is no catch advertisement. Write for selections. Many bargains. Satisfaction guaranteed.

BRIDGER & KAY, 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C.

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.

LARGE & SMALL COLLECTIONS WANTED FOR CASH.

High Prices also paid for single & rare stamps. Best Stamp Mounts made, coated with pure gum arabic, 1/- per 1000. Post free.

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Two minutes from G.P.O.

Wholesale and Retail List free.

Consignments and offers solicited.

Hayti, well assorted, used, 6d. per doz., 3/6 per 100.

Newfoundland, 1898, ½, 1, 2, and 3c. 5d. per set, 2/9 per 12 sets.

Special Mixture, splendid value. 2/- per 100.

KERR & LANHAM,
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.

THE WILLIAM STAMP COMPANY,
90, London Wall, LONDON, E.C.,
ENGLAND.

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.

OUR ADVERTISEMENT RATES.

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G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO., Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers,

10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "DESPAIR, LONDON."

TELEPHONE No. 5596 AVENUE.

United States. (We have just re-arranged our Books of this Country, they contain a very fine Selection.) **Value of Books, £450.**

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The Magnificent Collection recently advertised has been sold "en bloc."

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:

	Set of	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Austria, 1850, 3, 6 and 9kr., ..	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 ½d. ...	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. 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	0	*Wurtemberg, 1858, 18k. blue ..	1	16	0
" 300r. " " " ..	3	14	0	0	" " " " " 1863-4, 9kr. black brown ..	2	5	0
*Egypt, 1866, 5 piastres ..	0	16	0	0	" " " " " 1873, 70kr. mouve ..	3	8	0
" " " " " 1866, 10 piastres ..	0	19	0	0	*Tuscany, 1 quat. black one greyish ..	1	0	0
*Tunis, 1888, 5 francs ..	1	0	0	0	*Sweden, 1858, 12 o. ultramarine ..	1	7	0
*Hanover, 10g. green ..	2	10	0	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	0	Naples, ½ Tornos Cross, superb copy ..	3	10	0
*Buenos Ayres, in Pesos, blue ..	1	10	0	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. ..	0	10	0

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. 133—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY APRIL 14, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO.,
STAMP DEALERS & PHILATELIC PUBLISHERS.

10, BISHOPSGATE STREET WITHIN, LONDON, E.C.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "PHILATELIC, LONDON."

TELEPHONE No. 5596 AVENUE.

HOLLAND.

We have just purchased a really nice lot of the Stamps of this Country.

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:

		£	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. 12½, 10 cents . . . . .	..	3	0	0
*Barbados, Jubilee, ½d. to 2 6 . . . . .	.. 9	0	7	0	British East Africa on Company's ½d. . . . .	..	0	12	6
*Brit. Central Africa, 1891, 1d. to 1 . . . . .	.. 6	0	3	9	.. .. 1d. . . . .	..	1	10	0
.. .. 1891, 2/- to 10 . . . . .	.. 6	1	13	0	.. .. 4½d. . . . .	..	1	7	0
*Brit. South Africa, 1891, ½d. to 8d. . . . .	.. 4	4	5	0	.. .. 7½d. . . . .	..	0	19	0
.. .. 1896, ½d. to 1/- . . . . .	.. 8	0	5	0	.. .. 2½d. on 4½d. . . . .	..	1	7	0
.. .. on Cape, ½d. to 1/- . . . . .	.. 7	1	1	0	Bermuda, 1d. on 3d. . . . .	..	0	10	0
.. .. thick paper, p. 12, 2d. & 4d. . . . .	.. 2	0	2	0	British Guiana, 1860, 1c. rose . . . . .	..	0	19	0
*Canada, Jubilee, ½c. to 50c. . . . .	.. 11	0	11	0	.. .. 1c. brown-red . . . . .	..	1	1	0
.. .. 1898, Maple leaf, ½c. to 10c. . . . .	.. 8	0	2	9	.. .. 1c. brown . . . . .	..	2	0	0
*Gambia, 1887, ½d. to 1/- . . . . .	.. 8	0	5	0	*British Honduras, 1882, 6d. yellow . . . . .	..	2	14	0
*German East Africa, 1896, 2p. to 25p. . . . .	.. 5	0	2	0	.. .. 1 grey . . . . .	..	2	5	0
*Gibraltar, 1889, 5c. to 2 pesetas . . . . .	.. 8	0	5	0	.. .. 1888, 2d. on 6d., p. 12½ . . . . .	..	1	16	0
.. .. 1898, ½d. to 1/- . . . . .	.. 7	0	3	0	*British South Africa, 1890, £1 blue . . . . .	..	2	0	0
.. .. Morocco Agencies, 1899, 5c. to 2p. . . . .	.. 7	0	4	0	.. .. 1d. on 3/- . . . . .	..	2	3	0
*New South Wales, O.S., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d. . . . .	.. 5	0	1	9	Cape of Good Hope, 1/- triangular . . . . .	..	0	10	0
.. and 6d. . . . .	.. 5	0	1	9	*Ceylon, 2.50 lilac . . . . .	..	2	10	0
*Labuan, Jubilee, 1896, 1c. to 8c. . . . .	.. 6	0	1	0	*Dominica, 1/- lilac, C.A. . . . .	..	2	5	0
Brazil, 1800, slanting figures . . . . .	..	2	14	0	*Fiji Islands, 2d. on 3d., S.G. & Co.'s No. 36 . . . . .	..	3	3	0
.. 3000 . . . . .	..	3	11	0	*Wurtemberg, 1858, 18k. blue . . . . .	..	1	16	0
*Egypt, 1866, 5 piastres . . . . .	..	0	16	0	.. .. 1863-4, 9kr. black brown . . . . .	..	2	5	0
.. 1866, 10 piastres . . . . .	..	0	19	0	.. .. 1873, 70kr. mouve . . . . .	..	3	8	0
*Tunis, 1888, 5 francs . . . . .	..	1	0	0	*Tuscany, 1 quat. black one greyish . . . . .	..	1	0	0
*Hanover, 10g. green . . . . .	..	2	10	0	*Sweden, 1858, 12 o. ultramarine . . . . .	..	1	7	0
*Cuba, 1874/1896 . . . . .	.. 13	0	1	0	*Portugal, 1853, 5r. brown . . . . .	..	0	19	0
*United States, 1869, 24c. green . . . . .	..	1	13	0	*St. Lucia, 4d. blue, Star wmk. . . . .	..	2	0	0
*Buenos Ayres, in Pesos, blue . . . . .	..	1	10	0	Naples, ½ Gornese Cross, superb copy . . . . .	..	3	10	0
Peru, Medio Peso, yellow	1 fine	2	10	0	*Surinam, 1899, Provisionals, 50c., 1 gul. and 2 gul. 50c.	0 10 0			
.. .. rose . . . . .	..	9	10	0					

* Signifies Unused.

CORRESPONDENCE in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

Mention this paper.

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.—APRIL 26th and 27th; MAY 10th and 11th, 24th and 25th; JUNE 7th and 8th.

April 26th and 27th.—A very Fine Selection of British, Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps, including many rarities; also a Fine Collection of Greece, &c., by order of the Executrix of the late Mr. WESTOBY.

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.

W. H. PECKITT,

Dealer in Rare Stamps,

440, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

New Stock Books.

**Transvaal, British Indian States, Uruguay, Ceylon,
West Indies, Cape, &c.**

NEW ISSUES.

Sarawak, Cape, Samoa, Liberia, &c.

Selection sent on Approval.

1900 Price List of Sets and Packets free.

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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 Edinburgh Philatelic Society, the Rochdale Philatelic Society, the Cambridge University Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, and the Central Philatelic Club.

No. 133.—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

CHARGED WITH STEALING DE LA RUE STAMPS.

WHAT Mr. Charles J. Phillips, Mr. MacMillan and others deemed impossible—viz.: the further "leakage" of De La Rue stamps—appears to have happened.

Last week at the Clerkenwell Police Court, before Mr. Chapman, Ernest George Buck, 32, clerk, of Ravigny Gardens, Putney, and Charles Rowley, 31, clerk, of Westover Road, Wandsworth, were charged with being concerned together in stealing and receiving from Messrs. De La Rue's, Bunhill Row, St. Luke's, four British Central Africa, 10s. stamps, the property of the Colonial Government, of which the prisoner Buck is a servant.

Mr. Ricketts, solicitor, defended the accused.

Detective Inspector Cane said in consequence of complaints from the Crown Agents for the Colonies of a large number of unused Colonial stamps being sold in England, he made certain inquiries, and as a result the two prisoners were arrested. They were confronted at Old Street Police Station, and Rowley admitted having sold a large number of stamps, all of which he had obtained from Buck. Witness subsequently searched Rowley's lodgings and in a box found besides £20 in gold, a large quantity of unused Colonial stamps, representing in value several hundreds of pounds. The majority of the stamps were those of the Federated Malay States. At Buck's lodgings were found £8 in gold, but no stamps. When charged Rowley made a statement to the effect that he got the stamps from Buck who told him

that he had received them from a man who owed him money. Buck, he said, was in the Colonial Office, and formerly they were both clerks in the War Office.

Mr. Chapman remanded the prisoners.

NEW BRITISH STAMPS OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

An official statement has been issued to the effect that the new halfpenny *green* British stamp will make its appearance on the 17th of this month. There will also be, as already stated, a new shilling stamp; this latter to be a bi-coloured stamp in green and red. The shilling will not be placed on sale till the present stock of this value is appreciably reduced. Apparently our postal authorities have no present intention of conforming to the requirements of the Postal Union by changing the colour of the penny stamp to red, for no mention of this value is made in the official notice sent out to the Post Offices.

Press and public appear to be quite at sea as to the reason for the change in the colour of the halfpenny stamp. The London "Evening News" gravely suggests that the change is intended as another compliment to Ireland.

PEOPLE WHO WANT A MOURNING STAMP.

THERE is no novelty in the suggestion that a mourning postage stamp be issued. What has brought the question to the front again at this time is the sad prevalence of mourning among those whose nearest and dearest are following the flag to Pretoria. There is more than a dash of absurdity in the idea, but an astonishingly large number of people take it quite seriously.

Mr. T. Dove Keighley writes:—

The glaring incongruity of a black-edged envelope with two halfpenny stamps affixed is at once apparent, and the ordinary penny lilac stamp is only less so in degree. I suggest that the Post Office authorities shall issue a mourning adhesive stamp at three halfpence, which, if used by persons of influence would speedily be adopted by the general public desirous to show respect for the memory of deceased relatives and friends.

A wag on the staff of the "Hull Daily News" remarks that no advice is offered as to the design of the stamp. He suggests that perhaps a skull and crossbones or a coffin would be sufficiently gruesome.

TWO STAMP EXHIBITIONS IN AUSTRALIA.

PHILATELISTS at the Antipodes are projecting two Philatelic Exhibitions—one in Melbourne in May next, to commemorate the Jubilee of the issue of postage stamps in Victoria, and the other in Sydney in August, to commemorate nothing in particular, but the existence of Philately in general. So writes Mr. A. F. Basset Hull in his latest letter to the "Monthly Journal."

THE STAMPS OF THE FILIPINOS.

THE Filipino war chest is apparently assisted in no small degree by the Filipino postage stamps. Mr. F. C. Penny, of Mason's Avenue, has received from a gentleman in Manila, a sample set of six of these labels (two postage stamps, two telegraphs and two Fiscals) accompanied by an offer to supply any quantity of these job-lots up to 1,000 sets at \$2 the set. Doubtless Mr. Penny will live up to his reputation for business shrewdness by declining this dazzling proposal. The Filipinos' stamps have no status whatever, and although we are far from saying that they are altogether uninteresting to philatelists, yet we should regard them as dear at anything over a penny apiece.

THE MUSEUM'S NEGLECT OF THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

IN the March "Monthly Journal" Major Evans returns to the charge in his protest against the luke-warmness of the British Museum authorities in regard to the Taping collection of stamps. Not only have the Trustees neglected golden opportunities to add to the collection and to bring it up to date, but, as Mr. Wilnot Corfield has shown in a communication to the "Philatelic Journal of India," they even refuse proffered contributions to the collection. What can be done, Major Evans asks, to remedy this disgraceful state of affairs? He suggests that philatelists throughout this country, and the members of the London Philatelic Society more especially, owe it to the memory of the late Vice-President of that body, to make some systematic effort to continue and to enlarge the collection which he left to the nation.

Leaving generalities, the Editor of the "Monthly Journal" makes the suggestion that an attempt should be made, without reference to the British Museum (which possesses a very fine collection of the stamps of the fifty years from 1840 down to the end of 1889) to form a supplementary collection of the issues from the beginning of 1890 onwards, with a view to its being deposited in some Museum whose guardians are of rather more receptive disposition than those at Bloomsbury. "We do not know (Major Evans proceeds) whether the Post Office, Department has formed any regular collection of the specimens sent to it from the Office of the Universal Postal Union, but if the Department were approached in a proper manner we should suppose that some arrangement might be come to by which such a collection, to which other varieties might be added by Philatelists, should be formed, and made accessible under certain conditions to those interested in it."

METEOROLOGICAL POST-CARDS ARE THE LATEST.

ONE of the strangest examples of the popular craze for picture postcards in Italy has recently been patented (writes a Milan correspondent of the "Daily News.") The inventor, Signor Volpini, of Milan, has made a picture postcard with changing colours, somewhat similar to the shot silks worn by ladies which at different angles reflect different colours. Not only do these coloured picture postcards change under varying conditions of the atmosphere, but by their changing fore-shadow a change in the weather. It must be something very new in postcards, which, illustrating a pretty scene, will fore-tell the weather either by a brightening of its colour, or a darkening over of its sky to indicate wet weather.

LORD LONDONDERRY SUCCEEDS THE DUKE OF NORFOLK.

AT first Mr. Hanbury was to succeed the Duke of Norfolk as Postmaster-General; then Sir William Hart-Dyke became the popular tip. Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., our only postal reformer, is too advanced in his ideas to have had the slightest chance. In Lord Londonderry, who now obtains the post, the Government will get good value for money; for this powerful political magnate has lately skulked in his tent. The Postmaster-Generalship was the Government's olive-branch, and the Marquess of Londonderry seems to have accepted it with business-like avidity. So halfpenny letters and threepenny telegrams are just as far off as ever they were.

BROOKLYN'S SECOND EXHIBITION A SUCCESS.

REPORTS just to hand of the second stamp exhibition, held in the rooms of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, point to a great success. We must reserve a full account for the next *Fortnightly*.

A Collectors' Catalogue.

MR. HERBERT R. OLDFIELD'S REPLY TO THE QUESTION: CAN COLLECTORS, BY THE PUBLICATION OF A COLLECTORS' PRICED CATALOGUE, REGULATE THE SELLING PRICE OF STAMPS.

(From the *Philatelic Record*.)

WHEN asked to join in this discussion I thought the subject was: "Is a collectors' catalogue desirable, and, if so, should it be a priced catalogue or not?"

The question at issue is, I find, slightly different, and yet the subject is practically the same, for IF a collectors' catalogue can be prepared, and IF it is accepted, prices cannot but be materially affected by its figures. The "ifs" represent the difficulties that have to be overcome, but do not touch the point as to desirability. May I deal with the subject, therefore, in the following order:—

- 1.—Is a collectors' catalogue desirable?
- 2.—Can the "ifs" be disposed of?
- 3.—How will prices be affected?

1.—Our hobby possesses the very attractive feature that money expended upon it is not lost, but, on the contrary, ought to be productive, and for this reason there are more adherents of philately than of any other.

There are very few of us who could afford to spend money over our collections but for the knowledge that the eventual loss (if any) cannot amount to a large proportion of the expenditure, and instead of a loss there may be a profit, and that there *must* be a profit for those who will take the trouble to study the subject and who possess ordinary business capacity.

And yet new comers almost invariably have to learn by experience that casual collecting involves financial loss. Why?—because they buy without knowledge and in reliance upon the prices in some one or other of the existing catalogues.

Unfortunately, but naturally, they invest at first in stamps of the common and medium classes, where the value bears a much lower proportion to the price than is the case with rare stamps.

Many a new comer, finding that to realise means a loss of 50%, 75%, or more, upon his early purchases, and knowing that to obtain a fine collection involves considerable expense naturally hesitates to run the risk, gradually loses interest in stamp collecting and finally leaves our ranks.

He might face a loss of 10 or 20%, and with a reliable guide to values this would be possible even for a collector who did not care to give much time to the study of his subject, but for want of such a guide we lose many a promising recruit.

This is not exaggeration—there is no catalogue price of less than 1d., and yet the actual value of many a stamp catalogued at from 1d. to 6d. is but a very small fraction of the catalogue price.

You all know a rough rule in valuing a collection, viz.—omit all stamps under 6d. and take 75% of the catalogue price of those that are left. Even then, in the absence of rare stamps, the result would very often be considerably above the real market value.

Dealers are not misled by trade catalogues, but many collectors are, and they often find it out when they want to realise their collections.

My contention is that if we had a reliable guide to values many fresh adherents would be secured *and returned* for our hobby, and many discouraging losses now incurred would be avoided.

Broadly speaking, prices in dealers' catalogues represent either "stock possessed" or "stock prospective"; or in other words, the prices are either those at which they want to sell or at which they wish to buy, modified by their respective feelings of what their duties are to their customers, by the restraining influences of the price lists of their competitors, and in some cases by the necessity for maintaining the reputation any special catalogue may have acquired among collectors generally.

There is no necessity to attack the dealers: there is no desire on my part to do so. Collectors could not get on very well without them, but their so-called *catalogues* are really only *price lists*, as many of them very frankly tell us, so that the *extent* to which they subordinate their trade interests to the welfare of Philately is all to their credit.

It is foolish to attack them: they render many and valuable services to collectors; but it is quite another matter to accept their price lists as a standard guide to values.

2.—What about the "ifs"? I, for one, should not be writing if I thought the difficulties were insuperable.

The questions of expense and self-interest must not be put on one side, as one of our "negative" opponents so "generously" offers to do. I can assure him, we affirmatives do not require any generosity, and he and his friends will find they have quite enough to do to defend their own position without giving anything away. Indeed, it almost makes one smile to see them yield up the points that present the real difficulties, and rely on gratuitous assumptions "that collectors cannot agree to face the task," "that the catalogue *must* be international," and "that periodical revision is impossible," and upon such arguments as those that specialists are not to be trusted, that self-interest would spoil the work, and that specialists, unless they are "specialist-collector-dealers," can be of no help.

Is it to tempt the affirmative writers to deal with such feeble criticism and skip the real difficulties, so as to leave our negative opener an opportunity in his closing remarks of bringing them forward when the time to meet them has passed, and so triumphantly close the debate? No, I cannot think so. I believe all collectors will gladly welcome the collectors' catalogue if it can be prepared and issued.

I feel we must not look to the premier Philatelic Society to take the lead so far as a *priced* catalogue is concerned. A feeling is abroad that learned Societies are concerned solely with the more scientific aspects of the subjects which they are formed to promote; no other Society has ever attempted such a thing, and the matter of mere price does not come within the scope of its operations. These views may be sound and wise; at any rate, the result of the discussions which have taken place shews us that for the present we cannot hope our premier Society will take any action.

Who will step into the breach?

I know that willing workers can be obtained to help, a consultative committee could no doubt be formed, and the services of specialists would be given without expense. I think a meeting place could be obtained also without expense—possibly the Philatelic Society would permit the use of its rooms for this purpose (I mention this possibility as a private individual and without any warrant or authority whatever).

It is essential, however, that some capable business man should undertake the management and act as Editor, and it is here and in the printing and illustrations that the expense comes in.

No one can be expected—however enthusiastic a collector he may be—to give the time and energy necessary to edit the catalogue and carry through the requisite business arrangements without remuneration; but I think that, if undertaken by the right person, the copyright of this catalogue would furnish its own reward.

The right person, to my thinking, is a Proprietor-Philatelic-Journalist, who is also a collector.

All the Philatelic Journals are not trade properties; there is more than one which is owned and managed by a collector who is not a dealer—the difficulties and objections which stand in the way of any Society taking up this work would not apply to him.

Let the proprietor or Editor of one of such Journals come forward and offer to attempt the task in conjunction with a representative consultative committee; let him undertake the printing and business management in consideration of his owning the copyright or having the sole right of sale of the catalogue when prepared.

It could be published first of all in the pages of his Journal

(useful copy being thus provided), and subsequently reprinted in parts or as a whole.

So much for the first of our "ifs."

Next, as regards the acceptance of such a catalogue.

So far as collectors are concerned this will depend upon the compilers, and mainly whether the values are correct or not. To ensure this I suggest the formation of a really representative consultative committee, whose decision as to values should be binding. Specialists in different countries would be asked to give their views; and these would be submitted to the committee, by whom (and not by the Editor or the individual specialist) the values would ultimately be settled.

Certain definite principles would of course require to be laid down—values in all cases could not be stated with absolute precision; the catalogue would not be a *price list* but a *guide* to values. There would be no serious difficulty as regards common and medium stamps, while as regards rarities a large margin would be required in many cases. Stamps may be said to fall under three classes—*common*, say of the value of 6d. and less; *medium*, from 6d. to 20s.; and *rare*, above £1 in value. Most of the objections in Mr. Castle's article as to fixing values apply only to the class of rare and very rare stamps, and most collectors, when they reach that stage in their purchases, have acquired some useful knowledge by previous painful experiences.

Mr. Castle forgets that the collectors' catalogue will be most useful to the average collector who is getting his experience and oftentimes being frightened by it, although I have no doubt that many a specialist turning to some new country would also appreciate its usefulness.

Varieties would have to be valued with some regard to the popularity of the country concerned, the nature of the variety in question, and the reputation of the country by which it was issued. Recognized rarities, errors in colour or design, changes of paper or perforation would all stand in different classes.

I do not say the catalogue would be perfect, but it would at any rate be free from the objections and abuses to which the present dealers' catalogues are open.

Exchange Societies would probably accept it as the recognised standard between their members, and the objectionable 50% discount system might gradually disappear.

Here then is the scheme!—what are the objections?

We are told the specialist is not to be trusted; self-interest will spoil his work. Is not that a little unfair? Philately owes a good deal to the specialist; he does not keep to himself the knowledge he acquires, but shares it with his brother collectors. He also would share with others in the benefits conferred by a reliable guide to values. The collectors' catalogue would *not* be reliable if prepared mainly in the interests of specialists themselves. Give them credit for a little common sense, for self-interest cuts both ways; and besides, the consultative committee (not the specialists) would finally fix the values in the light of all the information they could obtain.

(To be continued.)

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The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, APRIL 14, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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.

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OUR evergreen contemporary the "Philatelic Record" for some months past has been pegging away at the question: "Can Collectors by the publication of a Collectors' Priced Catalogue regulate the selling price of stamps?" Answers more or less informing have been delivered both in the negative and the affirmative. Mr. Herbert R. Oldfield, who takes the affirmative side in the April number of the "Record" is the first to grapple with the subject exhaustively. Mr. Oldfield is heartily in favour of the collectors' catalogue as a general principle, but he sets aside the question of the regulation of prices as immaterial to the general question as to whether a collector's catalogue should or should not be compiled and published. In his main arguments Mr. Oldfield denounces afresh many points which have already appeared in the *Fortnightly* in past years. His whole article and indeed all the articles appearing in the "Record" in favour of the collectors' catalogue are in effect a panegyric on the "Collectors' Guide to Values" now being published serially in the *Fortnightly*. Our Collectors' Guide fulfils every requirement asked for by those who advocate the valuation of stamps by expert amateur philatelists. It is in the first place compiled by collectors; in the second place no one individual fixes a value, each item being the consensus of the opinion of the whole committee; and lastly the guide is published in a journal entirely conducted by non-dealing philatelists.

We may fairly claim therefore that our collectors' guide to values fully answers all the requirements of those who desire a collector's catalogue; at the same time we admit that published in the piecemeal fashion in which we are compelled to bring it out, the guide is not of so great a value as would be a complete book representing all the stamps of the world. We shall follow the question with great interest and await such developments as may grow out of Mr. Oldfield's many excellent suggestions. The great question will be one of finance, but if philatelists are agreed upon all other points we feel confident that this will not be allowed to block the way.

The Very Latest Catalogue.

THE Second Edition of the "Universal Standard Catalogue." Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., of Ipswich, have added some thirty pages to the bulk of their Universal Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the World, but this is not the only way in which the second edition of this excellent book excels the first. There are more and better illustrations, and while the general principle of ignoring minor varieties is still adhered to, we find in more than one country information not to be obtained in publications of greater age and bulk. An attempt is made for instance, to illustrate such things as the difference between the Athens and Paris prints of the stamps of Greece. In Persia again there are good illustrations of the surcharges applied last year to the stamps of 1898; and in many other ways the Catalogue evinces evidence of great care and of conscientious work.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. when circulating the first edition of their catalogue sent out some most interesting statistics regarding the postal issues of the world. They have done the same again this year, and we find the figures quoted in many newspapers. We think the information calculated to be of at least as great an interest to a stamp collector as to the ordinary newspaper reader; accordingly we quote as follows:

The total number of all known varieties of postage stamps issued by all the Governments of the world up to the present—excluding post cards, letter cards, and stamped envelopes or wrappers—is 14,626. Of this number, 133 have been issued in Great Britain, and 4068 in the various British Colonies and Protectorates, leaving 10,425 for the rest of the world. Dividing the totals amongst the Continents, Europe issued 3565, Asia 2775, Africa 2466, America 4795, and Oceania 1027. A comparison of these figures with those published 12 months ago shows that the following new varieties of stamps have been issued during the past year:—Europe 206, Asia, 202, Africa 146, America 139, and Oceania 122, a total of 815 for the year. The United States has issued more varieties of postage stamps than any other country, the number being 295. Next in order comes Spain with 282, followed by Nicaragua with 262, Salvador 230, Uruguay 217, Mexico 214, Cuba 212, and the Philippines 210.

Messrs. Whitfield King—wisely we think—stick to a hard and fast alphabetical order in their book. As a consequence they do not have to worry themselves as to whether they should include the Orange Free State and the Transvaal in the British Empire by way of anticipating intelligently events to come, and they also escape the usual cataloguers' quondary as to the treatment of dependent states and colonies. For instance, in the Universal Standard Catalogue we look for Norway under N and we find it there; in Gibbons' it would be under S, being suzerain to Sweden. Even in the case of the provincial states of the Republic of Columbia the strict arithmetical rule is adhered to; in fact every stamp-issuing state be it never so humble is given its proper alphabetical precedence, and we think that nothing could be more satisfactory than this. In the case of the older catalogues, such as Gibbons, Scott and Bright, each book has its own scheme of arrangement, and the consequence is a great expenditure of energy that might have been more usefully employed by philatelists seeking for information on any special country.

As to the prices in Messrs. Whitfield King's book we shall say nothing. They seem to us in many cases to be remarkably low prices, and in most cases to be at any rate very reasonable; and as this particular catalogue does not pretend to in any way influence or guide the market, the prices are essentially a matter between Messrs. Whitfield King and their customers.

The price of the book is one shilling and threepence nett, and it is cheap at that.

America loses a formerly well-known philatelist by the death of Mr. Charles H. Coster. He wrote a good book on the Local Stamps of the United States.

NOTES ON THE STAMPS OF EGYPT.

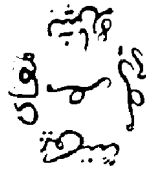
BEING A PAPER READ BEFORE THE BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY BY G. JOHNSON, B.A., HON. SECRETARY.

THE State religion in Egypt being Mahomedan the Khedive is prohibited from indulging any little vanity he may possess by having his likeness on the postage stamps of the country.

The first issue (January 1st, 1866) consists of seven values—5, 10 and 20 paras, and 1, 2, 5 and 10 piastres. These were for inland use only, all foreign letters being forwarded



Watermark.



Overprint.

as heretofore through the medium of one of the foreign post-offices in Alexandria (English, French, Austrian, Italian, Belgian, Grecian or Russian). The French, Italian, Austrian and Grecian post-offices still forward any letters handed into them by the way, although Egypt joined the Postal Union in 1875.

The Turkish inscription reads:—*Masriye* (Egyptian) *busta* (postage) *tamgai* (stamp) and at bottom, according to value, *besch* (5) *on* (10) *jighirmi* (20) *para*: *bii* (1) *iki* (2) *besch* (5) *on* (10) *groush* (piastre.)

The stamps were printed by Fratelli Pellas of Genoa. Two operations were necessary. There is only one type for each value, but as the two ends of the stamps do not correspond, and as they are placed anyhow on the plate, when surcharged we find two types of each as follows:—

5 paras:—In type one the star in the top right corner is open to the word *para*; type two, star in the top right corner points to *para*.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

10 paras:—Type 1 shows the ornament at the top right corner as in fig. 1; type 2 shows the same ornament shaped as fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

20 paras:—Here the difference lies in the crescent shaped ornament in the central arabesque; figures 3 and 4 show very clearly the difference between types 1 and 2.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.

1 piastre:—In type 1 the scroll ornaments in the inner oval are connected at the top; in type 2 there is a distinct space between them (see figs. 5 and 6).

2 piastres:—In type 1 the rope-like ornament under the letters P.E. in the left top corner has 10 strokes; in type 2 the same ornament shows 11 strokes.

5 piastres:—The loops of the inner ornament in type 1 of this value touch both the outer circles containing value at top; in the second type the loops do not touch the circles.

10 piastres:—A line drawn through the 1 of 10 in the right top corner intersects the nearest pearl in the inner oval; in the second type of the same stamp a line similarly drawn will be found to pass over the nearest pearl of the oval.

Of the above stamps the para values are watermarked, while the piastre values have no watermark. All the watermark values are to be found with watermark inverted. Two interesting errors are to be found—the 5 piastres of both types surcharged as 10 piastres, and the 10 piastres of both types surcharged as the 5 piastres.

Varieties:—All values are to be found imperforate, including both types and the errors; also they may be found imperforate horizontally (with 12½ vertical perforation) and imperf. vertically (with 12½ horizontal perforation).

The 10 piastres surcharged as 5 piastres is also to be found perforated 5. I have seen a used copy of the 10 piastres printed on the reverse side of the paper.

THE "SPHINX" SERIES.



Watermark.

The second issue (August 1st, 1867) introduces us to the Sphinx type of Egyptian stamps.

On the left appears Pompey's pillar, on the right Cleopatra's needle; at the top, *Tamgai Posta Masrie* (Egyptian Postage Stamp) and at the bottom, according to value, *Hams* (5), *Ashra* (10), *Ashria* (20) *para*; *Ghersh Wachet* (1 piastre) *Gherseen* (2 piastres) *Hamsat Gheroush* (5 piastres).

This design was drawn on the lithographic stone by F. Hoff, and the stamps were printed by Y. Pernasson in Alexandria under the supervision of the Government. A second printing became necessary in July, 1869.

The paper is medium to thick white wove, relief impressed with crescent and five-pointed star.

Gum, yellowish.

THE THIRD ISSUE.

There are four separate stamps for each value (4 types).

In the third issue (January 1st, 1872) the pyramid is more to the right and the sphinx more to the left.

At the top we find in Arabic, *Poste Khedivil Masrie* (Post of the Egyptian Khedivate); at bottom the Italian for the same; and at the left the various expressions of value as used for the second issue.

These stamps were printed by lithography at the Government Offices in Cairo.

Paper, medium to thick; yellowish—white wove.

The stamps were printed in sheets of 200 (20 rows of 10); they were dry impressed with crescent and five-pointed star.

The gum was at first yellow, afterwards white.

Doubtless type varieties exist, but the stamps are so badly printed that it is impossible to distinguish between type differences and defects in workmanship. All the stamps exist tête beche, and with inverted watermarks and imperf.

(To be continued).

Reminiscences of a Philatelist.

BY WALTER NATHAN.

OF all the pursuits and hobbies of a varied life, the greatest amount of unalloyed pleasure has been, I think, afforded me by my love for stamps. In saying this I am not offering the experience of a narrow-minded enthusiast, who, having concentrated his attention on one pursuit, is blind to all other attractions. I have collected coins, war medals; taken an interest in art and science; followed racing, and watched the fluctuations of the stock exchange; been a lover of the drama, and a devotee to music. With Goëthe I can say:—

“Ich habe genossen das erdische glück. Ich habe geleben und geliebt.”

Yet stamps have held the foremost place in my affection.

I have said that stamps have given me the most unalloyed pleasure of all my pursuits; but it is in the nature of human affairs that no pleasure should be without its alloy; and some painful recollections cling even to my love for stamps. Of these the most painful, and one to which I seldom refer, is my first connection with the stamps of foreign countries, long before I became a philatelist, and when I was in ignorance of the meaning of that word.

My father was an Australian merchant. His warehouse was in Basinghall Street, and he owned several vessels which carried his goods. Among these was one called “The Mary Catherine.” In this vessel my parents made a voyage to the Australian Colonies in 1847. My mother remained at Sydney, while my father paid his first visit to the Sandwich Isles. He was so charmed with Honolulu that he revisited the town on every convenient occasion. From 1847 to 1865 he visited “The Islands,” as they were affectionately called, more than thirty times. During these visits my mother either remained at Sydney, Melbourne, London, or Victoria (British Columbia) where my father had established a business in 1861.

Of Victoria my first conscious knowledge is retained, although I was born in London, and with Victoria the painful reminiscence of my first connection with postage stamps is associated.

As a boy my earliest fancy was kite flying. This was probably induced by the example of the Chinese colony of Victoria. Some of the wealthy Chinese merchants spent much time and money in kite making. I remember that our “laundress” (if such a word be applicable to the old Chinaman who did our washing!) had a kite which excited my envy. After long negotiation, he at last fixed the price of the coveted treasure at 20 dollars. I ran home in triumph, and bitter was my disappointment when I found that neither my mother, father, nor brother would give me the money to buy it. I was, however, determined to have a kite which should outvie any which my schoolfellows could show, and enlisted the services of a kind-hearted gentleman who helped me to make a very creditable structure, nearly five feet high. Still I was not happy. The Chinese kites were gaily painted and decorated, while mine was painfully plain. In this dilemma my mother came to my assistance. She cut out various devices in colored tissue paper, and further suggested that some of the old stamps she had on letters would make effective combinations if artistically arranged. I was delighted at the proposal. Boxes were turned out, and the stamps cut from innumerable letters.

The plain stamps of the Sandwich Isles, with figures in the centre, were regarded with contempt. They might perhaps be good enough for a border! And for this purpose they were used. The bright coloured blue and red heads of the king, displayed on the stamps of the 1853 issue, were regarded with more favour, and these together with red, blue and green “Views of Sydney,” brown and yellow “laureated heads,” and red, brown and blue stamps of Victoria with the Queen represented with sceptre and crown, were considered very attractive in a grand central device, with offshoots of crescents and stars.

How many hundred stamps were used in this truly awful

manner I dread, even at this lapse of time, to recall. At last the kite was completed. In the grossness of my ignorance I remember I was delighted with it. It looked beautiful, and flew well. Alas! that beauty should raise illicit desire. My kite was envied. From envy sprang other bad feelings, which culminated in predatory action. A conspiracy was formed among the boys of the town. A number of small kites were made by a section of the confederacy. Others were assigned the duty of chipping glass bottles on stones, until a sufficient number of small razor-like chips of glass were secured. These chips, or “cutters” as they were technically called, were affixed to the tails of the small kites. When my beautiful construction was in the air these little kites innocently sailed in company. I dreaded no evil. The Heavens were free to all. Yet I wished they who shared the space with me would keep a little farther away from my string. At last the denouement came. A tail of a small kite became entangled with my line. A moment and my kite began to fade in the distance never again to gladden my sight.

In after years, when I became a philatelist, I often felt an insane desire to send in search of that kite! If the treasure had been of a less perishable nature I might really have caused enquiries to be made. I have heard of large sums being spent in China on kites, but as far as my information goes the maximum amount expended has been between £300 and £400. What would that have been compared to the value of my kite to-day? I have no accurate recollection of the values of the stamps and have therefore described them by their colors, which impressed me more than the values at the time, but I am confident there were several 2c. and 5c. stamps of Hawaii with figures in fancy borders. Even supposing the border of the kite was mainly composed of 13c. stamps, what would it be worth to-day? The central device I do not so much regret, as I have had thousands of used “Views,” “laureated” of N.S.W., the first issues of Victoria and second issue of Hawaii since that time. But those Sandwich Islands of the 1st issue have always been a sore remembrance with me. As I write these lines imagination has conjured up the scene from the past, and I can plainly see before me what I believe was the most valuable kite which ever flew in air.

(To be Continued).

News Notes from all Quarters.

Among the latest “Wills and Bequests” we find this item:—Captain Edward Boaz Eagar (39), 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, died at Belmont November 23, £13,988 15s. 7d. Captain Eagar was the philatelist whose death we recorded in No. 125 of the *Fortnightly*.

Mr. Charles J. Phillips writes on “Philately in Italy” in the “Monthly Journal” and describes a visit to Rome. With grim humour he remarks that the only dealer in *genuine* stamps in the eternal city is Mr. P. Becchini. And the italics are his.

In the “Bazaar” of April 6th, we find illustrated and described a Spidsbergen issue, consisting of two stamps, 10 öre brown, and 20 öre blue, issued in 1896 in connection with a local post afterwards suppressed by the Norwegian Government. The stamps were described and illustrated in the *Fortnightly* some three years ago; but “E.W.R.’s” article on the subject in our contemporary is nevertheless most interesting.

Mr. Gilles, a member of the Sydney Philatelic Club, has been seeking exchange correspondents in other countries. Recently he “struck” an individual whose wants (remarks the “Australian Philatelist”) are many and whose collecting propensities are catholic, not to say all-embracing. He asks: “Could you send me any of the following things, as I collect them?—beetles, birds’ eggs, butterflies, coins, corals, crests, dried fish, flowers (wild), fossils, glass, marble, merrythoughts, moths, pen nibs, postcards, postmarks, sabots, scraps, seals, shells, silver paper, skeletons, stamps, stones, seaweeds, waters of foreign rivers, etc.”

Our Review of Reviews.

THE Editor of the "London Philatelist," who as a general thing does not worry about getting late news into his paper, delayed the issue of his number, dated March 31st, a couple of days, in order to include therein a description of the Philatelic War Fund Auction Sale. This patriotic delay, as Mr. Castle calls it, gives readers of the paper a full description of the interesting scene at the St. Martin's Town Hall on March 28th.

The Early Stamps of Uganda.

Mrs. Bazett, well known as a student of the ugly but precious stamps of the first issues of Uganda, gives an account of her investigations in this same issue of the "London Philatelist." Her article consists for the most part of the correspondence she has had with the Rev. E. Millar, of the Church Missionary Society, who was the printer of the first issues of the Uganda stamps. The correspondence is most interesting, as it clears up many hitherto doubtful points regarding these curious labels; the points cleared up, however, are still alarmingly out-numbered by those that remain shrouded in mystery. As Mrs. Bazett remarks, the early settlers in Uganda took no interest in philately, and no records have been kept, so that each year that passes will make it more difficult to clear up disputed points.

The War and after.

What will be done in the matter of supplying the Orange Free State and the Transvaal with postage stamps when the war is over? That is a question which is agitating not a few of our contemporaries and probably in a mild way is exercising the mind of philatelists generally.

Perhaps a still more interesting question may be asked: what is being done at the present moment in the capital of the Orange Free State? It seems probable that Ex-President Steyn in his flight from Bloemfontein to Kroonstadt took all the postage stamps with him—we may be sure at any rate that he and his underlings took as much as they could possibly carry. Now the population of Bloemfontein and the various other towns in the south of the Free State, at present held by the British must be supplied with postage stamps of some sort. If the operations of the Army Postal Corps have extended so far, then probably British and Cape stamps are at this moment actually in use in the southern towns of the Free State.

The Re-Issue of British Stamps.

Coming however to the larger question of the new issues to be created on the subjugation of the two republics, the "London Philatelist" draws its readers' attention that when this comes about the history of the Transvaal from a philatelic point of view will present a picture which we may trust for the credit of the British nation may remain always without a parallel.

The following will have been the order of philatelic events in the South African Republic—henceforth to be called presumably the British Transvaal:—

1. Transvaal.
2. British Transvaal. (a) surcharged V.R. and (b) Queen's head.
3. Transvaal, Queen's head, surcharged for Republican use.
4. British Transvaal.

Appropos to this matter of the philatelic after effects of the war, the "Daily Mail" in a recent issue looks ahead to the extent of publishing a sketch of a possible Transvaal stamp of the future. This imaginative essay shews the head of the Queen to the left as on the present stamps of Natal, and the inscription reads "Dominion of Transvaal and Orange." We think personally that that is a design destined to be very wide of the mark—but time will shew.

A Note for the New Reader.

This number of the *Fortnightly* goes to nearly a thousand philatelists of all sorts and conditions whose names are not yet on our subscription list. We want to get all these collectors to be regular readers of our paper.

A glance through the *Fortnightly's* pages will show that we are producing a bright, readable and instructive journal for stamp lovers. We claim without fear of contradiction that there is no better philatelic pennyworth obtainable.

A year's postal subscription to the *Fortnightly* costs only 3s. 3d. For this sum the paper is posted to the subscriber's address punctually on every alternate Saturday for 26 fortnights. The subscription for six months (12 numbers) is 1s. 6d., post free.

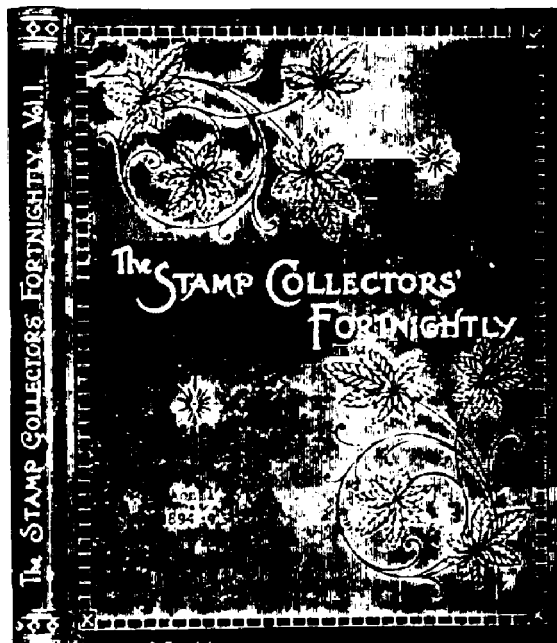
Those who wish to buy the paper, fortnight by fortnight, may do so by giving their newsagent a definite order. The news vendor should be informed that the publishing office is 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.; and then there will be no difficulty whatever.

In London and in most of the provincial towns and cities regular agents have been appointed for the sale of the paper. On receipt of a post card addressed to the Manager, Stamp Collectors' *Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C., we shall be happy to give any enquirer the name of the nearest agent.

Fifth Volume of the "Fortnightly."

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

THE Index to Volume V. of the *Fortnightly* (Nos. 105 to 130) is now ready and will be forwarded to any address for 1½d. post free. A special binding cover has been prepared—see illustration. This can be purchased at the *Fortnightly* office for 1s., or will be sent post free for 1s. 3d. Index and cover together, 1s. 3d., post free. In former years many readers of



the *Fortnightly* have elected to entrust the binding of their numbers to the proprietors of the paper. We enjoy the same facilities as of old for doing this work cheaply and expeditiously. We can bind the numbers sent in by any reader for 2s. 6d., this sum to include the cover, the index, and also return carriage to the owner.

Readers desiring to avail themselves of this offer should at once send in their numbers, postage paid, to the Manager, the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C. All orders will be executed in rotation.

TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

WE must thank the numerous readers who have congratulated the *Fortnightly* on its smartness in getting

a full report of the war auction into an issue published three days after the occurrence. Our only regret is that in the hurry to do this a few salient facts were omitted. For instance, it is only proper to say a word of acknowledgment of the kindness of the Vestry of St. Martin's in letting the fine hall wherein the sale was held at half the usual fee. Such public spirited actions are not common among the smaller public bodies. As regards philatelists themselves it would be quite impossible to acknowledge all the generous acts that made the auction a red-letter event in the annals of philately. It is no exaggeration to say that everyone did something, and did that something well. We understand that the total of the philatelic contribution to the War Fund will be something in the neighbourhood of £1,100—an admirable result, due very largely to the efforts of the individual members of the committee.

By the way, Mr. W. R. Lane Joynt, of Dublin, a winner of a consolation prize of 10s. in the *Fortnightly's* War Fund Competition, has requested us to pay that amount to the War Fund; and we have gladly done so.

A Natal correspondent, writing to Mr. Walter Morley, of Hither Green, states that he has been informed by a friend (who was taken prisoner at Dundee and sent to Intonbi Spruit to take Red Cross service at the neutral camp) that many of the Boers who came down through Leing's Nek in the first rush into British territory were so-called "ardent philatelists." They brought a big supply of stamps with them, and the first thing they did was to go to the Post Office and get them postmarked. We surmise that the stamps had already been surcharged for use in the "annexed territory;" but on this point Mr. Morley's correspondent is not very precise. He adds that so far he has not seen any of these stamps or the other reported provisionals in Natal.

There was a regrettable, but obvious, printer's error in the last *Fortnightly*, in the short "Forgery" article on page 14. The illustrations of the genuine and forged "3's" of the surcharged Cape stamps became transposed, and that which is described as genuine is in reality the forged type, and *vice versa*.

In replying to "W. H. T.," on the question of the continuous band cancellation (not unlike trellis work) applied to some of the Belgian stamps, we suggested that this postmark is mostly used on newspaper packages, on the ground that, as we believe, it is more often than not to be seen on the lower value stamps of Belgium. Mr. H. Wilfred Plumridge, in a letter dated April 3, controverts this. "On the contrary," he declares, "the bar cancellation appears mostly on the high values and is used apparently for savings bank purposes, telegrams, &c."

Nevertheless in our own limited experience of these stamps, the facts are as we previously gave them, although we only surmised that the postmark was principally used for newspaper matter. We should be glad if any *Fortnightly* reader could give us the absolute facts of the case with "chapter and verse" for same.

The *Fortnightly*, in the course of its career, has been addressed in divers extraordinary ways, but we think that the following superscription applied to a postcard from Sweden will remain unrivalled for all time:

The Stamp Collectors!

W. C. High, Esq.,

Holborn, 77, 78, London.

That "W. C. High, Esq.," is quite too funny for words. The gentleman is made up of the first half of the thoroughfare in which the *Fortnightly* office is situate with the name of the postal district dragged in as initials. The total loss of the word "*Fortnightly*" is a trifle compared to the creation of this territorial Frankenstein.

* * *

Mr. Matthew Heslop, who has taken over the Secretaryship of the Excelsior Stamp Exchange from Mr. William Weston of Hertford, has kindly sent us particulars of his interesting innovation the Excelsior Stamp Auction Circuit. This circuit has been founded with the belief that it will furnish a long felt want,—most things are started with that belief by the way—and it appears that the scheme embodies a regular postal auction; a packet, which is in the first place unpriced, being sent from member to member through the post in the ordinary way, with spaces provided wherein the bids of successive members can be recorded. We see no reason whatever why the auction packet should not be a distinct success. Mr. Heslop is also the secretary of a fiscal, railway and local stamp exchange.

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.

Western Australia.—The "Australian Philatelist" issues a warning to the effect that there are some very doubtful roulettes of Western Australian stamps being offered for sale. These, it is stated, generally come in *pairs, unused*, a most remarkable combination in view of the scarcity of rouletted specimens of any kind hitherto. They are *without gum*, as are also the well-known imperforate *remainders*, and there are other peculiarities which for obvious reasons our contemporary does not particularise.

Victoria (Faked 10d. grey).—A rather dangerous fraud is being imposed on the unsuspecting public at the present moment in the shape of the 10d. brown on rose Victoria, disguised as the 10d. grey. Comparison shows clearly that the shade is different, but beyond that and the fact that the watermark is "10" instead of "8" (which fact by itself is not absolutely conclusive) there is little to go by. The paper has been rather too successfully blanched, and shows suspiciously white, and the impression being from an earlier printing than the genuine grey stamp, is clearer than in nine out of ten copies of the latter. As we have said, the wmk. "10" does not actually prove that the stamp is wrong, but as only two or three copies with that watermark have ever been heard of, this watermark is for all practical purposes enough to condemn, and when comparison with a genuine copy is possible the matter is quite simple. The genuine stamp is of distinctly bluish grey, while the changeling has a suspicion of green in the grey. The man who is offering this fake (the Editors of the "P.J.G.B." inform us) has several copies to our knowledge, and his figure is 7s. 6d. apiece. There is a bare possibility that this man does not know the character of the goods he offers, so we shall not mention his name without further proof.

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.

Bosnia.—In addition to the 1 heller black of the new type, listed and illustrated in our No. 131, the following have now appeared:—

- 3 heller, yellow.
- 5 heller, green

Brazil.—It is stated in "E.W.S.N." that the 20 reis Postage Due stamp is now appearing in green.

British Bechuanaland.—The "Monthly Journal" is informed that 1d. stamps ran short at one of the offices, and that 2d. stamps were cut in halves and used for the lower value, but that this action was not authorised or recognised.

British Guiana.—Messrs. Sear report the receipt of the 2 cents value in changed colours, as follows:—

- 2 cents, lilac and rose.

British Central Africa.—A 2s. value has been added to this territory's already long list. Design as for other high values.

- 2s., olive green and black.

British South Africa.—A correspondent of the "Monthly Journal" at Bulawayo informs our contemporary that during the siege of Mafeking (the Postmaster of which place is distributor of stamps for the British Bechuanaland Protectorate) one of the offices in British Bechuanaland ran out of stamps, and was supplied with stamps of the B. S. A. Company. These were not surcharged in any way, but it is reported that some ingenious person has overprinted certain B. S. A. stamps with the words "Bechuanaland Protectorate," and as these are being offered for sale as provisionals philatelists are warned that the surcharge is a fraud.

Chili.—An announcement went the rounds some time ago that Chili would shortly depart from the time honoured design of its postage stamps; but it now appears that, although a new contract has been made with Messrs. Waterlow, of London, there will be no change in the general design of the labels. Thus the worst we have to fear from Chili is an epidemic of tearful and wonderful compound perforations.

Crete.—The new stamps are out. We have a full set of nine values from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. The values, colours, &c., so far as we can make them out, are as follows:—

- 1 lepton brown, (Allegorical Figure).
- 5 lepta green, (Allegorical Head).
- 10 " carmine, (Head of Prince George).
- 20 " red, (Allegorical Head).
- 25 " blue, (Head of Prince George).
- 50 " mauve, (Allegorical Figure).
- 1 drachma violet, (Allegorical Figure).
- 2 " brown, (Allegorical Figure).
- 5 " green, (St. George and the Dragon).

The coinage naturally is Greek. Prince George, as depicted on the 10 and 25 lepta, is a man with a fine face. The surprise of the set is the sight of our own good old George and Dragon, as used on the common sovereign of commerce, depicted on the 5 drachmae stamp of Crete. This is possibly intended as a compliment to the British, who have not been getting so many compliments from foreign quarters lately that they can afford to despise such offerings.

Dominican Republic.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich, kindly send us four more of the Dominican Commemoratives—presumably completing the set:—

- 20 centavos brown.
- 50 " green.
- 1 peso sky blue.
- 2 " light brown.

Germany.—A subscriber in the Fatherland has our thanks for copies of the new 2pf. German Empire adhesive and a new postal card of the same value.

Adhesive.

- 2 pf., slate.

Post Card.

- 2 pf., blue on blue.

Gold Coast.—The colours of the 5s. and 10s. values are changed as follows:

- 5s. green and mauve.
- 10s. green and brown.

New South Wales.—The official envelopes referred to in a previous number of the *Fortnightly*, as issued for the free use of the members of the N.S.W. Legislature, bear a stamp of the type of the current 2d. adhesive. The envelopes also bear the words "On public service only," and a further inscription explicitly restricting their use to members of the Parliament of New South Wales.

Orange Free State.—In another column, in our No. 131, we described and illustrated this Free State "Commando Stamp." We now have a used specimen of the label from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

The printing is black on paper that is tinted a bright yellow on the one side only. The stamp is perforated; and Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s specimen is postmarked with the name of some place ending in "n" (Modderfontein, perhaps)—with the letters "O.V.S." added at the bottom of the circular cancellation. Besides being used in the O.F.S. (write Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.) the stamps are also found with Colonial postmarks of those places occupied by the Boers, viz.:—Burghersdorp, Aliwal North, Barkly West, Barkly East, Spytfontein, Modder River, Warrenton, Colesberg, &c. The stamps were issued on October 18th, 1899."



Puerto Rico.—The 1c. and 2c. U.S.A. adhesives have (we gather from American exchanges) now been surcharged in the new spelling—"Puerto Rico."

Siam.—We are indebted to the William Stamp Company, London Wall, for a specimen of a new Siamese post card—4 atts. rose on buff.

Somali Coast.—As we go to press Messrs. Whitfield King send us a new value—40 centimes blue and yellow. Impert. paper, as usual, quadrille.

Tasmania.—According to the "Australian Philatelist" the design of the new 2d. stamp—the Hobart affair illustrated in a recent *Fortnightly*—is "all a mistake." The engraver, by some means unexplained, substituted Hobart in the design in the place of Cataract Gorge. It is stated that the mistake will be remedied.

Vathy (French).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the current French 5 centimes yellow green, with red surcharge "Vathy." It is becoming increasingly difficult to keep track of these numerous surcharges for French dependencies and spheres of influence.

COMING EVENTS IN PHILATELY.

April 20th and 21st. Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Auction at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C.

April 24th and 25th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale at 47, Leicester Square, W.C.

April 26th and 27th. Messrs. Venton, Bull, & Cooper's Sale at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross.

A Mafeking Siege Issue.

The "Globe" announces, on what sort of authority we cannot say, that siege postage stamps have been issued at Mafeking, and a regular system of dispatch runners instituted. The stamps are surcharged a higher value with the words "Mafeking besieged." Letters may now be posted in the town to the outposts or any other part of the defences.

'Collectors' Guide to Values.'

We greatly regret to be compelled, at the last moment, to again hold over our "Guide to Values." The country "under treatment," British East Africa, to wit, is a difficult one and we have preferred delay to incompleteness.

RICHARD E. COMVALIUS, P.O.B. 64, Paramaribo, Surinam, solicits correspondence in Rare Postage Stamps. No attention paid to common stuff. 133

G.T. BRITAIN, 6d. and 1c., octagonal. Some fine cut square copies for sale, 6d. at 2/6, the 1c. at 2/6 each. Superb condition. J. G. CUMBERSON, 49, Renshaw Street, Liverpool. 134

CLEARING Stamps from Quarter Catalogue, also Post Cards.—H. SLOP, 9, Ampton Street, London.

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MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the twelfth meeting, held at the Grand Hotel, Manchester, on March 23rd (Mr. W. Dorning Beckton presiding). Mr. J. C. North read a paper on Postage Stamp Portraits. The first postage stamps issued, those of Great Britain, one penny black and twopenny blue, had a profile likeness of Queen Victoria, he said, taken from a medal struck to commemorate her Majesty's visit to London in 1837. This is practically the same portrait that appears on the present stamps. Naturally our Colonies followed suit, and quite an interesting collection of the Queen's portraits, good, bad, and indifferent, can be made. The only colony which has not yet issued a stamp with the Queen's head is Western Australia. Canada and Newfoundland are the only colonies which have used portraits of other members of our royal family. The tenpence and seventeenpence stamps of Canada have a likeness of Jacques Cartier. The United States of America give an almost complete gallery of portraits of their late presidents and celebrities. The Central and South American Republics give excellent portraits of a large number of their presidents, and Mexico has a portrait of the ill-fated Emperor Maximilian. Most of the European countries give good likenesses of their various rulers. The only portrait on the stamps of France is that of Napoleon Third. The Sultan of Zanzibar appears on his stamps, which is in defiance of the teaching of the Koran, but the Shah of Persia is an earlier offender in this respect. In the discussion which followed the reading of the paper, it was pointed out that Cape Colony also had never yet issued a stamp with a portrait of the Queen, an interesting fact when taken in

conjunction with the present struggle in South Africa.

SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB.

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Club Room, Equitable Buildings, Sydney, on Wednesday, 17th Jan., 1900, at 8 p.m. Present: Messrs. R. A. Dallen, vice-president, in the chair, Van Weenen, W. A. Hull, Witney, Inch, Gilles, Smyth, Himmelhoch, Ridley, Pettifer, Hagen, Parry, Mrs. Rienits, and the Hon. Secretary. Lieut. Williams, R.N., H.M.S. Torch, and Mr. Tudor were present as visitors. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. A. F. Basset Hull) read the report of the Committee on Mrs. Tibbs' motion as to the desirability of holding a philatelic exhibition, a discussion ensued, and Mr. Van Weenen moved "That it is desirable to hold an exhibition in August next provided that sufficient funds be guaranteed by the members to cover expenses." The motion was seconded by Mr. Himmelhoch. Mr. Inch moved an amendment, "That the question of holding an exhibition be referred back to the Committee to report as to the probable cost, and to prepare alternative proposals." The amendment was seconded by Mr. Pettifer. The amendment was put and lost. The original motion was then put and carried.

HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A General Meeting was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on Tuesday, March 6th. Mr. Herbert R. Oldfield gave a display of his collection of the stamps of Colombia, accompanied by explanatory notes on the different issues under examination. Every variety of shade, paper, and even of error was well represented in the collection. The

The second edition is in no sense a reprint of the first; it has been revised throughout, a large portion has been entirely re-written and re-arranged, and the whole re-set in fresh type. The alterations are very numerous and important, and all the errors and omissions discovered in the first edition have been corrected in the second.

Every Stamp is Priced, either used or unused, or both, so that collectors desiring to know the value of any particular stamp will not be met with a disappointing blank space on referring to the Catalogue.

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Chairman (Mr. G. Haynes) moved a cordial vote of thanks, and Mr. J. W. Jones, in seconding, declared that the collection was unequalled throughout Great Britain.

CARDIFF PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The March meeting, fixed for the 13th, was fairly attended, Mr. B. Rowland being down for a display of his stamps of Victoria. The President (Mr. Walter Scott) and the Secretary (Mr. W. Justum) also displayed their collections, and a very pleasant time was spent inspecting and discussing same. Mr. Rowland showed a good copy of the sixpenny orange, beaded oval, and the President showed fine copies of the 5s. blue on yellow, and sixpenny blue, watermark single-lined numeral 4. The Secretary's collection contained a copy of each of the two first-mentioned stamps.

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Nevis, 4d. orange, cat. 70/-, unused ..	35/-
.. 4d. rose, mint, cat. 70/-	40/-
.. 6d. grey, unused, cat. 60/-	35/-
.. 1/- green, 90/-	45/-

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THE sale of the late Major Myers' collection attracted a very fair attendance at Puttick and Simpson's rooms. Among the more important lots were:—Afghanistan: 1875-76, first issue, Abassi purple, a vertical pair, unused, £15; 1876, ½-rupee purple and 1-rupee purple, unused, £12; 1876, 1-rupee brown, £6 10s.; Spain: Madrid, 1853, 3-cuartos bronze, £8 5s.; Naples: ½-tornese blue, with the "Arms," £6; Mauritius: post-paid 1d. orange on slightly bluish paper, £6 12s. 6d.; post-paid 2d. blue, £6 15s.; Natal: first issue, 1s. buff, £7 10s.; and Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red, £5 10s. About £750 was realised. By the way, the late Major Myers (of the King's Royal Rifles), fell not at Colenso, as stated in our last number, but in the disastrous fight at Spion Kop.

In the "Philatelic Record" appears an interesting life-sketch of our latest new London dealer, Mr. J. W. Jones. As a collector, Mr. Jones "dates back" to 1867; he entered Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' business in 1891. He belongs, the "Record" tells us, to the class of dealers to which the philatelist, pure and simple, owes many a hint and many a discovery.

We regret to learn that Mr. John Edwards is away ill with influenza and was unable to auctioneer at his last sale.

Mr. Giweli has taken the sole English Agency for some very pretty Pictorial Cards, designed in 60 varieties with the coat of arms of the different nations. Remarkably cheap, 1d. each.

Many specialists declare that Messrs. G. Hamilton-Smith's plain "Klip" album, bound in rich padded morocco, solves the album difficulty. It is certainly a beautiful book. The same firm claim to have the most accurate perforation gauge ever offered.

Like their brethren of Philately, the collectors of coins are already paying fancy prices for Transvaal money. Thus, a Transvaal sixpence will fetch five shillings. Kruger pence are, however, relatively more expensive. A dealer who is now charging eighteenpence apiece for these coins sold four dozen of them last week for a shilling apiece. At the war auction, as described in the last Fortnightly, a Kruger sovereign realised "double-face."

Mr. Franz Reichenheim informs the "London Philatelist" of some varieties of the 1d. on 3d., plate 1, Orange Free State. On a sheet of 240 stamps there exist two stamps with a variety in the surcharge, the "1" and "d" being 3 mm. apart, which do not seem to have been catalogued. One stamp appears in the right-hand corner in the first row of the top pane, and the second stamp in the same position in the right-hand bottom pane.

One of the features of "Uncle Sam's" section at the Paris Exhibition will be the Post Office Museum. Mr. J. M. Bartels states that Curator Slack, of that institution sailed for the French capital on March 14th, carrying with him, not much in the way of stamps, but a fine showing in articles found in the dead letter office, also postal equipments of every description, mail pouches and uniforms, including a life-sized figure of a special delivery boy on a bicycle in full uniform.

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* U.S.A., 1847, 10c.	..	65	0	* ST. VINCENT, 1881, 3d.	..	24	0
" " " 1855, 90c.	..	60	0	" " " on 6p.	..	40	0
* MEXICO, 1867, 3r. grey	35	0	0	" " " used	..	30	0
BUENOS AYRES, 2p., 1858,	20	0	0	* NOVA SCOTIA, 1851, 1p.	..	25	0
" " " 3p.	..	95	0	" " " 1p.	..	75	0
" " " 4p. brown	30	0	0	Do. strip of 3 on entire	..	16	0
* U.S.A. Executive, 1, 2,	..	10c.	80	" " 3p. dark blue	..	32	0
BR. GUIANA, 1851, 1c.	..	splendid strip of 4. large	..	" " 6p. yellow-green	..	12	0
..	..	margins	..	* DOMINICA, 1877, 1sh.	..	45	0
..	500	1886, 1sh. CA.	..
MAURITIUS, 2p lge. fillet	36	0	0	MAURITIUS, 1851, surch.	..	4p.	45
" " " 1848, 1p. late	..	state. fine	60	" " 1858 (1p.) green	..	30	0
" " " "	75	" " 1859 (1sh.) yellow	..	green	28
* LAGOS, 2 6 olive	175	CAPE, woodblock, 4p., very	..	fine. large margins	..
* NEWFOUNDLAND, 64p.	25	50
..	..	sc.-verm.	..	* ZURICH, 6 rappen	75
" " 2p. orange-verm.	used	..

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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.

THE DATES OF MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S STAMP SALES FOR NEXT SEASON HAVE BEEN FIXED AS FOLLOWS:—

1900.—September 25 and 26; October 16, 17, 30 and 31; November 13, 14, 27 and 28; December 11 and 12.
1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17;
May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12.

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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LIBERAL ADVANCES MADE PENDING REALIZATION IF DESIRED.

FOR TERMS AND FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS:

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,

ESTABLISHED 1794.

47, Leicester Square, London, W.C.

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.

STAMPS:

One hundred British Colonial Postage Stamps;
all different and genuine; post free, 2/6.

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53, St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C.

SPECIAL INCH ADVERTISEMENTS.

Prepaid and Unchangeable.

12 Insertions, £1; 25 Insertions, £1 17s. 6d.

THE WILLIAM STAMP COMPANY,

90, London Wall, LONDON, E.C.,
ENGLAND.

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.

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.

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.

KERR & LANHAM,

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.

POSTCARDS, ENVELOPES, &c.

A Priced List of Packets of these, from 20 for 1/-, to 100 all different for 12/-, used and unused, can be had on application. A fine start of 500 Varieties for £6, unused or partly used, as may be preferred, with or without several Envelopes and Wrappers; some of which are catalogued from 1/- to 15/- each.

BEN WEBSTER, 15 Paultons Sq., Chelsea, S.W.

H. ROSE-SHIELDS & Co.,

75, LITTLE BRITAIN, LONDON, E.C.

Two minutes from G.P.O.

Wholesale and Retail List free.

Consignments and offers solicited.

Hayti, well assorted; used, 6d. per doz., 3/6 per 100.

Newfoundland, 1898, ¼, 1, 2, and 3c. 5d. per set, 2/9 per 12 sets.

Special Mixture, splendid value, 2/- per 100.

ALWAYS mention the "S.C.P." in answering Advertisements.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

Rate: 3 Words a Penny.

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1000 STAMPS, all different, for 1/- Write for particulars, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.—W. BROWN, St. Thomas' Square, Salisbury.

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. U.S. American, Revenues, Medicine, Match Locals, &c.; also proofs. "Specimen" and reprints of any country. Cash or exchange.—DARRSEN, Bexley Heath, Kent.

"THE YOUNG STAMP COLLECTOR" illustrated, monthly; 1/6 yearly.—32, Ballater Road Brixton.

TRANSVAAL REPUBLIC (three different), Orange State (obsolete), Alexandria, Travancore, Malta, six Japan, three China, two Mauritius, six Nicaragua, Persia, six Peru; 50 genuine varieties, 1/4.—SMITH, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey.

U.S.A., 1855, 24c., on original, 10/- N.S.W., 1865, £1, used. Offers requested. Approval. References.—CAMPBELL INGLIS & Co., Carlisle.

10,000 well mixed Stamps, including Japan, old U.S.A., &c., only 1/6; post free, 1/10. 100,000 for 10/-, carriage extra.—ROSE-SHIELDS & Co., 75, Little Britain, E.C.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMPS for Sale.—A fine parcel of S.A. Stamps, 4,800 in packets of 50, 16 different kinds. All fine and perfect copies only. Price on application.

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77-78, High Holborn, W.C.

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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 April 24th and 25th, which will consist of a Fine Selection of Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps, and includes the Collection of THOMAS HENDERSON, by order of the Official Receiver in Bankruptcy.

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.

THE DATES OF MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S STAMP SALES FOR NEXT SEASON HAVE BEEN FIXED AS FOLLOWS :

- 1900.—September 25 and 26; October 16, 17, 30 and 31; November 13, 14, 27 and 28; December 11 and 12.
 1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17;
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10,000 well mixed Stamps, including Japan, old U.S.A., &c., only 1 6, post free, 1 to 100,000 for 10s., carriage extra.—ROSS SHIELLS & Co., 75, Little Britain, E.C.

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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, 1884-93, 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
Queenland, 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
Western Australia, error 2d. in colour of 6d. lilac, unused, and well centred	20	0	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.

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	s.	d.
1840-1 1d. black, 1d. red, 2d. blue	0	6
1855-8 1d. red-brown, Small Crown, perf. 16, die 1 and 2	0	7
" 1d. red-brown, Small Crown, perf. 14, die 1 and 2	1	0
1880 1d., 2d., 3d., 5d.	0	6
1883 1d., 3d., 2d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 1	1	8
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O.W. Official, 1d. and 1d.	5	6

Special Offer of Envelopes and Post Cards.

1810 Mulready Letter Sheet, 1d. black, used	6	0
1841 Envelope, Dickinson paper, 1d. pink	0	6
" with seal	0	6
1844 Letter Sheet, Dickinson paper, 1d. pink	2	0
Admiralty Pensioner's Life Certificate, cut square, green, pink, yellow, blue, white and rose, set of 6	1	1
Vaccination Certificate (undated), 1d. green, 1d. brown	0	6
1890 1d. blue, Jubilee Envelope and Card, used	1	6
" 1d. carmine on buff, Jubilee Guildhall Card, unused	3	6

FOR SALE.—Parcel of used and unused British Railway Letter Fee Stamps, including many varieties.

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Wanted to Buy Collections and all kinds of English stamps. Good prices given.

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Canada Jubilees, complete Set, used, fine	only	44/-
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—OF—

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New Philatelic Protection Society.

THE

STAMP COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 134—Vol. VI. SATURDAY APRIL 28, 1900. ONE PENNY.

WANTED.

WE propose to publish from time to time, in the *Monthly Journal* (Subscription 2/- per annum, post free), List of Stamps that we are short of, and which we are willing to accept in exchange for other Stamps of a similar value, that is to say, for Stamps catalogued at 1/- or under we will give other Stamps priced by us at that price or less, for Rarer Stamps we will give Rarer Stamps and so on.

The basis of exchange that we offer is that of paying two-thirds of catalogue price in exchange; e.g. if a Collector sends us Stamps to the value of £3 from our published lists, he can select Stamps to the catalogued value of £2 in exchange. A supplementary list of wants should always be sent as it is impossible to keep every variety always in stock.

All Stamps sent in must be in perfect condition, Unused, with gum; Used, with all perforations or roulettes complete and not too heavily postmarked.

Any number up to 100 of one variety may be sent in.

The numbers quoted in the following list are those given in the 1899 Edition of our Catalogue of Foreign Countries.

HANOVER.	Unused.	2, 9, 10, 14, 30, 31, 32, 40, 42, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48.
	Used.	1, 3, 4, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 27, 28, 30, 11, 14, 46, 47, 48.
LUBECK.	Unused.	4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 19, 20.
	Used.	7, 10, 11, 12, 18, 19, 21, 22.
MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN.	Unused.	1, 2, 3, 6, 7.
	Used.	1, 2, 3.
OLDENBURG.	Unused.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 21.
	Used.	1, 2, 7, 27, 28, 29, 30.
PRUSSIA.	Unused.	1, 2, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 40, 41, 44, 46.
	Used.	1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 33, 40, 41, 43, 44, 45, 46.
BADEN.	Unused.	8, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 32, 32.
	Used.	2, 3, 4, 5, 22, 23, 25, 30, 30, 40, 43, 44, 45.
BREMEN.	Unused.	1, 2, 3.
	Used.	1, 2, 7, 8, 9.
BRUNSWICK.	Unused.	4.
	Used.	1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 17, 18, 19, 28, 29, 30, 31.
HAMBURG.	Unused.	2, 3, 7, 9, 10, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 28, 38.
	Used.	11, 12, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48.
SAXONY.	Unused.	19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 31, 43.
	Used.	10, 11, 12, 13, 21, 25, 26, 27, 42, 43.
SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.	Unused.	8, 25, 62, 66.
	Used.	6, 7, 21, 25, 30, 31, 55, 56, 59, 60, 62, 66.
THURN AND TAXIS.	Unused.	13, 17, 23, 24, 25, 26, 60, 61.
	Used.	1, 2, 5, 7, 12, 14, 15, 16, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 34, 35, 41, 42, 43, 74, 77.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, Stamp Importers,

391 STRAND, 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.—MAY 10th and 11th, 24th, and 25th; JUNE 7th and 8th.

May 10th and 11th, 1900.—A very Fine Selection of British, Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps, including a very Fine Selection of BRITISH BECHUANALAND (in lots) complete, and mostly in unused blocks; also many scarce errors. Griqualand, a fine lot of unused blocks, etc., showing the various types of surcharge. Fine early Mauritius, Capes, Gambia, etc.

These Sales are attended by all the principal known Collectors and Dealers, and afford the best means of disposing of Collections and Rareties, 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.

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" " \$1	0	4	10	Surinam, 25 on 40c.	0	1	0
" " \$2	0	9	6	" 25 on 50c.	0	1	0
" " \$5	1	4	0	New Zealand, 1d. green	0	0	1
Borneo, 4c. (Monkey)	0	0	2	" " 1d. rose	0	0	2

Selection sent on Approval.

1900 Price List of Sets and Packets free.

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44o, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

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UNUSED.

		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
British Honduras, 5c.	..	0	2	6	Belgium, 10c. rose	..	0	0	2
" " \$1	..	0	4	10	Surinam, 25 on 40c.	..	0	1	0
" " \$2	..	0	9	6	" 25 on 50c.	..	0	1	0
" " \$5	..	1	4	0	New Zealand, ½d. green	..	0	0	1
Borneo, 4c. (Monkey)	..	0	0	2	" " 1d. rose	..	0	0	2

Selection sent on Approval.

1900 Price List of Sets and Packets free.



Official Organ of the Rochdale Philatelic Society, the Cambridge University Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, and the Central Philatelic Club.

No. 134.—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

REMAINDERS OF BRAZILIAN COMMEMORATIVES.

We have to thank Mr. Alphonse Bruck, editor of the "Revista Philatelica du Brazil," for a letter dated March 13th, wherein he gives us further details regarding the issue of the series of four Brazilian commemorative stamps already chronicled and fully described in the *Fortnightly*.

The set of stamps (consisting of four values—100, 200, 500 and 700 reis) was issued to commemorate the fourth centenary of the discovery of Brazil. Mr. Bruck states that only 400,000 specimens were printed, and that the stamps were current only from January 1st to February 28th. He has now accepted the post of sole agent for the sale of the remainders. He will sell the stamps until September 7th next only; after that date any that may still remain will be destroyed. The plates have already been broken up, so that no re-issue can be made. This last fact and the modesty of the issue (the face value of the four stamps being about 1s. 8d., British money) are crumbs of comfort, anyhow.

VICTORIA WILL HAVE ITS WAR STAMPS.

VICTORIAN philatelists have protested in vain. What the "Melbourne Age," in a fine flow of newspaperese, terms "the happy expedient hit upon by the postal officials of issuing a war stamp as a means of assisting in the raising of funds for the Victorian troops," is now in a fair way to become an accomplished fact.

On February 16th, the "Age" informs us, Mr. Watt, the Postmaster-General of Victoria, undertook the task of making a selection of suitable designs from 120 sent in by competitors for the £14 offered as prizes by the department.

Then follow the awards, with descriptions of the winning designs:—

The £5 5s. award for the best design for the 2d. stamp has been assigned to "Armis et Fides," the centre space of whose design is filled by a rocky kop, from the summit of which a picket and two mounted scouts, fully armed, are scanning the horizon across a rolling veldt. The single word, "Victoria," runs the width of the stamp at the top. The design which has been awarded second prize, also £5 5s., was sent in by "Victoria Cross," and is for the 1d. stamp. The *nom de plume* aptly describes the design, which is the "for valor" decoration, the spaces between the sections of the cross being filled by a cross rifle and sword. Prizes of £2 2s. each have been awarded to "Deo et Regina," who shows a body of cavalry advancing, and to "Carnlough," who pictures a squad of mounted men on parade.

The first two designs are those chosen for the 2d. and 1d. stamps (to be issued to the public at 2s. and 1s. respectively), and the work of engraving was (on the date mentioned) ordered to be put in hand immediately. There will be printed:—

Of the 2d. stamp (price 2s.), 20,000 specimens.
 .. 1d. .. (.. 1s.), 40,000 ..

Out of the proceeds of the sale of these stamps the Victorian Post Office will receive only the face value. In short, it is the "Hospital stamp" dodge over again.

BROOKLYN'S SECOND STAMP EXHIBITION.

FROM all accounts the second Philatelic Exhibition held under the auspices of the Section on Philately of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, was a marked success. Mr. John D. Carberry, Hon. Secretary of the "Section," describes some of the more notable of the exhibits in a letter to "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News":—

Dr. Hyatt exhibits a handsome frame of Bulgaria.

Mrs. Frederick L. Hoyt deserves mention for her creditable showing of Canada and Holland and Colonies.

Miss Mollie Pope has on exhibition four frames in which battle-ships and cruisers made entirely of postage stamps and artistically mounted on glass are shown.

Mr. Geo. H. Blake, of Jersey City, displays frames of proprietary stamps illustrating the various printed cancellations adopted by manufacturers.

Great Britain is well represented by Mr. Alex. Holland and Dr. Gascoyne.

Mr. Deats' exhibit occupies 24 large frames and contains among its superb array of Confederates:—Athens, 5-cent purple, strip of four on cover; Athens, 5-cent red, tête-beche pair. Baton Rouge, 2-cent on original cover; 5-cent, type 2, on o. c.; 5-cent, type 2, error, on o. c.; 5-cent, type 3, on o. c. Beaumont, 10-cent on pink, o.c. Danville envelope, buff and amber; 5-cent adhesive. Fredericksburg, 10-cent. Goliad, 5-cent, 10-cent. Lenoir, 5-cent on o. c.

Knoxville envelope, 5-cent blue on white. Livingston, 5-cent on o. c. Marion, 5-cent on o. c. Lynchburg, 5-cent envelope on amber. Macon, 2-cent on o. c.; type 3, on o. c. Lynchburg, 5-cent envelope, black on amber. Mason, 2-cent on o. c.; 5-cent, type 3, on o. c. Memphis, 5-cent envelope on wove orange. Petersburg, reconstructed sheet of ten varieties. Mobile, 2-cent pair on o. c. Pittsylvania, 5-cent on o. c. Pleasant Shade, 5-cent unused. Rheatown, 5-cent on o. c. New Orleans, 5-cent red on blue; 5-cent red on white. Tellico Plains, 5-cent, 10-cent. Salem, Va., 10-cent on o. c. Spartanburg, S. C., 5-cent, two copies. Many stamps in sheets were shown by Mr. Deats.

WAR STAMPS AND RUMOURS OF WAR STAMPS.

A PARAGRAPHIST of the "Glasgow Evening News" definitely states that the latest mail from Bloemfontein brought ordinary Orange Free State stamps surcharged in black with the letters "V.R.I." Lord Roberts could hardly have given us a better sequel to his now famous phrase, "the late President of the Orange Free State."

So far there is no confirmation of the paragraph reprinted from the "Globe," relating to surcharged British Bechuana-land stamps in use in Mafeking.

On the authority of the "Daily News" special correspondent at Mafeking, however, we learn that it became necessary to issue ten-shilling notes and also threepenny postage stamps showing head of Colonel Baden-Powell in the centre. The "Daily News," commenting on the issue of these stamps, predicts that the news will "arouse the wildest philatelic enthusiasm." "Such a stamp," it ventures to prophesy, "will have an extremely fancy value in a few years." Well, yes, perhaps; but "B.P." must take care that Snyman does not capture the plates.

The "Daily Mail" is a little more precise as regards these 3d. Baden-Powell stamps. It appears that both the paper money and the stamps were produced by photographic process from excellent sketches made by Colonel Baden-Powell himself! A really wonderful man, the Hero of Mafeking!

ARREST OF SUPPOSED PHILATELIC ROGUES.

ONE Charles Clark, said to have committed numerous philatelic frauds, has recently been arrested in America. "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" in its issue of April 5th, gives a picture of the man. He's not pretty. Another weekly, the "Era," under date April 7th, announces the capture at Chicago, of a supposed accomplice of the man Clark. This is Archibald Buchanan, in whose trunk the police found a large quantity of stamps—some genuine, some forged. The man had also a number of electrotypes for printing both stamps and postmarks. Buchanan claims to be innocent, however, and alleges that all the stamps, dies, &c., are the property of Clark.

AMERICAN STAMP EXHIBIT FOR PARIS.

THE American postage stamp exhibit for the Paris Exhibition will be shown in nine frames, as follows:—

- Frame 1. Issues 1847-1873, including reprints
- Frame 2. Issues 1873-1890, including re-issues.
- Frame 3. Issues 1893-1898 in blocks of four.
- Frame 4. Departments, including specimen surcharges, &c.
- Frame 5. Newspaper and periodicals, 1865-1885 excl.
- Frame 6. Same, 1885 to 1899, including latest reprints.
- Frame 7. Postage Dues, various re-issues and "Specimens."
- Frame 8. 1861 "Specimen," "Sample" surcharges, &c.
- Frame 9. Miscellaneous odds and ends of interest.

In Mr. Bartel's latest Washington letter to the "Metropolitan Philatelist," high praise is given to Mr. H. G. Mandel, of New York, who has mounted the exhibit for the Government.

COLONIAL STAMP THEFTS—SENTENCES.

THE case in which Ernest George Buck and Charles Rowley, clerks, were charged with stealing unused Colonial stamps, came to a conclusion at the Clerkenwell Court on Thursday, April 12th. The two prisoners pleaded guilty and were sentenced to six months hard labour apiece.

THE COLLECTORS' GUIDE TO VALUES.

[COPYRIGHT].

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.		Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1890. Current stamps of Gt. Britain surcharged with Gibbons' type I. in black. Wmk. crown, perf. 14.					
½a. on 1d. lilac	11/	9/	11/ 9/
1a. on 2d. green and red	70/	55/	60/ 45/
4a. on 5d. lilac and blue	32/6	25/	32/6 25/
1890-91. Stamps of the "Sun" design, printed by Bradbury Wilkinson & Co.; perf. 14. Thin wove paper; wmk. W.C.S. & Co. on entire sheet.					
½a. brown	1/2		1/6
1a. green	1/2		1/6
2a. vermilion	1/4		1/6
2½a. black, yellow paper	1/		1/9
3a. brown, red paper	1/4		1/9
4a. brown	1/4		1/9
4½a. purple	1/6		1/
4½a. lilac	1/6		1/
8a. blue	1/6		2/
8a. grey	14/	10/	14/ 10/
1 rupee, carmine	1/		3/
1 " grey	14/	10/	14/ 10/
2 " red	2/6		5/
3 " purple	3/		6/
4 " ultramarine	4/		8/
5 " olive-green	5/		10/
NOTE.—The ½, 1, 2½, 3 and 4½ anna stamps were also printed on unwater-marked paper, but the difference is only to be seen on entire sheets.					
Imperf Varieties.					
½ anna, brown	10/		10/
1 " green	10/		10/
2 " vermilion	10/		10/
2½ " black, yellow paper	10/		10/
3 " brown, red paper	10/		10/
4 " brown	15/		15/
4 " grey	35/		35/
4½ " red lilac	10/		10/
8 " blue	25/		25/
1 rupee, carmine	30/		30/
1891-95. The same, surcharged, "Mombasa" in manuscript (black) and initialled.					
½ anna on 2 anna, vermilion (A.B.)			150/
½ anna on 3 annas, brown on red (A.B. or T.C.E.R.)	22/6		20/
1 anna on 3 annas, brown on red (T.C.E.R.)			100/
1 anna on 4 annas, brown (A.B.)			*15/
With local surcharge, hand-stamped and initialled, in dull violet.					
½ anna on 2a. vermilion (A.D.)			160/
1 anna on 4a. brown (A.B.)			150/
1894. Surcharged in London with Gibbons' type IV., in black.					
5a. on 8a. blue	12/6		12/6
7½a. on 1 rupee carmine	12/6		12/6
1894. No wmk.; perf. 14.					
5a. black on blue	1/4		1/6
7½a. black on white	1/6		2/
1895. Preceding issues surcharged with Gibbons' type V. in black.					
½a. dull brown	12/6		12/6
1a. green	70/		27/6
2a. vermilion	45/		40/
2½a. black on yellow	20/		15/
3a. brown on red	6/		6/
4a. brown	4/		4/
4½a. purple	27/6		25/
5a. black on blue	90/		70/
7½a. black	15/		20/

*Fiscally used.

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
8a. blue	11/	11/	
1 rupee carmine	7/6	7/6	
2 " red	65/	60/	
3 " purple	25/	25/	
4 " ultramarine	25/	25/	
5 " olive-green	55/	50/	
<i>Surcharged with Gibbons' Type VI. in red.</i>				
2½a. on 4½a. purple	30/	30/	
1896. Indian stamps surcharged with Gibbons' type VII.; wmk. star : <i>perf. 14:</i>				
½a. green	14	16	
1a. plum	9	9	
1½a. sepia	19	19	
2a. ultramarine	19	9	
2½a. green	19	19	
3a. orange	2/6	2/6	
4a. olive green	1/3	1/3	
6a. bistre	1/	1/	
8a. mauve	3/	3	
8a. deep aniline mauve	2/6	2/6	
12a. brown on red	2/6	3/6	
1 rupee slate	7/6	10/	
1 " carmine and green	4/	6/	
2 " brown and carmine	9/	15.	
3 " green and brown	12/6	17.6	
5 " violet and ultramarine	15/	22.6	
<i>Variety, surcharged sideways.</i>				
1 rupee. carmine and green	15/		
<i>Messrs. De La Rue's printing, perf. 14 ; wmk. C.A.</i>				
½a. green	1/		
1a. rose	2		
2a. chocolate	4		
2½a. blue	4		
3a. grey	5		
4a. green	6		
4½a. yellow	6		
5a. bistre	6		
7½a. mauve	9		
8a. grey	1/		
1 rupee ultramarine	2/		
2 " vermilion	4/		
3 " violet	6/		
4 " lake	8/		
5 " brown	10/		
(These Stamps are worth about the same used as unused.)				
1897. Stamps of Zanzibar (Type II.) Surcharged with Gibbons' Type VII. in black.				
½a. green and red	7.6	8/6	
1a. blue	7/6	8.6	
2a. red-brown	7/6	8/6	
4a. orange	7/6	8.6	
5a. bistre	7/6	8/6	
7½a. purple	7/6	8.6	
<i>Same, but surcharge in red.</i>				
1a. blue			
<i>Same stamps surcharged with Gibbons' Types 9, 10 or 11 in red.</i>				
2½a. on 1a. blue and red	8/6	8/6	
2½a. on 3a. grey and red	9/	9/	
2½a. on 4a. green and red			
<i>De La Rue printing in larger size ; perf. 14 ; wmk. CC.</i>				
1 rupee ultramarine	2/		
2 " orange	3/6		
3 " violet	5/6		
4 " carmine	7/		
5 " brown	8/6		
10 " light brown	16/6		
20 " light green	32/6		
50 " lilac	82/6		

(To be continued.)

Protection for Philatelists.

ISSUE OF THE PROSPECTUS OF THE STAMP TRADE
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.

WE have received the prospectus of this new Association, already heralded in previous issues of the *Fortnightly*. The Association has been incorporated under the Companies Acts, doubtless for good and sufficient reasons.

The nominal capital is £1,050, divided into 1000 shares of one guinea each, and the announcement is made that no member will be allowed to hold more than one share. We are not quite clear as to whether the member pays for this share over and above his subscription, or whether his taking up a share in the concern at one guinea covers him altogether for his first year. Some colour is given to the latter view by the line:—

"Annual subscription (after current year of membership) one guinea.

The Board of Directors consists of Messrs. E. J. Cooper, G. C. Ginn, W. Hadlow, F. H. Oliver, H. W. Plumridge, C. T. Reed, and T. H. Thompson. Mr. J. Crawford is the secretary, and the registered office of the Company is 331, Strand, W.C.

Below we print *in extenso* the prospectus of the new Association:

This Association has been formed for the purpose of protecting and furthering the interests of persons dealing in and collecting Stamps.

To collect debts for Members, and to assist in the recovery of Stamps belonging to Members from persons wrongfully in possession of them.

To procure and diffuse information as to Postage and other Stamps and the sound principles of trading in them, and to keep for the information of Members a Register of all persons reported or known to the Association as being worthy or unworthy of credit.

To assist Members in appeals against legal decisions adverse to the general interests of the Trade.

To give and receive advice respecting, and circulate cautions against, the numerous frauds and deceptions which are continually being perpetrated upon Stamp Dealers and Collectors, and to concert and promote measures for their protection.

To take notice, and action if deemed necessary, in the event of the Trade being misrepresented in the Public Press or elsewhere, and generally to deal with any subject affecting the general interests of the Trade.

Fortnightly Meetings of the Association will be held for the purpose of buying, selling, and exchanging Stamps, which Members may attend.

Members will be entitled to make not exceeding Ten enquiries or applications for debt in any year, for which Coupons will be supplied free, and to make further enquiries at a fee of One Shilling each. This scale applies to enquiries or debts in the United Kingdom. Foreign enquiries will be quoted at special rates.

A charge of Ten per Cent. will be made on amounts actually recovered through the instrumentality of the Association or paid direct to Members should the debt not exceed Twenty Pounds, and Five per Cent. on all sums so recovered should the debt exceed that sum. Two and a Half per Cent. will be charged on the value, to be fixed by the Directors, of all good recovered in detinue or otherwise.

All information communicated to and by Members shall be considered strictly confidential, and the names of parties affording information will not be divulged.

Members will be afforded facilities in recovering debts by legal process under the conduct of the Solicitor, at a reduced scale of professional charges approved by the Directors.

It is incumbent upon Members to report to the Secretary, immediately after the perpetration or attempted perpetration of any fraud, theft, or deception, the full particulars of the case, together with the names or aliases, and addresses of the parties, and all possible information calculated to establish their identity.

Any person over Twenty-one years of age is eligible for Membership.

Applications for Membership should be sent to the Secretary in writing, who will furnish Applicants with full particulars and all necessary information.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, APRIL 28, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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, 77-78, High Holborn, W.C.



THE new society for protecting philatelists against fraud is to be known as the Stamp Trade Protection Association, Limited. The last word of the title, needless to say, has reference only to the capital of the concern, which is fixed at £1,050, divided into 1,000 shares of one guinea each. In all other respects, we trust, the new society will be absolutely unlimited, especially in regard to the scope of its work. What we have long wanted in philately is an association that will be prepared to devote its attention to all abuses, either actual or impending, and to take action in all cases of fraud without any restriction as to the extent of the swindle or the standing of the persons concerned. Such a society, we hope and believe, this new Stamp Trade Protection Association will prove to be.

The full scheme of the Stamp Trade Protection Association will be found printed elsewhere. There is one point that we cannot quite understand: the new body is called a *Trade Protection Association*, and yet we find in the prospectus that "any person over 21 years of age" is eligible for membership. This statement, taken in conjunction with the opening announcement that "this Association has been formed for the purpose of protecting and furthering the interests of persons dealing in and collecting stamps" makes it quite clear that the Association is open, not to dealers alone, but to all philatelists.

So why call it the Stamp Trade Protection Association?

Probably the answer to our question is to be found in the fact that the only alternative title at all desirable would be "The Philatelic Protection Association;" and there is a society bearing that name already—or should we say still?—in existence.

For the rest, the scheme of the Stamp Trade Protection Association is most excellent; the Board is a strong one, comprising as it does seven men well-known and respected by all; and the Secretary, Mr. J. Crawford, has had experience in connection with the London Stamp Dealers' Exchange that should admirably fit him for his new and more onerous post.

Here's good fortune and much power to the Stamp Trade Protection Association, Limited!

"The Reminiscences of a Philatelist," crowded out of this number, will be resumed in the next *Fortnightly*.

Many readers of the "S.C.F." have criticised the introduction of a supplement in the middle of the paper. In returning to our normal size with this issue we have had to depart from one of the traditional rules of the *Fortnightly* by allowing advertisements to obtrude upon the space reserved for reading matter. Steps will be taken to obviate this in the future.

Something about Entires.

"I've quite enough to do with my postage stamps, without going in for these new-fangled postcards and envelopes that you call entires," writes a correspondent. We would reply, "Yes, dear friend, and more than you can do unless you have plenty of cash and spare time at your disposal—but don't talk about entires being new-fangled. What were the first postage stamps introduced here sixty years ago, but covers and envelopes designed by W. Mulready, R.A.?" Then there are the covers or letter sheets of New South Wales in 1838, to say nothing of the still earlier ones of Sardinia.

Postcards and Newsbands, or wrappers officially used, are only half the age of the engraved or embossed envelopes, as still used, but can scarcely be considered new. Our friend is evidently thinking of the view or picture cards that have grown so rapidly in favour of late amongst every class but that of philatelists.

The first Government to introduce postal cards was that of Austria-Hungary in 1869, the invention of which has often been attributed to Dr. Emanuel Hermann. They were, however, proposed by Dr. Heinrich von Stephan, the representative of Prussia at a German Postal Congress in October, 1865, where the scheme was discussed but not adopted. His *Postblatt* (post-leaf) was to pass through the post without charge, the postage having been paid in the purchase price of card. Dr. Hermann called attention to it again in the *Neue Freie Presse* in January, 1869, and the result was their first issue on 1st October of that year.

Exactly twelve months after, the first English card was produced, printed in a bright violet on buff, quarter-of-an-inch longer than present "Court" size, shortly after reduced in depth to our recent ordinary size. On the same day, the halfpenny wrapper appeared for newspapers, with the date 10.1.70 underneath the Queen's head, in stamp design, printed in green—to which colour we presume it will shortly return, as the adhesive has been changed to that colour now, in conformity with Universal Postal Union regulations. This postcard being only for internal use, is not affected in the same way.

A correspondent sends a British card which he cannot quite understand. This card has puzzled many people since its first appearance on 1st January, 1898. It is merely the upper part of old card in use from 1878, POST (arms) CARD without the line of instructions, "The Address, &c." This old plate and die (for the stamp is slightly different from recent ones) has been used for many years for printing cards "to order," that is, any kind of white card sent in certain quantities by firms using large numbers, who thus obtain them slightly below the cost of the official cards.

There have been several changes in these. The first ones were embossed from original die now used for halfpenny envelopes, about 1873, but this was a slow and expensive process, so the ordinary design was used, minus the arms in centre, in 1886—when a new plate was struck—the arms being larger, and a slight change in Queen's head design. The old plate was reserved for "stamping to order," but the upper part of chain on neck of unicorn and the stop after "side" were removed about 1889. Nine years after, the card above described came out. None of these cards were obtainable at post offices, but could be bought at large "stores."

Other British cards that surprise many stamp collectors, even, are the 1½d. and the 3d., some never having heard of them. The first one was for general foreign use at half the letter rate then made almost universal, but shortly after reduced to a penny. For our distant colonies we had 1½d. and 2d. cards, and specially for use to Australia was the one at 3d., being half the then letter-rate.

The Editor of the *Fortnightly* has just received from Italy a reply card of recent design, with date 98 at side, which has not been catalogued yet, and was only issued this year—10x10 centesimi, deep red on bright green. Owing to the absorption of ink by the green card, the effect is that of a red-brown colour. Card kindly sent by Mr. C. E. de Grave Sells.

HAWK-EYE.

NOTES ON THE STAMPS OF EGYPT.

BEING A PAPER READ BEFORE THE BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY BY G. JOHNSON, B.A., HON. SECRETARY.

(Concluded from page 21).

In 1874 came a fresh supply of the stamp of 5 paras, and this is generally known as the 5 paras with inverted figures.

Below I give a plan shewing the arrangement of the sheet of the 5 paras stamp of 1874.

A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B
B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
A									
B									
A									
B									
A									
B									
A									
B									
A									
B									
A									
B									
A									
B									

A.—Stamp with numerals at corners upright, and with centre inverted.

B.—Stamp with numerals at corners inverted and with centre upright, *i.e.*, Type A inverted.

APRIL 1ST, 1879: Engraved in *taille douce*; watermark, crescent and a 5 pointed star; perforated 14; gum yellowish, and, later, white.

The left and top labels show French inscription, and the bottom an Arabic ditto—"Posta Masric." At right there is the value in Arabic, and in the four corners Arabic figures. All are found imperf. and with inverted watermarks. Values and colours:

- 5 paras brown.
- 10 " light violet.
- 20 " blue.
- 1 piastre rose.
- 2 " orange.
- 5 " green.

JANUARY, 1881: 10 paras, red violet. Here the watermark is nearly always inverted.

JANUARY 25TH, 1882: 10 paras, French grey. Specimens of this stamp with watermark inverted are very rare.

FEBRUARY 1ST, 1884: 20 paras—4,000 sheets. With inverted watermark this is the rarest Egyptian stamp. 5 piastres—12 sheets inverted.

DECEMBER 15th, 1884: Colours changed:

- 10 paras, green.
- 20 " carmine.
- 1 piastre, blue.
- 2 " orange.
- 5 " grey (loose colour).
- 1885: 5 " " (fast colour).

JANUARY 1ST, 1888: Coinage changed from E£1=100 piastres to E£1=1000 milliemes.



- 1 mil., chocolate brown.
- 2 " green.
- 5 " carmine (March 1st.)
- 10 piastres, bright violet (Jan. 1st, 1889).
- 3 mil., puce (Jan. 1st, 1892).
- Official, brown orange (Jan. 1st, 1893).
- 3 mil., yellow (Aug. 1st, 1893).
- 2 piastres, orange-brown (Aug. 1st, 1893).

THE "UNPAID" STAMPS.



FIRST ISSUE (Feb. 1st, 1884): Value on left; tarif on right; at bottom, value in Arabic; at top, "Postes Egyptiennes." Printed in sheets of 100 on medium white wove paper; impressed with the crescent and star; perforated 10½.

Values: 10 and 20 paras; 1, 2, 5 piastres. Only 150,000 of these were printed, of which number 70,000 were of the value of 2 piastres.

SECOND ISSUE (August 1st, 1886): As above, but unwatermarked.

THIRD ISSUE (January 1st, 1888): Unwatermarked; perforated 11½. Values: 2 and 5 milliemes; 1, 2 and 5 piastres.

There are two types of the 5 piastres: Type I. has a full stop after the word "piastres," which full stop is wanting in Type II.

FOURTH ISSUE (1889): New type; perforated 14.

- 2 mil. green.
- 4 " puce.
- 1 piastre blue.
- 2 " orange.

News Notes from all Quarters.

Why are the stamps on a complete sheet like distant relations?—Because they are only slightly connected.—The "Young Stamp Collector."

Tommy Atkins will envy his French colleague the promised boon of free postage. Not only are the French soldiers henceforth to be allowed to send their letters free of all charge, but also—though this is not yet officially announced—there is to be a special stamp for the purpose.

The "Young Stamp Collector" tells a story of Mr. M. P. Castle attending a London auction sale in order to bid for a lot of Turkish. The lot contained a rare 25 piastres that Mr. Castle had been desiring to secure for six years. He was prepared to pay £17 for the lot, but expected that the rare stamp might pass unnoticed. It did. The lot was knocked down to him for only eighteen shillings.

Marriage stamps are *de rigueur* now, it seems. On the occasion of the forthcoming nuptials of the Crown Prince of Japan special stamps are to be issued.

Mons. J. B. Moens, of Brussels, who is retiring from the stamp business, touches upon the question of "Le Timbre Poste," in the April number of that interesting journal. Mons. Moens will run it until the end of the year for certain—and possibly for a few months after that, in order to wind up all the articles now in course of publication.

The smallest post office building in the United States, if not in the world, is that of Virginia post office, Calif. It is situated on the road between San Diego and Escondido, and receives two mails daily except Sunday. The original existence of the structure was in the form of a piano box. It is 6 feet long, 5 feet high and 3 feet wide, and its "box equipment" consists of five locked drawers.—"Evergreen State Philatelist."

A Collectors' Catalogue.

BY HERBERT R. OLDFIELD.

(Concluded from page 19.)

Again, it is said the specialist has not got sufficient knowledge of stocks and quantities; he gets what he wants and does not bother himself further unless he is a "specialist-collector-dealer." Really the negative writers must indeed be in a bad way if they have to descend to this kind of so-called argument. Cheap sarcasm does not help their case, but is rather a sign of its inherent weakness. This particular writer is evidently not himself a specialist, or if he is, does not know very much about it.

To specialise in any country involves a substantial expenditure of cash, in some cases amounting to hundreds or even thousands of pounds. Now what would you think of a man who invested his money to this extent without regard not only to stocks and quantities but to many other things upon which the safety of his investment depends? You might justifiably call him a fool or a speculator; but he would not be an intelligent man of business, and he certainly would not be described as a specialist.

The writer pays the premier Society a very poor compliment when he takes it for granted their specialist members know so little of the materials from which real values can be deduced that they can be of no assistance, and when he assumes such knowledge is vested alone in the dealers and in beings whom he terms "specialist-collector-dealers."

There may be some, but there are not many collectors who specialise solely with the object of re-selling their stamps at a profit; there are few who can afford to specialise without satisfying themselves to a greater or less extent as to the real value of the stamps they purchase.

Once more, the negative writers tell us the specialists won't help without being paid, and that they will require big fees. The negative opener does not say this, and would not endorse it; he knows very well how absolutely absurd such a statement is.

Apparently the general collector little knows how much real hard work is done by the members of the Philatelic Society, London, purely from love of their subject and without expectation or desire for remuneration other than the appreciation of their fellow-members and the increase of their own knowledge.

I believe this applies equally to the provincial and other Societies, but I am content to speak only of what I know.

I affirm without hesitation that all the specialists of the premier Society will gladly at all times do what they can to

further the interests of Philately without fee or reward of any kind, large or small.

Truly our negative friends seem to fall very short of practical and sensible arguments—if we except those which they are so anxious to waive—for looking through what has been written hitherto I can find only two more objections:—

The difficulty of revision.

The necessity that the catalogue should be International.

As regards revision, this could be done when the catalogue was reprinted, and say every four or five years after, and if proper latitude were allowed in cases of doubt, revision would not present any serious difficulty.

An International catalogue is not essential in the first instance. If British collectors accepted ours, other countries would follow suit and an International catalogue would come in due course.

3.—Now to my third and final point. How will prices be affected by the collectors' catalogue? There is a good deal of confusion of argument upon this point arising from the different considerations which affect individual stamps dependent upon the class to which they belong, common, medium, or rare. The proportion of rare stamps is comparatively small, and yet some writers on this subject dwell upon the difficulty of valuing rare stamps, and then treat their arguments as applying to the common and medium classes, thus giving themselves and conveying to their readers a totally wrong impression of the subject as a whole. I cannot, however, enlarge upon this now, as I have already trespassed far too much upon your Editor's space.

Among collectors we have seen that prices must be affected if the catalogue is accepted. Would its authority be recognised and accepted by the dealers? The negative opener asks "who is to compel the dealer to accept these prices" (the word should properly be "values" not prices). The answer is very simple, it is "the force of circumstances." Of course the catalogue will not regulate the dealer's "rent, rates, taxes, and salaries," but it must affect his buying and selling prices; all the dealer wants, or ought to want, is a fair margin between these, so as to allow him his legitimate profit.

At present the collector has no reliable guide to values other than his own limited experience—the dealers have it all their own way. If the values in the collectors' catalogue are on the whole wrong the catalogue will not materially affect prices. If they are on the whole right the collectors' catalogue will become a recognised standard of authority and will and must influence prices.

It will not hurt the dealers in the least in the long run; it may do away with some illegitimate profits where prices are too high or too low, but any such loss will be more than made up by an increase in customers, for in philately, as in other things, confidence is everything.—From the "Philatelic Record."

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The second edition is in no sense a reprint of the first; it has been revised throughout, a large portion has been entirely re-written and re-arranged, and the whole re-set in fresh type. The alterations are very numerous and important, and all the errors and omissions discovered in the first edition have been corrected in the second.

Every Stamp is Priced, either used or unused, or both, so that collectors desiring to know the value of any particular stamp will not be met with a disappointing blank space on referring to the Catalogue.

Great care has been taken in the pricing of stamps in this edition in order that the true market value of every stamp at the present time may be given, and the book be a *reliable collector's guide*.

The same, bound in cloth, gilt lettered on sides and back, and interleaved throughout with plain white paper of good quality for MS. notes. 2/6 post free.

Our Review of Reviews.

Stamps Insured While in Transit.

Mr. W. W. Sellschopp, who is but lately back in San Francisco after a trip to Europe, writes in "Filatelic Facts and Fallacies" on the subject of "the insurance of stamps while on the road." He is struck by the simplicity with which letters containing valuables may be insured in the "old country," and urges upon the insurance men of America to do something of the same sort for American philatelists.

Even in this country the system of insuring mail matter (over and above the ordinary postal registration) is not adopted by philatelists to such an extent as one would imagine, although many of the insurance companies, mindful of the almost absolute security especially of the inland mails, are prepared to work on the slenderest possible premium.

The Most Written-About Philatelist.

Mr. M. P. Castle is, without exception, the most extensively paragraphed philatelic personality of the day. An odd co-incidence occurred a fortnight since, when the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* and the "Young Stamp Collector" appeared on the same day with short biographical notices of the London Society's Vice-President—and this without either editor being in any way a party to the duplication.

And now, to lengthen the long arm of the coincidence, the "Filatelic Journal of Great Britain" comes to us with yet a third illustrated biography of Mr. Castle.

Trying to Make South Australia Easy.

Mr. M. Z. Kuttner, who has always been credited with knowing a good deal more about South Australian stamps than appears in the catalogues, is now imparting some of his knowledge to the readers of the "P.J.G.B." He heads his thoughtful and well written papers, "South Australian Varieties Simplified," but so far we have not been over-

whelmed by the simplification. It must be a hard job, however, to make simple that which is inherently difficult; and there is no question whatever that South Australia is a difficult country, albeit a remarkably fascinating one. Mr. Kuttner, we must say, is tabulating and explaining the varieties of perforations in a way that cannot fail to be helpful to philatelists, and the tips he gives here and there as to values will not pass unheeded even by those who think the mere mention of finance in connection with philately a downright heresy.

The Man Who is Mad on Perfs.

There are of course, and always will be, philatelists and philatelists; and some of the types of the bipeds who collect stamps are a good deal more marked than many of the types of stamps of which we read in the learned papers contributed by the big-wigs of Philately. Somebody who writes for the "P.J.G.B.," and keeps himself anonymous in order, possibly to battle the servers of libel-writs, is singling out these types of timbromaniacs and exposing their foibles with a remorseless pen. He has already dealt with the condition crank (who, it must be said, has method in his madness) and now in No. 2 of the series, he deals with the "Perforation Fiend." This fellow is a terror. Listen:—

He [the perforation fiend] makes you feel very tired when he comes up to you at the club and enquires if you have ever seen the 5c. Holland of 1867 in the first type perforated $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14 \times 13\frac{3}{4} \times 14$. Though you may know nothing about Dutch stamps, you have to answer briefly and civilly that, after due consideration, you cannot recollect having met with the 20c. Holland of 1867 in the exact type and perforation mentioned. He then slaps you heartily on the back as he says he has found one. At this you express as much surprise as is consistent with your personal dignity, and suddenly call to mind a pressing engagement at the other end of the town before he has time to produce the stamp from his pocket book. If you take the unwise course of staying and inspecting the monstrosity, nothing will satisfy him, but you must measure the perforations for yourself "to prove to you" that there is no mistake, and afterwards listen to a long list of other vagaries that your friend has discovered.

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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.

Ceylon.—We now have a specimen of the Ceylon 2r. 25c., kindly sent by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Adhesive: 2r. 25c., blue

Corea.—The "I.B.J." describes and illustrates two of the new Corean Stamps. The labels are much like the old Corean stamps in the general character of their design; but they are smaller, and there is now an inscription in English, "Imperial Korean Post."

Adhesives: 2 cheun, blue
3 " red

German Colonies.—We clip from a contemporary the following description of the new German Colonial stamps. The lower values up to and including 8opf. bear the same design, a framed picture of a vessel with the funnels under full steam, headed towards the right. On a scroll above the picture is the name of the colony in Roman letters, and in the lower corners the values are given in Arabic figures, otherwise they are without inscription. The size and color of these stamps are similar to the corresponding values of

GREAT BRITAIN.

CHEAP SETS.

	s.	d.
1840-1 1d. black, 1d. red, 2d. blue	0	6
1853-8 1d. red-brown, Small Crown, perf. 16, die 1 and 2	0	7
" 1d. red-brown, Small Crown, perf. 14, die 1 and 2	1	0
1880 3d., 1d., 1 1/2d., 2d., 5d.	0	6
1883 3d., 1 1/2d., 2d., 2 1/2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 1/-	1	8
Govt. Parcels, 1d., 1 1/2d., 2d., 4 1/2d., 6d., 9d., 1/-	2	9
O.W. Official, 3d. and 1d.	5	6

Special Offer of Envelopes and Post Cards.

1840 Mulready Letter Sheet, 1d. black, used	6	0
1841 Envelope, Dickinson paper, 1d. pink	0	6
" " " " with seal	0	6
1844 Letter Sheet, Dickinson paper, 1d. pink	2	0
Admiralty Pensioner's Life Certificate, cut square, green, pink, yellow, blue, white and rose, set of 6	1	1
Vaccination Certificate (undated), 3d. green, 3d. brown	0	6
1890 1d. blue, Jubilee Envelope and Card, used	1	6
" 1d. carmine on buff, Jubilee Guildhall Card, unused	3	6

FOR SALE.—Parcel of used and unused British Railway Letter Fee Stamps, including many varieties.

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Wanted to Buy Collections and all kinds of English stamps. Good prices given.

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77 & 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

the new Germania issues. Like the Germania stamps the higher values are larger and of oblong shape. There is a proportionately larger scroll on these values, but otherwise the design is similar to the smaller stamps. These stamps are for use only in the colonies and protectorates of the German Empire whose names they bear, and cannot be used at German post-offices in foreign countries; therefore surcharged Germania stamps will be issued for use at the offices in Constantinople, Morocco, China, etc.

Since the above was in type the stamps have made their appearance.

Great Britain.—The new halfpenny green stamp is, as regards each individual specimen, exactly like its vermilion predecessor. Mr. F. J. Melville, however, has pointed out to us that on the complete sheet of 240 specimens there is a difference. Hitherto the two panes of 120 stamps have been divided by a plain gutter of white; now this gutter is decorated with a barred design in colour, after the fashion of the 4 1/2d., 9d., and other higher values.

Adhesive: 1/2d. green.

India.—The new 6 annas stamp has made its appearance.

Adhesive: 6 annas, bistre

Marshall Islands.—"We have this week (write Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. under date, April 21), received a letter direct from the Islands which confirms the note regarding these stamps which we inserted in our catalogue, second edition. Of the first issue, surcharged MARSCHALL-INSELN, only two values have ever been issued, the 10 and 20pf. Of the second issue, with spelling corrected to MARSHALL, the only values yet issued are the 5, 25 and 50pf., the 10 and 20pf. of the first issue being still in use. These five stamps are the only legitimate Marshall Island stamps; the sets of six values now being offered for sale could not possibly have come from the Marshall Islands."

New Zealand.—We are indebted to Mr. A. Rosenberg, of Woodville, N.Z., for a budget of news regarding the stamps of that colony. The following changes are noted:—

The halfpenny stamp is now printed in green; the penny stamp has been re-engraved in the design of the 4d. (White Terrace) and is printed in red; the twopenny stamp will be printed in violet; the fourpenny stamp is now of the same design as the former penny (Lake Taupo), and is printed in blue and brown; the sixpenny stamp will in future be printed in pink. In the case of the halfpenny and twopenny stamps, although the design has been retained, several slight changes have been made by the engraver. The new halfpenny, penny and fourpence are now on sale (March 9th) and the twopence and sixpence will be ready in a few days.

Mr. Rosenberg encloses specimens of the 1/2d., 1d., and 4d. stamps; he also sends us the following news cutting regarding envelopes and post-cards:—

The Secretary of the General Post Office sends us specimens of stamped envelopes, which will be ready for sale to the public in

the course of a few days. The envelopes will be sold at a trifle over face value, to cover the cost of paper. The impressed stamps are of the same design as the ordinary adhesives, but as this mode of expressing values is found by the Government Printer to be somewhat slow, the next issue of stamped envelopes will be embossed with special dies, which are now being cut. The Department has also in hand a new series of pictorial post-cards in connection with the departure of the Contingents to South Africa.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. also send copies of the 1/2d. and 1d. stamps described above.

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.

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MOST interesting General Collection, 10,000 varieties. Modern unused. Will not send on appro. Seen by appointment. Catalogue over £450. Accept £155. Scientifically arranged on sheets. English in Hilcker's Album.—A., 17, Allerton Road, Tranmere, Cheshire.

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1000 STAMPS, all different, for 1/-. Write for particulars, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.—W. BROWN, St. Thomas' Square, Salisbury.

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.

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LADIES' STAMP EXCHANGE.—Few vacancies. Prompt Monthly Settlements. Each Member sees packet first in turn.—Secretary, LOUISE HAYNES, 70, Jeffreys Road, Clapham.

G.T. BRITAIN, 6d. and 1/-, octagonal. Some fine cut square copies for sale, 6d. at 2/9, the 1/- at 2/- each. Superb condition.—J. G. CUTHBERTSON, 49, Renshaw Street, Liverpool. [134

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 1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17;
 May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12.

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Gr. Britain, 10d., octagonal, un., cat	£6 10/-
Cape, Woodblock, 4d., fine	40/-
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Nevis, 4d. orange, cat. 70/-, unused	35/-
" 4d. rose, mint, cat. 70	40/-
" 6d. grey, unused, cat. 60/-	35/-
" 1/- green, 90/-	15/-

Collectors are requested to send their Want
Lists, as we are continually offering Rare
Stamps at Bargain Prices.

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Canada Jubilees, complete Set, used,
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" Registration, 8c., blue, mint 7/-
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G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO., Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers,

10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "PHILATELIC, LONDON."

TELEPHONE No. 5596 AVENUE.

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We have just purchased a really nice lot of the Stamps of this Country.

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:

	Set of	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Austria, 1850, 3, 6 and 9kr., ..	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, Jubilee, ½d. to 2/6 ..	9	0	7	0	British East Africa on Company's ½d. ...	0	12	6
*Brit. Central Africa, 1891, 1d. to 1/- ..	6	0	3	9	" " " " " 1d. ...	1	10	0
" " " " " 1891, 2/- to 10/- ..	6	1	13	0	" " " " " 4½d. ...	1	7	0
*Brit. South Africa, 1891, ½d. to 8d. ..	4	4	5	0	" " " " " 7½d. ...	0	19	0
" " " " " 1896, ½d. to 1/- ..	8	0	5	0	" " " " " 2½d. on 4½d. ...	1	7	0
" " " " " on Cape, ½d. to 1/- ..	7	1	1	0	Bermuda, 1d. on 3d. ..	0	10	0
" " " " " thick paper, p. 12, 2d. & 4d. ..	2	0	2	0	British Guiana, 1860, 1c. rose ..	0	19	0
*Canada, Jubilee, ¼c. to 50c. ..	11	0	11	0	" " " " " 1c. brown-red ..	1	1	0
" " " " " 1898, Maple leaf, ¼c. to 10c. ..	8	0	2	9	" " " " " 1c. brown ..	2	0	0
*Gambia, 1887, ¼d. to 1/- ..	8	0	5	0	*British Honduras, 1882, 6d. yellow ..	2	14	0
*German East Africa, 1896, 2p. to 25p. ..	5	0	2	0	" " " " " 1/- grey ..	2	5	0
*Gibraltar, 1889, 5c. to 2 pesetas ..	8	0	5	0	" " " " " 1888, 2d. on 6d., p. 12½ ..	1	16	0
" " " " " 1898, ¼d. to 1/- ..	7	0	3	0	*British South Africa, 1890, £1 blue ..	2	0	0
" " " " " Morocco Agencies, 1899, 5c. to 2p. ..	7	0	4	0	" " " " " 1d. on 3/- ..	2	3	0
*New South Wales, O.S., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d. and 6d. ..	5	0	1	9	Cape of Good Hope, 1/- triangular ..	0	10	0
*Labuan, Jubilee, 1896, 1c. to 8c. ..	6	0	1	0	*Ceylon, 2.50 lilac ..	2	10	0
Brazil, 180r. slanting figures ..	..	2	14	0	*Dominica, 1/- lilac, C.A. ..	2	5	0
" " " " " 300r. " " ..	..	3	14	0	*Fiji Islands, 2d. on 3d., S.G. & Co.'s No. 36 ..	3	3	0
*Egypt, 1866, 5 piastres ..	..	0	16	0	*Wurtemberg, 1858, 18k. blue ..	1	16	0
" " " " " 1866, 10 piastres ..	..	0	19	0	" " " " " 1863-4, 9kr. black brown ..	2	5	0
*Tunis, 1888, 5 francs ..	..	1	0	0	" " " " " 1873, 70kr. mouve ..	3	8	0
*Hanover, 10g. green ..	..	2	10	0	*Tuscany, 1 quat. black one greyish ..	1	0	0
*Cuba, 1874/1896 ..	..	0	1	0	*Sweden, 1858, 12 o. ultramarine ..	1	7	0
*United States, 1869, 24c. green ..	..	1	13	0	*Portugal, 1853, 5r. brown ..	0	19	0
*Buenos Ayres, in Pesos, blue ..	..	1	10	0	*St. Lucia, 4d. blue, Star wmk. ..	2	0	0
Peru, Medio Peso, yellow ..	1 fine	2	10	0	Naples. ½ Tornese Cross, superb copy ..	3	10	0
" " " " " rose ..	..	9	10	0	*Surinam, 1899, Provisionals, 50c., 1 gul. and 2 gul. 50c. ..	0	10	0

* Signifies Unused.

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. 135—VOL. VI.

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO.,
STAMP DEALERS & PHILATELIC PUBLISHERS,
 10, BISHOPSGATE STREET WITHIN, LONDON, E.C.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "PHILATELIC, LONDON."

TELEPHONE No. 5596 AVENUE.

HOLLAND.

We have just purchased a really nice lot of the Stamps of this Country.

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, 4/- on 5/- . . . . .	..	0	11	0
" 1867, 2kr. to 50kr.	" 7	0	1	0	*British Columbia, p. 12½, 10 cents . . . . .	..	3	0	0
*Barbados, Jubilee, ¼d. to 2/6	" 9	0	7	0	British East Africa on Company's ¼d. . . . .	..	0	12	6
*Brit. Central Africa, 1891, 1d. to 1/-	" 6	0	3	9	" " " " 1d. . . . .	..	1	10	0
" " " " 1891, 2/- to 10/-	" 6	1	13	0	" " " " 4½d. . . . .	..	1	7	0
*Brit. South Africa, 1891, ¼d. to 8d.	" 4	4	5	0	" " " " 7½d. . . . .	..	0	19	0
" " " " 1896, ¼d. to 1/-	" 8	0	5	0	" " " " 2½d. on 4½d. . . . .	..	1	7	0
" " " " on Cape, ¼d. to 1/-	" 7	1	1	0	Bermuda, 1d. on 3d. . . . .	..	0	10	0
" " " " thick paper, p. 12, 2d. & 4d.	" 2	0	2	0	British Guiana, 1860, 1c. rose . . . . .	..	0	19	0
*Canada, Jubilee, ¾c. to 50c.	" 11	0	11	0	" " " " 1c. brown-red . . . . .	..	1	1	0
" " 1898, Maple leaf, ¾c. to 10c.	" 8	0	2	9	" " " " 1c. brown . . . . .	..	2	0	0
*Gambia, 1887, ¼d. to 1/-	" 8	0	5	0	*British Honduras, 1882, 6d. yellow . . . . .	..	2	14	0
*German East Africa, 1896, 2p. to 25p.	" 5	0	2	0	" " " " 1/- grey . . . . .	..	2	5	0
*Gibraltar, 1889, 5c. to 2 pesetas	" 8	0	5	0	" " " " 1888, 2d. on 6d., p. 12½ . . . . .	..	1	16	0
" " 1898, ¼d. to 1/-	" 7	0	3	0	*British South Africa, 1890, £1 blue . . . . .	..	2	0	0
" " Morocco Agencies, 1899, 5c. to 2p.	" 7	0	4	0	" " " " 1d. on 3/- . . . . .	..	2	3	0
*New South Wales, O.S., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d.	" 5	0	1	9	Cape of Good Hope, 1/- triangular . . . . .	..	0	10	0
and 6d.	" 5	0	1	9	*Ceylon, 2.50 lilac . . . . .	..	2	10	0
*Labuan, Jubilee, 1896, 1c. to 8c.	" 6	0	1	0	*Dominica, 1/- lilac, C.A. . . . .	..	2	5	0
Brazil, 180r. slanting figures	" 2	14	0		*Fiji Islands, 2d. on 3d., S.G. & Co.'s No. 36 . . . . .	..	3	3	0
" " 300r. " "	" 3	14	0		*Wurtemberg, 1858, 18k. blue . . . . .	..	1	16	0
*Egypt, 1866, 5 piastres	" 0	16	0		" " 1863-4, 9kr. black brown . . . . .	..	2	5	0
" " 1866, 10 piastres	" 0	19	0		" " 1873, 70kr. mouve . . . . .	..	3	8	0
*Tunis, 1888, 5 francs	" 1	0	0		*Tuscany, 1 quat. black one greyish . . . . .	..	1	0	0
*Hanover, 10g. green	" 2	10	0		*Sweden, 1858, 12 o. ultramarine . . . . .	..	1	7	0
*Cuba, 1874/1896	" 13	0	1	0	*Portugal, 1853, 5r. brown . . . . .	..	0	19	0
*United States, 1869, 24c. green	" 1	13	0		*St. Lucia, 4d. blue, Star wmk. . . . .	..	2	0	0
*Buenos Ayres, in Pesos, blue	" 1	10	0		Naples, ½ Tornese Cross, superb copy . . . . .	..	3	10	0
Peru, Medio Peso, yellow	1 fine	2	10	0	*Surinam, 1899, Provisionals, 50c., 1 gul. and 2 gul. 50c. . . . .	..	0	10	0
" " rose	"	9	10	0					

* Signifies Unused.

CORRESPONDENCE in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

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SPECIAL OFFER.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1d. VR. 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	3	0	0
Gold Coast, 1884-94, 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 3mm., 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. ..	3	10	0
Sierra Leone, 1861, 6d. imperf. unused	12	10	0
South Australia, 1870, 3d in red used	1	5	0
Selangor, Gibbons' No. 3, unused	1	15	0
Tasmania, 1871-78, 5/- unused	0	18	0
Victoria, 1862, 6d. orange, used, superb	12	10	0
Western Australia, error 2d. in colour of 6d. lilac, unused, and well centred	20	0	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

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	s.	d.
Austria, 1900, unpaid, <i>imperfurate</i> . 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 15, 20, 40 and 100 heller, set of 12	5	0
Ditto, perforated, set of 12	3	0
Crete, 1900, 1, 5, 10, 20, 25 and 50 lepta, set of 6	1	6
Ditto, ditto, 1, 2 and 5 drachma, set of 3	9	0
Japanese China, 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50 sen., and 1 yen, set of 13	8	6
Samoa, <i>Provisional Govt.</i> , now obsolete, 1/2d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 1/- and 2/6, set of 8	7	6
Tasmania, 1900, Pictorial design, 1/2d., 1d., 2d., 2 1/2d., 3d., 4d., 5d. and 6d., set of 8	2	6

MARSHALL ISLANDS.

We are able to offer a few USED specimens of these scarce stamps at low prices. We have received them direct from the Islands and guarantee both surcharge and postmark.

At present we are unable to supply any unused.

1897. Surcharged "Marshall-Inseln."			
10pf. rose	1/0	20pf. blue	1/3
1899. Spelling corrected to "Marshall."			
5pf. green	0/9	25pf. orange	1/6
50pf. red-brown	3/0		

Horizontal or vertical pairs and blocks of four can be supplied of all the above, except the 50pf., of which we have only single specimens.

IMPORTANT CAUTION.—The above five varieties are the only ones yet issued in the Marshall Islands, therefore Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 6 in our catalogue must be struck out; no such stamps have ever been issued in the Marshall Islands.

Stamp Importers, Ipswich.
WHITFIELD KING & Co.,

HUGO GRIEBERT & CO.,

FOREIGN

Stamp Merchants & Importers,

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LONDON, W.

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Rare Stamps

All in FINEST CONDITION at SPECIAL LOW PRICES.

		* UNUSED.			
	n.	d.	s. d.		
India, Service [] 1866, 2a.	50	0	*St. Lucia, 1860, 1p.	12	6
*Hong Kong, 1890, 10c. on 16c.	30	0	" " 4p.	45	0
*Br. East Africa, 5a. on 8a.	12	6	" " 1863, 1p.	12	6
" " 7 1/2a. on 1r.	12	6	" " 4p.	10	0
Mauritius, 2p., large fillet	360	0	" " 5p.	12	6
" 1p., late state, fine colour	75	0	*West Australian, 1854, 1p.	10	0
" 1p., medium state, pair	70	0	" " 1sh. grey-brn.	25	0
" 1p., greek border	48	0	South Australian, 1857, 1p., pair	45	0
" 1p., fine pair	110	0	*New Zealand, N.Z., imperf., 1sh.	35	0
*Swaziland, 2/6	21	6	" " 1863, 4p. rose-carmine	20	0
" 5/-	11	6	" " 1sh. yellow-grn.	10	0
*Br. E. Africa on Company, 3r.	24	0	*St. Christopher, 1p. lilac-rose, 14	12	6
" " 4r.	22	0	Dominica, 1860, 1sh., CA.	45	0
Natal, 1857, 1p. buff, splendid	56	0	*Newfoundland, 6 1/2p., scarlet- vermilion	190	0
*St. Vincent, 1881, 1/2d. on 6p.	24	0	" " 2p. orange- vermilion	25	0
" " 1p. on 6p.	58	0	Brit. Guiana, 1862, 4c., bordered with grapes	200	0
*Nevis, 1861, 1p., fine colour	48	0	" " 1851, 1c., splendid strip of 4, large margins	500	0
" 1879, CC. 2 1/2p.	26	0	*Mexico, 1867, 1/2r. grey	35	0
*U.S.A., 1847, 5c.	25	0	" " " used	35	0
" " 10c.	75	0	*Brazil, 1845, 90c.	40	0
" " 1855, 90c.	60	0	" " " used	25	0
*Nevis, 6p. Diadem, green	100	0	*Lagos, 2/6 olive	75	0
*Lagos, 2/6 olive	75	0	" " 10/- brown, lightly penm.	165	0
" " 10/- brown, lightly penm.	165	0			

This is only a very small selection of the great quantity of Rare Stamps we have in stock. Our Prices in all cases are very reasonable, and we are always pleased to send on receipt of Want Lists fine Selections of medium and rare stamps of all countries on approval.

We especially desire to Purchase

for immediate Cash

Several Fine Collections from

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HUGO GRIEBERT & CO.,

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Philatelic Societies' Reports.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the thirteenth meeting, held on April 6th, the President, Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, read a paper dealing with the first issue of Roumania, going fully into the question of the minor varieties, and pointing out how the values can be plated. He also dealt with certain specimens (including the 3 paras bright orange), which differed in type from the normal stamp, and gave reasons why he considered all such as forgeries.

Fine collections of these stamps were displayed by Mr. Coote, Mr. Duerst, and the President.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

March 1st.—Display: British Guiana and West Indies. Mr. W. T. Wilson.

Messrs. J. C. Morgenthan and D. T. Lacunza were unanimously elected members. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Philatelic Society of India and Wilmot Corfield, Esq., for vols. 1 and 2 of the "P.J. of India."

One Guinea was voted to the London Society's Transvaal War Fund.

The English edition of "Swiss Stamps" was ordered to be purchased for the library.

Mr. Wilson then gave a splendid display of the stamps of British Guiana and the West Indies, fifteen of the circular stamps of British Guiana being shown on original covers, and other rarities in exceptional numbers and condition.

April 5th.—Philatelic Discussion.

Mr. G. W. Martin was unanimously elected a member.

G. JOHNSON, B.A., Hon. Secretary, 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

SOUTH AMERICA.

I desire to enter into exchange relations with collectors in all parts of the world.

Rare for Rare.

I offer the stamps of Chili (1852 to 1900 Peru and Bolivia.

Basis: Scott, Senf or Stanley Gibbons.

ENRIQUE DE LA FUENTE, CASSILLA No. 37, Limache (Chili).

Transvaal, 1d. red, 1870-76	8 0
" 6d., 1877, surcharge inverted	8 0
" 3d., 1879	4 6
Great Britain, O.W., 4d.	3 0
" O.W., 1d.	2 0
" 9d., Pl. 4 (Emblems)	7 0
" Army Official, ½ l., * mint	10 0

CAMPBELL INGLES & CO., CARLISLE.

J. LOUIS,

42½, Old Broad Street, E.C.
(CORNER OF UNION STREET).

Offers the following **BARGAINS** :—

Gt. Britain, 10d., octagonal, un.	cat. £6	PRICE 40/-
Cape, Woodblock, 4d., fine	..	40/-
U.S.A., 1869, set complete	..	50/-
Victorian, 1/-, registered, cat.	20/-	5/-
Spain, 19 cuartos, perf., 1865, used,	cat. 75	35/-
Nevis, 4d. orange, cat. 70/-, unused	..	35/-
" 4d. rose, mint, cat. 70/-	..	40/-
" 6d. grey, unused, cat. 60/-	..	35/-
" 1/- green, 90/-	..	45/-

Collectors are requested to send their Want Lists, as we are continually offering Rare Stamps at Bargain Prices.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

1000 STAMPS, all different, for 1/- . Write for particulars, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.—W. BROWN, St. Thomas' Square, Salisbury.

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, U.S. American, Revenues, Medicine, Match Locals, &c.; also proofs. "Specimen" and reprints of any country. Cash or exchange.—**DRESSER**, Bexley Heath, Kent.

"**THE YOUNG STAMP COLLECTOR**," illustrated, monthly; 1 6 yearly.—32, Ballater Road, Brixton

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/-; Wurtemberg, first issue, 18kr. 8 6; (1857), 18kr. 11 6; (1853), 18kr., 10/-; (1863), 18kr. 4 6; (1865), 18kr. 10/- . Hundreds of other rare old Colonials, European, American, &c. Cheaper than the auctions and you pick what you like! **H. A. McMILLAN**, 3, Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane, London, E.C.

AUSTRALIANS 100 different Australians for money order, 5/-; price lists free.—**W. H. ROBINSON**, Swan Hill, Brisbane, Queensland.

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A Priced List of Packets of these, from 20 for 1/- to 100 all different for 12/-, used and unused, can be had on application. A fine start of 500 Varieties for £6, unused or partly used, as may be preferred, with or without several Envelopes and Wrappers; some of which are catalogued from 1/- to 15/- each.

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Cuba on U.S., 2½c. vermilion, unused	0 5	s. d.
" " 2½c. " used	0 6	
" " 2½c. carmine, unused	1 6	
" " 2½c. " used	1 6	
" " 2c. vermilion, used	2 0	
" " 2c. carmine, used or unused	0 2	
Hawaii, 5c. blue, 1899, used	0 2	
" 10c. green, 1894	0 4	
" 25c. blue	0 10	
Malta, 4½d. and 5d. the two used	0 9	
Gambia, 6d. CA. bronze-green, unused	10 6	

POSTAGE EXTRA.

Visitors to London are invited to call and inspect our Stock. Approval selections can be sent to responsible applicants.

KIRKPATRICK & PEMBERTON,
22, HIGH HOLBORN,
LONDON
(NEAR BRITISH MUSEUM.)

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.

STAMPS!

One hundred British Colonial Postage Stamps; all different and genuine; post free, 2 6.

J. M. WATKINS,

53, St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C.

The Cheapest Stamp Shop in the City

J. LOUIS,

42½, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.

(CORNER OF UNION COURT)

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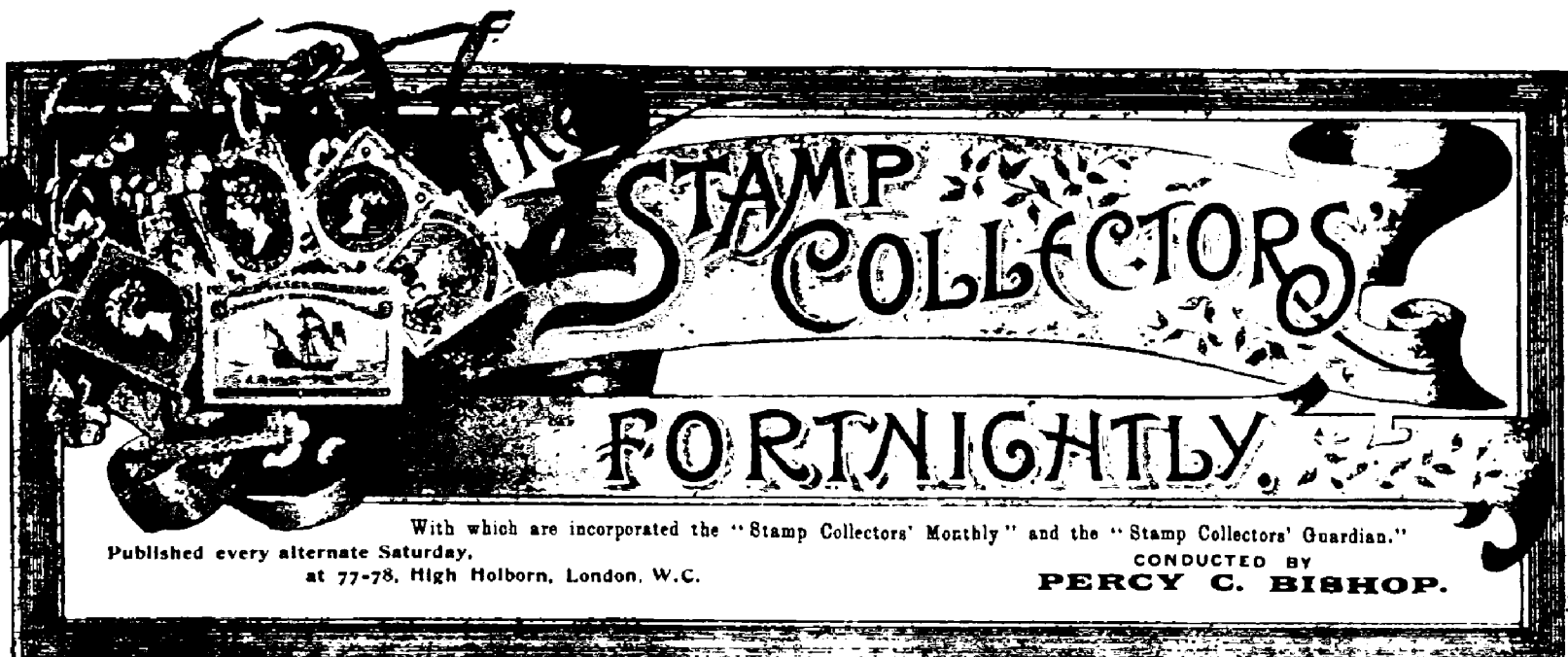
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No. 135.—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PROVISIONALS DESTROYED!

Good news comes to the *Fortnightly* from a valued subscriber in Adelaide—Mr. Geo. Blockey. Writing under date March 13th, Mr. Blockey says:—

I am glad to be able to report the destroyal of a large quantity of the S.A. 5d on 6d. 1891 provisional, by order of the Postmaster General of the Colony, Sir Charles Todd.

There had been some talk of the stock being re-issued.

Thank goodness that is all knocked on the head now. We are not likely to see any South Australian remainders!

STAMPS FROM THE WRECK OF THE "MEXICAN."

A CORRESPONDENT of "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" is to be commiserated. One of the letters rescued from the wreck of the Mexican, and addressed to this gentleman by a friend in Bloemfontein, contained a number of the surcharged O.F.S. stamps. All were discoloured, minus their gum, and practically ruined. The registered envelope containing these spoilt stamps is thus described in "E.W.S.N." "It is the ordinary size F, and is franked with a current 1d. English, postmarked very indistinctly with Field Post Office mark, No. 35 or 36 (certainly one or the other), the highest number yet observed. Needless to say, it shows very evident signs of its adventures, and the back shows an address in violet, evidently impressed from the letter that was beneath it."

ISSUED BEFORE ITS TIME!

THE Postmaster of Bedford, by the way, has stated that the new green ½d. stamp was on sale at his office on Saturday, April 14th—three days before the date announced for the public issue! The explanation is that the stock of the vermilion ½d. at Bedford was exhausted sooner than was expected,

THE NEW HALFPENNY STAMP IS HARMLESS!

THE Editor of the famous medical journal, the "Lancet," has solemnly cremated one of the new green halfpenny stamps, and has held an inquest on the ashes, with the result that the new issue is declared free from arsenic or other deleterious matter, so that it may be licked with impunity. The gum is dextrine or "British gum," and is also declared harmless, though the flavour, as we all know is atrocious.

HOW TO DESCRIBE COMPOUND PERFS.

A MOST sensible innovation in the matter of the indication of compound perforations is being largely adopted by British philatelists, following the example set by the French Society. Hitherto it has been generally understood that the first measurement in a compound perforation refers to the horizontal gauge, but in order to guard against the possibility of misconception it is now suggested that we add the letter "h" for horizontal and "v" for vertical. Thus a stamp perforated 13½ × 14 would be set down as 13½h. × 14v. An excellent idea, in our opinion.

But how shall we deal with the double compounds, such as Messrs. Waterlow have been perpetrating in some of their recent work? Is a stamp perforated 12½h.t. × 13v.l. × 13½h.b. × 13½v.r. one of the possibilities of the near future?

CHICAGO'S SENSATIONAL STAMP CASES.

WE have already noted in the *Fortnightly* the arrest of two Americans, alleged to be expert philatelic swindlers—Charles Clark and Archibald Buchanan. "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" of April 19th promises that the trial of these men will prove sensational in the extreme. It is now believed that Clark has been merely a catspaw, and the allegation is that Archibald Buchanan—an Englishman, by the way—has played the foremost part in engineering some huge frauds on the stamp dealing fraternity. "Mekeel's Weekly" has many vague references to what is to come, such as the following:—

In its ramifications, the case seems to involve a certain large firm that is certainly innocent of any wrong-doing that has been practiced. The "Weekly" will not mention names in this connection, preferring that the news come from the city in which the firm in question is located.

And finally there is the promise of a big sensation when the accused are put upon their trial:—

The ingenuity of the proposed line of defence will be combatted by an aggressive prosecution. The trial will be one of great moment to Philately in this country and a report of it will be duly presented to our readers.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MAY 12, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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.

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THE Editor of the "Philatelic Record" tells us that everyone is crying out just now for the restoration of stability and confidence in stamp collecting. **Are Prices Low?** This is absolute news to us. "Restoration" implies loss, and we are not aware that any considerable section of philatelists has lost confidence in the hobby, or that the stamp trade as a whole is less stable than of yore. We are constantly meeting philatelists of all sorts and conditions, amateur and professional, and we have seen none of the weeping and wailing of which Mr. Nankivell draws so plaintive a picture. "The timid," our contemporary states, "are shaking with fear for their investments." Yes! but not their philatelic investments, Mr. Nankivell.

It is because many philatelists have been dabbling in the securities (?) of the Kaffir Circus in a time of crisis that they are shaking with fear.

"The fright is a stage fright," the "Record" goes on to say. But there is no fright; and we think it a great pity that our contemporary should evolve a panic from its inner consciousness in order to speak soothing words to all and sundry. Stamp collecting was never in a healthier state than it is today. Many of the evils of recent years have been eradicated; we have fewer issues of unnecessary stamps to fight against, and there are less rogues connected with the hobby than has been the case for many years past. Prices are eccentric we grant, and they will always be eccentric, and the "Record" truly remarks that "no true philatelist will be weaned from a pleasant and recreative study because prices fluctuate." If there is a momentary depression in the stamp trade it is only the reflex of a depression felt in most other walks of life during a period of national stress.

The "Record's" moral—a moral based, we submit, on false assumptions—is that the cute philatelist will buy while prices are low. But we think that the cute philatelist, when he comes to examine prices, will find that the figures demanded for good things are as high as, if not higher than, ever. Our contemporary the "Record" is usually such a cheerful, not to say optimistic print, that it has been a great shock to us to find it crying wolf to make an Editor's homily.

* * *

In the able article by Mr. Herbert R. Oldfield on the subject of a collectors' catalogue, published for collectors by collectors, a suggestion was thrown out that the publication of the ideal work—when compiled by the ideal workers—should be undertaken by a Collector Philatelic Editor. This suggestion, seeing that the article originally appeared in the "Philatelic Record," manifestly pointed to Mr. Nankivell as the right man to undertake the work; otherwise we might have had something to say to the matter our-

selves. We find no acceptance of the challenge in the May number of our contemporary. Doubtless Mr. Nankivell is thinking it over.

Again we have to omit our "Collectors' Guide to Values," owing to the very difficult country now in hand, British Guiana, taking up more time than was anticipated. The necessity of going to Press without the "Guide" explains the comparative smallness of this number of the *Fortnightly*.

Green is thought by many superstitious people to be an unlucky colour, and one of the newspapers advances a remarkable instance in proof of this belief. The hero of the incident received an envelope bearing the first green halfpenny stamp he had seen, and containing—his tailor's bill. What more conclusive evidence could be needed? One need scarcely enquire what luck the stamp brought the tailor.

The Postmarks of Belgium.

RECENTLY in the *Fortnightly* we referred to some of the curious cancellations to be found on the stamps of Belgium, more particularly with regard to the bar cancellation commented upon by a correspondent. And now we have a most interesting letter on the subject from Mr. Carl Wagner, of Hamburg.

It appears from Mr. Wagner's letter that we were mistaken in our assumption that the bar cancellation was used for the newspaper packages in Belgium; it seems that there is quite a distinct postmark for this purpose, in the shape of a square, containing the name of the town and the date. It appears that the low value stamps are sold in Belgium to the public in entire panes, already cancelled with these square postmarks—at least, so we understand from Mr. Wagner's letter. The idea is to facilitate the work of the postal clerks when the public in Antwerp, Brussels, and other cities have a great number of newspapers to post. In short, the Belgian low value stamp with this cancellation applied to it is a synonym for our English postmark "paid ½d."

As regards the bar cancellations, we have it from Mr. Wagner that this (as stated by Mr. Plumridge in a former number of the *Fortnightly*) is used for all purposes other than letter postage—i.e., for postal orders, savings bank purposes, &c. In Belgium, as in our own country, they have a system of issuing postal orders for fixed amounts—1 franc, 2 francs, 3 francs, &c.—and it is customary to add the odd centimes in postage stamps, such postage stamps being afterwards obliterated with this bar cancellation, which in Belgium is known as the "roulette" cancellation. However, it does not necessarily follow that any Belgian stamp found with this obliteration has served on a postal order, or for savings bank purposes, for Mr. Wagner informs us that the inked rubber wheel is applied to all letters passing through the Post Office which have from one cause or another failed to catch their proper obliteration.

For telegraph purposes in Belgium there is a special octagonal cancellation, and for railway stamps either a hexagon or an oblong, but Mr. Wagner points out that in small, or what we should call sub-offices, where the same clerk has the administration of post, telegraph, and various other departments, the different cancellations are used quite indiscriminately.

It is a pleasure for us to be able to settle once and for all this question of the Belgian postmarks, which, judging from the numerous letters we have received, has aroused the greatest interest among our readers.

COMING EVENTS IN PHILATELY.

- May 16th.—Messrs. J. Edwards & Co.'s Sale at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.
- May 17th and 18th.—Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Sale at the Arbitration Rooms, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C.
- May 22nd and 23rd.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale at 47, Leicester Square, W.C.
- May 24th and 25th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Sale at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross.

The Great Colour Question.

WHY PHILATELISTS CANNOT CALL A SPADE A SPADE
AND A RED A RED.

BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

COLOUR is the one real difficulty confronting philatelists to-day just as it was one of the principal difficulties in the early days of stamp collecting.

Why is it that colour as applied to postage stamps has never been successfully measured, classified, or standardised? There have been many attempts at the exact measurement of colour, and all have failed when put to a practical test. About fifteen years ago there was an epidemic of colour charts, both here and in America. The colour chart consisted of a beautiful collection of dabs of varying colour ranging from one end of the spectrum to the other; and theoretically the colour chart ought to have been absolutely the last word on the colour question. Unfortunately it was nothing of the sort. The colour chart, since no mahatma was available to precipitate it upon the paper in a finished state, had to be printed by human craftsmen with ordinary printers' ink. We will say nothing about the printers—already a much reproached class—but as regards the ink there is no doubt that the glorious uncertainty of printers' ink was the weak point that proved the utter undoing of the colour chart.

Something of the same reproach applies to the execution of Mr. B. W. Warhurst's "Colour Dictionary," published a year ago by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, but never yet reviewed in the *Fortnightly*. The idea of the book is excellent, but the execution—the mechanical execution—occasionally leaves much to be desired. Take pages 17 to 35. Herein Mr. Warhurst seeks to shew the varying colours from light red through all the reds and clarets and maroons followed by the yellows, the greens, and the blues, and winding up with a colour known as blue-slate.

Some of these colours admirably illustrate what we have just been saying on the subject of printers' ink. The "pure vermilion" we venture to suggest is not by any means a pure vermilion; the scarlet is at best a dubious scarlet; the carmine (described as "near to crimson") is just a thought too near to crimson; the orange as here depicted must be the colour of some orange that we have never seen, or sucked; the grass-green is evidently named after the Kentucky variety of grass, which is not green, but blue.

In short, the colours given in Mr. Warhurst's otherwise excellent dictionary can be of little real value to the philatelist who is seeking light on this subject.

This is by no means the fault of the author, nor of the publishers, nor indeed of the printers; it is simply the result of the fact that printers' ink is stuff of a most "contrary" disposition.

Thus we can get no forwarder in the colour difficulty by means of charts or illustrated books; in what other way can the knotty problem be solved?

WHERE THE TINTOMETER FAILS.

Five years ago when the Tintometer made its appearance we fondly hoped that the difficulty had at length been overcome. We forget the intricate mechanism of that ingenious instrument as displayed before a meeting of the City of London Philatelic Club in 1895, but we do remember most vividly that its operations were productive of such fearful and wonderful colours as a slightly saddened orange-brown and a joyful salmon-pink. Mr. Lovibond, the inventor of the tintometer is an eminent brewer who conceived the idea of mathematically measuring colour by its means; it was a thing much wanted in his own business, and it seemed to Mr. Lovibond that it might also be adapted to the wants of philatelists. The only drawback to this idea was the fact that unless every philatelist possessed his own tintometer—a costly instrument we believe—we should simply be in a far worse plight than before. The ordinary mind reels before the picture of saddened orange-reds and joyful lavender-slates conjured up by the idea of tintometer measurements.

The tintometer being thus placed outside the range of practicality, whither shall we turn for guidance in the matter

of colour? There is no doubt that at present we are all at sixes and sevens on this question. A stamp you will find listed in one catalogue as red will appear as carmine in another, and as rose-lake in a third; and in some cases the differences are still more marked than in this mild instance. To Mr. Warhurst, whose book we have been noticing, we must give high praise for conscientious efforts to lead philatelists out of the wood; Mr. Warhurst has pegged away at this question for years and years. As long ago as August, 1895, he outlined the idea of his colour dictionary in the "Monthly Journal"; no-one would take it up. He tried all he knew to induce various members of the Philatelic Society to do something; but they were all too busy. Then he suggested a Colour Committee—a suggestion echoed in November last by Mr. M. W. Jones, of Newcastle, in a paper read before the Manchester Philatelic Society. The Manchester Society having now definitely declined to undertake the formation or compilation of a colour chart, we are thrown back into our former state of helpless confusion on the colour question.

A BOOK THAT ALL SHOULD READ.

Reverting for a moment to Mr. Warhurst's book we should be very loth to create the impression that we regard the same as a bad book. We do not; we think it a clever and suggestive work ingeniously conceived and in its literary portions most admirably carried out. It is a book we should earnestly advise all philatelists to read; we have read it ourselves from cover to cover, and consequently we have not fallen into any of the pitfalls which have led others to notice Mr. Warhurst's work slightly.

As an interesting sequel to his own efforts and the efforts made by Mr. M. W. Jones of Newcastle, Mr. Warhurst contributes a paper headed "Colours and their Names" to a recent number of the "Monthly Journal." The author points out that there is in existence a very large and costly book containing many hundreds of colours and the methods of compounding them, intended for the use of dyers etc. This may be regarded as a standard work on the subject, but unfortunately it does not meet the admitted want of a reliable guide to correct colour nomenclature.

MR. B. W. WARHURST'S PLAN.

Briefly put Mr. Warhurst's main suggestion is that failing the Science and Art Department at South Kensington taking up the matter the Philatelic Society should step into the breach, and by getting the assistance of a few distinguished outsiders—specialists in colour—should get together a number of specimens of printing inks and of oils and water colours, and send these round in selected groups to each member—whether Mr. Warhurst means each member of a committee or each member of the Society as a whole we cannot say—for individual examination under different lights, with a request to each gentleman attaching the names he thinks will most nearly express the colours of the samples before him. Then follow details as to the after procedure recommended by Mr. Warhurst, who concludes by saying:—"By this method one hundred colours with appropriate names could be definitely fixed with a minimum of cost and trouble to all concerned."

It would be a simple matter—at least Mr. Warhurst thinks it would—to find a maker of printing ink who would produce inks representing the various colours selected in a special permanent compound—i.e., one not liable to fade. Then, by means of carefully designed blocks, Mr. Warhurst would produce these colours in such a way as to shew four distinct effects by the shadings adopted in engraving as was intended in Scott's colour chart.

Intended—that's just it. There has been plenty of intention about this colour business but very little consummation. Frankly we do not think that it is humanly possible to make a colour chart so exact that it would at once sweep away all difficulties and differences in the way of philatelic colour classification.

We have an idea of our own on this subject—not one that we are extraordinarily proud of; but it may be workable, and at any rate we shall briefly outline it in a continuation of this article in the next issue of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

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Reminiscences of a Philatelist.

BY WALTER NATHAN.

(Continued from No. 133.)

IN 1867 my parents were attracted to Europe by the Paris Exhibition of that year, and it was in Paris that I first saw a stamp album. It was one of Lallier's and the only remembrance of its contents which remains with me is that of a blue stamp of Nicaragua. This was impressed on me by the fact that I had travelled over the Isthmus at Nicaragua, as the yellow-fever was rampant at Panama, and my father preferred the inconvenience of the less frequented route to the risk of infection. I think the scenery in going up the small river (which it is projected to use in constructing the coming canal) was the most beautiful I have ever seen, and its attempted reproduction on the stamp in the album gave me my first inclination towards collecting.

The feeling was, however, transient, and during my stay in Paris I fear I devoted more time to the confectioners' shops than to anything else. One incident of the visit I will narrate, not because it has anything to do with stamps, but in the hope that it will amuse the reader.

Among the sights of the Exhibition was the Chinese giant Chang. As the heroes of my kite-flying days had been Chinese, I was naturally anxious to see so extraordinary a specimen of the race. The desire was not shared by the party which took me to the Exhibition, and I wandered away on an exploring expedition on my own account. I had attained a polyglot knowledge to the extent of about half-a-dozen words in as many languages, and thus equipped I proceeded to make enquiries. I appealed to several *Gens d'Armes*, most of whom regarded me as some unique animal which had not previously been brought to their notice, but at last I came across one who was particularly kindhearted. Even he did not seem to know exactly what I wanted, and I thought it very strange that Frenchmen should find it so difficult to understand their own language. He listened patiently to all I said, and replied at length with a volubility which prevented my following his meaning. I was not to be deterred and kept pointing at him and the sky alternately, and repeating "*homme*," "*haut*," "*homme*," "*haut*" with persuasive persistency. Suddenly a ray of light seemed to illuminate his perplexity, and saying, "*Mais, oui, certainement*," he offered me his arm which I gratefully accepted. Whether he thought it would be a kindness to take me through a large part of the Exhibition, or whether the point at which he aimed was really a great distance from the place where I had first accosted him, I do not know to this day. But I remember my short legs became very tired in keeping up with his long stride, and I was indeed glad when we reached the foot of a spiral-staircase, which my conductor indicated as the end of our journey.

We began to mount. Up, up, we went. With every dozen stairs my wonderment increased. "What an extraordinary stature Chang must be," I thought, "if we have to go up all these stairs to get a view of his face." At length, having reached the summit, my conductor carefully placed me in the car of a balloon, and left me there. During the remainder of my stay in Paris I stuck close to my people.

The next year I was sent to the University College School, and lived with a tutor near Gower Street. My tutor's father had been in the M.S. department of the British Museum, and frequent visits there had raised the collecting instinct, which I believe is more or less inherent in us all. I began collecting shells and coins. One of my chief treasures among the latter was a penny of William the Conqueror, which I had purchased of Mr. Lincoln, of Holborn, for the sum of 3/-. On account of its age and price, my tutor threw doubts on its genuineness, and suggested that I should show it to Sir Frederick Madden, who was at the time at the head of the coin department of the British Museum. The visit ended in my triumph, as the coin was, of course, genuine. Sir Frederick encouraged me in the pursuit, and advised me to continue purchasing of Mr. Lincoln, who was a thorough numismatist, and would see that I only had genuine and

reliable specimens. I was enthusiastic in the pursuit, and it was in purchasing coins that I became acquainted with the fascination possessed by stamps.

Mr. William Lincoln at that time occupied the front part of the premises of W. S. Lincoln & Son, in Holborn, and from noticing the stamps displayed in the window, I had come to look through the stock books. Observing some Sandwich Isles of the 1853 issue, I informed Mr. Lincoln that I had a number of the same sort, and I was soon in possession of a Lallier album and started as a collector. Mr. Lincoln collected at that time himself, and I was pleased to observe at the last exhibition of the Philatelic Society, that his collection still remains intact. It was principally composed of unused stamps, and I was so charmed by the clean, fresh appearance of the specimens that I also confined my purchases to unused varieties. I was exceedingly astonished when I found that I could not buy unused specimens of the first issue of Hawaii, and still more astonished when Mr. Lincoln informed me he had no used specimens for sale. I hurried home, cut out an illustration of the first issue, and wrote at once to Mr. Brickwood, the Postmaster-General, for some specimens. In due course I received a reply:—

Honolulu, 13th December, 1869.

DEAR SIR,

I have the pleasure to enclose you, herewith, specimens of all the Hawaiian postage stamps as far as they can be procured. The sample you send was never issued here, but is the work of a speculative fabricator. With kind regards to your good father.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) A. BRICKWOOD.

Enclosed were sheets of all the issues except the first, up to date, and also some proofs in black of the 2c. 1864.

This letter is interesting as showing the unreliability of information obtained at headquarters, unless, indeed, Mr. Brickwood had mixed up the illustration I had sent with a stamp from some other correspondent.

(To be continued.)

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Our Review of Reviews.

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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.

The Oldest Dealer's Lost Opportunities.

Mr. Castle, in the "London Philatelist," devotes over two pages to the subject of Mr. Moens' retirement from the stamp trade. Mr. Moens is the stamp dealer *par excellence*; he above all others is entitled to the proud name of "Father of Philately." His monthly journal, so soon to be discontinued, is without a rival in point of age, and has few equals in the matter of philatelic excellence. Other times, other manners, says Mr. Castle—only he puts it in French—and we are reminded that had the present style of wholesale stamp importation been in vogue in 1862, Mr. Moens might have laid in large stocks of some of those stamps which are now almost unobtainable in single specimens. But Mr. Castle misses the obvious point that had Mr. Moens obtained a very large stock of these rare issues, their rarity at the present day would be proportionately less. Besides it is safe to say that Mr. Moens, in 1862, had no conception of the enormous rarity to which some of the stamps of the Tuscany or Naples, or Oldenburg would attain. These things are always easier to write about after they have occurred.

Federated Australia—Its Philatelic Side.

It being now only a question of time before the various colonies in Australia are welded into one big commonwealth, it is opportune to ask how this will affect the philately of Oceania. The "London Philatelist," speculating upon this question, predicts that the issue of one common series of stamps for the whole federation will mean an immediate rise in the values of Australian stamps generally. The general opinion will be that any upward movement in this direction will be a most welcome change.

Philatelic Echoes from the War.

We clip from the London Society's organ the following items regarding philatelists now at the front:—

Lieutenant Stanley Castle is with his regiment, the Scottish Rifles, in Kimberley, where we hear they may either garrison the town or co-operate with Lord Roberts's forward movement.

Lieutenant Eric Hausburg, the brother of Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, who went safely through all the fighting at Spion Kop and round Colenso, is now happily recovering from an attack of dysentery.

Stamps for the Buffalo Exhibition.

The "Metropolitan Philatelist," of New York, informs us that designs for the special issue of postage stamps for the pan-American Exhibition at Buffalo, have been tentatively adopted by the Post Office Department. The issue will include 1, 2, 4, 5, and 10 cent stamps. One stamp will show a picture of an American lake steamer; another will illustrate the modern express train; on a third we shall see a bridge over Niagara Falls, and perhaps the Falls themselves if a suitable picture can be obtained; on yet another stamp an automobile will be depicted. We respectfully suggest that yet another stamp in the set should show an open stamp album, surmounted by the legend, "Great are the uses of Philately!"

The Scarcest British Railway Stamps.

Mr. Ewen in his "Weekly Stamp News" illustrates a strip of three specimens of the first letter fee stamp of the Barry Dock Railway. This stamp, he tells us, is without doubt the most valuable of all British Railway stamps at present known. The Barry Dock line was opened in 1889, and two years later, when the Railway letter post was inaugurated, the Barry line undertook to accept letters at its stations, then only five in number. Pursuant to Post Office regulations 2d. letter fee stamps were ordered to the number of 500, and these were numbered consecutively from 1 to 500. Of these 500 stamps it is practically certain that the unused strip of three illustrated by Mr. Ewen represents the entire remainder of unused specimens. No used copy has ever been found, but of course there is always a possibility that one or more may turn up. Any philatelist lucky enough to find one will have a stamp worth holding.

A Magazine from Canada.

The "Montreal Philatelist," a monthly, now in its second year, comes to us in very good shape. Evidently there is plenty of life in the Philately of the Dominion. Mr. W. J. Wurtele is now the publisher, and presumably also the editor of the paper, which, by the way, is the official organ of the League of Canadian Philatelists.

THE CANADIAN SPLIT PROVISIONALS.

An interesting article in the April number is headed "The Canadian Provisionals of 1899," and protests against any fancy value being attached to the split provisionals used by some of the Canadian Postmasters when the 2 cent letter rate came into force, viz., on January 1st, 1899. The fact that these fractional—or, to coin a word, fractural—stamps are listed in the new edition of Stanley Gibbons' catalogue is really the motive for the article, wherein we read that it is a simple matter to shew that the provisionals were absolutely unnecessary, were never sold to the public as stamps, and cannot properly be called stamps at all.

"If their collection is advocated, says the writer in conclusion, and a high price put upon used specimens, then look out for fakes and the results of the faker's genius; for we shall soon be flooded with such simply contrived trash."

Other Papers we have Received.

Since the preparation of our last "Review" we have received the following: "The Philatelic Record" (London); "American Journal of Philately" (New York); "Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser" (Birmingham); "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" (Norwood); "Illustrirte Brefmarken Zeitung" (Leipzig); "Le Timbre Poste" (Brussels); "Illustrirtes Brefmarken Journal" (Leipzig); "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" (St. Louis); the "Weekly Philatelic Era" (Portland, U.S.A.); "Il Francobollo" (Milan); the "Monthly Journal" (London); "Stamps" (Rushden); "Mitteldeutsche Philatelisten Zeitung" (Gossnitz); "Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung" (Leipzig); and "Morley's Philatelic Journal" (London).

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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."

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.

Chili—We are indebted to the President of the Philatelic Society of Chili, Dr. Jermain Greve, for specimens of the new Chilian stamps—1 centavogreen and 5 centavos blue. The stamps bear the same head as of old, but this now occupies a much larger proportion of the space. The stamps are separated by means of a short-cut roulette, which we notice is somewhat irregularly applied. In "Le Timbre Post" we find four other values chronicled—the 2, 15, 20 and 50 centavos. At the moment of going to Press we have received the 2 centavos stamp from another correspondent in Chili, Mr. F. D. Walters, of Valparaiso. This gentleman writes us under date, April 4th:—

I enclose four each of the new 1, 2 and 5c. Chilians, which are being issued gradually as stocks of the previous issue become exhausted. For instance, the 5c. are not out yet in Valparaiso, so I had to get some from Santiago, where they are just out. If I am not mistaken it is not a month since the 1c. and 2c. were put on sale here.

Another Continental contemporary mentions the issue of two new telegraph stamps, two envelopes, two newspaper wrappers, and one postal memorandum. What a postal memorandum is we have been unable to glean.

French Congo.—Some issues back we spoke of a forthcoming issue for this French dependency, and illustrated the design accepted for the 15 centimes stamp. It was then understood that this design would be used for all values, but we now gather from Mr. Moens' journal that there two other designs, one being an oblong affair for the values up to 5 centimes, shewing in the centre a jaguar prowling through the bushes, doubtless in quest of some unwary philatelist.

For the higher values up to 25 centimes there is the type already illustrated, and for three topmost values—1, 2 and 5 francs—there is a large upright rectangular design, shewing a couple of natives lolling against a chunk of jungle. As an issue of stamps for an unimportant tract of territory it is absurdly over-capitalised, as they say in the financial papers.

Great Britain.—We described the new halfpenny green stamp as showing an innovation on the entire sheet in the shape of a barred design between the two panes of stamps. Mr. W. H. Earl, under date April 30th, writes that he thinks our informant has drawn a little on his imagination. "I have before me, he writes, a sheet of both the red and the

green ½d. stamps, and the only difference I can see with the naked eye is that the red has control letter Q, and the green R. There is no barred design between the two panes."

Now since writing our last note on this subject we have ourselves discovered that sheets of the new stamp are to be found, both with and without this ornamentation, in the blank space between the panes. Thus Mr. F. J. Melville, our original informant, is justified, and Mr. W. H. Earl also is correct, and everybody is satisfied all round.

Guatemala.—There is presumably a shortage of postage stamps in this Republic, for we learn from the organ of the Dresden Philatelic Society that the fiscal stamps of Guatemala have been surcharged 1899 in black and employed for postal purposes. The stamps so treated are as follows:—

1 centavo	rose-carmine.
5 centavos	lilac
10 "	green.
25 "	red.
50 "	blue and red.

Northern Nigeria.—We are somewhat at a loss to know why new stamps have been issued bearing the name "Northern Nigeria." The stamps are of the conventional De la Rue type, and a correspondent furnishes us with the following list of values and colours:—

½d.	lilac and green.
1d.	" red.
2d.	" yellow.
2½d.	" blue.
5d.	" brown.
6d.	" violet-blue.
10d.	green and brown.
1/-	" black.
2/6	" blue.

The stamps are watermarked C.A., and perforated 14. Presumably their issue means some political subdivision of the Niger Company's territories, lately taken over by the Government.

Orange Free State.—Although we have not up to the time of writing seen any actual specimens, we have had undoubted information from various quarters in support of the statement that the Orange Free State stamps have been overprinted V.R.I. during the present British occupation of Bloemfontein. Mr. W. H. Earl informs us that he has the 1d. lilac stamp overprinted V.R.I.

Mr. Alfred H. L. Giles, of Norwich, also chronicles the receipt of this stamp.

"Morley's Philatelic Journal," for May, gives March 19th as the date of issue of the surcharged stamps. Staff-Sergeant Piens, our contemporary's informant, has the ½d. and 1d. stamps overprinted as above and also the ½d. post card. The 1d. stamp above franks a letter to the old country, but the post card has to bear a penny British stamp in addition.

"Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" chronicles the 2½d. stamp in addition to the ½d. and 1d. In No. 32 of "E.W.S.N." appear many interesting details as to the issue of the stamps.

Samoa.—At present the stamps in use here are the German Imperial stamps of the issue just superseded—free of all surcharge. A letter just to hand from Apia, dated March 22nd, 1900, is franked with the 20 pfennig blue. In the post-mark, below the word "Apia" appears an inscription in German which we have been unable to decipher.

Spain.—The oft-threatened new issue for Spain is at last to hand. Herein the boy king is shewn as quite a grown-up youth with a sort of military or naval jacket on. Presumably, however, this is intended to be some sort of school uniform, for "Le Timbre Poste" remarks that the baby has given place to the young collegian. So far only one value has appeared, the 15 centimos blue, but it is understood that the other values of the set will appear before long.

Tasmania.—In Messrs. Senf's journal we find illustrations of the new ½d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., and 6d., "Scenic" stamps. The 1d. and 2d. we have already fully described; the new-comers are as follows:—

Adhesives:	½d., green (Lake Marion).
	2½d., blue (Tasman's Arch).
	3d., brown (Spring River).
	4d., yellow (Russell Falls).
	5d., blue (Lake St. Clair).
	6d., red (Dilston Falls).

'Twixt Editor and Reader.

"AN Old Subscriber," referring to comments in recent numbers of the *Fortnightly* on the subject of Philately of the Orange Free State and the Transvaal, suggests that the most appropriate memento of the Transvaal for philatelists would be the inverted surcharge stamps of that country, as all will be upside-down there soon.

* * *

We much regret that there was considerable delay in the compilation of the index for volume V. of the *Fortnightly*. This was owing partly to pressure of other work and partly to the fact that our printers, Messrs. Pardy & Son, have for some time past had the resources of their printing establishment taxed to the uttermost. Messrs. Pardy are now printing almost everything that is printed in the philatelic world, and the consequence is that they are not always able to keep pace with the inrush of work?

* * *

Mr. C. de Grave Sells has sent us a copy of a publication known as the "Virginia Philatelist," published at Richmond, Va. This, like another American paper recently alluded to in our columns, is a pro-Boer print. An article headed "The Anglo-Boer War" in the number dated December last, has reference to British greed and injustice, and things of that sort. Our correspondent, hitherto a subscriber to the "Virginia Philatelist," wrote the editor of that publication protesting against this fierce attack on this country, but received only a snub for his pains. Needless to say, he is no longer a subscriber to the "Virginia Philatelist."

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German S. W. Africa, 1898	10	15	50	50	x	x	used	German East Africa, 1896	75	75	75	75	x	75	used	
Cameroons . . .	10	10	20	40	x	100	unused	German China	10	10	20	40	x	80	unused	
	10	15	20	40	x	100	used		10	10	20	35	x	75	used	
	10	15	30	40	75	100	used	German Morocco	10	10	20	40	50	100	unused	
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Marshall Islands . . .	100	100	x	x	100	100	used	German Levant, 1889	x	50	50	50	200	200	unused	
Maramosa Islands . . .	Will be sent as soon as received.						unused	German Empire, 1880	x	10	15	25	35	60	unused	
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	10	10	25	40	50	100	used		A good supply ordered.							used
German S. W. Africa, 1897	10	15	50	50	X	X	unused	German East Africa, 1893	40	50	75	100	X	100	unused	
German S. W. Africa, 1898	10	15	50	50	X	X	used	German East Africa, 1896	75	75	75	75	X	75	used	
Cameroons	10	15	20	40	X	100	unused	German China	10	10	20	40	X	80	unused	
	10	15	20	40	X	100	used		10	10	20	35	X	75	used	
Marshall Islands	The entire set of 50.						unused	German Morocco	10	10	20	30	40	65	unused	
Marshall Islands	100	100	X	X	100	100	used	German Levant, 1884	X	50	50	50	200	200	unused	
Maramosa Islands	Will be sent as soon as received.						unused	German Levant, 1889	X	10	15	25	35	60	unused	
Caroline Is.	A good supply ordered.						used	German Empire, 1880	X	10	15	5	40	30	used	
	Will be sent as soon as received.						unused		10	15	50	40	60	100	unused	
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NEW SOUTH WALES, QUEENSLAND,

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Selection sent on Approval.

1900 Price List of Sets and Packets free.

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

At the 53rd meeting of the Board of Governors, on April 9th (Mr. Calman presiding), the Secretary read a letter from Mr. Jos. S. Rich, presenting to the Club two frames of proofs of dangerous counterfeits of Baden, Luxemburg, Colombian Republic, Uruguay and Confederates, also a framed photograph of the late Herr von Stephan, Postmaster-General of the German Empire.

The Treasurer's report showing a cash balance in bank of \$635.83 exclusive of U.S. bonds was read and approved.

The names of six of the applicants for membership having been posted the required length of time, their names were balloted upon and Messrs. Battin, Carpenter, Doane, Hawkins, Lombard and Stebbins were declared to have been unanimously elected subscribing members of the Club.

ALBERT PERRIN, Secretary, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York City, U.S.A.

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.

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.

WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY! In return for 1/3 I will send a Sent Catalogue, a Packet of Best Stamp Mounts, a Perforation Gauge and an Auction Summary, giving the prices of all stamps realised at London Auction Sales. Only a few lots left—Box 104.

APPROVAL BOOKS.—Special Line of Books and Sheets for Beginners and Medium Collectors, full of bargains, sent on approval. British stamps or Foreign and British Colonials. Wanted to Buy Collections and all kinds of English Stamps. Good prices given.—CHARLES NISSEN & Co., 77/8, High Holborn, London, W.C.

1000 STAMPS, all different, for 1/-. Write for particulars, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.—W. BROWN, St. Thomas' Square, Salisbury.

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WANTED. U.S. American, Revenues, Medicine, Match Locals, &c.; also proofs. "Specimen" and reprints of any country. Cash or exchange.—DRESSER, Bexley Heath, Kent.

"THE YOUNG STAMP COLLECTOR," illustrated, monthly; 1/6 yearly.—32, Ballater Road, Brixton.

EXCHANGE WANTED.—Good Sheet of Australians sent for Foreign.—H. T. TYSON, She don Street, Norwood, South Australia.

THE Liverpool Philatelic Exchange Club.—Reliable Members wanted. Subscription, 1/6 per annum. References required. Splendid opportunity to join a reliable Club.—Rules &c., sent on application to the Secretary, A. J. MURKAGHAN, 53, Ashton Street, Liverpool.

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Stamp Merchants,

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HAVING lately purchased several very large collections, and desiring to realise quickly, we are sending out approval sheets of good copies of stamps, catalogued from 1d. to £10, at

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State requirements and class of stamps desired. Great Britain Stamps a speciality. Entire at one-third of Gibbons' latest catalogue prices.

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H. ROSS-SHIELDS & Co.,

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Hayti, well assorted, used, 6d. per doz., 3/6 per 100.
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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 Indian, and old Australian stamps. Up to £1000 cash down, paid for a really fine old collection. Established 15 years. Bankers, London and County.

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	Price.	Catalogue
	s. d.	s. d.
South Australia, 1888-93, complete set from 2/6 to £20, Specimen...	40	0
Fiji, 1d. blue, perf. 11 by 10, unused, fine ...	1	3 3 6
Cape, 1/- green, 1885, unused, fine...	12	6 17 6

BRITISH STAMPS.

3d. rose, small letters, wmk. Emblems ...	1	6 3 6
9d. straw " " ...	3	6 5 0
3d. rose, large letters, " " ...	0	7 0 8
1/- green " " ...	0	5 0 8
3d. rose " wmk. Crown ...	0	6 2 0
6d. grey " " ... pl. 17	0	9 1 6
6d. grey " " ... pl. 18	0	9 1 6
6d. lilac and carmine, large letters ...	0	6 1 3
1/- brown, large letters ... pl. 13	0	9 1 3
1/- brown " " ... pl. 14	0	9 1 3
1d. red with numbers in Maltese Cross, 1 to 12	4	0
1d. red, imperf., Reconstructed Sheet, fine ...	6	0
1d. red, perf. 14, " " " " ...	4	6
2/6 lilac on blue paper ...	3	6 7 0
5/- rose on blue paper ...	10	6
4d. on blue paper, wmk. medium Garter ...	5	6 6 0
2½d. lilac, I.R. Official, 1865 ...	4	6 6 6

CHAS. NISSEN & CO.,

... 77/8, High Holborn, London, W.C.

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:—

June 7th and 8th, 1900.—By order of the Executors, etc.—A fine Selection of BRITISH, FOREIGN AND COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS, including a fine Collection of South African (in lots), comprising fine Transvaals, New South African Republic, Cape of Good Hope, strip of seven 1/- Triangulars; Natal, 1/- green with tall caps, very rare, and 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.

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.



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 Rochdale Philatelic Society, the Cambridge University Philatelic Society,
 the County of Stafford Exchange Society, and the Central Philatelic Club.

No. 136.—Vol. VI. SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1900. ONE PENNY.

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of a representation made by the Postmaster General to the German Government with reference to the reproduction of coloured imitations of postage stamps, the Publishers of the "Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal" have surrendered all the dies used in connection with the issue and have undertaken not to repeat the offence.—
 I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

H. BARTLETT,
 Asst. Secretary.

Percy C. Bishop, Esq.

Confirming this, the last issue to hand of the "I.B.J." contains a brief announcement intimating that in future only the ordinary uncoloured illustrations will appear.

STAMP COLLECTORS AND SEALING WAX.

A NOTICE is now being issued by a prominent firm of stamp dealers warning philatelists that letters containing stamps, whether used or unused, should never be sealed with sealing wax, unless the heat is intercepted by a thick piece of cardboard, nearly as large as the envelope, placed between the stamps enclosed and that side of the envelope to which the seal is to be applied. It is pointed out that the heat of the lighted wax penetrating through the envelope causes the stamps to adhere to each other. Again, if waxed paper is used to prevent this, matters are hardly likely to be improved, for the wax in the paper is liable to melt from the heat when sealing, causing grease spots to appear on the stamps.

Doubtless the immediate cause for this warning is the undoubted craze at present existing for the use of seals and sealing wax. In fashionable circles there is quite a recrudescence of the, at one time, universal habit of sealing one's communications in this way. That habit went out on the invention of the adhesive envelope, and the present fashion is of course merely a society fad.

A TREASONABLE ISSUE.

Is General Baden-Powell liable to be put on his trial for high treason? The "Westminster Gazette" commenting on the gallant General's issue of threepenny stamps bearing his own portrait remarks that this might be construed as an offence not altogether unlike high treason. The classical precedent is furnished by Canada, where a certain Postmaster once put his own portrait on a stamp. No sooner did this proceeding come to the ears of the authorities than they administered a severe reprimand and withdrew the stamp from circulation. Specimens of it, however, are still procurable. The stamp is known as the "Connell" stamp, and fetches a good price in the auction room.

Philately at Home and Abroad.

NO COLOUR PRINTING IN PHILATELY.

MESSRS. SENF, OF LEIPZIG, ORDERED TO SUSPEND THEIR COLOURED NEW-ISSUE CHRONICLE.

WITH the beginning of the current year Messrs. Senf Brothers, of Leipzig, publishers of the "Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal," inaugurated a Monthly Chronicle of New Issues in which all fresh emissions of stamps were—literally—"shown up in their true colours." The innovation gave rise to a good deal of talk in Philatelic Press circles. The Editor of the *Fortnightly*, after quietly investigating the question of cost and practicability, wrote to the Board of Inland Revenue requesting permission to inaugurate a similar departure in this country. We were prepared to give every guarantee that the dies for printing the coloured illustrations should be put to no improper use—we even went so far as to offer to lodge them with a government official and to have the operation of printing from them carried out entirely under government supervision if arrangements could be made to that end. But no!—the answer, as we might have known it would be, was most emphatically in the negative.

The formal reply of the Board of Inland Revenue forbidding the innovation has been published in the *Fortnightly*. That letter is now supplemented by a further communication, under date May 11, as follows:—

Somerset House, London, W.C.,
 11th May, 1900.

SIR,—Referring to their letter of March 14th last, I am directed by the Board of Inland Revenue to acquaint you that in consequence

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MAY 26, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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, 77-78, High Holborn, W.C.



MESSRS. SENE, of Leipzig, as we report in another column, are no longer to be permitted to circulate broadcast a New Issue Chronicle printed in the exact colours of the stamps listed. We cannot say that we are sorry. If this thing were legal in Germany it should be legal in England also, and if illegal in England, then it should not be possible for a German print to score an advantage over the philatelic journals of this country.

Turning from one colour question to another we regret that we have to hold over from this issue of the *Fortnightly* the continuation of our article on the subject of Philatelic Colour Nomenclature. Its omission will be an advantage, editorially, for in our next number we shall be able to incorporate in the article the views of those correspondents who, though they have not yet written us on the subject, are we feel quite sure on the point of doing so!

* * *

THE Stamp Trade Protection Association by all accounts, is already achieving no small measure of success. Since introducing its prospectus to our readers we have examined the aims and objects of the Association, not only by correspondence, but also by personal investigation. As a consequence we have no hesitation in urging all readers of the *Fortnightly* to personally support this Association. Its one essential aim is Protection for all Philatelists! At first there was a good deal of uncertainty on two points. Firstly, the title of Stamp Trade Protection Association gave rise to the false impression that the new society was a purely trade concern, and in the second place, the word "Limited" at the tail-end of that title occasioned much questioning by the uninitiated. We have already stated that the Association is open to all philatelists, amateur or professional, and will work for all and in the interests of all. Regarding the "Limited" it is quite a mistake to suppose, as many are supposing, that the Stamp Trade Protection Association is founded as a profit-making concern. The prospects of profit are unpromising in the extreme; and it will be sufficient to say that, in view of the legal possibilities confronting any body that sets out upon a crusade of Protection, it was thought advisable, if not imperative, to register the Association under the Limited Liability Acts in order to secure the directors, as individuals, against personal loss. In other words the policy that has been followed in this matter will have the effect of protecting our protectors.

We shall hope to hear that *Fortnightly* readers are joining the Stamp Trade Protection Association in their hundreds. It is an Association that will fight bravely in philately's cause; but it is necessary, first of all, to fill its War Chest!

Something about Entires.

ANOTHER mysterious British card has been sent, which the holder wants half-a-crown for as an error and a great rarity. It is a 3d. white card with stamp on left side; but it was possible in the past for anyone to have these made "to order," as they are simply from sheets of cards sent in by firms to Somerset House for stamping, which could then be cut up singly or even perforated in such a way as to get the stamp on the wrong side of the card. Of course one row of cards at extreme left would be sacrificed, having no stamp in such a case, while those at right hand would have two stamps. A card of this latter description passed through the post to U.S. some years ago, measuring 155x75 mm., that is 34 mm. wider than the then current halfpenny size, the stamp on one side being at 4mm. from instructions and 21mm. distant at left.

A FEW WORDS AS TO THE ADVANTAGES OF COLLECTING ENVELOPES AND POSTCARDS.

The chief charm to most people is the comparative cheapness of entires as contrasted with adhesives, whose face values run from 6d. to 5/- in very ordinary series, and up to 400 times those values occasionally. Cards have been as high as 3d. or 4d. for reply, and some envelopes 1/8 as in Mauritius, and up to 90c. (or 3/9) in U. S. A., but these are exceptional. Then as to designs, many of the foreign cards are triumphs of engraving, especially those produced across the herring pond.

It is somewhat amusing though, to read as we did five years ago that "a collector with 200 varieties is as content as a stamp collector with his 1000." Certainly he might be as he could buy that number at 1d. each, but neither the one figure nor the other give a fair average of probabilities for a medium collector, though the proportion is correct. The writer's collection (far from complete) contains over 6,000 specimens, and the catalogues list quite 10,000. If any reader thinks of beginning with "entires" or to enlarge his small stock of them—now is the time. The wholesale reductions made in Gibbons' latest catalogue afford an opportunity that will never recur after present stocks are reduced.

"Yes, but half the pleasure of collecting stamps has been in the discovery of varieties not generally known, which with cards is impossible."

So said a friend recently in reply to my advice to him to collect. The production of the catalogues of Fry and of Watson, though nine to fifteen years old, astonished him, giving detailed information of three to twenty varieties of many hundreds of cards of which only one is usually given in priced lists; Guatemala's first issue having ten varieties of the curves, &c., of its beautiful engraving and six of reply cards, to say nothing of early Roumanians, Servian, and recent Mexican of the type-set order. Just now a rush is being made for the various provisional issues of Orange Free State because of its annexation, and the varieties of provisional issues of Ceylon, Jamaica, Mauritius, &c., are many indeed.

There are not the perplexities of watermark and perforation that drive some collectors away from stamps, but just a few of the former in some cards—Norway and Hungary for instance—and in envelopes, as in those of Switzerland, U.S., Mexico, Brazil, &c., and several wrappers of Australian Colonies. Perforations vary a little in letter-cards and some British Colonial reply cards, but are very few—enough to interest a searcher without wearying or confusing him.

Forgeries are virtually non-existent.

"HAWKEYE."

The newspapers make quaint mistakes in their references to Philately. The "Daily Chronicle," notes the sale, by Puttick's, of a U.S.A. stamp, of 1869, with *invented* centre!

WAR PROVISIONALS UP-TO-DATE.

Specially Compiled for the *Fortnightly*.

THE average philatelist must be in a state of great bewilderment just now on account of the maze of provisional issues, real and imaginary, in which the newspapers have landed him.

Perhaps it will be worth while to separate the grain from the chaff—"chaff" under the circumstances is a good word—and state plainly just what provisional issues have really made their appearance in South Africa since the beginning of the war. As regards the British side this will be a fairly easy matter, but we are still without any positive information as to the various provisionals that the Boers may from time to time have created.

The Natal, Cape and Bechuanaland stamps, reported to be overprinted "ZAR," we have not yet seen. The "I.B.J.," however, appears to have good authority for stating that the ½d., 1d., 2d., and 2½d. stamps of the Cape Colony have been overprinted with value and "ZAR" in black.

A LABOUR SAVING STAMP.

We have already illustrated and fully described the "Commando Brief" stamps of the Free State burghers; but it has remained for a correspondent of the "Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News" to give a full account of the genesis of this issue. "The Stamp," writes this correspondent "was printed under peculiar circumstances." Most provisional stamps are, but in this particular case the facts are indeed curious. It appears that an individual was appointed to act as field-postmaster for the Free State Boers, and part of his duties in this capacity was to write piles of envelopes for the commandant to initial; but ultimately that officer grew so sick of the work of initialling these envelopes for the burghers of the Free State that he instructed the field-postmaster to print a stamp of some sort—anything he liked. Forthwith the postmaster had some 10,000 copies of this type-set label struck off.



There is a reference in the "Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News" to the value of this stamp. It is worth, "says the correspondent, from 1/6 to 2/- in the field, and if "on an envelope 7/6. The postmaster," he adds, "is among "other things a dealer in rare stamps and a chemist"—an ominous combination truly!

"Vrij" BECOMES V.R.I.

Now for Bobs and Bloemfontein. It has been made abundantly clear by the war correspondents that one of Lord Roberts' first jobs on entering the Free State capital was to commandeer the post office, and to surcharge all the postage stamps found there with those magical letters, V.R.I. The stamps so overprinted are of course the ordinary Orange Free State stamps; and as far as our information goes at present the values surcharged were as follows:—

Adhesives:

- "½d." on Halve penny, yellow.
- "1d." on Een penny, mauve.
- "2d." on Twee pence, violet.
- "2½" on Drie pence, blue.
- "4d." on Vier pence, blue.
- "6d." on Zes pence, ultramarine.
- "1/-" on Een shilling, brown.
- "5/-" on Vif shillings, green.

Post Cards:

- "½d." on Halve penny.
- "1d." on Een penny.

Regarding the 6d. stamp (first chronicled as the carmine label), "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" remarks:—

The 6d. ultramarine is quite a novelty. We stated last week, on the authority of the "Monthly Journal," that only 4,600 of the 6d. stamps had been overprinted "V.R.I." and as our contemporary described them as *carmine*, it is to be presumed that these were all that were left of the old 6d. carmine. Evidently the new supply printed in blue had arrived in Bloemfontein but had not been placed in issue. Will any specimens of the latter find their way into collectors' hands without the overprint? By the way, should not the above figures be 4,800 (40 sheets)? The number 4,600 would represent 38 sheets and 40 odd stamps.

The "Daily News," in a humorous note on the subject, remarks that "by the irony of fate the surcharge, V.R.I., "falls just below the word *Vrij* (free) of the original printing. "And the V.R.I.," the "Daily News" remarks, "means just "now to the Free Stater something very different indeed "from vrij."

How soon may we expect to see the Transvaal stamps also surcharged V.R.I.? An evening newspaper has shown that, barring any great catastrophe, Lord Roberts should enter the capital of the South African Republic, on June 13th; and that is the date that may bring us yet another provisional series. This, however, is by the way.

FROM POSTMASTER BADEN-POWELL.

From Mafeking at various times we have had reports of provisional issues ordered by Colonel Baden Powell. Quite recently the news has come to hand, on what appears to be unexceptionable authority, that the Colonel has brought out a distinct issue of Mafeking postage stamps, bearing his own head. These we have not yet seen, but Messrs. Bright & Son, and various other philatelists in this country, have received Cape of Good Hope stamps surcharged for use in Mafeking. There is a 1d. Cape, of the issue that went out of use some little time ago, surcharged "Mafeking 3d. Besieged" in three lines, and Messrs. Bright & Son chronicle the receipt of the 3d. Cape stamp, overprinted "Mafeking 6d. Besieged"—again in three lines. It will be seen that Colonel (now Major-General) Baden Powell has followed the dangerous practice of raising the value of his stamp by surcharge. However, in his case it is probable that he had only a limited range of selection.

THE LAWS OF PHILATELY, FORSOOTH!

Philatelists are represented in a somewhat ludicrous light in the report of an interview with a prominent stamp dealer on the subject of the stamps issued at Mafeking and elsewhere. We are told that the laws of philately may seem absurd, but that they are immutable. Col. Baden Powell, we read, has no right, from a stamp collector's point of view, to surcharge 1d. stamps 1/- on account of the extra risk in delivering letters under fire. Well! In the first place we have no definite evidence that the Colonel has done anything of the sort, but, apart from this, what utter bosh it is to talk of the laws of philately, and of the rights of a commander in the field from a stamp collector's point of view. We cannot believe that any stamp dealer would ever talk in such a way, and must conclude that he has been grossly misrepresented.

[At the last moment we have been disappointed in promised illustrations of the Mafeking Siege Stamp. These will be inserted in the next *Fortnightly*.—Ed.]

THE COLLECTORS' GUIDE TO VALUES.

[COPYRIGHT].

BRITISH GUIANA.

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1850. Circular issue. Black printing on coloured wove paper.				
2c. rose .. .. .	..	..	..	..
4c. orange .. .. .	..	..	..	500/
4c. yellow .. .. .	..	..	..	500/
8c. green .. .. .	..	..	..	340/
12c. pale blue.. ..	..	..	..	240/
12c. blue .. .. .	..	..	..	120/
12c. indigo .. .. .	..	..	..	160/
<i>The prices here are for copies cut to shape.</i>				
The same, on pelure paper.				
4c. yellow .. .. .	..	..	..	..
1852. Messrs. Waterlow's printing. Rectangular, type-set stamps, printed in black on surface-coloured paper.				
1c. black on magenta .. ..	..	..	120/	80/
4c. " " blue .. .. .	..	..	160/	100/
1853. Issue with numerals of date in four corners. With corner numerals as Gibbons' Type A.				
1c. vermilion	180/	100/	50/	30/
1c. red-brown .. .. .	..	..	60/	35/
4c. blue	140/	80/	20/	15/
4c. dark blue .. .. .	..	..	25/	18/
With white line above the value.				
1c. red	200/	120/	55/	30/
1c. red-brown .. .. .	..	..	55/	30/
4c. pale blue.. .. .	160/	90/	22/6	17/6
4c. blue .. .. .	..	..	22/6	17/6
1856. Oblong type-set issues, locally printed, in black on surface-coloured paper.				
1c. black on magenta .. ..	..	..	..	..
4c. " " .. .. .	..	..	600/	300/
4c. " " rose .. .. .	..	..	..	..
4c. " " blue .. .. .	..	..	..	..
1860. Stamps of the 1853 type, with corner numerals framed by a white line, as Gibbons' type B.				
4c. blue .. .. .	..	..	30/	20/
1860-75. Rectangular stamps with numerals of date, 1860 in the four corners. Two varieties are indicated as follows: (a) with a space between the words, or figures and words at bottom; (b) with the words, &c., at bottom close together.				
1860. Thick paper; perf. 12; all type A except where otherwise specified.				
1c. rose	100/	60/	27/6	20/
1c. red-brown	35/	25/	25/	17/6
2c. orange	25/	15/	3/	2/
4c. (b) blue	15/	10/	4/	3/
8c. rose	30/	20/	8/	6/
12c. grey	50/	30/	4/	3/
12c. lilac	50/	30/	4/	3/
24c. green	200/	120/	15/	10/
24c. deep green	240/	140/	15/	10/
Thinner paper, perf. 12, all type A unless otherwise specified.				
1c. brown	80/	50/	70/	40/
1c. black	20/	12/6	8/	5/
2c. orange	25/	15/	5/	3/
4c. blue (b)	12/6	8/	4/	2/9
8c. rose	20/	14/	8/	5/
12c. lilac	20/	12/6	3/	2/
24c. green	120/	80/	8/	5/
1860-62. Thin paper, perf. 12½ to 13, type A.				
1c. black	2/6	2/	1/6	1/6
2c. orange	4/6	3/	2/	1/6
8c. rose	10/	6/	4/	2/6
12c. lilac	35/	25/	3/6	2/6
24c. green	20/	14/	3/	2/

The same, but type B.

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1c. black	7/6	5/	3/6	2/6
2c. orange	1/6	1/6	1/	1/
4c. blue	4/	3/	1/6	1/
8c. rose	5/	3/	3/	2/
8c. carmine	25/	17/	4/	3/
12c. lilac	35/	25/	2/	1/6
1867. Perf. 10; type B.				
1c. black	6/	6/	4/	4/
2c. orange	9/	9/	6/	6/
4c. blue	5/	3/6	9/	6/
8c. rose	12/6	8/	2/	1/6
12c. grey-lilac.. .. .	40/	30/	5/	3/6
12c. brown-lilac	12/	8/	2/6	1/6
1875. Perf. 15; type B.				
1c. black	1/6	2/	1/	1/
2c. orange	20/	15/	5/	2/6
4c. blue	35/	40/	25/	25/
8c. rose	30/	20/	6/	4/
12c. lilac	100/	70/	12/6	8/
1862. Provisional type-set stamps, locally printed. Rouletted 6. Six types (Gibbons' Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.)				
1c. black on rose (No. 6) ..	..	..	200/	..
2c. " " yellow ( " ) ..	..	..	160/	..
1c. " " rose (No. 7) ..	..	..	200/	..
2c. " " yellow ( " ) ..	..	..	100/	..
1c. black on rose (Type 8) ..	..	..	300/	..
2c. " " yellow ( " ) ..	..	..	240/	..
4c. black on blue (Type 9) ..	..	..	300/	..
4c. " " (Type 10) ..	..	..	300/	..
4c. " " (Type 11) ..	..	..	300/	..
1863. Large rectangular issue, printed by Messrs. Waterlow. Perf. 12.				
24c. green	35/	25/	2/6	1/6
The same, but perf. 12½ to 13.				
6c. blue	8/	8/	5/	5/
24c. green	17/6	12/6	2/	1/3
48c. red	17/6	12/6	4/	3/
48c. rose	17/6	12/6	4/	3/
1867. The same, perf. 10.				
6c. blue	12/6	8/	3/	2/
6c. ultramarine	12/6	8/	3/	2/
24c. green	10/	7/	1/3	1/9
48c. red	15/	10/6	3/	2/
1875. Perf. 15.				
6c. ultramarine	90/	60/	25/	17/6
24c. green	100/	70/	15/	10/

(To be continued.)

The "Fortnightly" 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
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One Inch	0 5 0	One Inch	0 3 0

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."

Our Review of Reviews.

Stamps Current in Tasmania.

FROM the "Australian Philatelist," to hand by the last mail from the Antipodes, we learn that an official paper has just been issued by the postal authorities of Tasmania, listing the stamps at present on sale to the public at the Hobart Post Office, as follows:—

Value	Date of Issue.
Halfpenny	1892
One Penny	1899
Twopence	1890
Twopence halfpenny	1891, 2½d on 9d., 1892
Threepence	1871, Platypus, 1880
Fourpence	1876
Fivepence	1892
Sixpence	1892
Eightpence	1878
Ninepence	1871
Tenpence	1870, 1899
One Shilling	1880, Platypus, 1892
Two Shillings & Sixpence	1864, 1892
Five Shillings	1897
Ten Shillings	1864, 1892
One Pound	1897
Envelopes (2d.) 2½d. each.	
Registered, 2 sizes, 3d. each.	

Postcards, single, 1d. each; reply, 3d. each. Letter Cards, 2d. each.

An interesting commentary on this most interesting list is furnished by the following notes, explanatory of each of the values, supplied by the Editor of our Colonial contemporary:

- ½d. This is the bi-coloured stamp, orange and mauve.
- 1d. and 2d. Pictorial issue.
- 2½d. These are the second type of the surcharged on 9d., and the magenta stamp of the same type as the bi-coloured series.
- 3d. The "1871" stamp is of similar type to the issue of that date, but it is in light Indian red, and printed on the second type of TAS paper. The platypus stamp was originally issued as a fiscal in 1880, and authorised for postal use in 1882.
- 4d. This is of a similar type to the stamp of 1870, which was originally issued in blue, and changed to yellow in 1876. It was again changed to brown about 1891, printed on the first type of TAS paper, and subsequently printed on the second type of TAS paper in a much lighter shade of brown about 1896. This is the stamp on sale.
- 5d. Bi-coloured series, blue and brown.
- 6d. Bi-coloured series, mauve and black.
- 8d. De la Rue's print of 1878, Queen's head type.
- 9d. Similar type to the 8d. Printed in light blue on the second type of TAS paper about 1898.
- 10d. The original print of 1870 on paper watermarked with the italic "10," colour black; and the bi-coloured stamp of 1899.
- 1s. Platypus type authorised for postal use in 1882; and bi-coloured stamp, rose and green.
- 2s. 6d. The stamp described as of the 1864 issue is the St. George and dragon type, but printed on the second type of TAS paper, and authorised for postal use 1852. The 1892 stamp is the bi-coloured one, brown and blue.
- 5s. Bi-coloured, lilac and red.
- 10s. The stamp described as of the 1894 issue is the St. George and dragon type, but printed in salmon on paper watermarked, double-lined figure 1; re-issued and authorised for postal use in 1882. The 1892 stamp is the bi-coloured one, mauve and brown.
- £1. Bi-coloured, green and yellow.

Penny Postage Stamp's Diamond Jubilee.

"Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" celebrates the Diamond Jubilee of the penny stamp by giving a photographic reproduction of an entire envelope bearing a penny black stamp of 1840 and showing the postmark date May 6th, 1840—the first day of the penny postal system. At the same time the journal remarks upon the really surprising scarcity of authentic entire envelopes bearing this date.

Twenty Years on the Rialto of Philately.

Mr. Theodor Buhl started stamp dealing in the seventies, produced the "Stamp News" in 1882, and bought the historic business of Pemberton, Wilson & Co. some ten years later; and he is commonly supposed to have forgotten more about stamps and stamp dealing than many of his compeers have ever known. Some of the things he has not forgotten he is now "writing up" for the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain," under the heading, "Recollections of 20 Years' Stamp Dealing."

Stamps of the Danish West Indies.

A FEW NOTES BY A CONSTANT READER.

THERE seems to be very little doubt that the Danish West Indies will shortly "change hands," so to say. Indeed, a political scramble is understood to be going on among certain powers for the "refusal" of the group. Germany and the United States are both believed to be coveting the islands; and nothing is more likely than that the Danish West Indies be supplied one of these days, with stamps of the new German Colonial type—either this or a nice long set of surcharged United States postage stamps, *à la* Guam.

One thing is quite certain: the islands are of little use to Denmark. Probably their transfer to some other power is only a question of time.

The first stamps of the Danish West Indies are distinguishable from those of the Mother Country only by the difference of coinage. Instead of the skillings or öre of Denmark the Danish West Indies have always used the cents and dollars of Brother Jonathan. In the succeeding issues, again, the type of the Danish stamps is adhered to, the only difference being that in the place of the inscription "Danmark" we see on the Colonial stamps, "Dansk—Vestindiske—Oer."

These stamps of the Danish West Indies are an exceedingly simple study, but certain points of interest may be noted regarding them.

VARIETIES OF GUM.

Firstly, as regards the stamps of the first issue, some very noticeable varieties of gum will be found. The stamps exist with very light and also very dark brown gum; and it has always been supposed that this variation is due to the fact that in 1855 the Colonial authorities in the island of St. Thomas received from the home government a consignment of postage stamps, which owing to the damp atmosphere of the ship's hold were all stuck together, necessitating a re-gumming process. For this purpose the stamps were sent, half of them to one firm and half to another—to be re-gummed. In the one case they were coated with the purest gum arabic, and in the other case a gum of very inferior quality was applied. Naturally age has told upon the commoner gum, and the difference in colour has become more striking with the passing years.

UNOFFICIAL ROULETTEING.

The earliest stamps of the Danish West Indies are to be found rouletted, but there seems to be no doubt that this rouletting is entirely unofficial. Not before 1872, when the first perforated stamps appeared, was any official means of separation adopted in these stamps.

A COUPLE OF SURCHARGES.

In May 1887 the Danish Indies perpetrated their first surcharge, owing, I believe, to a run upon the 1 cent stamps of the Colony. The 7 cents of 1873 were converted into 1 cent stamps by means of a black surcharge, and this stamp now-a-days is not nearly so common as some of our catalogue quotations would lead one to suppose. Another surcharge, the 10 cents on 50 cents of 1895 completes the tale of Danish West Indian stamps. None of them are so rare as to tempt the forger, but in the past rough imitations of these stamps have found their way upon the stamp market; these are all lithographed on unwatermarked paper, and thus easily separable from genuine specimens.

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.

Belgium.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. report receipt of a new 1 franc stamp. Colour, orange.

The 2 francs is now issued on white paper.

Columbia.—"Ewen's Weekly" describes the latest Colombian provisional as follows:—"Arms in centre, surrounded by circular inscription 'Estados Unidos de Colombia.' At the top is 'Gobierno Provisional—Correos' and below '10 avos.' The stamp is printed in black on pink paper, is perforated vertically and is imperf. horizontally." It is stated that the revolutionary party are responsible for this production, which is doubtless just about as beautiful as the general run of these labels.

Crete.—We now give a complete list of the new stamps, with more particular description of the designs used for the various values:

1 lepton, brown	..	Hermes.
5 lepta, green	..	Hera.
10 " carmine	..	Prince George.
20 " rose	..	Hera.
25 " blue	..	Prince George
50 " mauve	..	Hermes.
1 drachma, dark-lilac	..	Talos.
2 drachmae, brown	..	Minos.
5 " green and black	..	St. George & Dragon.

In our former reference to the issue we too hastily assumed that the use of the St. George and Dragon device upon the 5 drachmae stamp might be taken as a compliment to Great Britain. Had we pondered the matter a little longer we should have remembered that George of Cappadocia is a mythological figure dear to the hearts of the Greeks and the Cretans. In one of our contemporaries we find the said George described as "the reigning saint" of Crete. He may be the patron saint, but there is another George in the field to do all the reigning that there is to be done.

Japanese Corea.—We have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for specimens of the Japanese Corean stamps already described. These have a black overprint at foot signifying their use in Corea. The set consists of the same values and colours as those supplied for Japanese China.

New Zealand.—It appears that new post cards are to be issued here "in commemoration of New Zealand's response to the Empire's call."

We have to thank Mr. A. Rosenberg, of Woodville, for a news-cutting on the subject. From this it appears that the cards are to have the usual heading, and in the left hand bottom corner a miniature scene or photograph having some reference to one or another of the New Zealand contingents in South Africa.

There is to be not one, but as many as sixteen of these commemorative post cards, so that it will be seen that "New Zealand's response to the Empire's call" is to be commemorated very handsomely indeed!

Salvador. The stamps of this Republic for 1898 have been brought up to date by the application of a black surcharge of the figures 1900. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., have received the 1 centavo vermilion, and doubtless the other values are not far behind.

Switzerland.—Mr. H. Merton, a London reader, informs us that he has learned from a correspondent at Montreux that the Swiss 50 centimes blue will be changed in colour, to prevent confusion with the 25 centimes stamp, which is shortly to appear in blue, in accordance with the requirements of the Postal Union.

Tasmania. Since last writing on the subject, we have had from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. a complete set up to date of the pictorial Tasmanian stamps. We have also to thank Messrs. Smyth and Nicolle, of Sydney, for a used specimen of the 5d. stamp and unused copies of the other values.

Our Sydney friends also send us the new Tasmanian letter-card; this bears an impression of the 2d. scenic stamp, with view of Hobart. The letter-card is printed in violet on pale blue, and bears on the back an additional view of Tasmanian scenery as make-weight. Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle inform us that there are six varieties of this card, each with a different view on the reverse side.

Niger Coast.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that the 1' stamps of this territory are now issued with the watermark Crown and C.A.

Uruguay.—We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for news of the following novelties.

New Value (?):	5 milésimos, orange.
New Colours:	7 centavos, lake.
	20 centavos, pale blue.

Notes.

At Mr. Loveridge's Restaurant, High Holborn, can be seen a few curiosities sent over by Staff-Sergt. Loveridge, who is serving with the 2nd Lincolnshire Regt. in South Africa. They would interest both the philatelist and the curio-collector; in fact there is a continual stream of people all day gazing at the relics! Among the articles exhibited are Kruger's coins from 3d. to £1; quantities of Orange Free State stamps, surcharged "V.R.I."—½d., 1d., 3d., and 6d.—and amongst these a block of fourteen ½d., telegraphically cancelled, ½d. postcard, vermilion, surcharged "V.R.I. ½d.," &c., &c.

"Apropos of Guam," writes a Liverpool reader, "I think that the clever word coined by the S.C.F. some years ago—Gumpaps—should become Guam-paps!"

In the "People," a writer known as "Wide Awake," lets himself go as follows:—"With all due respect to the authorities, it is my humble, but resolute opinion, that the new half-penny stamp is perfectly beastly. It is not that the green colour is objectionable in itself, but that when placed, as it continuously is, side by side with the lilac penny stamp, the two make a combination which is worse than a bad Channel passage. If we must have a green halfpenny stamp for all sakes let us have a red penny again."

COMING EVENTS IN PHILATELY.

May 30th.—Messrs. J. Edwards & Co.'s Sale at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.

June 12th and 13th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale at 47, Leicester Square, W.C.

June 7th and 8th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Sale at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross.

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
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THE MANAGER, *W.C.*
"Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly,"

77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

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 TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, June 12th and 13th, at 4.30 p.m. punctually,

And will consist of
A Fine Selection of **RARE POSTAGE STAMPS.**

Please note that the above and all future Sales will be held in the smaller of the two Handsome NEW SALE ROOMS, the rebuilding of which has just been completed.

THE DATES OF MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S STAMP SALES FOR NEXT SEASON HAVE BEEN FIXED AS FOLLOWS :—

1900.—September 25 and 26; October 16, 17, 30 and 31; November 13, 14, 27 and 28; December 11 and 12.
1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17;
May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12.

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.

Periodical Sales by Auction of Postage Stamps

Messrs. JOHN EDWARDS & Co.,

Beg to announce that their NEXT SALE will take place

ON WEDNESDAY, THE 30th MAY, 1900,

AT ANDERTON'S HOTEL, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Commencing at 5 p.m., when they will sell in Lots, a VALUABLE GENERAL COLLECTION, containing many RARITIES, including :—

Cape of Good Hope, Triangulars in mint pairs; fine and rare Ceylons; Superb 1/- and others of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia; British East and South Africans; Naples; Spain, a fine lot of early issues in pairs and blocks, including pair of 2 reales, 1852, &c., &c. A large number of useful "Remainders of Collection," also Entire Collections, Miscellaneous Lots, &c.

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.

Prompt settlements guaranteed.

Highest References.

JOHN EDWARDS & CO., ROOMS 175-176, **Mansion House Chambers, London, E.C.**
Ground Floor.

(Close to the Mansion House and Bank of England.)

G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO.,

Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers,

10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "PHILATELIC, LONDON."

TELEPHONE No. 5596 AVENUE.

HOLLAND:

We have just purchased a really nice lot of the Stamps of this Country.

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, 4/- on 5/- ..	0	11	0
" 1867, 2kr. to 5okr. ..	" 7	0	1	0	*British Columbia, p. 12½, 10 cents ..	3	0	0
*Barbados, Jubilee, ½d. to 2/6 ..	" 9	0	7	0	British East Africa on Company's ½d. ..	0	12	6
*Brit. Central Africa, 1891, 1d. to 1/- ..	" 6	0	3	9	" " " " id. ...	1	10	0
" " 1891, 2/- to 10/- ..	" 6	1	13	0	" " " " 4½d. ..	1	7	0
*Brit. South Africa, 1891, ½d. to 8d. ..	" 4	4	5	0	" " " " 7½d. ..	0	19	0
" " 1896, ½d. to 1/- ..	" 8	0	5	0	" " " " 2½d. on 4½d. ..	1	7	0
" " on Cape, ½d. to 1/- ..	" 7	1	1	0	Bermuda, 1d. on 3d. ..	0	10	0
" " thick paper, p. 12, 2d. & 4d. ..	" 2	0	2	0	British Guiana, 1860, 1c. rose ..	0	19	0
*Canada, Jubilee, ¼c. to 50c. ..	" 11	0	11	0	" " " " 1c. brown-red ..	1	1	0
" " 1898, Maple leaf, ¼c. to 10c. ..	" 8	0	2	9	" " " " 1c. brown ..	2	0	0
*Gambia, 1887, ½d. to 1/- ..	" 8	0	5	0	*British Honduras, 1882, 6d. yellow ..	2	14	0
*German East Africa, 1896, 2p. to 25p. ..	" 5	0	2	0	" " " " 1/- grey ..	2	5	0
*Gibraltar, 1889, 5c. to 2 pesetas ..	" 8	0	5	0	" " " " 1888, 2d. on 6d., p. 12½ ..	1	16	0
" " 1898, ½d. to 1/- ..	" 7	0	3	0	*British South Africa, 1890, £1 blue ..	2	0	0
" " Morocco Agencies, 1899, 5c. to 2p. ..	" 7	0	4	0	" " " " 1d. on 3/- ..	2	3	0
*New South Wales, O.S., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d. and 6d. ..	" 5	0	1	9	Cape of Good Hope, 1/- triangular ..	0	10	0
*Labuan, Jubilee, 1896, 1c. to 8c. ..	" 6	0	1	0	*Ceylon, 2.50 lilac ..	2	10	0
Brazil, 180r. slanting figures ..	"	2	14	0	*Dominica, 1/- lilac, C.A. ..	2	5	0
" " 300r. " " ..	"	3	14	0	*Fiji Islands, 2d. on 3d., S.G. & Co.'s No. 36 ..	3	3	0
*Egypt, 1866, 5 piastres ..	"	0	16	0	*Wurtemberg, 1858, 18k. blue ..	1	16	0
" " 1866, 10 piastres ..	"	0	19	0	" " " " 1863-4, 9kr. black brown ..	2	5	0
*Tunis, 1888, 5 francs ..	"	1	0	0	" " " " 1873, 70kt. mouve ..	3	8	0
*Hanover, 10g. green ..	"	2	10	0	*Tuscany, 1 quat. black one greyish ..	1	0	0
*Cuba, 1874/1896 ..	" 13	0	1	0	*Sweden, 1858, 12 o. ultramarine ..	1	7	0
*United States, 1869, 24c. green ..	"	1	13	0	*Portugal, 1853, 5r. brown ..	0	19	0
*Buenos Ayres, in Pesos, blue ..	"	1	10	0	*St. Lucia, 4d. blue, Star wmk. ..	2	0	0
Peru, Medio Peso, yellow ..	1 fine	2	10	0	Naples, ½ Tornese Cross, superb copy ..	3	10	0
" " rose ..	"	9	10	0	*Surinam, 1899, Provisionals, 50c., 1 gul. and 2 gul. 50c. ..	0	10	0

* Signifies Unused.

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. 137—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

SALE OF THE WELL-KNOWN
CASTLE COLLECTION.

WE beg to state that we have effected the Sale of this UNIQUE COLLECTION of UNUSED EUROPEAN STAMPS, the transaction being the largest and most important that has ever taken place in connection with Philately.

The Collection already contains upwards of 60,000 specimens, and as the present owner is desirous of adding to it, we shall be pleased to see any really fine Unused Stamps that may come on the market. Pairs and blocks of Stamps preferred.

Messrs. GEO. HAMILTON-SMITH & Co.,

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LONDON, E.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 ensuing Season will be as under:—

1900.—September 20th and 21st; October 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; November 8th, 22nd and 23rd; December 6th and 7th.

1901.—January 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th, 31st; February 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th; March 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th and 29th; April 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; May 9th and 10th, 30th and 31st, and June 13th and 14th.

September 20th and 21st.—Messrs. V., B. & C. have received instructions to sell on these dates a very fine Private Collection including many of the First-Class Rarities.

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.

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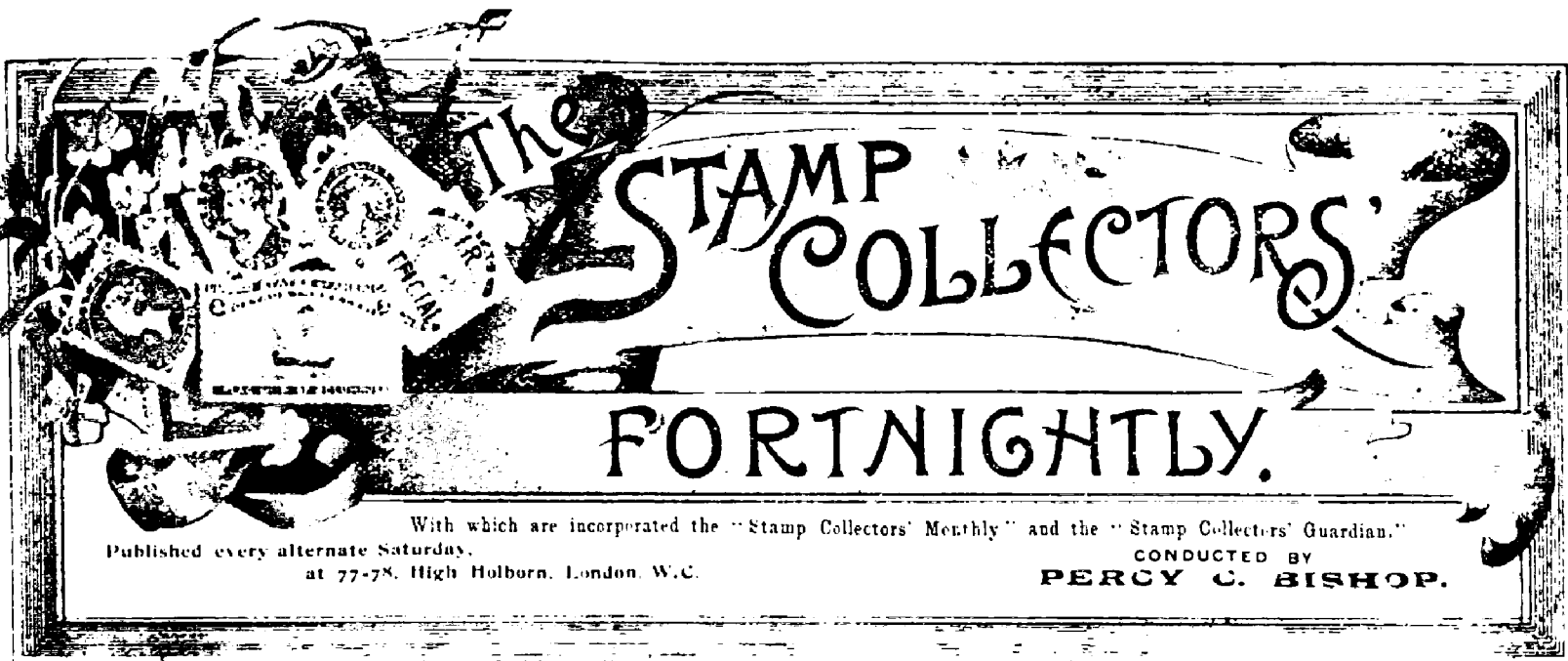
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The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

TWO NOTABLE PHILATELISTS DEAD.

GERMAN philatelists in particular, and the world's philatelists in general, will mourn the loss of Mr. E. D. Frank, of Frankfurt-on-Main, a very well known collector and a steadfast support of the *Fortnightly*; and of Dr. Richard Franz, of Leipzig, another thorough philatelist and a scholarly writer on matters appertaining to our hobby.

A LEGACY OF "V.R.I." STAMPS.

A PATHETIC story was told us the other day. Mr. W. A. Wright an old Bloemfontein correspondent of Mr. Giweli, was on his homeward voyage, and was bringing with him a quantity of "V.R.I.s." in blocks and pairs, complete sets of all values. He wrote to his brother to meet the boat he was coming by, and when the latter arrived at the East India Docks he learned the sad news from the captain of the vessel that his brother had died on the voyage. The brother became the possessor of all the deceased's belongings, and in his pocket book found a note recommending him to take all the O. F. S. stamps to Mr. Giweli of 4, Northumberland Avenue; and thus it was that Mr. Giweli acquired his stock of them.

By the way, we learn from the "Daily Telegraph" of May 28, that Mr. Giweli has lent that newspaper a complete set of the "V.R.I." labels for their Loan Fund.

VICTORIA WAR STAMPS WILL BE LOCALS.

THERE is a crumb of comfort in the fact that the special war stamps to be issued in Victoria will, in accordance with postal union rules, be restricted to the Australian Colonies,

and will not be available for over-sea postage. From the latest issue of the "Australian Philatelist" we learn that the deputy postmaster-general of the colony was interviewed on the subject. He explained that the localisation of the stamps would be due to that rule of the International Postal Union which lays it down that any stamps of a commemorative or similar character may not be used for international services. "It is hard," this gentleman goes on, "to understand why philatelists should not recognize this issue of ours, unless for the reason that it will take £3,000 from the public."

That is exactly the reason. It is because the major portion of the £3,000 would come from philatelists that the issue is not being recognized as a legitimate postal issue by the stamp collecting world. Fortunately the day when any postmaster could force an issue of stamps down the throats of philatelists is gone for ever.

GERMAN-MADE "POST OFFICE MAURITIUS."

THE "London Philatelist" notes that the Berlin Imperial Philatelic Museum, under its new conductor, Herr Hennicke, has disgusted all philatelic Germany by exhibiting imitations of the "Post Office" stamps of Mauritius! The sting of it all lies in the fact that the authorities borrowed the originals from a French dealer, Mons. Jules Bernichon; and thus while a merchant in Paris can hold the original gems the Imperial Philatelic Museum of the Fatherland must rest content with paste!

QUEENSLAND, TOO!

LATEST advices from the Antipodes convey the news that Queensland, also, will indulge in a special war issue. This kind of thing is infectious.

STAMPS THAT ARE GETTING RARER.

WE were asked not long ago, by a reader who appreciates the value of money, to provide a list of stamps that were "likely to rise in value in the near future." It is no easy job to point to individual varieties coming within this category, but there are certain classes of stamps which must rapidly appreciate in value as the hobby of Philately grows.

The older stamps of Great Britain, for instance, especially in unused condition, are clearly a "good line."

Following them closely come the unused stamps of all the older European issues. Recent realizations at auction have shown that old unused Europeans are one of the safest philatelic securities possible. The sale of Mr. M. P. Castle's European collection for, it is said, the enormous sum of

£30,000 is a clear indication that these stamps are now enjoying high favour.

British Colonial stamps are perennial favourites, but in certain directions these have been over-boomed at various times. The stamps of the various West Indian Islands, which went up with a rush in 1895-1896, are now quoted at much lower figures than formerly—in other words they have settled down again to something like their proper market value. In certain other directions the converse holds good. South Africans for instance are in many cases cheaper than they should be. The final conquest of the Boer republics will show as one of its results a marked recovery in the interest taken in all South African stamps—perhaps one of the most interesting groups within the range of the philatelist's study.

The various countries comprised in British North America have always been held in high favour by philatelists. These are stamps which will certainly never decline so long as stamp-collecting remains a popular hobby.

Certain stamps there are which are fated never to rise in value so long as the world goes round. These include the Chinese locals, the commemorative stamps of such states as San Marino, Guatemala, &c., &c., and, we are afraid we must add the labels of such Indian States as Bamra, Faridkot, Sirmoor, *et hoc genus omnes*.

TWO PHILATELISTS OF UNCERTAIN HABITS.

At various times, in the *Fortnightly* and elsewhere, philatelists have been warned against a person sending out letters to collectors under the style of "President of Club Philatique, Palace Carmine, Catane, Italy." The "Metropolitan Philatelist" now reports him as sending out similar circulars accompanied by a quantity of well executed counterfeits under the name of "Gppe. Coco, Esq., Catania." He is still offering stamps of the "Ancient Italians duckies." "Coco" states that he goes to Paris on the 10th of August. Parisians, beware!

Again, a warning note is sounded by "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News," with regards to one J. B. Weston, Orange, New Jersey, who writes for approval sheets to dealers giving references that repudiate him. The following is an excerpt from a letter from C. B. Fargo, Trenton, N. J.: "I received a similarly worded request from this same person and sent him a selection for which he remitted promptly; he did also, for a second lot, but I never received a settlement for a third and best lot." Weston has now left South Orange.

STAMP ROBBERY AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

SOMEbody has raided the American Bank-Note Company's exhibit at the Paris Exhibition, with the result that a quantity of proofs of the \$2 Omaha stamp and also some of the newspaper stamps of 1875, stolen from the Company, have been sold in the Gay City at most ridiculous prices. Many of the specimens have come to London, but the keen Parisian detectives have been hot on the trail, and at the time we go to press nearly all the stamps have been recovered. As to the thief or thieves we have no news whatever.

INSURANCE FOR STAMP EXCHANGE CLUBS.

MR. WALTER MORLEY is a prime mover in a scheme to protect Philatelic Exchange Clubs against loss of packets by fire or burglary. He invites the Secretaries of clubs to let him know at once whether they will join in a scheme of a "mutual" character, and if so to give particulars as to packets circulated, number of members seeing them, average time of circuit, and average values of packets. The information will be treated as confidential. Mr. Morley's address is 15, Brownhill Gardens, Catford, S.E.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons may now include the Orange River Colony in the British Empire. Bobs has said it.

In April the closure was applied to the "Private Posts" of Germany. Collectors of locals—and they are an increasing number—will not be deeply grieved.

Many London Newspapers have been taking quite an intelligent interest in stamp-collecting lately, apropos of the issue of the Mafeking Siege stamps and the "V.R.I." surcharges on the stamps of Ex-President Steyn.

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.

BRITISH GUIANA. —contd.

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1876. Watermarked Crown and CC.; perf. 14.				
1c. grey	1/3	1/2	1/3	1/2
2c. orange	1/4	1/3	1/3	1/2
4c. blue	5/	3/6	1/9	6
6c. chocolate	7/6	5/6	1/3	9
8c. carmine	6/	4 6	1/3	9
12c. mauve	6/	4 6	1/6	14
24c. green	3/	2/3	1/	18
48c. red-brown	5/	3/9	4/	3/
96c. drab	85/	60/	50/	35/
Perf. 12½.				
4c. blue	300/	200/	50/	35/
1878-79. The stamps of the last two issues, surcharged in various ways.				
(1) Surcharged with two horizontal bars.				
(1c.) on 6c. brown	2/6	1/9	6/	4/
With horizontal and vertical bar, as Gibbons' Type 15				
(1c.) on 6c. blue (1863 issue)	5/	3/9	5/	3/9
(1c.) on 6c. brown (1876 issue)	7 6	5/	6/	4/6
On stamps surcharged "Official," with horizontal bar across the "Offi- cial."				
1c. (1860 type) black	10/	7/6	8/	6/
1c. (1876) grey	3/6	2/6	4/	3/
2c. (1876) orange	17/6	12/6	12/6	9/6
With two horizontal bars and one vertical.				
(1c.) on 4c. (1876) blue	12/6	9/6	8/6	6/6
(1c.) on 6c. (1876) brown	20/	15/	5/	3/9
(2c.) on 8c. (1870) rose	35/	27/6	20/	15/
With one horizontal and one vertical bar.				
(1c.) on 4c. (1876) blue	—	—	—	?
(2c.) on 8c. (1876) rose	—	—	—	?
1881. Numeral surcharges.				
1 on 48c. (1863), Gibbons' Type 16..	4/	3/	4/	3/
1 on 96c. (1876)	17..	1/6	1/	1/6
2 on 96c. (1876)	18..	2/	1/6	2/
2 on 96c. (1876)	19..	2/	1/6	2/
1 on 12c. (1870)	20..	5/	4/	5/
1 on 48c. (1876)	20..	—	—	?
2 on 12c. (1876)	21..	20/	15/	20/
2 on 12c. (1876)	22..	2/6	1/9	2/6
2 on 24c. (1876)	21..	25/	20/	25/
2 on 24c. (1876)	22..	2/6	1/9	2/6
Larger figure "2."				
2 on 24c. (1863), Gibbons' Type 23..	17/6	12/6	15.	11/

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1882. Locally printed stamps, black on coloured paper.				
1c. crimson, Gibbons' Type 24 ..	4/	2/9	3/6	2/6
2c. yellow .. " 24 ..	4/	2/9	3/6	2/6
1c. crimson .. " 25 ..	4/	2/9	3/6	2/6
2c. yellow .. " 25 ..	4	2/9	3/6	2/6
1882-86. De La Rue printing; wmk. C.A.; perf. 14.				
1c. grey	1/2		1/1	
2c. orange	1/3		1/1	
4c. blue	1/3		1/3	
6c. chocolate	1/6		1/4	
8c. carmine	1/6		1/2	
1888-89. Surcharged "Inland Revenue" and value, as Gibbons' Type 26.				
1c. purple	1/3		1/3	
2c.	1/1		1/6	
3c.	1/3		1/3	
4c. .. (with "4" as Gibbons' Type "A")	1/3		1/3	
4c. .. (with "4" as Gibbons' Type "B")	1/6		1/6	
6c.	1/4		1/4	
8c.	1/6		1/6	
10c.	1/9		1/6	
20c.	1/3		1/9	
40c.	2/6		2/6	
72c.	4/		4/	
1 dollar green	15/		15/	
2	10/6		10/6	
3	16/		16/	
4 (with "4" as Gibbons' Type "A")	21/		21/	
4 (with "4" as Gibbons' Type "B")	30/		30/	
5	26.		26.	
Surcharged with red figure "2" in addition.				
"2" on 2c. purple	1/3		1/3	
1889-90. Bi-coloured series; wmk. C.A. The value is in the second colour.				
1c. purple and grey	1/2		1/1	
2c. orange	1/2		1/1	
4c. blue	1/3		1/2	
6c. brown	1/4		1/4	
8c. rose	1/1		1/4	
12c. violet	8		1/6	
24c. green	1/3		9	
48c. orange	2/6		1/9	
72c. red-brown	3/9		3/6	
96c. carmine	5		4/6	
1890. Surcharged as Gibbons' Type 29.				
1 cent on Gibbons' No. 144	1/3		1/3	
1 " 145	1/3		1/3	
1 " 146	1/3		1/3	
1 " 147	1/4		1/4	
1890-91. Type of 1889.				
1c. green	1/1		1/1	
5c. ultramarine	1/4		1/4	
8c. lilac and green	1/6		1/3	
1898. Jubilee Issue; wmk. CC; perf 14. The centre is in the second colour.				
1c. carmine and blue black	1/1		1	
2c. blue and brown	1/2		2	
5c. brown and green	1/4		1/2	
10c. orange and blue-black	1/9		1/6	
15c. blue and red-brown	1		1	
1899. Surcharged as Gibbons' Type 32.				
2c. on 5c.	1/2		1/2	
2c. on 10c.	1/3		1/3	
2c. on 15c.	1/2		1/3	

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

1878. Surcharged "OFFICIAL" on the stamps of the early types. The 1c. is surcharged in red, the other values in black.

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1c. black	3/	2/3	3/	2/3
2c. orange	12/6	9/	2/	1/3
8c. rose	45.	35/	20/	15/
12c. lilac			40/	30/
24c. green			20.	15/
1877. Surcharged "OFFICIAL" in smaller letters on the 1876 issue.				
1c. grey	25	17/6	12/6	9/
2c. orange	35/6	25.	8/	6
4c. blue	35/	25	15	10/6
6c. brown				
8c. rose				

(To be continued.)

The Great Colour Question.

(Continued.)

WHEN we last attacked this subject—in No. 135 of the *Fortnightly*—we promised to give particulars of an idea of our own with regard to philatelic colour-classification. The notion may not be original, but we will give it for what it is worth.

Briefly, why not standardise philatelic colour by means of the stamps themselves?

Let us take 100 or more stamps of very definite colours—i.e., stamps that show a minimum of variation in shade as between specimen and specimen—and accept these stamps as typifying the various colours and shades of colour. If possible they should be standard varieties of stamps, fairly common, and such as would be familiar to all philatelists. We think it would then be quite an easy matter for any stamp collector to locate any particular colour by means of its index stamp in the philatelic colour list.

We are curious to learn what is thought of this suggestion, and shall be happy to have any expressions of opinion on the subject.

MR. BURTON COOPER'S PLAN.

Since the above was in type we have received the issue dated May 31st of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' "Monthly Journal," containing a most interesting letter on this subject from the pen of Mr. Burton F. J. Cooper. Mr. Cooper is an admirer of the Tintometer—as are we—and holds to the opinion that that instrument can be made to solve the philatelic colour problem. For reasons already stated, we are not of that opinion.

But by an odd coincidence, Mr. Burton, in his letter to the "Monthly Journal" makes almost the same suggestion as we have made for the solution of the colour difficulty. He advises the differentiation of about 100 distinct shades found in existing stamps, distributed somewhat thus: violet, 24; blue, 14; green, 18; yellow, 8; orange, 12; red, 20; neutral tint, 6. So far we are broadly speaking, in accord with Mr. Burton, but that gentleman proceeds to sink this simple plan in a sea of complicated operations, calculated in our opinion, to rob the idea of all value. First of all he suggests a tintometrical analysis of these "specimen stamps," then the fixing of a definite name for each shade, and lastly the production of a colour chart by the aid of that careful colour-printer, who, according to Mr. Warhurst, would find it a "simple matter" to "produce the inks in a special permanent compound." Thus Mr. Burton misses the natural colour chart already provided for us by the stamps themselves and gets back to the ordinary philatelic colour chart, so often published and so often discredited.

It is our firm belief that a hundred postage stamps (selected, of course by a competent committee, and typifying as many distinct shades of colour) struck in a penny exercise book would give the stamp-collector a better guide to philatelic colour than any printed chart turned out by the hand of man. The subject fascinates us. We shall return to it, with a full exposition of our view of the question, at the earliest date possible.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JUNE 9, 1900.

Editor - - - PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager - - SYDNEY BISHOP.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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.

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The daily newspapers, in their new-found interest in Philately, are going to somewhat absurd lengths. The "Westminster Gazette," for instance, suggests that philatelic capitalists are the parties really to blame for bringing about the present war in South Africa. This, of course, is "writ facetious," apropos of the enhanced value of the Boer stamps. But what shall we say of the "Manchester Evening Mail," which asserts that owing to there being a great craze, especially among the ladies, for the new green ½d. British stamp, the stock of "the old pink stamps" cannot be disposed of by the authorities at St. Martin's-le-Grand. "Yet," adds this journal, "in course of time they will no doubt become quite valuable."

It is nonsense of this sort that induces people to hoard up stamps that can never rise in value. At some future time—say, ten years hence—we shall be inundated with enquiries as to the value of the ½d. vermilion British. Well, there is comfort in the thought that, for decorative purposes, they will always be worth something—per ton!

Hurrah! Pretoria is ours, and another glorious page is added to the history of the British Empire and to Messrs. Gibbons' catalogue of same.

We regret that we have to hold over a number of advertisements sent us for this issue of the *Fortnightly*. Had it not been for the Whitsuntide holidays we should have provided extra space by enlarging the size of the paper. All will be inserted in our next issue.

War Issues and Surcharges.

A HIGH POSTAL OFFICIAL'S VIEWS ON BADEN POWELL'S STAMPS AND PROVISIONALS GENERALLY.

NOTHING had been heard at St. Martin's-le-Grand, up to the day when the "Daily News" interviewer visited that classic pile, as to the special issue of "Baden-Powell" stamps at Mafeking or as to the surcharging of those already current. But the interviewer's visit has resulted in a published chat that will interest philatelists as well as the general public.



GENERAL BADEN-POWELL'S FAMOUS 3d. STAMP.

Readers of the *Fortnightly*, perhaps, do not need to be told that every foreign country and every colony and dependency retains for its own use all money received for stamps sold there. What is more, the printing of colonial stamps is done to the order of the Crown Agent, so St. Martin's-le-Grand not unfrequently first hears of forthcoming issues of new stamps from the newspapers. When a new stamp is officially issued by a colony, a notice is sent to St. Martin's-le-Grand, so that the stamp may be officially known and recognised. What the "Daily News" interviewer regards as a "singular point" is this—that what money our G.P.O. charges in the way of these twopences to pay the G.P.O. sticks to. But the point is not singular at all. It is the very essence of the Postal Union contract between country and country. Thus the G.P.O. would be strictly within its rights in making the addressee pay twopence on every letter from Mafeking bearing the Baden-Powell stamp. Not that there is the slightest probability of such a thing happening.

By the agreement with all countries in the postal union, any letter dropped into a letter box, even if unstamped, is taken to its destination. Postcards and parcels have to be prepaid, but if an Englishman in Baratavia prefers to pay double postage to Great Britain, or, rather, than the addressee of his letter should pay it, than pay anything towards the revenues of Baratavia, the scheme is practicable in the case of letters. Inquiry was made as to how big swindles could take place in Colonial post offices, the representative of the "Daily News," having met a gentleman from the Survey Department of the G.P.O. investigating a shortage amounting to some thousands of pounds in one of the Colonies a good many years ago.

"Well, naturally, we are not going to give you any hints as to how to commit a crime," was this official's reply. "But every letter is supposed to be weighed in a Colony, and at this end. We will presume that the Colonial Governments expect cash to be shown for all stamps sold. If a Colonial postmaster were to fraudulently surcharge a penny stamp 'one sovereign,' a good many of those stamps might be put on the post-office side of the counter, and might get accepted in the United States without any query, but before very long some of them would get into the hands of collectors. This surcharging is done in the Colonies, by authority of the Governor: a certain amount of stamps of one value are taken off the stock ledger, and those of the new value are substituted. Mafeking being under martial law, Colonel Baden-Powell could do any 'playing at keeping a post-office' that he like."

"What do you think is the reason that he ran short of stamps?"

TWOPENCE EXTRA FOR DANGER.

"I don't think Baden-Powell ran short of stamps at all. But supposing a man wishes to send a letter to his friend at one of the colonel's out-posts, it is only natural that he should be asked to pay pretty stiff for it, seeing the risk to the letter-carrier. So there may be a genuine need for a larger supply of stamps of a high value. So if B.P. likes to have some printed with his own portrait on, good luck to him. It is the

wish of the G.P.O. to do all in its power to help the army, and if any of B.P.'s stamps come to us officially, we shall treat them with the respect they deserve.

A PIRATES' POST OFFICE.

"Would it be possible for a few British pirates to seize a post-office in a small colony and make a fortune out of rare surcharged stamps?" the "Daily News" man next enquired.

"I believe very few Judges give much less than fourteen years for serious offences against the G.P.O., while piracy is a capital offence. Still, the seizure of the post-office is one of the first acts of a conquering general. All Bloemfontein stamps now bear 'V.R.I.' on them. But even if you did practically seize a colonial post office, your 'government' would have to get official recognition, or else there would be what many people think we delight in, another case of 'twopence to pay.' We have received some special Ladysmith post-cards, as you have probably heard.

CHILI FOR CHEAP POSTAGE.

"How about places like Gibraltar getting their letters home more to the £1 than we can send them out there?"

"Pray do not go into currency questions. Chili is a more glaring case than Gib., and yet there are agitators for a reply-paid system even from there, where what looks like twopence halfpenny is only worth about one-third of that amount, so that for a letter to England and back would only cost a little over twopence, while the reverse way the correspondence would cost fivepence. Honestly does not the G.P.O. do a great deal for the public?"

Such a question being unanswerable except in the affirmative, the emissary of the "Daily News" thanked his informant and withdrew.

THE "DOTLESS" FREE STATERS.

Messrs. Bright & Son, from the first, have made quite a speciality of the "V.R.I." stamps, and many of the newspaper articles now appearing are based on information supplied by them. Thus the "Daily News Weekly" is enabled to give this very lucid description of the errors of omission and commission to be found on overprinted Free State stamps:—

Some of the first stamps dealt with by command of "Bobs" were only surcharged V.R., the I. being omitted. Very few of them were issued, however, and their scarcity makes them all the more valuable. Consequently there has been a great demand for them, and they have brought high prices.

Now all the Free State stamps were printed originally in sheets, 60 to the sheet; so in surcharging them the Bloemfontein printer had to do 60 at a time. Evidently, however, he had not a sufficient number of "full points" of the same "fount" of type as the initials, so he was compelled to use another fount. The difference between the dots produced by this stop-gap "fount" and the others is very marked, and that variation in these surcharged stamps has had the effect of still further increasing their market price.

But another thing happened. Whether the Bloemfontein printer could not muster 180 full points, even with the aid of a "wrong fount," does not appear. It is certain, however, that the point was missed after one of the 60 V's. The omission was subsequently discovered and corrected, but not till a number of sheets had been printed; with the result that the stamps surcharged with the "dotless V" are now the most valuable of the lot, there being at least 59 of the others for every one without the dot.

TOMMY ATKINS AS A STAMP COLLECTOR.

The private soldier may be an "absent-minded beggar," but the value of these stamps speedily became known among Lord Roberts's men, for Mr. Ernest Smith, the "Morning Leader" war correspondent, speaks of a veritable stamp mania among the troops. "From Tommy to General," he says, "the last biscuit or a drink of whisky, or a pass to be out after 8 p.m. can be extracted after a dozen refusals by producing a "dotless stamp."

"V.R.I." TRANSVAALS NEXT.

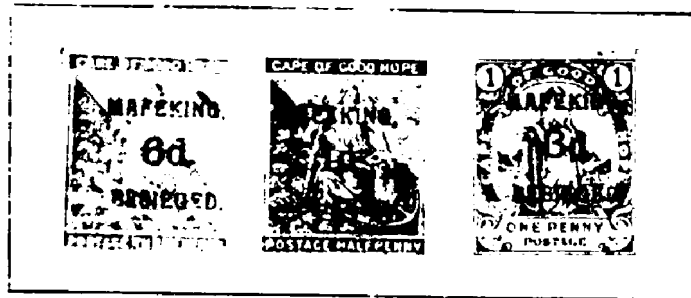
Now "Bobs" has reached Pretoria one of his first acts will probably be to convert the Transvaal stamps by surcharging them V.R.I., as was done with the Free Staters. Philatelists are daily expecting them in this country, where they will fetch very high prices, especi-

ally if there are any curious variations in them such as there were in those issued at Bloemfontein.

In many instances the Press has greatly magnified the value of the surcharged "O.F.S." Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, on being appealed to by Press representatives, have shown that the stamps are not by any means the great rarities they are made out to be; but on the contrary can be obtained now from almost any London stamp dealer.

THE "MAFEKING SIEGE" STAMPS.

At Mr. F. R. Ginn's establishment in the Strand can be seen one of General Baden-Powell's surcharged stamps. It is a British Bechuanaland provisional 6d. lilac surcharged "Mafeking Besieged." Mr. Ginn asks £5 for it. We are now able, by the way, to append a photographic reproduction



of these interesting labels—unfortunately received a day too late for insertion in our last number.

Notes on New Issues.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and contemplated change 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.

Danish West Indies.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 1 cent and 5 cents in Postal Union colours—green and blue respectively.

Japan.—The 3 sen carmine, a special issue to commemorate the marriage of the Prince Imperial, is now to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. It is a large rectangular label, the design of which we shall not attempt to describe. The inscriptions are exclusively Japanese.

Jamaica.—From the same firm we have the new 1d. red of Jamaica, showing a view of Llandoverly Falls.

Kishengarh.—New colours are to be noted as follows:— $\frac{1}{4}$ anna rose; $\frac{1}{4}$ anna blue. We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for specimens.

Orcha.—Stamps are now being used by this, the premier State of Bundelkund in Central India. Its post office (Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us) is of long standing; but stamps have not been used until now. The values issued are $\frac{1}{4}$ anna red; 1 anna violet; 2 annas yellow; and 4 annas dark green. The design (which is the same for all values) is not unlike that used for Kishengarh in its general idea; but the printing is vastly better.

COMING EVENTS IN PHILATELY.

June 12th and 13th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale at 47, Leicester Square, W.C.

June 14th and 15th.—Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Sale at the Arbitration Rooms, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C.

June 19th.—Messrs. John Edwards & Co.'s Sale at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, London, E.C.

Reminiscences of a Philatelist.

BY WALTER NATHAN.

IN 1870 my affections, which had been pretty equally divided between coins and stamps, began to incline very decidedly to philately, and were for a time subject to deterrent home influence. My birthday, which occurs in January, had placed me in funds, and the money was exclusively spent on my collection of stamps. My purchases—the prices may interest the collectors of to-day—were the following:—

1d. black English, "V.R."	40/-
Buenos Ayres, 2r. blue., with ship	3/6
Ditto, 1p. brown, ditto	8/-
Ditto, 4r green, 1p red, 1p blue, 2p red, 2p blue	10/- set.
Corrientes 1r. M. C.	7/6
Schleswig-Holstein 1s. blue. 2s. red	3/- set.
U.S. new set with pictures, 1c to 90c	12/-
Nevis red 1d., 4d. red, 4d. orange, 6d. lilac, 1/- green	7/6 set.
Novia Scotia 1d. brown	3/-
Gambia 4d. and 6d.	3/- set.
P. Edward's Is., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., d.,	4/- set.
All the above unused.	
Naples 4t. blue cross, used	10/-
Cape of Good Hope 1d. red, 4d. blue, wood block	5/-

As I only had £5 at my disposal, I called upon my mother, who was with me, to supply the deficit. This she finally did, but objected to my giving £2 for a penny stamp (the "V.R.!!") which had not even the distinction of being "foreign."

On a former occasion when she had objected to the prices I had paid, Mr. Lincoln had remarked that these unused stamps were "little bank notes." In the light of present knowledge we can appreciate the truth of that remark, but in 1870 stamp collecting was considered more a schoolboy hobby than as a serious pursuit. The result of my birthday purchases seemed, for a time, to threaten the interests of both my coin and stamp collections. My father was interested in numismatics, and had liberally supplied me with money to make purchase of coins, but on being informed of my recklessness in giving such an "enormous" price for one stamp, he curtailed supplies in an alarming manner, and from a sovereign obtainable almost whenever I wanted to make a purchase, I was restricted to 5/- per week to include not only the gratification of my collecting instincts, but every private expense of whatsoever its nature. Even then I was far better off than the majority of boys in their 14th year, but it was not what I had been accustomed to, and I did not like it. I had to accept the situation at the time, but being of a persevering nature set myself to bring my parents to more enlightened views. The Philatelic Society had then recently been formed, and I cut out an account of its first meeting, and showed my father that I was devoting myself to a pursuit which not only had the *cachet* of grown men, but of a scientific Society as well. My efforts, backed by the news-cutting, proved useless. There is, however, a proverb that everything finds a use if it is kept long enough, and a reproduction of the account of the first meeting of the Society which had done so much to establish philately on a firm basis may not be out of place here. Premising that the year was 1869 I append the gist of the cutting:—

A meeting of amateurs of the philatelic science was held on Saturday, the 10th of April, at 93, Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury, for the purpose of taking into consideration the expediency of forming a Philatelic Society. Sir Daniel Cooper, Bart., F.R.G.S., &c. occupied the chair, the meeting being opened by a few words from Mr. Atlee, the following rules were then discussed and approved:—

- 1st—That the Society be called *The Philatelic Society, London.*
- 2nd—That the objects of the Society be to collect all possible information with regard to stamps; the prevention of forgeries, the facilitating and spreading the knowledge of philately; the facilitating the acquisition and exchange of stamps among members.
- 3rd—That all amateurs be eligible as members of the Society.
- 4th—The mode of election to be as follows:—Candidates to be proposed in writing by a member and elected by ballot by a majority of votes.
- 5th The annual subscription to be six shillings, to be paid in advance on being admitted a member of the Society, and annually on the 1st December.

6th—The business of the Society to be conducted by a Committee composed of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and five other members. Three members to constitute a quorum.

Rules 7, 8, 9 and 10 referred to the working of the society and present no especial points of interest at the present day; but the list of the first members of THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON, must always be interesting to latter day collectors:—

President, Sir Daniel Cooper, Bart., F.R.G.S.; Vice-President, Frederick A. Philbrick, Esq.; Secretary, W. Dudley Atlee, Esq.; Members of the Committee, Edward L. Pemberton, Esq., Charles W. Viner, Esq., Ph., D., etc., Thomas F. Erskine, Esq., J. Speranza, Esq., R.M.F. Artillery, W. E. Hayns, Esq.

Although the account of the formation of this Society was unsuccessful as a lever with which to raise funds, it acted as a powerful stimulant on myself; and I set to work to recover the position from which I had been thrown by the reckless purchase of that 1d. black "V.R." for the "enormous" price of £2.

(To be continued.)

Our Review of Reviews.

Mr. Moens Gets Ahead of the Calendar.

Mr. Moens, in the winter of his stamp-dealing days, is playing up some strange pranks. His "Timbre Poste" for May was dated April, this being, as the Father of Philately now explains, "par suite de la distraction de notre imprimeur." Poor imprimeur—he always gets the blame. This little error, however, one could understand; but what are we to think of our Moens when he produces a further number—a dual number this time—and dating it June and July, 1900, sends it out to his subscribers early in May! Our first impression was that Mons. Moens was paving the way for a comfortable holiday, but no! He gravely announces that the August issue of "Le Timbre Poste" is to appear early in June. We have thought it out carefully, but the whole thing baffles us. If Mr. Moens is tired of 1900, and wants to get it over quickly we may reasonably expect the December issue of "Le Timbre Poste" about the beginning of September. And then when the leaves are browning, and the autumn is at its height, the Father of Philately may begin the New Year (according to his own arrangements for measuring time) in well deserved retirement.

"Le Timbre Poste" is like no other journal. Perhaps we like it all the better for that. The June-July issue, for instance, is taken up entirely by one article, that dealing with the stamps of Holland. The "Chronicle" is held over until the issue to be dated August but to be published in June. A fortunate man, truly, thus to be able to flout all the journalistic canons.

Reprints of U.S.A Envelopes.

How seldom one hears of reprints of envelopes, or, indeed, of reprinted entires of any description. "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" of April 26th replies to a correspondent on the question of the reprinted U.S.A. envelopes. On the authority of Mr. G. L. Toppan it is stated that the only recognized reprints of U.S. envelopes are those of the first and second issues (1853-1855 and 1857-60) and the 6-cent denomination of the issue of 1861. These were not reprinted on entire envelopes, but upon small bits of paper, and may be easily distinguished from originals by the fact that the vergures are invariably vertical (not horizontal). Mr. Toppan has, however, a strong suspicion that the Plympton envelope 10 cent, Die B., and possibly also the 2 cent of July, 1884 (Kellogg die) were reprinted for the postal exhibit at the Chicago World's Fair.

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.



JUBILEE SALE :
JUNE 14th & 15th.
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SEND TO-DAY for a
CATALOGUE.

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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 %
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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.

AUSTRIA, IN FINEST CONDITION.

	s.	d.
1850, imperf., 1 kr. orange, 2 kr. black, 3 kr. red, 6 kr. brown and 9 kr. blue; the set of 5	0	10
1858-9, perf., 2 kr. yellow	0	8
.. 2 kr. orange	7	6
.. 3 kr. black	4	0
.. 3 kr. green	1	9
.. 5, 10 and 15 kr., the three	0	3
1861, 2 kr. yellow	0	3
3 kr. green	0	3
2, 3, 5, 10 and 15 kr., set of 5	0	8
1863, perf. 14, 2 kr. orange	1	0
.. 3 kr. green	0	9
.. 2, 3, 5, 10 & 15 kr., set of 5	2	0
1864, perf. 9 1/2, 2, 3, 5, 10 & 15 kr., "	0	4
1867, .. 2, 3, 5, 10, 15 & 25 kr. "	6	0
.. 50 kr. brown, used	0	9
.. " " unused	2	6
1883, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20 & 50 kr., set of 6	0	4
1890-1, full set of 17 varieties, including both types of 20, 24, 30 and 50, also the obsolete 1 and 2 gulden	1	6

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 CHICHESTER RENTS, CHANCERY LANE,
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LISTS OF VERY CHEAP SETS FREE.
 Special Line Canada, 2c. on 3c. maple & figures, 5d. the pair. Postage Extra.

HAVING lately purchased several very large collections, and desiring to realise quickly, we are sending out approval sheets of good copies of stamps, catalogued from 1d. to £10, at **5d. in the 1/- Discount.** State requirements and class of stamps desired. Great Britain Stamps a speciality. Entirely at one-third of Gibbons' latest catalogue prices.
BRIDGER & KAY, 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C.

H. ROSS-SHIELDS & Co.,
 75, LITTLE BRITAIN, LONDON, E.C.
 Two minutes from G.P.O.

Wholesale and Retail List free.
 Consignments and offers solicited.
 Hayti, well assorted, used, 6d. per doz., 3/6 per 100.
 Newfoundland, 1898, 1/2, 1, 2, and 3c. 5d. per set, 2/9 per 12 sets.
 Special Mixture, splendid value, 2/- per 100.

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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 Indian, and old Australian stamps. Up to £1000 cash down, paid for a really fine old collection. Established 15 years. Bankers, London and County.

WANTED Pacific Steam Navigation Co. Stamps, all the values also proofs.—C. NISSON & Co., 77/8 High Holborn, W.C.

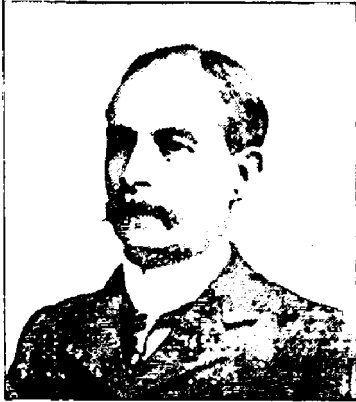
AUSTRALIA, 50 varieties, fine picked specimens, 1/-, post free.—CHAS PERDOM, Neptune Street, South Lambeth.

WANTED, the following Auction Catalogues : Thomas Bull, Sales 23, 25, 26, 28, 30 and 31; Ventom, Bull & Cooper, Sales 22 to 27, inclusive; Phillips, Lea and Davis, any after sale 7; Cheveley & Co., any after sale 136; Buhl & Co., Ltd., Sales 43, 46, 65, 71 and any after 72.—E. D. BACON, Fairview, Spencer Road, South Croydon.

Business Side of Philately.

WHO BOUGHT MR. M. P. CASTLE'S EUROPEAN COLLECTION FOR THIRTY THOUSAND POUNDS?

THROUGHOUT the world of Philately no one will grudge Messrs. Hamilton-Smith & Co. one iota of credit that is theirs for engineering and concluding to the satisfaction of all parties the biggest individual "deal" in the history of Philately—viz., the sale of Mr. M. P. Castle's collection of European stamps for the amazing sum of £30,000. That such a piece of business can be achieved in what is perhaps not a good philatelic year is a good and sufficient answer to the croakers who are talking of "impaired confidence in Philately" and "lack of stability in stamp collecting."



The Seller: MR. M. P. CASTLE.

The Buyer: _____



The Negotiators: MESSRS. G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO.

The question of the day now is: Who paid £30,000 for Mr. M. P. Castle's European collection?

* * *

We find we have omitted to publish a letter and a circular recently to hand from Messrs. Plumridge & Co., regarding an auction lot which disappeared in some manner unknown. First let us describe the lot:

LOT 327, QUEENSLAND: Wmk. star, imperf., 2d., deep blue, a lightly cancelled horizontal strip of three, two of the stamps being superb large margined copies, and the other very fine.

Regarding its disappearance Messrs. Plumridge write:

"We have very good reason to suppose that the lot mentioned in the inclosed circular was abstracted while the lots were on view at the office. If, by any chance, you happen to hear of similar stamps being offered for sale, perhaps you will very kindly communicate

with us at once. We may mention incidentally that all the stamp auctioneers have been victimised in the same way lately.

"We should esteem it a very great favour if clients, who bought lots in the last Sales (44 and 45), would look through their purchases in order to see if Lot 327 was included in error. This lot was missing at the time of the sale, but was offered and sold at £14 10s. on the supposition that it had been inclosed in error with some other lot. Unless it is found the auctioneers have, of course, to make good its loss, as they are fully responsible for all property while in their possession."

We sincerely trust that the missing list will be recovered. And while on this subject it may be well to desire readers who have not yet done so to read the remarks on this subject contained in Mr. Alfred Jingle's "Facts, Flippancies and Fancies" in a recent *Fortnightly*. Those remarks albeit flippantly made, were seriously meant; and Mr. Jingle's warning to the low-down thief who is pilfering stamps from the lotting sheets of our philatelic auctioneers should be taken seriously to heart by the persons principally concerned. Traps have been laid and can be laid again; and the thief may rest assured that, whatever his social status may be, no mercy will be shown him.

All who have attended recent auctions at "Puttick's" will heartily endorse the encomiums passed upon the new auction saloons in Leicester Square. Our first note in this subject, we find, has sent not a few *Fortnightly* readers to Leicester Square out of sheer curiosity. It may have gone no further than curiosity, but we may add for the benefit of other curious ones that the comfort of Messrs. Puttick's new rooms is dangerously conducive to the expansive frame of mind that makes the money fly.

By the way, while still on the subject of auctioneering, Messrs. Plumridge & Co., of Chancery Lane, are shortly holding their "Jubilee Sale," June 14th and 15th, if we are not mistaken, are the days for this function; but a good way of making sure would be to send Messrs. Plumridge & Co. a post card requesting a catalogue.

BARGAINS.

	Price.		Catalogue	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
South Australia, 1888-93, complete set from 2/6 to £20, Specimen...	40	0
Fiji, 1d. blue, perf. 11 by 10, unused, fine	...	1 3	3	6
Cape, 1/- green, 1885, unused, fine...	...	12 6	17	6

BRITISH STAMPS.

3d. rose, small letters, wmk. Emblems	...	1 6	3	6
9d. straw " "	...	3 6	5	0
3d. rose, large letters, " "	...	0 7	0	8
1/- green " "	...	0 5	0	8
3d. rose " wmk. Crown	...	0 6	2	0
6d. grey " " " pl. 17	...	0 9	1	6
6d. grey " " " pl. 18	...	0 9	1	6
6d. lilac and carmine, large letters	...	0 6	1	3
1/- brown, large letters " " pl. 13	...	0 9	1	3
1/- brown " " " pl. 14	...	0 9	1	3
1d. red with numbers in Maltese Cross, 1 to 12	...	4	0	
1d. red, imperf., Reconstructed Sheet, fine	...	6	0	
1d. red, perf. 14, " " " " 4	...	4	6	
2/6 lilac on blue paper " " " " 3	...	3	6	7 0
5/- rose on blue paper " " " " 10	...	10	6	
4d. on blue paper, wmk. medium Garter	...	5 6	6	0
2½d. lilac, I.R. Official, 1865	...	4 6	6	6

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And will consist of **RARE POSTAGE STAMPS.**
A Fine Selection of

Please note that the above and all future Sales will be held in the smaller of the two Handsome NEW SALE ROOMS, the rebuilding of which has just been completed.

THE DATES OF MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S STAMP SALES FOR NEXT SEASON HAVE BEEN FIXED AS FOLLOWS:—

1900.—September 25, 26, 27 and 28; October 16, 17, 30 and 31; November 13, 14, 27 and 28; December 11 and 12.
1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17;
May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12.

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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ON TUESDAY, THE 19th JUNE, 1900, —

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Commencing at 5 p.m., when they will sell in Lots, a VALUABLE GENERAL COLLECTION, containing many RARITIES.

Their Last Sale of the present Season will take place on WEDNESDAY,
4th JULY, 1900.

DATES FOR NEXT SEASON WILL BE SHORTLY ANNOUNCED.

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.

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Prompt settlements guaranteed. Highest References.

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German Colonies . .

ENTIRE SETS CONSIDERABLY CHEAPER.

COLONY.	3 Pfg.	5 Pfg.	10 Pfg.	20 Pfg.	25 Pfg.	50 Pfg.	
Togo . . .	10	10	20	40	50	100	unused
	10	10	25	40	50	100	used
German S. W. Africa, 1897	10	15	50	50	x	x	unused
	10	15	50	50	x	x	used
German S. W. Africa, 1898	10	10	20	40	x	100	unused
	10	10	20	40	x	100	used
Cameroons .	10	15	20	40	50	100	unused
	10	15	30	40	75	100	used
Marshall Islands . .	The entire set of 50.						unused
							used
Marshall Islands . .	100	100	x	x	100	100	unused
							used
Maramosa Islands . .	Will be sent as soon as received.						unused
	A good supply ordered.						used
Caroline Is. . .	Will be sent as soon as received.						unused
	A good supply ordered						used
Shmoa . . .	Will be sent as soon as received.						unused
	A good supply ordered.						used
German East Africa, 1893	40	50	75	100	x	100	unused
	75	75	75	75	x	75	used
German East Africa, 1896	10	10	20	40	x	80	unused
	10	10	20	35	x	75	used
German China	10	10	20	40	50	100	unused
	10	10	20	40	50	75	used
German Morocco .	10	10	20	30	40	65	unused
	10	10	20	30	40	65	used
German Levant, 1884	x	50	50	50	200	200	unused
	x	50	50	50	200	200	used
German Levant, 1889	x	10	15	25	35	60	unused
	x	10	15	5	40	30	used
German Empire, 1880	10	15	50	40	60	100	unused
	One sheet of each value to be sold.						
COLONY.	3 Pfg.	5 Pfg.	10 Pfg.	20 Pfg.	25 Pfg.	50 Pfg.	

Prices NET. Spaces marked with a x show where Stamps have not been issued. POSTAGE EXTRA.

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I Buy any quantity German Colonial Stamps. COLLECTORS wishing to complete their Collections cheaply, will receive gratis and post free, my New Stock List, suitable for beginners as well as large collectors.

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" " " " " 1sh.	22	6	0	Ajorea, 150R., small surch.	630	0	
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" " " " " "Registered"	15	0	0	" " " 1852, 2	180	0	
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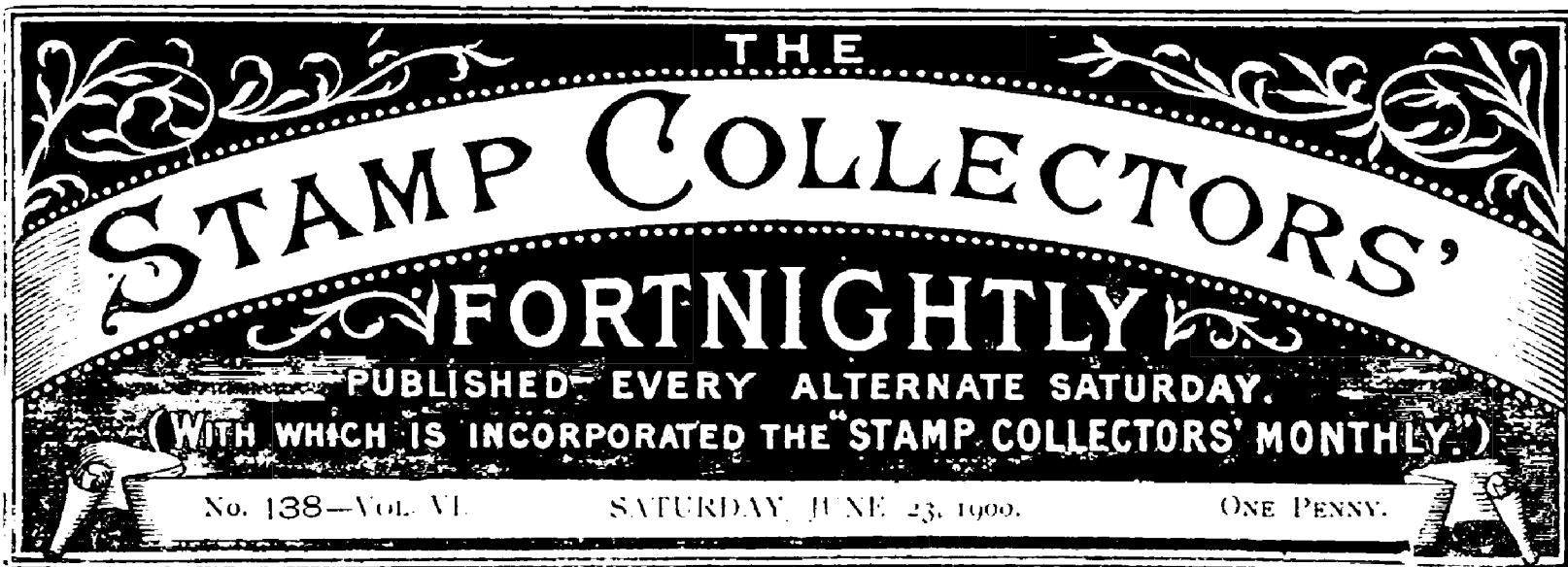
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No. 138—Vol. VI. SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1900. ONE PENNY.

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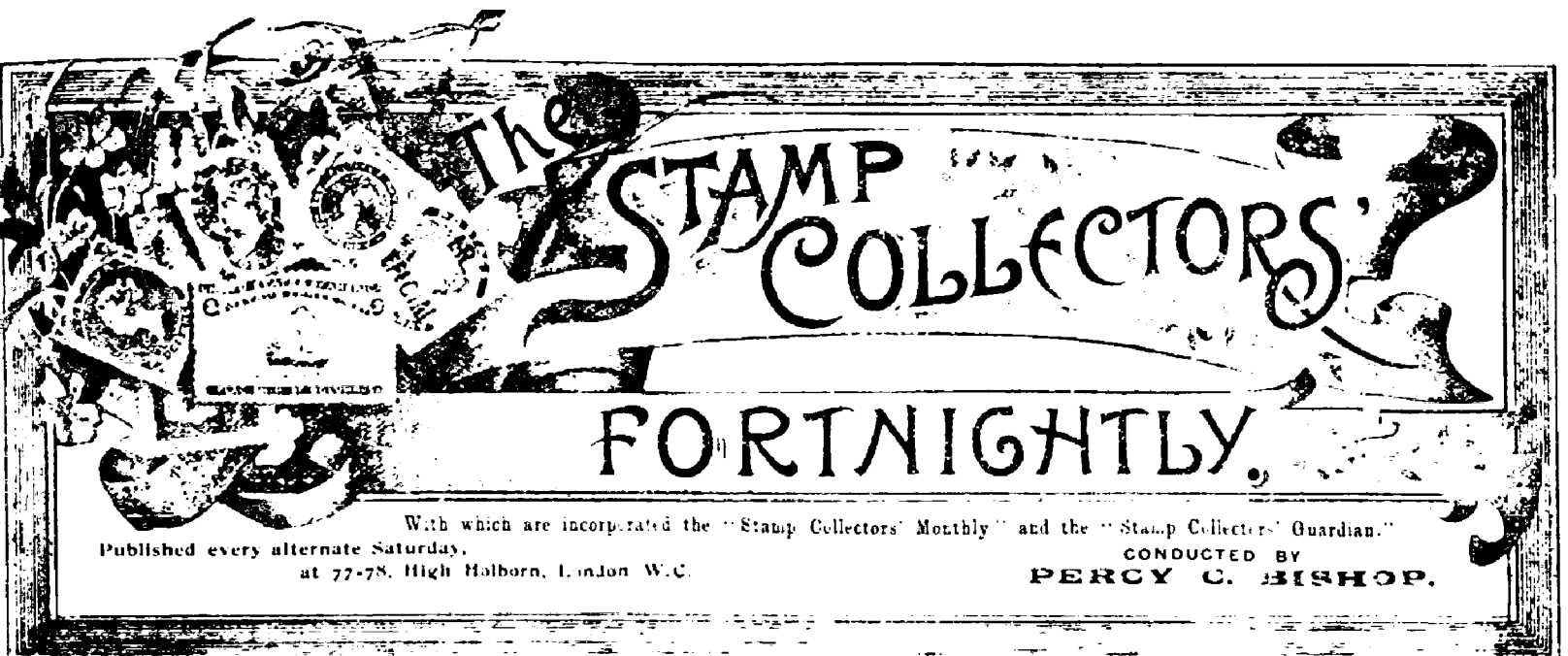
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No. 138.—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

AN EXTRAORDINARY FORGERY.

MR. A. BOURCARD, of the Charing Cross Road, has told us of a most phenomenal example of stamp forgery. This is nothing less than the 1d. green stamp of Nevis transformed into the 6d. green by peeling out the halfpenny and substituting the word sixpence. Mr. Bourcard would have been victimized when offered the faked stamp had he not compared the stamp with an undoubtedly genuine specimen of the 6d. value. On doing this he found that the shade was different. Otherwise the thing was practically perfect. Mr. Bourcard informs us that the stamps generally chosen for this most extraordinary forgery are those that show a postmark covering the value at bottom, and when this latter has been peeled out and the 6d. substituted, the missing portion of the postmark is quite easily forged, and the work of the faker concealed.

BRISK BIDDING FOR A MAFEKING SIEGE STAMP.

AT Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's sale on June 12th a copy of the British Bechuanaland 1d. brown and green, surcharged "Mafeking Besieged," 1s., used, sold for £6 15s., after a lively fusillade of bids.

"STAMPS CURRENT IN TASMANIA."

WE have to thank Mr. Louis Bradbury, of Sydenham, for a note regarding the article recently published under the above headline. "I received yesterday from Hobart," writes Mr. Bradbury, "a list of the current Tasmanians, dated April 21st, and in this list the 2d. on 9d. of 1891 has been crossed out as being then out of issue.

"The 2d. should be dated 1899 in your list, not 1890.

"I have also received from Hobart the 1d., 3d. and 6d. of 1899, and am told that these, with the 1d. and 2d., are the

only stamps of the issue yet received there. Nevertheless, do you know the 8 new stamps can be obtained in London?"

Regarding this last remark by Mr. Bradbury, it will be well within the recollection of *Fortnightly* readers that the New Zealand authorities some two years ago began to use the office of its London representative as a bureau for the sale of its postage stamps to English collectors. Doubtless Tasmania has started something of the same sort.

MR. PECKITT'S LADYSMITH SOUP TICKET.

IS Mr. W. H. Peckitt's shop window at 440, Strand, just now to be seen a veritable Soup Ticket from Ladysmith, a grim relic of the days of the siege. 'Tis a good specimen, well centred, imperf., of course, and showing traces of original thumb! Whether it is for show only, or for sale, we do not know.

SETTING A TRAP FOR A STAMP THIEF.

MR. C. E. SEVERN, well known in Chicago, and, indeed, throughout the States, as the Editor of "Mekeel's Weekly" had an unexpected visitor at his office not long ago. Mr. Severn was not there to receive him; so the gentleman prized open the Editor's desk, and consoled himself with some £10 worth of Mr. Severn's stamps. Next morning, when the owner of the desk discovered his loss he allowed no grass to grow under his feet; but enlisted the help of Mr. P. M. Welseiter, the well-known Chicago dealer, and went off on the track of his stamps. Before long he discovered that part of the stamps had been sold to Mr. A. L. Doherty, a stamp and coin dealer of Dearborn Street. Mr. Doherty, expecting the party who had sold him the stamps would return to dispose of the balance, set a trap for him. Late that afternoon a man, presumably a go-between, appeared with another portion of the stamps, and, after locking the door, Doherty and Severn proceeded to cross-examine him. As he proved to be a business man in the heart of the city he was allowed to depart after promising that the balance of the stamps would be returned, and he would turn the thief over to justice. The stamps were forthcoming the next morning but the thief is still at large. Fortunately Mr. Severn's fine collection of U.S. Locals and Confederates was not found by the thief, and the owner, learning wisdom from experience, has now placed it in the strong-box of a safety vault.

ON THE TRACK OF A RARITY.

FROM far California comes the story of a philatelic hunter following the trail of very big game indeed. "K. Narea" who does the "Californian Notes" for "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" tells us that considerable stir was created in

western philatelic circles by a prominent collector's announcement that he was on the track of nothing less than an unsevered pair of the Hawaiian 2c. Missionary stamp! After the most diplomatic and persistent efforts, however, he was, at the last report, in small hopes of securing the great rarity. The stamps are on an original cover in the possession of an old lady, and though what must be a munificent offer was made to her she declined to sell, stating that she intended to give the cover to her grandson. It was, as a last desperate effort to persuade her to part with the stamps, suggested to her that the amount of money she would receive for them, if put at interest, would be of greater benefit to the lad than the stamps could possibly be. But no! the old lady was obdurate.

An unsevered pair of this scarce old stamp would rank among the "uniquities" of philately. The mere statement that the pair exists is of great interest.

THE STAMPS CAME BACK.

MANY extraordinary stories could be told of the wanderings and adventures of various stamps; but we think that the following, related to us by Mr. Boucard, is hard to beat:—

A certain gentleman, not at first a collector of stamps, happened to possess a quantity of the £1 stamps of Great Britain with Maltese cross watermark. Having no knowledge of stamps, and needless to say never dreaming for a moment that the things were of any value, the gentleman clipped off the perforations and began to make a screen of what he deemed to be utterly useless stamps. In the course of time they were seen—on the screen—by a stamp dealer, who "sprung" 1/6 each for them, took them home, and very skillfully added perforations to their edges. When "perforated" by this master-hand the joins were practically invisible, and the deft-fingered dealer lost no time in offering them for sale. By a ridiculous coincidence he took them to the man who had been their original owner, and now turned philatelist. The price he modestly asked was 12/6 per stamp, which left him a comfortable profit of 11/- on each specimen. Here comes in the curious part of the story. The original owner—who had made the screen—recognised the stamps again by certain marks upon them. Is it necessary to add that he declined to buy?

STAMP THEFT AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

CONFIRMING the news recently published in the *Fortnightly* Mr. J. M. Bartels writes as follows in the "Metropolitan Philatelist":—

Upon visiting the U.S. post office exhibit at the Exposition, I was informed by the gentleman in charge that a rather annoying theft had been committed. Three entire sheets of cardboard proofs, the 36c. and \$18 periodicals and the 10c. orange, special delivery, have been abstracted from the exhibit. The theft has been traced to a labourer who was employed in the building until recently, and who is now believed to be in London. P.O. Inspector Dr. Browne is following up the matter and hopes to recover the stolen property.

Although the thief would find difficulty in realizing very much on his spoil it is quite an annoying loss to the Department, as it will probably be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to replace the proofs in entire sheets.

THE GREAT CUBAN POSTAL SWINDLE.

ONE of the sensations of the day in America, is what is known as "the Cuban Postal Scandal," in connection with which one C. F. W. Neely, lately Treasurer of the Postal Department at Havana, has been arrested.

There is a legitimate way of making a living out of stamps, and an illegitimate. Mr. Neely appears to have chosen the latter, for he is bluntly charged by the outspoken press of America, with "running the Cuban Postal Service for his own private gain."—From "Mekeel's Weekly," the "Weekly Philatelic Era," and other transatlantic contemporaries we gather that the immediate charge against Neely, is one of embezzling \$36,000 of the Cuban Postal Funds, but behind this there seems to be the far graver affair of an organised "manipulation" of the postal system, in which pretty scheme, Dame Rumour asserts, Neely has had some of the American dealers and speculators as his confederates.

A PHILATELIST AS DETECTIVE

In bringing these nefarious doings to light a large part appears to have been played by a certain postal package. Credit for tracking this package is given to a Chicago philatelist. This gentleman was in the private office of the Muncie Bank when the registered parcel in question was delivered. On the package were a number of United States stamps of high value surcharged for use in Cuba, and these, it is now thought, formed part of a consignment of stamps which Neely had been ordered to destroy. The collector at once pounced on the package, saying that he wanted the stamps for his collection. The bank official, however, said that it was not to tampered with, since it was one that Neely, the treasurer of the postal department at Havana, had sent to be kept in the safety vaults of the bank "until called for." The matter then dropped, but it chanced that the philatelist in "swapping" stamps one day with a fellow stampite, spoke of the fine chance he had missed in not getting the surcharged stamps at the Muncie Bank. The incident was not thought of again until the recent arrest of Neely, when the friend of the stamp collector put two and two together, with the result that the Muncie bank will be called on to give up the package for investigation.

PRINCELY EARNINGS OF A POSTAL OFFICIAL.

Glowing stories are told in the American press of the great earnings of Neely in his position as postal official in Cuba. He was reported to have frequently made from £1000 to £2000 a week, and tales were exchanged of his fabulous investments to western gold mines and in mines at Joplin, Mo.

ARE AMERICAN DEALERS "IN IT?"

The "New York Sun," unless it is deliberately lying—and that is an accomplishment not unknown in American newspaper offices—has information that implicates certain of the American stamp dealers in the big Cuban swindle.

Neely (asserts the "Sun"), had various business transactions with stamp dealers in New York. With one of these dealers, whose place of business is in Nassau Street, Neely's transactions were more or less extensive. Some time ago this dealer went to Cuba, visited the Post Office Department in Havana and was permitted by Neely to make a careful examination of such Cuban stamp issues as he wished to see.

Each sheet of stamps issued by the United States Government bears, on the margin strip, the plate number. This imprint of the plate number runs to the length of three stamps on the marginal-strip. It is the desire of stamp collectors to possess so many of the stamps of any sheet of a particular issue as carry with them the plate numbers. According to the story, Neely permitted this dealer to go through certain issues of Cuban stamps and tear off the stamps carrying with them the plate number. The dealer then destroyed the margins of these strips, his object being to make the plate numbers of those issues so rare that he could obtain a high price for them.

It is taken for granted that he paid for the stamps he thus obtained, but stamp dealers here also take it for granted that he paid Neely for permission to go through the stamps in this way. It is also said that Neely offered to dealers here certain issues of stamped envelopes, provided the dealers would pay him a liberal amount over and above what he had to pay the Government for letting them have the entire issue of such envelopes.

In connection with these statements a disclaimer has been made by the Scott Stamp & Coin Company, who assert that they have never transacted any business with Neely. All the Cuban stamps they wanted they ordered by mail from Major Rathborne, Director of Posts in the island.

A PRETENDED BONFIRE OF STAMPS!

The very latest news takes the shape of a confession by one of Neely's associates. That there was an extensive conspiracy entered into by officials prominent in the postal affairs of Cuba, is now assured by the confession of this man, Deputy Auditor Reeves, who has "turned over" a little matter of \$4,500, and who says that the surcharged stamps ordered to be destroyed were not burnt as directed, but instead a number of bundles containing nothing but blank paper!

That Colour Question!

SOME INTERESTING LETTERS AND CRITICISMS.

Mr. B. W. Warhurst writes us as follows:—

As was said of old of the poor so this colour question seems likely to be always with us.

The reckless use of my name in your kindly criticism of my little book and the reference quoted in your last issue from Mr. Burton Cooper in the "Monthly Journal" caused such changes of hue in my countenance that it has been impossible to fix them by any colour chart now in use. But with respect to your own suggestion the following quotation from the "Southern Philatelist" of August 1895 may interest you. Mr. F. W. Potter recommends that "You devise for your own use a first-class guide. Hunting among your duplicates for all kinds of common and peculiar shades— not neglecting to lay aside your ideal shade of the seven primary (sic) colours, you easily secure a large number of specimens, of which no two are precisely the same shade. Canada and U.S. are extraordinary in changelings, a Canadian collector declaring he had over thirty distinct shades of a red stamp of that country. . . . Those who undertake to make a home-made chart, will ultimately grow into rabid colour enthusiasts, for the word has a peculiar fascination, and when once it draws a victim into its grasp it seldom relinquishes its hold."

Now, Mr. Editor, think of your misdeeds—look out for the rabies you have introduced—in this weather too!

Seriously, the answer to your suggestion may be found in the above quotation or the following from "P.J.G.B." October, 1895—"the mere arranging of stamps or colours in all imaginable combinations will not settle the correct nomenclature of those colours. It is a question of colour names, not of matching shades, that has to be decided on a simple intelligible principle." Your committee may fix on three stamps as red, light red, and dark red, but how is the Canadian collector above mentioned to say which of his thirty specimens that committee has fixed upon for their ideals?

Mr. Chas. Stewart, A.P.A., also brought out in 1897 a book of 113 colour names on these lines, giving a list of stamps corresponding thereto, and spaces for purchasers to mount them in.

FROM ONE WHO HAS TRIED IT.

Another interesting letter on this subject comes from Mr. J. C. Taylor, of Croydon, who writes:—

"There is nothing new under the sun! Your article on Color of Stamps in to-day's *Fortnightly* draws this remark from me. About ten years ago I wrote to S. G. & Co. suggesting that idea of using actual stamps as an index of color and inviting them to make such a chart for use in their next catalogue, but they replied approving of the idea but not of the work of doing it themselves, and asked me to do so. I took about four dozen visiting cards and fastened upon them stamps arranged according to the colors of S. G. & Co.'s then current catalogue, and the various colors that they described under the same names was most amusing. But I found the task more difficult than I had anticipated, and got no further. I still have the cards, and have just looked at them, and am sorry to see I only used common stamps, or the cards might have become rather valuable now!"

FROM OTHER CORRESPONDENTS.

We have to thank "W.G.M.," "Zeno," Miss A. G. Barnes, "F.H.," and Mr. Harold Dooly for letters on the subject of philatelic colour-nomenclature, all approving in general terms the suggestion made in the last issue of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

"It will be urged against this scheme," writes "F.H.," that the stamps which you propose to take as standards of colour will prove to be quite as variable in shade as the treacherous printers' inks. All the same I think it should be possible to secure a sufficiency of stamps of fixed colour for the purpose. The current penny British, so far as my experience of it goes, has never varied a hair's-breadth in shade, and there must be many others equally stable. The most important part of all in my opinion, is that the stamps that may be selected for the purpose, should be very common stamps, so that this means of classifying colours be within the reach of all."

DIFFICULTIES IN THE WAY.

In giving our own suggestion for the solution of the colour difficulty, in the last issue of the *Fortnightly*, we were careful

to say: "The notion may not be original, but we give it for what it is worth!" We have ample proof in the letters quoted above that the notion is *not* original, but the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain," in its June issue, shows that the idea was set forth as recently as November last in the paper read before the Manchester Philatelic Society by Mr. M. W. Jones. The "P.J.G.B.," however, has nodded in its turn or it would scarcely have told its readers that "Mr. Bishop now puts forward this same idea as something entirely new." Most distinctly the Editor of the *Fortnightly* did nothing of the sort.

The real authorship of the idea appears to date a great deal farther back than the reading of Mr. Jones' Manchester Society paper; but the point before us now is the workability or otherwise of the scheme. The "P.J.G.B." reviews the subject most interestingly:

Doubtless such a colour chart, once got together, would answer as well as any. But the difficulties in the way of forming it seem great. It would scarcely do for each collector to choose his own specimens, even when he knows the numbers in Gibbons' catalogue, for even the fastest colours are at times subject to accidents which render them different from the normal, and the inclusion of such stamps would be fatal. It would be very difficult to find stamps of every shade of colour which are always constant and undeviating. [But would it? That is the whole question in a nutshell.—Ed., S.C.F.] Then again there are some colours which are peculiar to certain stamps and those by no means easy to get. This would make the collection of a colour chart an effort scarcely secondary to the formation of the main collection. Some of the true shades of orange and yellow particularly would be a costly series to acquire. What a run there would be on the "solferino" Greece 40 lepta of 1875, which is a stamp that has no counterpart in shade in the whole gamut of philatelic colours. This stamp is exceedingly scarce in its pristine freshness of colour even used, whilst unused it is an extreme rarity. The 3d. Malta, *golden yellow*, sometimes known as the "canary" yellow, is another unique stamp and must be in mint condition with full gum, as used copies are nearly always quite different in shade; this is a stamp that would cost at least 10/6, and if many colour charts were made to include it, it would soon be almost unattainable. The *lemon yellow* 4d. Tasmania is not an easy stamp to get in good colour, and is impossible to match, while some of the shades of Tuscany and Sicily are quite unique in the stamp album. All these stamps would be necessary to typify colours in the chart.

Then there are many shades which, in the case of every stamp in which they occur, *must* under certain atmospheric conditions change in quite an alarming degree. Stamps thus altered in appearance are very common, and many inexperienced collectors might put a greenish looking stamp in the space set apart for a *lilac* without knowing any better.

In concluding its article the "P.J.G.B." hits off the true philosophy of the matter rather neatly.

"We doubt," says our contemporary, "whether the general collector cares very much what name may be given to any shade so long as he is quite sure that he got it."

But by what means can he be "sure that he got it"? To know whether he has "got it" is just the difficulty that so frequently confronts the collector who is not in immediate touch with those who can advise him.

GIVEN AWAY WITH AN OUNCE OF TOBACCO.

No subject seems to be beyond the enterprise of the advertising tobacconist. A correspondent has just sent us a neat coloured card extracted from one of the tobacco packets of Messrs. Lambert & Butler, Ltd. This shows what we may call an illustrated philatelic conundrum, the text of which is as follows:—

Question: What is the difference between a schoolmaster and a postage stamp?

Answer: The one licks with a stick and the other sticks with a lick.

The whole thing is very neatly executed, but Messrs. Lambert & Butler must beware of Somerset House. Had their picture of the vermilion 3d. British stamp been just a little larger it is quite likely that their whole stock of tobacco would have been commandeered by the Inland Revenue authorities!

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JUNE 23, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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.

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OUR suggestion that stamp colours should be standardised by means of the stamps themselves proves, on investigation, to be an idea that has been mooted many times before. We stand "anticipated" in the excellent company of William Shakespeare, rare Ben Jonson, and others too numerous to mention. Never mind the authorship of the idea; is it practicable? Mr. B. W. Warhurst, in the letter we publish elsewhere, says no! and Mr. Warhurst is a man whose opinion on the colour question we hold in great respect. Another correspondent Mr. J. C. Taylor, put the plan to a practical test some years ago, but appears to have abandoned the work when half completed. May we hope that the interest re-awakened in the subject will induce him to take up the task again.

The objectors to the scheme are many, but their objections, we submit, are slight. The subject appears to be viewed by some people through smoked spectacles, which may be good for the eyes but are notoriously hurtful to the mental vision. It is objected that certain stamps are variable in colour. Those of Canada and the United States are cited as particular instances. Well, we know of no urgent reason for the inclusion of either Canadian or United States in the scheme; we think that there is no shade of colour in the whole range of the stamps of these countries that is not capable of being exactly matched elsewhere. "Ah, but what about atmospheric influence?" says another objector. Atmospheric influence is the King Charles's Head of many estimable folk; but we cannot see that it enters into this question at all. The essence of the scheme is the selection of a number of stamps of non-variable hue sufficient in their range of shading to typify the various "philatelic colours," and if these can be so selected as to include only the commonest stamps it should be easy for every collector to secure specimens that have not been affected by the atmosphere. We all know that certain colours, and more especially reds, will fade in the sun-light. Similarly a cold water bath is frequently disastrous, and of this an excellent instance is the new green half-penny British stamp. But of the very common stamps it should never be difficult to secure specimens which have been neither soaked nor sun-kissed.

It is easy to throw cold water on any scheme. One can do that in an arm-chair. Instead of mere criticisms of a negative character we should welcome a little constructive comment, calculated to show whether the idea is entirely workable or only practicable in part. That the plan is capable of solving the colour problem *up to a certain point* we feel absolutely sure.

True Story of Formosa's Stamps.

HOW LIU, THE BLACK FLAG CHIEF, TURNED TO PHILATELY AS AN IDEAL SOURCE OF REVENUE.

MR. W. F. GREGORY, of New York City, has sent "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" a copy of an interesting leaflet purporting to give the true history of the issue of postage stamps in the island of Formosa. The author of the story is a James W. Davidson, described as a war correspondent with the Japanese Army during the war of 1895; and the leaflet emanates from the office of the "Daily Press," of Hong Kong. We quote:

"The reign of Liu, the Black Flag Chief, dates back to the early days of June, 1895, when President Tang made his escape from Taipeifu, the northern capital of Formosa, to avoid a conflict with the Japanese who landed on the island and were advancing on the capital to take possession of their newly-acquired dominions, which at the conclusion of the war between Japan and China had been ceded them as a condition of peace. This cession the former Governor Tang and the literati had refused to acknowledge; and in consequence, a republic had been established with Tang Ching Sung as President. The foreign powers were notified, officers were elected and many natives enlisted as soldiers, which combined with the mainland forces still remaining an army of considerable numbers.

"As the Japanese troops advanced, the soldiery retreated and the officials flying to the mainland, the capital, Taipeifu, fell without opposition. But as there was no sign of an immediate attack on the south of the island, the Chinese considered it a sign of weakness on the part of the Japs. Consequently the literati and others of the big southern city, Tainanfu, organized a so-called parliament and elected Liu Yung-fu to the presidency of the 'republic.'"

Naturally, the progressive officials of the "republic" hit upon the issue of stamps as an ideal means to raise revenue. "The stamps bear the characters on the top 'Formosa Republic,' on the left, 'Stamp Paper,' or Sitan, the phonetic rendering for stamp; on the right is the denomination; in the centre is an emblem of the late republic—a tiger.

Proclamations were issued that postal agencies would be established in Amoy, Swatow and Hong Kong for the distribution of letters bearing the republican stamps. Two issues of these took place, the first, impressed from a locally cut silver die, was on a thin tissue paper, unperforated. About 5,000 only of these were issued. The colors were green, violet and red. The die was then melted and attempts made to have a more perfect one stamped. Failing this, a new die was obtained from Canton, and a new issue of stamps appeared. These were also in three colors, blue, violet and red, but all were perforated. The face value of the different stamps was for both issues, 3, 5 and 10 cents respectively. It should be noted that the legitimate manufacture of stamps ceased with the existence of the republic."

This republican institution was completely shattered by the Japanese army, after an existence of nearly five months. The enterprising Liu, with numbers of his officers, escaped capture—perhaps to found a republic somewhere else and add to the joy of philatelists by the issue of numerous stamps composed of awe-inspiring hieroglyphics.

Richard Wolle, the notorious American stamp swindler, will not trouble philatelists for quite a long time to come. He has been sentenced to ten years hard labour in the Missouri Penitentiary—this time for faking cheques and bills.

A good way in which to make your stamps more valuable is to secure a greater demand for stamps by making new collectors.—"Mekeel's Weekly."

Stamps are defined by a contemporary as "little things that go to make life worth living."

Mr. Charles Nissen holds a most interesting relic of Baron A. de Rothschild's first collection. This consists of three vols. of the early Klip Album, bound in rich morocco, with the Baron's name carefully concealed by an addition to the binding. The few sheets inserted show how carefully the stamps were mounted. Small squares of cardboard were stuck on the sheets, and the stamps afterwards mounted thereon. The idea may have been either to facilitate removal, or merely to give a decorative appearance to the page.

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 HONDURAS.

	Unused average mint	Used average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
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1866. *Head of Queen to left, in oval; no watermark; perf. 14.*

1d. pale blue..	..	2/6	1/9	4/	3/
1d. blue	2 6	1/9	4/	3/
6d. red ..	..	20/	15/	12/6	8/6
1s. green ..	..	30/	20/	12/6	9/

1872. *The same with wmk. CC. and perf. 12½.*

1d. pale blue..	..	2/6	1/9	7/6	5/6
1d. blue ..	..	2 6	1/9	7/6	5/6
3d. red-brown	..	10/6	7/6	10/	7/
3d. dark brown	..	10/	7/	10/	7/
6d. rose ..	..	25/	17/6	10/	7/
1s. green ..	..	30/	22/6	10/	7/
1s. dark green	..	40/	27 6	12 6	9/

The same, perf. 14.

1d. pale blue..	..	4/6	3/3	3/6	2/6
1d. blue ..	..	2/3	1/3	1/9	1/3
3d. red-brown	..	12/6	9/	10/	7/
4d. mauve ..	..	17/6	12/	1/9	1/3
6d. red ..	..	80/	50/	50/	35/
1s. green ..	..	22 6	16/	7/6	5/6

1882. *Watermarked CA.; perf. 14.*

1d. blue ..	..	4/6	3/	4/6	3/
1d. rose-red ..	..	1/9	1/6	1/6	1/4
1d. carmine ..	..	1/9	1/6	1/6	1/4
4d. mauve ..	..	4/	3/	1/	1/8
6d. yellow ..	..	60/	45/	60/	40/
1s. grey ..	..	57/6	42.	45/	37/6

1888. *Wmk. CC.; perf. 12½, with black surcharge as per Gibbons' Type II.*

2c. on 6d. rose ..	..	35/	27/6	40/	27/6
3c. on 3d. crown	..	300/	200/	260/	180/

Surcharged as foregoing, but perf. 14. Watermarks, CA. and CC., as indicated.

2c. on 1d. rose (C.A.) ..	..	1/	1/9	2/	1/6
2c. on 6d. rose (C.C.) ..	..	12 6	9/6	15/	10/6
3c. on 3d. brown (C.C.) ..	..	15/	11/6	17/6	12/6
10c. on 4d. mauve (C.A.) ..	..	2/	1/6	2/	1/6
20c. on 6d. yellow (C.A.) ..	..	2 3	1/9	2/6	1/6
50c. on 1s. green (C.A.) ..	..	60/	45/	70/	50/

Double surcharged as Gibbons' Type III.

"Two" in black on 50c.	..				
"Two" in red on 50c. ..	..	2/6	1/9	3/6	2/6

Wmk. CA., perf. 14, large surcharge as Gibbons' Type IV.

2c. carmine ..	..	1/2	1/1	1/3	1/2
2c. brown ..	..	1/3	1/2	1/3	1/3

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
10c. mauve	1/9	1/6	1/6
20c. yellow	2/	1/6	3/6
50c. grey	3/6	2/9	5/

1891. *Surcharges with numerals altered as Gibbons' Type V.*

6 in red on 10c.	..	1/9	1/6	1/9	1/6
6 in black on 10c.	..	1/9	1/6	1/9	1/6

Surcharged as Gibbons' Type V. in black.

6c. ultramarine	1/9	1/6	1/9	1/6
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Surcharged with Gibbons' Type VI. in black.

1c. dull green	1/1		1/1	
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Surcharged as Gibbons' Type VII.

"Five" in black on 3c.	..				
(Gibbons' No. 38)	1/4	1/3	1/6	1/4	
"15" in red on 6c. (Gibbons' No. 47)	1/1	1/9	1 6	1/	

1881-98. *De La Rue type; wmk. CA.; perf. 14. The name of country and value are in the second colour.*

1c. dull green ..	..	1/1		
2c. rose ..	..	1/2		
3c. brown ..	..	1/3		
5c. blue ..	..	1/4		
6c. blue ..	..	1/4		
10c. mauve and green	..	1/7		
12c. mauve and green	..	1/9		
24c. orange and blue	..	1/4		
25c. brown and green	..	1/4		

1899. *Wmk. CA.; perf. 14.*

50c. green and red ..	..	2/6		
\$1 green and red ..	..	5/		
\$2 green and blue ..	..	10/		
\$5 green and black ..	..	25/		

(To be continued.)

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.

Belgium.—Mr. H. Merton writes us: "I have seen the 1 franc in yellow, which I take to be new. It is of the ordinary type of the Sunday stamps."

Borneo.—The Postal Union's wishes as to uniformity of colour in low value postage stamps have provided a very valid excuse for colour-changes the whole world over. British North Borneo is always ready to oblige in a little matter of this kind, and hence the transformation of the 2 cents stamp (Stag's Head) to green. We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a specimen.

British Central Africa.—The new ten-shilling stamp is, of course, of the current "nigger" type. Colours: olive-green for the border of the stamp; black for the central device.

Adhesive: 10s. olive-green and black.

British Honduras.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 10 cents mauve and green surcharged "Revenue" in black.

Brazil.—From the same firm we learn that two of the unpaid letter-stamps of Brazil ("Taxa Devida") have undergone a change of colour, as follows:—

Unpaid letter-stamps: 20 reis, yellow-green.
300 reis, dull blue.

Chili.—Mr. F. D. Walters, of Valparaiso, has kindly sent us the 10 centavos of the new series to add to those already chronicled.

Adhesive: 10 centavos, violet.

Jamaica.—A reader to whom we are indebted for a specimen of the new penny Jamaican stamp, already chronicled in the *Fortnightly*, points out that the stamp has been issued in commemoration of the entrance of Jamaica into the Imperial Penny Postage scheme. "The centre-piece of the stamp," he adds, "represents Landoverly Falls, in St. Ann, the view illustrating one of the many aspects of Jamaica, 'the land of wood and water.'" The actual date of issue at the General Post Office of Kingston, Jamaica, was May 2nd. As a means of commemorating an event dating back to the previous May, the stamp was, to say the least of it, a bit behind the fair!

Japan.—Apropos of the "Royal Wedding" stamp, chronicled in the last *Fortnightly*, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write us as follows:—

The Japanese description on the right-hand side means: "For the celebration of H.I.H. the Crown Prince"; and on the left-hand side: "Imperial Japanese Post." In the centre are two boxes, and of these the upper one represents the box for the sacred cake to be offered to the Imperial Sanctuary after a marriage. The box just below this is a letter box, which is used for sending communications relating to the arrangements for a wedding between the parties concerned. The two characters in the lower corners of the stamp signify "three" and "sen" respectively.

New Zealand.—A valued correspondent, Mr. A. Rosenberg, of Woodville, sends us the ½d. and 2d. of the Queen's head types as just issued on the paper used for the Colonial print of the "pictorial" stamps and watermarked with double-lined "N.Z." and star. This watermark is, however, placed sideways on the stamps now to hand.

Adhesives: ½d. black.
2d. violet.

Some new stamped envelopes also sent by Mr. Rosenberg will be described in the next *Fortnightly* by "Hawk-Eye."

At the same time Mr. Rosenberg sends us the following paragraphs cut from New Zealand journals relating to the projected "khaki" issue:

Mr. Jas. Nairn, the well-known Wellington artist, has been commissioned by the Government to submit designs of a new stamp. The subject is connected with the New Zealand contingents, and the colour is to be khaki.

The new stamp which the Postal Department proposes issuing shortly will be three-halfpence in value, and is intended mainly for the purpose of newspaper postage, to meet the case of papers which are in excess of the penny fee and below that of twopence. It may of course also be used for letter postage. The design will in some way relate to the New Zealand Contingents now on service in South Africa.

Seychelles.—We have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for specimens of the following stamps of the new set for 1900:—

Adhesives: 2 cents brown and green.
6 " rose.
75 " yellow and purple.
1 rupee 50 cents black and red.
2 " 25 " violet-rose and green.

In the bi-coloured stamps the body of the stamp is in the first-named colour, and the name "Seychelles" and value in the second colour. The type is unchanged.

Switzerland.—In a recent reference to an impending colour-change here, we permitted ourselves to get more than a little mixed. We announced that the 25 centimes would shortly appear in blue, in accordance with Postal Union recommendations; but what we should have said was that, in consequence of the 25 centimes stamp having already been changed to blue, it would be necessary to alter the colour of the blue 50 centimes stamp in order to avoid confusion. This change has now been made, the 50 centimes appearing in green, instead of blue. We have to thank Mr. H. Merton for a specimen of the stamp in its new colour.

Adhesive: 50c. green.

Reminiscences of a Philatelist.

BY WALTER NATHAN.

Continued from Page 50.

OLD boys of the University College School will remember that as custom had prescribed "the cloisters" sacred to pugilistic encounters, so about the year 1870 the "long-room" began to be used in the dinner hour for the exchange of stamps. In my days of affluence I had dined at "Donges," and purchased my stamps in a lordly manner, without entrenching on the time devoted to the refreshment of the body, but "other times other manners," and now on 5/- a week I found, if I wished to continue adding scarce stamps to my collection, even if I must relinquish my predilection for unused specimens, that I must make sacrifice of time and comfort. Every day between 12 and 1, I was busily engaged in the exchange of stamps. I had a good foundation on which to work in the stamps of Hawaii and British Columbia. Among the latter I had a number of large envelopes bearing three, four, and five of the dollar green. Perforation gauges were not then in vogue, otherwise I could have settled, from the quantity of these stamps which passed through my hands, the vexed question whether the one dollar, perf. 14, was ever actually issued. I can only say that from the time that varieties of perforation were noted by me I never had a used specimen, but I have had two unused copies at a time long antecedent to the recent influx of this value on the market. I am also strongly of opinion that the 2c. perf. 12½ was in use, but I can bring forward no proof, and merely record my personal idea. The 10c. was a difficult stamp to obtain, and although I had some specimens direct from the Victoria post office, they were not in mint state, but looked as if they had been put aside in a not over clean drawer, as goods not in daily requisition.

I picked up some fine stamps in this "long room," but on the other hand made some exchanges which do not read well to-day. One dollar pony express, used on original letter, three dollar B. Columbia, 3 25c., 3 50c., and 14 unused Sandwich Isles were very full value for 180r., 300r., 600r. Brazil slanting figures, but cut into the shape of device, and the 300r. also in two pieces. But while I was more particular respecting condition than the majority of boys at the time, I still thought a poor specimen of a rare stamp was preferable to having none. Against this little lot I can place the acquisition of the U. S. 24c 1869, with inverted centre, rather heavily postmarked, but a nice specimen for 2d. A used specimen of the ½a red Indian, with cancellation of octangular rings, in exchange for a Polish envelope stamp cut square. I also obtained a collection of 400 varieties containing some nice stamps in exchange for a six-shot pocket revolver, with which I had nearly taken a boy's life on the preceding day, by shooting at the coal in a fire place. The bullet had rebounded and struck my companion just above the eye. Happily no harm was done, but I received such a fright that I was very glad to get rid of the weapon, and should have done so for a less valuable consideration than this collection proved to be.

In a few weeks I had acquired sufficient stamps to supply several duplicates of quite a variety, and I tried to sell some. At the present day we often hear complaints of the poor prices which dealers pay for stamps brought to them for sale, I think however, that if the complainants had had experience of attempting to sell stamps in 1870 (I will not say selling stamps, for that was of rare occurrence) they would regard the system of business at the present time as the height of liberality. The 12d. black Canada was not then worth the £80 to £100 which a specimen would now fetch, but it was then a scarce stamp, and the copies with specimen printed across were sold for from 8s. to 10s. by dealers. I had a very fine specimen without the overprint, and wishing to raise some money during the holidays I took it to a provincial dealer, and he offered me half-a-crown for it. Even the most respected dealers of that time were chary of buying stamps for cash, except at about one tenth sale prices, and not always as much as that. However I managed to exchange

with dealers and collectors until an event occurred which once again put me in the possession of ready money.

On half holidays, and after school in the summer, I had wandered over the greater part of London in search for coins at second-hand silversmiths, jewellers, and bullion dealers. Among my resorts were the shops of Mr. Smart, who kept a bureau of exchange in Princess Street, Leicester Square, and of his brother who kept a similar shop in the Harrow Road, just at the back of the Metropolitan Music Hall. Calling one day on the latter to see if he had any new coins since my last visit, I saw in the window what appeared to be rather a large lot of unused stamps of Ceylon. I expressed surprise, and told Mr. Smart that I collected postage stamps as well as coins, and would like to see what he had. He bundled the lot out of the window, and said he would be glad if I would take them at face value, as he had made the purchase to oblige a customer, and they were out of his usual run of business. I replied that I should be pleased to have them but had not sufficient cash to pay for them all. Mr. Smart, however, kindly offered to keep them for me, and taking a few shillings worth away, I soon returned with the proceeds, which were enough to release nearly one half the remainder. The next day I had the lot in my possession, and a finer lot of stamps I have never seen since. Blocks of 6 and 4 of the 9d 1/- and 2/- imperf., mint state, singles of 4d., 8d., 9d., in mint state, 50 4d. lilac on bluish paper, all values of the perf. star issue in blocks, all values of the C.C. & C. issue in blocks. Despite the difficulty in selling stamps I had no trouble in placing this lot at a good profit, after keeping specimens for my own collection. Of course the prices were entirely different to those now current, but unused Ceylon were always favourites, and deservedly so, with collectors, and the prices I obtained were relatively high for the period at which they were sold. The mint 4d., 8d. and 9d. imperf. I kept with single specimens of each of the varieties included in the lot. The unused 4d. cost me 4d. as already stated, and if any one had told me that this stamp would realize £110 at public auction I should have thought my informant a lunatic.

This purchase not only put me in funds, but established my claim to have money supplied me whenever I asked for it. So true is it that nothing succeeds like success.

(To be Continued.)

News Notes from all Quarters.

Mr. J. M. Bartels, who is one of the many American philatelists now in Paris, should be a proud man this day. The "Metropolitan Philatelist" speaks of him as "our celebrated Washington correspondent."

New century stamp collecting is, an American contemporary asserts, quite the latest idea, many collectors having commenced albums "destined to accommodate only the stamps issued from January 1st, 1900."

Liverpool, hitherto, has had but one philatelic organization, and that the well-known Philatelic Society. Now another body of a far more modest scope has come into being. This is the Liverpool Philatelic Exchange Club, the secretary of which Mr. A. J. Murnaghan, of 53, Ashton Street, Liverpool, will be happy to supply particulars.

The "Clipper," a little sheet published for collectors of philatelic literature, heads a leading article: "Philatelic Journals—How to keep them." Personally we should prefer instructions as to how to *lose* some of the stamp journals published both here and abroad.

From July 1st the Finnish stamps for foreign postage will be done with. We have resisted the temptation to say that that they will be finished with. To complete the Russianization of Finland, on January 1st, 1901 the stamps of the Czar will replace the native product for inland postage as well.

The Annual Convention of the American Philatelic Association—always one of the events of the year in American philately—is fixed for August 28th, in Milwaukee. The total membership of the "A.P.A." is now 527.

TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

A SHORT time since we had a complaint from a reader—the first we have received since the publication of the *Fortnightly* in December last—to the effect that a transaction he had entered into with an advertiser in our columns had turned out unsatisfactorily. He (our correspondent), had sent this individual a valuable consignment of stamps, and though some months had passed he could obtain neither cash for them nor the return of his property. However, before we had time to institute enquiries in the matter, we had a further line from our reader informing us that the matter was satisfactorily settled, the advertiser having paid for the stamps retained and returned the balance of the parcel.

We are heartily glad that the matter has ended satisfactorily. It will perhaps seem remarkable to many of our readers that during the six months since the resuscitation of the *Fortnightly* we have had but one complaint on this head. This is due in no small measure, firstly to the good standing of the majority of our advertisers, and secondly to the fact that we make every effort possible to "crowd out" undesirable parties.

* * *

Since the above was written we regret to say that a second complaint has come hand. This, however, is not really to be regarded as a complaint against the *Fortnightly* as now conducted, since it relates to a period as long ago as July 1899. At that time an advertisement appeared in the *Fortnightly* in the name of the Cartier Stamp Company of Toronto, Canada, and we learn that a correspondent in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, sent these Toronto people some £5 worth of Westralian stamps. He has since written frequently threatening the Company with exposure. All to no purpose. His letters have been ignored. Now, at the time the Cartier Stamp Co's. announcements appeared in our columns nothing was known to their detriment—nor for that matter is there, so far as we know, anything against them now. Before writing further on the subject we shall be glad to hear from any readers of the *Fortnightly* whose correspondence with the Cartier Stamp Company has led to unsatisfactory dealings.

* * *

"How am I to act in the following circumstances?" writes an embarrassed reader at Liverpool. "Quite recently I was offered a certain stamp at what I thought a very reasonable figure; it was a stamp I did not want particularly, but I chanced to mention the matter to a friend who was after just that particular variety. He promptly offered me a profit if I would secure the stamp. I did so. Now comes the vexatious part of the business: The deal was concluded, my friend had paid for the stamp, and I had pocketed my modest 'turn' on the transaction, when it was discovered that though the stamp itself was perfectly genuine the postmark was bad.

"This was not the worst of it, for the original holder of the stamp had left Liverpool when the forgery was discovered, and I am now unable to find him. My friend looks to me to refund the money paid for the stamp, and I suppose he is within his rights. But all the same it seems rather rough on me!"

It does. At the same time there is no question whatever as to the business, not to say legal, aspect of the matter. The individual who gave a profit on the stamp is clearly entitled to a return of his cash in that the stamp sold to him was not as represented.

Fancies and Flippancies.

BY ALFRED JINGLE.

THE other day—Stay! let me be precise. On the afternoon of Wednesday, June the 13th, I left Mrs. Jingle at home, hard at work re-mounting some stamps of mine that have been wandering round the country on club sheets for the past ten years, and myself sallied out into the bitter June night to face the stern battle of life. I think it's the man's place, don't you? to go out into all the tear and turmoil of the world. The tear and turmoil, &c., on the occasion under notice represented a visit to the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, where Messrs. Plumridge & Co. was holding his—dear me! I mean *were* holding *their* Jubilee Auction Sale. How on earth an auctioneer can reach his Jubilee Sale after being only two years in the business, is a question I freely leave to Mr. H. Wilfred Plumridge's conscience. Sufficient that it was a good sale, a well-attended sale, best of all a sale that showed remarkably good results.

After inviting all present to partake of champagne (possibly in the hope that that effervescent fluid would depress their spirits and make them chary of bidding). Mr. Plumridge mounted the—er—the thing these chaps stand on, you know; cleared his throat, and began to make a speech, if you please! Although I had fears for his safety, I said not a word; but began a mental calculation as to where I could lay hands on the 60 crazie Tuscany, the ½ tornese Naples and a few other gems in the event of a serious scrimmage ensuing. All passed off quite peaceably however. Mr. Plumridge made a natty, tactful oration. He was glad to see us all there; he wanted us all to feel really happy, because then he would be happy himself; his true intent was all for our delight, and so on and so on. Before H. W. P. opened fire on "Lot 1" the usually cold and business-like air of an auction room gave place, for a spell, to a scene of gratulation and good-will that must have made the Jubilee Auctioneer feel real proud.

The following are among the prices I jotted down on the margin of my catalogue:—

	£	s.	d.
B. Guiana, 1852, 1c. black on magenta, fine copy ..	5	5	0
Cape of Good Hope, Triangulars, 2 unused pairs of 1d. rose-red and 4d. blue, on white paper ..	2	6	0
Ditto, 1d. brownish red, 4d. blue and 6d. bright mauve, a pair of each, unused ..	4	7	6
Ditto, 6d. bright mauve, a pair unused ..	2	15	0
France, 1st issue, 1fr. orange ..	5	15	0
Gt. Britain, 1855-57, 4d. carmine, wmk. small garter, on blue safety paper, unused ..	23	0	0
Ditto, another, not so fine ..	9	0	0
Ditto, another without gum ..	6	0	0
1862, wmk. emblems, 9d. straw, with hair lines, imperf. on right side ..	13	10	0
£5 orange on blued paper, not postally used ..	3	3	0
Levant, 1865, imperf. (20k) blue and red, very fine margins ..	4	4	0
Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. red, medium state of plate ..	3	5	0

Naples, Arms, ½ tornese blue, used on small piece of original ..	10	0	0
Ditto, another ..	7	15	0
New Brunswick, 1/- violet, good margins ..	12	10	0
Ditto, another, no margins, but fine ..	7	0	0
Newfoundland, 1/- orange-vermilion ..	5	10	0
Ditto, another ..	4	0	0
Peru, the Medio Peso red, fine ..	9	0	0
Queensland, 1860-6, wmk. large star, clean cut perf., 1d. carmine-rose, unused, no gum ..	3	15	0
St. Lucia, C.A., 4d. red-brown, unused mint ..	4	10	0
Spain, 2 reales vermilion ..	3	10	0
Switzerland, 1851, 5 centimes black and red, slightly torn ..	9	0	0
Tasmania, Provisional surcharged in black "Tasmania," "Postage and Revenue, Two Shillings and Sixpence," in four lines, on the unappropriated die lilac, presumably prepared for use but not issued, unused, mint ..	5	10	0
Tuscany, 60 crazie brown-red ..	8	0	0
Victoria, 1868-81, 5/- blue on yellow, mint ..	9	10	0

The sale must have realised a large amount. The ready money paid over in the room was considerable; but I regret I could not get near enough to the till to ascertain the exact figures. People are so suspicious.

Well, who *did* buy that Castle collection of Europeans? I don't know. I asked Messrs. Hamilton-Smith & Co. for an "intro" on the plea that I wished to photograph the back of the gentleman's head for my forthcoming article on "Distinguished Bloaters of the Day." He met me with a negative, but not the sort of negative I was after. Then it was that somebody started the rumour that the *Fortnightly* would shortly offer a big prize to the reader who solved the mystery. That was quite enough for A.J. I lost no time in idle surmise, but hied me to Bishopsgate Street Within, and took up my stand in a doorway adjacent to the premises of Messrs. G. Hamilton-Smith and Co., quite in the manner of a great detective. Here I felt quite sure I should net my Bloater!

The first to call upon the firm was a dealer from the Strand. "It isn't you!" I murmured. Then followed such notabilities as Mr. Robert Ehrenbach, Mr. Herbert Oldfield, Baron A. de Worm's, Mr. John Tilleard, &c., &c., and of each one I said "It isn't you!" like the girls and boys who play kiss-in-the-ring in the Mr. Castle came along, and him I easily dismissed. A man doesn't buy his own goods—except in the auction room.

Mr. Nankivell made a call shortly afterwards, attended by a lad who pushed a truck. I saw the position at a glance. The truck must contain Mr. Nankivell's Transvaals; else, why should it have only a single pole, or "disselboom" instead of the customary pair of shafts? Truly a great and beneficent thing, when properly applied, is the art of logical deduction.

"It isn't you!" I murmured as Nankivell passed me; but a moment later my heart thumped, thumped against my waistcoat with the speed of Mr. Hadlow's hammer when the last page of the catalogue is reached.

(To be continued.)

Business Side of Philately.

MESSRS. ALFRED SMITH & SONS have sent us an explanatory booklet regarding their speciality the "Rowland Hill Collection of Postage Stamps." The pamphlet—beautifully printed, by the way, by the Chiswick Press—fully describes the sixteen different parts of the collection. Each part, we gather, costs 4/-, while the price of the whole collection of sixteen parts is £3 nett. We believe that Messrs. Smith have sold some thousands of this collection, which should certainly afford the philatelist commencing an admirable means of laying the foundation of a good collection. Accompanying the pamphlet is its counterpart in the French language.

One morning recently Mr. Chas. Nissen started out with all possible speed to buy a "post office" Mauritius for 15s. But alas! it was too good to be true. It was one of those many fakes which act as a sprat to catch a mackerel, but Mr. Nissen was not to be caught and politely insisted that the stamp should be removed from the album, thereby, possibly saving some philatelic novice his hard-earned cash.

COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

At the 53rd meeting of the Board of Governors, on Monday, May 14, Mr. Bouner presiding, a committee consisting of Messrs. Leavy, Holland and Rich was appointed to publish a book on the stamps of Hayti, under the auspices of the Club.

The names of five of the applicants for membership having been posted the required length of time, their names were balloted upon, and Messrs. Chittenden, Ehrich, Libby, Mott and Stehlin were declared to have been unanimously elected subscribing members of the Club.

ALBERT PERRIN, Secretary, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

Rate: 3 Words a Penny.

BRITISH Stamps O.W. official, ½d. and 1d. 5" pair. Army Official, 3. 1. 2½ 6d. the 3. Government Parcels, 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 9d., 1/- 2 6 the set. Official Wrappers, 3d. brown on green, yellow, pink, white, dark red, and blue, set of 6, all fine, price 1/1. — CHARLES NISSEN & Co., 106, High Holborn, London, W.C.

FINE collection, about 5200 varieties, will be sold to first applicant for £30. A great bargain, cash being urgently required. May be seen by appointment with H. A. McMILLAN, 3, Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane, E.C.

WANT U.S. and Confederate Postage and Locals on the original covers for cash. Send with lowest price to FRANK P. ADAMS, Decorah, Iowa.

FOR SALE.—Reprints and Specimens of South Australia. Very pretty lot, mounted in frame, issues from 1853 to 1894, 47 varieties giving dates below each stamp. Bargain, 17/6 carriage paid. Box 106.

ADVERTISER has a number of British Colonial Stamps to dispose of, priced very cheaply. The rarest varieties half Gibbons', medium at third. Especially strong in B.C.A., B.S.A., B.E.A., Zanzibar, Zululand, Orange Free State, both mint and used, also in West Indians and Old English. Approval. Good references.—Box 140.

WANTED.—South African, Transvaal, Orange State, Cape, Natal, ½ and 1d. control letters, also any good stamps.—COLLECTOR, 25, Grange Road, Darlington.

UGANDA Protectorate, Crete (1900), Las Bela, Transvaal, Malta, Mexico, Paraguay, six Peru, four Roumania, Russian Levant, Uruguay, Venezuela, Chili, China, Cyprus, Java, 45 genuine varieties, 1/1.—CHARLES SMITH, Kingston Hill, Surrey.

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 First Sale of next Season will take place

On SEPTEMBER 25, 26, 27 & 28, and will consist of a

LARGE PRIVATE COLLECTION IN 30 VOLUMES,

including a large number of FINE AND RARE STAMPS, a large portion of which are unused.

CATALOGUES READY JULY 31st.

THE DATES OF MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S STAMP SALES FOR NEXT SEASON HAVE BEEN FIXED AS FOLLOWS:—

1900.—September 25, 26, 27 and 28; October 16, 17, 30 and 31; November 13, 14, 27 and 28; December 11 and 12.

1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17; May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12.

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.

Absolute Bargains.

A Collection of British Government Telegraph Stamps, fine and perfect copies.

Price, £12 only. Catalogued over £20.

	s.	d.
Transvaal, 1877, 6d. blue on rose, Sur-inverted	8	0
" 1885, 2/6 buff	2	0
B.S.A., 1890, 10/- green	10	0

BRITISH STAMPS.

	Price.	Catalogue
	s. d.	s. d.
3d. rose, small letters, wmk. Emblems	1 6	3 6
9d. straw	3 6	5 0
3d. rose, large letters,	0 7	0 8
1/- green	0 5	0 8
3d. rose " wmk. Crown	0 6	2 0
6d. grey	0 9	1 6
6d. grey	0 9	1 6
6d. lilac and carmine, large letters	0 6	1 3
1/- brown, large letters	0 9	1 3
1/- brown	0 9	1 3
1d. red with numbers in Maltese Cross, 1 to 12	4 0	
1d. red, imperf., Reconstructed Sheet, fine	6 0	
1d. red, perf. 14,	4 6	
4d. on blue paper, wmk. medium Garter	5 6	6 0
2½d. lilac, I.R. Official, 1865	4 6	6 6

CHAS. NISSEN & CO.,

... 77/8, High Holborn, London, W.C.

The "Fortnightly" 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 6
Quarter Column	0 10 0	Quarter Column	do. 0 8 6
One Inch	0 5 0	One inch	do. 0 5 0

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."

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
Vol. II. (Nos. 27 to 52), similarly bound	4 9
Vol. III. (Nos. 53 to 78)	4 9
Vol. IV. (Nos. 79 to 104)	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.

Always mention the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY in answering Advertisements.

GERMAN COLONIES.

ENTIRE SETS CONSIDERABLY CHEAPER.

COLONY.	3 Pfg.	5 Pfg.	10 Pfg.	20 Pfg.	25 Pfg.	50 Pfg.	COLONY.	3 Pfg.	5 Pfg.	10 Pfg.	20 Pfg.	25 Pfg.	50 Pfg.	
Togo . . .	10	10	20	40	50	100	Shmoa . . .	Will be sent as soon as received.						unused
	10	10	25	40	50	100		A good supply ordered.						used
German S. W. Africa, 1897	10	15	50	50	x	x	German East Africa, 1893	40	75	75	100	x	100	
German S. W. Africa, 1898	10	10	20	40	x	100	German East Africa, 1896	10	10	20	40	x	80	
Cameroons . . .	10	15	20	40	50	100	German China	10	10	20	40	50	100	
	10	15	30	40	75	100	German	10	10	20	40	50	75	
Marshall Islands . . .	The entire set of 50.						used	German Morocco	10	10	20	30	40	
Marshall Islands . . .	100	100	x	x	100	100	used	German Levant, 1884	50	50	50	200	200	
Maramosa Islands . . .	Will be sent as soon as received.						unused	German Levant, 1889	x	10	15	25	35	
Caroline Is. . .	A good supply ordered.						used	German Empire, 1880	x	10	15	5	40	
	Will be sent as soon as received.						unused		10	15	50	40	60	
	A good supply ordered.						used		One sheet of each value to be sold,					
COLONY.	3 Pfg.	5 Pfg.	10 Pfg.	20 Pfg.	25 Pfg.	50 Pfg.	COLONY.	3 Pfg.	5 Pfg.	10 Pfg.	20 Pfg.	25 Pfg.	50 Pfg.	

Prices NET. Spaces marked with a x show where Stamps have not been issued. POSTAGE EXTRA. I will send at all times good Selections of German Colonials.

ENTIRE SETS CONSIDERABLY CHEAPER.

PRICES NET. Buy any quantity German Colonial Stamps. [POSTAGE EXTRA. COLLECTORS wishing to complete their Collections cheaply, will receive gratis and post free, my New Stock List, suitable for beginners as well as large collectors.]

PHILIPP KOSACK, Berlin, C.

BURGSTRASSE 8.

OPPOSITE THE ROYAL PALACE.

Telephone V. No. 2157.

Telegraph Address: "Markenkosack."

CORRESPONDENCE—German, English, French, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish.

SPECIAL
INCH
Advertisements

(Prepaid & Unchangeable).

12 Insertions - £1 0 0

26 ,, (whole year) 1 17 6

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, promptly always. One of the finest stocks in London.

STAMPS!

One hundred British Colonial Postage Stamps; all different and genuine; post free, 2/6.

J. M. WATKINS,

53, St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C.

THE WILLIAM STAMP COMPANY,

90, London Wall, LONDON, E.C., ENGLAND.

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.

BELOW AUCTION PRICES

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

sd. in the 1/- Discount.

This is no catch advertisement. Write for selections. Many bargains. Satisfaction guaranteed.

BRIDGER & KAY, 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C.

OLD POSTAGE STAMPS WANTED.

BLUETT'S STAMPSHOP, 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.

LARGE & SMALL COLLECTIONS WANTED FOR CASH.

High Prices also paid for single & rare stamps. Best Stamp Mounts made, coated with pure gum arabic, 1/- per 1000. Post free.

F. G. BEPLER, 109, Cheapside, London. Established 1878.

H. ROSS-SHIELDS & Co.,

75, LITTLE BRITAIN, LONDON, E.C. Two minutes from G. P. O.

Wholesale and Retail List free.

Consignments and offers solicited.

Hayti, well assorted, used, 6d. per doz., 3/6 per 100.

Newfoundland, 1898. 1/2, 1, 2, and 3c. 5d. per set, 2/9 per 12 sets.

Special Mixture, splendid value, 2/- per 100.

KERR & LANHAM, 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.



Senf's Postage Stamp Album
Is the best in the World.
Price List on application.
Ranging from 4d. to £6 5s.
C. F. LUECKE, Publisher, LEIPZIG, SAXONY.

SPECIAL INCH ADVERTISEMENTS, Prepaid and Unchangeable, 12 Insertions, £1; 26 Insertions, £1 17s. 6d.

BRITISH PLATE NUMBERS.

4d. red, unassorted plates, 2/- 100 - 15 - 1000.
1d. " imperf., 1/3 1000; 7/6 10,000.
1d. " imperf., 1/5 1000.
Approval Books of all varieties, at reasonable prices, sent to responsible applicants.

C. NISSEN & Co.,

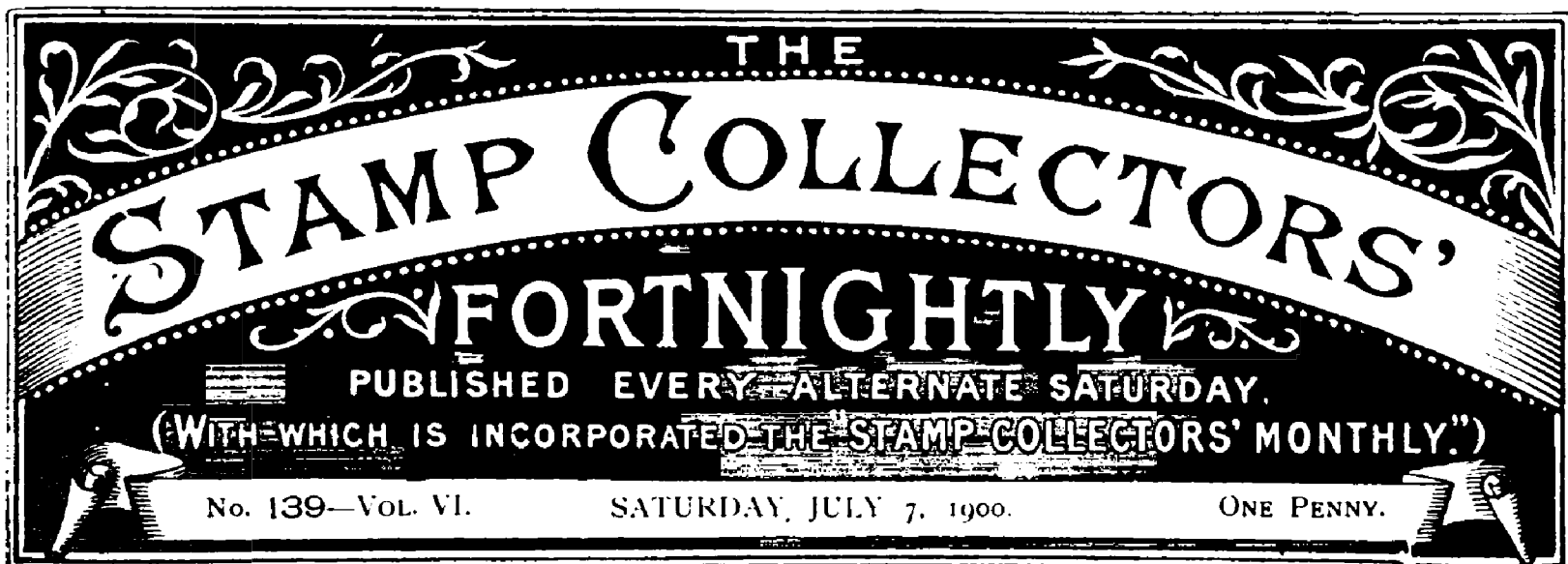
77-78, High Holborn, W.C. (KINDLY NOTE THE CHANGE OF ADDRESS.)

POSTCARDS, ENVELOPES, &c.

A Priced List of Packets of these, from 20 for 1/- to 100 all different for 12/-, used and unused, can be had on application. A fine set of 500 Varieties for £6, unused or partly used, as may be preferred, with or without several Envelopes and Wrappers; some of which are catalogued from 1/- to 15/- each.

BEN WEBSTER, 15, Paultons Sq., Chelsea, S.W.

Collectors' Guide to the Values of Canada.



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

No. 139—Vol. VI. SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1900. ONE PENNY.

SALE OF THE WELL-KNOWN CASTLE COLLECTION.

WE beg to state that we have effected the Sale of this UNIQUE COLLECTION of UNUSED EUROPEAN STAMPS, the transaction being the largest and most important that has ever taken place in connection with Philately.

The Collection already contains upwards of 60,000 specimens, and as the present owner is desirous of adding to it, we shall be pleased to see any really fine Unused Stamps that may come on the market. Pairs and blocks of Stamps preferred.

Messrs. GEO. HAMILTON-SMITH & Co.,

10, Bishopsgate Street, Within,

LONDON, E.C.

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.



63/4, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents.

The opening Sales next season will be held in the ARBITRATION ROOM, on **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th, and following day**, commencing at 5 o'clock exactly. These Sales will principally consist of a fine Private Collection, to be sold entirely without reserve. The lots will include, among other rarities too numerous to mention, **Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock Triangular errors, 1d. blue and 4d. red.**

Other Sales will take place bi-monthly, and Philatelists having Entire Collections or Loose Stamps to dispose of should make immediate arrangements if inclusion is desired in early auctions. As MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & Co. are the only firm of Auctioneers confining their whole attention to the Sale of Stamps on Commission, and do not deal or even collect on their own account, the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious. Commission on lots sold, 10%. 1/6 per lot (irrespective of value) being charged on unsold lots.

— CASH ADVANCES AND VALUATIONS MADE. —

Settlements usually in eight days, at the very latest within 14 days from date of Sale. Bids from buyers unable to attend the sales personally executed without charge and at prices as much below limits as possible.

— CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION. —

ORANGE RIVER COLONY

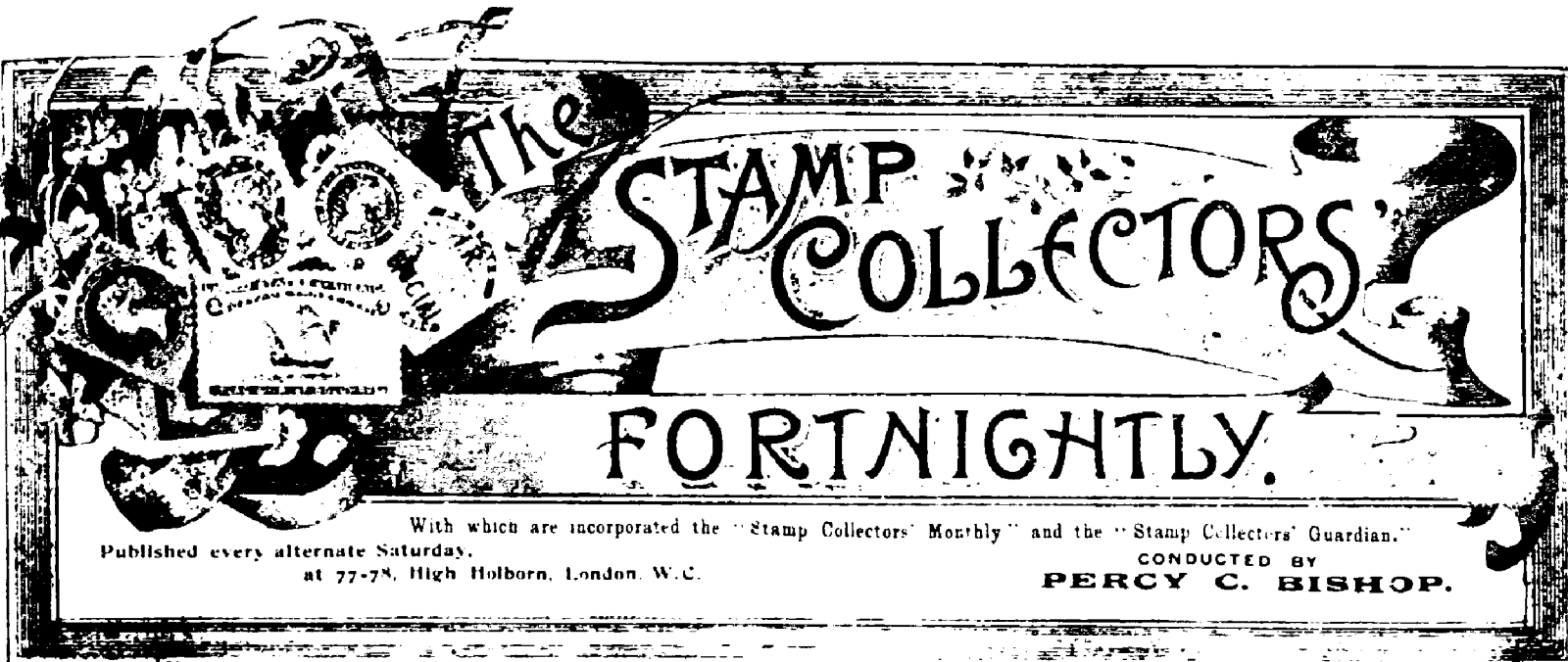
V. R. I. VARIETIES.

ALL IN PAIRS, with normal type se-tenant, unused.

			s.	d.	
½d., thick "V"	-	-	2	0	the pair
½d., broken "V"	-	-	2	0	"
1d., thick "V"	-	-	2	6	"
1d., broken "V"	-	-	2	6	"
3d., no stop after "V"	-	-	8	6	"
1/-, broken "V"	-	-	10	0	"
5/-, thick "V"	-	-	45	0	"

W. H. PECKITT,

44o, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.



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 Rochdale Philatelic Society, the Cambridge University Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, and the Central Philatelic Club.

No. 139.—Vol. VI. SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1900. ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

GIBRALTAR NO LONGER A "POSTAL PARADISE."

MR. H. F. MAXTED, in the course of an interesting letter from Gibraltar, corrects a mis-statement quoted from the "Daily News" in our article "War Issues and Surcharges." Readers will remember that reference was made to the fact that people at Gibraltar were able, owing to coinage complications, to enjoy cheaper letter postage to England than any other part of the British Empire. But thus, Mr. Maxted reminds us, is no longer the case, for from 1st October, 1898, British currency has been made the only legal currency at "Gib." Spanish money, it seems, is still current there, but is not accepted at the Post Office.

MR. M. P. CASTLE ON "SPECIALISM" AND "GENERALISM."

ALTHOUGH not so well attended as in former years, the dinner of the London Philatelic Society, at the Café Monaco, provided (the "London Philatelist" states) a very enjoyable evening for those present.

Mr. M. P. Castle, as Vice-President of the Society, occupied the chair. In proposing the toast of the evening—"The London Philatelic Society"—Mr. Castle drew attention to the fact that the year 1900 was the thirty-first of the life of the Society, and referred to the great debt of gratitude that it owed to its early founders and leading officials, calling attention to the necessity of having younger and earnest workers to take the places of the veterans as they passed away from the front ranks. Mr. Castle also dwelt upon the advantages and delights afforded by scientific specialising, but strongly insisted upon the necessity of having passed through the primary course of general collecting, without which it was difficult to acquire true appraisement or a correct appreciation of relative philatelic value.

A FIND OF IMPERFORATE FIRST ISSUE SAMOA.

"MEKILL'S WEEKLY," in a recent issue, reports that Mr. William J. Gardner, of San Francisco, recently received, in a foreign correspondent's parcel, one entire sheet (ten stamps) of the 6d. lilac, first issue, Samoa, imperforate; one entire sheet and a block of four of the 1d. blue ditto; and a block of four of the 5s. green ditto! The importance of the find was first made manifest by Mr. Max Ettinger and Mr. A. H. Weber, who shared the stamps with Messrs. H. J. Crocker and C. Eschman, some securing blocks and some pairs. There appears to be no doubt whatever as to the genuineness of the stamps, but it seems a pity that the sheets were not preserved entire.

HOW TO SEE THE PARIS PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

MR. ALBERT COYETTE, Hon. Secretary of the Paris Philatelic Exhibition, communicates various items of news not yet given in the *Fortnightly* :—

This Exhibition, open from the 28th of August to the 9th of September, organised by the Société Française de Timbrologie, has been placed under the high patronage of Mr. Léon Mougeot, Under Secretary of State of Post and Telegraphs of France, and will be held in the French National Society of Horticulture Buildings, No. 84, Rue de Grenelle, Paris. One hundred horizontal show-cases and 1,200 vertical frames are available to exhibitors. All the stamps shown will be insured against fire, while all necessary care will be taken to assure perfect safeguard and vigilance.

The international jury comprises the best-known philatelic experts of the whole world. There will be numerous rewards (gold, silver and bronze medals), and a distinct competition for collectors and dealers.

The Exhibition promises to be a grand success: the admittances are already numerous. We advise collectors and dealers to ask for the prospectus and regulations of the Hon. Secretary of the Exhibition, Mr. Albert Coyette, 130, Rue de Rivoli, Paris.

Application for admission are receivable up to June 30th. Persons wishing to correspond in English can write to Mr. Geo. P. Grignard, member of the Committee, 48, Rue St. Ferdinand, Paris. Those desiring to correspond in German can write to Mr. Gustave Beil, member of the Committee, 64, Rue de Batignolles, Paris.

Twelve show and sale rooms are reserved in the Exhibition halls for dealers desiring to sell stamps to visitors. Only subscribers to these salerooms will be allowed business transactions on the premises of the Exhibition.

CONCERNING THE CARTIER STAMP COMPANY.

UNDER "TWIXT Editor and Reader," in the last *Fortnightly*, attention was drawn to a complaint regarding the business methods of the Cartier Stamp Company, of Toronto, Canada, who were advertisers in the *S.C.F.* under the old

regime. A Streatham reader, Mr. T. F. Phillpot, now writes us as follows:—

In August last I sent them a small remittance (2/-) for a certain Canadian stamp they were advertising in the S.C.F. In due course I received two stamps and an envelope, as they were not what I had written for, or even wanted, and as I could have bought them here for 6d. or less, I at once returned them to the Company and asked them if they could not supply the stamp I required, to return me the money. To this letter they vouchsafed no reply, nor did they take any notice of a letter which I sent to them at a later date, registered, in which I threatened to expose their method of business.

Our correspondent adds that a friend in Toronto, to whom he wrote on this matter, made enquiries about the Cartier Stamp Company, but could learn nothing about them! This gives the matter an ugly look; and we trust that some of the philatelists of Toronto will do a little investigating both for the credit of the Canadian philatelic community and in the interests of their cousins in the old country.

If International philately is to be fostered we must at all costs stamp out fraud and sharp practice in international philatelic dealings.

Notes on New Issues.

Bussahir.—This Indian native state, having been blessed by Major Evans and the Philatelic Society of India, is "going it" hot and strong. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a set of eight new Bussahir stamps, pretty much the same as the old—a trifle uglier if anything. The values and colours are as follows:—

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, scarlet.	4 annas, violet.
$\frac{1}{2}$ " blue.	8 " red-brown.
1 " olive-green.	12 " green.
2 " yellow.	1 rupee, blue.

The stamps are again surcharged with an official monogram, this appearing in green on the $\frac{1}{2}$, 2, 4 and 8 annas and in red on the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 and 12 annas and 1 rupee.

Congo (Independent).—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us four stamps in new colours: 5 centimes green and black; 10c. red and black; 25c. blue and black and 50c. olive and black.

Congo (French).—Fifteen of the most hideous labels we have ever seen are sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. Exigencies of space compel us to reserve our description for the next Fortnightly.

Mauritius.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a new 6 cents stamp of the current type:—

Adhesive: 6 cents, green, value in red.

Puerto Rico.—This paltry island will bring down our grey hairs in sorrow to the grave. For some months past philatelic rumours anent Porto—we beg pardon, Puerto Rico have fallen upon us thick as leaves in Vallambrosa, until we begin to wonder, in the rich American vernacular, "where we are at." First it was Porto, then Puerto, then Porto again, and now we are back at Puerto. We say nothing about the recent statement that in future the island would use the ordinary U.S.A. stamps entirely devoid of overprint. That was only a little jest of the American officials.

The current 2 cents U.S.A., surcharged "Puerto Rico" diagonally in black, is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. Doubtless another month will bring us "Porto"—for a change.

Sarawak.—We have receive the following from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.:

Adhesive: 1 dollar, rose; value in green.

Samoa (German).—The German stamps of the old issue are being fitted with the usual black diagonal surcharge for use in Samoa. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 3, 5, 10, 20, 25 and 50 pfennig stamps surcharged "Samoa" in this way. At the same time we have to thank Mr. Ross O'Shaughnessy, of San Francisco, for the information that he received two of these stamps on a letter from Apia, dated May 18th. Below "Apia" in the postmark appears: "Kaiserdeutsche Postagentur."

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.

CANADA.		Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1851-57. "Pence" issue, imperf.: on various papers, as indicated.					
$\frac{1}{2}$ d. pink, wove	..	25/	15/	10/	6/
3d. red, laid ..	..	100/	60/	10/	6/
3d. red, wove ..	..	17/6	12/6	1/6	1/
6d. violet, laid ..	..	200/	120/	17/6	13/
6d. purple, wove ..	..	200/	120/	17/6	13/
6d. violet, thick wove ..	..	700/	400/	30/	21/
7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green, wove ..	..	180/	120/	50/	30/
10d. blue, thick wove ..	..	200/	140/	27/6	20/
10d. blue, thin wove ..	..	130/	80/	25/	18/
12d. black, laid ..	..	1600/	1000/	1200/	800/
<i>The same, but perforated 12; wove paper.</i>					
$\frac{1}{2}$ d. pink ..	..	40/	30/	22/6	17/6
3d. red ..	..	35/	27/6	12/6	9/
6d. violet ..	..	210/	130/	110/	70/
1859. Similar to the above, but priced in cents.					
1c. pink ..	..	2/	1/6	1/3	1/2
2c. pink ..	..	5/6	4/	3/	2/
5c. vermilion ..	..	2/	1/3	1/2	1/
10c. lilac ..	..	20/	12/6	1/6	1/
10c. violet-black ..	..	60/	40/	10/6	7/
12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. yellow-green ..	..	7/6	5/	1/	1/9
17c. blue ..	..	10/	7/	2/6	1/9
1869. Head of Queen to right: perf. 12 and 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12.					
$\frac{1}{2}$ c. black ..	..	1/6	1/4	1/6	1/4
1c. red ..	..	2/	1/3	1/	1/9
1c. orange ..	..	7/6	5/	1/3	1/
2c. green ..	..	2/6	1/6	1/4	1/3
3c. red ..	..	2/6	1/6	1/2	1/1
5c. slate-green ..	..	8/6	6/	1/3	1/9
6c. brown ..	..	5/	3/6	1/4	1/3
12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. blue ..	..	5/	3/6	1/6	1/4
15c. lilac ..	..	1/	1/9	1/3	1/2
15c. grey-blue ..	..	3/	2/3	1/3	2
<i>On laid paper.</i>					
1c. red ..	..	..	..	50/	30/
3c. red ..	..	..	..	66/	42/
1869-57. Design similar, but stamps smaller.					
1c. orange ..	..	..	..	3/	2/
1c. yellow ..	..	..	..	2/	1/
2c. green ..	..	..	..	1/2	1/1
3c. rose ..	..	..	..	1/3	1/2
5c. olive green ..	..	..	..	1/6	1/1
6c. brown ..	..	..	..	1/3	1/9
10c. lilac ..	..	..	..	3/6	2/6

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1882-90. Same design, but colours changed.				
4c. black	1/1	1/1	
2c. blue-green	1/3	1	
3c. carmine	1/3	1/1	
5c. brown black	1/6	1/1	
6c. chestnut	1/3	1/2	
10c. carmine red	1/6	3	
1892-93. Present day Portrait of Queen.				
20c. vermilion	1/3	1/4	
50c. blue	3/6	1/1	
<i>Head of Queen to left.</i>				
8c. grey	3/1	1/2	
8c. slate	1/3	2	
1897. Jubilee Issue				
4c. black	1/6	1/1	
1c. orange	1	1	
2c. green	1/2	1/2	
3c. rose	1/2		1/1
5c. blue	1/4		1/3
6c. brown	1/6		1/6
8c. violet	1/1	1/9	
10c. brown-violet	1/9	1/9	
15c. steel blue	1/1		9
20c. vermilion	1/3	1	
50c. ultramarine	2/9	1	
\$1 red	5/6		4/7
\$2 dark purple	10/6		
\$3 yellow-brown	16	10/	
\$4 purple	21	12/6	
\$5 olive	25/	15	

REGISTRATION STAMPS.

1875-89. Oblong Labels, inscribed "Canada Registered Stamps," perforated 12.

2c. orange .. ..	..	1/3	2	1	1/1
5c. green .. ..	..	1/6	3	1	1/1
8c. blue .. ..	..	8/6	6/	8/6	6/

It has not been deemed necessary to carry the "Collectors' Guide," in the case of Canada, beyond the Jubilee issue of 1897. It would be space unprofitably used to list the numerous common stamps issued since that time, a large proportion of which, we believe, are still on sale at the post offices of the Dominion.

(To be continued)

The Japanese Imperial Wedding Stamp.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us a more detailed description of the Japanese Wedding Stamp as received by them from a correspondent in Japan.

At the top of the oval is the chrysanthemum, the imperial crest. In each of the corners is a sprig of Pawlonia, but those in the lower corners are entwined, the one with the Chinese character for three and the other with that for ten.

The inscriptions read downwards. That at one side "Dai Nihon Teikoku Yubin," meaning "Japanese Imperial Post," while that on the other is "Togu Gokingo Shiku ten" signifies "To commemorate the Prince Imperial's Wedding."

The little box inside the oval is called the Yanagibako (willow box). It is covered with very nice red paper and in this the first letter which the bridegroom sent to the bride is kept. The one above that looks like a larger box is really a table beautifully ornamented with pictures of cranes and pines. (It is said here in Japan that the crane lives a thousand years and that the pine never dies, hence these are emblematic of long life.) On the table are placed cakes of Mikka yo mochi (three days and nights bread,) so called because it is left in the bridal chamber for three days and nights after the wedding so that the bride and bridegroom may eat it whenever they wish. These cakes are made of rice flour and there as many cakes as there are years in the bride's age.

Reminiscences of a Philatelist.

By WALTER NATHAN.

(Continued from page 58.)

AFTER the purchase of the unused Ceylon stamps I began to consider the advisability of removing my collection from the Lallier album in which it reposed. The excellent philatelic albums of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Mr. Wilson, and others of the present day were as yet but unrealized dreams in the minds of collectors of the seventies, and choice was confined to Oppen's, Lallier's, or Moens' as best of printed books, and plain albums to suit the collector's taste.

THE SINS OF OPPEN AND LALLIER.

I believe Oppens had the largest sale at that period, and when one considers that the stamps were stuck down on both sides of the pages, it is not wonderful that the rarer specimens of old stamps show such lamentable condition in the majority of cases. Lallier too has much to answer for in providing spaces giving the outline of the device. This was the primary cause of the chipping mania which infected the bulk of collectors of that period. To make the stamp fit in the space provided, it was often necessary to trim the edges, and this was ruthlessly done with imperforated and perforated stamps, while such stamps as the 1d. Van Dieman's Land of the first issue, had the angles often cut out in addition.

AN EXAMPLE OF THE CUTTING MANIA.

An instance occurs to me of a collection I had offered me in 1886, and although chronologically out of order, it gives a striking example of the cutting mania. The collection was started about 1857, and continued to about 1872. It numbered 1400 stamps, and if the stamps had been in good condition would, at the time it was offered me, have been worth about £100. When I write that it was offered me for £50, and that I declined it, some idea of the condition of the stamps may be gathered. There were no torn nor dirty specimens, but every stamp was shown to the inner line of the device, and all stamps such as Ceylon cut to octangular shape. I have myself been guilty of taking off a portion of a margin which appeared excessively large, but I am happy to think the damage I did in this way was small, and that I never touched perforated stamps.

I bought a small morocco-bound plain album from Lincoln, and subsequently a quarto Russia bound cardboard leaved scrap book while on a Summer visit to Brighton. All the stamps were stuck down in my old album, and consequently the "original gum," now so highly prized, but then not valued, was lost in the transfer. In addition I spoilt an unused set of Russian by soaking them in water. The change, however, well repaid me for the trouble and damage, as my collection when arranged presented a very handsome appearance. I thought I had a complete set of unused English up to that date, but I now know my collection was far from complete. Still the pages of English presented a grand appearance, despite the fact that neither varieties of watermark nor plate numbers were included. The German States were all unused; and Oldenburg, Wurtemberg, Saxony and Hanover superb. These stamps could at that time be bought very cheaply in mint state, and they have wonderfully appreciated in value. All the shades in Oldenburg from 1851 to 1860 inclusive, cost me 26/- in mint state, and other good old unused German did not command higher prices.

My Cape, Ceylon, British Columbia, and Canada were all unused, except the 12d. Canada, the same I had refused 2/6 for. But these stamps were not rarities, with very few exceptions. Mint triangular Cape at 1/- for 1d. and 4d., 2/- for 6d., and 3/- for 1/-, represent the prices paid to Messrs. Stafford Smith, of the Colonnade, Brighton, and I also picked up some nice stamps at a naturalist's in the road leading from Brighton station, and at a Pavilion at the end of the West Pier. With the exception, however, of the 12d. Canada, and the unused Ceylon, I did not consider this lot in any way special, although I should much like to have a similar lot, even without the rarities, offered to me to-day.

(To be continued.)

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JULY 7, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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.

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EVERY year the period "between seasons" in Philately contracts. In fact the interval is now more apparent than real. True, the end of June usually sees the finish of one auction season and the beginning of September another; but though the auctioneers cease from troubling and their hammers are at rest, it does not follow that stamp collectors lock up their albums and dealers their stock-books, to think no more of Philately till the autumn comes again. And in this year of 1900, the sinister rumours, emanating goodness knows whence, to the effect that we are to have no summer whatsoever,—these, combined with the abominable weather, have had the effect of keeping would-be holiday makers at home. Thus it happens that in a rainy July many dealers in stamps are doing far better business than fell to their lot in December and January last—months that are popularly supposed to represent the height of philatelic season. But while there is "plenty doing" in the actual business of philately, news is scarce and the philatelic chronicler is hard put to it to complete his tale of "matter." That is why, for, we think, the first time in its existence the *Fortnightly* devotes its editorial article to the subject of "the weather."

Mr. Victor Tapling, a cousin of the late Mr. T. K. Tapling, M.P., has just returned from South Africa.

With deep regret we have to record the death of Dr. Mortlock, of Wigton, an earnest and well-known north country philatelist.

Stamps to be submitted to the Expert Committee of the London Philatelic Society must now await the expiration of the Committee's summer holiday. The expertisers resume business early in September.

What is a "pre-cancelled" stamp? It is a postmarked-to-order stamp with a difference. In certain cases American firms, about to despatch a large mail have been supplied with U.S.A. stamps in a cancelled condition.

A Correspondent writes us that some of the current Transvaal stamps have been surcharged with the letters "V.R." He states that fifty were so surcharged in Pretoria and that thirty of them were used. Somebody in Pretoria has done himself well!

Something about Entires.

IF readers would really read the readings I am ready to write, they would not so readily set me right as to what postal entires really are. There! The dictionary tells us that "entire" means something complete in itself, and thus a piece of postal stationery is a postcard or an envelope or a wrapper as officially issued with an impressed stamp, complete and entire in itself. A common envelope (or a pictorial postcard) that requires an adhesive stamp to pass it through the post cannot in this sense be an "entire," being made up of two or more parts. Such a thing is an "adhesive on original cover"—not an entire.

There is nothing against the collection of adhesives on envelopes, if you have friends enough to supply you with them from all parts of the world; but as dealers do not stock them (and never will) nor issue price lists of them, they cannot have a permanent interest, except some few coming from places like South Africa recently.

While on the subject of envelopes, we may therefore refer to some of those issued by our own post office. As has been previously pointed out, the first English stamps were the Mulready sheets and envelopes which were issued at the same time as the "penny blacks," 60 years ago. Some collect these as stamps and some as entires. Passing on to envelopes proper—which had not been in general use before for postal purposes owing to the rate being doubled if two pieces of paper went as one letter—the first ones were made for issue in January, 1841, from a special paper with silk threads embedded in its texture, and commonly known as "Dickinson" paper, after its inventor and maker. The same paper was used subsequently for the 10d. and 1s. adhesives of the embossed octagon design.

The sizes were 120 by 69 and 133 by 85mm. followed six months later by a still smaller one, 4 by 2½ inches, and these envelopes were in use for 20 years, though some were made with plain or cream laid paper from September, 1855. As an instance of our inherent conservatism it may be noted that the die used for embossing the Queen's head is virtually the same now as then, but dates were inserted in the outer oval from 1855 to 1880. These were all penny stamps in varying shades of pink, but a 2d. blue was also in use during 1841. No other envelope values were officially issued for sale at post offices until 1892, when the ¼d. vermilion or scarlet first appeared, also a 2½d. envelope for foreign postage.

If anyone with plenty of money and brains is attracted to the study of British envelopes I can promise him a high old time of it, as there are over 200 die numbers on H.M.'s. bust (130 with WW after them), and a few thousand dates; but cannot guarantee that £100 will secure even the plums. And much more can be spent on the numerous values from 1½d. to 5s. compounded on envelopes stamped to order.

So do not let philatelists, stamp collectors and accumulators despair of finding new worlds to conquer. They will find as much fun, excitement, danger, pleasure, what you will, in completing their English philatelic education as in getting together 60,000 European stamps for £30,000. A nice set of European entires can be got for one-tenth that sum.

It is curious that Finland and Geneva in 1845-6 should be the first issuers of envelopes outside our island, followed by Russia, and in the fifties by Prussia, Mecklenburg Schwerin, Hanover, Saxony and Baden. In our possessions, India with Ceylon appear the first in 1856-7, afterwards Canada, Mauritius and Victoria, with complete sets of which I should feel in Paradise—or well on the way.

NEW ENVELOPES OF NEW ZEALAND.

The very latest envelopes have been sent us by Mr. Rosenberg, of Woodville, N.Z., consisting of ¼d. and 1d. of New Zealand, adhesive design in a sort of purple-slate and rose respectively, un gummed, tuck-in flaps, sizes and make like our English ¼d. 138 × 80 and 225 × 97 mm; for printed matter only.

HAWK-EYE.

Enquiries answered monthly—or direct if stamped envelope is sent—addressed "Hawk-Eye," c/o. The Editor.

TOO MUCH BORNEO.

WHY IS IT THAT PHILATELISTS ARE SUPPLIED WITH STAMPS THAT NEVER GET TO BORNEO AT ALL?

ONE of these days, and that soon, the authorities of Labuan and British North Borneo must be made to mend their manners.

The history, the *philatelic* history, of these territories is, not to put too fine a point upon it, a long chapter of sharp practice. A careful student of the record of British North Borneo in particular stands amazed at the picture of the long-suffering philatelist still supporting with his hard cash the frequent unnecessary emissions of this territory. The pathetic side of the picture lies in the fact that the majority of the purchasers of the stamps of Labuan and North Borneo are the younger and less experienced philatelists; the very class who can least afford to waste their money in unprofitable trash.

The philatelic traffic of Labuan and North Borneo is a new South Sea Bubble, and the sooner it is pricked the better for philatelists, and possibly also the better for the administrators of the territories concerned.

STAMPS ISSUED ONLY TO PHILATELISTS.

The 4c. stamps of the "Monkey" type are of sufficiently recent date to be fresh in the minds of all our readers. Will it be believed that these labels have never been issued to the public—meaning the public of Labuan and of North Borneo—at all?

Such is the fact; for we have seen letters—official letters—proving incontestably that these Monkey labels have never been placed on sale either in Borneo or in Labuan. Moreover, it appears to be the intention of the authorities to issue only the orange stamp. It follows, therefore, that the so-called "errors" of colour are essays or, at the best, "unused stamps."

THE EVIDENCE OF CORRESPONDENTS ON THE SPOT.

From Labuan, under date March last, a letter of a semi-official character states positively that the new 4c. stamps had not, up to that date, been received. The same communication speaks of a forthcoming permanent 4c. value, describing this as an *orange* stamp with an *ourang-outang* in the centre in black.

As recently as April 15th, comes another communication from the same place. "I understand," says the writer of this missive, "that a 4c. Monkey stamp is being sold by the British North Borneo Company in London, and I cannot conceive why this is so when the label has never been seen here, the country of its alleged issue!"

From Sandakan, in British North Borneo, comes precisely the same story, and in this case the date of the latest communication to hand is in mid-May, the writer stating that the promised 4c. stamps are not yet to hand.

It has long been known that the quickest way to purchase the stamps of either British North Borneo or Labuan is to go direct to the offices of the British North Borneo Company in London. It would now be interesting to know, and doubtless careful investigation will bring this out, what proportion of the revenue of this important corporation is derived from philatelists.

THE BRITISH NORTH BORNEO COMPANY.

The Borneo Company we believe, is one of the Chartered Companies, and as such is allowed very wide governmental powers; but at the same time its actions, quite properly, are to a certain extent subject to the supervision of the Imperial Government, and it remains to be seen whether an enquiry in Parliament may not have the effect of bringing about a more respectable postal administration in the Company's territories. Philatelists are a patient folk, but we have a vivid recollection of how the Nyassa Company's little philatelic deal was scotched by the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, and it is possible that something of the same sort may befall those uncrowned kings of Borneo, whose sceptres are quills

and whose thrones are the comfortable arm-chairs of a palatial city office.

A FEW INTERESTING EXTRACTS.

A little scissors-and-paste, the crude but effective weapons of many a reforming war, will serve to show the, to put it mildly, unsatisfactory methods practised by the British North Borneo Company in the "Philatelic Department" of their business. For our purpose we select the file of the "London Philatelist" and we do so, not because that journal has made a "feature" of the stamps under notice but because the London Philatelic Society's organ is one well-known the world over as a magazine not given to exaggerated or sensational statements. The more important of the extracts we shall make are from letters written to the "L.P." by Mr. A. H. Stamford, the well-known President of the Bradford Philatelic Society—a collector to whose public spirit we owe many startling exposures of the British North Borneo Company's curious postal administration.

In the October '99 issue of the "London Philatelist" one finds chronicled the many different provisionals of Labuan and Borneo (4c. surcharges) for which the Imperial Penny Postage scheme was the excuse, and in the same number appears a letter thereon from Mr. Stamford.

I find (writes this gentleman) that not only has *one* provisional 4c. stamp been issued, but that in the case of North Borneo six different 4c. surcharged stamps have come out, and in the case of Labuan no less than nine different values have been surcharged 4c. My friend, in sending me these fifteen stamps—he was only able to get two sets—writes as follows: "You will notice that there is a big gap in the values of the North Borneo stamps, viz., 5c. to 25c. It appears that three intermediate values were surcharged, but some enterprising individual, presumably in the Singapore Post Office, opened the packet (a brown-paper one!) and abstracted the whole of the three missing values! So far there is no trace of them. Before the date of issue of these surcharges, the postmaster received, under cover, a large parcel of envelopes from someone in London stamped with the new surcharges, to be posted back to London from Sandakan. As, however, the stamps were not at that time issued in Sandakan, he very properly confiscated the lot. This shows, however, that the British North Borneo Company were selling the stamps in London before they were issued here, or else that they were forgeries."

Coming down to the December issued of the London Society's journal we find the following comments:

LABUAN AND NORTH BORNEO.—Referring to the issue of surcharged stamps noted on page 274, the "M. J." now informs us that while only 1,000 copies of each value were sent out, 10,000 of each were retained for sale at the office of the North Borneo Company in London. This sort of business does great harm to Philately, and it is astonishing that stamp collectors (we hardly like to say Philatelists) are found to purchase such rubbish—little or no better than the Hamburg Locals of our earlier days.

And in this same number (December, 1899), the 4c. stamps (?) of the "Monkey" design are chronicled as follows:

Adhesives. 4c., yellow, brown, and black.
4c., green and black.

Thus the stamps chronicled as being issued in December had not reached the country for whose postal needs they were created (?) up to May 15—perhaps have not got to North Borneo yet! A pretty state of things, truly. But worse remains behind.

A further letter from Mr. A. H. Stamford, under date January 10, is published in the "London Philatelist," of January, 1900. We extract the following:—

It may be of interest to supplement your remarks by information which I have recently received from a friend in Labuan, who tells me that instructions have been given for 10,000 each of the same series of Labuan as were issued on the Queen's Birthday to be sent to Sandakan to be surcharged there, so as to have a different overprint from the last lot, which were surcharged in England. The

numbers actually forwarded to Sandakan, as I understand, vary from 7,000 to 10,000, as the latter number could not be spared in each case. These, I am told, are to be sent to London direct, and that an envelope bearing the full set is to be posted as a proof that they have been used for postal purposes. None of these, my friend states, are to be sold in Labuan, and the only conclusion he can come to is that they will be sold at the British North Borneo London Office. It is supposed that there will be some difference in the type of the surcharge, by which the two series can probably be detected.

The italics are ours.

Could a more complete indictment of recent issues of Labuan and North Borneo be penned?

One more extract and we have done. This is from the "London Philatelist," of February last:—

LABUAN.—Mr. A. H. Stamford sends us a copy of the 4 cents on 18 cents, olive-bistre, with the word "cents" doubly surcharged. If this be the only error to be found in the late batch of surcharges, Philatelists may be thankful, but we fear it will not turn out to be so.

Our Review of Reviews.

The "Log" of the London Philatelic Society.

TOTAL membership of the London Philatelic Society—268, as against 270 this time last year.

New members, 12; losses by death or resignation, 15.

Number of meetings held during the year, 16. Average attendance, 16.

Exchange meetings held, "several"; average attendance, 12 to 13.

Papers read by: Mr. M. P. Castle (3), Mr. Gordon Smith, Mr. T. W. Hall, Baron P. de Worms, and Mr. F. Riehenheim.

Displays given by: Mr. Ehrenbach (Natal and the Dominican Republic), Mr. Castle (Switzerland), Mr. Passer (Austria), and Mr. Oldfield (Colombia).

Philatelic works published: "Stamps of the British Isles," by A. B. Creeke and the late Hastings Wright and Part II of the Society's work on the Stamps of the British Colonies, &c., in South Africa.

Finances of the Society: "In a sound and satisfactory condition."

There you have, boiled down, the facts enunciated in Mr. John Tilleard's excellent annual report of the London Philatelic Society. But apart from the routine matter inseparable from a Society's report the Hon. Secretary has reviewed the leading events of the year most interestingly, making his annual report, as published in the "London Philatelist," an eminently readable document.

THE GREAT ANGLO-INDIAN AMALGAMATION.

As to the proposed amalgamation with the Philatelic Society of India Mr. Tilleard tells us that the scheme raises questions of great moment, and it would be premature to go into details until the committee to whom it has been referred for consideration has made its report, which will be presented to the Society early next season.

SOME EXITS AND ENTRANCES.

Changes in the personnel of our leading Society's Executive must of necessity interest every philatelist in the kingdom. Mr. R. Pearce retires from the Council of the Society consequent upon the sale of his collection; Major Evans, having to resume his military duties, also retires; Mr. Wickham Jones's engagements do not enable him to continue to act, and for private reasons Mr. Gordon Smith becomes once more a "private member," although still continuing his work in Committee.

The Council of the Society is now constituted as follows: President, H.R.H. the Duke of York; Vice-President, Mr. M. P. Castle; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. A. Tilleard; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. C. N. Biggs; Hon. Assistant Secretary, Mr. H. R. Oldfield; Hon. Librarian, Mr. T. Maycock; and Messrs. W. B. Avery, E. D. Bacon, W. Dorning Beckton, R. Ehrenbach, L. L. R. Hansburg, C. E. McNaughton, R. Meyer, F. Ransom, and H. J. White.

ALL SORTS AND CONDITIONS OF MEN.

A glance down the complete list of members of the London Philatelic Society shows most strikingly how all classes mingle in the pursuit of philately. There are two Royal Dukes, a couple of foreign Princes, two "belted Earls," a trio of Baronets, four Barons, one Knight, two Justices of the Peace, one Consul, about half a dozen clergymen, and officers and doctors galore. Lady members number six only.

Two Types of the 4 Cents Seychelles.

"Morley's Philatelic Journal," in its June number, gives a most interesting description, with comparative illustrations, of two types of the 4c. carmine and green Seychelles, as discovered by Mr. O. Firth. There are some five points of difference enumerated by our contemporary, but it is pointed out that the safest guide in differentiating the one type from the other will be to take the character of the nose as the salient feature, calling type 1 aquiline and type 2 rétroussé. Personally, we do not see anything very rétroussé in the nose of type 2 as revealed by the illustration given, but it is distinctly a different nose from that of type 1. Aquiline will do very well for the first type, but we should prefer to call the second a Grecian.

The "Discoveries" in "Morley's Philatelic Journal" which had languished a little of late are represented more numerous in the July issue; in that number we find varieties listed of Ecuador, Great Britain, Holland and Surinam.

Cancellations of the Circular Delivery Stamps.

Great interest must always attach to the curious old stamps of the British Circular Delivery Companies, which began to appear in 1867, and were summarily suppressed by the postal authorities two years later. "Morley's Philatelic Journal" in its July number has an interesting article on the subject of these labels from the pen of Mr. Walter Morley himself—with special reference to the postmarks, if we may so term unofficial obliterations applied to these stamps.

It seems that the originator of the Circular Delivery Companies was a Mr. R. Brydone, who, in 1865, brought out the pioneer concern, the Edinboro' and Leith Circular Delivery Company. The stamps, as our readers know, ranged in value from ½d. upwards; but what is not so generally known is that genuine originals, especially postmarked specimens, are now exceedingly scarce. Mr. Morley in this connection tells us that the remainders of the "National" and the "London and Districts" were purchased by a London dealer, Mr. Cullum, and that the plates were bought by another dealer, who flooded the market with reprints to a far greater extent than that known even in the case of the Heligoland stamps. Several types of forgeries have appeared, but according to Mr. Morley there has been no fresh crop of these during the last ten or twelve years. The last seen were on sheets comprising all values up to 9d., with the various towns on the one sheet. These came, Mr. Morley thinks, from the Midlands.

Mr. Bacon, in the same number, writes on the fiscal stamps of Grenada, as printed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., and the various serial articles in our contemporary maintain their interest.

Mr. A. Preston Pearce, the editor of "Morley's Philatelic Journal," is to be congratulated upon his success in conducting a paper which is certainly no sinecure.

Corea's Up-to-date Postal System.

Our always newsy and interesting contemporary, the "Philatelic Monthly" of Philadelphia, quotes from American Consular Reports some interesting references to the postal system of the hermit kingdom. For two years past Corea has conducted an internal postal service quite up-to-date and in good working order, under the supervision, we learn, of a French postal expert. The Corean stamps up to the end of last year were printed in the United States, but the new issue of January last was obtained from Japan. It was on January 3rd, or thereabouts, that Corea sent out its first mail to foreign countries, and for that first sending the old stamps as printed in America were used, the Japanese printing being not yet to hand.

STAMPS AND By ALFRED JINGLE. HIPPISTAMPS

Author of "Gossip of the Hour" in former issues of the Fortnightly.

THE good Editor (all Editors are good) cut off the account of my hunt for the Castle Collection just in its most exciting part. That was to make you buy the next *Fortnightly*, gentle reader. The journalistic business has got to be played properly or not all. With these opening remarks I will pick up the thread of my story at the place where it was snapped:

Approaching the door of Messrs. Hamilton-Smith's offices, striding along, with big business in his eye, was the Baron Ferdinand de Rhinoclutch. I caught hold of myself; I forced myself to be calm. He entered—an hour passed—he emerged! Like a sleuth-hound I followed in his wake. He drew up at last in front of a large jeweller's shop—one of those places that affect that quaint old street sign of the Lombards, the three brazen globes. A sickening fear began to press upon me now, but I stuck to my self-appointed task. I waited. Presently the Baron Ferdinand came out into the street again. He now looked flushed with triumph; his former feverish look had left him. Then I staggered and almost fell as my eye descended to the Baron's waistcoat. Confound him! his watch-chain had left him as well.

The Ashantis have a quaint proverb: "A man can be killed but once!" Perhaps there's more in it than meets the eye, and whatever it may mean it has no possible application to my story. I merely quote the proverb just as a sort of topical spice, Ashanti being so much to the fore just now.

I staggered and almost fell—did I do that before? Well, I staggered and almost fell *again*, when I saw the Baron Ferdinand de Rhinoclutch scurry across the street with something gripped tightly in his hand—across to where a huge lamp marked "The Nun's Head" hung out like a beacon of hope. Then I swung round and went slowly home, metaphorically punching myself all the way.

In response to all enquiries, past, present, and to come, I beg to say that I don't care who has bought the Castle collection. I shall take no further action in the matter whatever. I wash my hands of it!

The Boer is "slim" enough to know the value of the Mafeking siege stamps, my "London Philatelist" tells me. It appears that Snyman, the Boer General, intercepted many of the runners from Mafeking, and when afterwards the enemy's laager was deserted all the envelopes were discovered there—minus the Mafeking stamps.

By the way, how soon may we expect the first Pekin provisional? The "Boxers", too, will be wanting money even if they don't need stamps. And the "Boxer" issue, when it comes along, will be a fearful-some thing. Can't you imagine it?—a mixture of ferocious dragons, decapitated "Foreign Devils," and haloed Boxers.

Poor John Chinaman! a good sort, honest, thrifty and in his own warped way good hearted and companionable—when not carried away by fanatical agitation. The Celestials living in London and especially those depending more or less upon the charity of the Foreign Devil, are having by no means a good time of it just now. I saw one such the other day—an undersized, doddering old fellow with a skin like parchment and slit-like eyes set at an obtuse angle. His was no enviable lot. Men looked askance at him, some of them scowling; girls poked fun at him, and to cap the climax of occidental barbarism a small boy pointed to the elegant *quene* that descended below Ching Chang's waist, and shouted wildly: "There's 'a—a—i—r!"

Is this Philately? Perhaps it isn't, but its topicality, anyhow, and as I happen to be gifted with a mind, I sometimes allow myself to wander from the paths of Philately pure and simple—(Yes; but don't wander too far!—Ed.)

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

Rate: 3 Words a Penny.

FINE collection, about 5200 varieties, will be sold to first applicant for £30. A great bargain, cash being urgently required. May be seen by appointment with H. A. McMILLAN, 3, Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane, E. C.

WANT U.S. and Confederate Postage and Locals on the original covers for cash. Send with lowest price to FRANK P. ADAMS, Decorah, Iowa.

FOR SALE.—Reprints and Specimens of South Australia. Very pretty lot, mounted in frame, issues from 1855 to 1894. 47 varieties giving dates below each stamp. Bargain, 17/6 carriage paid.—Box 106.

APPROVAL BOOKS.—Special Line of Books and Sheets for Beginners and Medium Collectors, full of bargains, sent on approval. British stamps or Foreign and British Colonials. Wanted to Buy Collections and all kinds of English Stamps. Good prices given.—CHARLES NISSE & Co., 77/8, High Holborn, London, W. C.

IN exchange for 1 to 4 good specimens of stamps catalogued value 1/6, S.G. I will send 8 new Germans all different, post free anywhere.—DU. M. D. HARTZ, Korner Thor, Germany.

USED COPIES of following for Sale—Cook Islands, all issues, Tonga Provisionals, Samoa ordinary Samoa Prov. Govt., New Hebrides, Tahiti mostly on originals. Also unused Samoa Prov. Govt and current South Sea Island stamps of all sorts. Send for Price List. J. HAMBLBY, Suva, Fiji.

SMALL COLLECTION, British, in "Hilcker" 2s. 6d. album; used and unused; some nice specimens; cash 15s. Approval to responsible party.—Write Box 118, *Fortnightly* Office, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W. C.

COMPLETE SET "Philatelic Record" wanted. Bound. Send lowest cash price.—Box 119, *Fortnightly* Office, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W. C.

POSTCARDS, ENVELOPES, &c.

A Priced List of Packets of these, from 20 for 1/-, to 100 all different for 12/-, used and unused, can be had on application. A fine start of 500 Varieties for £6, unused or partly used, as may be preferred, with or without several Envelopes and Wrappers; some of which are catalogued from 1/- to 15/- each.

BEN WEBSTER, 15, Paultons Sq., Chelsea, S. W.

Business Side of Philately.

MESSRS. VENTUM BULL & COOPER concluded their 1899-1900 season on June 7th and 8th, when the following prices were realised:—

British South Africa, set 1891 provisionals, unused, mint, 90s. Boer Republic, 1887, set of eleven stamps, 3d. to £1, on straw, unused, 58s. Cape of Good Hope, 1s. yellow-green, a block of seven, used on piece with 4d. on 6d., 77s. 6d.; provisional, tall narrow "3" on 3d., lilac-rose, *inverted*, used, 67s. 6d. Lagos, C. and CC., perf. 14, 1s., orange, with full gum. £6 15s. Natal, surcharged "POSTAGE" in tall capitals, 1s., green, used, £7 10s. Orange Free State, provisionals, 4d. on 6d., rose, the four types, used, 42s. Transvaal, 4d. on 1s., green, a block of four showing the *lité-bûche* variety, uncancelled, 77s. 6d.; 2½d. on 1s., green, unused corner block of twelve, including the error "24" all with inverted surcharges, £10 10s.; similar blocks of nine, but without the error, 42s. each; £5, green, a fine horizontal pair, used, 40s.; issue 1895, 4d. on 1s., green, unused block of six, including the error "Pennij," 57s. 6d.; and the 4d. on 1s., green, twice surcharged, 40s.

* * *

At Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's rooms on June 12th, in addition to the £6 15s. for the Mafeking Siege stamp already noted in the *Fortnightly*, the following realizations were recorded:—

Barbados, 5s., rose, Star, unused, no gum 45s. Nevis, CA, 6d., green, heavily cancelled, 63s. New South Wales, laureated, no wmk., 3d., green, unused, but cut into, 65; ditto, 8d., yellow, unused, slight cut at left, £12 12s.; 1s., red, diadem, imperf., unused, slightly cut into, 65s. A number of collections sold, the best apparently being one of 3,370 varieties in Imperials for £18, and another in Oppen's (1,107) £11 15s.

* * *

Mr. W. H. Peckitt has had in his possession "Mafeking besieged" British Bechnanaland, surcharged 3d. on 1d., 6d. on 2d., 1/- on 4d., also surcharged on Cape 1d. on 3d., 1/- on 4d., and 6d. on 3d. The same gentleman tells us he has seen two varieties of the Baden Powell stamps as per the design given in the *S.C.F.*, printed in two colours, blue and red respectively. Unfortunately he was only able to glance at them so could not say what values they were, but one was used and the other unused.

We have also been shown by Mr. Peckitt some more interesting types of the V.R.I.'s. There are two distinct types appearing once in a sheet of the 4d., 1d. and 5/- stamps they are the thick V. and the broken V., also two more distinct varieties appear on the 3d. blue only once on the sheet they are a fat stop after the V. and stop omitted after the V. Another curious thing is seen on the 1s. brown, as on the back of the stamp the surcharge is to be seen looking like a watermark. This is probably the result of the stamps being placed upside down on the machine and being impressed with the surcharge before the press had been inked.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,
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RARE POSTAGE STAMPS A SPECIALITY.

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On **SEPTEMBER 25, 26, 27 & 28,** and will consist of a

LARGE PRIVATE COLLECTION IN 30 VOLUMES,

THE PROPERTY OF A WELL-KNOWN PHILATELIST.

including a large number of FINE AND RARE STAMPS, a large portion of which are unused.

CATALOGUES READY JULY 31st.

THE DATES OF MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S STAMP SALES FOR NEXT SEASON HAVE BEEN FIXED AS FOLLOWS:—

1900.—September 25, 26, 27 and 28; October 16, 17, 30 and 31; November 13, 14, 27 and 28; December 11 and 12.

1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17;
 May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12.

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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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."

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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:

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THE MANAGER,

"Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly,"

77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

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Used, Unused, in Blocks and on Entire Letters.

ON SALE during the ensuing week. My Stock is limited, and as postal connection with the Carolines may take under certain circumstances a whole year, it is to the Interest of Collectors to let me have their requirements immediately. I may mention that the Eagle type of German Colonial Stamps will soon be superseded by the current issue.

I am open to send on Approval any German Colonials, even of Older Issues, to responsible Collectors, in many cases in Blocks and on Entire Envelope.

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	s.	d.
Jamaica, new pictorial 1d., used or unused each	0	2
New Zealand, 1d. red, new issue, unused	0	2
" 2d. violet	0	3
Victoria, ½d. green	0	1
" 1d. rose	0	2
" 1½d. red on orange	0	2½
" 2½d. blue	0	4
Chili, 1c., new issue	0	1
" 2c.,	0	2

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THE

STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 140—VOL. VI.
SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1900.
ONE PENNY.

G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO., Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers, 10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.

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	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Mecklenburg Strelitz, 4 4 schg. rouletted, used, superb	5	10	0	Naples, ½ tornese, Cross, superb	3	17	6
Lubeck, the Error, 2½ schg., unused, very fine	1	17	6	Spain, 1852, 3 quartos, Madrid, unused, very fine	15	0	0
Oldenburg, ½ gros. green, 1853, unused, very fine	6	0	0	.. 1853, 2 rls., unused, very fine	10	0	0
Brunswick, 1865, ½ gros., black, roul., unused, mint	1	15	0	Russian Levant, 20 kr., 1865, used, superb	6	10	0
Saxony, 3 pfg. 1850, unused, very fine	7	10	0	Roumania, 1858, 27p., used, very fine	45	0	0
Wurtemberg, 1875, 70kr., used	1	15	0	.. .. 54p., used, superb	13	10	0
Austria, 1853, 4kr., newspaper stamp, unused	5	0	0	Servia, 1868, 2 pa., error, unused, very fine	11	10	0
Great Britain, 1d. V.R., unused, fine	8	10	0	.. 1866, 10 hupa, unused, fine	3	10	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½r., used, fine	3	10	0	Ceylon, 1861, 4d., imperf., unused, very fine	50	0	0
Sardinia, letter sheets, 15c., 25c., 50c., used, very rare	5	0	0	Hongkong, 1875, 10 dollars, unused, fine	3	0	0
Tuscany, 1849, 2 soldi, used, very fine	6	10	0	U. S., 2 dollars, State, used, very fine	3	5	0
.. 60 crazie, used, very fine	10	0	0	.. 20	8	10	0
Modena, large B.C., used, very fine	2	10	0	Western Australia, 1853, 2d. unused, unused, mint	16	0	0
Naples, ½ tornese, Arms, used, superb	12	0	0				

CORRESPONDENCE in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

Mention this paper.

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.



63/4, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents.

The opening Sales next season will be held in the ARBITRATION ROOM, on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th, and following day, commencing at 5 o'clock exactly. These Sales will principally consist of a fine Private Collection, to be sold entirely without reserve. The lots will include, among other rarities too numerous to mention, Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock Triangular errors, 1d. blue and 4d. red.

Other Sales will take place bi-monthly, and Philatelists having Entire Collections or Loose Stamps to dispose of should make immediate arrangements if inclusion is desired in early auctions. As MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO. are the only firm of Auctioneers confining their whole attention to the Sale of Stamps on Commission, and do not deal or even collect on their own account, the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious. Commission on lots sold, 10%. 1/6 per lot (irrespective of value) being charged on unsold lots.

— CASH ADVANCES AND VALUATIONS MADE. —

Settlements usually in eight days, at the very latest within 14 days from date of Sale. Bids from buyers unable to attend the sales personally executed without charge and at prices as much below limits as possible.

— CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION. —

ORANGE RIVER COLONY

V. R. I. VARIETIES.

ALL IN PAIRS, with normal type se-tenant, unused.

			s.	d.	
½d., thick "V"	-	-	2	0	the pair
½d., broken "V"	-	-	2	0	"
1d., thick "V"	-	-	2	6	"
1d., broken "V"	-	-	2	6	"
3d., no stop after "V"	-	-	8	6	"
1/-, broken "V"	-	-	10	0	"
5/-, thick "V"	-	-	45	0	"

W. H. PECKITT,
44o, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.



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 Rochdale Philatelic Society, the Cambridge University Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, and the Central Philatelic Club.

No. 140.—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

A CRYPTIC COMMUNICATION FROM CROYDON.

"WHAT is £30,000 to a millionaire?" writes a Croydon reader. "'Tis a mere Flea Bit!"

ON THE LIGHT PHILATELIC TOE!

THE Conversazione and Dance of the Junior London Philatelic Society, on Saturday last, July 14th, proved a very pleasant gathering of stamp collectors and others. Nearly 150 people, mostly philatelists, attended.

Miss Barnes opened the proceedings with a charming performance on the piano, and Mr. W. Fahy, a well known South London philatelist delighted the audience with his humorous songs. Miss Kate Melville's rendering of "There's a Land" was received with great applause and a song by Mr. W. Melville was also much appreciated. Mr. Milton Lockie amused everyone in his song entitled "Pardonnez Moi" and Mr. C. B. Clarkson was accorded a hearty applause for his banjo solo. Mr. Fred Ellis introduced a touch of patriotism in singing the popular "Private Tommy Atkins" with additional war verses.

The dancing, which was somewhat delayed owing to the numerous encores, was thoroughly enjoyed by the large gathering. Conspicuous among the dances was a special one entitled the "Philatelic" quadrilles, which added a particular philatelic spice to the programme.

Mr. Charles Lock very ably carried out the duties of M.C. During the interval Mr. F. T. Harry, a prominent member of the Society, gave an interesting phonograph entertainment.

Much credit is due to the President, Mr. Fred J. Melville, and the recently elected Secretary, Mr. Crosby Blumsum, in whose hands were the entire arrangements for this jolly little entertainment.

THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY'S SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITION.

MR. D. S. ABRAHAM, the energetic Hon. Secretary of the Victorian Philatelic Society and another gentleman signing himself "C.B.D."—and he, surely must be Mr. C. B. Doune?—furnish the "Australian Philatelist" with particulars of the Exhibition held under the Victorian Society's auspices at the Court House Buildings, Melbourne, on May 26th.

Despite the inclement state of the weather, there was a very large attendance, nearly 600 people visiting the Exhibition. Musical selections on various instruments, and songs, were given by artistes during the afternoon and evening. The following were the principal exhibits:—

Abraham, D. S.—A very fine display of West Australian stamps, in two frames, fine copies of all the early issues, including pairs, and several on original covers. Also proof sheet of 4d. emblems of Victoria.

Brettschneider, W.—1 frame, containing early European stamps, and Transvaal old issues.

Bosher, F. C.—A very tastefully arranged frame, containing Hawaiian and South and Central American stamps.

Blackburn, P. J.—1 frame, containing early Australian issues, including strip of three South Australian 4d. value, wmk. V and crown.

Bornefield, J.—A very complete collection of early issues of Great Britain, including reconstructed plates.

Chapman, C.—1 frame, containing various Australian issues.

Cohen, Charles.—A very fine display of Victorian early issues, all in an *unused* condition, including shades of half lengths, 5s. blue on yellow, 6d. orange, beaded oval. This frame was 12 feet in length.

Corr, T. R.—1 frame of new issues of South America, 1 of post cards of foreign countries.

Davis, Joseph.—1 frame, containing fine pairs, strips, and blocks of early Victorians, fine copies of Sydney views, and block of 8 1s. imperf. N.S.W., also 1 frame of early Australians, all in an *unused* condition, including specimens of 3d. views, and early issues of New Zealand.

Deaville, E. A.—3 frames of early issues, and pictorial issue of New Zealand. These were very neatly and tastefully arranged.

Derrick, A. J.—1 frame, containing plate of engraved 2d. Queen on Throne, a number of 4d. Van Dieman's Land used and unused, some very fine copies; also 3 used copies of 6d. orange beaded oval series of Victoria.

Doune, C. B.—1 frame, containing unused early Victorians and New South Wales, in single copies and blocks; 1 frame, containing used Victorians, in strips and blocks; 1 frame, containing Fiji, Tonga, and Samoan stamps; also, early issues of Australian colonies on original covers, and engraving of the Melbourne Post Office of 1850.

Hill, David H.—19 frames, containing unused Victorian, Tasmanian, and N.S.W. of recent issues; blocks, pairs, and strips of early issues of Victorian Fiscal stamps; photos of rare stamps, envelopes of Mauritius and Ceylon, entire sheets of Indian States and early Fiji pence and cents issue, and plates of 2d. Queen on Throne lithographed and engraved. This was a remarkably fine lot of stamps, all in superb condition.

Jackson, F.—A fine collection of early and recent issues of the stamps of India, in 3 frames.

Kelson, A. G.—1 frame, containing used and unused early Victorian stamps, including unsevered pair of 4d. beaded oval Victorian imperf.

McDonald, Angus.—1 frame, containing very fine copies of early issues of Australia, including many scarce shades; 1 frame, containing scarce European and West Indian stamps, all very fine copies.

Rundell, W. R.—3 frames, containing early Victorian stamps, all on original covers, also a fine lot of 2d. views on covers, showing the various plates; 2 frames, containing early issues of West Australia and New Zealand, and specimen of 3 laureated N.S.W. wmk 2.

Whelen, A. S.—6 frames, containing old issues of Spain, Natal, and Orange Free State, and a particularly fine lot of early issues of Transvaal, including many of the rare surcharges.

The Government Printer also sent an exhibit of various issues of stamps of Victoria, very neatly and artistically arranged.

The Post Office sent 5 frames of photos of the various post offices in Victoria, surrounded with stamps of the colony, and various statistics of the Postal Department.

SYDNEY'S PHILATELIC SHOW NEXT!

There is no longer any doubt that the Sydney Philatelic Club will hold its suggested exhibition, already referred to in the *Fortnightly*. At a meeting on May 16th, the Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. F. Bassett Hull, reported that progress had been made in reference to the proposed Philatelic Exhibition. Mr. Himmelhoch had been elected Treasurer, and the following sub-committees had been formed:—Furnishing: Messrs. Witney, Dallen and Smyth. Refreshment: Messrs. Collins and Himmelhoch, Mrs. Tibbs. Entertainment: Messrs. Hagen and Gilles, and the Hon. Secretary. Nearly all the requisite funds were guaranteed. No precise date for the exhibition appears to have been fixed up to the date of the May "Australian Philatelist"; but in the April issue of the same journal August is mentioned as the month, and a hope is expressed that the ranks of philatelists in the colonies will be considerably augmented by the display.

ABOUT THE STAMPS OF CRETE.

From a French journal, "Le Philatliste Française," and other sources, Messrs. Alfred Smith & Son have collected for their "Monthly Circular" an interesting budget of news concerning the Cretan stamps recently issued. In the first place the total number of stamps issued was:—

1 lepton,	500,000.
2 lepta,	500,000.
10 "	1,000,000.
20 "	500,000.
25 "	1,000,000.
50 "	300,000.
1 drachma,	50,000.
2 drachmai,	50,000.
5 "	50,000.

We may take it, since the word *total* is used, that these figures include that portion of issue bearing the surcharge—first in black and afterwards in red. As regards that surcharge, and its object, the "Monthly Circular" adds:—

The surcharging of the five highest values had nothing to do with letters sent to Greece, for which any values of the issue were allowed to be used. It was necessary because the old Turkish monetary system remains in use until the date fixed for the adoption of the new system, which is that of the Latin Union. This means that the present unit of value is the Turkish piastre, worth 22 centimes (lepta) only, and as the stamp of 25 lepta is sold for 1 piastre, the 50 lepta for 2 piastres, and so on, the authorities found themselves obliged to apply the provisional surcharge to the 25 and its multiples. The lower values are sold at their face value. It is believed that the currency law will be promulgated during this month or in August, and the overprint will then be withdrawn.

The Cretan Government ordered only a small number of stamps to be surcharged, not suspecting that the stamps would be bought up within a few days. As a matter of fact, owing to the purchases of foreign philatelists and others, the post offices were literally besieged, and at the end of three days the red surcharges were sold out. This necessitated a new printing of the surcharge which this time was made in black. Even the latter are now sold out, but the Government, having the dies of the surcharge in their possession, will reprint it once more, most likely in black.

The quantities printed were the following:—

		red. surch.		black surch.
25 lepta	..	100,000	..	100,000.
50 "	..	25,000	..	25,000.
1 drachma	..	7,500	..	7,500.
2 drachmai	..	5,000	..	5,000.
5 "	..	2,500	..	2,500.

COLOURS OF THE TRIANGULAR CAPES.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE being the next country on the list for the *Fortnightly's* "Guide to Values," special interest will attach to the following essay on the Colours of the Triangular Stamps of the Cape Colony, which we quote in its entirety, from the latest issue of the "Philatelic Chronicle":—

Only an eye trained for colours can in all cases decide whether certain stamps were printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co., or by De la Rue & Co. We have it on the authority of Mr. E. D. Bacon, that the four steel plates for printing the triangular Cape stamps were handed by Perkins, Bacon & Co. on January 28th, 1862, to De la Rue & Co. From this date, therefore, all the stamps were printed by De la Rue. After the plates had been handed over, Perkins, Bacon & Co. found 29 reams of the "Anchor" watermarked paper and this quantity was handed by the Crown agents to De la Rue and Co. at various intervals. This "Anchor" watermarked paper was used by De la Rue & Co. for all the four values as follows:

5,096 sheets	1d.
5,266 "	4d.
398 "	6d.
158 "	1s.

and the first parcel containing the 6d and 1s. values was despatched on January 31st, 1863. 6d. stamps found on entires and obliterated before the beginning of March, 1863, must therefore belong to Perkins, Bacon & Co.'s printing. A parcel of 195 sheets of 4d. value was despatched on April 17th, 1863, stamps on entires found obliterated before the middle of May, 1863, belong therefore to the same printing. The 1d value was not despatched until December 2nd, 1863, therefore all stamps on entires obliterated with 1863 must belong to the same printing. Having established a few specimens of each value of the first printing it cannot be very difficult to discover the De la Rue printings by the different shades of the colours.

Mr. E. D. Bacon gives the shades for distinguishing the various printings as follows:—

The one-penny is red-brown instead of brick-red or carmine-rose.

The fourpence is bright blue instead of dull blue or dark blue.

The sixpence is bright mauve instead of pale lilac-mauve, grey-lilac or dark lilac.

The one shilling is emerald instead of dark green or yellow-green.

Differences in design cannot exist, as the same plates were used, neither is there any clue to be found in the paper. We have only the colour which differs slightly and the gum, which is bound to be of a different texture or thickness, but which of course can only be seen on o.g. specimens.

The best and surest way in our opinion is to go by the dates found on entires and establish a complete set of all the shades of the Perkins, Bacon's prints, all stamps not tallying with these in shade (supposing extraneous influences have not been at work altering the colours), must obviously be printed by De la Rue & Co.

Reminiscences of a Philatelist.

BY WALTER NATHAN.

(Continued from page 63.)

A SWIM FOR A PHILATELIC STAKE.

IT was not until I was again at Brighton in the summer of 1871 that my transfer was finally completed, and during that visit, I believe, I laid the seeds of the disease which has taken me from the active world, and made my life one of chronic invalidism. The effects did not show themselves until many years after, but I believe the primary cause to have been the following incident:—I was an expert swimmer, and bragged of my prowess as boys are apt to do. We were living in apartments at the corner of Preston Street and King's Road, and a friend, who had just arrived from Trouville, unhappily spoke of some swimmers he had seen, who carried umbrellas over their heads, and otherwise disported themselves while bathing. I remarked there was nothing remarkable in such exhibitions, and that I could carry an umbrella for an hour or more while swimming. Finally it was agreed that I was to enter the water from the bathing machines opposite the Bedford Hotel, elevate an umbrella, and swim round the West Pier to the Cham Pier, and back, and that if I kept the umbrella up the whole journey, my friend would take me into a stamp shop, and buy me what I liked for my collection. I accomplished the task, but came out of the water so exhausted that I could scarcely stand. I recovered myself the next day, and thought no more of the matter. In the autumn, however, I had a severe attack of jaundice, and Sir William Jenner, who attended me, attributed it to a chill I had received through being in the water in a condition of nervous exhaustion. I completely recovered, to all appearances, by the end of 1871, but injury had been done which was to show itself ten years after. This incident is altogether foreign to my subject, but if it warn the reader against unduly taxing his strength by any exertion, no matter in what way, it will do more to guard his health than all the prophylactics in the world. All disease is incurred when the nervous system is below par, and to continue exertion after fatigue is felt may produce life-long injury.

THE VERY FIRST STAMP AUCTION.

As a result of my illness I left the University College School, and continued my education under private tuition. This left me considerable leisure to devote to stamps, but I was recommended to be as much as possible in the open air, and took to bicycling, on the "bone-shakers" of the period, the only bicycle I have ever bestridden, or am likely to bestride now. The next incident of interest in connection with stamps was my attendance at the first sale of postage stamps by auction which had occurred in England. This was held at the rooms of the well-known auctioneers of literary property, Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge, at their house, No. 13, Wellington Street, Strand, on Monday, 18th March, 1872.

Those who believe that a popular innovation is likely to catch on at once, have a useful object lesson for consideration in the length of time which elapsed between the first public auction of postage stamps held by Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge, and the sale inaugurated under the auspices of the late Mr. Douglas Garth, and conducted by Mr. Thomas Bull, then of the firm of Venton, Bull and Cooper.

The auction of March 18th, 1872, was held in an upstairs room of 13, Wellington Street, and the hammer was wielded by the senior partner of the firm. There were about twenty-five persons present. The auctioneer prefaced the sale by a few words, stating that the stamps offered formed part of the magnificent collection of Mr. J. W. Scott, and that those who were interested would find this an unique opportunity of acquiring specimens. It was, indeed, unique—one of

those "missed opportunities" I shall ever regret. The first lots sold for a few shillings each, lot 6 was "15c. U.S. inverted picture, a very fine specimen, and very scarce." The auctioneer, who evidently was amused at the novel character of the articles he was dispersing, here remarked that "very scarce" among stamp collectors was synonymous with "rare to excess" among numismatists. About this date (a year later if I remember aright) the same auctioneer had declared that it was the proudest moment in his life when, at the sale of coins of the late Mr. Brown, of the firm of Longmans, Green & Brown, the eminent publishers, he had knocked down a pattern £5 piece of Charles I. for the then unprecedented sum of £345. I have often wondered what Mr. Wilkinson would have thought had he been told that a single postage stamp would be sold to a London dealer for nearly three times that amount. However, neither the auctioneer nor the writer could peer into the future, otherwise the collection of Mr. J. W. Scott would now be in my possession, intact. I will give the prices of the most interesting lots, at the same time putting beside them the approximate value of stamps at the present time.

Lot 6 (described above), 36/-. Similar stamp sold by Scott Stamp and Coin Company, March, 1900, £23. At the same sale, three 10c. St. Louis stamps fetched £371 10s.

Lot 15, St. Louis set of all varieties of 5c., best specimens extant (3), 53/-.
Lot 16, St. Louis set of all varieties of 10c. (3), 47/-.

Then followed about 100 lots of U.S. locals, many quite unattainable now, but as English collectors are not much interested in this series, I will only mention Battleboro', upper right hand corner variety, for £3, among the provisionals, and Jefferson Market Post Office, pink, unique, for £5—among the locals,—and pass on to stamps having a more general interest.

Lot 150, Naples, ½t. blue, arms, £2, March 1900, £15 7s. od. I myself purchased Lot 149, Mexico, 1867, engraved head of Maximilian, 3 varieties, unused, 10/-. but this was, of course, one of the few lots which show no appreciable increase in value. Lot 151, Naples, ½t. cross, would have been a much better purchase at 8/-. Set New Brunswick, including ¼ of 1/- used as 6d. was a good lot for £1, but lots 156, 157 and 158 grieve me to have missed even now. Lot 156, set of N.S.W., view of Sydney, horizontal and vertical ground 2d., 4 varieties, unused, all very fine except the 3d., £3 3s. od. If I put the present value at £65 I do not think I shall be above the mark, for three of the stamps were beautiful. Lot 159, Sandwich Isles, figure in fancy border, a very fine copy of this scarce stamp, £6 10s. od. I went up to £5 for this stamp which was a magnificent copy with large margins, of type 2. Lot 157, Oldenburg, 19 varieties for 6/-. was also a nice little lot in a small way, now worth about 4000 per cent. profit. Lot 176, a nice specimen of the 1d. Van Dieman's Land, of first issue, was also a good purchase at 3/-. Trinidad, blue and slate lithos., went respectively for 10/- and 11/-. now worth about £5, each in like condition. But lots 187 and 188 show the difference in the relative values of stamps which held then and now. Lot 187, the 2s. Tuscany, went for 19/-. and was considered to be worth 4/- more than the next lot, the 60c., which went for only 15/-. At the present market price the 60c. is worth nearly double the price of the 2 soldi. Lot 193, West Australia, 6d. bronze was a gem, the like of which I have seen but once since and went for 6/-. The Confederate States, and entire envelopes which formed the remainder of the sale I will not touch on, as both classes have comparatively few adherents this side of the Atlantic. Mr. J. W. Scott still conducts a large philatelic business in New York, and I should imagine often thinks of this sale with regret. I also feel I should have taken fuller advantages of the opportunity offered. If the prices I have quoted make my readers' months water, they at least have the consolation of reflecting that the chance of acquiring such treasures at nominal prices never came their way, while I have no such solace.

(To be Continued.)

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JULY 21, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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.

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OUR article headed "Too Much Borneo" in the last *Fortnightly*, has evoked very wide spread interest; and the facts adduced have given rise to much indignation among philatelists, who, though fully alive to the fact that Borneo and Labuan were not, philatelically, above reproach, had never fully realised how very "low down" the stamp-issuing game was being played. We shall have more to say about Labuan and North Borneo, but, in the meantime, it is important to note that we have received further correspondence showing that up to the first of June the so-called "current" 4 cent "Ourang Outan" stamp of British North Borneo had not reached the country of its "issue"! This brings our arraignment absolutely up-to-date. We shall be glad to have correspondence on this most serious and important subject and, where it is necessary or desirable, the strictest confidence will be observed.

* * *

WE are afraid that stamp collectors as a body have not yet supported the Stamp Trade Protection Association, Limited, as it deserves to be supported. This Association was formed distinctly for the purpose of protecting and furthering the interests of persons dealing in and collecting stamps. The interests of each individual collector will be furthered, perhaps imperceptibly at first but certainly furthered, by the operations of the S.T.P.A., and we earnestly advise all readers of the *Fortnightly* who are actively engaged in philatelic dealings at the present moment to give their support to the Association. The subscription is One Guinea per annum, and a more prudent investment of that amount could scarcely be conceived.

* * *

OUR Mr. Alfred Jingle, in writing playfully of China and the Chinese, little dreamt how terrible a drama had been enacted in Pekin! The slaughtered Europeans, we fear, included at least two readers of the *Fortnightly*, and doubtless there were other philatelists in that City of Dread. The thing is the greatest horror of the century, and the only redeeming feature is the grim reflection that there must and will be an ample and speedy vengeance.

A pathetic interest attaches to the instalment of Mr. Walter Nathan's "Reminiscences of a Philatelist" published in this number of the *Fortnightly*, for the paragraph in which Mr. Nathan describes a certain desperate swimming match at Brighton will be the first intimation to many of our readers that this gentleman is unfortunately a confirmed invalid. What that means to one who was formerly a keen devotee to

out-door exercise it is difficult to imagine, but one can easily understand that the study of stamps, a hobby calling for only visual and mental effort, must go far to render endurable, and even happy, the hours that would otherwise become terribly wearisome.

The Spanish 2 reales blue is now admitted by such eminent authorities as Mons. J. B. Moens and Mons. Paul Mahé to be a veritable error of colour, and not as was generally maintained hitherto, a mere essay. We are glad that a controversy almost as old as Philately itself has been settled in 1900. There are still a few other little points we should like to see cleared up before we commence the twentieth century.

"MAFEKINGS."

A SINISTER SUGGESTION MADE BY AN ANONYMOUS CORRESPONDENT.

HAVE THEY BEEN FORGED?

ARE THE "MAFEKINGS" SPECULATIVE?—SOME COMMENTS AND CRITICISMS.

UNDER date Tuesday, July 17th, we have received an anonymous type-written post card, bearing only these words:—

Please warn your readers to be wary in purchasing the Mafeking "Siege" Stamps either used or unused.
P. B. P.

It is a matter of great regret that we have absolutely no clue to the writer of this post card. The type-writing is not that of a Remington machine, but of one of the cheaper "makes." However, the identification of the style of type-writing would be a poor sort of clue to the writer. The postmark, again, does not help us at all, being "London, E.C." The signature "P.B.P." may possibly be intended to signify "Pro Bono Publico."

There is nothing left for us, therefore, but to appeal through the *Fortnightly* to the writer of this post card to come forward and tell us—in the strictest confidence if need be—what he knows regarding any actual or projected forgery of the "Mafeking Besieged" labels. There is but one construction to put upon his communication, and, unless the whole thing be a hoax, it behoves this person, in the interests of the public to reveal any information he may have received.

As a general rule anonymous letters are ignored in the *Fortnightly* office, but this post card, following upon a sinister rumour already in circulation in "the trade," has demanded attention. If the writer is merely hoaxing us we may tell him that he is a very poor sort of fool; if by any chance he is actuated by motives of jealousy and spite, we earnestly hope his plot will miscarry; but in case there should be any truth in his suggestion (and no one can deny that the "Mafekings" would be easily imitated well enough to deceive a casual buyer)—then, in order to be on the safe side, we strongly advise all *Fortnightly* readers to follow our anonymous correspondent's advice!

ARE THE STAMPS "SPECULATIVE"?

MUST we regard the "Mafeking Relieved" stamps as speculative? Quite a little controversy is raging on the subject. Mr. Charles J. Phillips is disposed to view them with the cold eye of disfavour, and Mr. J. R. F. Turner, taking this as an indication that they will be banned by "Gibbons," has written in hot indignation to "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" protesting that "no more interesting stamps exist." Mr. Ewen, commenting on Mr. Turner's letter, says:—

We cannot agree with his opinions. We have already suggested that the stamps are entirely speculative, and Messrs. Stanley Gibbons are to be commended if they omit them from their catalogue.

We notice however that they include them in the latest Addenda to their Catalogue.

And, after all, it is a far cry to the next "British Empire" section of Gibbons!

The "Philatelic Chronicle," of Birmingham, publishes a long and angry tirade against these stamps, taking as its text: "Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do." But is not "idle hands" rather a low-down taunt to apply to the men who held Mafeking? Be sure that these men enjoyed their enforced *idleness* (relieved now and then by spells of shell-dodging) as little as the Editor of the "Philatelic Chronicle" approves of the Mafeking provisionals!

The philatelic man-in-the-street will not be able to smother a suspicion that the people who are denouncing the Mafekings as speculative are just those who are angry at not having obtained a supply themselves! We do not take that as our own standpoint. To say truth, we are at present "sitting on the fence" on this question. We cannot but deny that a good case has been made out for these stamps by newspaper correspondents. For instance, we are told that:

Native runners would only undertake the risk of running the gauntlet at a high price—in some cases £25 was paid—and in order to pay for this postal service it was found necessary practically to double the postal rates. Accordingly the Cape and Bechuanaland stamps were overprinted with higher denominations, and special stamps (the "Baden-Powell" issue) had to be printed for use within the lines.

On the other hand we cannot forget that, although General Baden-Powell is no stamp collector, his aide-de-camp during the siege, Lord Edward Cecil, is reported to have a stamp album in his "kit."

REVISED LISTS OF THE PROVISIONAL AND BADEN-POWELL ISSUES.

In the last issue of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' "Monthly Journal" appeared a list of nine varieties of Mafeking stamps, but Mr. Nevile Stocken considerably extends this number in a list he has sent us for publication in the *Fortnightly*:

TYPE I: Surcharged "Mafeking Besieged" in small fancy capitals.

- 1d. on ½d. vermilion, British stamps surcharged Bechuanaland Protectorate.
- 3d. on 1d. lilac, British stamps surcharged Bechuanaland Protectorate.
- 6d. on 2d. green and red British stamps surcharged Bechuanaland Protectorate.
- 1/- on ½d. green and brown, British stamps surcharged Bechuanaland Protectorate.
- 6d. on 3d. lilac, "Unappropriated Die."
- 1d. .. ½d. green, Cape of Good Hope.
- 3d. .. 1d. carmine .. "
- 6d. .. 3d. magenta .. "
- 1/- .. ½d. pale green .. "

TYPE II: Same surcharge in small "sans-serif" capitals.

- 3d. on 1d. lilac, British stamps surcharged Bechuanaland Protectorate.
- 6d. on 2d. green and red, British stamps surcharged Bechuanaland Protectorate.
- 1/- on 6d. brown on red, British stamps surcharged Bechuanaland Protectorate.
- 2/- on 1/- green, British stamps surcharged Bechuanaland Protectorate.

Doubtless (Mr. Stocken writes) other values exist with this latter type of surcharge.

The "Baden-Powell" stamp: Bust of General Baden-Powell with inscription, and date, and value in words.

3d. blue on laid paper

To this list Mr. Stocken sends us (just as we are going to press) certain additions—notably the following:—

"Baden-Powell" type: 3d. blue, laid, larger size.

Surcharged on Cape: 1d. on ½d. green, both old and new types.

Stamp showing Man on Bicycle: 1d.

In our next issue we shall hope to give an absolutely complete and sequential list.

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.

ECREEC.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a 5 cents "Postage Due" Stamp. This is the orange "Peacock" stamp with vertical black surcharge "Postage Due," reading upwards.

GUATEMALA.—Mr. J. G. de Nemous sends to the "Metropolitan Philatelist" the 1 and 6c. in new colors as changed to conform to Postal Union regulations. The balance of the set will be changed as the old stock is exhausted. It is stated that there will be no remainders of the current issue unused, as they will be cancelled if any remain unsold.

New Colours: 1 centavo, dark green.
6 .. light green.

INDIA.—We think we have omitted to record certain forthcoming colour changes here. According to the "P.J.L." the ½, 1, 2 and 2½a. stamps are to be changed to the regulation Postal Union colours. The stocks on hand are to be exhausted before the new colors are issued, and as there is said to be over two years supply of the 2½a. on hand it will be some time before this value appears in its new shade.

LEVANT (Italian).—We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a specimen of the 25 centesimi blue of Italy surcharged "1 piastre" red for use in the Levant.

MAURITIUS.—Various journals chronicle a new provisional from this place, the 16c. brown having been surcharged "4—Cents" with a line over the original value in black. It seems that over 50,000 of these were issued, and that all were bought up within two hours after being placed on sale.

Provisional: 4 cents on 16c., brown, black surch.

NEW ZEALAND.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the following novelties:

New colour: 6d. rose.
Local Print: 3d. brown.
1s. red.

SWITZERLAND.—From the same firm we have a specimen set of the new Swiss stamps issued to commemorate the Jubilee of the Postal Union. It has been claimed that the issue of these stamps disposes of the fiction that the U.P.U. does not recognise Jubilee or Commemorative issues. To this we cannot assent. The stamps are, we take it, issued by the Swiss Government and not by the U.P.U. The values and colours are:—

5c. green.
10c. carmine.
25c. blue.

The stamps are of a tall and rectangular shape, and might easily be mistaken for the advertising labels so rife on the Continent. Another correspondent has kindly sent us some cards which will be described by "Hawk-Eye" in our next.

VICTORIA.—The "patriotic plasters" of Victoria have been placed on sale at the office of the Agent General for the Colony, Victoria Street, Westminster, where you may buy the 1d. value for one shilling and the 2d. for two shillings. Each stamp measures about 1½×1½ inches, the colours and designs being as follows:—

Adhesives: 1d. khaki (Victoria Cross).
2d. bright green (Trooper's Scouting)

The good Agent General has marked the envelope containing our specimens "STAMPS." This removed all danger of our mistaking them for chest-protectors.

WURTEMBERG.—The new 2 pfenning official stamp, we gather from the "American Journal of Philately," has been issued in the two designs, namely, that bearing the inscription "Portopflichtige Dienstsache" as well as that inscribed "Antlicher Verkehr."

The Re-drawn Stamps of Brazil.

WE have to say a few words concerning the re-drawn Brazilians of 1890-93. We give here what we have been able to make out regarding them. It will be noticed that the catalogues (Gibbons, Bright, Albrecht, Scott), though all mentioning the stamps, do not give any hint as to how to tell them. Now the full series (*i.e.*, the two sets) includes the 20, 50, 100, 200, 300, 500, 700, and 1000 reis, most of them being in two or more shades. Gibbons gives the first set from 20 to 300 reis inclusive, and the re-drawn set from 50 to 1000 reis inclusive; Scott only mentions the 100 as re-engraved; Albrecht, the 50, 100, 200, and 300 as re-drawn; Bright, the 50 to 1000 as re-engraved. The catalogues, therefore, are not unanimous on the subject. Taking Gibbons' list to be correct, it will be seen that, of the two sets, the only ones that overlap are the 50, 100, 200 and 300; for the 20 does not appear in the second list at all, and the high values (500 to 1000) are not in the first list. We have never taken much interest in these stamps; but as far as we can discover, from an inspection and comparison of the two sets, there certainly does not seem to have been a re-engraving or re-drawing of the design.

We have closely examined a number of stamps of both sets, and all that we can note is that, in the so-called re-engraved stamps, the lines have been simply deepened. In die 2 of the English id. even more than this was done, and yet in that case it is only known as "retouched"; therefore the Brazilians of the second set—50, 100, 200, and 300 reis—would possibly be also preferably designated "retouched." If the said stamps had really been re-drawn, we think it hardly possible that certain of the engraver's directing lines, secret marks, &c., would appear in exactly the same places in both sets, as they do. However, the information desired by our correspondent is, how to tell the two sets apart; and we can only say (bearing in mind that we speak now of the 50, 100, 200 and 300 reis, which are found in both sets) that the lines are weak in the first set, so that some of them might almost be mistaken for lithographs, and they have, generally, a somewhat blurred appearance. All the stamps of the second set are unmistakably *taille-douce* engravings, and the lines have been so deeply cut that they are rarely blurred, while the ink stands up well from the paper. The perforation seems to be rather mixed. We have found the following: Perf. 13, first set, 20, 50, 200, 300 reis. Ditto, second set, 50, 100, 200, 500, 1000 reis. Perf. 11½: 500, 700 reis. Perf. 13½×13: first set, 100 reis. Perf. 13½: first set, 20 reis. Perf. 13½×14: first set, 50 reis. Perf. 14×13: second set, 300 reis. If any reader who makes a speciality of these stamps will give us the benefit of his researches, to supplement and correct, if necessary, the above remarks, we shall be pleased to publish the information.—From the "Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser."

The New British Shilling Stamp.

AT the moment of going to Press, we learn that the new shilling stamp is out, having been issued at the General Post Office on Tuesday, July 17.

In design the new stamp is practically the counterpart of the 4½d. value, now being "retired," and in the same colours—red and green. We understand that, as was the case with the halfpenny stamp, all existing stocks of the current green shilling will be exhausted before the new stamp is supplied.

A correspondent of the "Times" warns travellers against the postal employees in Italy, "who will only too often cheat them either by insufficient change for notes or by giving them paper or silver money no longer in circulation. In buying postage stamps it is especially necessary to be careful that, after they have been duly counted, a few are not juggled back by a bit of skilful legerdemain, a conjuring trick which was most adroitly practised upon myself two or three days ago."

New Philatelic Publications.

THE STAMPS OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR, by D. P. Masson; published under the auspices of the Philatelic Society of India.

WE have to thank the Philatelic Society of India for a copy of their latest work, "The Stamps of Jammu and Kashmir," by Mr. D. P. Masson.

Mr. Masson is a recognized authority on the subject dealt with in this informing book. At various times the *Fortnightly* has reproduced the different comments of the "Philatelic Journal of India" upon the dispersal of the remainders (so called) of Kashmir; but it has not been possible to follow all the intricacies of a somewhat complicated subject. To all who have become interested in the Kashmir stamps, partly as a result of the supercession of the Kashmir post office, and partly by reason of what they have read—to all these we cordially commend Mr. Masson's book, which by the way may be obtained in this country from the English agent, Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Birmingham.

Mr. Masson, in his introductory chapter, asks the readers of his book to master a general idea of the issues of Kashmir by remembering these main facts:—

I.—The earliest postage stamps of Kashmir, issued in 1866, were impressions from only one set of *Circular* dies, viz.: The ½ anna and 1 anna, known in the catalogues as "Die II.," and the 4 annas, which has hitherto been classified with the so-called "Die I." type. These stamps were used both in the Jammu and Kashmir provinces.

II.—On the introduction of *Rectangular* stamps, two sets of plates were engraved, of which one was reserved for the Kashmir province and the other for the Jammu province.

III.—The Jammu province, however, continued to use circular stamps side by side with its rectangular stamps, and in the same colours for both circular and rectangular.

IV.—The two provinces became re-united as to their stamps by the issue of 1878, known as the "first new rectangulars," all circular and the old rectangulars ceasing with the issues of 1877.

As regards colour—a difficult question in connection with Kashmir stamps—Mr. Masson classifies this under three heads: experimental, standard, and superfluous. As regards the last class he tells us that the superfluous colours were presumably adopted under "the gentle influence of philately."

For the rest we have only the space to say that the volume under notice is most admirably illustrated with photographic reproductions; and an idea of the interest, not to say excitement, provided by the letterpress may be gleaned from some of the chapter headlines—such as, Chapter VII. "Three Hoary Headed Imposters;" Chapter VIII. "Missing Dies, or Official Forgeries;" &c., &c. Not the least valuable portion of the book will be found in pages 42 to 47 in the shape of Mr. Masson's Reference List to the stamps under notice.

PRICED CATALOGUE OF THE STAMPS OF AUSTRALASIA; published by Smythe & Nicolle, Hunter Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Messrs. Smythe & Nicolle, of Sydney, have sent us a copy of a very useful and well arranged priced catalogue of Australian stamps. Someone has well said that the real value of an article or commodity is the price at which it can be readily bought or sold in the open market. Messrs. Smythe and Nicolle should be in a good position to know at what prices they may reasonably hope to sell the various Australian issues; and thus the little book before us assumes distinct value as a guide to the present market values of the Australasia had been quoted unused as well as used. Our friends in Sydney, we feel sure, will readily send a copy of their little catalogue to any reader of the *Fortnightly* applying for it.

THE "SENF" POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM, 1900 EDITION; published by C. F. Lücke, Leipzig.

The Senf postage stamp albums already enjoy a great reputation wherever philately is known. Mr. C. F. Lücke of Leipzig, who is now the publisher of these excellent books,

submits a copy of the latest edition—that for 1900. All the advantages that have made the reputation of the "Senf" album are well maintained, and what is more have been added to. Mr. Lücke, for instance, has been quick to avail himself of the removal of the restriction as to the reproduction of English stamps, for these are now shown in the Senf album in their natural size. To some philatelists, and especially to advanced specialists, all printed albums are objectionable, and the picture album a sheer abomination. There must, however, always be a large number of beginners and moderately advanced collectors to whom the illustrated album is not merely tolerable, but quite desirable because of the welcome assistance it affords in the classification of stamps. Those who buy a printed album of this class will find it worth their while to get the best. Mr. Lücke claims that the "Senf" is the best, and we are not prepared to say that he is wrong.

In company with the Senf album for mere postage stamps comes the Senf album for Pictorial post-cards. This hobby of collecting dainty cards from all quarters of the globe is one that ill deserves the gibes and sneers with which it has been greeted. On the Continent the pictorial card craze—if "craze" you desire it to be called—has attained an enormous vogue; and here, there are signs of a like increase. "Khaki" cards, and war cards of all kinds, have set the ball a-rolling. The album that Mr. Lücke provides for the "cardists" is certainly a most acceptable book. The pages are of stiff paper, showing a pretty design in green; and the cards are fitted to these by means of a series of cuts.

HINTON'S HINTS ON STAMP COLLECTING (*New and Enlarged Edition*), *One Shilling*; published by E. Nister, Paternoster Row, E.C.

This is essentially a beginner's *vade mecum*, and perhaps its best feature (looked at from the point of view of the absolute tyro) is the illustrated chapter on "Stamps that Puzzle Collectors." An idea of the up-to-dateness of this new edition of Mr. Hinton's book may be gleaned from the fact that the latest stamps of Crete are included in this section. The revision has been very thorough, and there are many useful additions to the text. Mr. Hinton's "Hints" cover a deal of difficult philatelic ground, as witness the following summary of the book's contents:—

Part I.—The Album; and how to mount stamps therein.

Part II.—Stamps; their manufacture, methods of printing and engraving. (A chapter describing printing, varieties of paper, watermarks, burelé, grille, gum, &c.)

Part III.—What to Collect. (The line of demarcation between collectable and non-collectable stamps is clearly and concisely drawn; also definitions of commemorative stamps, remainders, reprints, essays and specimen stamps are given).

Part IV.—"Stamps that Puzzle Collectors"—very fully illustrated.

Part V.—Deals with inscriptions and surcharges, coinage tables, &c.

In short, Mr. Hinton has put into this little book a great mass of information such as is frequently in demand among young collectors. The beginner in philately will find it an instructive and interesting shillingsworth.

Lieutenant Herbert Williams, R.N., has resigned his membership of the Sydney Philatelic Club owing to his approaching return to the old country.

In the *Fortnightly*, recently, attention was drawn to what was called a barometric post-card—an Italian innovation. One of the London newspapers now tells us that on the back of the card is painted the figure of a woman, with an umbrella. When the weather is likely to be fine the umbrella is blue; when rain is imminent, it is red!

Following a "custom" of his own making the Editor of our bright Transatlantic contemporary, the "Evergreen State Philatelist" will not appear in July or August. The Editor considers that "everybody is entitled to a vacation once a year!"

Our Review of Reviews.

A Corner in Sandwich Islands.

From "Filatelic Facts and Fallacies" we gather that some ingenious speculator has succeeded in working a corner in the 12c. stamps of Hawaii. The statement as published by our contemporary in given on the authority of the "Honolulu Bulletin," which states that a party went to the post office on May 15th, and purchased all the 12c. stamps on hand, the sum paid being in the neighbourhood of £1000.

We are inclined to doubt the truth of the story, but the fact that Mr. Sellschopp has given it prominence in his paper goes far to establish its authenticity. The effect of the corner would naturally be to enhance the value temporarily of this particular stamp—but only temporarily. As Mr. Sellschopp himself remarks, the speculator will find that he has made a big mistake, for when he has held his goods until he is tired of holding them he will find that a deal in sugar or coffee would have paid him considerably better. After all it is well nigh impossible to successfully corner stamps.

Concerning the National Collection.

"Stamps" for June 25th reviews very fully all that has recently been written on the subject of the Taping collection at the British Museum, and the disgraceful apathy with which that splendid accumulation of stamps is viewed by the powers that be. This matter has been so frequently referred to in the *Fortnightly* that it would be waste of space to recapitulate many of the points brought out in our contemporary's article. A word is said by the editor of "Stamps" for the much abused trustees of the big institution in Bloomsbury. "It must be admitted," he writes, that they are awkwardly placed. They have other more important treasures than stamps to take care of for the use of the people at large, and do not know what to do with the valuable additions received yearly." It is pointed out that Professor Flinders Petrie has suggested the erection of a new national museum in some place within an hour's travel of London—some place where the necessary ground can be readily obtained, and which would be fairly easy of access. Commenting on this "Stamps" remarks that there are plenty of open spaces about London of far greater extent than in any other city in the world where a few acres of ground might well be spared for the building of subsidiary or sectional museums. Finally this suggestion is made: That the building belonging to the Geological Museum (a place unknown to 95 per cent. of Londoners) should be reserved in the future for coins and stamps, and that the geological specimens now shown there should be removed to South Kensington, where they would be far more appropriately housed.

Other Journals Briefly Mentioned.

The "Montreal Philatelist" is doing good service, not only by furnishing plenty of interesting matter, but also by hitting out at some of the abuses and hypocrisies to be found among the votaries of the hobby. The issue for June just to hand, is the best we have yet seen.

Mr. Robert Ehrenbach is the "well known philatelist" of the June "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain." Mr. Ehrenbach is 42, has collected for 23 years, and is of course well known all over the world as an earnest philatelist and a member of the Council of the London Philatelic Society.

The "American Journal of Philately" has got down to Western Australia in its "Catalogue for Advanced Collectors." In the June issue an article by Mr. Nankivell on the stamps of the Transvaal commences.

The "Metropolitan Philatelist" of New York is too well patronized by advertisers to be very good value from a literary point of view, but the same objection applies more or less to the other American weeklies, "Mekeel" and the "Era." "Mekeel's Weekly," however, has made great strides of late in its literary quality, and a valuable new feature that should be heartily appreciated by American readers is a really capable review of the French, German, and other European journals.

The Collectors' Catalogue.

MR. CHARLES J. PHILLIPS TALKS BACK.

IN drawing attention to the fact that Part II. of the "Gibbons" Catalogue will be on sale on or about July 30th. Mr. Charles J. Phillips has something to say (in the "Monthly Journal") concerning the demand for "A Collectors' Catalogue," compiled by Collectors for Collectors." Articles on this subject in the *Fortnightly*, and especially the paper by Mr. Herbert Oldfield quoted from the "Philatelic Record," have evoked such widespread interest that our readers will be glad to hear the other side—the "dealing" side, of the question, especially coming from such an old philatelic hand as Mr. Phillips.

Mr. Nankivell seems to think (writes Mr. Phillips) that a specialist, or a committee of specialists, should know far more of the *real value* of the stamps of his pet country than the dealer who is always handling stamps, and knows the demand and the market. Very pretty in theory, but *when* we who are in the trade see the very few and feeble attempts made by a specialist collector to price his own pets, then *our* turn comes for a little criticism; and after reading the last two numbers of the *Record*, I think Mr. Nankivell has fairly laid himself open to a few friendly remarks on my part.

During the last fourteen years Mr. Nankivell has been collecting and studying the stamps of the late South African Republic, commonly called the Transvaal, and is supposed to know some little about them, *although* he has not yet produced his great work on the subject—the handbook promised some years ago.

However, in recent numbers of the *Record* he has been putting into practice that which he so often preached, and has published a list of prices which he says is "My own personal opinion of the relative value of each stamp, and I have arrived at my values as the result of some 20 years' experience."

Now let us analyse a few of Mr. Nankivell's figures, starting with:—

EXAMPLE NO. 2.

1870. German prints. Imperf.

Mr. Nankivell values the 1d. at £5.

" " " 6d. " £2.

The 1d. Mr. Nankivell tells me he has in a pair, and two or more singles. We have none in stock, but have recently sold one at £8, so £5 is not so far out, but far otherwise of the 6d., which Mr. Nankivell does not price as being half as valuable as the 1d.!! Why? Mr. Nankivell *has not one in his collection*. We have none in our stock, and have not seen one for many a long day. The 6d. is, as a matter of fact, far rarer than the 1d., and Mr. Nankivell *knows* this. Then why price at £2? Is this the price he will buy at? If so I can cap it, as I am a buyer at £5.

EXAMPLE NO. 2.

The same issue. Varieties: Tête-bêche.

I will take one sample: 1s. green, imperf. Mr. Nankivell quotes at £10 for the tête-bêche pair!!

The normal 1s. he puts at £5 (a price far under its value.) An imperf. pair is usually considered as being worth more than two singles; but what is the proportion when we have a variety like a *tête-bêche* pair that only occurs once on a sheet of, I think, forty stamps? I would gladly pay *double* Mr. Nankivell's valuation, and consider myself lucky in getting a bargain at such a figure.

All the *têtes-bêches* are treated in the same ridiculous manner, prices being quoted as the "value" (save the mark!) of things of which in some cases it is doubtful if a copy is known.

EXAMPLE NO. 3.

1d. black, on thin paper. Fine roulette.

Unused, £10; used, £20, are Mr. Nankivell's figures. The used 1d. black, of this issue—who has ever seen one? It is not known to me in a used condition.

The unused, priced at £10 each, are *much* too high. A London dealer has a good supply of them on sale at a much less price. Why, then, is it put at £10 each? Is it because Mr. Nankivell has a page full in his album (a fact), or is it his opinion that the stamp is *five times* as valuable as the 6d. blue, imperf., German print, of which he has not a single copy? Why this thushness!!!

Space and time will not admit of more examples, which might be multiplied *ad nauseam*. All I am endeavouring to show is that the attempt to issue a priced catalogue by *Collector Specialists*, who know their stamps, but don't know the market, would be a dismal failure.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

Rate: 3 Words a Penny.

COMPLETE SET "Philatelic Record" wanted. Bound. Send lowest cash price.—Box 119, *Fortnightly* Office, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

WANTED Gt Britain 10/- and £1 Anchor watermark fine copies also 2/- brown C. Nissen & Co., 77/78 High Holborn W.C.

V.R.I. on Free State, 4/- and 1d. unused 9d the pair, 1 pair 2/3. Catalogues free. Whitley Brothers, Stamp dealers, 19, Church Street, Cape Town, South Africa.

A.I.E. unused, 2/6, 5/- Falkland, 9/-, 2fr. France, 20c., 50c., 2c., on 3, Canada, 5/- Malta 2/6, and part 1 or 2 Gibbons Catalogue, 1/10. Homewood, 31, Acklam, Rd. W.

FOR SALE.—Orange Free State Stamps surcharged V.R.I. genuine, unused, 1/1 to 5s. (except 2 1/2d. 1d. and 1d. rose). Also Uganda 1/- printed and current issue.—"LUCRUS," 13, Fladden Road, S.E.

APPROVAL BOOKS.—Special Line of Books and Sheets for Beginners and Medium Collectors, full of bargains, sent on approval. British stamps or Foreign and British Colonials. Wanted to Buy Collections and all kinds of English Stamps. Good prices given.—CHARLES NISSEN & CO., 77/78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

WANT U.S. and Confederate Postage and Locals on the original covers for cash. Send with lowest price to FRANK P. ADAMS, Decorah, Iowa.

THE "ROWLAND HILL" BOOKLET

FREE FROM

ALFRED SMITH & SON,

OFFICE OF THE "MONTHLY CIRCULAR"
37 & 39, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, W.C.

Business Side of Philately.

THE Thompsons are moving—or, at any rate, two of them are. We have received a notification that Mr. T. H. Thompson, of Malvern Road, Kilburn, is returning to his native Bishop Auckland, and from this date forward his address will be: Ashville, Bishop Auckland. The same post, by an odd coincidence, brought us a card from Mr. A. H. Thompson, of Arlington Park Gardens, Chiswick, to say that he has removed his stamps and his household gods to 23, St. John's Road, Richmond, Surrey.

Much good fortune to both of them in their new homes!

It was while living at Bishop Auckland that Mr. T. H. Thompson embarked upon the enterprise which, among stamp men, will link his name with that of the Leeward Islands for all time. Back in the "North Countree," Mr. Thompson may, when we are least expecting it, plan and perpetrate another philatelic coup.

WHILE on the subject of changed addresses we have still another to record. The William Stamp Company have removed from the premises they have so long occupied in London Wall to more convenient offices at 120, Leadenhall Street, E.C. Philatelists visiting the city will find the Company located on the second floor at the address stated.

THE statement of affairs of Mr. Robert Gray, stamp dealer and auctioneer, of Glasgow, as presented to a meeting of the creditors, shows liabilities £1313 16s. 4d. and assets (estimate) £419 2s. 10d., or about 6s. 4d. in the £1 subject to the expenses of realization. The valuation of the stock consisting entirely of stamps, was made by Mr. Gray himself. Tenders for the stock and business may be sent to Messrs. J. W. Robb & Gunn, Accountants, 49, West George Street, Glasgow.

ANOTHER little mystery! Messrs. Puttick & Simpson announce that the superb collection advertised to be sold at their first sale of next season—in September next—has been privately sold *en bloc*! As in the case of the "Castle" collection the name of the purchaser is withheld. From what we know of the collection the price must have been a tall one.

IMPORTANT CORRECTION.

IN Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's advertisement in this number the date of the first sale for next season should read **September 25th and 26th only**, not September 25, 26, 27 and 28 as advertised in our last issue—the large general collection advertised for sale on those days having been sold *en bloc* by private treaty. In the place of this large collection there will be offered at "Putticks," on September 25 and 26, a very fine private collection containing many rare stamps.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, Literary, Fine Art, **Philatelic Auctioneers,** and

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MAKE THE SALE OF

RARE POSTAGE STAMPS A SPECIALITY.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that the COLLECTION advertised to be Sold on September 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th, has been DISPOSED OF PRIVATELY.

THE DATES OF MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S STAMP SALES FOR NEXT SEASON HAVE BEEN FIXED AS FOLLOWS:—

1900.—October 16, 17, 30 and 31; November 13, 14, 27 and 28; December 11 and 12.

1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17; May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12.

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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Collectors are invited to send their List of Wants, and we shall be pleased to send on approval specially made up selections containing the Stamps named therein.

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Whole Page	...	5	0	0	Whole Page	per ins.	4	0	0	
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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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Quarter Column	...	0	10	0	Quarter Column	...	do.	0	8	6
One Inch	...	0	5	0	One Inch	...	do.	0	3	0

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."

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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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"Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly,"

77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

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GERMAN COLONIALS:

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Used, Unused, in Blocks and on Entire Letters.

ON SALE during the ensuing week. My Stock is limited, and as postal connection with the Carolines may take under certain circumstances a whole year, it is to the Interest of Collectors to let me have their requirements immediately. I may mention that the Eagle type of German Colonial Stamps will soon be superseded by the current issue.

I am open to send on Approval any German Colonials, even of Older Issues, to responsible Collectors, in many cases in Blocks and on Entire Envelope.

Stamps from the Mariannas may reach me this week.

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" " " " " 20/- (scarce)	22/6	
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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.

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THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 141—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO., Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers, 10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.

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Tuscany, 1849, 2 soldi, used, very fine	6	10	0	U. S., 2 dollars, State, used, very fine	3 5 0
.. 60 crazie, used, very fine	10	0	0	.. 20 " " " "	8 10 0
Modena, large B.C., used, very fine	2	10	0	Western Australia, 1853, 2d. unused, unused, mint	16 0 0
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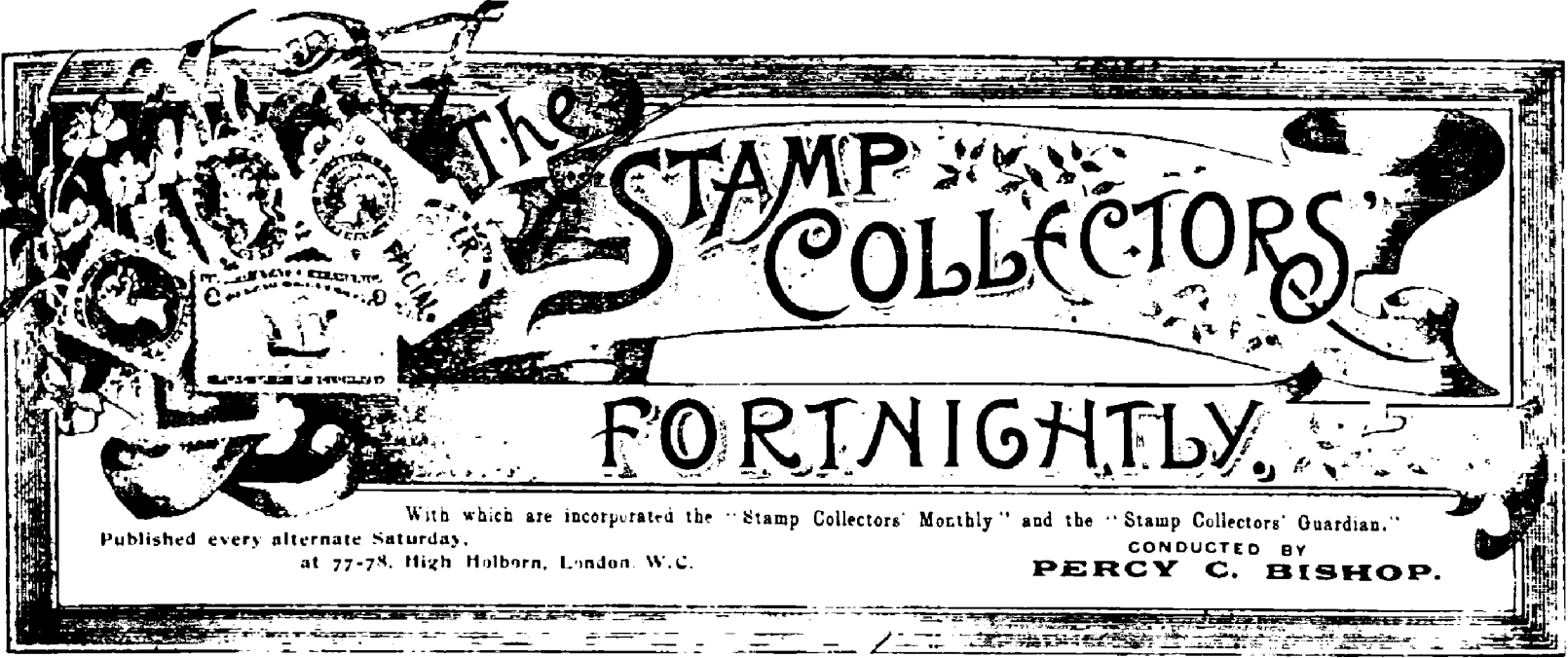
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1d., broken "V"	-	-	2	6	"
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1/-, broken "V"	-	-	10	0	"
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The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

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No. 141.—Vol. VI. SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1900. ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

SOME NARROW ESCAPES FROM FIRE.

To the stamp dealer there is no greater terror than the thought of a visitation of the fiery element and the consequent annihilation of his philatelic treasures. The "Metropolitan Philatelist" of New York tells us that no less than three firms of dealers in that city have been threatened by fire within the past two months. In each case the excellent fire-fighting service of New York—famous throughout the world—was able to keep the conflagration within bounds.

AN AMERICAN LADY STAMP DEALER.

From a provincial newspaper of Michigan the "Weekly Philatelic Era," quotes the story of how Miss Lillie Murray has lately had the whole of the stamp business of Mr. Lewis Robie of Chicago turned over to her supervision. The lady stamp dealers of the world are few enough to make this information interesting, but a further point which is pathetic in the extreme, is the fact that Miss Murray is what the Americans call a "shut-in." She has been almost helpless since two years of age, but her mind as is usually the case has been extraordinarily active all the time. When the special Columbus series of American stamps made their appearance Miss Murray was one of the thousands attracted to philately by those handsome labels, and she has been an ardent collector ever since. Mr. Robie, the dealer who has turned his business over to this young lady, is already well-known by reputation to *Fortnightly* readers. He is the Stamp Drummer of the United States—the gentleman who amassed a great accumulation of American medicine stamps by worrying country druggists to hunt up their old boxes and bottles for his inspection.

CUMPAPS COOD FOR INTERNATIONAL POSTAGE.

MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING & Co. write us as follows:—
 "With reference to your remarks on the Swiss Jubilee stamps, we wrote to the Director-General of Posts at Berne, who replied under date the 10th inst., as follows:—" Nous n'avons aucune connaissance du fait que les Administrations postales ne voudraient pas reconnaître les timbres du Jubileé comme valables pour l'affranchissement dans le service international." This appears to us quite conclusive, and we believe there was no ground for the statement that commemorative stamps were not to be recognised. The Swiss Jubilee stamps are used for international postage, and we frequently receive letters from abroad prepaid with commemorative stamps the Brazilians, for instance, and the Japanese Wedding stamps.

What we should like to know now is the origin of the statement, so widely circulated some two years ago, to the effect that commemorative and Jubilee stamps would not be permitted by the Postal Union executive to frank International mail matter.

A PHILATELIST WHO LEFT HURRIEDLY.

ONE, A. D. Peck, till recently an attendant at the Public Library of Boston, U.S.A., is missing. Several valuable consignments of stamps are missing also. The Boston "Globe" is quoted by "McKeel's Weekly" as saying that "one day the attendant failed to put in an appearance at his usual time, and not long afterwards a gentleman called for him. On being told that he had left without giving notice, the caller said that his brother, who is a dealer in stamps, had sent stamps worth \$500 to the library address of the attendant on approval, and had not heard from him. He would not give his name nor that of his brother, nor would he enter a complaint against the young man, so the affair has not yet reached the police."

Mr. Wyllard O. Wyhe doubts the truth of the \$500 story, but requests that all those who may have claims against Peck will communicate with him.

STAMP THEFTS CULMINATE IN SUICIDE.

How is it that Somerset House, which so busily superintends other persons' affairs, is unable to regulate its own. Another case of systematic thefts "of I.R. Official" and other stamps has just come to light. The story, with its tragic sequel, is told in the "Daily Mail."

A clerk in the cancelling office at Somerset House named George Henry Hillman, who lived at Harcourt Road, Walthampton, has committed suicide at Worthing under most painful circumstances.

On Saturday last [July 21] the Commissioners of Somerset House came to the conclusion that Hillman had been stealing stamps on an extensive scale by means of forgery. A warrant was issued against him, and Detective-Inspector Nearn, of Scotland Yard, was told off to execute it.

For the last two months Hillman had been staying with his wife and family at Brighton, but on Friday, July 20th, he left, presumably with the intention of going to Somerset House. As a matter of fact he went to his mother's house in Worthing.

The detective went to Worthing to make the arrest, but when he arrived at the house he found that Hillman had strangled himself in his bedroom by tightening two handkerchiefs round his neck with the aid of a clothes brush. Three empty poison bottles were also found in the room.

At the inquest the most important witness was Mrs. Hillman, the widow. In the presence of the coroner she opened a letter card addressed to her by the deceased.

" July 27, 1900.

" My Darling Wife,—I don't how to write to you. I am in such trouble at the office. They have accused me of altering some of the accounts, and after all these years it seems dreadful. The last two days I have been out of my mind. How I have managed to keep my trouble when I have been with you is more than I know. I don't know what I am doing now, but I can bear it no longer. I feel that my mind is giving way and that I shall do something desperate.

" Try and think of me as you have known me. I have done my best to be a good husband and father. God bless you, dearest, and my darling children. My heart is broken. I can write no more. Good-bye, darling.—Yours ever and always,
" G. H. HILLMAN."

The jury found that Hillman committed suicide while temporarily insane.

DARING AND EXTRAVAGANCE.

It has not yet been possible to ascertain the value of the stamps which Hillman managed to misappropriate, but the modus operandi by which he stole them was one of great daring.

It was part of Hillman's duties to forward quantities of valuable stamps to collectors of inland revenue in various parts of the country. Instead of doing this he took them to the post-office, and there exchanged them for money. This proceeding involved the forging of no less than four signatures, including that of one of the commissioners.

Hillman's recent mode of life has been exceedingly extravagant for a man of his means, and for some time past the authorities at Somerset House have been wondering how on a salary of £345 a year he managed to keep up two establishments, one at Brighton and one in London, and travel up and down with a first-class season-ticket.

The man was forty-six years of age.

WHERE DID THE STAMPS GO?

It is probable—though we have no definite information on this point—that Hillman dribbled out his stolen stamps in small parcels to members of the stamp-dealing fraternity. These latter might well, and probably would, buy the stamps in perfect good faith, despite the fact that unused specimens of the " I.R. Officials " are supposed never to reach the public. " Supposed " we say. As a matter of fact, the conditions under which these stamps are issued and controlled are unsatisfactory in the extreme. A dealer who buys them is purchasing stamps which should never leave Somerset House in an uncanceled state. Yet what would you have? Is the dealer who is offered these stamps to turn away a parcel of " stuff " for which there is always a fair demand, only to send the seller to the next dealer in the same street? On the other hand, should he detain the man offering the stamps? That, it seems to us, would be a strong proceeding, since large quantities of these stamps have dribbled out at various times, and might be legitimately " held for value " by anybody. So long as the present system of muddle obtains at Somerset House, so long will these things continue. It should be made impossible for the lesser officials to tamper with these valuable pieces of gummed paper. A clerk such as Hillman in receipt of £345 a year, fair salary though that be, can never be considered as beyond temptation.

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.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1853. Triangular; Perkins, Bacon print; on blued paper; wmk. Anchor.				
1d. red	60/	40/	4/	2/6
4d. blue	40/	25/	2/	1/
<i>On white paper.</i>				
1d. red	12/6	8/	5/	2/6
4d. blue	10/	7/	1/	1/9
6d. lilac	25/	15/	5/	2/6
6d. slate	60/	30/	15/	8/6
1s. yellow-green	150/	70/	15/	8/
1/- dark green	80/	50/	20/	10/
1861. The so-called " Woodblock " issue; laid paper.				
1d. red	600/	300/	100/	60/
1d. blue (error) .. ..	..	..	1800/	900/
4d. blue	500/	250/	60/	30/
4d. dark blue .. ..	..	..	200/	100/
4d. red (error) .. ..	..	..	1800/	900/
<i>De La Rue printing:</i>				
1d. red	20/	10/	8/	5/
4d. dark blue	20/	10/	4/	3/
6d. violet	30/	15/	10/	6/
1s. emerald-green	100/	60/	25/	15/
1865. Rectangular issue; perf. 14.				
1d. red	10/	6/	1/	1/9
4d. blue	10/	6/	1/	1/9
6d. mauve	10/	6/	2/	1/
1s. green	15/	8/	1/	1/6
1868. With red surcharge.				
" Four Pence " on 6d. lilac	20/	12/6	2/6	1/6
" One Penny " on 6d. lilac	50/	25/	15/	8/
<i>With black surcharge.</i>				
" One Penny " on 1s. yellow-green	5/	3/	6/	4/
1871. The same, watermarked C.C.				
1/2d. slate	1/	1/8	1/	1/8
1d. red	1/	1/8	1/3	1/2
4d. blue	8/	5/	1/3	1/2
5s. orange	35/	25/	3/	2/
1879. With red surcharge.				
" Three Pence " on 4d. blue	4/	2/6	1/9	1/6
Error: " Th-ee " for " Three " .. ..	..	..	40/	25/
Error: " Pench " for " Pence " .. ..	..	..	40/	25/
<i>With black surcharge.</i>				
" Threepence " on 4d.	2/6	1/6	1/9	1/6
<i>New value.</i>				
3d. lilac and rose	10/	6/	1/	1/9
<i>With black surcharge.</i>				
" 3 " on 3d. lilac and rose, Type I.	15/	8/	2/	1/
" 3 " on 3d. lilac-rose, Type II.	2/6	1/6	1/9	1/6

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE—Continued.	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1881. 3d. red-brown	5/	3/	13	12
1881. <i>Rectangular; wmk. CA.</i>				
½d. slate	2/6	1/6	13	12
1d. red	10/	6/	13	12
2d. bistre	4/	2/6	12	11
3d. red-brown	19/	16/	12	11
6d. mauve	25/	15/	16	13
5s. orange	500/	300/	32.6	17/6
1882. <i>Wmk. CC.</i>				
"One Half Penny" on 3d. red-brown	500/	300/	35/	20/
<i>Wmk. CA.</i>				
"One Half Penny" on 3d. red-brown	2/6	1/6	1/	19
1885. <i>Wmk. Anchor.</i>				
½d. slate	12	11	11	
1d. red	13	12	11	
2d. bistre	14	13	11	
6d. violet	17	19	11	
1s. green	15/	10/	11	
5s. orange	15/	10/	11	16
1891.				
2½d. on 3d. rose	16	14	12	11
2½d. pale green	17	19	11	
4d. blue	17	19	11	
1s. bluish-green	2/6	1/6	14	12
1893-96.				
"One Penny" on 2d. bistre	15	13	11	
½d. emerald-green	11		11	
1d. red (new type)	11½		11	
2½d. blue	13		11	
1s. buff	13		11	
5s. orange	5/6		11	16

The adhesives of Cape Colony subsequent to the above are not yet of sufficient rarity to call for quotation here.

(To be continued.)

The New "Gibbons," Part Two.

THERE are many good points (and so far we have found no bad ones) about the new "Gibbons" Catalogue, Volume II.—"Adhesive Postage Stamps of Foreign Countries"—just published; price two shillings.

Most interesting of all is the policy adopted with regard to the Orange River Colony and the Transvaal, countries which have no longer any claim to be included in Gibbons' Part II. The publishers of the Catalogue have solved the difficulty confronting them by dealing with these stamps in a special "Supplement to Gibbons' Part I." Those collectors who restrict themselves to British Colonies can be supplied with the supplement separately for the sum of threepence.

Included in this supplement are the Mafeking "Siege"; but with regard to these and to the prices assigned to certain of the varieties by Messrs. Gibbons we shall have more to say in our next issue.

Now as regards the Foreign Countries catalogue proper. Due praise must be given Messrs. Gibbons for the many improvements to be found in this book. Certain countries in particular—notably Brazil, Belgium, Ecuador, and Roumania—have been overhauled by master-hands; and the lists of these countries embody the very latest information and the highest knowledge available.

The illustrations, although not uniformly good are in certain cases excellent. Many collectors will bless this new edition for its many acceptable illustrations of minor varieties. The "Paris" and "Athens" prints of Greece, always confused by those who have only written information to go upon, are now admirably presented in enlarged pictorial form. In other countries, too, there is the same attention to the more important of the die varieties.

In our next number we shall have more to say concerning the new catalogue.

Reminiscences of a Philatelist.

BY WALTER NATHAN.

(Continued from page 71.)

WITH the sale by auction of the collection of Mr. J. W. Scott in 1882, the first period of my experience as a Philatelist may be said to have closed. When I returned to the pursuit I did so under conditions more nearly approximating to those of the present time, when philately had become a science worthy of the consideration of men of learning and ability in every walk of life. Before, however, entering on this second part of my subject it would be well to summarise the events which caused the break in my pursuit of stamps and my study of their varieties.

As previously stated I had to all appearances entirely thrown off the illness I had contracted by my swim at Brighton. But I was recommended to be as much as possible in the open air and while this did not interfere with my acquisition of specimens it left me little time to increase my knowledge. In going about London I made it a point of entering every shop I thought at all likely to have stamps or stamp collections for sale. I was principally met by the approval sheets of Messrs. Stafford-Smith and Alfred Smith, who at that time seemed to do a large trade with stationers, and I must compliment these firms on the very natty way in which they offered their goods for sale, as one of their old approval sheets compares not unfavourably with the most modern innovations. It was not, however, neat mounting which I sought but rare stamps, and I found some in various parts of London, notably in London Wall, Bucklebury, Westbourne Grove, &c. While it is curious that I picked up some good collections at the auctions of Messrs. Puttick & Simpson long before that firm thought of holding special sales for stamps.

Certainly, I was not so fortunate as a gentleman who picked up a collection for 25 shillings at one of Messrs. Puttick's book sales, which was subsequently sold for £240. Nevertheless, I bought several Oppen's albums, containing a sprinkling of fair stamps, for a few shillings each. At a sweet-stuff shop in Queen's Road, Bayswater, which had a number of Lallier's albums priced separately for sale on commission, I foolishly passed a 1d. blue wood block error Cape, which was marked at £3, and for which I unsuccessfully offered £2.

These accumulations, together with a number of unused stamps which I purchased while current, I threw into a drawer without attempting to arrange them; nor, indeed, were they ever arranged, or even accurately examined by me.

In the year 1874 the death of my father, followed by the serious illness of my mother, presented important matters for my attention. During the next year I was travelling about with my mother, trying to re-establish her health, which unremitting attention to her late husband had completely broken down. I was happy in seeing this accomplished, and then I had to attempt to make up the lost time in my education.

Few of us realize what creatures of habit we are. At first when I did nothing in stamps my interest in them was unimpaired, but gradually it subsided growing less with each succeeding month and year until, in the year 1879, when on the way to Somerset House (where I was then employed), I saw a stamp showcase attached to the gate of Adelphi House in the Strand, my feelings were of surprise rather than interest.

This solitary representative of the stamp trade in a thoroughfare now crowded by the leading stamp dealers of the world was owned by Mr. J. W. Palmer. After looking at the showcase curiously for two or three mornings I entered the premises, but with the intention of selling rather than of purchasing.

Mr. Palmer's premises were on the first floor, and my surprise at meeting with a stamp shop at all was increased by finding two or three young ladies busily engaged in sorting stamps.

(To be continued.)

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, AUGUST 4, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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.

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AMONG philatelists His Royal Highness the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha was always thought of, and not infrequently spoken of, as the Duke of Edinburgh. Our Queen's second son, whose death occurred with such tragic suddenness at Rosenau Castle on

The Duke of
Saxe-Coburg-Gotha.

Monday last, was within a week of attaining his fifty-sixth birthday. As sailor, as violinist, as philatelist, and as Royal Duke, his was a varied and interesting career. During his career as an Admiral of the British Navy, his Royal Highness visited the uttermost ends of the earth. Now that the assassination of Royal and distinguished personages is so prevalent one may recall the fact that Duke Alfred himself narrowly escaped death at the hands of an Irishman, named O'Farrell, at a picnic at Clontarf in New South Wales, on March 12th, 1868. His Highness, however, escaped with a slight wound, O'Farrell being tried and executed about a month later.

Philatelists, and particularly the older members of the London Philatelic Society, will bear the Duke in loyal and affectionate remembrance. It has been well said of him that if he had not been a Royal Duke, Philately would have been the gainer. As it was, the multitudinous claims upon a Prince's time left His Royal Highness little time to devote to his fiddle and his stamps. To the end the Duke remained Honorary President of the Philatelic Society. Those whose memories extend as far back as 1890 will recollect that the Duke of Edinburgh, as he then was, opened the London Philatelic Exhibition of that year, at the Portman Rooms in Baker Street, just as the later London Exhibition at the Water Colour Institute in Piccadilly was inaugurated by his nephew, the Duke of York.

The Duke is dead; long live the Duke. The new ruler of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, the youthful prince hitherto known as the Duke of Albany, is also interested in stamps. It is to be hoped that the cares of state—never very onerous, by the way, in Saxe-Coburg-Gotha—will not deprive him of a hobby that has charms for all of us, from prince to ploughboy.

The "Monthly Journal" records the death of Mr. W. E. Jeff, of Coleshill, Birmingham. In the very early days of Philately, a quartette consisting of W. C. Jeff, E. L. Pemberton, Edward Buckley, and W. T. Wilson, used to foregather at the "Old Castle and Falcon," in Snow Hill, Birmingham; and of this little coterie, Mr. W. T. Wilson is now the sole survivor.

Something about Entires.

FOR those interested in dates, it may be as well to add—a mention has been made of the earliest stamped envelopes—that, though post cards were introduced in Austria-Hungary in October, 1869, no other country took them up at once, but just as the Franco-German War broke out, there appeared an unstamped issue for the North German Confederation in July, 1870, and a stamped one for Wurtemberg.

The fortune of war also caused a special one to be introduced for German use in the occupied territory of Alsace from August, 1870, and Bavaria issued one at the same time for its own use. On the proclamation of the German Empire the next year, the large and ugly unstamped series received an addition by an edition which is puzzling enough to satisfy the most ardent seekers after varieties, for there are no less than thirteen varieties of the Imperial eagle distributed by the different printing offices which had the preparing of them, apart from a dozen varying in forms of letterpress and heading, before the officially stamped issue appeared in 1873.

As previously stated, the first English cards appeared in October, 1870—Luxemburg having just got the start of us, with an unstamped series or two, to obtain all varieties which a Bank of England note of at least two figures will be required—those of Denmark came out in April following; Canada leading the way among our possessions in the same year, 1871, while Norway, Sweden and Russia put in an appearance in 1872, and the United States in 1873.

During these three years the first positions for honours in designing and engraving must be divided between ourselves, Canada and Denmark, the other cards being mostly type-set. Mere excellence in design, colours &c., of course does not count with philatelists, who take everything they can get, however ugly, that belongs to a genuine postal emission.

"THE PICTURE POSTCARD"

is the title of a new monthly which has just appeared with the avowed object "of encouraging a useful and artistic trade," though it will kindly "take within its editorial survey the kindred subjects of philately and travel." Pictures always have an attraction for the young, and the specimens given in this magazine are well executed in a style undreamt of in our young days when we accumulated some hundreds in our "travels" about this little England of ours. It is scarcely necessary to remind our readers, though that these view cards have no connection whatever with stamp collecting or philately. Whatever interest they possess is connected with the view or picture; the fact of their having been allowed to pass through the post, does not constitute them post cards in the sense that stamp collectors use the term, any more than the gaudily coloured and fancifully printed covers used by some advertisers are desirable articles in a collection of postal envelopes and wrappers, merely because they have an adhesive postage stamp on, or even one impressed by the postal authorities "to order."

That there has been an immense production and sale of these picture cards, especially on the Continent, is evident from the statement that two years ago the German postal department had to make special arrangements for their transmission through the post. It is said that over 300,000 were dispatched daily, the extra revenue therefrom being about £6,000 per week.

Where the ordinary post cards, as in some of our Colonies, are officially issued with views on them they must necessarily be collected as post cards, but many collectors are ignoring these in the same way that others have ignored the Seebeckian and Commemorative issues of postage stamps, as being unnecessary and purely speculative. If the collecting of these picture cards leads to the collecting of post cards proper, well and good, but they can be collected only as picture cards in the first instance, the front or address side with the stamp on, which may in a few cases have a postal interest, not being visible when mounted in an ordinary album to show the picture.

HAWK-EYE.

Enquiries answered monthly—or direct, if stamped envelope is sent—addressed "Hawk-Eye," c/o The Editor.

The Values of "Mafekings."

A FULL LIST WITH VALUES—ALSO FURTHER GOSSIP AND COMMENT.

WE could almost fill our paper with the news and gossip—especially gossip—concerning the provisional stamps of Mafeking. One well-know philatelist is very angry with us for having suggested that the issue of these stamps was in some way traceable to Lord Edward Cecil's philatelic propensities, but, whoever may have been originally responsible for the issue, it is quite certain that that person has much to answer for. During recent weeks the Mafeking stamps have been the universal topic of philatelic conversation.

In our last number we promised to provide a complete list of the Mafeking provisionals. Not only shall we do this, but attempt also to fix approximate values for the different varieties. In the following list the figures given in the first column represent the values of fine used copies, and in the second column those of average specimens. We have not included these values of Mafekings in the current instalment of our Collectors' Guide—although it would fall most approximately under the heading of Cape of Good Hope—for the reason that these figures must necessarily be of more or less speculative character until absolutely authentic information is to hand as to quantities. It is well-known that in some cases as few as 120 stamps were surcharged. The 1/- on 6d. English, and the 2/- on 1/- English (both on British Bechuanaland stamps) may be cited as remarkably rare items in the Mafeking list, and we should say that anyone able to purchase copies of these cheaply would be in luck's way indeed.

REVISED LIST OF PRICES.

'MAFEKING' AND 'BESIEGED' IN FANCY TYPE, 1½MM. HIGH.

(a) Cape of Good Hope Stamps.

1.	1d. on ½d. green, old type ...	...	20/-	17/6
2.	1d. on ½d. green, new type ...	...	80/-	70/-
3.	3d. on 1d. carmine, new type ...	...	25/-	20/-
4.	6d. on 3d. claret, old type ...	...	150/-	120/-
5.	1/- on 4d. pale green, old type ...	...	120/-	100/-

(b) Bechuanaland Protectorate Stamps.

6.	1d. on ½d. English ...	...	30/-	26/-
7.	3d. on 1d. " ...	...	50/-	40/-
8.	6d. on 2d. " ...	...	60/-	50/-
9.	6d. on 3d. " ...	...	160/-	140/-

(c) British Bechuanaland Stamps.

10.	6d. on 3d. lilac ...	...	60/-	50/-
11.	1/- on 4d. English ...	...	100/-	80/-

SAME SURCHARGE BUT IN THIN SANS-SERIF TYPE, 1½MM. HIGH.

(a) Bechuanaland Protectorate Stamps.

12.	3d. on 1d. English ...	...	80/-	70/-
13.	6d. on 2d. " ...	...	80/-	70/-
14.	1/- on 6d. " ...	...	100/-	80/-

(b) British Bechuanaland Stamps.

15.	1/- on 6d. English ...	...	£15	£13
16.	2/- on 1/- " ...	...	£10	£9

Head of Baden-Powell.

17.	3d. blue, small head	60/-	50/-
18.	3d. blue, large head	120/-	100/-

Local Stamp.

19.	1d. blue, man on bicycle	30/-	25/-
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We are indebted to Mr. D. V. Ulsen for a complete list of the Mafekings tallying with the above. In an accompanying letter, Mr. Ulsen warmly defends the Mafeking stamps as a genuine and necessary issue. This gentleman is himself the fortunate possessor of a complete set of the 19 stamps collected for him by agents at the Cape. He remarks that one particular stamp (which is doubtless one of those we have referred to above) is extremely scarce, his specimen having realized a remarkably high price at an auction sale in Kimberley. Mr. Ulsen concludes by saying:—

I never indulge in correspondence on philatelic subjects, but cannot refrain from warning collectors who are the lucky possessors of Mafeking stamps to guard themselves against the trickery already exhibited by certain disappointed folks. I advise them to keep their little treasures if they have any, because if they part with them they will ever regret it. This is my candid opinion.

THE VALUES IN CAPE TOWN.

A reader of the *Fortnightly* resident in Cape Town also kindly sends us a full list of the Mafeking stamps. This gentleman makes 20 varieties of them by the inclusion of two shades of the Baden-Powell stamp with small head. This he lists in both dark and light blue.

Some interesting points regarding the stamps are mentioned in our correspondent's letter.

Complete sets, he tells us, are selling in Cape Town at from £35 to £40.

A prominent merchant of Mafeking, who went through all the trying time of the siege, tells our correspondent that one sheet (or pane?) of one of the stamps—he cannot remember which—was doubly surcharged by accident, an officer unwittingly pulling down the lever of a hand press which had already completed one impression. This sheet happened to be issued to the merchant in question, who sent most of the stamps away in the usual manner. Had he been a philatelist probably he would have stuck to the sheet in its entirety. As it was, directly he discovered the curiosity, he informed the postmaster of it, and that functionary made enquiries and afterwards told him how the error arose.

Another interesting point: the lines in the surcharge are in some of the stamps anything but parallel. Our correspondent mentions as notable instances of this the 1d. on ½d. Cape, the 3d. on 1d. ditto, and the 6d. on 3d. ditto.

It is believed that very few of the 6d. red British Bechuanalands were issued with the Mafeking surcharge—not more than about 200 it is said. This also applies in a modified degree to the 6d. on 3d. British Protectorate, and the 2s. on 1s. British Protectorate varieties.

Of the Transvaal stamps that have been surcharged V.R.I. (our Cape Town correspondent adds in conclusion) the rarest values seem to be the 2½d. and the 6d. pink.

IS IT A HOAX?

Regarding the anonymous postcard received by us, and warning readers of the *Fortnightly* against forged Mafekings, Mr. J. R. F. Turner writes us as follows:—

It does not seem to have occurred to you that as the surcharged Mafekings are unknown in an unused state your anonymous correspondent is clearly hoaxing you. I fear it is another case of sour grapes.

Now, although Mr. Turner's conclusion may be an absolutely true one, we cannot quite follow the logic by which he arrives at it. It seems to us that the fact of there being no unused Mafekings does not at all affect the question whether the Mafeking stamps have been forged. We did not read our anonymous post card as implying merely a forgery of postmark. That in the circumstances would be a very silly sort of forgery. However, if there be no forgeries in circulation so much the better, but it will be quite as well in buying Mafekings to observe the caution, that is after all a necessity in all transactions affecting rare surcharged stamps.

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.

British South Africa.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., send us the new 4d. stamp. The colour is bistre, and the size small.

Adhesive: 4d., bistre.

Catalonia (Spain).—It appears that the Catalonians yearn for local postal stamps of their own. Why, we know not. Some of the Catalonians, peradventure, are stamp dealers. Anyhow, we are indebted to Mr. W. T. Mark, of Cardiff, for the information that the prayer of the Catalonians has been heard, and the stamps issued. At the same time Mr. Mark sends us specimens of the same, lent to him by a friend, who is a Catalonian. The strange thing about the stamps sent is that they bear no indication of value. To us they have a strange look of being more like small advertising labels than veritable postage stamps. We shall await further details before formally chronicling the stamps.

Ceylon.—From Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. we have the new 15 cents blue.

Adhesive: 15c. blue.

Crete (Italian).—We have a new stamp of 1 piastre, kindly lent us by Mr. Charles de Grave Sells. This is the current 25c. of Italy, surcharged at foot "1 PIASTRE 1" in red.

Dutch Indies.—We are indebted to the same firm for three new Dutch Indies stamps—surcharged on the current stamps of the mother country as follows:—

Adhesives: 10c. on 10c. grey.
15c. on 15c. brown.
20c. on 20c. green.

The surcharge (value at top, and "red-Indie" at bottom), is black in each case.

Gold Coast.—The new 10s. stamp is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Adhesive: 10s. green and red.

Kishengarh.—The same firm send us the ¼ anna stamp in a new colour—blue.

Malay States.—We have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for the 3 cents of the "Tiger's Head" type with the new surcharge

FEDERATED
MALAY STATES

in black in two lines

Natal.—From newspaper despatches we learn that the Natal Government has just issued a most effective set of post cards, for use only in the Colony, chiefly comprising war scenes. Ladysmith Town Hall, a Boer bridge over the Tugela, a 4.7in. naval gun, the Tugela Waterfalls, and Spion Kop are included in the set.

The "Monthly Journal," by the way, quotes the following interesting passage from the "Natal Mercury" with regard to the recent abortive proposal to issue war stamps in Natal.

The Colonial Secretary, in reply to Mr. Baynes, said a letter was received by him from the Agent-General, in which he stated that he had received a communication from a certain gentleman, proposing that a special stamp issue, the proceeds of which should be expended for the relief of necessitous persons in Natal, sufferers by the war, should be issued by the Government. The Agent-General forwarded the letter, but remarked that he hardly expected it would meet with the sanction of the Government. The letter was referred to the Postmaster-General, who in his report said he disapproved of the principle of the Post Office being used as a means of making charitable collections, and that he did not think, if the proposition was acted upon, it would prove of much benefit to sufferers from the war. Stamps could only be used upon letters from Natal to other countries, so that the public here would have to be looked to as the largest purchasers. The Postmaster-General expressed himself sceptical as to the readiness of the Natal public to pay from 5s. to £50 for a special stamp of the description suggested. He agreed with the Postmaster-General. The issuing of commemorative stamps

in this way would be beneath the dignity of a Government. It was all very well for South American States, like Guatemala and Ecuador, to issue stamps pretty nearly every year, when they wanted a little ready cash; but it would not be creditable for Natal, which had a higher status, to do this sort of thing. (Hear, hear). A special issue of stamps was an undesirable way of making money.

Portuguese East Africa.—The following interesting correspondence explains itself:—

Ipswich, July 20, 1900.

Dear Sir,—We enclose copy of a letter received from Mr. J. E. McMaster, British Consul at Beira, respecting the issue of two provisional stamps.

They are the 5 reis of the current issue (Mozambique Company) overprinted "25 reis" in red, and the 10 reis perforated vertically through the centre, and each half surcharged "50 reis" in violet.

The letter, of which the enclosed is a copy, derives a painful interest from the fact that Mr. McMaster was assassinated in the Consulate at Beira, on July 17th, by a German-American. Mr. McMaster was an enthusiastic stamp collector, and an old personal friend of Mr. Whitfield King, to whom you will notice this letter is addressed. Some years ago Mr. McMaster was Postmaster General of the British Central Africa Protectorate, but having contracted a fever at Blantyre, was invalided home, and resided for some time at Kew. He was afterwards appointed British Consul at Quilimane, and subsequently transferred to a similar post at Beira.

Yours faithfully, WHITFIELD KING & Co.

Percy C. Bishop, Esq.

[COPY.]

H. B. M. Consulate, Beira; June 12, 1900.

Dear Sir,—I send you a specimen each of two new provisionals recently issued here. They are a necessary issue, and not superfluous. The passing through of so many thousands of British troops entirely exhausted the stock in hand of the usual 25 and 50 reis stamps and 22000 of the 25 and 15000 of the 50 have been printed for sale.

On each page [? pane or sheet] occurs an error or more accurately a want of ink impress, the REIS on the 50 reis issue is printed R.F.I.S. I am sorry that I cannot send you a specimen of this but, if I can obtain several, will send you one later on.

Yours faithfully, J. E. McMASTER.

C. Whitfield King, Esq., Ipswich.

Transvaal.—The following values of S.A.R. stamps with black surcharge, "V.R.I." in thick capitals are listed up to the time of writing:—

<i>Adhesives.</i>	¼d. green	2½d. blue
	1d. carmine	4d. sage-green
	2d. brown	6d. lilac.

These according to a Pretoria correspondent of the "Monthly Journal" were put in circulation on the 18th of June, and consisted of the stock that was found at Johannesburg, President Kruger (who appears to be an omnivorous collector) having taken with him the stamps that were in the post office at Pretoria when he started on his little railway trip. The printers at Pretoria seem to have been more skilful than those at Bloemfontein, for Messrs. Gibbons' correspondent has seen no errors of the surcharge.

United States (Buffalo Exposition).—The "Metropolitan Philatelist" has information to the effect that the special issue of stamps for the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo will be distinguished from all previous issues for similar occasions by the words "Commemorative Series, 1901," which will appear on the stamps in addition to the usual wording.

With the idea of making the Pan-American Exposition series commemorative of the exposition, Third Assistant Postmaster-General Madden desired that the words "Pan-American Series, 1901," should appear on the stamps. The question was referred to Assistant Attorney-General for the Post Office Department Tyner, who held that the printing of the reference to the Pan-American Exposition would be contrary to the statute which was adopted to prevent the printing of advertisements on stamps. The exposition being a private enterprise (although subsidized by the Government) any mention of it on the Government stamps would be an advertisement for it. He found no objection, however, to the words "Commemorative Series, 1901," and the stamps will bear that inscription.

A request for a special series of stamps for the Charlestown, S.C., Interstate and West Indian Exposition, will probably be refused, adds the "Metropolitan Philatelist." We hope so!

Our Review of Reviews.

Willing to Buy at Half-Catalogue.

There are people, we know, who believe that a good rule to follow in appraising stamps is to take half-catalogue as about the average of philatelic value. The discounting game, however, being as a general thing only partly understood of the amateur, the nominal catalogue price becomes to many people a delusion and a snare. "Filatelic Facts and Fallacies," of San Francisco, describes the question of discounting on stamps as "quite puzzling;" and that certainly is not an exaggerated expression to use. It is pointed out in a thoughtful article on this subject in Mr. Sellschopp's paper that as a general thing—at any rate during recent years—the cataloguers do not *lead* the market but *follow* it, and this is a very good way of explaining how the so-called market prices for some time past have been the sport and plaything of the speculator.

The fact that certain people are able to sell certain stamps at certain discounts is at first glance disquieting. The fact in itself suggests a doubt not only as to the catalogues but as to the stability of philately. But the thoughtful collector, the thorough philatelist knows that discounting is only possible in regard to certain stamps, and that with other stamps the offer of a discount necessarily implies either bad condition, or, as is very often the case, bad faith—the sort of bad faith that works on the principle of a sprat to catch a mackerel.

The proprietors of "Filatelic Facts and Fallacies," as shewing their own confidence in philately, published a list—a considerable list—of United States, British Colonial, European, and other stamps, for which they are willing to pay half catalogue prices. In this case of course the catalogue prices referred to are those quoted in Scott's Standard Catalogue—prices which are certainly not the lowest to be found in current lists. Apparently this feature of our San Francisco contemporary is to become a serial if business results. Mr. Sellschopp promising to publish further lists of stamps for which he will pay half catalogue price from time to time.

"To What Base Uses —."

In the "American Journal of Philately" there are good articles on United States Telegraph Stamps, Belgian Stamps, Stamps of the Transvaal, and, in the Catalogue for Advanced Collectors, a useful instalment devoted to Wurtemberg. But why, oh! why do Messrs. Scott devote the first two pages of their paper to a preliminary puff of the forthcoming 1901 edition of the International Postage Stamp Album? For such a journal it is exceedingly bad form.

Poor Support for the Paris Exhibition.

"Stamps" of July 25th opens with an article on "The Internationality of Philately," reading us all a little sermon on the benefits of international harmony and goodwill. It is all very unnecessary and useless, for in no section of any civilised community is the doctrine of goodwill more generously construed than among collectors of, and dealers in, stamps.

"It is," says "Stamps" "possibly only coincidence that English collectors should have been less willing than usual to send their treasures to Paris this year for exhibition."

Coincidence is hardly the word we should have used. We should say that that the abstention of so many British collectors who might otherwise have shown their stamps at Paris is due to causes for which the managers of the Paris Philatelic Exhibition have only themselves to blame.

It is now too late for anything that we may say to affect the fortunes of the Paris Philatelic Exhibition. We shall therefore speak out on the subject—not from any ill feeling towards the French, but in common fairness to those British

philatelists who may feel that in some sort a slur has been cast upon them by articles such as that under notice.

In the first place, then, the charges for exhibition in Paris were abnormally and absolutely high. Again, the conditions of exhibiting, in certain of their phases, were a little too arbitrary to please intending competitors; and finally—though this, perhaps, is not a point that need have affected the average collector—the selection of the *personnel* of the exhibition was not all that could be desired, from the point of view of international amity and impartiality.

We shall say no more, in fact we should not have said as much were it not for the fact that in this matter the British philatelist seems to have been credited with feelings of envy, hatred, and all uncharitableness, such as he is very far from entertaining.

The "Y †" Stamps of Cuba.

An old, old controversy is re-opened, in "Stamps," by the publication of a letter from Mr. C. H. Bowdler, of Stourbridge, on the subject of the stamps of Cuba surcharged "Y †." At various times it has been argued that the "Y" of the surcharge was intended to represent the Spanish word meaning "and," while against this theory others have contended that the "Y" was simply the initial letter of the word "anterior."

Mr. Bowdler most interestingly discussed the pros and cons of the matter. The "Y," he points out, was, and still is, used, *when standing alone*, as the complete and full word for "and." It is true that the "y" in Spanish is precisely of the same sound as the "i," but Mr. Bowdler points out that this is only the case when the "y" stands alone. That letter in fact is a consonant according to the teaching of the Spanish grammar, and not a vowel.

As evidence of what he adduces, Mr. Bowdler sends cuttings from Spanish papers shewing how the "y" is used to indicate the word "and," and how on the other hand the "y" when used as only part of a word is sounded by the Spaniards much as the Germans sound their "j" in "jager." Thus this gentleman holds to the theory that the "y †" on the Cuban stamps means "and †." He is ready, however, to stand corrected.

The Carlist Stamps of Spain.

Mr. George B. Duerst commences, in the July number of the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain," a series of articles on the stamps of the Carlist Insurrection—labels which have been more or less "under a cloud" among philatelists for many years past. It has been more than once contended—and that by persons knowing whereof they speak—that the only Carlist stamp worthy of the name is the large blue label bearing the head of the Pretender, so freely reprinted for the benefit (?) of the young collector.

THE FRENCH CARLIST SURCHARGES.

When Don Carlos proclaimed himself King of Spain, under the title of Carlos VII., one of the first steps taken, Mr. Duerst tells us, was the creation of a special postal service for the disaffected province in the north of Spain. Carlist letters could not be sent through the ordinary channels, so special messengers were employed to convey the correspondence over the frontier to the nearest French town, thence to be forwarded in the ordinary course by the French post office. In order to prepay such correspondence over French soil it was necessary to use French stamps, so in order to indicate whence such letters were sent, a special die was made, consisting of the Bourbon Fleur-de-Lys within a double lined five-pointed star. This surcharge, later on, was used by the Carlist postal authorities as an obliteration.

It has always puzzled Mr. Duerst—and it puzzles us quite as badly—that the French postal administration should have countenanced such a surcharge on the stamps of France. Some collectors, it is remarked, attach no value whatever to these stamps. Mr. Duerst, far from agreeing with them, considers them of very high value, and of much philatelic and historical interest. He goes on to give the following list of French stamps that have been used in the manner described:—

1862 issue perf. Head of Napoleon, not laureated	5s. green.
1892 issue, perf. Head of Liberty	.. .. 1c. olive.
" " " " " "	.. .. 2c. brown.
" " " " " "	.. .. 5c. green.
" " " " " "	.. .. 15c. bistre.
" " " " " "	.. .. 25c. blue.
" " " " " "	.. .. 40c. carmine.
" " " " " "	.. .. 80c. carmine.

The first of these is considered the rarest of all, and it is indeed curious that stamps of 1862 should have been used at that period at all. Mr. Duerst can only surmise that a sheet of the old issue happened to remain in the hands of the provincial postmaster, who considered this a good opportunity to palm off old stock on the unsuspecting Spanish messenger.

The Carlists were not slow to discover that this practice of using French stamps (for which of course full face value had to be paid) for the prepayment of their correspondence involved. An expense which might, in part, be avoided. In consequence it was resolved to issue special Carlist stamps.

THE FIRST "CARLIST" ISSUE.

M. Duerst's description of the issue of the first stamps and the manner of their use is so interesting that we shall take leave to quote it *verbatim* :—

The new stamp was ready at the end of June, and according to all authorities was put into circulation on July 1st, 1873.

No official decree, however, seems to have been published until December 13th, 1873, when the Royal Council of the Government of Navarre notified the public that a postal service had been established, by which official and private letters could be sent to Bayonne (France), from where they would be distributed. The headquarters of the Carlist postal service were at Bayonne, and all letters, &c., for places outside the seceded provinces were taken to this place by special messengers. All such letters, &c., had to be posted in two envelopes; the outside envelope had to bear the inscription "Al encargado de la correspondencia, Bayona," and a stamp of the value of 1 real. The inside envelope had to bear the address of the person the letter was intended for plus French stamps to prepay the postage. The Carlist post officials at Bayonne opened the outer envelope, and if the postage on the inner envelope was correct handed the letter over to the French post office. This accounts for the rarity of genuinely used specimens, as all the outside envelopes bearing Carlist stamps were torn off and no doubt destroyed.

Letters within the area of the Royal troops were of course forwarded direct. All letters had to be franked with Carlist stamps, otherwise they were burned, and if the senders could be found, punished.

Hoaxing the "Daily Mail."

SOMEBODY has been putting up a joke on the "Daily Mail." We read in that imperial ha'porth, dated July 24 :—

Reference was recently made in the "Daily Mail" to the present issue of ½d. English stamps in green. It may be interesting to philatelists to know that a correspondent has discovered a current stamp of the same series in blue.

It would be desirable to know how the stamp came to be issued in that colour, and perhaps some philatelist may be able to throw light on the subject.

The stamp has never been issued in blue, dear "Daily Mail"! But anyone can have a blue ½d. stamp if he wants it. It is only necessary to immerse the green one in water.

Possible Effects of Mr. Moens' Retirement.

"O.G." the London correspondent of "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News," foresees that the retirement of Mons. J. B. Moens, of Brussels, will have a marked effect on the course of prices as regards old European stamps :—"The distribution of stocks of old Europeans, especially immaculate in condition as the day they first appeared, must increase in a few years' time the difficulty of obtaining them tenfold, and I foresee that dozens of stamps which have been lingering among the shilling values for some decades, will during the next decade be promoted to the pound positions. Moral: If you collect old Europeans in unused condition, now is your time, I have no retainer for any trader, but advice gratis to all and sundry and I believe all of us who live for the next twenty years will be astounded at the prices which some stamps will be quoted at in 1920 and sold at, too!"

HUGO GRIEBERT & CO.,

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	s.	d.		s.	d.
Great Britain, 1840, 1p.	9	0	St. Christopher, 4p., C.A., one		
" " " 2p.	65	0	side imperf	80	0
" " " 1p. small cr. p. 11	40	0	St. Vincent, 1866, 1sh. slate	45	0
" " " 2sh. light blue	27	0	" " " 4p., no W.	22	6
" " " £1, 3 crowns	65	0	" " " 1869, 1sh. brown	85	0
" " " 1885, 1sh. I.R. Off.	72	0	" " " 1sh. slate, comp.		
Antigua, 1873, p. 12½, 6d.	27	0	perfs.	63	0
" " " 1884, 1sh.	16	0	" " " 1871, 6p. blue-green	30	0
Bahamas, £1	22	0	" " " 1877, 6p. yellow-green		
Barbados, 1873, 3d.	20	0	" " " 11 to 12½	60	0
" " " 5sh.	75	0	" " " 1871, 1sh. rose-red,		
" " " 1882, 5sh.	18	0	" " " 11 to 12½	125	0
Canada, 1852, 7½d.	130	0	Sierra Leone, 1sh., perf. 12½	18	0
" " " 10d.	105	0	" " " 1½p. surch. "Half-		
Hong Kong, no W., 9c.	27	0	penny" reversed	72	0
" " " Cr. CC, 18 cents	105	0	Tasmania, 1853, 1p.	150	0
" " " 10 Dollars	38	0	" " " 4p.	54	0
Queensland, Sm. Star, 14 to 16,			" " " 1855, 4p., Star	45	0
" " " 2p.	25	0	Tobago, 1879, 1sh.	30	0
" " " 3p.	10	0	" " " 5sh.	60	0
" " " no Wmk., 12½ to 13, 1p.	9	0	Trinidad, 1863, no W., p. 11½, 12,		
" " " 6p.	22	3	" " " 4p.	33	0
" " " 1sh.	22	6	" " " defect. perfs., 6p.	80	0
" " " Sm. Star, 12½ to 13, 1p.	13	6	Victoria, 5sh. blue on yellow	170	0
" " " "Registered"	15	0	Bolivia, 500c., 9 Stars	40	0
" " " 1866, 12½ to 13, Waterm.			France, 1 franc deep orange	200	0
" " " Script, 1p.	67	6	Portugal, first issue, 100c., extrem.		
" " " W. trunc. Star, perf. 13,			fine	700	0
" " " 1p.	16	6	Azores, 150K., small surch.	150	0
" " " " 3p.	24	0	Spain, 1851, 2 Reales	630	0
" " " " 6p.	45	0	" " " 1852, 2	360	0
" " " no W., 5sh. bright rose	40	0	" " " 1853, 2	180	0
" " " 1881, 20sh. rose	72	0	" " " 3 Cuartos Madrid	370	0
			U.S. Providence, 10c.	80	0
			" " " 1869, Re-issue, 24c., no grill	40	0
			" " " " 30c.	63	0

ETC., ETC.

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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
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"Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly,"

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Other Sales will take place bi-monthly, and Philatelists having Entire Collections or Loose Stamps to dispose of should make immediate arrangements if inclusion is desired in early auctions. As MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & Co. are the only firm of Auctioneers confining their whole attention to the Sale of Stamps on Commission, and do not deal or even collect on their own account, the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious. Commission on lots sold, 10%. 1/6 per lot (irrespective of value) being charged on unsold lots.

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Settlements usually in eight days, at the very latest within 14 days from date of Sale. Bids from buyers unable to attend the sales personally executed without charge and at prices as much below limits as possible.

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Guatemala, 2c. rose	- 1d.	Seychelles, 6 cents	- 2d.
Uruguay, 5 mill	- 1d.	„ 75 „	- 1/3
„ 7 cent	- 5d.	„ 1.50 „	- 2/6
„ 20 „	- 1/1	„ 2.25 „	- 3/9

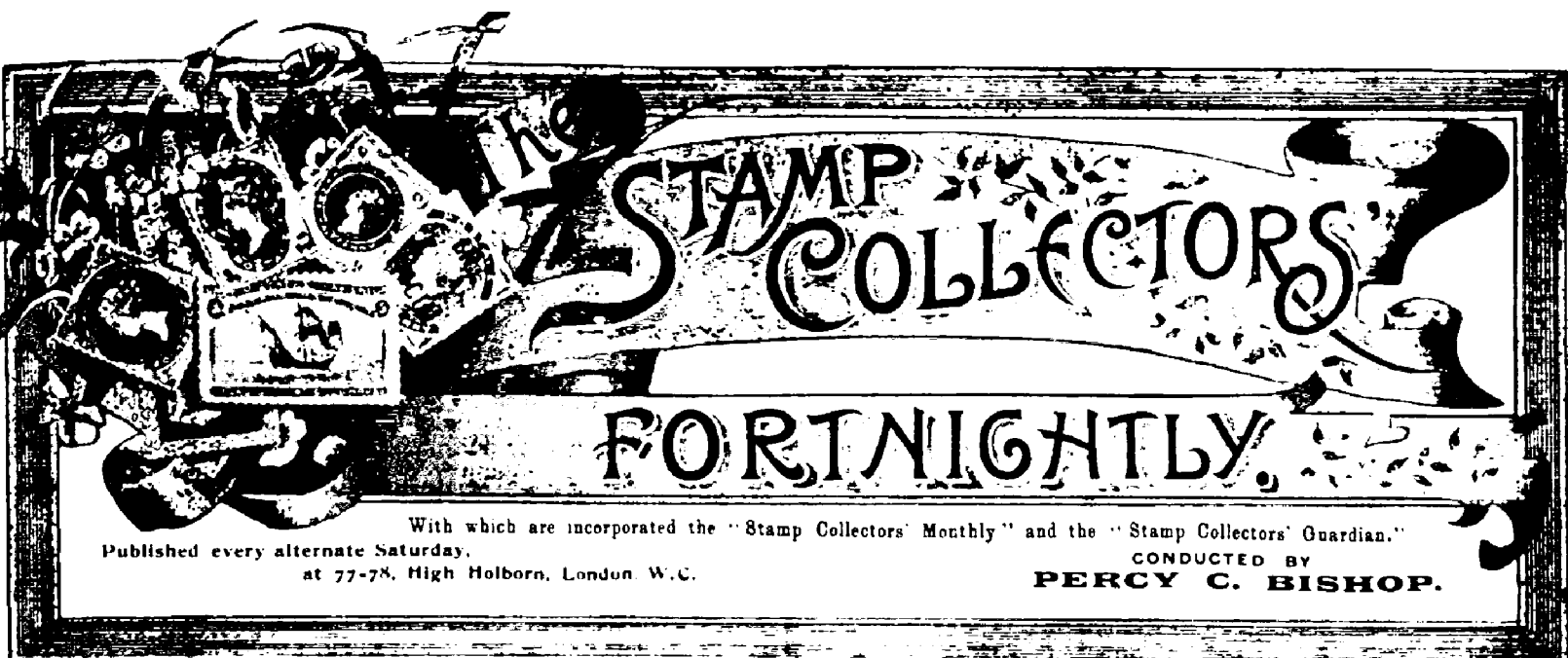
British Honduras 10 cents, surcharged "Revenue" 7d.

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No. 142.—Vol. VI. SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1900. ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

A SURCHARGE, TWO ERRORS, AND A MORAL.

MR. RALPH W. GOSSET, a right good philatelist, who believes in letting the rest of the world know what his own corner of the universe is up to, has sent the "Montreal Philatelist" a budget of interesting news regarding the Cook Islands.

In the first place he tells how the 1d. blue stamp came to be reduced by surcharge to the value of one halfpenny. An authority signed by Makea, Chief of the Federal Government, and approved by Mr. W. E. Gudgeon, the British resident, was sent to the Chief Postmaster, notifying him that the 1d. brown stamp was "revived" and a new supply of the same to hand, and that he could forthwith "reduce the balance of all the 1d. blue stamps to one halfpenny, and issue the 1d. brown stamp as the penny stamp of the Federation." Acting upon this instruction some 92 sheets of 120 stamps each (i.e., 10,800 stamps in all) were surcharged for use as halfpenny stamps, and the number certified by Mr. A Von Hoff, the Government Auditor.

In connection with this same surcharging, Mr. Gosset writes:

While in conversation with the Government printer at this place recently, he informed me that while printing the 4d. surcharges two errors were made viz: half a sheet [60 stamps] of 1d. blues was doubly surcharged, and that another half sheet 60 sheets was surcharged inverted. So this clears up all doubts as to whether any inverted surcharges occurred although I have not yet seen any.

Now this is singular—very. The art of printing, as practised in the Cook Islands, is doubtless a thing of crudity and rough edges; but even to anyone whose knowledge of

printing begins and ends at a small hand press it must come as an astounding revelation that a half sheet of stamps can be doubly surcharged (that is to say, receive two distinct impressions) while its fellow half-sheet gets only the single printing. How was it done, we wonder? And when will the good Government printer of Rarotonga learn that mistakes are the one thing in life that cannot be made carefully!

FINLAND STILL TO HAVE DISTINCTIVE STAMPS.

We have recently received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. translations of two interesting paragraphs appearing in leading newspapers of Finland. The first is called from "Cya Pressen," a journal which was suppressed for good on June 28th, by General Bobrikoff, Governor-General of Finland:—

The question of the Finnish postage stamps is now finally settled, the Russian Minister of the Interior having decided that the Finnish postage stamps for correspondence abroad shall from the 14th August next be entirely superseded by Russian postage stamps. For correspondence within the country the Finnish postage stamps will be used up to the 1st January, 1901, but will thenceforth be replaced by exclusively Russian stamps or by such as have the same appearance as these, but with the value in Finnish money. For correspondence to Russia, Russian postage stamps are now, as is well known, already in use.

So that Finland will still have distinctive stamps, albeit the only difference is one of coinage. The other translation sent to us is from the "Hufvudstadsbladet" of June 28th.

As is well known, the Estates recently convoked (to the Diet) petitioned, that His Imperial Majesty would graciously ordain in regard to the observance in conducting the Postal System, that all postage stamps for correspondence from Finnish post offices should contain a statement of the amount in Finnish money to be paid for the same.

According to an official communication from St. Petersburg received here yesterday, His Majesty on the presentation of this petition has commanded, that no notice shall be taken of the same.

Evidently this latter statement is wrong, since other Finnish newspapers have distinctly stated that the inscription of value is still to be in the Finnish coinage.

THE NORTH BORNEO COMPANY'S "ERRORS."

THE "London Philatelist," "Monthly Journal," and other papers are now drawing attention to the scandal already ventilated in the *Fortnightly*. "We gather," remarks the "Monthly Journal," "that the stamps with *carmine* frame only are ever likely to be put in circulation, and that the others are to be considered *errors*. Our readers, at all events, cannot plead ignorance of the nature and object of the

errors, etc., etc., for which this Company has become notorious, and which will only cease when all demand for them ceases."

WAS IT SOLD "TOO PREVIOUS"?

We chronicled the 1s. green and carmine British Stamp in our number dated July 21st as being issued from the G.P.O. on July 17th. Simultaneously "Ewen's Weekly" announced that the stamp had been on sale at the Anerley Road Post Office as early as the 11th. Under date July 31st, Mr. Ewen writes:

Since writing the above a change has been made in the staff of the Anerley Road Post Office, and no further 1s. green and carmine stamps can be obtained, it being stated that they are not to be issued until August 1st.

It looks rather like a too previous issue in the Anerley district with a resultant punishment from headquarters.

PHILATELIST—POLITICIAN—POSTMASTER.

THAT very well known New England philatelist, Mr. Howard K. Sanderson, of Lynn, Mass., has been appointed by President McKinley to the postmastership of his town. Starting life in the printing business Mr. Sanderson afterwards became a letter carrier, rose to be a Superintendent of letter carriers, entered business on his own account, dabbled in politics, became a member of the Massachusetts Legislature; and now, if you please, he is the Hon. Howard K. Sanderson, and "one of the most prominent young men in Massachusetts State politics." It has been a plucky upward climb, and all who like to see a fellow philatelist working his way towards the top will rejoice to hear of Mr. Sanderson's success. A year or so back he visited London and made many friends here.

FOR THIS POSTAGE STAMP MUCH THANKS!

To a reader at Leamington we are indebted for an amusing cutting from a Japanese Journal, the "Naigai Shoji Shuho." Therein a worthy Jap journalist thus dilates upon the Japanese Royal Wedding Stamp:

The colour of the stamp is crimson. It is the stamp which fills our heart with a feeling of inexpressible joy!

Contrast this with the attitude of the bluff, outspoken scribbler of the Occident. Only the other day we were quoting a Sunday paper on the subject of the new ½d. green stamp; which was roundly denounced as "perfectly beastly." Oh, the blessings of a really "Free" Press!

News Notes from all Quarters.

The last issue to hand of "Filatelic Facts and Fallacies," of San Francisco, brings us the regrettable news that Mr. Louis Levison died in that city on June 21st.

Replying to a question in Parliament on July 6th, regarding the proposed reduction of the letter rate to the Orange River Colony to 1d., the Secretary to the Treasury stated that the matter was "under consideration."

Reviewing the "Prang Standard of Colour," published at Boston, U.S.A., Mr. B. W. Warhurst declares that it is useless for the practical purposes for which philatelists require a colour guide.

The stamp collection of the late Mr. Nathan F. Seebeck, recently sold to the Fulton Stamp Company, of New York, is strong in old Europeans, rare Confederates, and such like. Mr. Seebeck took no stock in "Seebecks" for his own albums.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, are preparing an entirely new album to be known as the "Century" Stamp Album. This new book "has been produced to meet the wishes of those who desire a thoroughly good spaced album in one volume, and will take a place between the well-known Strand and Imperial Albums."

If you are not using a magnifying glass you are missing very much of the enjoyment that could otherwise be got out of your collection, declares a writer in the "Evergreen State Philatelist." For instance (he adds) look through a glass at the end of the mailsack carried by the horseman of the United States 2c. 1869 issue.

Some Notes on Ceylon.

THE PITH OF A PAPER READ BEFORE THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, BY BARON PERCY DE WORMS.

BARON PERCY DE WORMS confesses to having no collection of his own; but the paper on the Stamps of Ceylon recently read by him before the London Philatelic Society reveals him as a man who knows more about stamps than many of the possessors of large and well-filled albums. The author of the paper has studied his brother's collection, and the result is a mass of interesting information, the pith of which we shall take leave to purloin from the pages of the "London Philatelist." Many of Baron Percy de Worms' points are supplementary to the information found in the London Society's work of 1892.

THE IMPERFORATE ISSUE.

SIXPENCE: It is shown that this stamp must have been issued at the end of 1857, although the date hitherto assigned to it is May, 1858. Baron de Worms has a pair on *bleuté* paper postmarked "London, January 28th, 1858."

NINEPENCE: Specimens with satisfactory margins, being unknown, Baron de Worms has doubts as to the existence of the imperf. stamp.

ONE SHILLING AND NINEPENCE: "The 1s. 9d. is said to have been despatched to the island on one occasion only, viz. February 7th, 1859, when 5,000 stamps were sent out. It appears probable that further consignments were forwarded, as this value is the commonest octangular stamp, especially unused, and all the other values were sent out more than once and in larger numbers. It is the only one of that shape found in two distinct shades, viz. green and yellow-green, and the earliest mention of the latter shade that I know of is in "The Philatelist" of September, 1867. I have never seen the yellow-green stamp postmarked otherwise than with an oval of thick bars, having the letter "A" in the centre. This obliteration is, as a rule, found on the later stamps of the "Crown and CC" issue, which were in use about 1867. The fact of there being two shades, one of which was used at so late a period, tends, I think, to show that the 1s. 9d. was printed and sent out on more than one occasion. This may account for the 1s. 9d., perforated, not having been issued."

THE PERFORATED ISSUE.

Some of the perforated stamps are met with perforated compound on the same side, this being due to an irregular spacing of the needles.

Baron Percy de Worms is of opinion that we are wrong in placing the stamps with rough perforation before those with clean-cut perforations. All the clean-cut specimens being in the shades of the unperforate issue, whilst the later shades are found only with rough perforations, he thinks that the clean-cut most probably appeared first.

The existence of the 10d. with perforation $12\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ is doubtful.

WATERMARKED "T. H. SAUNDERS"!

The stamps without watermark were undoubtedly issued in 1862, Baron de Worms having a copy of the ninepenny dated "29/12/62."

In the "Philatelic Record" of March, 1889 (adds the author of the paper), Mr. Thornhill described the 1s., watermarked with the letter "D." I have since found all the other values, with the following letters and figures:—

Value.	Watermark.	Value.	Watermark.
1d. (pair) ..	TH	6d. ..	R
5d. ..	H	1s. ..	D
6d. (pair) ..	TH	6d. ..	62
6d. ..	ND	9d. and 1s. ..	18

The figures are evidently the year of manufacture of the paper, which is believed to have been made by T. H. Saunders. This is practically certain to be correct, as that name comprises all the above letters in the proper order, and the initials, T and H, are larger than the other letters.

THE "CROWN AND CC" ISSUE.

The noticeable variations of the "CC" stamps as to both substance of paper and length of stamp have engaged Baron Percy de Worms' serious attention. He concludes that the

issue consists of two distinct series, which are printed on different varieties of paper having different watermarks, and producing stamps of different lengths. The two varieties of paper are thus described:—

The paper first used is rather thinner and softer than the second. The sheets are watermarked in four panes of sixty Crowns and CC arranged in ten horizontal rows of six. The panes, which are each inclosed by a single line, are divided vertically by a plain strip 10 mm. broad, and horizontally by a strip 25 mm. broad, watermarked "Crown Colonies" in outline block capitals. These words also appear twice in each of the side, but not in the top or bottom margins.

The second paper is hard and tough as compared with the first, and to some extent resembles that of the "no watermark" issue. The sheets have 240 Crown and CC watermarks in twenty horizontal rows of twelve not divided into panes, the whole being enclosed by a single border line. All four margins contain the words "Crown Colonies." The Crowns and CC are 21 mm. long and are 6 mm. apart vertically, as they are spaced horizontally so as to equal the breadth of a stamp, it will be seen that specimens on this paper have exactly one watermark, and that it was evidently specially watermarked to fit the plates.

The two papers are easily distinguished by the distance between the watermarks and the shape of the C's, which are oval in the first paper and circular in the second.

A tabulation of the two varieties of paper is then essayed by our author:—

FIRST PAPER.	SECOND PAPER.
½d., mauve, lilac, deep lilac.	½d. None.
1d., dark blue, indigo.	1d., pale blue, Prussian blue.
2d., yellow-green, deep green, grey-green, emerald-green, maize.	2d., maize, olive-yellow, orange-yellow.
4d., lake-rose, pale rose.	4d., light to dark rose.
5d., light to dark carmine-brown, dark sage-green, light sage-green.	5d., light sage-green, olive-green, myrtle-green.
6d., brown, bistre brown, chocolate, deep brown.	6d., deep brown, red-brown.
8d., light to dark carmine-brown.	8d., light carmine-brown, deep carmine-brown.
9d., brown.	9d., bistre-brown, deep brown.
10d., vermilion.	10d., vermilion, orange.
1s. None.	1s., lilac, light to deep violet.
2s., dark blue.	2s., pale blue, ultramarine, Prussian blue.
1d., indigo, perf. 1½.	

The order of this list (he adds) is probably that in which the stamps were issued.

Messrs. Senf's Coloured "Chronicle."

Despite the fact of their being ordered to suspend their "Coloured Chronicle of New Issues," as noted in the *Fortnightly* some months ago, Messrs. Senf. are still illustrating stamps in colours, although in a very modified manner. In the issue of their "I.B.J.," dated August 4th, we find many stamps so shewn, but the illustrations are in one colour only, and in certain cases a further safeguard against the misuse of blocks is introduced in the shape of a mutilation of the cliché.

Such a chronicle is of course a very different thing from that with which our confreres opened the year, but all honour is due to Messrs. Senf for their persistent attempts to provide a new issue chronicle in colour.

The Largest Collector in the World.

We use the word largest in anything but a physical sense, for it is well-known that as regards inches Herr Philipp La Rénotiére is one of the smallest of philatelists. The "Young Stamp Collector" in its August issue selects this prince of philatelists as the subject of its personal sketch. There is a good portrait, and the accompanying letterpress is so interesting that we reprint it almost in full.

Herr Ferrary began collecting early in the sixties, and has ever since retained his enthusiasm for the pursuit. His collection is a splendid testimony to his untiring perseverance, for it is not without much seeking that such a vast and varied collection of stamps can be brought together. From his residence in Paris, Herr Ferrary makes frequent voyages of exploration. London and Brussels have both been frequented by him, as have also the other stamp markets of the world.

Few young stamp collectors would think of engaging a secretary to assist in the compilation of a stamp collection, but that is what Herr Ferrary does. His immense aggregation of stamps necessitates the employment of a secretary, so great is the amount of work connected with it.

The present value of this remarkable collection is difficult to determine, but it is estimated that in its formation Herr Ferrary must have spent approximately a quarter of a million of money. It is undoubtedly far in excess of the collection in the British Museum to which reference was made in the May issue of this magazine.

Although Herr Ferrary has not amassed his entire collection by wholesale purchases, he has bought numerous collections with the object of amalgamating them with his own. The most important of these purchases were the fine collections compiled by Sir Daniel Cooper and Judge Philbrick, both of whom were presidents of the London Philatelic Society.

It is not difficult to imagine that this collection contains the finest of gems of philately. The most valuable piece of paper in existence—the One Cent stamp of the provisional issue of British Guiana of 1856—is included in this collection. As this is the only specimen of this stamp that is known to exist, it must be acknowledged as the rarest stamp in the world.

The British Guiana section of this collection includes three other gems. There are only eight specimens of the first issued Two Cent stamp of this colony, and no fewer than three of these belong to Herr Ferrary.

Everyone has heard of the remarkable sales of "Post Office" Mauritius stamps, and indeed many look upon these as the rarest stamps. Herr Ferrary's collection includes four specimens of these rarities.

We may add to this that Herr Von Ferrary's collection is contained in a set of something like 40 albums; that these albums are housed in a special strong room constructed for the purpose, and that their owner if he cared to use the title could call himself the Duc de Galliera.

Where is Mafeking?

It is natural perhaps that the precise position of this "Famous Village on the Veldt" should puzzle philatelists in various parts of the world. The "Montreal Philatelist," having itself succeeded in locating the place within borders of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, gently chaffs its contemporaries on their geographical ignorance. One American weekly credits the Mafeking stamps to Rhodesia; other papers place them under Cape Colony and a London correspondent, who should have known better, speaks of them as if they were issues belonging to British Bechuanaland.

Philately Booming in the Dominion.

We learn with pleasure that the League of Canadian Philatelists (of which the "Montreal Philatelist" is official organ) is making most substantial progress under the energetic directorship of its president, Mr. W. Kelsey Hall. Philatelically any country may fairly be judged by the activity shown by its leading societies, and the healthy state of the League of Canadian Philatelists should augur well for the prospects of philately in Canada.

Notes on New Issues.

China (German).—The "I. B. Z.," of Leipsic, is our authority for the statement that a small quantity of 10pf. Kiaon Chow stamps were surcharged for use as 5pf. stamps, owing to the supply of the latter value giving out. The overprint is in black, sometimes at the foot of the stamp, sometimes in the middle. The provisionals were only in use for a very short time, pending the arrival of a new supply of the 5 pfennig stamp.

Northern Nigeria.—In early notices of the stamps of this new Colony there was listed a 10d. green and brown; but "Ewen's Weekly," which has now received full sets, points out that this is a mistake for 10s., there being no tenpenny stamp at all! The full set is as follows:—

½d. lilac and green.	6d. lilac and violet.
1d. " carmine.	1/- green and black.
2d. " yellow.	2/6 " blue.
2½d. " ultramarine.	10/- " brown.
5d. " red-brown.	

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, AUGUST 18, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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.

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THE course we adopted with regard to the anonymous post-card addressed to the Editor of the *Fortnightly*, and warning the readers of this paper against purchases of Mafeking stamps either used or unused, has been fully justified by events. There is now abundant proof that the scarce "siege" stamps of Mafeking have been forged—or at any rate some of them. In this issue we illustrate what we take to be four forged specimens, and these by the irony of fate were sent to us by Mr. J. R. F. Turner, who was one of the first philatelists to cast ridicule upon the assertion of our anonymous correspondent.

It would have been infinitely better had the writer of the mysterious typewritten postcard come forward openly and stated what he knew, but to give a warning even anonymously was, all things considered, better than remaining silent.

We have only the public welfare at heart in deciding to say nothing regarding the differences between the genuine Mafekings and the forged specimens. But any reader of the *Fortnightly* who is at all in doubt as to the genuineness of his specimens is heartily welcome to send us his stamps for examination. All specimens so submitted should be sent to us by registered post with sufficient postage enclosed to pay for a registered reply.

* * *

THE letter we publish in this issue under the heading "Twixt Editor and Reader" points to a very serious drawback in the philatelic exchange club system. Mr. Jussum of Cardiff is a well-known philatelist, whose views on such a question will be received with the respect they demand; but his letter, unless it lead to an exhaustive discussion of the question, will be only one more wasted effort in a long series of attempts to bring this matter to a head. We appeal to readers interested in exchange clubs—and their name must be legion—to help us in arriving at a solution of the chief difficulty confronting philatelic exchangists. Especially we should like to hear from the gentlemen who are chiefly interested in this question of exchange club finance—we mean the exchange secretaries themselves.

* * *

VERY shortly the philatelic season 1900-1901 will be upon us. The *Fortnightly* throughout that season will strive to be, as in former years, the foremost philatelic news-gatherer and the most strenuous upholder of the best interests of philatelists throughout the Empire. Our next number, that published on September 1st., will be a specially good "New Season's Number," in which will be found the continuation of our "Collector's Guide to Values"—unavoidably held over from this issue—and other interesting features.

Orange River Errors.

A MILITARY OFFICER REPORTS ON THE SURCHARGED STAMPS TO BLOEMFONTEIN'S PROVOST MARSHAL.

SURCHARGING BY PRIVATE PARTIES!

THE Scott Stamp and Com Company have received, and publish in their "American Journal of Philately" for July, the interesting document given hereunder. This is a report on the subject of the O.F.S. stamps surcharged "V.R.I." from the pen of Major W. A. Omeara, and addressed to Captain Burnet-Hitchcock, Assistant Provost-Marshal of Bloemfontein:—

SIR:

1. In reply to your inquiry, I have the honour to inform you that the Military Governor deputed me to inspect the surcharged O. F. S. stamps before sale to the public. Owing to the great pressure of work it was not possible to make a searching inspection of each sheet of stamps, and in consequence stamps having the following errors were passed and issued for sale, viz:—

Halfpenny Sheets.—"½" is omitted before the "d" in the left hand bottom corner quarter. In the last row of each quarter sheet the stop is omitted between the "V" and "R" in the third stamp from the left.

One Penny Sheets.—The stop is omitted in the last row of each quarter between the "V" and "R" in the third stamp from the left. In a few of the original impressions an "I" was omitted after the "V.R." on each sheet.

Two Penny Halfpenny Sheets.—The surcharge "2½" was made by the late Government of the Orange Free State. The same error occurs as in the case of the two penny sheets in the last row of each quarter.

Three Penny and Four Penny Sheets.—The same errors occur as in the case of the two penny sheets.

Sixpenny Sheets.—The red stamps were in use when the Army entered the Free State. The stock being exhausted, the blue issue, which was found in the Free State Treasury, was brought into issue.

In addition to the errors which occur as in the case of the two penny sheets, a "6" is omitted before the "d" in the two left hand quarters of each sheet.

One Shilling and Five Shillings Sheets.—The same errors occur as in the case of the two penny sheets. In a few of the original issues the "1" and the "5" were omitted before the "S" in the same position on each sheet as the similar error which occurs in the half-penny sheet now forwarded to you.

2. Subsequently it came to my knowledge that a small number of brown penny and yellow shilling stamps which were in private hands on the entry of the army into Bloemfontein, had been surcharged.

As such a step had not been authorised the matter was brought to the attention of the Military Governor, by whose authority all such brown penny and yellow shilling stamps as could be traced in the hands of stamp dealers, etc., were recalled and confiscated.

3. Many errors not mentioned above occurred in surcharging the stamps, but fortunately they were all detected, and stamps with them were not placed on sale. This is mentioned as unscrupulous persons may have fabricated similar errors in order to place an enhanced value on stamps in their possession before the British occupation of the late Orange Free State (now Orange River Colony).

4. Complete sheets of surcharged stamps have been supplied to the British Museum. From these stamps the only errors mentioned in paragraph 1 which are missing are penny stamps with "V.R." only, shilling stamps with no "1" before "s," and five shilling stamps with no "5" before the "s."

Yours faithfully,

(sgd.) W. A. OMEARA, Major.

The information contained in paragraph two is distinctly interesting and important; and as to the statement that complete sheets of the surcharged stamps have been supplied to the British Museum, the question at once leaps to one's lips: What will they do with them? Hitherto the Trustees of the British Museum have cold-shouldered any attempt to assist them in bringing the Taping Collection up to date. What will they do in the matter of these sheets of surcharged "V.R.I.'s"?

MAFEKINGS HAVE BEEN FORGED!

THE ANONYMOUS POST-CARDIST WAS RIGHT, AFTER ALL—WHERE IS THE FAKE FACTORY THIS TIME?

A CHANCE FOR THE STAMP TRADE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

WE did well to publish in the *Fortnightly* the anonymous type written post card sent to us under date July 17th last. The text of that post card we shall repeat here for the benefit of those who have not seen our No. 139:—

Please warn your readers to be wary in purchasing the Mafeking "Siege" Stamps either used or unused.
P. B. P.

Now, although we usually ignores anonymous communications, we deemed it our duty to publish this mysterious warning while carefully refraining from saying a single word calculated to create anything like a scare among the many people who had invested money in this—shall we say romantic?—issue of stamps. We are now free to say—what we have not cared to say before—that the post card warning was supported by our own private suspicions. Whispers, vague and intangible, had reached us before "P. B. P.'s" somewhat theatrical warning; but turn where we would we could find nothing definite to point to any actual or projected forgery of the Mafeking stamps.

Yet the Mafekings *have been* forged.

More, at the time that our anonymous friend despatched his card the faked stamps must have been stored in the "manufakery," ready for dispersal through such channels as could be arranged both here and on the continent.

This man who sent us the warning post card knew something. How much did he, or does he, know? and will he, in the interests of the public come forward now to tell all he knows regarding this most dangerous fraud? If he be not an actual participator in the forgery one may safely predict that he will suffer nothing by speaking out.

MR. TURNER'S
CONVERSION.

Mr. J. R. F. Turner, of Oxford, was one of the first to cast ridicule upon the "warning," but by an odd coincidence it was left to Mr. Turner to be the first to send to the *Fortnightly* forged specimens of four of the stamps. In his covering letter Mr. Turner writes:—

The assertion of your anonymous correspondent that Mafeking stamps were being forged has been soon verified. I enclose what I take to be four current Cape stamps bearing a forged surcharge. They differ in various respects from copies I have on the original envelopes and otherwise, which I know to be genuine; but as it would serve no useful purpose (except perhaps to aid the forger in his nefarious work), I carefully refrain from enumerating these differences, though I should be pleased to examine any specimens sent to me by your readers.

Here Mr. Turner exercises a wise discretion which, at all events, for the present, we shall emulate. We give a photographic reproduction of the four forgeries sent us by Mr. Turner, but we refrain from all comment as to the discrepancies between these and the genuine stamps.

HOW MANY MORE?

It is not at all likely that the four specimens sent us by Mr. Turner exhaust the list of the forged Mafekings. Everyone will be on the *qui vive* now, and we shall soon know the worst.

OFFERED TO BRIGHT & SON.

Since the above was written we have learnt that there is at any rate one more forgery, both the types of the 4d.

Cape having been operated upon. Mr. Oliver of Messrs. Bright & Son's, was on Tuesday last, the 14th, offered the set of five stamps.

WHERE ARE THEY MADE?

Enquiries in the city and in the strand reveal a strong consensus of opinion that these fakes are being made at the Cape. The fact that the forgeries so far discovered are on Cape Colony stamps, seems to lend a little colour to the theory. But there are people in London capable of turning out these things with neatness and despatch. We must never forget that. The fakes, as fakes, are clever; or *were* clever so long as they remained unexposed. Although we have nothing definite to go upon, we may say that the suspicious circumstances which first led us to believe that the Mafekings were being, or would be, forged, are altogether at variance with the suggestion of Cape origin. We incline to the belief that the spurious surcharges and postmarks are applied at some place much nearer home, if not actually in the metropolis.

WHAT WILL THE S.T.P.A. DO?

It seems a grand chance for the Stamp Trade Protection Association to distinguish itself, and *Fortnightly* readers will hear with much satisfaction that the matter has already engaged the serious attention of this new society. A warning circular, we are informed, will be despatched forthwith to all the members of the S.T.P.A.; and then, if any tangible clue to the wrongdoers can be found there will be a vigorous

hunt for the fakers and their "plant," and, in the event of success, an equally vigorous prosecution of the offender or offenders. At present, however, there is absolutely no clue. If it be true that the faked stamps come from the Cape then it may be difficult, if



THE FORGED "MAFEKINGS."

not impossible, for the Stamp Trade Protection Association to take any decisive action in the matter.

ANOTHER VARIETY TO ADD TO THE LIST.

"Yes a little more about 'Mafekings,'" writes Mr. Neville Stocken.

"I have just received another variety, viz.: 6d. on 3d., claret, Cape of Good Hope, 1882; wmk. C.A. and crown." This is surcharged in the small fancy capitals type, and is undoubtedly genuine. The 6d. on 3d. Cape already known is of course the 1896 issue, watermarked anchor.

"Mr. Turner, by the way, is quite wrong in saying that unused 'Mafekings' do not exist. I have several myself; I have been shewn others by the "Times" correspondent who was in Mafeking throughout the siege, and Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, have a number in their books."

Mrs. Collins has, says "Ewen's Weekly," a curiosity in the shape of half a 1d. Cape of Good Hope letter card used as a post card. In addition to the oval 1d. carmine stamp, the card is franked with two adhesives, a 2½d. V.R.I. Orange River and a 1d. V.R.I. Transvaal. All three stamps are cancelled "Field Post Office, British Army, S. Africa—Jy. 9, 00." In addition the card bears a rubber stamp "Canadian Contingent—South Africa—Jul. 9, 1900."

The Forgeries of Kashmir.

MR. D. P. MASSON DESCRIBES BOTH THE "OFFICIAL COUNTERFEITS" AND THE FORGERIES OF PRIVATE ORIGIN.

A STORY OF STATE-AIDED FRAUD.

We are taking leave to reprint from the Philatelic Society of India's new work, "The Stamps of Jammu and Kashmir" (already noticed in the *Fortnightly*) those passages wherein the author, Mr. D. P. Masson, describes the forgeries and "official imitations" of Kashmir. As a revelation of Oriental craft and duplicity, the chapter makes sensational, not to say romantic, reading:—

THREE HOARY-HEADED IMPOSTERS.

THREE stamps have imposed upon advanced collectors for about thirty years, and I am very pleased to be the means of bringing them to justice in the end.

The first two are the half-anna and one-anna of the so called "Die I." circular type. I have carefully examined both a "used" and an unused copy of the half-anna stamp, and I do not hesitate to say that both are forgeries. I have not seen a copy of the one-anna stamp, but the illustration in Stanley Gibbons' catalogue shews it to be a near relative of the half-anna one.

I place side by side the illustration of "Die I." from the catalogue, and clear 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 the die. This fact is in itself suspicious, because, if two successive sets of dies were cut, as the supporters of this stamp assert, what necessity was there for a slavish 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 reproduced with fair clearness, while in the former there are neither fine lines nor curves. The Persian on "Die I." is a rude imitation, and could never have been cut by a literate Indian: it is in fact a series of "shots" at reproducing the characters on "Die II." To shew 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 half past three and six 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 shewn in "Die I.," the vowel dots being converted into legs. The Dogra 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 even used as a proof of their genuineness and rarity; their 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. The dies appear to have been cut in Europe, from poor or heavily obliterated copies of "Die II." or from photographs. The photograph theory might account for the slight difference in size between the genuine and forged dies. At the time there was a considerable correspondence between Srinagar and Paris, in connection with shawl trade, and I feel confident that "Die I." was made in France.

The obliteration of the stamp which I have seen is, like the stamp itself, a forgery. It is meant to represent the brick-red 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.

A fellow-felon of "Die I." is the rectangular one-anna "single die" of the catalogues, in many colours, (Stanley Gibbons, 1899, Nos. 97-103). Like its hoary-headed companion in crime, this die has imposed upon advanced collectors in Europe for the last thirty years.

This is what Major Evans wrote, in 1887, of this die:—"There is, at all events, no doubt, that there is a one-anna stamp, dated 1924, and differing from any of the five varieties in which the common one-anna of this design exists. All the specimens I have seen are

fairly distinctly printed. It has a regularly formed lotus-flower at the top, the date in Persi-Arabic (the second line inside the oval) is in very minute figures, under the long, more or less horizontal, character forming the word "one." This character is more distinctly sloped upwards to the left than in any of the five varieties on the strip. The stamp is not infrequently met with in carmine-red. It is also found in other colours, but is scarce. All I have seen are on ordinary native-made greyish paper. As far as I can make out M. Moens only catalogues this one-anna in black. I think it right, therefore, to mention that I possess specimens in blue, brown and carmine-red, and that I have found it also in orange-red in the collection of the President of the Philatelic Society."

The number of colours in which this stamp is printed is its absolute condemnation. It is clearly of the Kashmir type, not of the Jammu one. If it were a genuine die, therefore, its only place in the philatelic history of its province would have been as a companion to the rare half-anna single die of 1866. Like that half-anna stamp it would have been printed only in black, justifying M. Moens; it would have been superseded by the composite plate of 20 half-anna and 5-anna stamps in 1867, and that would have been the end of it. Let us grant a little more, and allow that the one-anna die had survived the half-anna one, and had been printed from, side by side with the composite plate, and in the same colours, during the second experimental and the final standard printings from the latter; this would account for the blue, the orange-red and perhaps the brown colours. But how, by any possibility, could impressions from a Kashmir one-anna die be printed in *vermilion* and *carmine-red*, seeing that red and its shades were reserved for the Jammu stamps—except in the one case of the *eight-anna* Kashmir stamp already mentioned. (I am aware that some catalogues chronicle a vermilion stamp from the standard Kashmir province plate, but this cannot be correct: a fiery orange-red is the nearest approach to this colour possible).

Suppose on the other hand, that the die is a forgery; the forger, not knowing that there were well-recognized colours for each province, would proceed to print indiscriminately in all the known colours of both provinces; but he would print sparingly, for he was a very astute person, and I should not be surprised to hear he knew a lot about "Die I."

But was the die after all genuine, and was M. Moens right in listing black as the only genuine colour? Hence whence the other colours? Did the die get into wrong hands in Kashmir (in the case of such a supposition being correct, it could have happened only in Kashmir) and did the holder proceed to print off in all the known colours? That is improbable, if not impossible, because the printings would have been on a liberal scale, and the stamp would no longer have remained rare. Nor was there an official re-issue in many colours, as in the case of rectangular and circulars in 1875-6, because (1) copies would have been postally used, and the stamp would be better known, and (2) there would certainly be no mixing of the colours of both provinces—that depth of latter-day Kashmir Philatelic depravity was not reached till the period of the fancy reprints of obsolete stamps, in 1884 or later.

Finally, granting that all the impossibilities mentioned in the last paragraph were possible, then the stamps are the veriest reprints, even the blacks—for we may be certain they also would have been reprinted—and the prices should be reduced from pounds to pence. But the impossibilities are not possible.

MISSING DIES OR OFFICIAL FORGERIES.

I have tried, but in vain, to learn the history of this gigantic swindle—the duplication of all, or nearly all, the circular and old rectangular dies, and the sale to the unsuspecting public, and to many unsuspecting dealers, of thousands of impressions from these, as genuine stamps of Kashmir. Captain Godfrey, the Assistant Resident in Kashmir, has made careful enquiries, but the old postal officials can give him no information. That the swindle was known to some high postal official there can be no doubt, for the stamps were openly sold to collectors at the State Post Offices up to the time when the Postal administration was taken over by the British Government in 1894. Indeed they were offered for sale—in all innocence—by the British Accountant General, and by the Agent subsequently appointed by the State, until I questioned their genuineness in the columns of the "Philatelic Journal of India" in 1898. It seems that collectors at home had suspicions, and fought shy of these stamps—and indeed of all Kashmir stamps in consequence—but in India visitors to Kashmir had perfect faith in the circumstance that they were buying from a State department.

It has been suggested that some high State Postal official was the culprit; that he sold large quantities of reprints from the genuine dies, without accounting to the State for the proceeds, and that he replaced them in his Treasury by impressions from forged dies cut for the purpose. This is not impossible, because all departments not directly under British

administration were undoubtedly corrupt.* One part of the suggestion is any way correct—that the missing dies are contemporaries of the reprints, if they were not their juniors†, for they are never found postally used. It will be enough for the philatelists to know that these stamps should be left severely alone, and fortunately there are discrepancies in the dies that render detection possible. For their guidance I will point out the principal discrepancies that I have noticed.

I. CIRCULAR DIES.

I will first of all place side by side clear impressions from the genuine dies, and impressions from the "missing dies," for each of the three denominations, those on the left being the latter. I will follow the course suggested in Chapter III, by placing the first Persian letter in position of the 12 o'clock on a watch dial. Taking first the genuine half-anna stamp, I will ask you (the enquiring collector) to examine the "figure-3-like" first Dogra letter. It stands out boldly by itself, in a perfectly comfortable position, resting on a single ray of the central sun, and is in no way dependent on its Persian neighbour to the left. In the other type this letter is in imminent danger of falling backwards, though resting on two rays, and it appears to have crooked its lower limb well into the Persian neighbour to prevent the catastrophe. The shape of the letter, and the position and its inclination in the circle, at once strike the eye as differing very decidedly in each type. Then the last letter of the five Dogra characters in the genuine type is slightly curved and is placed at a slight angle to the figure "1" (of "1923" in Vernacular figures) immediately following; in the other type it is quite straight, and is not placed at an angle with the following figure 1, but in the same plane. Coming further down the dial, to the position of half-past five o'clock, two small lines will be found on the genuine type, which are in direction with two rays from the central sun; in the other type these two lines are drawn at a wide angle to the direction of these rays. Then take the right hand one of the three strokes in the centre of the sun: if you prolong this line downwards, it will pass through an inverted comma-shaped letter at 7 o'clock, in the genuine type; do the same in the other type, and the line will leave the comma well to the left, and will form an arrow to a bow-shaped letter at 6.15 o'clock.

Take next the one-anna stamp, and two differences are easily detected—the second Dogra character, on the genuine type, is decidedly bent in the back, and the central stroke if prolonged upwards would come between it and the first letter; in the other the same letter is perfectly straight-backed, and the stroke if prolonged would run up this back. In the genuine type the Dogra letters have all their ends sharp, in the other they are blunt, and the third letter especially is "dumpy."

In the four-anna stamps the striking differences are that the shape of the second Dogra letter just reverses its appearance in the one-anna issue, being straight-backed in the genuine stamp and bent-backed in the other. The right horn of the semi-circle, in which the denomination stroke is placed, is crooked inwards, so as almost to touch the stroke, in the genuine, while in the other there is no crook. Were the stroke of the genuine type prolonged upwards, it would pass out between the first and second Dogra letters, that of the other would pass right through the left side of the first letter; and the two outer circles of the forgery are so close as to print an almost continuous single ring.

2. OLD RECTANGULAR DIES.

I have seen "missing dies" of the two, four and eight anna Kashmir Province stamps, and of the half-anna Jammu Province stamp. I give an illustration of the genuine and forged stamps side by side, and I would very briefly point out the following differences:

Two-annas.—The mistake is made in the forged stamp of leaving a margin on the four sides, which is of course impossible, seeing that the genuine two-anna stamps were printed in strips of five each touching the other; the star at the top is small and badly formed; the dots in the spandrels are large and coarse, and there are only about 10 in each corner, between the lines, as compared with 13 to 15 in the genuine stamp; the first letter of the Dogra character is straight-backed instead of bent-backed. Major Evans informs me

* Captain Godfrey accepts this solution, and says he remembers seeing the sheets of these stamps sandwiched with impressions from the genuine dies, when taking over the State remainders.

† Major Evans informs me they were not known in Europe until 1890, in which year he described them.

‡ Since the above was written, Major Evans has sent me a second type of a one-anna "missing die," which I illustrate. It is dangerous in that the stroke in the central sun points in the proper direction, between the first and second Dogra letters. But fortunately it differs from the genuine stamp in other respects.

that he generally finds these in fives—close together, to imitate the blocks of five in the genuine stamp.

Four-annas.—The dots in the spandrels are entirely omitted in the forgery. The third letter of the date, at foot of the oval resembles our 3, while in the genuine stamp it resembles our 2. There is an extra outline, also, to this and the 8-anna forgery.

Eight-annas.—In the forgery the dots in the spandrels are again omitted; the star is much smaller, and the two lower lines in the oval (containing the denomination and date in Dogra) are badly cut and illegible.

Jammu half-anna.—In the forgery (1) the mistake is again made of having a border all round, which I have shewn is impossible in impressions from the genuine plate; (2) the star at the top is fuller, and the ends of the rays are more blunt; (3) the first Dogra letter is straight-backed instead of bent-backed, and the third and fourth are joined, forming a rough "m"; (4) the third figure is like a 3 instead of a 2. What makes this forgery the more dangerous is that I have seen it "used," being obliterated apparently with the genuine Jammu square black seal.

If these eight stamps be examined from the right-hand side, instead of from below, the five Dogra letters resolve themselves into roughly printed EIUYE, and it will be seen that in each case an attempt has been made to reproduce the exact shape of the originals, which differ slightly amongst themselves.

All three "missing die" circular stamps and the three Kashmir Province rectangular ones, formed part of the State "stocks" that were on hand when the Postal Administration was taken over by the British Government; the Jammu Province imitations, were, I believe from a private source, but I include them here on the authority of Major Evans, who received some specimens along with the other "missing die" stamps and from the same source.

FORGERIES OF PRIVATE ORIGIN.

The forgeries by private enterprise are comparatively few, and I believe they are of recent date, always excepting the "Die I" stamps already described. I have seen only (1) a half-anna and a four-anna stamp, which are evidently from the same hand—and which probably had a one-anna die also to complete the set—and (2) a half-anna stamp, which differs considerably from these. I illustrate both half-anna stamps: the four-anna specimen I have is a smudged blue one, which cannot be reproduced by photography. Taking the solitary half-anna stamp first (that on the right in the illustration) it is easily detected by two material differences when compared with the genuine stamp. These are (1) at the position of nine o'clock on the dial there is a character in the circular inscription that resembles a reversed letter R; in the forgery the lower limb of this letter is much longer than in the genuine stamp; (2) at the position of between 4 and 5 o'clock a long character, connected with the word "Kashmir" in Persian, is joined to the fourth figure of the date (1923) forming a rough forked twig; in the genuine stamp this character does not touch the figure. Coming to the other types, the differences are as follows:—

Four-anna Stamp.—In the forgery, the rays of the central sun are short, and exactly like the teeth of a cog-wheel. Taking the first three Dogra letters, it will be found they are compressed into a space of 8 mms., measuring from what I shall call the abdomen of the first to the back of the head of the third, as against 9 mms. in the genuine type.

Half-anna Stamp.—This die is very well cut. The central sun again resembles a cog-wheel. The first Dogra letter is a perfect figure 3, the upper and lower limbs being about the same shape, whereas in the genuine die the lower limb is crooked up and does not project as far as the upper. The second Dogra letter is straight-backed instead of bent-backed; the left of the three central strokes, instead of being slightly curved, is comma-shaped, and the second and third strokes, instead of being parallel, would if prolonged meet on the outer edge of the central sun. I have the half-anna stamp in three colours: (1) blue, like the four-anna one, (2) what is meant to be black, but is really a dark brown, and (3) a dull red.

Well printed copies of the second type of forgery can be detected by the two encircling rings: in the genuine stamps the outer ring is light, the inner heavy; in the forgery the outer ring is heavy and the inner so light that it often prints a dotted circle.

All these stamps can be met with occasionally bearing bogus obliterations, in imitation of the Srinagar brick and the Jammu magenta seal impressions.

We think we have already said that the price of Mr. Masson's book is 5s., and that copies may be had from the English agent, Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Birmingham. It is a work that should be in the hands of every philatelist who includes Kashmir within the range of his studies.

TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnighly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

THE anonymists, if we may use such a word, are having a good go at the *Fortnighly*. This chaste note fell

into our letter-box the other morning with a subdued thud:

Sir,—In a German paper, "Illustrirtes Briefmarken Journal," I notice a headline "Allerlie." I don't understand German, but I think many articles in our English papers might be headed "All-a-Lie" too. Yours faithfully,

NEVER MIND.

We dont mind!

* * *

It doesn't overwhelm us with grief to learn on the authority of Mr. Norman C. Horwood, of Bendigo, that the Victorian War Stamps have proved somewhat of a fiasco, only £600 worth being sold up to July 10th, out of an issue representing £3,600. The stamps came out about two months late, and this, Mr. Horwood opines, may account for the smallness of the number sold.

* * *

Mr. Walter Bull has shown us some most interesting money orders recently issued by the Civil Commissioner of Bulawayo. These are in the form of small cards with unused postage stamps attached to them. The stamps used in this way are of the following descriptions:—

Large Issue, B.S.A.: 3d., 6d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., and 10s.

Small Issue: 6d. lilac, 1s. brown.

The particular orders we have seen are made payable August 1st, expiring October 1st, of the current year.

In Germany, we believe, there is a money order system something similar to this, the value being expressed by means of the actual adhesive postage stamps. We understand, also, that in Germany it is possible to remit small sums by post-card, the amount being attached in the shape of unused stamps. It has always seemed to us that this plan might well be adopted here.

* * *

Mr. W. A. Jutsum, of Cardiff, writes:—

I think it time something was done to enable Collectors to discriminate between desirable Exchange Clubs and those that are not worthy the name.

I am a member of several Clubs and while the secretaries of some are all that can be desired, there are others quite the reverse, being slow at returning sheets, slower still at paying out balances due to members, and very discourteous should a member venture to remind them of their tardiness.

I have sheets with several Clubs as far back as October, December and January; also February and March, and cannot get them back—in one case, that of October, no answer being vouchsafed to my repeated applications. I shall have to name these very dilatory Clubs unless they wake up. They are a disgrace to, and only tend to hinder the growth of philately.

I consider that no Club should have a membership of more than 30 members in any one section, and that packets should circulate and sheets be returned to members within three months.

May I venture to suggest a plan whereby Collectors may be informed of the working of various Clubs, and so be able to judge as to the most desirable Clubs to join? It is that you publish in your paper a list once a month of the various Clubs, giving the latest month for which sheets have been returned and balances paid to members. This list would of course be compiled from particulars supplied by the secretaries, and I take it that energetic secretaries will be delighted to give the desired information as it will tend to bring their Clubs into favour and encourage confidence among Collectors.

At present some Clubs are conducted solely for the advantage of the secretaries, the members having no power or voice in the con-

duct of the Club. Will some of your numerous readers take up this very important topic so that practical results may follow?

Here is a question by no means new to *Fortnighly* readers. The exchange club, well conducted, is undoubtedly a great boon to the amateur philatelist. Badly conducted, it is a delusion and a snare. Too often, unfortunately, the Exchange Secretary is between the devil and the deep sea. On the one hand he has the dilatory payer; on the other the impatient payee. At the same time the fact that so-and-so has not paid for the stamps he has purchased is not a complete excuse for the Secretary, for that individual is placed much in the same position as an auctioneer conducting sales for a fixed commission. The philatelist—the true philatelist—parts with his stamps with regret. In many cases he places stamps in the hands of auctioneer or an Exchange Secretary, simply because he is in urgent need of the money that he hopes to realise by their sale; and his annoyance, if the money be withheld until too late for the purpose for which it was wanted, is quite understandable and justifiable. Payment deferred maketh the heart sick, not to say wrath.

Our philatelic auctioneers' payments are made with fair promptitude—in some cases with exemplary promptitude. It should be possible for Exchange Secretaries to remit realisations with equal celerity. If there is any serious obstacle to such a reform the obstacle must be due to some defect in the system followed; and in that case the system should be amended.

We invite the views of the Secretaries themselves and of the philatelic public generally.

Varieties of Australian Stamps.

MR. L. E. BRADBURY has kindly submitted to us the following interesting uncatalogued varieties of Australian stamps:—

New South Wales. 1897, 2½d. purple, *perf.* 11, *die* 1. Also the 10d. lavender, Stanley Gibbons' type 14, *perf.* 11 × 11½.

South Australia. 9d. grey-lilac, type 4, *large holes*, same *perf.* as the 1s. and 2s.

Western Australia, postal fiscal, type 51, 2s. 6d. and 3s. lilac, *Wmk. W. and C.A.*

New South Wales, printed on chalky paper:
 1899 ½d. green, Stanley Gibbons, type 37.
 1897 1d. scarlet " " " 39.
 " 2d. blue " " " 40.
 1899 2½d. deep blue " " " 41, *perf.* 11½ by 12.
 1888 4d. brown " " " 27.
 1899 6d. orange " " " 28.
 1888 8d. red lilac " " " 29.
 " 1s. chocolate " " " 30.

These are all *perf.* 12 by 11½, except the 2½d., which is *perf.* 11½ by 12.

The "Fortnighly's" 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 6
Quarter Column	...	0 10 0	Quarter Column	do.	0 8 6
One Inch	...	0 5 0	One Inch	do.	0 3 0

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."

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 the large GENERAL COLLECTION advertised to be Sold on September 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th, has been withdrawn as they have disposed of the same *en bloc*, by Private Treaty.

THE FIRST SALE OF NEXT SEASON will take place on Sept. 25th and 26th (only) and will consist of a FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION, including very RARE STAMPS.

THE DATES OF MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S STAMP SALES FOR NEXT SEASON HAVE BEEN FIXED AS FOLLOWS:—

1900.—September 25 and 26; October 16, 17, 30 and 31; November 13, 14, 27 and 28; December 11 and 12.

1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17; May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12.

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.

THE COLLECTORS CLUB, NEW YORK.
The 55th meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the club house on Monday, July 9, 1900. Present: Messrs. Bruner (in the chair), Luff, Perrin and Scott. A number of communications were read by the Secretary. Mr. Deats was authorised to purchase four bound volumes of the *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*, as per his offer.

The Treasurer's report showing a cash balance of \$781.85 in bank exclusive of U.S. bonds, was read and approved.

The report of the House Committee was accepted as read.

The following gifts to the club were reported and accepted with thanks:—From the Boston Philatelic Society, a bound volume on the Revenue Stamps of the U.S.; from Mr. Krass a number of interesting frames; from Mr. Scott bound volumes 11 and 12 of the "Montreal Philatelist." Albert Perrin, secretary, 351 Fourth Avenue, New York, U.S.A.

STAMP TRADE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION LIMITED.

The first general meeting of the Association was held on 25th June, 1900, at 331, Strand, London, at six o'clock.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting, the Chairman, Mr. W. Hadlow, gave a brief address, in the course of which he said the Association, although only a short time in existence, had already proved its utility by obtaining information useful to the members, and also by collecting debts. New members continue to come in, but not so quickly as he would like. He did not see any

reason why the Association, if loyally supported, should not become a great success. To be so, however, it was necessary that every member should make the matter a personal one, to induce others to join, and generally to make the existence and objects of the Association known. He hoped they would all do so.

This being the statutory meeting, held in accordance with the Companies Act, there was no special business to bring forward, so the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

Rate: 3 Words a Penny.

COMPLETE SET "Philatelic Record" wanted. Bound. Send lowest cash price.—Box 119, Fortnightly Office, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

WANTED Gt. Britain 10/- and £1 Anchor watermark fine copies also 2/- brown. C. Nissen & Co., 77/78 High Holborn W.C.

V.R.I. on Free State, 4d. and 1d. unused of the pair; 4 pairs 2/3. Catalogues free. Whitley Brothers, Stamp dealers, 19, Church Street, Cape Town, South Africa.

ALL unused, 2½, 5/- Falkland, 9/1. 2fr. France; 20c., 50c., 2c., on 5/- Canada, 5/9. Malta 2/6, and part 1 or 2 Gibbons Catalogue, 4/10. Homewood, 31, Acklam Rd. W.

FOR SALE.—Orange Free State Stamps surcharged V.R.I., genuine, unused; 4d. to 5s. (except 2½d., 4d. and 6d. rose). Also Uganda type printed and current issue.—"LUCIUS," 30, Flodden Road, S.E.

APPROVAL BOOKS.—Special Line of Books and Sheets for Beginners and Medium Collectors, full of bargains, sent on approval. British stamps or Foreign and British Colonials. Wanted to Buy Collections and all kinds of English Stamps. Good prices given.—CHARLES NISSEN & Co., 77/8, High Holborn, London, W.C.

WANT U.S. and Confederate Postage and Locals on the original covers for cash. Send with lowest price to FRANK P. ADAMS, Decorah, Iowa.

V.R.I. on Free State 4d., 1d., 2d., 3d. blue, 6d. blue, and the rare type 11. of the 1/- stop above level after S. Price, 12/6 per set, unused.—NISSEN & Co., 77/8, High Holborn, W.C.

British Stamps. Special Offer.

Complete Sets of Plate Numbers.

	GOOD CONDITION.		MOUNTED.	
			Set of	s. d.
4d. red	15	6 0
1d. "	151	10 6
1½d. "	2	0 3
2d. blue	7	0 9
2½d. lilac-rose	18	7 0
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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.

WANTED URGENTLY!

Used copies 2/- brown, 10/- and £1, Anchor wmk.; also all kinds of Rare British Stamps.

CHAS. NISSEN & CO.,

77/78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

The next Mail from MARIANEN, CAROLINES and MARSHALL ISLANDS, arrives in October; and from NEW GUINEA this month.

It is very doubtful, however, whether these Mails, as well as the other German Colonial Mails, will bring the Stamps that Collectors want!

I therefore advise all Collectors to apply for a

SELECTION ON APPROVAL,

of which I hold a fine stock, both used and unused.

I can send a selection of all GERMAN COLONIALS, and I have taken special care to obtain used specimens on entire envelopes with light and clean obliterations, and I can assert that from no other quarter can German Colonials be supplied in similar selections.

Specialists may have any particular postmark they desire, and can also have Corner Blocks or Pairs of any Stamp.

I buy any quantity of **GERMAN COLONIAL and other Stamps**, and pay high prices. Write for Price List, post free.

PHILIPP KOSACK, Berlin, C, 8, Burgstrasse.

. . . Immediately opposite the Royal Castle.

THE "ROWLAND HILL" BOOKLET
FREE FROM
ALFRED SMITH & SON,
OFFICE OF THE "MONTHLY CIRCULAR"
37 & 39, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, W.C.

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.

Buy Africans!

Transvaal, 1883, used	s. d.
" 1885 (now catal. 7 6)	0 8
" 1894, 1 - (shafts) unused	4 6
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" 1894/7 1 - used	0 4
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Zululand, 1894 96 complete set to 4 - used, viz.	
4d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1s., 2 6, 4 -	16 0
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LUDWIG ZISSELER, 68, Charing Cross-rd., London, W.C.

 **Senf's Postage Stamp Album**
Is the best in the World.
Price List on application.
Ranging from 4d. to £6 5s.
C. F. LUECKE, Publisher,
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POSTCARDS, ENVELOPES, &c.
A Priced List of Packets of these, from 20 for 1/-, to 100 all different for 12 - used and unused, can be had on application. A fine start of 500 Varieties for £6, unused or partly used, as may be preferred, with or without several Envelopes and Wrappers; some of which are catalogued from 1 - to 15/- each.
BEN WEBSTER, 15, Paultons Sq., Chelsea, S.W.

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.

STAMPS!

One hundred British Colonial Postage Stamps;
all different and genuine; post free, 2 6.

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53, St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C.

BELOW AUCTION PRICES
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

8d. in the 1 - Discount.

This is no catch advertisement. Write for selections. Many bargains. *Satisfaction guaranteed.*
BRIDGER & KAY, 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C.

British South Africa, 1866 5-	each	per 12.
" " " " " 10-	3 5	40 "
" " " " " £5 (scarce)	2 6	-
Canada Jubilee, 1c. to 6c. (7 6 per set)		
" " " " " \$1 to \$5 (45 "		
India, 1865, 2, 3, 5 rupees (3 "		
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Transvaal, 1894, 10 -	5 0	
" " " " " 100 Dollars, Periodicals,		
Postally used	(40 - per set)	
U.S. Omaha, 6c.	0 7	0 0
" " " " " \$1	2 4	28 0
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U.S.A., 1c. on 99c. War Depart. (14 6 per set)		

All stamps used except those marked by * and all are in good condition. Wholesale Price List post free.
The WILLIAM STAMP Co.,
120, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C., England.

KERR & LANHAM,
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.

H. ROSS-SHIELDS & Co.,
75, LITTLE BRITAIN, LONDON, E.C.
Two minutes from G.P.O.
Wholesale and Retail List free.
Consignments and offers solicited.
Hayti, well assorted, used, 6d. per doz., 3 6 per 100.
Newfoundland, 1898, ½, 1, 2, and 3c. 5d. per set, 2, 9 per 12 sets.
Special Mixture, splendid value, 2 - per 100.

LARGE & SMALL COLLECTIONS WANTED FOR CASH.
High Prices also paid for single & rare stamps
Best Stamp Mounts made, coated with pure gum arabic, 1 - per 1000. Post free.
F. C. BEPLER, 109, Cheapside, London.
Established 1888

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 Indian, and old Australian stamps. Up to £1000 down, paid for a really fine old collection. Established 15 years. Harkers, London and County.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 143—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO., Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers, 10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "PHILATELIC, LONDON."

TELEPHONE No. 5596 AVENUE.

The following **Approval Books** have just been made up:

GREAT BRITAIN	3 Vols.	BELGIUM	2 Vols.
PERSIA AND CHINA	1 ..	SWEDEN	1 ..
SEYCHELLES AND St. HELENA	1 ..	SWITZERLAND	2 ..
LUXEMBURG	2 ..	AUSTRIA	2 ..
ITALIAN STATES	4 ..	BAVARIA	1 ..
BADEN	1 ..	ORANGE FREE STATE AND CHINA	1 ..
PERSIA	1 ..	TRANSVAAL	2 ..

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:

ALL UNUSED AND VERY FINE.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Lubeck, the Error, 2½ schilling..	1	17	6	Belgium, 1881, 5fcs. dark brown, mint	1	2	0
Oldenburg, 1853, ½ groschen ..	6	0	0	Bolivia, 1867, 500 centavos, 9 stars	2	3	0
Brunswick, 1865, ¼ gros., roul., mint	1	15	0	Antioquia, 1868, 1 peso ..	3	7	6
Wurtemberg, 1873, 70kr. ..	3	3	0	France, 1859, unpaid, 10c. lithographed	2	0	0
" 1875, 2mks., yellow, mint	7	0	0	Baden, 1854, 3kr. blue ..	1	16	0
" 1875, 2mks., orange, mint	7	0	0	Bavaria, 1870, 12kr., mint	1	7	0
Great Britain, 1d. V.R. ..	8	10	0	Hanover, 1856, 3pf. grey net	1	12	0
Spain, 1852, 3 quartos, Madrid ..	15	0	0	Oldenburg, 1853, 2 groschen	4	10	0
Servia, 1868, 2 paras. error ..	11	10	0	Sandwich Islands, 1862, 2c. litho., horizontally, laid paper	1	7	0
Hongkong, 1875 ..	3	0	0	Dutch Indies, 1874, 5c. ..	1	7	0
U. S., 2 dollars, State ..	3	3	0	Roman States, 50 baj. ..	1	4	0
Tasmania, 1870/71, 4d. blue ..	2	15	0	Monaco, 1885, 5 francs ..	1	10	0
Saxony, 1851, 2 ngr., dark blue	3	10	0	Azores, 1868, 100 reis, imperf. ..	1	5	0
Brazil, 1844, 180 reis ..	2	5	0	Madeira, 1868, 100 reis, imperf. ..	1	5	0
" 300 ..	3	8	0	" 1868/70, 240 reis ..	1	12	0

CORRESPONDENCE in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

Mention this paper.

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 ensuing Season will be as under:—

1900.—September 20th and 21st; October 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; November 8th, 22nd and 23rd; December 6th and 7th.

1901.—January 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th, 31st; February 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th; March 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th and 29th; April 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; May 9th and 10th, 30th and 31st, and June 13th and 14th.

September 20th and 21st.—Messrs. V. B. & C. have received instructions to sell on these dates a very fine Private Collection of British Colonials, mostly unused, in blocks and pairs, and containing the following rarities:—Ceylon, 4d., 9d., and 1/9, imperf., star perf., 4d., 1/9 and 2/-, unused, rare provisionals, &c.; India, fine unused blocks of the rarer issues; Gibraltar complete; B.E.A. on Coy.'s stamps complete; Cape, woodblocks, 1d. red, unused, 2 shades, 1d. red, very fine, and others; Gold Coast, 1d. blue, C.A. unused; Mauritius, Post Pairs, 1d. early impressions, fine pairs, 2d. blue, error penoe, very fine, 1d. later state, unused, no wmk., 1/- blue, fine unused blocks, etc.; rare unused Natal; Zululand complete; Newfoundland, a fine lot, including 1/- vermilion, unused; Nova Scotia, 1/-, fine shades; New Brunswick, 1/-, fine and Connell unused; a superb lot of West Indies, including Nevis nearly complete, also unused sheets of 1d. perf 11½, and 2 shades of 1/- lithographed, 6d. lithographed, unused and used; C.A., 6d. green, unused, etc., Montserrat, Jamaica, St. Christopher, St. Lucia, Tobago, complete and fine; St. Vincent, the rare provisionals and 5/- wmk. star; Turks Island, 1/- prune, scarce provisionals; a fine lot of Virgin Islands, including a sheet of 1st issue 6d. rose, and many others.

October 11th and 12th.—A very fine selection of British, Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps, including rare Transvaals, Orange Free State.

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 Realisation if desired.

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CEYLON, 2/- blue, imperf. used, fine	5	10	0
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GRENADA, block of 4, ½d. one being the error "OSTAGE," unused	1	10	0
MAURITIUS, 6c. in red on 13c. green, surcharge inverted, used on original	6	0	0
MAFEKING SIEGE, 6d. on 2d. Br. Bechuanaland	1	5	0
" " 3d. on 1d. Cape	0	18	0

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With which are incorporated the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly" and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."
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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

AN AMERICAN DEALER'S STAMP LAUNDRY.

STAMPS WASHED AND RE-GUMMED.

ANGEL N. Trujillo, who conducts a stamp dealing business under the name of the Universal Stamp Company, at No. 114 Nassau Street, New York, is under arrest on a charge of washing the cancellations off U.S.A. Inland Revenue stamps.

The "Metropolitan Philatelist" reprints from the New York papers this story of the case:

Chief Agent Thompson, of the Internal Revenue Department, has been investigating the kinds of stamps used by firms that are members of the Stock Exchange for a month past. He discovered last week that the stamps used by the brokerage firm of C. A. Harned & Co., who have offices in the Mills Building, were washed. The "washing" had been so cleverly done that only an expert would notice it.

Colonel Thompson was told that the firm had bought them in good faith from Trujillo to whom they paid full face value. They had bought \$161 worth on July the 11th last.

Trujillo lived at 12 East 111th Street, but he had gone to the Atlantic Highlands with his wife for the summer. When he returned to his office he was immediately arrested by Deputy Collector James Taylor. Upon being searched \$142 worth of washed stamps of various denominations were found upon him. Taken before Colonel Thompson, he declared that he got them in the regular course of his business from a man who came to his office, making ten per cent. on their face value. He did not know the name of the man, but had no reason to believe there was anything wrong. He expected that the man would call again in a day or two.

Trujillo's arrest was kept secret, and Colonel Thompson sent Deputies Taylor and Moore to the Atlantic Highlands. They searched the apartments of Mr. and Mrs. Trujillo and found in a dress suit case a complete outfit for "washing" stamps—acid for removing cancellation marks, the proper kind of gum and a large number of cancelled stamps of all denominations, and about \$50 worth of washed stamps that had not as yet been re-gummed.

The unknown man not putting in an appearance, Trujillo was charged before United States Commissioner Shields, and at last accounts was under \$2,500 bail.

ANOTHER ALLEGED STAMP WASHER.

At Omaha, it appears, there has been a similar charge, J. S. Negreen being the person accused. It seems that Negreen, who is very young, had a good stamp business in Omaha. Inspector Swift a police witness against him, explained that the post office authorities at Omaha had been specially instructed to cancel envelopes with Negreen & Co.'s mark upon them elsewhere than on the stamp itself. As a result, the Inspector said, it was possible to discern on the stamps the marks of a former cancellation.

CANADA HAS STAMP BOOKLETS, TOO!

THE example set by the United States in the matter of issuing low value adhesive stamps in book form has been promptly followed by Canada. We have to thank Mr. A. D. Oubridge, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, who has kindly sent us a booklet of twelve Canadian 2 cent stamps. On the inside of the cardboard covers one finds the "Postal Rates" of Canada and other information. The price of booklet is 25c., one cent being charged over and above the face value of the stamps. A remarkably neat production.

PHILATELIC EXHIBITION FOR BERLIN.

It is announced that a philatelic exhibition will be held in November next in the German capital. Not only adhesive stamps and entires but also philatelic albums, stamp literature &c., will be on show. Mr. Paul Leitzow, editor of "Die Post" gives many interesting particulars regarding the scheme.

HAYTI ONLY WANTS SOME GOLD NOW.

HAYTI, it appears, has adopted a gold standard with the American dollar as the unit of value. Hitherto the currency of this "Black Republic" has been unique among the world's coinages, for in Hayti a hundred centimes have equalled one piastre (!) which in its turn has been of the nominal value of four shillings, British money. Doubtless the Haytians—much against their will, of course—will signalise the change by means of a set of provisionals surcharged in cents and dollars.

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.

CEYLON.

Unused average
mint copy fine average
Used very average
copy

I.—THE "PENCE" ISSUES.

1857. Watermarked Star, on blued paper; imperf.

1d. blue .. .. .	..	..	..	12/6	9/
6d. plum .. .. .	..	..	..	15/	11/

On white paper; imperf.

1d. blue .. .. .	..	80/	40/	1/	1/9
2d. green .. .. .	..	12/6	9/	1/9	1/3
2d. yellow-green ..	..	12/6	9/	1/9	1/3
4d. rose .. .. .	..	£80	£30	350/	250/
5d. brown .. .. .	..	55/	35/	12/6	6/6
6d. brown .. .. .	..	..	..	15/	10/
6d. deep claret .. ..	..	..	..	15/	10/
8d. chocolate .. ..	..	£80	£30	£16	210/
9d. brown-violet .. ..	..	..	..	90/	50/
10d. vermilion .. ..	..	70/	45/	25/	15/
1s. violet .. .. .	..	..	..	15/	8/
1/9 yellow-green .. ..	..	..	..	90/	60/
1s. 9d. green .. ..	..	85/	60/	50/	35/
2s. blue .. .. .	..	£55	£25	£10	£4

1861. Unwatermarked; imperf.

½d. lilac .. .. .	..	15/	10/	15/	10/
½d. lilac on bluish ..	..	..	..	30/	20/

Watermarked Star; clean cut perforation 14 to 16½.

1d. blue .. .. .	..	40/	25/	7/6	5/
2d. green .. .. .	..	40/	25/	12/6	8/
4d. rose .. .. .	..	..	..	40/	25/
5d. brown .. .. .	..	15/	10/6	3/	2/
8d. brown-red .. ..	..	160/	100/	90/	55/
9d. lilac-brown .. ..	..	..	..	22/6	15/
1/- blue-violet .. ..	..	25/	12/6	10/	5/
1s. lilac .. .. .	..	20/	10/	3/	2/
2s. blue .. .. .	..	..	..	40/	22/6

Roughly perforated 14 to 16½.

1d. blue .. .. .	..	40/	25/	2/	1/3
2d. green .. .. .	..	40/	25/	12/6	8/
4d. rose .. .. .	..	35/	25/	21/	15/
6d. light brown .. ..	..	..	..	12/6	8/
8d. brown .. .. .	..	140/	100/	90/	55/
8d. yellow-brown .. ..	..	320/	200/	110/	80/
9d. brown ochre .. ..	..	..	..	15/	10/
9d. deep brown .. ..	..	17/6	12/6	40/	30/
10d. vermilion .. ..	..	50/	30/	7/	5/
1/- blue-violet .. ..	..	22/6	12/6	4/	2/6
1s. lilac	15/	10/	3/	2/
1s. 9d. green	80/
2s. blue	50/	35/	30/	20/

Perforated 12½.

10d. vermilion	35/	25/	3/6	2/6
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CEYLON—Continued.

Unused average
mint copy fine average
Used very average
copy

1863. Unwatermarked; perf. 13.

½d. lilac, perf. 12½ ..	..	25/	15/	20/	20/
1d. blue .. .. .	..	45/	30/	5/	3/
5d. red-brown .. ..	..	400/	200/	35/	20/
6d. brown	30/	20/	10/	7/
9d. brown	160/	80/	30/	20/
1s. violet	320/	180/	25/	15/

Perforated 11½.

1d. blue	17/6	12/6
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1864. Watermarked CC.; perf. 12½.

½d. lilac	5/	3/	5/	3/
1d. blue	10/	6/	1/6	1/4
2d. sea green	12/6	7/6	4/	3/
2d. emerald green ..	..	30/	20/	20/	15/
2d. yellow-green .. ..	..	..	..	40/	25/
2d. yellow .. .. .	..	12/6	8/	2/6	1/6
2d. maize .. .. .	..	12/6	8/	3/6	2/6
4d. rose .. .. .	..	10/	6/6	3/	2/
5d. yellow-green .. ..	..	15/	10/	4/	2/6
5d. red-brown .. ..	..	70/	50/	25/	17/6
5d. sage-green .. ..	..	20/	12/6	15/	10/
5d. myrtle-green .. ..	..	10/	7/	10/	7/
6d. chocolate .. ..	..	8/6	5/	1/6	1/
8d. red-brown .. ..	..	10/6	6/6	5/6	4/
9d. light brown .. ..	..	15/	10/6	4/6	3/
9d. dark brown .. ..	..	8/	5/	4/	3/
10d. vermilion .. ..	..	10/6	7/	3/6	2/6
1s. violet .. .. .	..	12/6	8/6	2/6	1/6
2s. blue	15/	10/	4/	2/6
2s. indigo-blue	20/	15/	5/	3/6

1867. New types; wmk. CC.; perf. 12½.

3d. rose	25/	15/	7/6	5/
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Perforated 14.

1d. blue	2/6	1/6	1/6	1/4
3d. rose	9/	6/	3/6	2/6

(To be continued).

CARVING UP THE WORLD'S POSTAGE STAMPS.

A WORTHY man writing under the pen-name of "Dr. Phil. A. T. Lista," in the excellent "Anales" of the Philatelic Society of Chili, has gone very deeply into the subject of catalogue classifications. The worthy Doctor would like to see our stamps classified in six distinct sections as follows:—

- I. Stamps of different denominations duly ordered to be issued.
- II. Stamps showing an official though involuntary variety, such as different impressions of the same issue.
- III. Stamps showing an official variety arising out of technical difficulties, such as differences in paper, color, etc.
- IV. Stamps showing imperfections of manufacture, such as difference in types.
- V. Stamps showing errors through carelessness or through official connivance.
- VI. Stamps showing varieties made by the public, but officially tolerated, such as stamps cut in halves, envelope stamps used as adhesive, etc.

To fully illustrate his meaning, Dr. Phil. A. T. Lista gives a fancy catalogue of the stamps of Barataria, revealing (as Mr. J. M. Andreini remarks in a review in "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News") much "patience, philatelic scrutiny and literary erudition." These qualities are good and scarce, but we cordially endorse Mr. Andreini's opinion that the work of compiling such catalogues for the stamps of every country "is so stupendous that it is staggering to think of it."

SOME STAMP-ISSUING STATISTICS.

THE total number of all known varieties issued by all the governments of the world up to date is 14,626. Of this number 133 have been issued in Great Britain, and 4,068 in various British Colonies and Protectorates, leaving 10,425 for the rest of the world. Dividing the totals among the Continents, Europe issued 3665, Asia 2773, Africa 2466, America 4795, and Oceanica 1027.

It is Mr. A. Dawson who, in the "Weekly Philatelic Era," thus counts up the stamp issues of the world, and apportionments among the continents the share of—shall we say blame? attaching to each.

Reminiscences of a Philatelist.

By WALTER NATHAN.

(Continued from page 87).

TOWARDS the close of 1879 my cousin asked me whether I had lost all interest in stamps, and on my answering in the affirmative he offered to buy my collection. I let him have it at a nominal price under the impression he would keep it intact. Five years later when I wished to repurchase it, I found alas! it had been sold to a Manchester dealer who had broken it up.

During the four years I was at Somerset House I do not think I bestowed a single thought upon stamps. I remember perfectly having many sheets of the two shilling brown English pass through my hands, but I did not avail myself of the opportunity of retaining a single pair of these desirable stamps. In fact, I doubt (so fully were my thoughts and time occupied) whether I should ever have reverted to the pursuit of Philately, but for the calamity which caused me to resign my appointment and prevented me from following up literature as a side profession. Encouraged by the acceptance of the first story I had ever written, by the "Family Herald" in 1879, I projected a series of short stories in a style that was then very popular with the French, but which had not at that time many imitators in England. These and all other plans, however, were rendered futile by my state of health.

There are no people to be so studiously avoided as those who are always talking or writing about their ailments or illnesses, as they become bores of the first order; but, extraordinary cases, of whatsoever their nature, have an interest, and as my disease is virtually unique, representing an average of one in 100,000,000, a short account will at any rate add something to the reader's knowledge.

In 1881 I was apparently in the best of health, actively occupying myself both bodily and mentally. In addition to my official duties I was writing under the name of "Walter Gordon" in several journals. I was an upright figure, standing 5ft. 11½in. in my socks; I weighed 10st. 7lb.; I was a good swimmer, boxer, fencer, sculler, runner and skater. I shall be glad if the reader will notice these facts as I shall have to record a change which would be inconceivable were it not, unhappily, a grim reality.

In the midst of my occupations I felt a slight twinge of rheumatism in my neck. I thought nothing serious the matter but put on a mustard plaster and went to business as usual. In the course of a week I had a stiff neck but it was simply a joke in the office, and no one anticipated serious consequences. But even a stiff neck is an inconvenience, and I consulted Dr. Viner, the medical man of the Inland Revenue Department, who thought my nerves had run down, and that I required a change. I took the change but derived no benefit from it, and on my return I consulted the great nerve specialist, Dr. Hughlings-Jackson of Manchester square. That gentleman found no trace of disease anywhere and sent me away for another change. So matters went on for about 8 months, I gradually getting stiffer about the upper portions of my body until my head projected from the perpendicular. I had been taking constant sick leave which had been granted to me through a committee clerk, Mr. J. S. Purcell, who has since attained a wide celebrity amongst philatelists as the courteous and able controller of stamps and stores, and has been knighted by Her Majesty.

So matters went on for another four months, when my neck became absolutely immovable, and Dr. Jackson confessed that there was something in my condition that he did not understand, and suggested consulting a surgeon. We accordingly went to Sir Henry Thomson, who was also somewhat puzzled over my case, but gave a serious opinion of it. Not being satisfied I made an appointment with the late Sir James Paget, and three days later saw the great surgeon and kind-hearted man.

Sir James at once diagnosed my disease as "Myositis Ossificans," or in other words ossification of the muscles. The muscle in the neck called the Skelena had become abso-

lutely bone, and Sir James would have excised this had it been the only muscle concerned; but it was not, and as the complaint was so rare no treatment had ever been formulated for it, and Sir James could only make such experimental treatment as he thought safe and likely to do good. Under these circumstances Sir James was not only kind enough to attend me without fees, but allowed me to use his name in writing to all the principal physicians on the Continent and America to ascertain whether any treatment could be suggested. But the universal reply was, "you are in the best hands; we can suggest nothing." The only knowledge gained by the correspondence was the appreciation of the extreme rarity of the disease. There was a specimen in the Royal College of Surgeons, London; one in Dublin; one in Adelaide, South Australia, and no other living subject except myself.

To enliven the sombreness of this portion of my reminiscences I will retail an amusing incident, the actors in which were Sir James Paget himself and the late Fred Archer, the jockey. Sir James's devotion to his profession was well known and often he became so absorbed in it as to be oblivious to outside events. In a tight finish Archer often flogged his horse unmercifully and a colt of Lord Falmouth's called Muley Edris had remembered the castigation received at Archer's hands and taking revenge by seizing the jockey's fore-arm and making his teeth meet through the flesh. The wound refused to heal and Archer was out of the saddle some time. Early in May he consulted Sir James Paget and sent in a card on which was printed "Mr. F. J. Archer," without any address. After examining the wound Sir James expressed his opinion that it would soon be well. "But shall I be well by the Derby? I want to ride," said Archer. "How long is it before the Derby?" queried Sir James. "About three weeks" replied Archer. "Oh yes, you will be well enough again by then" said Sir James. "Well enough to ride?" reiterated Archer.

"Well—yes, you had much better drive," said Sir James, who was quite ignorant of the identity of his patient. Archer explained that he wished to ride *in*, and not *to*, the Derby, and that absence from Epsom would mean a loss of £2,000 to him. Sir James became much interested, and wound up the interview by saying he wished surgeons were as well paid for their work as jockeys. Despite of Sir James's care, Archer's arm was practically useless at Epsom. Nevertheless, he rode one of the grandest finishes in his life, for that was the memorable year of Bend Or's victory over Robert the Devil.

About this time, Dr. Playfair introduced the "Weir-Mitchell" treatment into England. I was gradually but slowly getting worse, and in the despair which drives hopeless cases to seize on any means of cure, however unlikely, I consulted Dr. Playfair; and despite the opinion of Sir James, that it did good only to hysterical women, I underwent the treatment. For two months I was kept in bed, not allowed to see anyone, stuffed like a pig, massaged four hours a day, and played upon by an electric battery. I left the private hospital a confirmed cripple, and with my digestion ruined.

From that time I became a chronic invalid, taking interest in nothing, getting worse and worse, until my doubled position made my height only 5ft. 2in. while my nude bodily weight was only 6st. 5lbs. In 1883 I was fortunate enough to meet Pro. Victor Horseley and with Sir James Paget's full approval transferred myself to his care. For three years Pro. Horseley gave me unremitting attention for which he would receive no payment. He conceived the idea that taking Salicylate of Soda as part of my diet would influence my disease. I consented to the experiment and during 7 years took 120,000 grains off the reel. Not only is this the largest quantity taken by any person but it is safe to predict that it is the largest quantity that ever will be taken, as the drug (which is usually prescribed in acute rheumatism) invariably upsets the patients' stomach after the fifth day.

The result of the treatment killed the disease, but the damage which had been done remained and could not be rectified. As soon as I was relieved from the agony I had endured my active mind sought occupation, and in 1885 I purchased a Stanley Gibbons' catalogue, and began the second period of my career as a philatelist.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 1, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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.

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THE interval "between seasons," an interval that seems to grow shorter year by year, may now be said to be at an end. The philatelic season, **The New Philatelic Year, 1900-1901**, lies before us; and a busy, bustling season it promises to be. Straws show us "which way the wind is blowing." Such a "straw" as a recent auction sale in London, held by a firm not usually given to the dispersal of philatelic "lots," may fairly be accepted as good evidence of the trend of the market. At the sale under notice certain stamps, mostly "Mafekings" and "Orange Colonies," realised prices which set many people in the room a-gasping. True, there were others who averred that these prices, considered in relation to the real values of the stamps, were but "moderate"; against this, however, we must set the fact that the sale had not been properly advertised in philatelic circles. Further, most of the leading dealers and collectors were holiday-making. The stamp-buyers in the room, in fact, could have been comfortably counted on the hairy digits of the Mafeking Ape, who—may we say "who"—blinked his amazement as the little squares of gummed paper sold for considerably more than their own weight in gold. Yet the bidding was ready and spirited and each lot realised a figure that, considering all things, must have been highly satisfactory to the vendor. The moral is clear. For good stamps there is a ready market—we should perhaps more correctly say an *eager* market—and this is more noticeably the case to-day than at any previous time in the history of philately. In conversation recently, a well known London philatelist declared that he had been astonished at the firm tone of the philatelic market. There is good ground for his astonishment. Political trouble abroad; the slow and weary war in South Africa; the labour troubles, actual and threatened; the alarmists' wail of a coal famine in the near future—all these things in combination might well tend to depress the business side of such a hobby as philately. It is matter for gratification that such is not the case. The season 1900-1901, in our opinion, opens under the happiest auspices. We take this opportunity of wishing to every *Fortnightly* reader the best of success and the best of luck throughout the "philatelic year."

In Canada, too, there has been considerable discussion on the subject of philatelic illustrations; and we learn from the "Weekly Philatelic Era" that Postmaster General Mulock has decided to permit stamp-pictures in the papers.

"Ewen's Weekly" reminds us of two absurd postal anomalies. The postage between the Cook Islands and Tahiti is 5d., but from either of the places to any other part of the world it is 2½d. only! The letter rate from Cape Town to Rhodesia is 4d., but all the way from England 2½d. only!

Something about Entires.

ORANGE RIVER "V.R.I." CARDS—POSTAL UNION'S SO-CALLED "JUBILEE"—A CURIOSITY FROM NATAL.

AS previous papers under this heading were intended chiefly to attract the general collector of stamps to a study of the much neglected envelopes, wrappers and postcards—which may have as great an interest, whether from their age or their associations, as the more popular adhesives—a little attention must now be given to the more recent issues of postal stationery for the edification of those who are already collectors of entires. We will refer first of all to the

"V.R.I." OVERPRINTED ON G.F.S.

cards (each having the values repeated), the varieties of which on adhesives have so exercised collectors lately. Taking our Orange State cards in the order received, the first was a 1d. orange-yellow sent from Bloemfontein the first week in April. The letters "V.R.I." in the upper part of stamp are in rather heavy "Roman" type with usual full stops—"1d." near the bottom also with stop or dot.

A large size ½d. reply card, postmarked April 30th, has all three upper dots from a different "fount" (not the "Blooming" one) showing quarter way up between the letters, and has no dot at all after "d." A small ¼d. card in rose colour (beginning of July) has both V.R.I. and all four dots thicker or heavier than before, all the letters and serifs being of same thickness; while another the same week, also a large ½+½d. green and a 1+1d. in brown, have their V's from a different type—fount, being of less width and with *thin* "serifs" (or cross lines at top of it), and no dot after the "d" in each case.

Two other 1d. (orange) in August have the same differences—two types of V, with and without lower stop.

An entirely unnecessary new issue has been "perpetrated" in Switzerland, of all countries in the world, the home of the Universal Postal Union which is supposed to have banned commemorative or war stamps for International postal use, and yet has had the effrontery to put these so-called

"JUBILE DE L'UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE"

emissions before the public. The original scriptural Jubilee was to be sounded in the *fiftieth* year—the Hebrew word itself (*Yobel*) meaning a shout of joy—but it is only twenty-five years since the U.P.U. was formed, and therefore at best it is not a full-grown but only a half-time affair, and, like half-timers, ought to be abolished or boycotted.

A reader of the *Fortnightly*, however, has duly received through the post here the 5c. green with an adhesive to match and to complete the rate, a 10c. in rose or deep carmine, and an unstamped card sent with a 10c. adhesive label of same brand, so we must admit them as actually in use. The design on the card is twice the size of the stamp (already chronicled) representing a female letter carrier who has climbed to the top of a telegraph pole and delivers her letters by throwing them broadcast, the words above given being on a label at top of stamp, a large figure of value near left bottom corner and "1875-1900" on a scroll at foot. There is nothing on the stamp to indicate the country of issue; presumably any other country in the Union may print and use, if it choose, copies of a similar one.

Another reader sends us a curious envelope which passed through THE NATAL POST in 1895 without a postage stamp. It is addressed to someone at Pietermaritzburg P.O. and is endorsed in place of stamp "One halfpenny received in money" with illegible signature and a handstamp "Postmaster of Durban." The flap has not been gummed down, so apparently it was sent as by book or circular post, but whatever could be the object of taking so much trouble is inexplicable, as the Durban postmaster surely could not be without a single halfpenny stamp. Why didn't he bisect a penny one? If there really was a dearth of stamps on that particular date (postmark is March 18) many other letters or covers must have been similarly treated and would be of interest philatelically.

"HAWK-EYE."

THE MAFEKING FORGERIES.

THE SOURCE OF THE ENGLISH SUPPLY—TWO TYPES OF THE CAPE FORGERIES.

SINCE our last number was published much interesting information has come to hand regarding the forged Mafeking stamps, and the bulk of this we owe to Mr. J. R. F. Turner, of Oxford, to whom in our opinion philatelists owe a deep debt of gratitude for his promptitude in acting upon the information in his possession. No sooner was Mr. Turner aware that forgeries were on offer than he wrote to all the leading dealers and collectors whom he knew to be interested in Mafekings warning them against the forged surcharges on Cape stamps.

We have seen some most interesting correspondence regarding the sale of the forged stamps in this country. Mr. Turner's first set of the imitations came from a Mr. Shelvoke, of Lichfield, who sent along a set of four such as we illustrated in the last *Fortnightly*, and asked for them the sum of £4 10s. "These are perfectly genuine," wrote Mr. Shelvoke, and as a postscript to his letter appeared the words:—"Have a few more sets on hand." Mr. Turner was a buyer at £4 10s., and further sets were sent him by Mr. Shelvoke, who wrote in his second letter:—"These are all guaranteed undoubtedly genuine."

In the face of that most positive sentence it must have been, and we do not doubt was, a severe blow to Mr. Shelvoke to learn that the stamps, or rather the surcharges and postmarks upon them, were out and out forgeries. There is no suggestion however that this gentleman acted otherwise than in perfect good faith. He had already sold a set of the stamps to Messrs. D. and M. Davis of Livery Street, Birmingham, and the fact that that firm accepted them as genuine appears to have struck him as being a sufficient guarantee of their *bona fides*. It was in fact on the strength of this transaction with Messrs. Davis that Mr. Shelvoke (who by the way is a retired merchant of Birmingham) told Mr. Turner that the stamps were guaranteed undoubtedly genuine.

Now whence did Mr. Shelvoke obtain his supplies? From the first he has stated that they came from a "friend" in the Cape Colony, but a statement is before us to the effect that this friend is no other than his own brother of Plein Street, Cape Town. We attach no significance to this point, for a brother may surely be called a friend, but it will be interesting to trace the stamps still further back and discover from whom the Cape Town Mr. Shelvoke obtained his supplies. In one of his recent letters to Mr. Turner, Mr. Shelvoke of Lichfield writes:—"I am not a collector or dealer in stamps and personally know nothing of their value. A friend who collected them in Cape Colony sent them to me and asked me to dispose of them for him; and suggested that I should submit them to the principal dealers. If there is anything wrong with them he has been cheated, for he is a man above suspicion."

It is only fair to Mr. Shelvoke, to whom, as we have said before, no suspicion of bad faith attaches, to add that he at once returned the money paid him by Mr. Turner for the stamps sold, and has presumably returned all other monies received in this way. The question immediately occurred to Mr. Turner: should he return the stamps as received, or in some way deface them so as to remove as it were their sting? He put it to Mr. Shelvoke that he would like to write the word "forgery" across each stamp, and that gentleman has at once agreed that this shall be done. He further expresses his determination of at once returning all the stamps to his friend in Cape Town, with enquiries as to where they were originally obtained. This information when received he promises to transmit to Mr. Turner.

TWO TYPES OF THE FORGERIES.

It is now evident that there are two distinct varieties of the forged Cape "Mafekings." Those of the first variety, illustrated in the last number of the *Fortnightly*, show the

Mafeking postmark dated April 27th, whereas the second type since to hand is dated April 23rd. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., in reply to an enquiry by Mr. Turner write:—

"The first variety (dated April 27th) we think have all come from Mr. Shelvoke, of Plein Street, Cape Town. We do not know the source of the second type, but it is possible they are made in London."

ADDITIONAL FORGERIES TO HAND!

It is, unfortunately, no longer possible to say that only the "surcharged-on-Cape" Mafekings have been imitated. Under date August 28th, Mr. Alfred W. Bates, of Norwood, sends us quite a sheaf of other forgeries, all on what purport to be "original envelopes." We shall describe each envelope and the stamp it bears:—

No. 1 (one stamp): 6d. on 3d. Cape; postmarked "Mafeking, Feb. 12," with another postmark on the back of envelope—"Bulawayo, 15 Jan." Thus this wonderful letter reached its destination nearly a month before it started on its journey!

No. 2 (four stamps): 3d. on 1d. Cape; 6d. on 3d. Cape; 6d. on 3d. "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and 1/- on 4d. ditto. It will be sufficient comment on this envelope to note that the overprint "Bechuanaland Protectorate" is forged as well as the Mafeking surcharge!

No. 3 (two stamps): 6d. on 3d. and 1/- on 6d. "Bechuanaland Protectorate." Here again the Bechuanaland overprint is forged.

No. 4 (five stamps): 1d. on 4d. (both old and new types) and 1/- on 3d. Cape; 3d. on 1d. and 1d. on 4d. "Bechuanaland Protectorate."

In short, all the twelve stamps on the four envelopes are bad, and these, with the postmarks and the general fakery employed, represent a vast amount of nefarious labour. Mr. Bates writes as follows regarding the envelopes:—

They were bought early in June of this year in Cape Town from some Germans who were not regular stamp dealers. The purchaser was put off his guard by the original envelopes postmarked between 2nd November and 30th March.

The First Sale of the Season.

HIGH PRICES FOR MAFEKING AND OTHER SOUTH AFRICAN STAMPS.

ON Tuesday, August 21st, at his auction rooms in King Street, Covent Garden, Mr. J. C. Stevens held a sale of War Relics, including stamps, coins, and the Mafeking monkey. The latter creature, while the sale was in progress, was perched on a shelf in the auction room placidly chewing the half of a vegetable marrow; and while Baden-Powell's stamps were being knocked down at tall prices an individual present—needless to say, not a philatelist—remarked that the ape was by no means the least intelligent biped present.

The stamp lots at the sale were few in number, but of good quality. A complete set of the "Mafeking Besieged" stamps, including the rare 6d. Bechuanaland, produced a first bid of 10 guineas. From this the advances were at 5 guinea intervals, until 30 guineas was reached, and finally the lot was knocked down to a city dealer for 38 guineas. A similar set, comprising the same 19 stamps, realised exactly the same figure. For 16 various Mafeking stamps and a couple of Baden-Powell bank notes, 26 guineas was paid. For 18 of the small blue Baden-Powell stamps, 15 guineas. For seven stamps, including four "Mafekings," £5. For six envelopes containing 14 various stamps (mostly "Mafekings") 12½ guineas. For four Orange Free State "Commando" stamps £2 10s.

The purchase of Mons. Moens' philatelic library gives Mr. H. E. Deats, of Flemington, N.J., the biggest accumulation of philatelic literature in the world. This gentleman has 1800 bound volumes, and as many more ready to bind. Prodigious!

TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

WE are indebted to Messrs. Green & Simpson, of St. Helier's, for two cuttings from the "Evening Post,"

of that town, dated August 18th, giving full details of the arrest of one Charles Waterman, alias J. W. Bellingham, who was charged with and convicted of stealing from a local philatelist some £7 worth of stamps, and for some occult reason dismissed with a caution.

We reprint in full the first of the two extracts sent us. This, under the heading of "Clever Capture of an Impudent Thief," gives a full summary of the case from start to finish.

On Thursday last a young Englishman, apparently about 30 years of age, respectably dressed in a brown suit with cut-away coat, and speaking like a man of some education, entered the office of Mr. W. G. Ward, the well-known stamp collector, and after complimenting him upon the reputation he had in the philatelist world, &c., asked permission to view his collection for the purpose of transacting business. This permission was given him, and after a short time my lord disappeared, promising to call again, giving an address on the Esplanade. Yesterday morning when Mr. Ward went carefully over his collection, he missed stamps to the value of about £7, and knowing that his collection had not been entrusted into any other hands for inspection than those of the gentleman of the brown coat, his suspicions at once fell upon him. On going to the address given on the Esplanade, however, he found it was a fictitious one. Mr. Ward therefore concluded that the thief had decamped by yesterday's boat. But, to his surprise the man turned up again about four o'clock yesterday afternoon, and made certain proposals concerning stamps to the value of about £20 being sent to a firm in England on approval. Whilst conversation concerning this business was going on, Centier A. J. Le Quesne had been communicated with, and was quickly on the spot, though before his arrival the man had insisted upon leaving Mr. Ward's office, after having promised to keep a further appointment. At the same time he did not leave without being "shadowed." His peripatations were not far. A saunter up King-street, a look into one or two shops and a final settlement in the establishment of Mr. Cutler, silversmith, Queen-street, brought the journey to an end. At this latter establishment he was accosted by Centier Le Quesne. An adjournment was then made to Mr. Ward's office, Don-street, when the culprit must have suffered a bad five minutes, under Mr. Le Quesne's rigorous and clever cross-examination. Ten minutes later found him in the guard room, and although he had strictly upheld his innocence all the time, the sight of where he was and that things were in real earnest made him confess to the theft, and tell where the stolen stamps were to be had, namely in a pocket-book in rooms he had taken in Roseville-street. This proved true, and the stamps were recovered. Meanwhile, as will be seen from our police report of today, the man was charged before Judge Vaudin. Mr. Ward, however, did not press the charge on condition that he received back his stamps, and the prisoner was discharged with a caution.

Now, as regards the hearing of the case itself, of which it is unnecessary to give a full report here, the first thing to strike one as remarkable is the fact that the magistrate in reply to the defence of Advocate Le Maistre, said that it was clearly impossible for him to apply the First Offenders Act, as the extent of the theft was considerable. Thereupon Mr. Ward himself, the prosecutor, expressed regret that accused should stand in his present position, and as there was ample evidence of his previous respectability, he would like if he had his stamps returned to him to be allowed to withdraw the charge. Then the magistrate expressed his regret, and declared that in view of the prisoner's past good character, he would liberate him with a caution.

Whether there is any special law in force in the Channel Islands permitting a magistrate to liberate a man with a caution after having declined to put the First Offenders Act

in motion, we cannot say, but Messrs. Green and Simpson in a letter to us on the subject naturally express surprise at this extraordinary action.

"Of course," our correspondent adds, "we understand that the thief cannot be recharged, but at the same time we trust other philatelists may not be victimised in the same way as our friend Mr. Ward."

We only wish we could add to the description given of him (Waterman) but all we can gather is that he is about 5ft. 9in. in height and somewhat delicate looking.

As a matter of fact Mr. Green of Green & Simpson applied for a description of the man at the St. Helier's Police Court on the morning of the 20th, and was told by the Centenier, A. J. Le Quesne that it was none of his business, and he had no right to ask for the information, as the man had been liberated.

* * *

A reader in South Africa adds to our knowledge of the Orange River "V.R.I.'s." He writes:—

Referring to your note in the issue of July 7th, as to the "surieties" of the overprinted stamps of the Orange Free State (V.R.I.) you are in error in stating the thick V appears *once* in a sheet of the ½d. and 1d. I have found them *three* times in a *pane* of 60 stamps and *broken* letters (if one is to notice such things) occur frequently. This not only applies to the V but I have before me examples of broken R's, I's and d's, and the value of the 3 penny without the dot in the lower curl of the figure. "Fat" stops and thin stops are to be found in all the values and so far I have found the 1d., ½d. and 3d. all dotless. The 2½d. I have also without the line between the ½d. and the 1/- and the stop considerably above the foot of the "s" of value. By the way the shilling value is the only one which is given a stop after the figure of denomination, whilst the 2½d. lacks the d.

From what I have seen of the Transvaal surcharges I should say these would give the "discoverers" lots of work in the same way.

* * *

From a Darlington reader, by the way, comes another note on the same subject:—"I have received on a letter from S. Africa (writes this gentleman) a pair of Orange Free State ½d. stamps, surcharged V.R.I. (undivided), one of which has the dots level with the bottom of the letters V.R.I., while the other has the dots higher up—thus: V·R·I" It is curious—very.

Notes on New Issues.

China (Japanese).—The black surcharge applied to Japanese stamps for use in China now figures on the Japanese Imperial Wedding stamp. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a specimen. The surcharge is at the foot of the stamp as on the normal Japanese adhesives.

Federated Malay States.—In addition to the existing values, the following have been shown us by Messrs. G. Haughton-Smith & Co.—50c. surcharged on Negri Sembilan, black and green; \$1 and \$2, Perak Stamps; also 1c. on 2c.; 1c. on 4c. and 1c. on 5c. Perak. We understand that the whole of these issues will be shortly replaced by other permanent stamps.

Guatemala.—We are indebted to the same firm for the following 1000 Guatemalans in new colours:—1 centavo, dark green; 2c., rose; 5c., blue; 6c., light green; and 10c., brown.

India (China Expeditionary Force).—We are indebted to Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Birmingham, for a specimen of the current ½ anna green, surcharged in black block capitals: "C.E.F.," meaning "Chinese Expeditionary Force." Mr. Wilson has also the 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 8, and 12 anna and 1 rupee stamps similarly surcharged.

Las Bela.—We have a new ¼ anna stamp from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. Black printing on blue paper. Design unaltered.

Straits Settlements.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 5 cents stamp in its new colour—puce.

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" 4p. dull lilac	13	0	Belgium, 1849, 10c. brown	40	0
" 6p. emerald green	13	0	" 10c. blue	36	0
" 6p. yellow green	13	0	Bolivia, 1867, 500 centavos	38	0
" 1sh. bright purple	18	0	Brazil, 1843, 30r.	15	0
" 1sh. red lilac	36	0	" 60r.	12	0
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Concerning Exchange Clubs.

The letter on "Exchange Clubs," from Mr. W. A. Jutsum, of Cardiff, printed in the last *Fortnightly*, has brought us a fair number of letters from philatelists in various parts of the country. From these we select for publication three representative communications from Mr. A. Preston Pearce, Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., and Mr. John Johnston respectively. We specially invited the views of Club Secretaries on the points raised, and are glad to have such a ready response to our appeal:

MR. A. PRESTON PEARCE

is well known as Hon. Secretary of the Fiscal Stamp Exchange Club, and as Editor of "Morley's Philatelic Journal." His letter raises points as to the primary purpose of an Exchange Club, &c., that are in danger of being overlooked:—

Without attempting to excuse the malpractices of which your correspondent complains, I venture to think that in the majority of cases the scales of justice would show a decided list in favour of the much harassed Secretary. Your remark that he is often between the devil and the deep sea is only too true, and this being so the fact should be allowed to cover many apparent sins of omission.

If there be good reason for considering that the Secretary of any particular Club is not conducting it in a proper manner, it is open to any member to circularize the others, with a view to combined resignation and forced settlement of accounts, and I suggest this plan to Mr. Jutsum.

I seize the opportunity of entering a mild protest against the diversion of *Exchange Clubs* from their more legitimate field of operations. If a man wants to sell stamps, the auction room, the private treaty system of some of the London Auctioneers, and the advertisement columns of our journals are available for the purpose, and if he does not find the system of submitting his wares on approval to a large number of collectors through the medium of Club packets a satisfactory one, it is largely due to the fact that he is making an improper use of the medium, and, consequently, he does not deserve very much sympathy. An experience extending over several years enables me to state that pretty nearly all the friction is caused by the "amateur dealer," the collector being usually content to leave his occasional credit balance in the hands of the Secretary, or to wait until the debit balances have been paid.

It, of course, goes without saying that if members whose balances are debtor would pay their debts promptly, much delay and unpleasantness would be avoided, and it is here that the real difficulty presents itself. Unfortunately, the greatest sinners are often the largest buyers, and, therefore, may not be treated in quite the same way as less desirable connections, and where, as in my own Club, the majority of the members have established the most cordial relations with their Secretary, it makes it doubly hard for that individual to act with strictness.

One suggestion that might be tendered to collectors about to join Exchange Clubs is that of requiring references from the secretary to one or two of the oldest members. These might very reasonably be demanded, and would doubtless be cheerfully given by those who had nothing to fear.

MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A.,

Hon. Secretary of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, writes us as follows:—

The suggestion made in your issue of Aug. 18th, that people should judge of an exchange club by the monthly report of the Society would certainly lead those, who are really in need of advice, into still further trouble.

Accounts are due now, and have been for years past, from two philatelic auctioneers who have been regularly advertising until quite recently "prompt returns, etc., etc., while their accounts were years over due, but who managed to get stuff from foreigners on the strength of their adverts. Luckily for philately both have "ceased" and may they never be allowed to start again.

It is just the same with the most unsatisfactory of our exchange clubs. They are those which most regularly advertise "accounts settled promptly."

I frequently remind the Secretaries of some of them, especially on behalf of our foreign members who have been trapped through not having taken the trouble to make enquiries. With collectors in the British Isles less sympathy is needed. Enquiries are much more easily made and there is no necessity to stay in if the first few months are unsatisfactory but in most cases the only reason people join at all is the fact that membership is free or nearly so. They pay another way and actually complain! They would laugh at anyone else who tried to get work done for nothing and were duped!

The suggestion that no Club should have a membership of more than 30 in one section seems to me ridiculous. Very few have more than 30, for well-known reasons, but *when you can get them*, 60 in each section is far more satisfactory to buyer and seller. Of course, the circulation takes rather longer, but members do not mind that if sales are proportionately larger, and they know when they are going to get their sheets and cash. What is annoying is the fact that members know that the circulation in these Societies can be completed in a month, owing to the small number of members, and yet their sheets are kept very many months afterwards if anything is owing on them—while they might be profitably used elsewhere.

There is certainly need for something to be done to clear out these worthless Societies, but the judges appointed to decide who they are must not be the delinquents themselves.

MR. JOHN JOHNSTON,

of New Deer, Aberdeenshire—himself a Club Secretary—confirms many of the counts of Mr. Jutsum's indictment, and makes a few suggestions:—

I was very much pleased to see Mr. Jutsum's letter in your last issue, *re* Stamp Exchange Clubs and their management. Writing as a member of several Stamp Exchanges, I can quite endorse what Mr. Jutsum says, as I have sheets sent out ten months ago not yet returned; and several others have been out six and seven months. Where such long delays occur, there must be a screw loose somewhere; either the members delay the packet during transit beyond all reasonable time, or else the secretary must lay the packet aside on its return from circuit, and only return sheets and pay off cash due to members at his own convenience! Secretaries of this kind ought to be set aside altogether. At the same time, I think secretaries ought in all fairness to be allowed a given time, before being called upon to settle up according. Two days at least should be allowed for making out accounts and sending to those who may owe

the Club money; then it is usual to allow these members seven to ten days after receiving notice to forward the sums due, then, say at the end of the fourteen days after return of packet, let the secretary be bound to return all sheets and pay all amounts due to the club members. The sheets of members who may have failed to settle at the proper time ought to be retained until such time as their accounts are settled. Some members foolishly expect that secretaries ought to make payment to members immediately on the return of the packet, but many secretaries may not be in a position to do so; neither do I consider it fair to expect them to draw on their own private means for this purpose. My own experience as secretary of the Caledonia Exchange Club, is, that many members are to blame themselves for delay, and this arises not so much in detaining the packet during transit (although this is occasionally done) as by carelessness in not paying adverse balances within the time allowed and some of my greatest offenders in this respect I have found to be Club Secretaries, who ought to know by their own experience how awkward it is not to settle when they ought to. I have often had to draw upon my own resources to enable me to pay members at the proper time. I for one would not only be willing, but pleased to forward a report for publication when each month's accounts were settled. I think as you suggest, if club secretaries and also ordinary members would take up this matter in earnest some good might result.

We hope to be able to publish further letters on this subject in the next number of the *Fortnightly*.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

EXHIBITION.

THE above Society held an Exhibition on Saturday, 26th May, at the Old Court Studio, Town Hall Building, Swanston Street, Melbourne—as reported fully in the last *Fortnightly*—to celebrate the Jubilee of the issue of stamps in Victoria. It proved a great success. The attendance at the Exhibition numbered over 1000 in the one afternoon and evening. This is the Second Exhibition held in Victoria, and by the Society, the first being on 15th September, 1894, and as on the former occasion the show was open for the one afternoon and evening only. A full list of exhibits was given in the last number of the *Fortnightly*.

Assistance was given to the Exhibition by the Hon. Postmaster General, who granted his patronage, and also allowed five frames from the department to be exhibited. They contained statistics and photos of the post offices of Melbourne, Bendigo, Ballarat, Geelong and other Cities and Towns in the Colonies, and contained present and obsolete stamps valued to the face value of £2071.

The members of the Society were pleased with the success, and at the last meeting a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. D. S. Abraham, the Hon. Secretary of the Society, for the able manner he had carried out the details of the Exhibition, and also to Messrs. J. Davis, F. A. Jackson and Cr. H. Weedon, for the assistance they had given to bring about the result achieved.

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.



First Sale of the
Season.
SEPTEMBER 18.

Write now for a Catalogue!

63/4, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents.

The opening Sales next season will be held in the ARBITRATION ROOM, on **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th, and following day**, commencing at **5 o'clock** exactly. These Sales will principally consist of a fine Private Collection, to be sold entirely without reserve. The lots will include, among other rarities too numerous to mention, **Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock Triangular errors, 1d. blue and 4d. red.**

Other Sales will take place bi-monthly, and Philatelists having Entire Collections or Loose Stamps to dispose of should make immediate arrangements if inclusion is desired in early auctions. As MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & Co. are the only firm of Auctioneers confining their whole attention to the Sale of Stamps on Commission, and do not deal or even collect on their own account, the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious. Commission on lots sold, **10%**. $\frac{1}{6}$ per lot (irrespective of value) being charged on unsold lots

— CASH ADVANCES AND VALUATIONS MADE. —

Settlements usually in **eight days**, at the very latest within **14 days** from date of Sale. Bids from buyers unable to attend the sales personally executed without charge and at prices as much below limits as possible.

— CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION. —

MARSCHALL ISLANDS.

FIRST ISSUE.

The values of **3, 5, 10, 25 and 50 pfennig** have arrived on Entire Envelopes, in fine condition, lightly cancelled, and intending Purchasers should at once communicate with me for these varieties.

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KAROLINEN & SAMOA, also MARSCHALL ISLAND,

2nd Issue, used and unused. . . .

Mariannens can only be had at present unused.

PHILIPP KOSACK, Berlin, C, 8, Burgstrasse.

OPPOSITE THE ROYAL PALACE.

Telephone V. No. 2157.

Telegraph Address "Markenkosack."

CORRESPONDENCE—German, English, French, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 144—Vol. VI

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO., Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers, 10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "PHILATELIC, LONDON."

TELEPHONE No. 5596 AVENUE.

The following **Approval Books** have just been made up:

GREAT BRITAIN	3 Vols.	BELGIUM	2 Vols.
PERSIA AND CHINA	1 ..	SWEDEN	1 ..
SEYCHELLES AND St. HELENA	1 ..	SWITZERLAND	2 ..
LUXEMBURG	2 ..	AUSTRIA	2 ..
ITALIAN STATES	4 ..	BAVARIA	1 ..
BADEN	1 ..	ORANGE FREE STATE AND CHINA	1 ..
PERSIA	1 ..	TRANSVAAL	2 ..

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:

ALL UNUSED AND VERY FINE.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Lubeck, the Error, 2½ schilling	1	17	6	Belgium, 1881, 5fes. dark brown, mint	1	2	0
Oldenburg, 1853, ¼ groschen	6	0	0	Bolivia, 1867, 500 centavos, 9 stars	2	5	0
Brunswick, 1865, ¼ gros., roul., mint	1	15	0	Antioquia, 1868, 1 peso	3	7	6
Wurtemberg, 1873, 70kr.	3	3	0	France, 1859, unpaid, 10c. lithographed	2	0	0
" 1875, 2mks., yellow, mint	7	0	0	Baden, 1854, 3kr. blue	1	16	0
" 1875, 2mks., orange, mint	7	0	0	Bavaria, 1870, 12kr., mint	1	7	0
Great Britain, 1d. V.R.	8	10	0	Hanover, 1856, 3pt. grey net	1	12	0
Spain, 1852, 3 quartos, Madrid	15	0	0	Oldenburg, 1853, 2 groschen	4	10	0
Servia, 1868, 2 paras, error	11	10	0	Sandwich Islands, 1862, 2c. litho., horizontally, laid paper	1	7	0
Hongkong, 1875	3	0	0	Dutch Indies, 1874, 5c.	1	7	0
U. S., 2 dollars, State	3	3	0	Roman States, 50 baj.	1	4	0
Tasmania, 1870/71, 4d. blue	2	15	0	Monaco, 1885, 5 francs	1	10	0
Saxony, 1851, 2 ngr., dark blue	3	10	0	Azores, 1868, 100 reis, imperf.	1	5	0
Brazil, 1844, 180 reis	2	5	0	Madeira, 1868, 100 reis, imperf.	1	5	0
" " 300 "	3	8	0	" 1868/70, 240 reis	1	12	0

CORRESPONDENCE in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

Mention this paper.

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 ensuing Season will be as under:—

1900.—September 20th and 21st; October 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; November 8th, 22nd and 23rd; December 6th and 7th.

1901.—January 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th, 31st; February 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th; March 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th and 29th; April 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; May 9th and 10th, 30th and 31st, and June 13th and 14th.

September 20th and 21st.—Messrs. V. B. & C. have received instructions to sell on these dates a very fine Private Collection of British Colonials, mostly unused, in blocks and pairs, and containing the following rarities:—Ceylon, 4d., 9d., and 1/9, imperf., star perf., 4d., 1/9 and 2/-, unused, rare provisionals, &c.; India, fine unused blocks of the rarer issues; Gibraltar complete; B.E.A. on Coy.'s stamps complete; Cape, woodblocks, 1d. red, unused, 2 shades, 1d. red, very fine, and others; Gold Coast, 1d. blue, C.A. unused; Mauritius, Post Pairs, 1d. early impressions, fine pairs, 2d. blue, error penoe, very fine, 1d. later state, unused, no wmk., 1/- blue, fine unused blocks, etc.; rare unused Natal; Zululand complete; Newfoundland, a fine lot, including 1/- vermilion, unused; Nova Scotia, 1/-, fine shades; New Brunswick, 1/-, fine and Connell unused; a superb lot of West Indies, including Nevis nearly complete, also unused sheets of 1d. perf 1 1/2, and 2 shades of 1/- lithographed, 6d. lithographed, unused and used; C.A., 6d. green, unused, etc., Montserrat, Jamaica, St. Christopher, St. Lucia, Tobago, complete and fine; St. Vincent, the rare provisionals and 5/- wmk. star; Turks Island, 1/- prune, scarce provisionals; a fine lot of Virgin Islands, including a sheet of 1st issue 6d. rose, and many others.

October 11th and 12th.—By order of the High Court of Bombay, and others. A very fine selection of British, Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps, including rare Transvaals, Orange Free States, Indian Native States, etc.

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.

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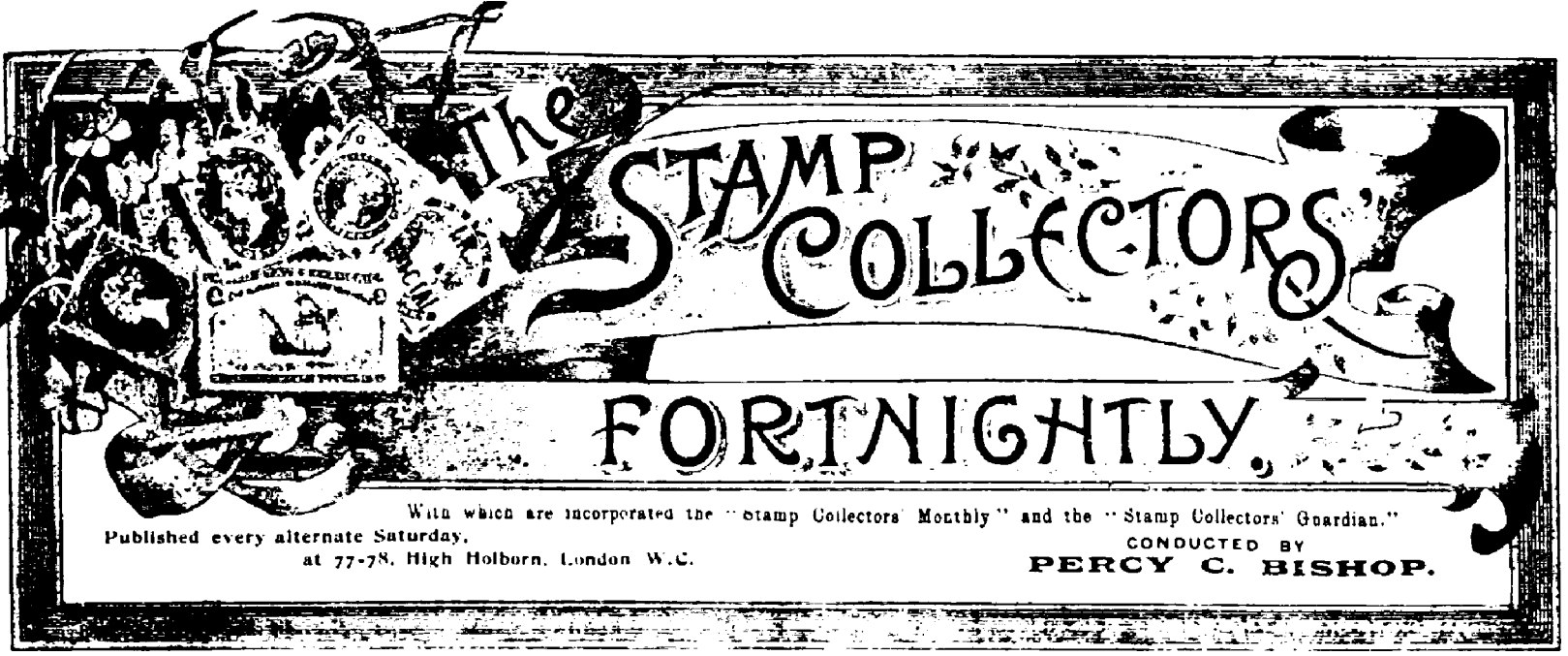
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CONDUCTED BY
PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Rochdale Philatelic Society, the Cambridge University Philatelic Society,
the County of Stafford Exchange Society, and the Central Philatelic Club.

No. 144.—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

STOLEN FROM LONDON DEALERS.

THREE weeks ago, Mr. R. A. Matthews in Aldersgate Street lost a book of stamps, containing a quantity of rarities valued at about £6. Among the missing stamps were some Dominican Republic, 1895, imperf., 1, 2, 5 and 10 cents, some in pairs.

We now hear from Messrs. Bright & Son that they have also been robbed of a valuable book of German stamps valued at £200, containing amongst the principal stamps Oldenburg, 1855, 1/3 green, unused, with very large margins; ditto 2c, rose, unused, very large margins; Prussia, 1s. gr. rose, plain ground, unused; also the rare octagonal envelope cut square and used; Schleswig, 3sch. carmine, in blocks; Schleswig Holstein, 1/2sch. rose, in blocks.

UNCLE SAM'S IMPERIAL POSTAL UNION.

AMERICA, now that it possesses an Empire of its own, has unhesitatingly placed all its Colonies—the Sandwich Islands, Porto Rico, the Island of Guam, and the Philippines—on the same postal basis as the States of the Union. In fact we take it that it will be as cheap to mail a letter from New York to Honolulu as from New York to Buffalo.

As regards Cuba no change has been made, that island being still for postal purposes, as much a foreign country as any other member of the Postal Union.

"VARIETIES OF AUSTRALIAN STAMPS."

REGARDING the short article under this head in our issue of August 18th, Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen writes us:—"In addition to your list I have the N.S.W. 9d. on 10d. red-brown, perf. 11½x12, on chalky paper. This was only

received by the last mail. The £1 ultramarine I received were 11x12, whereas Gibbons only prices perf. 11."

ANOTHER SALE OF MAFEKING STAMPS.

THERE was a very good attendance, including many well-known collectors and dealers, at Mr. J. C. Stevens sale of Mafeking stamps, etc., held in King Street, Covent Garden, on Tuesday, 11th September. The stamps alone realised altogether about £350. Amongst the most notable prices were the following:

	£	s.	d.
A set of 17 Mafeking Besieged	21	0	0
Three-Baden Powell (larger head)	8	5	0
Eight various Mafeking	6	10	0
Twenty-one Mafekings, including 1 Bechuanaland Protectorate used in Mafeking without surcharge	33	12	0
One Baden-Powell bicycle and one ditto, small head used	2	5	0
One large "Baden-Powell" unused	4	4	0
Five Mafekings used on original envelopes	7	17	6
Fourteen Mafekings used on envelope	13	13	0
Set of O.F.S. surcharged V.R.L., used on original envelopes, 1/2d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 3d., 6d., 1- and 5-	1	15	0
Ditto another set, unused, 1/2d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 3d., 6d., 1- and 5-	1	10	0
Ditto block of 12 1- unused	2	0	0
B.S.A., £1, £2, £5 and £10, used	8	8	0
Mafeking Besieged, 3d. on 1d., used on original envelope	1	12	0
Baden-Powell 2 bicycle stamps and 1 small head, used	3	10	0
Transvaal, V.R.L., set 1/2d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 3d., and 6d., used on original envelopes	1	6	0
Mafeking Besieged, 1d. and 3d. on Cape, 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d. and 1- on Bechuanaland and British Bech. One small Baden-Powell head and one bicycle and 7 others, unused	32	11	0
Mafeking Besieged, 16 various, used, and 4 1- notes	30	0	0
O.F.S., 4 Commando stamps	3	0	0
Baden-Powell 1d. bicycle stamp, unused	1	0	0
" " 3d.	1	6	0
Another, used	1	4	0
Mafeking Besieged, 11 all different, used on pieces of original envelopes	9	0	0
Baden-Powell 4 bicycle and 4 head and 1 Brit. Bech., 6d. on 3d. on original envelopes	7	17	6
Four original envelopes caricatured at Mafeking with Cape of Good Hope stamps on	3	0	0

Status of Mafeking Stamps.

VIEWS FOR AND AGAINST—Is THE 3D. "BADEN-POWELL" A LOCAL?—AN OFFICIAL LETTER.

"YOUR contemporary 'Stamps' (writes a correspondent) talks—not to put too fine a point upon it—the most utter bosh regarding Mafeking Stamps. The writer is evidently strongly prejudiced against the stamps (would evidently like to buy cheaply) but except what he learned from Gibbons' account of their interview with Mr. Ross, he seems to know nothing of the stamps.

"The native runners were paid by the P.O. authorities, who were of course directly under General Baden-Powell's control. As much as £25 was paid them, perhaps for a most urgent and important message to Plumer; but for an ordinary packet of letters, which were certainly not secreted in any one's heels, a very small sum would be paid to the native runner. I didn't before know, by the way, that native runners wore boots!!!

"Mr. Ross clearly misinformed Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, as regards the so-called 'Locals,' for it was the 1d. Bicycle stamp only that was for local use, and not the 3d. value. *Local Post* is printed on the 1d., and *Postage* on the 3d. I have the latter on a letter to England, in which it goes to help make up the postage, and on Thursday I saw a block of four 3d. Baden Powell's used on the envelope and sent from Mafeking (Cape Colony) to Buluwayo (Rhodesia). The owner has two other similar envelopes. I know a lady who has a 3d. 'B.P.' on an envelope sent from Mafeking to England, and also a man who also received one on a letter.

"It therefore becomes quite obvious that the 3d. stamp, with head of Baden-Powell, was an ordinary issue, and not a Local at all."

"On page 16 of 'Stamps,' at the top of the page, it is stated that:—

The remainders at the time of the relief appear to have been distributed and are now offered for sale. Query. What are these? Curios or stamps?

"Ridiculous!

"Re the unused stamps: Nearly all the unused Mafekings, about a dozen in all, had really been used on letters, but had missed the postmark. But I have no doubt that a few unused were obtained surreptitiously from the clerks of the Post Office during the siege. If you or I had been in the Post Office during the siege, I have little doubt we should have managed somehow to reserve a few unused for ourselves—paying face value for them, of course."

"ALL SOLD PRIOR TO THE RELIEF!"

Mr. J. R. F. Turner has kindly handed us this letter for publication. It is a reply to an application by him for a supply of the Mafeking stamps:— (*The italics are ours.*)

General Post Office, Cape Town, 18th July, 1900.

SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 28th April, addressed to the Postmaster of Mafeking, and requesting to be supplied with some of the stamps used at Mafeking during the siege, I regret to say I am unable to comply with your wish in this respect, *the whole of the stock of the stamps in question having been sold at Mafeking prior to the relief of the town.* I am, therefore, returning herewith the enclosure which accompanied your letter.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

Mr. J. R. F. Turner. J. W. FRENCH, Postmaster-General.

SAYS a writer in the Wolverhampton "Express and Star":

"The Mafeking stamps will, it is considered, always have historical interest, and will, therefore, carry a permanent monetary value. The ways of philatelists, it is true, are not always clear. The most valuable stamps are not always the rarest. A new fashion may come in at any moment. Purchasers with £39 18s. to spare for a few stamps may grow rarer than the sets in the market. Philately, even, may give way to a new craze. For the present, however, the owner of Mafeking stamps appears to have a valuable and improving property."

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.

CEYLON.

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1872. "Cents" issue; wmk. crown and CC.; perf. 14.				
2c. brown	1/4	1/2	1/1
4c. grey	1/6	1/4	1/1
4c. lilac rose	5/	3/	1/2
8c. orange yellow	1/3	1/9	1/2
8c. yellow	1/	1/8	1/2
16c. lilac	7/6	5/	1/3
24c. green	3/	2/	1/3
32c. slate	21/	14/	1/6
36c. blue	20/	13/	1/6
48c. carmine	10/6	6/6	1/
64c. red-brown	22/6	15/	4/
96c. drab.	15/	10/6	2/
<i>The same perforated 14 by 12½.</i>				
2c. brown	5/	2/6
4c. grey	3/6	2/
8c. orange-yellow	5/	3/
2r. 50c. lilac rose	110/	70/	75/
<i>Perforated 12½:</i>				
2c. brown	35/	22/6
4c. grey	30/	20/
2r. 50c. lilac-rose	250/	..	..
1882. Surcharged as Gibbons' Type 17 in black; perf. 14.				
16c. on 24c. green	1/6	1/	1/9
20c. on 64c. red-brown	1/6	1/	1/9
1883. Wmk. Crown and CA.; perf. 14.				
2c. brown	1/9	1/6	1/2
2c. green	1/	1/	1/1
4c. lilac-rose	1/9	1/6	1/2
4c. rose	1/6	1/4	1/4
8c. orange-yellow	1/6	1/4	1/2
16c. lilac	250/	130/	25/
24c. purple-brown	300/	..	..
1888. Various surcharges in words in black; Wmk. Crown and CC.; perf. 14.				
5c. on 24c. green (Gibbons' Type 18)	16/6	11/6
5c. on 32c. slate	7/6	5/	1/9
5c. on 36c. blue	10/6	7/	1/9
5c. on 48c. carmine	35/	25/	7/6
5c. on 64c. red-brown	35/	25/	1/
5c. on 96c. drab	12/6
10c. on 16c. lilac (Gibbons' Type 19)	35/	25/
10c. on 24c. green	75/	50/	15/
10c. on 36c. blue	40/	27/6	25/
10c. on 64c. red-brown	20/	15/	15/
20c. on 24c. green	4/	3/	3/
20c. on 32c. slate (Gibbons' Type 20)	..	3/6	2/3	2/6
25c. on 32c.	3/	2/	1/3
28c. on 48c. carmine	10/6	6/6	2/6

CEYLON—Continued.	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
30c. on 36c. blue (Gibbons' Type 19)	3/	2/	2/6	1/6
56c. on 96c. drab ..	4	2/6	3/	2/
Perforated 12½ :				
1 rupee 12c., on 2r. 50c. lilac-rose (Gibbons' Type 21)..	60/	40/	7/6	4/
Perforated 14 × 12½ :				
5c. on 32c. slate (Gibbons' Type 18)	60/		3/	2/
5c. on 64c. red-brown ..	25/		2/6	1/6
10c. on 64c. .. (Gibbons' Type 19)	5/		7/6	5/6
Perforated 12½ × 14 :				
1r. 12c. on 2r. 50c., (Gibbons' Type 21)	4/		3/6	2/6
Wmk. Crown and CA.; perforated 14 :				
5c. on 4c. lilac-rose (Gibbons' Type 18)	40/			
5c. on 4c. rose ..	1/4		1/3	
5c. on 8c. orange-yellow ..	21	14/	1/9	1/6
5c. on 16c. lilac ..	15/	10/6	2/	1/3
5c. on 24c. purple-brown ..			50/	30/
10c. on 24c. purple-brn. (Gib. Type 19)	2/6		2/6	1/6
15c. on 16c. lilac ..	2/	1/3	1/	1/8
5c. on 8c. lilac (Gibbons' Type 22) ..	1/2		1/	
10c. on 24c., purple-brown (Gibbons' Type 23) ..	1/		1/9	1/6
15c. on 16c. orange-yellow (Gibbons' Type 23) ..	2/6		1/9	1/6
28c. on 32c. slate (Gibbons' Type 23)	1/3		1/6	1/4
30c. on 36c. olive-green (Gibbons' Type 23) ..	3		2/	1/3
56c. on 96c. drab (Gibbons' Type 23)	4/6		1/6	1/
Watermark CC. :				
1r. 12c. on 2r. 50c. lilac-rose (Gibbons' Type 24) ..	5/6		5/6	3/6
1886. Wmk. CA.; perf. 14.				
5c. lilac ..	1/2		1/1	
15c. sage-green ..	1/5		1/1	
15c. olive-green ..	1/4		1/1	
25c. buff ..	1/6		1/1	
28c. slate ..	1/8		1/2	
1r. 12c. lilac-rose (wmk. CC.) ..	4/		2/	1/3
1888. Various, surcharged in black.				
2c. on 4c. lilac-rose (Gibbons' Type 28)	1/2		1/1	
2c. on 4c. rose ..	1/1		1/2	
2c. on 4c. lilac-rose (Gibbons' Type 29)	1/2		1/2	
2c. on 4c. rose ..	1/6		1/2	
2c. on 4c. lilac-rose (Gibbons' Type 30)	15/		1/2	
2c. on 4c. rose ..	1/3		1/2	
2c. on 4c. lilac-rose (Gibbons' Type 31)	30/		40/	25/
2c. on 4c. rose ..	1/2		1/2	
2c. on 4c. rose (Gibbons' Type 32)	1/4		1/2	
5c. on 15c. olive (Gibbons' Type 33)	1/9		1/3	
1891.				
13c. on 25c. buff (Gibbons' Type 36)	1/6		1/3	1/9
15c. on 28c. slate ..	3/		2/	1/3
3c. on 4c. lilac-rose (Gibbons' Type 37)	1/3		1/3	
3c. on 4c. rose ..	1/4		1/4	
3c. on 28c. slate ..	1/9		1/6	
1893. Wmk. Crown and CA.; perf. 14.				
3c. brown and green ..	1/1		1/1	
4c. carmine ..	1/4		1/4	
30c. lilac and red ..	1/8		1/2	
2r. 50c. purple and red ..	5/		7/6	
1898. Surcharged with Gibbons' Type 39 in black.				
6c. on 15c. sage green ..	1/3		1/1	
1899. Wmk. CC., surcharged as Gibbons' Type 40 in black.				
1r. 50c. slate ..	3/3			
2r. 50c. yellow ..	4/6			
Wmk. CA.; perf. 14.				
2c. red-brown ..	1/1		1/1	
2c. dark green ..	1/1		1/1	
4c. yellow ..	1/2		1/2	
5c. bright blue ..	1/2		1/2	
6c. rose and black ..	1/2		1/2	
12c. green and rose ..	1/3		1/3	
75c. black and red-brown ..	1/3		1/3	

CEYLON—Continued.	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1r. 50c. rose (wmk. CC.) ..	2/6			
2r. 25c. dull blue (wmk. CC.) ..	3/6			

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

1895. Surcharged with Gibbons' Type 53 in black.	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
2c. green ..	1/3		1/2	
3c. brown and green ..	1/4		1/3	
5c. lilac ..	1/4		1/1	
15c. sage-green ..	1/6		1/2	
25c. buff ..	1/9		1/4	
30c. lilac and red ..	1/1		1/3	
1r. 12c. red-brown ..	10/6		10/6	

1899. Surcharged in red.	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
75c. black and red-brown ..	3/6		2/6	

NOTE.—The set of pence varieties, surcharged "SERVICE," are worth about 55/- unused.

(To be continued).

One of the *Might-Have-Beens.*

THE STORY HOW MR. THEODOR BUHL DID NOT BUY THE GIBBONS' BUSINESS.

NO more interesting philatelic reminiscence has appeared in print than the story Mr. Theodor Buhl has just told in his "Recollections of Twenty Years' Stamp Dealing" in the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain." It is the story how he did not buy the business of Stanley Gibbons, and how Mr. Charles J. Phillips did.

"The history of the transaction," writes Mr. Buhl, "will probably interest the majority of my readers. It was in 1889 that I first suggested to Mr. E. S. Gibbons that he should sell his business. He had just completed his 'jubilee,' and was a successful man, anxious and able to retire. The result of our conversation was that Mr. Gibbons offered me the whole business, as it stood, for £20,000 cash. I spent two months or more taking a list of the stock and making a valuation. I climbed up ladders, examined and valued drawers upon drawers full of stamps, went through the books, and in fact I was there every afternoon, frequently taking tea or supper with Mr. Gibbons and the late Mrs. Gibbons, and often finishing the conversation at my club in Pall Mall.

"It was at this club that, having finished my labours, I offered Mr. Gibbons £18,000 for his business; all I could make it worth in those days. He asked me if I meant thereby to refuse the business at £20,000, and foolish I said "Yes." Mr. Gibbons thereupon replied that the price was now £25,000, and as it seemed impossible to deal at the figure I let the matter drop. I still have the original papers, including many in Mr. Gibbons' own handwriting giving lists of his takings and transactions since the foundation of the business. Mr. Charles J. Phillips, whom I had visited on more than one occasion at Edgbaston, was then employed in the Birmingham assay office, and no one had any idea that he would blossom forth as a London Stamp Dealer. My earliest recollections of Phillips are when he used to write to me for such things as 2s. 6d. packets of fiscals, which I presume he made up into packets for shops. Anyhow, he got hold of the business, although others, including a still very well-known philatelist, were endeavouring to obtain it for flotation as a limited company, and make me the Managing Director. It would be out of place to go into details of Mr. Phillips' arrangements with Mr. Gibbons, but it is to his credit that he obtained the business for flotation as a private limited liability company, without paying down any considerable sum of money, and that he has, after removing it from the old historical address, 8, Gower Street, made it one of the largest and most successful stamp-dealing concerns in the world."

"The regret is mine" adds Mr. Buhl in a somewhat cryptic conclusion to the article, "but I do not blame myself so much as I blame those against whom I had to contend at the time."

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 15, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

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Reminiscences of a Philatelist.

BY WALTER NATHAN.

(Continued from page 95).

MY first feeling on examining Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue in 1885 was of surprise at its increase of bulk; but on a closer examination this feeling of surprise was lost in my utter astonishment at the greatly increased prices asked for the various specimens.

The catalogue in question may be remembered by some readers as the paper-bound volume of quarto shape with the illustrations at the end of the letter-press. By the way, the style of catalogue issued now-a-days, and which was inaugurated, I believe, by Messrs. Senf, has one disadvantage in the smallness of the type it is necessary to employ. In copying the character of these productions from the German, our cataloguers would have done well to bear in mind that the proportion of persons wearing spectacles in Germany is far greater than in England!

Having obtained my catalogue I spent some time in vain regrets over the choice specimens which had passed out of my possession, and I felt that it would be a slow and difficult task to get together once again such a collection as I had formerly owned. However, beginning with my own country, I purchased a variety of the unused penny stamps, from the black of 1840 to the ones then current. Also I inserted a small advertisement in various papers offering to purchase obsolete unused English. The majority of the answers I received made offers of unused penny reds, intermingled with selections of used stamps, crests, autographs and various articles for which I had no use, and it is a curious and almost universal experience that if one advertises for any particular thing people are sure to write offering something altogether different.

My first purchase of any moment consisted of two sheets of twelve two-penny blue, Mulready envelopes for which I gave £7 which sum was returned to me for one of the sheets by the Scott Stamp and Coin Company, of New York. I was very much delighted in obtaining a sheet for my collection for nothing, and increased my advertisement. At that time when very few people were advertising to purchase stamps, and those who did so offered very small prices. I therefore had a quantity sent me for the majority of which reasonable sums were asked, being in many cases an advance of 50% on offers already received. At this rate I was quite content to purchase and among the best things I got at this time I may mention the following:—

A collection of 1500 varieties in a plain oblong morocco bound album, together with 1000 duplicates, for £15. The collection was nicely arranged and there was plenty of room in the album for a large number of stamps. I therefore took this album for my own use, and in addition to the convenience of having a start provided for the reception of the accumulation I had formed. The collection comprised the following scarce stamps:—A fine new specimen of the ½t. blue, Naples arms; a beautiful unused 3d. view of Sydney, with fine margins, with the emerald green shade; an unused 2d. laureated N.S.W., with stars in corners, and an unused 6d. brown of the same colony with a coarse background. These stamps alone make the collection appear a great bargain to-day, and it was a cheap lot at the time, but it must be borne in mind that the market price of the ½t. blue Naples was then about £3, while unused Australians of old issues, were not then appreciated at their full worth. The next collection I had offered to me was a very large one belonging to a gentleman who has since become very widely known among Philatelists. Its price was £1000, a sum larger than I cared to outlay at the time, but it was fully worth the money, and was subsequently purchased and laid the foundation of the business of a stamp dealer, who has successfully increased his transaction since that time. The next collection was one that had been sent to a well known firm for valuation, and each stamp was priced separately and offered to me at 33% discount. From this collection I obtained 1d. unused view of Sydney without clouds £4; 1/-



REALLY one can have too much of a good thing— even of such a good thing as scientific Philately. The epithet "dotty" has often been applied to philatelists as a class, and some of the later developments of the hobby give rise to an uneasy feeling that the imputation is not altogether undeserved. In the latest issue of "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News"— that dated September 8th—almost a column of space—and columns are columns in a four page paper—is given up to a disquisition on V.R.I. varieties from the pen of Lord Crawford, writing from Balcarres under date September 3rd. Against the article itself we have nothing to advance. It is in every respect a piece of clever, painstaking, philatelic work. But what is the use of it all? Surely it is going a little too far in the minor variety mania, to print a diagram shewing the 27 possible combinations of dots in the V.R.I. surcharge on Orange Free State stamps. In our opinion, and we happen to know in that of many others, Philately is in danger of losing much of its old fascination as a result of ridiculous over-specialisation.

* * *

OUR "Collectors' Guide to Values" has now become such a popular feature of the *Fortnightly* that we are chary of allowing any number of the paper to appear without its quota of "Guide." Otherwise we should certainly have held over the instalment appearing in this number, and dealing with the prices of the "cent" issues of Ceylon. Two of our most valued helpers in the compilation of the "Guide" are still holiday-making, and the list of prices is we fear open—wide open—to criticism. We shall not regret this if it lead to correspondence on the subject of "Collectors' Guide" generally and this week's instalment in particular.

We are informed that Messrs. Hugo Griebert & Co., have been awarded the Gold Medal for their exhibit at the International Philatelic Exhibition, Paris. We hope to give a special full report of the Exhibition and the awards in the next *Fortnightly*.

carmine, Newfoundland, £2; a brilliant gold 6d. West Australia, £1; Ceylon, 8d. imperf., 30-; 2- imperf., £1; Trinidad litho, worn plate but good margins 15/-, and several Swiss Cantonal which were passed by the firm and priced as genuine specimens, but two of which I subsequently found out were forgeries. I made the discovery too late to return the specimens, so that a portion of the gilt was taken off the gingerbread, never-the-less the purchase on the whole was satisfactory. In addition to purchases I turned over in my mind sources from which I was likely to obtain old stamps.

The accumulation of my father's early business days I had dissipated in the reckless manner described in my first article, but the papers relating to the British Columbian business, started in '61, and which was subsequently carried on by my brother, under the title of Henry Nathan jr. & Co., had been stored at the Hudson Bay Co.'s Wharf at Victoria, British Columbia, since the time my brother had relinquished business on being sent as representative of the newly federated colony of British Columbia to the Dominion Parliament at Ottawa.

I asked my brother if he would give me these papers, which he was not only kind enough to do, but also an iron safe which was in the vaults of the Bank of British Columbia and which he thought might contain some unused stamps.

The articles travelled round Cape Horn, and were six months on their journey, during which time I was full of anticipations of what I should find, but as is usual in such cases the reality did not come up to the expectation. No fault could be found with bulk, as in the first place the safe broke down the van which conveyed it from the West Indian Docks, and the cases containing the papers could only be admitted to the house by taking the front door off its hinges. But as in the case of the mountain, the produce was small.

Some of the boxes dispelled hope as soon as they were opened, as their contents could be seen to comprise ledgers, day books, etc. at first glance, but on taking the lid off one of them, the entire surface was covered by envelopes bearing stamps of the 1867 to 1869 issue of British Columbia. If the layer had gone through the case I should have had more than 100,000 stamps, but, the balance of the box consisted of neatly docketed bundles of letters, *minus envelopes!* and the top lot had evidently been thrown in in a hurry, without taking the trouble to arrange them. I sincerely wish the clerk had not been so neat in his work, and I may here state that a similar disappointment awaited me when a couple of years later the secretary of an old established company allowed me to run through his correspondence boxes from 1840.

(To be continued.)



THE NEW PROVISIONAL STAMP FROM ORANGE RIVER COLONY. (See below.)

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.

French Colonies, etc.—The new French 2 francs stamp of France has been surcharged "2 pesetas" in black for use in Morocco, "Port Said" for use at Port Said, and "Dedeagh, 8 piastres 8" for use at Dedeagh. For this latter place there is also the 5c. of the yellow green shade surcharged simply "Dedeagh." Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., send us specimens of all.

Later, the same firm send us the French 2 francs, surcharged in black, "ALEXANDRIE," and the same stamp with black surcharge "8 piastres" for use in the Levant.

India.—We have a letter from the Superintendent of Land Records in Tharawaddy, Burma, pointing out that the *Fortnightly* No. 140, omits to mention the new colour of the ½ anna stamp—slate-grey. This gentleman also kindly sends us the following:—

POSTAL NOTICE.—On and after 1st October, 1900, postage stamps of the denominations of ½ anna, 1 anna, 2 annas and 2½ annas, printed in the new colours mentioned in the margin, may be used in

payment of postage and other postal dues for which postage stamps are used. These stamps, however, will not be generally available at post offices until such time as the existing stocks of stamps of the same denominations in the old colours are exhausted.

A. U. FANSHAWE,

Director-General of the Post Office of India.

Calcutta, the 31st July, 1900.

The colours "mentioned in the margin" are as follows:—

½ anna stamp	.. ..	slate-grey.
½ anna ..	.. ..	pea-green.
1 anna ..	.. ..	crimson.
2 annas ..	.. ..	violet.
2½ annas ..	.. ..	blue.

Guatemala.—To the list of new colours of the 1900 set Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the following additions:

- 20 centavos violet.
- 25 " orange-yellow.

Orange River Colony.—"We are able to give in this issue an excellent illustration of a block of the latest provisional from South Africa—the 2½d. Cape of Good Hope, surcharged "Orange River Colony."

Our thanks are due to Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen, of "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News," for the loan of this excellent photographic illustration.

Our Review of Reviews.

The Five-Hundredth "Mekeel."

The words staggered us for a moment when we received by a recent American mail the 500th edition of "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News." Of all the five hundred issues we think we can boast that we have never missed reading one, and if "Mekeel" runs on into five thousand issues, as we certainly hope it will, it will still number us among its devoted readers. Stay though! Five thousand issues (being 4500 more), would carry us along for another ninety years. No! on second thoughts, we fear we shall have to stop reading "Mekeel" somewhere this side of 1990!

Mr. Andreini as a Yarn-Spinner.

A later issue of "Mekeel's"—that dated August 30th—brings us a most amusing article, by Mr. J. M. Andreini, on the subject of the "Y $\frac{1}{4}$ " stamp of Cuba.

This (writes Mr. Andreini) is not a wise dissertation on the hackneyed subject of what the Y $\frac{1}{4}$ surcharge means or does not mean, and people who are looking for new theories on this old matter will kindly skip these notes and make inquiries of the editor instead.

I wish to tell a few stories which have really happened about the Y $\frac{1}{4}$.

You all know, of course, that we have a billiard room at the Collectors' Club and that we now have two pool tables in it. But you may not know, unless you are an occasional visitor there, that at certain hours of the evening on certain week-days there is a select gathering of collectors there playing pool and incidentally talking stamps. There is our John, who in spite of his contortions cannot direct the ball exactly where he wants it to go, though he is kind to the ball and calls it by the most endearing terms, and at intervals he gives us spicy bits of his varied experience in philately and in other fields. There is our Fred P. challenging the world in pool or in philately, listening to and laughing at our John's new jokes and exchanging some of his own crop and telling us about the latest bargain he obtained very luckily at Sharp's, the downtown dealer. And there is our George, than whom there is no better company within the radius marked in our club regulations for active membership, and who is extremely fond of collecting pairs of imperforate stamps, and who is known here and abroad as having a soft spot somewhere in his candid anatomy—a spot which dealers often touch tenderly and carefully, with a consequent rejoicing of their hearts and an increasing of bank accounts. There is one thing truly remarkable about our George's pool playing—that is his aim. It is not the careless aim of the novice; it is the slow, thoughtful and deliberate aim of the expert pool player, who knows what he wants and is bound to get it. Then there is our Veteran, known far and wide as our vegetarian. He is not boastful of his pool acquirements, but then he enjoys his misses as well as his hits, and we all enjoy both of them with him. When there is an unusual turmoil in the billiard room we know that our veteran has made one of his hits and that all those present are celebrating the event. His hits are not frequent, but they are brilliant. Then there is our Pendriver, a most polite and courteous gentleman, who never says a word to offend, but who nevertheless—strange contradiction in the character of such a punctilious man—addresses all his written communications in the most incorrect and ultrademocratic manner. He only learned to play pool two winters ago, but his skill or his good luck is such that he very seldom is known to be the loser at a game.

There are at times others besides these five, but if these five are found there the visitor is sure to have his wits sharpened and his whole frame vibrated while listening to our friends' lively colloquy and lively repartee. I remember one evening two winters ago when I sauntered in prepared, as usual, to enjoy a good evening's entertainment. Our John had just remarked that our Fred's joke was a venerable one and that if he had no bargains to show us to night he had better let another man have the floor. Then we saw the radiant George take one pair of gold rimmed glasses off, and put on another pair, and then take carefully out of his pocket a little Gremmel wallet from which there came forth on the tips of his fingers a brilliant pair of cancelled Y $\frac{1}{4}$ orange red Cuba, known to catalogue students as No. 6. There was a triumphant air in George's face as

he detailed to us the transaction with the dealer, his bargaining about the price, and his conditions as to expert examination. "I now possess," he said, "a rarity beyond price. The best expert in town has examined and approved it, and I wager that none of you has ever seen such a pair." It was now our turn to look at this wonderful pair, and we did so, first at the surcharge, then at the watermark and at the prominent figures penciled on the back. We all admired it of course, and we offered congratulations to our George. One observation escaped one of those present, viz.: that according to law, there was no need for any man to pay more than $\frac{1}{4}$ real for any one letter or parcel delivered in the city, or as the law says, in the interior of Habano City. It was only a modest little observation, but the man who made it thought of the matter a little longer in silence, went up stairs to the Library, read the law again, came down stairs, looked at the stamp and its surcharge and at the price marked on its back, and then remarked that one-tenth of the aforesaid price would be too much to pay for such a so-called rarity. Then our John looked at the stamp again, the Veteran squinted at it, the Pendriver looked at the back of the stamp and shook his head, and our Fred exploded in a fit of merry laughter, while our George was indeed puzzled. "Why, if that pair is not good" he said, "our experts are no good and our dealers are worse," with a few interpolated expletives which I leave the reader to supply in their proper places.

Next day—and let us not speak of the intervening night—it must have been full of horrid dreams—early next morning found our George at the dealer's counter making full enquiries about the origin of that orange red pair of Cuba Y $\frac{1}{4}$. The dealer had purchased the pair of another dealer—in fact, had bought several pairs—they looked all right—an expert had passed on them—what more could he do? If they proved to be otherwise he would refund the money. Our George was disappointed—he did not want the money back—he wanted the pair—but the pair without any aspersions cast upon his face—a genuine pair. The expert was telephoned to and expressed great surprise at the doubt raised. The stamps were sent again to him for examination and his opinion began to waver, and he suggested that the seller should send the pair to the London Philatelic Society for a certificate of genuineness. Another disappointment for our George—but that was not the greatest of all. The London Society sent word immediately "counterfeit surcharge," and that was the biggest disappointment for our George. An exchange of bank cheques then took place, and our George never meets that modest little man without pounding him on the back and telling him what a bad fellow he was in spoiling his fun so—but our George has decided not to collect cancelled pairs of Cuba Y $\frac{1}{4}$, which practically do not exist. If they do exist they are fraudulently made for sale to collectors. As soon as there is any demand for any kind of stamps the supply is sure to be forthcoming. Nobody ever heard of pairs or wanted pairs of Cuba Y $\frac{1}{4}$ until our George came upon the scene, and straightway a smart man was found to make them for him, and this man charged a good round price for the trouble of making them, too.

When I was in Cuba last winter I visited a dealer's shop on Obispo street. There was nothing in the glass case that looked inviting, and the dealer, a pleasant and obliging man, unknown to me, brought out of his sanctum a few books containing a good lot of stamps, among them a large assortment of the first issue of Puerto Principe Habilitados, for which he asked very large prices. I told him I was fully supplied with them, a remark which seemed to provoke a doubting smile. I was really looking out for counterfeits of the Puerto Precipe issues, but all his stock was apparently all right. As I wanted nothing in the common line, he said, he offered me a pair of Cuba Y $\frac{1}{4}$, in the rare colour, a rarity of rarities. Price \$33 gold. It was my old acquaintance, No. 6 of the catalogue, with a counterfeit surcharge. I looked at the man's eye and told him that for such stamps, with such surcharges, I only paid about 10 cents each for my counterfeit collection. I do not know whether the man thought I was demented: the fact is that he looked surprised and indignant, and he took his pair of stamps and turned his back on me. When he faced me again I offered my apologies for the trouble given him and I tendered my personal card. No sooner he looked at it his whole demeanor changed; he extended his hand, he was so glad to make my acquaintance, etc., etc., and he told me how these stamps were discovered by an old postal employe, who had tucked them away in a bag more than forty years ago, and had finally brought them to light when he was cleaning things up in his house after the war, &c., &c., &c. But in his heart of hearts that dealer knew better, for he immediately offered the pair gratis, as a souvenir of my visit. I insisted upon paying for it my own price, provided he endorsed it counterfeit, which he did, affixing also a personal rubber stamp, and here I am the happy possessor of one of those wonderful counterfeit pairs which not even our George has in his collection. And he need not ask me for it, either, although I shall be glad and proud to show it to him.

WANCIES AND By ALFRED JINGLE. FLIPPANCIES

Who is the ruffian who sits down in cold blood to think out all the nonsensical "wheezes" and catch-phrases you hear?—such as "There's 'Air" and "Now we Shan't be Long?" Whoever he is, the latest development of his genius takes the form of exasperating conundrums, mostly pointless and meaningless. The man who asks you "Why is a Horse?" or "Why is a goat nearly?" will have to be dealt with, one of these days, by means of a special Act of Parliament. One such miscreant approached me recently, and, poking my watch-pocket with his forefinger, playfully asked me:

"Why should Iceland stamps never be fed?"

Now I put it to you, good readers of the *Fortnightly*, those of you who have tempers of your own, as well as those others who haven't: Ought such men to be at large? Should they be allowed to enjoy the same privileges and pay the same taxes as ordinary, well-oiled, properly-constructed humans? It is now three weeks, so far as I can work it out on the 1893 Calendar in the *Fortnightly* office, since this conundromaniac tackled me; and I have since suffered incessant regret that the look I threw at him as he dodged away didn't happen to be one of the brand with which the heroine of the penny novelette simply freezes the mere man who drops a remark that she doesn't care for. I don't know the name of the conundromaniac in question, but he's a *Fortnightly*-reader, and I shall therefore ask your indulgence while I talk back at him for a bit. I have prepared a few questions of my own which may as well be thrown into conundrum form:

Firstly, then: When is a stamp dealer not a stamp dealer?

Secondly: If there's nothing in a name, why is a certain London philatelist known as "the doctor"?

Thirdly: Human nature being what it is, which British Colony puts one most in mind of a boy who has partaken not wisely, but too well of his mother's preserves?

Fourthly and Lastly: If a herring and a half cost a penny and a half, how on earth can Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, sell a 50 lire Italian "Seynataste" unused for 2s. 6d. and a 100 lire ditto for threepence more?

My friend the Riddler will find that there is a certain modicum of meaning and sense underlying these questions.

* * *

Apropos of the word "lire," as just used above, it must have struck many a philatelist that the past and present coinages of the world, as expressed on the various issues of stamps, embrace a large number of weird and wonderful words. Had the "Liberator" Daniel O'Connell, been a stamp collector I think

it quite possible that he would have called the Irish apple-woman of the famous story a "novic bajoccoo," or something to that effect, instead of merely an "irregular" parallelogram." There is an excellent old maxim for angry people which advises the counting of one hundred before speaking, but I can picture a philatelist of respectable speech deriving much comfort from the use of a select string of the world's comage-terms. Nor is this altogether fancy for I have myself been called a *candareen stotinka tucal* by a disgusted reader of my effusions. While on this subject I would like to add that any reader who doubts my veracity could give expression to that doubt in a most delicate and acceptable manner by sending me a nice unused specimen of the 3 lire Tuscany. The specimen should be unused in order that the essential word *Lire* should be plainly visible. I should understand—and pocket—the insult.

* * *

Messrs. Hugo Griebert & Co. are I understand, the proud recipients of the Gold Medal of the Paris International Philatelic Exhibition. Dame Rumour, mendacious jade, asserts that Mr. Hugo Griebert of that ilk, flushed with victory, and fresh from the shadow of Notre Dame, is going to style himself, from this time forth, *Victor Hugo Griebert*. I for one don't believe it and shan't till I see it in cold print.

* * *

The newspapers have made much fun just lately out of that very ancient jape concerning the egg-seller who announced in his shop window:

ONLY ENGLISH EGGS SOLD HERE.

WE SCORN THE FOREIGN YOKE!

But I can go one better (and more modern, than this. For, look you, in a certain district of Suburbia there is a worthy soul who is a heeler of boots, and a card in his shop-front intimates to the passer-by:—

BOOTS AND SHOES REELED.

FOREIGN STAMPS SOL—D.

A strange combination of businesses, truly! But that's not the point. What troubles me is the question: does this philatelic bootmaker *heel* stamps also? An order for, let us say, a patched instep and a rivetted Woodblock Cape would be the absolutely latest and up-to-date thing in "universal providing." But what boots it, anyhow?

You notice how nonchalantly I throw off these little whimsies? They look easy, but, believe me, they take years of careful preparation!

Business Side of Philately.

In the ensuing fortnight the auctioneers will be back at their old game. Messrs. Plumridge & Co. open the ball on Tuesday and Wednesday next, at the Arbitration Rooms, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane; then there will be Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper at St. Martin's Town Hall on

September 20th and 21st, followed by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson at 47, Leicester Square on September 25th and 26th. The season gives every promise of being a busy and successful one for the philatelic auctioneer.

* * *

Very shortly, probably not later than the end of October, Messrs. Bright & Son, will produce a new and revised edition of their "A.B.C." Catalogue.

* * *

"W.A.H.," in the "Australian Philatelist," voices what must be the unspoken thoughts of many stamp dealers as follows:—

The man who asks you what you *sell* a particular stamp for and when he learns the price remarks that he has half-a-dozen and asks what will you *give* him for them—it's no good trying to deal with that man. Tell him you have sufficient stock and don't want to purchase any. He expects you to offer within 10 per cent. of your selling price, thinks in fact that you are in business for his especial benefit and the fun of the thing. You're not. Understand that you deserve a fair profit and see that you get it, and if you sell a stamp for twice what you gave for it, there's no need to blush. You have to pay rent and advertising expenses, etc., your own salary and clerks' time, and deserve all the profit you can get without being exorbitant.

* * *

Mr. Bepler, of Cheapside, has been tantalising us with the sight of a big array of fine unused stamps, recently purchased. These are now all priced up in small books which Mr. Bepler is holding at the disposal of lovers of the unused and original gummed.

* * *

We have more trade removals to chronicle. Mr. F. C. Penny informs us that he is leaving Mason's Avenue for more commodious premises at No. 24 Philpot Lane, Fenchurch Street, where he has secured a very fine shop. Mr. T. Palmer, another of the "City" dealers, is compelled by an expired lease to seek fresh woods and pastures new. He is not going far—only to No. 4, higher up in "the Avenue." He will open business at the new address on the 26th instant. Yet another removal is that of Messrs. Galdechens & Co., to 36, Richmond Terrace, Clapham, S. W.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

The Annual Meeting was held at its rooms in Collins Street, Melbourne, on Wednesday, July 18th, when a good muster of members attended.

The Chairman, Mr. W. Brettschneider (President), proposed the adoption of the Eighth Annual Report, and in doing so, again complimented the Society upon the success of the Exhibition it had recently held. The expense of it reduced the balance to the credit of the Society, but it had helped to increase the members' roll.

The adoption of the Report was seconded by Mr. Glazbrook, and carried unanimously.

The Balance Sheet, showing a cash balance of £15 odd, was also unanimously adopted, upon the motion of Mr. J. Davis.

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 the large **GENERAL COLLECTION** advertised to be Sold on September 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th, has been withdrawn as they have disposed of the same *en bloc*, by Private Treaty.

THE FIRST SALE OF THE SEASON will take place on Sept. 25th and 26th (only) and will consist of a **FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION**, including: Spain, 1852, 2 reales; Ceylon, imperf., 4d. and 2/-; Labuan, 2 CENTS on 16c. unused; New Brunswick, 6d. and 1/-; Newfoundland, 1/- orange and 1/- carmine; Nova Scotia, 1/- mauve and 1 - violet, superb; United States, a fine lot, including 1861, 5c. mustard and 5c. brick red, mint, 1869, 24c. inverted centre, fine sets of Departmentals, Providence entire sheet, &c., &c.; Nevis, complete plates of 4d engraved and 6d. litho, unused, C.A. 1. lilac, used, &c.; Queensland, 1d. and 2d. imperf.; A fine lot of Mafekings, including two sets of 19, also a selection of Transvaal, Orange Free State, and Orange River Colony.

CATALOGUES NOW READY.

THE DATES OF MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S STAMP SALES FOR NEXT SEASON HAVE BEEN FIXED AS FOLLOWS:—

1900.—September 25 and 26; October 16, 17, 30 and 31; November 13, 14, 27 and 28; December 11 and 12.
 1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17; May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12.

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 1784

47, Leicester Square, London, W.C.

POSTCARDS, ENVELOPES, &c.

A Priced List of Packets of these, from 20 for 1/-, to 100 all different for 12/-, used and unused, can be had on application. A fine start of 500 Varieties for £6, unused or partly used, as may be preferred, with or without several Envelopes and Wrappers; some of which are catalogued from 1 - to 15/- each.

BEN WEBSTER, 15, Paultons Sq., Chelsea, S.W.

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.

STAMPS:

One hundred British Colonial Postage Stamps;
 all different and genuine; post free, 2/6.

J. M. WATKINS,

53, St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C.

THE "ROWLAND HILL" BOOKLET

FREE FROM

ALFRED SMITH & SON,

OFFICE OF THE "MONTHLY CIRCULAR"

37 & 39, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, W.C.



Senf's Postage Stamp Album
 Is the best in the World.
 Price List on Application.
 Ranging from 4d. to £6 5s.
C. F. LUECKE, Publisher,
 LEIPZIG, SAXONY.

NEW PROVISIONAL

Just received from Bloemfontein.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY

Suroh. on 2½d. blue CAPE.

9d. each. 6 - per doz., 45 - per 100.

H. L. EWEN,

32, Palace Square, Norwood, S.E.

LONDON PHILATELIST, good as new, Vol. 3 and 4, complete, 4/6 each, not bound, have 3 vols. of each.—Box 106, Fortnightly Office, 77-8, High Holborn, W.C.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA, O.S., high values in superb used blocks at ½ cat., or would exchange U.S.A. Columbus, 2/1, 5/9, 2/2, 3/9; 90c. purple, 2/- each; 2/1 black, 9d. each.—Bolton, 5, Elmwood Road, Croydon

A QUANTITY of Philatelic Literature for Sale. List on application. **J. D. MACLEAN**, Frodsham, Cheshire.

V.R.I. Orange River Colony given gratis to Applicants for Approval Selections enclosing stamp 10,000 Continentals, 2/9, 10,000 U.S.A. including Omaha, Columbus, 2/-.—**PREMIER STAMP COMPANY**, Brighton.

GIVEN AWAY! To all applicants for our Approval Sheets enclosing stamped addressed envelope, we give an accurate Perforation Gauge or 250 Mounts.—**CHARLES & KNIGHT**, Wildash Road, East Dulwich, London.

NEW LIST of COLONIAL MIXTURES

Ready NEXT WEEK.

A. MYERSCOUGH & CO.,

Merchants and Importers,

61 & 63, Gracechurch Street, E.C.

H. ROSS-SHIELDS & Co.,

75, LITTLE BRITAIN, LONDON, E.C.

Two minutes from G.P.O.

Wholesale and Retail List free.

Consignments and offers solicited.

Hayti, well assorted, used, 6d. per doz., 3/6 per 100.

Newfoundland, 1898, ½, 1, 2, and 3c. 5d. per set, 2/9 per 12 sets.

Special Mixture, splendid value, 2/- per 100.

MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION

Now on view. Every stamp priced simply and reasonably. Europeans and British Colonials a feature. Also a large collection of entire envelopes and postcards at about ½ to ¾ Catalogue prices.

F. C. BEPLER, 109, Cheapside, London.
 Established 1888.

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.

South African War Stamps

CHEAP PRICES FOR THIS MONTH ONLY.

Transvaal.

Surcharged - - V. R. I.

	s.	d.
½d. green	0	2
1d. carmine and green	0	2
2d. brown and green	0	4
2½d. blue and green	0	5
3d. red-purple and green	0	6
4d. sage-green and green	0	8
6d. lilac and green	1	0
1s. ochre and green	1	9
2 6 purple and green	4	6
Set ½d. to 1s. (inclusive)	4	6

Orange River Colony.

Surcharged V. R. I.

	THIN V. s. d.	THICK V. s. d.
½d. orange	0 2	0 6
1d. purple	0 2	0 8
2d. lilac	0 4	
3d. blue	0 6	
4d. blue	2 6	
6d. blue	0 10	
1s. red-brown	1 9	
5s. green	7 6	
Set of ½d. to 5s. (inclusive)	12 6	
	Surcharged	ORANGE RIVER COLONY on Cape.
2½d. blue	0 9	

Mafeking Siege Stamps.

	Unused.	Used.
1d. on ½d. green, Cape (obs. type)	35 0	15 0
3d. „ 1d. carmine, Cape	—	15 0
1/- „ 4d. pale green „	—	75 0
1d. „ ½d. vermilion, Bech. Provl.	—	15 0
3d. „ 1d. lilac „	—	27 6
6d. „ 2d. green and red „	—	32 6
6d. „ 3d. lilac, Brit. Bech.	—	30 0
1/- „ 4d. green and brown	—	40 0
1/- „ 6d. lilac on red, Bech. Provl.	—	60 0
2/- „ green, Brit. Bech.	—	100 0

MAFEKING TOWN POST.

1d. blue on blue (Bicycle)	30 0	22 6
3d. „ (small BADEN-POWELL)	—	32 6
3d. „ (large „)	—	70 0

Set of 19 varieties, used £45.

Rarities of Transvaal, Orange River, Natal, Mauritius, &c.

Finest Stock in the World.

Special selections from Customers Want Lists sent on approval to Collectors known to us or against usual references.

OCTOBER SUPPLEMENT TO CATALOGUE, Part I. ready on October 1st, 1900. Price 3d. post free, 3½d. LATEST PRICES FOR ORANGE RIVER COLONY, TRANSVAAL, MAFEKING, VRIBURG.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.,
391, STRAND, LONDON, W.C. (Opposite Hotel Cecil).

THE

STAMP COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY

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

No. 145—Vol. VI. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1900. ONE PENNY.

G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO.,

Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers,

10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "PHILATELIC, LONDON."

TELEPHONE No. 5596 AVENUE.

The following Approval Books have just been made up:

<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>GREAT BRITAIN</td><td style="text-align: right;">3 Vols.</td></tr> <tr><td>PERSIA AND CHINA</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>SEYCHELLES AND St. HELENA</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>LUXEMBURG</td><td style="text-align: right;">2 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>ITALIAN STATES</td><td style="text-align: right;">4 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>BADEN</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>PERSIA</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 ..</td></tr> </table>	GREAT BRITAIN	3 Vols.	PERSIA AND CHINA	1 ..	SEYCHELLES AND St. HELENA	1 ..	LUXEMBURG	2 ..	ITALIAN STATES	4 ..	BADEN	1 ..	PERSIA	1 ..	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>BELGIUM</td><td style="text-align: right;">2 Vols.</td></tr> <tr><td>SWEDEN</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>SWITZERLAND</td><td style="text-align: right;">2 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>AUSTRIA</td><td style="text-align: right;">2 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>BAVARIA</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>ORANGE FREE STATE AND CHINA</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>TRANSVAAL</td><td style="text-align: right;">2 ..</td></tr> </table>	BELGIUM	2 Vols.	SWEDEN	1 ..	SWITZERLAND	2 ..	AUSTRIA	2 ..	BAVARIA	1 ..	ORANGE FREE STATE AND CHINA	1 ..	TRANSVAAL	2 ..
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ORANGE FREE STATE AND CHINA	1 ..																												
TRANSVAAL	2 ..																												

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:

ALL UNUSED AND VERY FINE.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Lubeck, the Error, 2½ schilling..	1	17	6	Belgium, 1881, 5fcs. dark brown, mint	1	2	0
Oldenburg, 1853, ½ groschen ..	6	0	0	Bolivia, 1867, 500 centavos, 9 stars	2	5	0
Brunswick, 1865, ½ gros., roul., mint	1	15	0	Antioquia, 1868, 1 peso ..	3	7	6
Wurtemberg, 1873, 7okr. ..	3	3	0	France, 1859, unpaid, 10c. lithographed	2	0	0
" 1875, 2mks., yellow, mint	7	0	0	Baden, 1854, 3kr. blue ..	1	16	0
" 1875, 2mks., orange, mint	7	0	0	Bavaria, 1870, 12kr., mint ..	1	7	0
Great Britain, 1d. V.R. ..	8	10	0	Hanover, 1856, 3pf. grey net ..	1	12	0
Spain, 1852, 3 quartos, Madrid ..	15	0	0	Oldenburg, 1853, 2 groschen ..	4	10	0
Servia, 1868, 2 paras, error ..	11	10	0	Sandwich Islands, 1862, 2c. litho., horizontally, laid paper	1	7	0
Hongkong, 1875 ..	3	0	0	Dutch Indies, 1874, 5c. ..	1	7	0
U. S., 2 dollars, State ..	3	3	0	Roman States, 50 baj. ..	1	4	0
Tasmania, 1870/71, 4d. blue ..	2	15	0	Monaco, 1885, 5 francs ..	1	10	0
Saxony, 1851, 2 ngr., dark blue	3	10	0	Azores, 1868, 100 reis, imperf. ..	1	5	0
Brazil, 1844, 180 reis ..	2	5	0	Madeira, 1868, 100 reis, imperf.	1	5	0
" " 300 ..	3	8	0	" 1868/70, 240 reis ..	1	12	0

CORRESPONDENCE in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

Mention this paper.

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 ensuing Season will be as under:—

1900.—October 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; November 8th, 22nd and 23rd; December 6th and 7th.

1901.—January 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th, 31st; February 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th; March 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th and 29th; April 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; May 9th and 10th, 30th and 31st, and June 13th and 14th.

By order of the Receiver appointed by the High Court of Bombay and others.

October 11th and 12th.—A fine selection of **BRITISH, FOREIGN, and COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS**, including **Jhind State**, set of 6 with error **Jeend**, unused. **B. E. A.** on **Zanzibar**, 2 strips of 4, 7½., surcharged **B. E. A.** also ~~2~~ back. **Cape**, a fine lot of triangular. **Orange Free State**, fine early provisionals. **St. Helena**, nearly complete, unused. **Transvaal**, fine early splits, used on pieces, ½d. on 1/-, unused, block of 4 *tête-beche* and others. **Mafeking Besieged Stamps and Notes**. A fine lot of **Zanzibar**, including **Zanzibar errors**; **Zanzibar** in blue on Indian, on entires, unused; blocks of proofs, etc. Fine **UNITED STATES**, including Periodicals, complete, unused, and most of the Departmentals. **New South Wales**, 5d. green, imperf., fine. **Queensland**, first issue, 6d., a pair, 1881, mint pairs of 2/6, 5/-, and 20/-. Fine unused **Victoria**. **Western Australia**, 1d. black, rouletted; a fine pair, 2d. and 6d., rouletted; second issue, 6d., green, unused; ditto, rouletted, on piece, and others. Also a few Collections and books of duplicates.

October 25th and 26th.—A fine selection of **BRITISH, FOREIGN, and COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS**, including **Cape**, 1d., woodblock; an unused pair, with gum; 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 (Philatello Department), 35, Old Jewry, LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM," LONDON. Telephone Number, 5076 Bank. ESTABLISHED 1761.

MARSCHALL ISLANDS.

FIRST ISSUE.

The values of 3, 5, 10, 25 and 50 pfennig have arrived on Entire Envelopes, in fine condition, lightly cancelled, and intending Purchasers should at once communicate with me for these varieties.

I can also now supply all the German Colonial Stamps that have as yet been issued (with the exception of Mariannen Islands) including those of

KAROLINEN & SAMOA, also MARSCHALL ISLAND,

2nd Issue, used and unused. . . .

Mariannens can only be had at present unused.

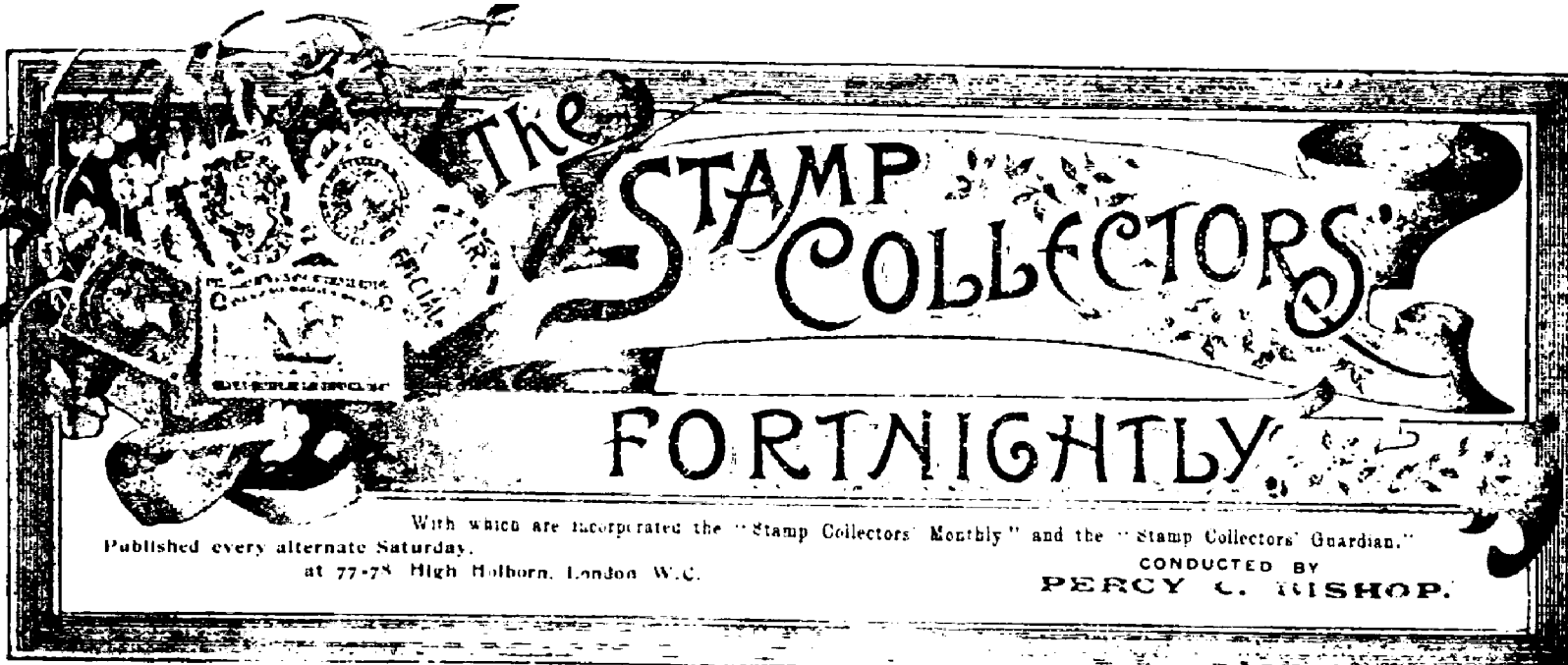
PHILIPP KOSACK, Berlin, C, 8, Burgstrasse.

OPPOSITE THE ROYAL PALACE.

Telephone V. No. 2157.

Telegraphic Address—"Markenkosack."

CORRESPONDENCE—German, English, French, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish.



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 Rochdale Philatelic Society, the Cambridge University Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, and the Central Philatelic Club.

No. 145.—Vol. VI. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1900. ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

KING VICTOR IS LIKE QUEEN WILHELMINA.

THE fuss made by the young Queen of the Netherlands, when her portrait on the new Dutch stamps made her look "too old," will be well remembered. Something of the same sort appears to have happened in Italy, if the newspaper correspondents are to be believed. It would seem that the new King, Victor Emmanuel III, is quite as particular, if not as vain as Queen Wilhelmina in regard to his appearance.

About three weeks ago a die was sunk for a new issue of Italian stamps shewing the head of young Victor Emmanuel and a few specimen stamps were struck off for submission to His Majesty. The latter promptly condemned them, pronouncing the portrait—a full face picture—to be a bad one. "It does not give a sufficiently clean impression," said King Victor Emmanuel, which was a beautifully euphemistic way of saying that it did not do him justice.

The next design submitted, we are told, will be in profile and let us hope that this time the engraver will manage to please his finicking Majesty.

THE BUSINESS SIDE OF PHILATELY.

Messrs. Venton, Bull & Cooper, at their sale on September 20 and 21, offered a very useful private collection, broken up into lots. Many of the habitués of the well-known rooms in St. Martin's Town Hall appeared quite pleased to be back at their old haunt again. At the time of going to press, a priced-catalogue has not come to hand, but we hope to mention the amounts realised for some of the most interesting lots in our next number.

Messrs. Plumridge & Co. were, we think, the first auctioneers in the field for the new season with their sale in

Chancery Lane, on September 18 and 19. In spite of the lovely weather and consequent deflection of a goodly number of prominent buyers to resorts of health and amusement, the attendance each night was well above the average. Below will be found a list of the prices realised for some of the most interesting lots:

	£	s.	d.
British Columbia, C.C. 14, 1 dollar, mint	...	3	15
Cape of Good Hope, triangular 1 - green, a mint pair	...	7	10
Ditto, triangular 1 - emerald green, very fine	...	1	1
Ditto, woodblock, 1 - blue, error of colour, post-mark rather heavy	...	55	0
Ditto, ditto, 1/2d, red, error of color, lightly cancelled but no margins	...	45	0
Ditto, woodblock, 1d, blue, average copy	...	1	12
Making Besieged Stamps, 1d, on Bechuanaland 1/2d, vermilion	...	0	14
Ditto, 3d, on Bechuanaland 1d, lilac	...	1	14
Ditto, 3d, on Cape 1d, red	...	0	15
Ditto, 6d, on Bechuanaland 2d	...	1	9
Ditto, 1 - on Bechuanaland 1/2d	...	1	16
Ditto, Baden-Powell 3d, blue	...	1	8
Ceylon, wmk. star, Per L. lilac, a mint horizontal pair	...	1	9
CA 14, 10c, lilac with gum but perf. clipped at top	...	4	0
Fiji, 2d, in black on 3d, green (S.G. No. 20), unused	...	3	10
Great Britain, £5 orange, not postally used	...	1	5
Mauritius, post paid 1d, vermilion, early plate, two very fine copies used on piece	...	15	0
New South Wales, Sydney View, 1d, red, plate 2, very fine	...	1	7
Niger Coast, 1/2d, on half 1d, lilac (Gibbons No. 7), an unused block of 12	...	0	10
Ditto, 1/2d, on 2d, (Gibbons No. 12, an unused pair)	...	3	7
St. Lucia, wmk. star (6?) green, average copy	...	1	12
Spain, 1853, 2 reales	...	4	10
Switzerland, Basle, 2 1/2 rappen, very fine	...	3	5
United States, 1860, 26 cents with centre inverted, off centre	...	22	0
Victoria, "Too Late" stamps, very fine	...	1	2

Received: The September, 1900, Price List of the William Stamp Company, of Leadenhall Street, E.C. This includes many uncommon stamps at low rates.

A REPUBLIC WITHOUT POSTAGE STAMPS!

An American newspaper article quoted in "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" draws attention to the tiny Island of Saba, which is only a dozen miles in circumference and lies just north of the British Colony of St. Christopher. Although referred to in certain books of reference as a Dutch Colony,

Saba is just as free and independent as San Marino or Andorra. Its inhabitants number only 2,000. They live an isolated life, raising just sufficient crops for their own small needs. Ships rarely visit them and quite possibly Saba's rulers, if it have any, are ignorant of the fact that a comfortable revenue could be raised by the issue of postage stamps.

ORANGE RIVER STAMPS FOR THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

THERE was an allusion in a recent *Fortnightly* to the fact that the military authorities in South Africa had specially reserved a complete outfit of the "V.R.I." surcharges for the British Museum. The news came to us *via* America. We then asked: Will the Museum authorities condescend to accept the stamps? It seems that the stamps have now arrived in Bloomsbury, for their advent is chronicled by the London correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian," who adds: "The military authorities took, I am told, special care to secure these philatelic treasures for our national collection." We are open to wager that the British Museum authorities won't thank them for so doing!

If Stamps were Abolished!

MANY people appear to imagine that a sudden cessation of the issue of postage stamps by all the countries of the world would break the poor philatelist's heart. Of course that is a complete mistake.

Such a contingency as the abolition of a postage stamp is very remote, but it is brought just within the bounds of possibility by an invention just submitted to the postal authorities by a Mr. James Garratt, of Camberwell.

Mr. Garratt is one of the many who have experienced the annoyance of wanting to post a letter and having no stamp to stick on it. On a recent occasion this gentleman walked two miles to get a stamp, but was fortunate enough to get it at the end of his walk. Many of us have gone farther and fared worse. But as it happened Mr. Garratt's walk put into his mind the germ of an idea which should in the end be worth a small fortune to him. Being a metal-worker by trade, Mr. Garratt had no difficulty in making a working model of the little appliance which he is asking the Postmaster-General to affix to all pillar boxes for the benefit of the stampless public.

The invention consists of a square box shewing a long slit for the insertion of the letter, and two slots for halfpennies and pennies. The person with a letter to stamp pushes the end of his envelope into the slit, drops 1d. or ½d., as the case may be, in one of the two slots, and lo! the envelope is stamped with one or another of two hand-stamps, reading respectively "½d. Paid" and "1d. Paid." Mr. Garratt claims for his invention that it contains no springs or other complicated machinery; that the stamping apparatus cannot be got to work until the copper is inserted; and that the only possible objection to the machine is that it will not test counterfeit coin.

As regards this only drawback, Mr. Garratt, reasonably enough, claims that the small boy who defrauds the ordinary penny-in-the-slot machine by means of metal discs, does so for the sake of some concrete advantage, such as a cake of chocolate or a packet of cigarettes. But as neither stamps, cigarettes, nor anything eatable can be got out of his pillar-box attachment, Mr. Garratt thinks that the temptation to defraud it will be almost nil.

The postal authorities however have so far declined to seriously consider Mr. Garratt's proposals. It is a way they have at the Post Office as at the War Office; but it is possible that the force of public opinion may in time compel St. Martin's-le-Grand to take the matter up.

Any extensive adoption of this plan of stamping letters would bring the abolition of the adhesive postage stamp well within sight. Well! it would not greatly grieve philatelists, who already have some 40,000 varieties of stamps to busy themselves upon; but it would be a sad blow to the rulers of certain minor stamp-issuing countries and to many hundreds of speculative officials all over the world.

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.

COOK ISLANDS.

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1892. No wmk.; perf. 12½.				
1d. black	3/	..	3/
1½d. mauve	9/	..	1/
2½d. indigo	9/	..	1/
10d. carmine	4/	..	4/
1893. Wmk. N.Z. and Star; various perms.				
1d. deep brown	8/	..	6/
1d. blue	6/	..	6/
1½d. mauve	6/	..	8/
2½d. rose	8/	..	6/
5d. olive-black	1/	..	1/3
10d. green	3/6	..	4/
1898. Wmk. N.Z. and Star; perf.				
½d. blue	1/	..	1/
1d. yellow-brown	2/	..	2/
1d. blue	6/	..	9/
1½d. deep mauve	3/	..	4/
2d. brown	3/	..	4/
2½d. rose	4/	..	4/
5d. olive-black	7/	..	8/
6d. purple	8/	..	9/
10d. green	1/2	..	1/3
1/- carmine	1/3	..	1/4
1899. Surcharged ONE-HALF-PENNY in black.				
½d. on 1d. blue	6/	..	9/

CYPRUS.

1880. Surcharged on stamps of Great Britain.					
½d. rose ... .. .	..	6/	4/	7/6	5/
1d. red .. .. .	..	3/	2/	2/	1/3
2½d. lilac-rose .. .. .	..	3/	2/	2/6	1/6
4d. pale green .. .. .	..	2/3	2/	25/	15/
6d. grey .. .. .	..	20/	16/	25/	17/6
1/- green .. .. .	..	30/	25/	35/	25/
1881. HALF-PENNY in black on 1d. red,					
		18mm. long	1/	9/	2/ 1/6
Do. do.		16mm. long	4/	2/6	7/6 5/
Do. do.		13mm. long	2/	1/6	4/ 2/6
30 PARAS on 1d. red .. .. .	..	..	12/6	8/6	12/6 8/6
Wmk. CC.; perf. 14.					
½ piastre emerald green .. .. .	..	1/	8/	1/6	1/
1 " red .. .. .	..	5/	3/6	2/	1/3
2 piastres blue .. .. .	..	3/6	2/6	2/	1/3
4 " pale green .. .. .	..	35/	25/	20/	12/6
6 " grey-black .. .. .	..	50/	35/	32/6	25/
½ " emerald green, surcharged	..	..	..	..	..
½ on each side of head .. .. .	..	2/6	5/	3/	2/

CYPRUS—Continued.

	Unused average mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
½ piastre emerald green, surcharged with much larger figures	300/	200/	25/	15/
1 " red, surcharged 30 PARAS	20/	15/	4/	3/
1882. Die 1; wmk. CA.; perf. 14.				
30 paras lilac	1/6	1/4
½ piastre green	1/2	..
½ " " surcharged ½ in black on each side of head	1/6	1/3
½ " " surcharged ½ in larger figures, 8 mm. apart	25/	3/6
½ " " surcharged ½ in larger figures, 6 mm. apart	2/6	2/
1 " carmine	4/6	1/4
2 piastres ultramarine	7/6	1/0
4 " pale green	7/6	1/9
6 " grey-black	7/6	2/6
12 " venetian-red	12/6	7/0

1886. Die 2; same wmk.; perf.

30 paras mauve .. .. .	..	..	1/3	1/6
½ piastre green .. .. .	..	..	1/2	1/1
1 " carmine .. .. .	..	..	1/4	1/4
2 piastres ultramarine .. ..	..	..	1/6	1/4
4 " pale green .. .. .	..	..	1/6	1/6
6 " grey-black .. .. .	..	..	10/6	15/
12 " venetian-red .. .. .	..	..	15/	15/

1894. Same wmk. and perf.; current bi-coloured type.

30 paras .. .. .	..	..	1/2	1/2
½ piastre .. .. .	..	..	1/2	1/1
1 " .. .. .	..	..	1/2	1/2
2 piastres .. .. .	..	..	1/4	1/2
4 " .. .. .	..	..	1/6	1/4
6 " .. .. .	..	..	1/0	1/6
9 " .. .. .	..	..	1/3	1/9
12 " .. .. .	..	..	1/8	1/6
18 " .. .. .	..	..	2/3	2/6
45 " .. .. .	..	..	5/9	6/

DOMINICA.

1874. Wmk. CC.; perf. 12½.

1d. lilac .. .. .	..	..	5/6	2/6	4/	2/9
6d. green .. .. .	..	..	25/	17/6	20/	12/6
1/- deep lilac-rose .. .. .	..	..	27/6	17/6	17/6	12/6

1877. The same wmk.; perf. 14.

½d. olive-yellow .. .. .	..	..	5/	3/6	6/	4/
1d. lilac .. .. .	..	..	2/6	1/6	2/	1/6
2½d. red-brown .. .. .	..	..	10/	7/	3/	2/
4d. blue .. .. .	..	..	10/6	7/6	2/6	2/
6d. green .. .. .	..	..	21/	15/	12/6	8/6
1/- deep lilac-rose .. .. .	..	..	15/	10/6	15/	10/

1882. Provisionals.

½d. in black (small figures) on half 1d. lilac .. .. .	..	..	27/6	20/	15/	10/6
½d. in red (large figures) on half 1d. lilac .. .. .	..	..	1/6	..	1/6	..
HALFPENNY in black on half 1d. lilac .. .. .	..	..	7/6	6/	5/	3/9
Half Penny in black on 6d. green .. .. .	..	..	2/	..	2/6	..
One Penny in black on 6d. green .. .. .	..	..	500/	500/	..	..
" on 1/- lilac-rose .. .. .	..	..	4/	..	3/6	..

1883. Wmk. CA.; perf. 14.

½d. olive-yellow .. .. .	..	..	5/	3/6	4/	2/6
1d. lilac .. .. .	..	..	4/	..	3/	..
2½d. red-brown .. .. .	..	..	7/6	..	2/6	1/9

1886. Same wmk. and perf.

½d. green .. .. .	..	..	1/3	..	1/3	..
1d. carmine .. .. .	..	..	14	..	1/9	..
2½d. ultramarine .. .. .	..	..	1/9	..	1/	..
4d. grey .. .. .	..	..	1/	..	1/3	..
6d. orange .. .. .	..	..	10/	..	17/6	..
1/- lilac-rose .. .. .	..	..	55/	..	80/	..

DOMINICA—Continued.

	Unused average mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
<i>Fiscals available for postal purposes; surcharged REVENUE.</i>				
1d. lilac	1/4	2/
1d. carmine
6d. green	1/	7/
1/- lilac-rose	2/6	10/6

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

1878. No wmk.; perf. 14.

1d. claret .. .. .	..	..	15/	10/	15/	10/
4d. grey-brown	35	25	20	15
6d. green	2/9	..	4/6	3/
1/- bistre-brown	2/6	..	4/6	3/

1884. Wmk. CA.; perf. 14.

1d. claret	1	..	1/6	..
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1886. Wmk. CA sideways; perf. 14.

1d. claret	1/	..	1/6	..
4d. olive-black	12/6	8/6	5/	3/6

1891. Surcharged "½" in black of half 1d. claret

..	3/	..	7/6	..
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1891-98. Wmk. CA.; perf. 14.

½d. yellow-green	1/1	..	1/1	..
1d. orange-brown	1/6	..	1/9	..
1d. red	1/2	..	1/2	..
2d. mauve	1/3	..	1/3	..
2½d. blue .. .. .	..	..	1/	..	1/6	..
2½d. ultramarine .. .. .	..	..	1/4	..	1/3	..
4d. olive-black .. .. .	..	..	1/6	..	1/6	..
6d. yellow .. .. .	..	..	1/8	..	1/9	..
9d. pale vermilion .. .. .	..	..	1/	..	1/3	..
1 " grey-brown .. .. .	..	..	1/3	..	1/6	..
2/6 deep blue (larger size, wmk. CC.)	..	..	3/3	..	3/6	..
5/- brown-red .. .. .	..	..	6/3	..	6/6	..

(To be continued).

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.

Corea.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. now send us the set of Corean stamps so far issued, as follows:—

2 re grey.	4 cheun carmine.
1 cheun green.	5 " rose-pink.
2 " blue.	6 " blue.
3 " red.	

Regarding Corea generally Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the following interesting notes:—

The new stamps are now used for international postage, as our package was franked with them. The 2 and 3 cheun you may have already chronicled, but we send the whole set, as issued to date. The 2 re stamp is the lowest value. There are ten "re" to a cheun, 100 of the latter being the equivalent of a Japanese yen, or 28. One poon is equal to 2 re. These new stamps are engraved and printed at Seoul.

The four stamps of 1895, which were printed at Washington, were in 1897 surcharged with native characters in red, signifying "Tai Han" a symbol adopted by the Emperor to designate the Empire of Corea, in lieu of the old style "T'jyo Sen." We send you a set of these, which although issued three years ago, have only just been discovered by philatelists. Some of these were on our letter, so they cannot be questioned.

Niger Coast.—We have the new 5d. C.A. from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Adhesive: 5d. purple.

Venezuela.—Another outbreak of "Resellada" and other surcharges here! Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 5c. green, 10c. vermilion and 25c. blue, with "Resellada" overprint, and also surcharged "1900." Also the 30 centimes orange-yellow and the 1 bolivar grey with the "1900" surcharge only.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 29, 1900.

Editor - - - - - PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager - - - SYDNEY BISHOP.

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THE "Mafeking Besieged" Stamps are apparently doomed to an atmosphere of dissension. Their early days were no doubt spent in shuddering dread of the bursting shell and hissing bullet, and now, poor things, instead of enjoying a well-earned repose between sheets of soft, warm paper, they are surrounded with a wordy warfare that must be exceedingly trying to their feelings.

Philately, it would seem, has its bulls and bears; just like the Stock Exchange. The "bears" are doing all they know to bring down the prices of Mafekings in order that they may buy these most interesting provisionals at lower prices than those now ruling. Will the bulls have sufficient pluck to sit tight on their holdings? is the question of the hour in the Capel Court of Philately. One very strong bull point should not be overlooked. Up to the present time practically all the Mafeking Besieged stamps have found their way to the old country, and some of the varieties are so scarce that even now the demand exceeds the supply, but before long Australian, Canadian, and other Colonial stamp people, will want to absorb their quota of Mafeking stamps, so that the wily bull will probably in the end have the laugh of the short-sighted bear.

But whether the bull or the bear be the "top dog" at the end of the fight, one thing is certain—we must politely, but firmly, dam the stream of "Mafeking" correspondence. In this issue of the *Fortnightly*, under the heading "Twixt Editor and Reader," we have given publicity to two further communications on the subject. These, however, must be the last. There are, after all, other stamps in the world equalling the Mafekings in interest and value, if not in "sensation." Therefore, will the readers who are just about to write us on the Mafeking question be kind enough to "change the subject?"

Mr. W. S. Webb, of the "Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser," mentions that both the ½d. (vermilion) and 1d. British "Army Official" exist with a dwarfed letter "I" in the overprint.

Something about Entires.

THE announcement in this column last month as to an unstamped envelope used in Natal in March 1895, has brought us a letter from Mr. F. F. Harrison of Stourport with a similar envelope, and the information that his brother in sending it to him said that the supply of halfpenny stamps had failed, but only for a short time; and he believed there were but a few covers used in this way, that is, with the money paid and endorsed thereon by R. Coleman.

On looking over Mr. Bacon's information on the stamps of Natal in The Philatelic Society's book on British African Stamps, we find that the ½d. provisionals overprinted on 12 March in that year were bought up at once by speculators, and so another series on 1d. rose (of which over a million were surcharged) were issued by the Postmaster General on 18th March, but that the consignment of them sent to Durban appears to have been again cleared out in a day or two, and so for "two days" the Durban postmaster had to take cash and write on such covers "money received" or "paid in cash" &c. As the date of first cover sent us was the 18th, and the last one seen is the 22nd, it would seem that this was going on for at least five days, and as Mr. Harrison's envelope covered a printed circular with a Book Sale announcement, there were probably many hundreds if not thousands sent off during that week for circulars.

While on the subject of Natal issues we may record that there are a SERIES OF 15 WAR VIEWS in fine groups of three printed on the back of the current penny Natal cards which appeared about the middle of August as an official issue. Among the little photo views are Ladysmith Town Hall after bombardment, Tugela Falls, Colenso Railway Bridge (wreck), Naval Gun of H.M.S. Terrible, Spion Kop, &c.

A new type of surcharge on Orange Free State cards has arrived since our last description of these, the letters V.R.I. and value being in thick block letters (sans serif), 2½mm. high, on 1d. orange, and in what looks to be a lighter type (2mm.) on ½d. rose. On closer examination, the difference resolves itself into extra heavy inking, which has spread out to the ¾mm. extra apparent size. The halfpenny green and penny brown reply cards also have this block type in the lighter printing, and these last are said to have used up all the double cards left in Bloemfontein, and that no more will be obtained from London. This information has reached me from three places far apart, and its effect is noticeable. One man asks 4/3 and 5/- each for his specimens, another 7/6 and 9/-, while the other is more modest and marks them at 1/6 and 2/- only, knowing that even one thousand each of such cards are more than enough to supply all the collectors of entires in this country.

There are a few other postcards reported lately, but mostly of the interminable series used in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, with its diverse nationalities, in the new currency of heller and filler recently introduced in place of kreuzer.

HAWKEYE.

A voice from "down under" brings us the intimation that our enterprising friends in Sydney, Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle, are producing a new stamp journal, "The Australian Journal of Philately." Good luck to the new venture!

"J.B.B." has perpetrated the following apt acrostic, in praise of Philately:—

P hilatelists, folks say, "are men gone mad
O n scraps of paper," but 'tis scarce so bad,
S uch vagaries cannot with "hobby," "fad,"
T o men and women, aye, and children too,
A t times the question comes, quite fair and true,
G reat work oft worries us—what can we find
E nhancing leisure hours and resting mind?

S tamps, stamps! The cry is heard, the world around
T en thousand thousands, everywhere abound,
A n undertaking, wanting intellect,
M ake albums, books—from every source collect,
P erennial pleasure, sets our hearts aglow,
S weet solace comes, as hunting stamps we go.

Paris Philatelic Exhibition a Success.

SOME SPLENDID EXHIBITS—LIST OF AWARDS—MONS. PAUL MIRABAUD WINS A GRAND PRIZE.

A GREATER measure of success than was anticipated has been achieved by the International Philatelic Exhibition in Paris. Newspaper correspondents have estimated the total value of the exhibits in the Rue de Grenelle at £80,000. But though a great success philatelically it is to be feared that the enterprise will show a balance on the wrong side of the Profit-and-Loss account.

Among the notable stamps shown were the Baden 9 kreutzer green, error of colour, several Cape "Woodblock" errors, many of the early Moldavians, several "Post Office" Mauritius stamps, and some remarkably fine displays of Ceylons and old Swiss.

Monsieur Paul Mirabaud secured a "Grand Prix" of the Exhibition for his fine collection of Swiss stamps. The veteran Doctor Legrand shewed the remnant of his magnificent collection of stamps, the greater part of which it will be remembered he sold to Monsieur Lemaire a year ago.

Mons. Mirabaud, winner of the Grand Prize, as already mentioned, is undoubtedly the hero of the Exhibition, for he exhibited in about half-a-dozen classes, securing "awards" in each, these being given in two or three cases *with the felicitations of the Jury*.

As regards the Jury there were these absentees:—Messrs. M. P. Castle and E. D. Bacon (England), Mr. F. Breitfuss (Russia), Messrs. Ohrt and Lindenberg (Germany), J. M. Moens (Belgium), and P. Mahé (France).

In view of the number and importance of the German exhibitors, the Committee invited Mr. Ernst Stock, of Berlin, to act as representative of Germany on the Jury.

The Jury, consequently, was constituted as follows:—

President—G. Lèglise.

Vice-President—A. de Reuterskiöld.

Secretary—Jules Bernichon.

Members:

Dr. E. Diena, G. Langlois, Marçonnat, V. Robert,
Dr. Servantie, E. Stock, A. Van Hoek.

The following medals were awarded:—2 Grand Prizes; 33 Gold Medals; 61 Silver Medals; 80 Bronze Medals.

THE AWARDS.

CLASS I: COLLECTIONS OF THE STAMPS OF FRANCE.

Division I: Gold medal, M. H. Haro; silver medals, M. Grunewald and M. Lombard; bronze medals, M. Tandeau and M. Vial.

Division II: Gold medal, M. Henry de Martin.

Division III: Gold medal, M. Grunewald; silver medal, M. Lombard; bronze medal, H. Cantel-Bey.

Division IV: Bronze medals, M. M. Geo. P. Grignard and A. Le Bihan.

Division V: Gold medal, M. le Comte de Bélenet; silver medal, H. Cantel-Bey; bronze medal, M. Quinet.

CLASS II: COLLECTIONS OF FRENCH COLONIALS.

Division I: Silver medals; M. de Rochefontaine and M. Tandear; bronze medals; M. Devoitine, M. L. Gouat and Capitaine Noel.

Division II: Gold medal; M. Paul Mirabaud.

CLASS III: COLLECTIONS OF INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR GROUPS OF COUNTRIES.

Division I: Section A. Gold medals; M. M. Gunther, Mirabaud and Zanpiresco; silver medals, M. M. Mahec, Dr. Yesin; bronze medal, M. Brabandt; gold medal, M. Rudolf Friedl; silver medal, M. M. Galvez Jimenez, Giwelb, and Tomas Monclus; bronze medal, M. Isaac Blanco.

Section B: Gold medals, Mr. Joseph Hupfeld, and Mr. J. J. Lindau; bronze medal, M. Freudenstein.

Section B11: Gold medal, M. Schröder; silver medals, M. Paul Mirabaud and M. Duerst; bronze medals, M. M. Max Bosche, and Dr. Kloss; silver medal, M. Philipp Kosack and M. Carl Schauff.

Section C: Gold medal, Jhr. Ph. Van Kinschob; silver medal, M. J. N. Marsden; bronze medal, Staats Boonen.

Section D: Silver medals, MM. J. C. Kuck and Paul Mirabaud; bronze medal, M. J. Laurie.

Section E: Gold medal, M. Adolf Chelius; bronze medal, M. Fereol Welter.

Division II.—Section A: Gold medal, M. Paul Mirabaud; silver medals, M. M. Aug. Fortin and Van den Bergh.

Section B: Gold medals, M. Dorning Beckton and Paul Mirabaud; silver medal, Mr. Stewart Wilson; bronze medal, M. Aug. Fortin.

Section C: Silver medal, M. Paul Mirabaud; bronze medal, M. Van Dilten.

Section D: Silver medal, M. John North; bronze medal, M. Acavalos.

Section E: Silver medals, M. M. Gibson and Van Diltion; bronze medal, M. A. Schæller.

Division III.—Section A: Gold medal, M. van den Bergh; bronze medal, M. Stadlbauer; silver medal, M. Salvez Jimenez.

Section B: Gold medal; Cantel-Bey; silver medal, M. Dorning Beckton.

Section C: Bronze medals, M. M. Dorning Beckton and J. C. Kuck.

Division IV.—Section A: Gold medal, M. R. Ehrenback; bronze medal, M. de Heer; silver medal, Wm. Paul Mirabaud Roberts; gold medal, Mr. W. T. Wilson.

Section B.—Gold medal, Mr. John Luff; bronze medal, M. le Comte de Bélenet.

Section C.—Silver medal, Messrs. Abbot and Holland; bronze medal, Mr. Van den Bergh, gold medal, Mr. Hugo Griebert; bronze medal, M. M. Galvez, Tomas Monclus.

Division V., Section A.—Silver medal, M. de Heer.

Section C.—Bronze medal, M. de Heer.

Section E.—Bronze medal, M. de Heer.

CLASS IV: COLLECTIONS OF RARE STAMPS.

Division I: Silver medal, M. Schlesinger; bronze medal, M. Eng. Mallet.

Division II: Silver medal, M. Roodenburg; bronze medal, M. M. Lombard and Moser.

Division III: Gold medal, M. W. Moser.

CLASS V: GENERAL COLLECTIONS OF STAMPS.

Division II: Bronze medal, M. le Comte de Bélenet.

Division III: Bronze medal, M. Gilis.

Division IV: Silver medal, M. Marsden.

CLASS VI: ENVELOPES.

Division II: Silver medal, Jhs. Van Kinschot; bronze medal, M. Stadlbauer.

CLASS VII: POSTAL CARDS.

Division II: Gold medal, M. Schæller; silver medal, Van Kinschot and Mezamat; bronze medal, M. Stadlbauer.

CLASS VII. B: COLLECTIONS OF "ENTIRES."

Bronze medal; M. Picard.

CLASS VII: COLLECTIONS OF FISCAL STAMPS.

Division I: Gold medal; Mr. Walter Morley; bronze medals; M. M. Rousselle and Schæller.

Division II: Silver medal; M. le Com de Bélenet; bronze medals; M. Schæller.

Division III: Silver medal; M. Hoffman; bronze medals, M. M. Gilbert and Preston Pearce.

(To be continued.)

Our Review of Reviews.

Perforations and Shades of Samoa.

Mr. Walter Morley, in the September issue of "Morley's Philatelic Journal," gives us a short pithy article on Samoa, listing the chief shade and perforation varieties from the issue of 1887 down to the present time. It is a concise, businesslike article, which one might almost describe as characteristic of the man. The body of the paper, which Mr. Morley modestly describes as a contribution towards a reference list for the period covered, runs as follows:—

1887. Watermarked N.Z. and star.

Perf. 12½.	½d. dull purple	4d. blue
	1d. emerald	1/- rose
	2d. orange	2/6 red-violet
Perf. 12.	½d. dull purple	4d. blue
	½d. deep "	6d. brown-lake
Perf. 11½.	½d. dull purple	4d. blue
	½d. deep "	6d. brown
	1d. blue-green	6d. lake
	2d. orange-yellow	1/- rose
Perf. 11.	½d. dull purple	2d. deep orange
	½d. deep "	4d. blue
	1d. pale green	6d. lake
	1d. blue "	1/- rose
	2d. orange-yellow	1/- carmine
	2d. ochre	2/6 violet

The 2d. deep orange and 1/- carmine are very distinct shades.

Perf. 12 × 11½.	½d. dull purple	4d. blue
	½d. deep "	6d. brown
	1d. emerald	6d. lake
	1d. blue-green	1/- rose
	2d. orange-yel.	1/- carmine

2/6 violet.

1892. 2½d. rose, perf. 12½, 11½, 11, 12 × 11½.

1896. 2½d. black, " 10 × 11.

This stamp is given as perf. 11 in Gibbons' but I have only met with it as above.

1893. FIVE PENCE surcharged on 4d. blue.

Perf. 11½. Long line through value.

Short " " "

Error: PENOE. " "

Perf. 12 × 11½. Long line through value.

Short " " "

Errors: PENOE and "IVE.

5d. on 4d. blue: (a) "d" raised, perf. 12 × 11½.

" " " (b) "d" level. " "

" " " " 2 bars through val.

1894. 5d. red, perf. 11½, 11½ × 12, 12.

5d. carmine, perf. 11. Very distinct shade.

April, 1895. Half of 1/- rose, used as 6d.

1895. 1½d. in blue on 2d. orange, perf. 11½, 12 × 11½.

" " " " yellow, perf. 11.

3d. in black " " " "

" " " " deep orange " "

" " " " yellow " "

" " " " orange, perf. 11½, 12 × 11½.

1898-99. Type 1. ½ longer than 2.

All p. 11. " 2. ½ same size as 2.

2½d. in black on 1/- carmine, type 1.

" " red " " rose, types 1 and 2.

" " " " 1d. green " "

1899. Perf. 11. ½d. green, 1d. red-brown.

1899. The full set of eight values, all perf. 11, was overprinted PROVISIONAL GOVT. either in red or in blue.

1900. The distinctive issues of Samoa were superseded by overprinted German stamps.

The Trade in Current Unused Stamps.

A spirited, but scarcely edifying controversy is raging between what we may call two types of stamp dealers, the new and the old, on the subject of the rapidly increasing traffic in current unused stamps. The matter is brought to

our attention at this moment by an article in the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain," headed "The Importation of Current Issues: a Warning to Collectors." This article would probably carry considerably more weight if one were quite sure as to its motive. The protection of the stamp collector is a plea that excuses much, but there is danger of its being used occasionally as a vehicle of private malice and uncharitableness. We do not think that the average stamp collector is in any great danger in purchasing current unused British Colonials at the small percentage over face value which Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen, of Norwood, asks of them. It will be objected by the way that there is no danger of Mr. L'Estrange Ewen in the "P.J.G.B.'s" article; but that article is obviously directed against him as the initiator of quite a new form of stamp dealing—a method of trading which whatever its faults may be is certainly fair, square and above board.

At the same time there is much justice in the argument of the "P.J.G.B." that current unused Colonials have no possible chance of appreciating in value in anything like the same degree as those issues which were brought out 10, 15, or 20 years ago. The contention that because the 1/- Grenada of 1883 is now worth about 25/-, the current unused Colonials are good things to buy is of course a contention that will not hold water. Certain passages that follow in the "P.J.G.B.'s" article are worthy of quotation here.

It will be no exaggeration to say that for every single unused Colonial imported only five years ago, quite 500 are brought over now, and as we have said before, it is not the dealers who are working this change, but the little army of singularly short-sighted speculators, who each apparently think that they are the only ones at the game. Hundreds of these people think nothing of sending five and ten-pound notes to different postmasters and getting entire sheets, which they put aside until they become obsolete. Even shippers of ordinary merchandise have their remittances made at times in unused postage stamps of different denominations, and these they dispose of at a profit of about 2½%, which pays them very well.

If these practices had been in vogue twenty years ago many unused Colonials of that date would certainly be obtainable now at less than face value, just as many of the present day are likely to be in 1910. Complete sets of the U.S. Columbus issue of 1892 can now be bought at auction, unused, at a fraction under face, yet they were in use but a very short time, and were not speculated in any more than British Colonials are to-day. We must warn our readers that very few unused Colonials which have only become obsolete during the past five years are at all safe investments, and that the older stamps, besides being far more interesting, will show a far better return, where a investment is sought, than current Colonials even at face value will yield.

As we said, all this would be far more convincing if it came from a disinterested source; and one cannot quite regard the genial editors of the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" as being disinterested parties in the matter of the older issues of stamps.

MR. L'ESTRANGE EWEN'S REPLY.

In "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" of August 25th, a reply to Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Pemberton's "Warning" is inserted; and this contains more than one telling point. It is a strong argument in favour of current unused British Colonials that they are at least worth their face value, though we doubt whether Mr. Ewen is justified in saying as he does say, that these stamps could be sold for their face value, even at a forced sale. It may be news to Mr. Ewen, who lives far from the storm and stress of the Strand that at the leading moneychangers' offices in London one may obtain ready (and willing) cash for unused current postage stamps of Germany, the United States, and a few other countries, whilst Colonial stamps are looked upon with scant favour, and will not be changed at all except as a matter of personal courtesy. Nevertheless Mr. Ewen's reply is most sensible and logical, and he has one or two concrete instances to offer as evidence of the success of his system of dealing. An ounce of fact is worth a ton of theory any day, and Mr. Ewen is able to shew that the 10/- Trinidad, supplied by him while current at 11/8, is now readily bought by the trade at 17/6; that the 4d. no watermark New Zealand, supplied by him at 5d. only, is now worth from 1/- to 1/6—

Messrs. Kirkpatrick & Pemberton themselves (a sly hit this) charging 2/6 for it. Other instances are given, but of course Mr. Ewen will not be blind to the fact that for every one instance of a rise in value dozens could be quoted where the market value had remained quite stationary. In this, as in all other questions of investment or speculation, the longheadedness of the individual philatelist must be the determining factor. The dealer sells what he can, and as much as he can, whether his line be stamps or scrap iron, and it is not particularly enjoyable to witness such pen and ink battles as that of the "P.J.G.B." *versus* "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News."

The 5 Cents, 1853, of Hawaii.

Not unnaturally there is a boom among American philatelists in the stamps of the Hawaiian Islands, now non-existent as an independent stamp-issuing state. Mr. J. W. Scott contributes an interesting article on the Hawaiian 5c. stamp of 1853 to the latest issue of the "Metropolitan Philatelist."

The 5c. blue (writes Mr. Scott) shows three distinct issues, and although they are all placed under the same date in the catalogue, it is not at all likely that all made their appearance in 1853. The first issue was on heavy white paper, same as used for the 13c., and is of considerable rarity. The second issue is on white paper of medium thickness, and the last on thin blue paper, and of this there are certainly at least two qualities. As the *plate* was altered from that used in printing the 13c. slight varieties are to be found. The labels were erased, leaving only the central vignette with the word postage above. The new frames having been put in separately show small differences in each stamp, the most noticeable being the second on the sheet which is so distinct that only carelessness has omitted it from lists giving varieties. There are two points not relevant to the design which we found on nearly all specimens. In right hand upper corner the serif and foot of the figure 1 of 13 were not entirely removed and show as two dots. Below the bust are two dots, the tops of the lines which partitioned "HONOLULU, HAWAII Is." from the "13" and "cts." on the 13c. stamps, and were not entirely removed. The same peculiarities are found on the 5c. on all varieties of paper, but the first issue on white paper are slightly shorter than the later printings, probably caused by the heavy paper shrinking in printing.

TABLE OF VARIETIES OF 5C. STAMPS.

Stamps are numbered from left to right and commence with the top row.

- No. 1. Figure 5 in right upper corner has a line projecting from down stroke of 5, forming a v. Dot above F of five can be traced down some distance, is a fine line.
- No. 2. Line extending through the word "Honolulu," which is continued as a line across the bottom label, a similar line shows through part of the word Hawaiian Is., being noticeable as connecting "Ha" together and crossing the I and extending under the s of "Is."
- No. 3. Dot on marginal line under left foot of "F."
- No. 4. Line crossing H of Honolulu above bar of H. Line to right of serif of last "I" of same word. Line connecting s of "Is" with frame.
- No. 5. Right figure 5 same as on No. 1.
- No. 6. No foot to bottom of F of "Full."
- No. 7. A diagonal dash under dot below s of "Is."
- No. 8. Dot at back of left figure 5. Faint line extending entire length of stamp at right side.
- No. 9. Normal.
- No. 10. Faint line crossing "lulu," most noticeable when crossing last "u," a continuation of it also crosses top of 5.
- No. 11. H of Honolulu not crossed.
- No. 12. Slanting line extending down from frame 1mm. above space between "Five" and "Cts."
- No. 13. Normal.
- No. 14. Dot on lower marginal line 1½mm. from left.
- No. 15. Fine dash above and between "aw" of "Hawaiian."
- No. 16. Dot on bottom marginal line 2mm. from left. Faint outer line outside left margin of stamp.
- No. 17. Faint double line at bottom.
- No. 18. Similar to No. 14, but dot a trifle further from left.
- No. 19. Faint traces of line through "Honolulu," the H of which is without cross bar. Dot above bottom marginal line 2½mm. from left.
- No. 20. Faint slanting line after the word "FIVE."

Many of the above varieties are slight, but Nos. 2 and 12 could not fail to attract attention, while Nos. 1, 5 and 7 are also quite noticeable.

'Twixt Editor and Reader.

WE hold no brief of the Mafeking stamps or for any other stamps. But we like to see fair play. Every man has a right to his own opinions, but in the matter of these Mafekings there seems to us to be a desire in certain quarters to prove the thing that is not, and to belittle these much debated stamps at all costs.

Mr. P. Halford Thomas, a gentleman who was one of those to endure the perils and privations of the Mafeking Siege, seems to have good ground for feeling aggrieved at the manner in which his attempts to dispose of certain stamps brought or sent to this country from the "Village on the Veldt" have been received. In the first place Mr. Thomas' brother offered certain of the stamps to Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen, of Norwood, whereupon Mr. Ewen, who appears to be firmly persuaded that nothing good can come out of Mafeking, replied in this wise:—

I return your stamps as I have come to the conclusion that 3 if not 4 of the "Besieged" stamps are forgeries. I cabled my Kimberley correspondent three weeks ago, and from information supplied by him I have no doubt that nine out of ten of these stamps sold in South Africa are forgeries. It is no guarantee even if they come from Mafeking. I would warn you against selling any without an expert's guarantee.

That reply, as it stands, would perhaps be unexceptionable if Mr. Ewen's statements were matters of fact, but it so happens that the stamps submitted to him by Mr. Thomas are perfectly genuine in every respect; and Mr. J. R. F. Furner of Oxford, who has perhaps handled more "Mafekings" than any philatelist in this country, has written our correspondent a letter to that effect. Of course no man should know better whether the stamps are genuine than Mr. Thomas himself, for we have his statement—and, even if he wished to do so, it is too small a matter to lie about—we have Mr. Thomas' statement that he collected these stamps himself in Mafeking and used them upon envelopes at the time of the siege. Mr. Ewen would doubtless retort that the stamps could very comfortably have been forged in Mafeking; but we fancy our readers will agree with us in thinking that the beleaguered garrison had all its work cut out to dodge the shells of the pom-poms.

It really seems to us that Mr. Ewen, a philatelist for whose opinion on a great many subjects we have every respect, is animated by a determination not to be convinced on this subject of the Mafekings. "None so blind as those who won't see!"

Yet more Mafeking!

Mr. B. W. Warhurst, who is now associated in an editorial capacity with "Stamps," takes all the criticisms embodied in our recent article on "The Status of Mafeking Stamps" as personal to himself. Our correspondent criticised "Stamps" and not its editor. Mr. Warhurst must take unto himself a little more of the philosophy that is necessary to a scissors-and-paste career.

On the general question (writes the Editor of "Stamps"), my contention is that the surcharging of the Mafeking stamps was utterly unnecessary and became speculative, the ordinary postal service being suspended. If the military officer responsible in the besieged town had chose to say to those wishing messages sent away—"You must pay us double (or even ten times) the usual postal rates"—then two (or ten) rates instead of one could have been paid in ordinary stamps. There can be little if any doubt that the author of the proposal to overprint the existing stamps and to issue special ones for local service, had an eye to business—and some day we may read in his Reminiscences or Recollections (written in his club in well-earned retirement)—I, even I, was the man who got up the "Mafeking Besieged" stamps which were sent off, and of which some "few" fell into and out of my possession.

But, Mr. Warhurst, is it not conceivable that there was a fatal objection to this plan of paying ten times the ordinary postage in the shape of an actual shortage of stamps in the besieged town? The fact that such a medley of stamps (British Cape, British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate) were commandeered for surcharged is itself a strong argument in support of such a shortage.

Marie I., King of the Sedangs.

THE FULL AND TRUE HISTORY OF THE MAN WHO ISSUED THOSE IMPUDENT SEDANG STAMPS.

MR. HENRY NORMAN, in his book, "The Far East," gives us a vivid pen-picture of the picturesque adventurer who styled himself "Marie I, Roi des Sedangs," annexed a slice of Siamese territory to reign over, formed an alliance with the French, coquetted with Germany, and—issued stamps. The "Australian Philatelist" makes a readable summary of Mr. Norman's references to the tonculent Marie, and we take leave to reprint it here:—

"One of the most remarkable romances of modern Eastern history is connected with these French colonies. In the spring of 1879 there appeared at Hongkong a tall well built Frenchman with a bushy brown beard and very long legs, who called himself Marie David de Mayréna, and distributed visiting cards with the words "S.M. le Roi des Sedangs" printed upon them. He had had an adventurous career in the Far East, in the course of which he had more than once displayed great personal courage in guerilla warfare. At last his wanderings brought him to the region of the Sedangs, a tribe inhabiting part of the Hinterland of Annam, a region not so well-known then as it has since become. By these people he had been elected king, and of the genuineness of election there can be no doubt whatever. He was at first recognised by the French missionaries and the French authorities, and I have myself seen correspondence and treaties which establish his claim beyond question. Of these treaties there were a score signed between Mayréna and the chiefs of the different tribes (here follow extracts from some of the more important) I should add that I give these details not only for their romantic interest, but also because when Mayréna was thrown over by the French authorities and the missionaries, he was pooh-poohed as a common liar, and now that he is dead and the whole strange adventure at an end, I take pleasure in showing that he was not wholly an imposter, in spite of his vanity and his follies. It should be added in explanation of certain phrases that his French was by no means always above reproach.

When Mayréna first turned up at Hongkong, he was vouched by the French Consul and introduced by him to everybody, including

the Governor, in consequence of which his social position was sealed by an invitation to dinner at Government House. At this time he was an astounding figure, when in his Royal attire. He wore a short scarlet jacket with enormous *galons* on the cuffs, a broad blue ribbon, a magenta sash in which was stuck a long curved sword worn across the front of the body, white trousers with a broad gold stripe and a white helmet with a gold crown and three stars. He distributed broadcast the "Order of Marie I." He used notepaper with a huge gold crown and coat-of-arms upon it, gave large orders for jewellery, and conducted himself generally like a crowned head.

Mayréna succeeded in getting a few Hongkong merchants to enter into an arrangement with him, by which he conceded to them the right of developing the country of the Sedangs, in return for certain duties upon trade and exports. But the collapse came, of course, when the French authorities changed their policy and took a line of direct opposition to him. Even the missionaries, who had enabled him to secure the treaties of which they themselves were the official witnesses, denounced him an impostor. He then offered himself and his country to the British, who would naturally have nothing to do with him, so he next tried the Germans, and was actually indiscreet enough to send a telegram to Berlin in open German, offering his allegiance, forgetting that this must pass through a French office in Saigon. Of course it was read, and reported from there, and orders were issued for his arrest. He believed that he was condemned to be shot for high treason, so he went to Europe by the German mail steamer, a few of his acquaintances in Hongkong passing the hat round to pay his passage. After he had left, the police succeeded in recovering most of the jewellery he had presented and failed to pay for. A man of this stamp, however is never very long without money, and after spending some time in prison in Ostend for debt, he next turned up in Paris and lived there in luxury for a while, the French press not being quite sure what to make of him. Finally he returned to the Far East, settled down with one male companion and two or three female ones on an uninhabited island off the coast of the Malay Peninsula, where a cobra brought his strange career to an end by biting him on the foot. All that remains of "Marie I., King of the Sedangs," is the set of postage stamps he issued, which are among the most prized (?) curiosities of the philatelists.

Such is the true story of 'a man who would be king,' and it is perhaps worth telling as an illustration of the fact that even in these late days there may be as much romance in reality as in fiction, at least in the wonderland of the Far East."

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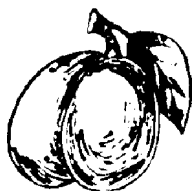
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ALL UNUSED.		ALL UNUSED.		ALL UNUSED.	
s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Antigua, 1862, no W., 6p.	19 0	Br. Honduras, 1872, 1sh., 12½	18 0	Trinidad, 1863, 1½ to 12, 4p	53 0
„ 1863, star, 6d blue-green	10 0	„ 1879, 4p „	10 0	„ 1864, 4p. bright violet	21 0
„ 1873, CC, 12½, 6p.	24 0	„ 1882, 6p. yellow	50 0	„ „ 4p. dull lilac	13 0
„ 1879, CC, 4p.	14 6	„ „ 1sh. grey	52 0	„ „ 6p. emerald green	13 0
„ „ CA, 4p.	14 6	Jamaica, 1860, 1sh. purple brown	20 0	„ „ 6p. yellow green	13 0
Bahamas, £1	21 0	Mauritius, 1858, 9p. magenta	14 0	„ „ 1sh. bright purple	18 0
Barbados, 1872, 1sh., sm., st.	8 0	„ 1859, 6p. blue	18 0	„ „ 1sh. red lilac	36 0
„ 1875, 4p. deep red	15 0	„ „ 1sh. vermilion	28 0	„ 1872, 4p. grey	12 0
„ 1878, 3p. mauve	7 6	„ „ 1803, 5sh. purple	16 0	„ 1876, 1sh. chrome yell.	16 0
Br. Honduras, 1866, 6p.	13 6	France, 1849, 1fr. deep orange	200 0	Turks Is., 1867, 6p.	14 0
„ „ 1sh.	23 0	Spain, 1851, 2 Reales	630 0	„ „ 1sh.	12 0
„ „ 1872, 6p., 12½	25 0	„ 1852 „	360 0	„ „ 2½ on 6p.	32 0
„ „ 1sh.	20 0	„ 1853 „	180 0	„ „ 4 on 1p.	52 0
„ „ 3p., 11	13 0	„ 1853, 3 Cuartos	370 0	„ „ 4 on 6p. rare type	35 0
„ „ 6p.	55 0				
				Turks Is., 3p. ultramarine	18 0
				Victoria, 5sh. blue on yellow	180 0
				Belgium, 1849, 10c. brown	40 0
				„ „ 20c. blue	36 0
				Bolivia, 1867, 500 centavos	38 0
				Brazil, 1843, 30r.	15 0
				„ „ 60r.	12 0
				„ „ 90r.	10 0
				„ 1844, 600r.	160 0
				„ 1866, perf., 20r.	23 0
				„ „ 300r.	18 0
				„ „ 600r.	26 0
				„ „ 280r. red	25 0
				Portugal, first issue, 100r very fine	600 0

We especially desire to Purchase for immediate Cash
Several Fine Collections from £50 up to £3000.

Also Single Rare Stamps. Specialist's Collections and Large Parcels of Mixed Lots, Proofs and Essays of all countries.
 Highest Price given for a fine General Collection. All Orders Promptly Attended To.

HUGO GRIEBERT & CO., 10, ELDON ROAD, KENSINGTON, LONDON, W.

THE

STAMP COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 146—Vol. VI.
SATURDAY OCTOBER 13, 1900.
ONE PENNY.

G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO.,
Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers,
10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.
 TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "PHILATELIC, LONDON." TELEPHONE No. 5596 AVENUE.

We have much pleasure in announcing that we have been awarded the highest possible award (Silver Medal) at the recent Paris Exhibition, for our well-known

"INTERCHANGEABLE PHILATELIC ALBUMS."

Full particulars of these fine Albums will be sent on application.

The following Approval Books have just been made up:

<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>GREAT BRITAIN</td><td style="text-align: right;">3 Vols.</td></tr> <tr><td>PERSIA AND CHINA</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>SEYCHELLES AND St. HELENA</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>LUXEMBURG</td><td style="text-align: right;">2 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>ITALIAN STATES</td><td style="text-align: right;">4 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>BADEN</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>PERSIA</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 ..</td></tr> </table>	GREAT BRITAIN	3 Vols.	PERSIA AND CHINA	1 ..	SEYCHELLES AND St. HELENA	1 ..	LUXEMBURG	2 ..	ITALIAN STATES	4 ..	BADEN	1 ..	PERSIA	1 ..	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>BELGIUM</td><td style="text-align: right;">2 Vols.</td></tr> <tr><td>SWEDEN</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>SWITZERLAND</td><td style="text-align: right;">2 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>AUSTRIA</td><td style="text-align: right;">2 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>BAVARIA</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>ORANGE FREE STATE AND CHINA</td><td style="text-align: right;">1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>TRANSVAAL</td><td style="text-align: right;">2 ..</td></tr> </table>	BELGIUM	2 Vols.	SWEDEN	1 ..	SWITZERLAND	2 ..	AUSTRIA	2 ..	BAVARIA	1 ..	ORANGE FREE STATE AND CHINA	1 ..	TRANSVAAL	2 ..
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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.

We are desirous of purchasing Single Rare Stamps, or Collections of the largest magnitude, for immediate cash.

SPECIAL OFFERS:

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Mecklenburg-Strelitz, 1/4 schg., rouletted, used, superb	5 10 0	Naples, 1/2 tornese, Cross, superb	3 17 6
Lubeck, the error, 2 1/2 schg., unused, very fine	1 17 6	Spain, 1852, 3 quartos, Madrid, unused, very fine	15 0 0
Oldenburg, 1853, 1/2 gros., green, 1853, unused, very fine	6 0 0	1853, 2rls., unused, very fine	12 0 0
Brunswick, 1865, 1/2 gros. black, roul., unused, mint	1 15 0	Russian Levant, 2okr., 1865, used, superb	6 10 0
Saxony, 3pf., 1850, unused, very fine	7 10 0	Roumania, 1858, 27p., used, very fine	45 0 0
Wurtemberg, 1875, 7okr., used	1 15 0	" " 54p., used, superb	13 10 0
Austria, 1653, 4kr., newspaper stamp, unused	5 0 0	Servia, 1868, 2 paras, error, unused, very fine	11 10 0
Great Britain, 1d. V.R., unused, fine	8 10 0	" 1866, 10 lupa, unused, fine	3 10 0
Switzerland, Basle, 2 1/2r., used, fine	3 10 0	Ceylon, 1861, 3d., imperf., unused, very fine	50 0 0
Sardinia, letter sheets, 15c., 25c., 50c., used, very rare	5 0 0	Hongkong, 1875, 10 dollars, unused, fine	3 0 0
Tuscany, 1849, 2 soldi, used, very fine	6 10 0	U. S., 2 dollars, State, used, very fine	3 5 0
" 60 crazie, used, very fine	10 0 0	" 20	8 10 0
Modena, large B.G., used, very fine	2 10 0	Western Australia, 1853, 2d., unused, mint	16 0 0
Naples, 1/2 tornese, Arms, used, superb	12 0 0		

CORRESPONDENCE in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

Mention this paper.

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 ensuing Season will be as under:—

1900.—October 25th and 26th; November 8th, 22nd and 23rd; December 6th and 7th.

1901.—January 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th, 31st; February 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th; March 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th and 29th; April 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; May 9th and 10th, 30th and 31st, and June 13th and 14th.

October 25th and 26th.—A fine PRIVATE COLLECTION, including the following rarities:—Cape of Good Hope, 1d., Woodblock, a fine unused pair with gum. Moldavia, 1st issue, 108 paras, unused. Nevis, 1/- yellow-green; 4d. and 6d. lithographed; 1/- blue-green, &c., all unused. St. Vincent, 4d. on 1/- vermilion; 5/-, wmk. Star, unused. Natal, 1/- green, curved black surcharge "Postage," 12½ mm. and 15 mm., both on 1/- green. Lagos, 10/- lilac-brown, used. Ceylon, 8d., imperf. Newfoundland, 6½d. carmine, unused. Acores, 1st issue, 5 reis, imperf. New Brunswick, the Connell, 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, 3076 Bank. ESTABLISHED 1761.

The NEW "A B C" Catalogue (4th Edition).

WILL BE PUBLISHED EARLY IN NOVEMBER, and will be the Up-to-Date Catalogue for the coming Season. Many new features are introduced, and much additional information is given that will be found useful to Collectors. Contains Adhesives and Entires of all Countries in one Volume.

Price, 2/6; Post Free, 2/10.

A few copies of the 3rd Edition are on hand, price, 1/6 post free.

MAFEKING BESIEGED.

We have all these Stamps in Stock at Low Prices, from 15/- each. Particulars on Application. . . .

* ORANGE RIVER COLONY. *

	s.	d.		s.	d.	
½d. on Half Penny, yellow, Type I. (Thick stops at foot of letters) ..	1	6	1d. mauve, Type I. ..	..	1	0
½d. " " " II. (Raised thin stops) ..	0	2	1d. " " II. ..	..	0	2
½d. " " " III. (Very thick stops in various positions) ..	10	0	1d. " " V. ..	..	0	6
½d. " " " IV. (Thick and thin stops mixed) ..	..	..	2d. violet " I. (Type II., 4d.) ..	..	1	0
(Block of 6 containing Types II., III. and IV.)	..	..	2½d. blue " I. ..	..	12	6
½d. " " " V. (Thick "V" in "V.R.I." ..	0	6	3d. " " I. (Type II., 6d.) ..	..	0	9
There are 3 copies of Type II., 1 copy of Type IV., and 6 copies of Type V. in sheet of 60 stamps.	..	..	4d. " " I. (Type II., 3/6) ..	..	2	6
	..	..	6d. " " I. (Type II., 10d.) ..	..	3	0
	..	..	1s. brown " I. (Stop after "s" of Type I.) (Type II., 1/9) ..	..	4	0
	..	..	1s. " " I. (" " " " II.) ..	..	8	0
	..	..	5s. " " I. (Type II., 7/6) ..	..	25	0

Other varieties (missing stops, etc.) in Stock. All varieties can be supplied in pairs with the normal Types.

A FEW USED COPIES IN STOCK WHICH CAN BE SUPPLIED AT SLIGHTLY HIGHER RATES.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY, Burcharged on CAPE (already obsolete), 1/-.

TRANSVAAL, Burcharged V.R.I., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1/- Set unused, 4/6. Higher Values also in Stock at Low Rates.

Approval Sheets, Medium Selections, Special Books of Separate Countries. For Stamps in Good Condition, our Prices are Cheaper than those of any other Firm. Novelty List of Philatelic Accessories, 32 pages, post free. Modern Transvaal and Orange Free State Issues are rising. A Good Selection at Low Prices can be sent.

BRIGHT & SON, 164, Strand, W.C.

Where Collectors calling can inspect our Selections, of which there are generally about 150 on view, the Stamps contained in which constitute one of the finest stocks in Great Britain.



The STAMP COLLECTORS

FORTNIGHTLY

Published every alternate Saturday, at 77-78, High Holborn, London. W.C.

With which are incorporated the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

CONDUCTED BY **PERCY C. BISHOP.**

Official Organ of the Rochdale Philatelic Society, the Cambridge University Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, and the Central Philatelic Club.

No. 146.—Vol. VI. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1900. ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

FULL STORY OF THE MAFEKING FORGERIES.

HOW THEY WERE "PLACED" AT THE CAPE—MASTERLY INACTIVITY OF THE POLICE.

INFORMATION is now to hand from correspondents at the Cape to the effect that the forged Mafekings were known there fully four weeks before the *Fortnightly* came out with the news of their discovery in London. This seems to finally clinch the theory that at least one large lot of the forgeries was of Cape origin.

"S.T.A.I.," writing to the "Cape Argus," complains of the masterly inactivity of the Cape Town Police in face of his denunciation of the people who were placing these forged stamps upon the market. This gentleman furnished the police with: (1) the names of parties who had been swindled, and also the names of philatelic experts prepared to testify to the forgeries; and (2) the addresses and a full description of the people who had palmed off the forgeries.

In spite of all the trouble he had gone to, "S.T.A.I." could get up information from the police as to what was being done. Enquiries elicited only the cold official answer that the matter was "under investigation." Up to the time of his letter to the "Cape Argus," no real action appears to have been taken.

"The gang," this gentleman adds, "consisted of three foreigners—a woman and two men.

A more detailed account of the parties engaged in placing the forgeries is given in a letter from Mr. Shelvoke, of Shenstone, Staffs, who, it will be remembered, promised to

make enquiries as to the source of the supplies received by him from his son at the Cape. Mr. Shelvoke writes:—

The chief of the gang appears to have been rather a meek-looking elderly man, who represented that he was just down from Mafeking and very hard up. He gave his address as Mr. Sicker, Palm Cottage, Rondebosch, and actually allowed the stamps to remain in the hands of my son until next day. In the meantime they were examined by a dealer who pronounced them genuine. This same dealer afterwards bought to the amount of £40 from a woman who signed her name as Emilie Sicker. Needless to say nothing is known of these people at the address they gave. The forgery was at length discovered through a dealer submitting some of the stamps to the Postmaster.

IS SABA A REPUBLIC OR NOT?

THERE seems to be some conflict of opinion as to the constitution of Saba, the small West Indian Island to which we referred in a recent quotation from "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News."

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., write us under date September 29th, questioning the accuracy of our description of Saba as a republic. "The island," add our correspondents, is certainly not without postage stamps. Saba and St. Eustatius are dependencies of the Dutch colony of Curaçoa, and use the stamps of that place. We have had correspondence from both islands, for many years."

In confirmation of this, the latest issue of "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News," contains a communication from Dr. W. H. Mitchell, stating most positively that Saba is a Dutch colony and nothing else. "It has a Dutch governor," adds Dr. Mitchell, "who is subordinated to the Governor of Curaçoa, of which colony Saba forms a part, together with several other small islands.

THE CAUSE OF THE "C.E.F." SURCHARGE.

RECENTLY in our New Issue chronicle we announced the fact that all the current Indian stamps had been surcharged with the letters "C.E.F." for the use of the Indian troops attached to the Chinese Expeditionary Force.

The "Philatelic Journal of India" gives the following explanation of the necessity for this surcharge:—

A difficulty has arisen in the matter of the sale of stamps in the field post offices attached to the China expeditionary force which has been sent from India. For the purpose of official calculations the dollar has been taken at 18. 11d. This makes one anna 4 cents, plus a considerable fraction. It has been decided to sell stamps in the field at the rate of 4 cents to the anna. As this would undoubtedly lead to the purchase of every stamp in stock by the wild Chinaman to remit to India. It has been decided to surcharge all stamps sold by the China expeditionary force field post offices with the letters "C.E.F.," so that they may not be available for use in India. The ½, 1, 2, 4, 8, 12 annas and 1 rupee values are to be so treated.

Notes from the Auction Rooms.

APPENDED are the prices realised for a few of the most interesting lots in Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's sale, No. 148:

	£	s.	d.
Ceylon, imperf. 4d. rose, slightly cut into at bottom, in other respects fine	9	0	0
Ditto, wmk. star, perf. 1/9 green, unused	3	3	0
British East Africa, surcharged on Companys' issue 2 rupees, fine	2	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, wood block, 1d. red, very fine	5	12	6
Mauritius, Post Paid, early impression, 1d. vermilion and 2d. blue, very fine copies, used together on piece of original	24	10	0
Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. vermilion, a very fine vertical pair, used, on piece of original	14	0	0
Ditto ditto, 2d. blue, the error "Penoe" rather thinned at back, but in other respects, very fine	12	0	0
Oil Rivers, 3/4d. in violet on 2d. (S.G. No. 12), mint	1	15	0
Ditto, 3/4d. in green on 2 1/4d. (S.G. No. 13), mint	1	14	0
Ditto, 3/4d. in blue on 2 1/4d. (S.G. No. 15a), mint	1	14	0
Ditto, 3/4d. in green on 2 1/4d. (S.G. No. 20), mint	2	4	0
Ditto, 1/- in violet on 2d. (S.G. No. 28), mint	1	17	6
New Brunswick, 1/- violet, fine	11	11	0
Ditto, "O'Connell" stamp, unused, with gum	15	0	0
Newfoundland, 2d. orange, ditto	1	4	0
Ditto, 1/- carmine, cut close, but apparently unused	8	10	0
Nova Scotia, 1/- violet, fair	7	15	0
Nevis, 1st issue, 4d. rose, unused	2	4	0
St. Vincent, 1869, 4d. yellow, a very fine unused copy, with gum	2	2	0
Trinidad, 1894, the set of seven, surcharged O.S.	5	5	0

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson commenced their stamp sales for the present season on September 25th and 26th. We give below the prices realised for some of the rarer stamps:—

	£	s.	d.
Spain, 1852, 2 reales, fine	6	0	0
Ditto, 1865, perf. 19c. rose and brown, fine, but without gum, unused	2	0	0
Ceylon, imperf., 4d. rose, cut into on left side	4	8	0
Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 4d. blue, creased	1	4	0
Mafeking Besieged Stamps on Cape, 6d. on 3d. magenta	3	10	0
Ditto, on British Bechuanaland, 1/- on 4d. used on original	2	0	0
Ditto ditto, 6d. on 3d. lilac, unused, with gum, but slightly creased	4	7	6
Ditto, Baden-Powell 3d. blue, small head, used, on small piece	1	8	0
Ditto, the complete set of 19, used, on small pieces of the original	33	0	0
New Brunswick, 6d. yellow, exceedingly fine	3	5	0
Newfoundland, 1/- carmine, cut into on left side and at bottom	5	17	6
Nova Scotia, 1/- violet, very fine	13	0	0
Ditto ditto, another, in a different shade	12	0	0
United States, 1861-66, 3c. scarlet, unused, without gum	11	0	0
Ditto ditto, 5c. brick-red, unused, with gum, but slightly torn into on right	4	2	6
Ditto, 1869, 24c., with centre rivetted, partly re-perforated	9	10	0

Mr. W. Hadlow held his 165th sale on September 28th. This knight of the hammer must be very energetic to sell 321 in one sale. Among other lots offered were the following:—

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, Govt. Parcels 1d. with surcharge inverted	4	10	0
"Mafeking Besieged" Baden-Powell, 3d. blue, small head, unused	1	18	0
Ditto, ditto, another used	1	4	0
Ditto, 1d. grey-blue (cyclist)	1	1	0
Newfoundland, 1/- orange-vermilion, fair	7	0	0

Messrs. Plumridge & Co., disposed of a fine private collection, the property of an American lady, on October 9th and 10th. Their well known sale-room at 63/4 Chancery Lane was well attended each night, the auctioneer having been favoured with instructions to sell entirely without reserve. We will mention some of the lots and the prices realised for the same in our next number.

On the day we go to press with this number Mr. J. C. Stevens, of King Street, Covent Garden, is selling a fine

selection of "Mafekings" and other South African Stamps. The catalogue of the sale bears on its cover an enlarged illustration of the blue "Baden-Powell" threepence.

At a recent sale at their Rooms in King Street, Messrs. Debenham, Storr & Son sold a number of Mafeking Siege stamps at very satisfactory prices. Another sale will be held on the 26th instant.

DATES OF FORTHCOMING AUCTION SALES.

Following are the London auction fixtures for the ensuing fortnight. We invite the co-operation of all auctioneers in making these lists of dates complete:—

October 15th. Mr. W. Hadlow at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, commencing at 5.30 p.m.

October 16th and 17th. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, commencing 4.30 p.m. precisely.

October 23rd and 24th. Messrs. Plumridge & Co. at 63/4, Chancery Lane, W.C., commencing 5 p.m. sharp.

October 25th and 26th. Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, commencing at 5 p.m.

October 25th. Mr. J. C. Stevens' Sale of Mafeking Stamps, etc., at King Street, Covent Garden; commencing 2 o'clock.

October 26th. Messrs. Debenham Storr & Son's Sale, at their Rooms in King Street, Covent Garden; commencing 2 o'clock.

PENNY POSTAGE TO AUSTRALIA.

It seems probable that the British Imperial Penny Postage system will soon be made complete by the inclusion of the Australian Colonies. Mr. Henniker Heaton has recently received telegraphic advices to the effect that the question of including the Australian Colonies in the Imperial Penny Postage Scheme will probably be settled very shortly in a satisfactory manner. The sole obstacle which hindered their adhesion in 1898 was the fact that their own postal rate inland was 2d. However, the spirited action of the Postmaster General of New Zealand in establishing universal penny postage has forced the hands of his neighbours. Mr. Henniker Heaton has received the following message from the Right Hon. R. J. Seddon, Prime Minister of New Zealand: "I am much gratified to be able to give effect to our penny postage legislation with the people of the Home Country. Our people rejoice with yours. Am pleased our satisfactory Budget has given satisfaction in England. We have since had further positive proof in New Zealand of continued prosperity."

THE COOK ISLANDS TO BE ANNEXED.

NEWSPAPER despatches from Auckland, New Zealand, dated Saturday, September 29th, state that the Hon. R. J. Seddon's motion in the New Zealand parliament in favour of the annexation of the Cook Island and the Savage Islands was carried by a majority of 37 to 4. Under the same vote provision was made for assistance being rendered to the Fijian chiefs to establish self-government in the Fijian group; the native chiefs themselves to be represented in the New Zealand parliament.

MR. FRED HAGAN REPUBLISHES HIS OLD PAPER.

THE "Australian Philatelist" of Sydney has had many changes but few alterations. That seems paradoxical, but is not really so. Our bright little antipodean contemporary has often changed hands but its policy has always been the same and it has never dropped far below the standard of excellence it first set up for itself when published under the name of "Vindin's Philatelic Monthly." Mr. Fred Hagan some time ago transferred the paper to its printer the proprietor of the Southern Cross Printing Works in Sydney. Apparently this gentleman has found that there is not a great deal of profit in a stamp paper except for a person who deals in stamps; consequently the copyright of the "Australian Philatelist" has found its way back to Mr. Hagan, and from the August 30th issue just to hand we learn that the editorship has also undergone a change. Mr. A. F. Bassett Hull resigns his work as editor owing to a promotion in the Government service, necessitating his retirement from regular literary work. The new editor veils his identity under the name of "Timbrologist," but if we may judge from his first number he will not unworthily follow Mr. Bassett Hull.

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.

FIJI ISLANDS.

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1870. Times Express; quadrille paper; rouletted.				
1d. black on pink ..	60/			
3d. " " ..	70/			
6d. " " ..	90/			
1/- " " ..	80/			
Laid bâtonné paper; rouletted.				
1d. black on pink ..	10/			
3d. " " ..	12/6			
6d. " " ..	40/			
9d. " " ..	40/			
1/- " " ..	30/			
1871. Wave paper; perf. 12½; wmk. "Fiji Postage" through centre of each sheet; Gibbons' Types 2 and 3.				
1d. blue ..	1/6	1/	4/	2/9
3d. green ..	2/	1/6	5/	3/6
6d. carmine ..	7/6	5/	7/6	5/
1872. The same, but value in cents overcharged in black.				
Two cents on 1d. blue ..	2/	1/6	2/	1/6
Six cents on 3d. green ..	3/	2/3	2/6	1/9
Twelve cents on 6d. carmine ..	7/6	5/	6/	4
1873. Surcharged in black with value and V.R. in fancy letters; Gibbons' types 5 and 6.				
1d. blue ..	100/	60/	30/	20/
3d. green ..	105/	65/	60/	40/
6d. rose ..	120/	80/	35/	25/
2d. on 3d. green ..	150/	100/	75/	50/
2d. on 6d. carmine ..				
Red surcharge.				
2d. in red on 3d. green ..			40/	25/
Surcharged in black with V.R. in plain letters; Gibbons' type 7.				
1d. blue ..			35/	21/
3d. green ..			75/	45/
6d. rose ..			35/	21/
The same, with additional surcharge 2d.				
2d. on 3d. green ..				
2d. on 6d. carmine ..				
Red surcharge.				
2d. on 3d. green ..			45/	30/
1876. Surcharged with monogram V.R. in black; wove paper.				
1d. ultramarine ..	2/	1/6	4/	3/
Two Pence on 3d. green ..	3/	1/9	5/	4/
3d. green ..				
6d. carmine ..	2/6	1/9	2/6	1/9

FIJI ISLANDS—Continued.

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1878. Laid paper.				
1d. ultramarine ..	1/3	1/9	1/	1/9
Two Pence on 3d. green ..	2/	1/9	2/3	1/6
Four Pence on 3d. lilac ..	2/6	1/9	1/9	1/3
6d. carmine ..	4/	3/	1/6	1/
1880. Unsurcharged; various perfs.				
1d. ultramarine ..	1/3	1/2	1/4	1/3
1d. blue ..	10/	6/6	1/6	1/
Two Pence on 3d. green ..	2/	1/6	3/6	2/6
2d. green ..	1/9	1/6	1/9	1/6
Four Pence on 2d. lilac ..	1/6	1/	1/6	1/
6d. carmine ..	1/6	1/	1/6	1/
1/- brown ..	1/6		1/6	1/
5/- black and rose ..	6/3		6/3	
1591.				
¼d. on 1d. ultramarine ..	2/6		3/6	
2¼d. on 2d. green ..	2/6		2/6	
Do., do., larger distance between "2 and ¼" ..	12/6		15/	
Four Pence on 1d. lilac ..	1/6		1/6	
5d. on 4d. mauve ..	5/		5/	
FIVE PENCE on 6d. carmine ..	3/		3/	
Do., do., wider space between FIVE and PENCE ..	1/6		2/	
1893. Various perfs.				
¼d. grey ..	1/		1/	
1d. black ..	1/2		1/2	
1d. lilac-rose ..	1/2		1/2	
2d. green ..	1/3		1/3	
2¼d. brown ..	1/4		1/3	
4d. lilac ..	1/6		1/6	
5d. blue ..	1/7		1/5	
6d. carmine ..	1/8		1/8	
1/- yellow-brown ..	1/4		1/4	
GAMBIA.				
1869. No wmk; imperf.				
4d. brown ..	21/	15/	17/6	12/6
4d. pale brown ..	21/	15/	17/6	12/6
6d. blue ..	45/	30/	21/	15/
6d. deep blue ..	40/	25/	21/	15/
1874. Wmk. CC.; imperf.				
4d. brown ..	35/	25/	17/6	12/6
4d. pale brown ..	35/	25/	17/6	12/6
6d. blue ..	21/	15/	20/	14/
6d. deep blue ..	21/	15/	20/	14/
1880. Wmk. CC.; perf. 14.				
¼d. golden-yellow ..	7/6	5/	7/6	5/
½d. yellow ..	19/	16/	3/6	2/6
1d. marone ..	1/3	1/	2/	1/3
2d. rose ..	6/	4/	3/6	2/6
3d. pale blue ..	3/6	2/6	3/	2/3
3d. deep blue ..	30/	20/		
4d. brown ..	30/	20/	4/6	3/6
6d. blue ..	15/	10/	12/6	9/
6d. deep blue ..	15/	10/	12/6	9/
1/- green ..	45/	32/6	42/	32/6
1/- blue green ..	50/	35/	45/	35/
1887. Wmk. CA.; perf. 14.				
¼d. green ..	1/		1/3	
½d. pale green ..	1/2		1/3	
1d. carmine ..	1/6		1/6	
1d. pale carmine ..	1/3		1/3	
2d. orange ..	1/4		1/6	
2d. orange-yellow ..	1/9		1/9	
2¼d. ultramarine ..	10/		2/6	
2½d. blue ..	15/		1/4	
3d. grey ..	19/		1/9	
3d. slate ..	16/		1/9	
4d. brown ..	1/		1/	
4d. dark brown ..	18/		1/8	
6d. pale yellow-green ..	15/		6/	4/6
6d. slate-green ..	1/		1/6	
6d. dark green ..	1/		2/	
1/- violet ..	3/6		3/6	
1/- mauve ..	2/		2/6	

(To be continued).

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, OCTOBER 13, 1900.

Editor - - - PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager - - SYDNEY BISHOP.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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.

The "Fortnightly's" Advertising Rates are as follows:—

Pages of Two Columns.			
For One Insertion—	£	s.	d.
Whole Page	5	0	0
Half Page	2	15	0
Quarter Page	1	10	0
One-Eighth Page	0	15	0

Pages of Three Columns.			
For One Insertion—	£	s.	d.
Whole Column	1	15	0
Half Column	0	18	0
Quarter Column	0	10	0
One Inch	0	5	0

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.			
	s.	d.	
One Year (26 numbers) post free	5	3	
Six Months (12 numbers)	1	6	

Between Ourselves

SOME little time ago Mr. Charles J. Phillips became known among philatelists as the "great amalgamator," because of a curious phrase he once used in describing the purchase by his firm of a large collection of stamps as a "great amalgamation." The *Fortnightly* on the same principle might be dubbed the "great incorporator," for from time to time it has absorbed several other philatelic journals, the latest of these being Mr. Melville's bright little paper, the "Young Stamp Collector." Within a very few weeks of the *Fortnightly's* birth in 1894 came its first amalgamations. The "Stamp Collectors' Monthly" was then taken over, and with it the copyright of the "Stamp Investors' Guide," an ingenious little review of the philatelic market which was deserving of a far better fate than fell to its share. More recently the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian" was purchased, and now the copyright of the "Young Stamp Collector" has been added to the *Fortnightly's* trophies. We do not regard this last acquisition in any triumphant mood, because there was never the slightest possibility of rivalry between such a journal as the "Young Stamp Collector" and its elder brother the *Fortnightly*. The two journals appealed to distinctly different classes, but now that the two are made one it will be the *Fortnightly's* business to cater more extensively for the young collector than hitherto. The new season being now in full swing, it will be expedient, if not indeed imperative, to increase the *Fortnightly's* space, and in doing so we shall contrive to find a corner for the younger followers of philately.

As regards the terms on which the "Young Stamp Collector" is handed over to us by its founder and editor, Mr. Melville, we have simply arranged that each annual subscriber to the "Young Stamp Collector" should receive an equivalent number of issues of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*; and we trust this arrangement will be acceptable to the subscribers of the now defunct journal. If it should happen that any subscriber to the "Y.S.C." should be already on the *Fortnightly* subscription register then an amount in cash proportionate to the unexpired subscription will be remitted by Mr. Melville to such subscribers forthwith.

It will be unfair to leave this subject without a word of explanation as to the cause of the suspension of the "Young Stamp Collector." This has in no sense been due to lack of

support on the part of the young philatelist of the United Kingdom. On the contrary they have shewn keen appreciation of Mr. Melville's efforts to provide them with an instructive little magazine. Inability to devote the requisite time to the conduct of the paper is simply and solely the reason for its suspension.

* * *

PERHAPS the advertisement columns of a leading journal in any trade or industry afford not a bad idea of the prosperity or otherwise of that particular business. A glance through this present issue of the *Fortnightly* will be sufficient to show that there is a great revival of activity in the stamp trade, and that everything augurs well for a remarkably successful season.

It is seldom that we introduce the subject of advertising into our editorial articles, but we think that a few words are due from us just now as an explanation of the fact that certain advertisements tendered to this paper for insertion have been refused.

They have been rejected for what will seem at first glance to be contradictory reasons. In two instances we have respectfully declined the advertisements of well-known stamp dealers because they on their side were unwilling to pay the considering all things, very reasonable charges asked by this paper. In a third case the price offered by the would be advertiser was not too low but too high. From a certain quarter we were offered as much as £10 for a page advertisement in the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. It was a price that would have dazzled the proprietors of many small philatelic sheets, but the only person dazzled in the *Fortnightly* office was the junior clerk, who is now contemplating a philatelic paper of his own with a view to securing "that ten pound note." We should not have objected to the amount of money offered, but it goes without saying that a man who wishes to pay £10 for a page advertisement when the usual tariff is only £5 must have something fishy about his business. It was so in this case. The advertisement was not one that would have redounded to the credit of the *Fortnightly* or to the welfare of the *Fortnightly's* readers. It was therefore declined with thanks, and though the would be advertiser tried bluster and bluff we were soon able to convince him that a newspaper proprietor enjoys the right to decline any advertisement for a good reason or a bad one or for no reason at all.

It has since come to our knowledge that this individual has been circulating malicious statements regarding the *Fortnightly*. We do not fear the venom of such a man, but we have concluded that it would be well to give a frank statement as to the reasons which have induced us to decline advertisements in certain directions.

Where Can't You Buy Your "S.C.F."

IN all the best known stamp shops both in the West End and in the City, the *Fortnightly* can be obtained. If any philatelist has any trouble in securing the paper he should at once communicate to us. Below we give the present list of agents:—

Mr. W. H. PECKITT, 440, Strand, W.C.
Messrs. WESTMINSTER STAMP Co., Victoria Street, Westminster.
Mr. EDMUND BLUETT, Catherine Street, Strand, W.C.
Messrs. BRIGHT & SON, 164, Strand, W.C.
Messrs. C. NISSEN & Co., 77/78, High Holborn, W.C., Wholesale Agent.
Messrs. H. ROSS-SHIELDS & Co., 75, Little Britain, E.C.
Mr. R. A. MATTHEWS, Aldersgate St., E.C.
Mr. J. W. JONES, 61, Cheapside, E.C.
Mr. F. C. PENNEY, Phillpot Lane, E.C.
Mr. W. JACOBY, Fenchurch Street, E.C.
Messrs. BLUETT & Co., Billiter Square, Fenchurch Street, E.C.
Mr. BERRY, 1, Cullum Street, E.C.
Messrs. WILLIAM STAMP Co., 120, Leadenhall Street, E.C.

In addition we have appointed agents in most of the large towns in the United Kingdom, but we are still anxious to increase and shall be glad to hear from Stamp Dealers, Newsagents, etc., who would be willing to have the *S.C.F.* on sale. We offer very advantageous terms, and any agent for the *S.C.F.* would affect good sales.

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.

Brazil.—Mr. F. C. Penney has shown us some Brazilians in changed colours. The 200 reis yellow and blue now appears in the one colour, blue; and the 100 reis, which has hitherto been pink and black is now all pink.

Ceylon.—From the same correspondent we have the 3c. green together with the 15c. blue, already noted in the *Fortnightly*.

Chili.—Mr. Fred D. Waters, of Valparaiso, kindly sends us the following stationery:—

Wrapper, 2 centavos, red on straw.

" 20c., black on buff.

Letter sheet, 5c., blue on white; red inscription.

Registered envelope, 15c., lilac stamp, red inscriptions.

" " 20c., sage-green stamp, red inscriptions.

The extraordinary feature of this sheaf of stationery is the fact that each of the stamps shows the head, in profile, of a young person of the feminine persuasion, with her head done up in quite the latest Mayfair fashion. Mr. Walters throws no light on the identity of this young party. Can she be a Miss Columbus? Was there a Miss Columbus? If intended for a Head of Liberty it is one of the most kissable Heads of Liberty we have ever met.

China (German).—We are indebted to Mr. Penney for news of a new provisional, the 5 pfennig on 10 pfennig of German China.

Levant (Russian).—From Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., of Ipswich, we learn that the 1 kopec Russian Levant was wrongly surcharged "4 paras" instead of "5 paras." Despite the inscription, the stamp is sold at the intended figure, 5 paras, and not until the whole stock is exhausted will the error be rectified.

North Borneo.—At last the people of British North Borneo have their "Ourang Outang" stamp, or, at any rate, "one of it." Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., write us under date October 1st:

The 4c. monkey stamps have at last been issued in North Borneo, and we have pleasure in sending you a specimen of the only kind known there—the red and black stamp. The earlier printing in ochre and black has never been issued anywhere but at the Company's office in London, and we shall not include it in future editions of our Catalogue. The enclosed stamp was issued on August 17th, and was received by us this morning. We expect to hear from Labuan shortly.

Orange River Colony.—A reader of the *Fortnightly* has been informed by a friend at the Cape that "a sufficient supply of the "Orange River Colony surcharge on the 2½d. Cape has been issued to last six months, after which the stamps of the Transvaal and Orange River will be changed." Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., in a communication on the same subject, place the number of 2½d. Cape stamps surcharged at 240,000. We illustrated and chronicled this stamp in our No. 144.

Queensland.—Messrs. Smythe & Nicolle, of Sydney, have our best thanks for an early copy of the new 2s. stamp. "This" (write our correspondents under date September 4) "will not be issued to the public until the existing stock of 2s. brown is exhausted, which may happen in a few weeks. The new stamp is green in colour, but is otherwise identical with the old.

Straits Settlements.—Mr. Penney has received a newly issued 4 cents carmine, C.A., which appears to be in every way identical with the stamp of that description catalogued at 2s. Mr. Penney thinks that philatelists should be on their guard, for the new stamp can already be purchased at a half-penny and would look cheap (to anyone not knowing about the new issue) at ten times that figure.

Trinidad.—The following interesting extract from the Report of the Postmaster-General of Trinidad, is published by our New York contemporary, the "Metropolitan Philatelist."

The recent stamp frauds by which portions of used postage stamps were joined together and in a few cases were not detected at the time the stamps were affixed to legal documents in the Registrar-General's Department, drew attention to the danger of having so many stamps of the same colour, except for the words denoting the value, and it was decided, as an immediate step to lessen this danger, to abolish the five penny and ten shilling stamps and to alter the colour of the five shilling stamps. Stamps of the last named value printed on a lilac background have been received, but will not be issued until the current issue has been exhausted. A small quantity of five penny stamps were surcharged "three pence" in anticipation of that value stamp being required for the purpose of carrying out the new Stamp Ordinance, but as it was found possible to do without these stamps and, as this department has not during the last 17 years found it necessary to surcharge any postage stamp, the three penny surcharges were not issued to the public, but were destroyed. Further modifications as to the colour of postage and revenue stamps are being considered.

The Frivolous Side of Philately.

BY ALFRED JINGLE.

GATHER from "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" that a firm in San Francisco have just received from Guam the new issues ordered by them *thirteen months before!* Now after a delay of that length "New Issues" may be said to lose something of their early bloom. How will these belated stamps be described by Messrs. Makins and Co., the firm in question?—as New Issues, or "Recent Emissions," or what? Thirteen months! Such a record puts all our Government offices to shame. The subject might well tempt Mr. Peter "Dooley" Dunne, of Chicago, who would possibly hold forth something in this wise:—

"Yis, Hinnessy, 'tis a wondrous col'ny is Gooam, so it is, wid its intixtive expor-r-t thrade iv postage shtamps that's no sort iv use to the natives, pore haythens. Lave me fr'ind Mack alone fr' Col'nisin', Hinnessy. 'Tis himself just grabs all th' illegible builidin' lots in th' Paysifick, an' then sez he: 'Just watch me,' he sez, 'whilst I dump down a Post Offis r-right here,' he sez, 'wid th' glory'us banner iv freedom floatin' atop iv it,' he sez, 'an' then we'll supply th' whole worruld wid postage shtamps fr' his childer,' he sez, 'an' no comp'tition allowed,' he sez. 'An' that's how th' game gets started, Hinnessy, an' from all par-r-ts iv th' worruld th' doll'rs flow in from th' stamp mer-r-chants iv all nationalities, Hinnessy. All th' or-r-ders cud be writ he th' same man fr' all th' diff'rence there is betune th' wan an' th' other, Hinnessy. Iverybody is just mad to get th' stamps, Hinnessy, as soon's th' flag iv liberty begins to flutter in th' breeze above th' gran' new post offis, Hinnessy. 'Send me a thousan' doll'rs iv Gooam stamps,' they sez, 'fr' th' money enclosed,' they sez, 'be retur-r-n iv post,' they sez. Div ye think they get th' stamps, Hinnessy—not a cint iv them do they see, Hinnessy, not till th' Govern'r iv Gooam's taken a few years to consider th' prop'sition, Hinnessy, an' ar-r-ive at a fit an' proper dacyision iv th' matter. Maybe, he thinks 'tis ivery bit uv it a bunco game, Hinnessey, to boost him out iv th' r-right an' proper profits iv his offis, Hinnessy. 'Tis a likely thing,' sez th' Governor to his valet from Parrus, 'tis a likely thing I'll expor-r-t all these shtamps,' he sez, 'as might be wor-r-th all th' gold iv Chicago,' he sez, 'by rayson iv some fool's mistake in th' printin',' he sez; and wid that, Hinnessey, he dates ivery or-r-der back a twelvemont', so he does, to give his seccryterr-es time to sear-r-ch th' sheets iv stamps wid a microscope. Hinnessy, an' so, Hinnessy, if anny mistake's made be th' printin' bureau iv this gr-r-eat country, th' Governor iv Gooam, sooner than let it go for-r-th into th' worruld, Hinnessy, seccrates ut in his own shtamp album, Hinnessy, an' dhrops th' money for ut into th' till at the post offis, out iv his own pockut, Hinnessy, so he does!"

* * *

The Iceland riddle, which appears to have excited much curiosity, is answered as follows:—

Q.—Why should Iceland stamps never be fed?

A.—Because they are not Hungary stamps!

TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

It is our general custom, in the *Fortnightly*, to give only the salient points of the many letters that are addressed to us, but the following communication from one of our most constant readers is one that we shall venture to print in full, even though this may give rise to a suspicion that we are seeking to blow the editorial trumpet:

THE VALUE OF THE PHILATELIC PRESS.

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

DEAR SIR,—I think sufficient praise is not accorded to the Philatelic Press by the many thousands of stamp collectors who would be, for all practical purposes, cut off from their fellows were it not for the medium of the various philatelic magazines.

I owe much to the philatelic Press myself, and notably to the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. Since you commenced publication in October, 1894 I have gleaned many valuable "wrinkles" from your pages. Sometimes it has been merely an idea; sometimes a distinct "tip." The news and gossip appertaining to stamps disseminated by the philatelic magazines is of the greatest value to all, and to those who are inclined to think lightly of philatelic journalism I would say: Where would you be without your stamp papers? It may sound somewhat of an exaggeration to say so, but I firmly believe that Philately as a hobby would have died out of existence altogether 'ere this had it not been for the philatelic Press.

The Press, and now I mean the great newspaper Press, with a capital P, has done more than any other civilized force to promote the welfare of the world, and in its smaller way the philatelic Press has kept alive and promoted the interest in stamps, and has made possible the vast international dealings in stamps that have tended to make philatelists of the world one vast brotherhood united by indissoluble ties.

So I, for one, say: Good Luck to the Philatelic Press, and particularly Good Luck to the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, which, so long as it lives, and so long as I live to subscribe to it, will certainly be read regularly and with interest by

Yours faithfully,

A CONFIRMED "S.C.F." SUBSCRIBER.

One of our many good friends in India recently found himself floored by this unexpected question from a friend: "What is the origin of the word Philatelist?"

F.S.C., our correspondent, was unable to answer the question, and appeals to us to give him the derivation of the word, in order that he may not be caught napping a second time.

We thought that by this time it was universally known that the word "philatelist" came from the two Greek words "philos," a friend, and "telia" a tax, a philatelist thus being in a literal sense a fellow who is fond of paying taxes. It may be taken as a general rule that philatelists, like their fellow men, have a deep and abiding aversion for all taxes; but of course the evolution of the word from its Greek roots must be taken in a broad sense as meaning that a philatelist is a friend of the stamp, the said stamp being the outward and visible evidence of the tax.

* * *

Reviewing Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' latest Catalogue the "Metropolitan Philatelist," of New York, remarks:—

"The plan of grouping the colonies or possessions of each country after the parent state is a good one, and should be followed by cataloguers on this side of the water."

But is it a good plan? We fancy not. Perhaps the system would better recommend itself to the general run of collectors if, as Mr. Scott suggests, it were followed as a universal rule. But as it is, the system is distinctly inconvenient. Imagine the plight of a philatelist who has looked up, say, Wurtemberg, in Bright's "A.B.C." Catalogue," and then turns quickly to his "Gibbons" to make a comparison as between the prices of the two books. In "Bright," as in most other catalogues, he finds Wurtemberg under "W." In "Gibbons," on the other hand, it is under "G," as being one of the component parts of the German Empire. And the crowning drawback to the system which Mr. Scott finds so convenient is the course adopted in connection with a colony, which, so to speak, hat "changed hands." Cuba, as every schoolboy knows, has recently gone over to a new proprietor, and Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, in their wisdom, have listed the Cuban stamps up to 1898 under the heading of Spain, and the Cuban stamps since 1898 under the United States.

We are glad Mr. Scott likes it. We don't; and we beseech the cataloguers to lay their heads together with a view to uniformity.

Paris Philatelic Exhibition.

(Conclusion of the List of Awards).

CLASS IX: COLLECTIONS OF TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

Silver medal, Mr. O'Callaghan; bronze medal, Mr. Walter Morley.

CLASS X.: COLLECTION OF LOCALS AND POSTMARKS.

Bronze medals: M. Devoitine and Walter Morley.

CLASS XI.: COLLECTIONS OF FORGED STAMPS.

Division I.: Gold medal, M. Gaumel; silver medal, M. Paul Merwart; bronze medal, M. H. Douchett

Division III: Bronze medal, M. M. Naas and Houffs.

CLASS XII.—This class was devoted to philatelic journals and philatelic literature generally. The publications honoured with gold medals were "The American Journal of Philately" and the "D.B.Z." of Berlin. M. Gustave Verrier received a silver medal and M. Paul Mirabeau was granted a gold medal "with the felicitations of the Jury"—this award being for M. Paul Mirabeau's incomparable work on the stamps of Switzerland. In this section silver medals went to Mr. Deats of New Jersey, Herr Victor Suppantshitsch and Messrs. Doé and Jean.

CLASS XIII.—In this department of the Exhibition the Scott Stamp and Coin Company won a silver medal for printed albums, and Messrs. Yvert & Tellier a bronze medal in the same division. For blank albums silver medals went to Mr. Paul Kohl of Chemnitz and Messrs. Hamilton-Smith & Company of London.

IN CLASS XV., devoted to special displays of postage stamps, stamps on letters, etc., there were various minor awards; and in Class XVI. (Societies) bronze medals were awarded to philatelic societies at Dresden, Bordeaux, Nancy, Lyons, and Santiago of Chili.

CLASS XVII. and last.—In this section, devoted to philatelic bibliography, that veteran philatelist Dr. Legrand carried off a gold medal (with the felicitations of the jury); silver medals went to The International Philatelic Club of Dresden and Herr Victor Suppantshitsch; while bronze medals were awarded to the Dutch Society at the Hague, to Mrs. Van Kinschot, and to the Stamp Collectors' Club in Kiel, whose year book by the way we reviewed only in the last number of the *Fortnightly*.

THE WILLIAM STAMP CO.,
120 Leadenhall Street, LONDON, E.C.

Br. South Africa, 1896, 2s. each. per 12 .. 2/0
 " " " 5s. " " " 3/6
 " " " 10s., scarce 8/6
 " " " 8d. " " " 1/6 14/0
 India, 1895, 2, 3, 5r. (3/- per set), (32 - 12 sets)
 Cape, 5s. " " " 7d. 5/3
 Persia, 1898, 1, 2, 5, 10k. (Cat 6/- set) (2/- per set)
 Soudan, 1898, 1m. to 5m. (6d. per set 3 9 12 sets)
 " " " 1m. to 10 piastre (5/- per set)
 U.S.A., 1872, 90c. unused (Cat. 4/3) 2/6
 " Omaha, \$1 " " " 2/9 30/0
 " " \$2 " " " 6 0

200 Stamps, all different, post free 1 0.
 New Season's Wholesale Price List
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W. H. REGAN,
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Stamps and Coins.
51 Queens' Road, Bayswater, London, W.

A FEW OFFERS.

B. Bechuanaland, 1804, 1/-, used	2	0
B.C.A., 1d. red & blue, 1898, used, rare	2	0
B. Honduras, half of 2d., large surch., used as 1c. on part of original, scarce	2	0
Fiji, 1879, 2d. on 3d. green, cat. 2 6	1	0
Jamaica, 2/- C.C., unused	3	0
Do. 5/- C.C., do. scarce	10	6

I hold a Fine Stock of Transvaal, Orange
River Colony and Mafeking Stamps.
Collection of 8,000 to 10,000 Stamps, all
different, always on view, priced separately,
at lowest prices. Send list of wants.

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Stamp Merchants,

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Will buy large lots of Stamps for ready cash to large
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Two minutes from G.P.O.

Hayti, well assorted, used, 6d. per doz., 3/6
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Newfoundland, 1898, 1/2, 1, 2, and 3c. 5d. per
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Special Mixture, splendid value, 2/- per 100.

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 Sheets of good Medium Stamps at Low Prices sent on
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 LONDON, E.C., is the best place to sell collections or
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 Indian, and old Australian stamps. Up to £1000 cash
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 15 years. Bankers, London and County.

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 used on letters that went through the siege and
 unused with gum.—J. R. F. Turner, Iffley Road,
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WHEN YOU are tired of getting stamp papers that
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 Cyclists, 25/-; Lilac 3d. on 1d., 25/-; 6d. on 2d.
 Red and Green, 25/-; 1/- on 4d. brown and Green, 35/-;
 1d. on 4d. Cape Green, 7/6; 3d. on 1d. Red Cape, 12/6;
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 All stamps are perfect, picked copies, guaranteed.
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A NUMBER of Orange Free State Stamps, various
 prices (V.R.I. and otherwise), for sale. What offers.
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COLLECTOR is desirous of negotiating for the
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FOR SALE CHEAP following unused Columbian
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 2 1/2d. Cape, 8d.—COLLECTOR, 27, Wolsley Road, Crouch
 End, N. Postage extra.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY on Cape 2 1/2d. 6d.
 Gold Coast, 1894, 3d., 6d. or 1/-, 3d. each 2 -, 9d.
 French Morocco, 5c. to 1 peseta, complete 1/3, 50 centi-
 mos, 1/8 per doz.—HERBERT KUSHWORTH, Shandon,
 Sale, Cheshire

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4d. three-cornered Cape on piece of original
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 Ditto, 4d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d. and 1/-, 6/- the set.
 Johore, 1894, 3c. on 5c., 3c. on 6c., catalogued 3/-; my
 price 1/- the pair.
 Price list of cheap sets, &c., post free. Old Collections
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 anonymously, some months ago, send Name and
 Address and Full Particulars of the Stamps sent, so
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 If not claimed within one month, they will be sold to
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BUY AFRICANS!

Transvaal, 1893, 1/- green, used	0	8
" 1885, 5/-, catalogued 7/6, used	4	6
" 1894, 1/- shafts, unused	10	0
Zululand, 1894-96, complete set, used, to 4/-, viz., 4d., 1d., 2 1/2d., 3d., 6d., 1/-, 2/6, 4/-	16	0
Niger, 1893 set, used, on entire letter, and ditto 1894 set, unwatermarked, set used, the 2 sets	18	6

I have nearly all local prints, New Zealand, and most of
 the German Colonials.

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One hundred British Colonial Postage Stamps;
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Having lately purchased several very large collec-
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 Entire at one-third of Gibbons' latest catalogue prices.

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A Priced List of Packets of these, from 20 for 1/-, to
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 on application. A fine start of 500 Varieties for £6,
 unused or partly used, as may be preferred, with or
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 which are catalogued from 1/- to 15/- each.

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Philately in America.

THE annual conventions of the leading Philatelic Societies in America are a great and looked-for feature of transatlantic philatelic life.

This year the American Philatelic Association assembled in convention at Milwaukee on August 28, 29 and 30.

The President, Mr. G. L. Toppan, made a short and business-like annual address. The Treasurer's report was found to be a very satisfactory document, the report of the Superintendent of Sales department was a very respectable chronicle of business done, and the same may be said of the various other reports presented to the convention, and the accounts sent in from branch societies.

On the closing day of the convention, the following were elected as officers of the Association:—

- President—G. L. Toppan.
(P. M. Wolsieffer,
- Vice-Presidents—C. E. Severn,
(S. Leland.
- Secretary—H. E. Deats.
- Treasurer—H. G. Smith.
- International Secretary—E. Doebelin.

The "Weekly Philatelic Era" was again adopted as the Association's official organ. The total membership of the A.P.A. is now 567.

* * *

The Philatelic Sons of America, another successful American society, met in Milwaukee at the same time. Some 60

members were present, and as a result of the proceedings the following were elected to office:—Directors, Kissinger, 255 votes; Brodstone, 216; Barnum, 184; Schad, 179; G. C. Gny, 178. Trustees; Fischor, Wood and Sohn, of Cincinnati, Advertising and Subscription Agent, J. W. Stowell. Librarian, Fred Doughty. Canadian Vice-President, N. G. L. Paxman. Canadian Exchange Superintendent, W. K. Hall. Auction Manager, H. M. Pulver. Purchasing Agent, N. Cobe. Attorney, F. H. Burt. Counterfeit Detector, D. T. Eaton. New York Purchasing Agent, C. A. Daily. Chicago Purchasing Agent, W. H. Bauer. Information Bureau—East, C. W. Parker; West, J. H. Makins; North, H. M. Pulver.

* * *

The convention of yet another of the "junior" societies, that known as the Sons of Philatelia, was marked by a good deal of animation. In fact, according to "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News," political excitement ran high.

The following members were elected to serve the society in the capacities mentioned:—President, J. C. Miller. Vice-President, Geo. W. Davis. Secretary, J. F. Dodge. Treasurer, W. H. Emmert. International Secretary, R. J. Russell. Superintendent of Sales, A. Platz. Librarian, F. M. Townley. Auction Manager, R. E. Smith. Counterfeit Detector, F. Noyes. Attorney, Chas. F. Bridge. Purchasing Agent, Chas. A. Daly. Trustees, A. Herbst, W. A. McDonnell and M. Taussig, New York.

Around the Stamp Trade.

If one may judge from the new shops opening, this is going to be as brisk a season as that of '95. Mr. T. Palmer's new place in Copthall Avenue is evidently being well patronised. Yet another new shop is the head quarters of the Universal Stamp Company at 70, Fenchurch Street. Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Pemberton, again, have decided that a shop is better than an office, and their new emporium in High Holborn is a shop, if you like! Mr. F. C. Penney, in his new premises in Philpot Lane, must be doing extremely well if his sales of stamps bear any respectable proportion to his sales of the *Fortnightly*.

Messrs. G. Hamilton-Smith & Co.'s silver medal from Paris for blank albums is a particularly well deserved honour. We have seen these books, and we know!

So far Messrs. Bright & Son have no clue as to the person or persons concerned in the recent theft of stamps from their shop in the Strand. The firm will be glad to hear of any offer of the stamps for sale, or to have any information likely to lead to a capture.

Those who believe it to be an impossibility to sell *all* stamps at "50% off catalogue" are at liberty to experiment upon Mr. Hadlow, who offers to do this very thing.

Mr. W. HADLOW,
Stamp Auctioneer & Dealer,
331, STRAND, W.C.

AUCTIONS at frequent intervals. . . .
Commission 10% inclusive.
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Splendid Series of 27 PERU, including 21 surcharges, ALL USED
and guaranteed genuine (the catalogue value is £1 13s. 8d.)

My Price, 5/-
Set of 14 unused PERU (cat. 11/11). Price, 2 6.

	s.	d.
Borneo, 1894, complete set, used, 1-24	..	2 3
.. 1897, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8c., used	0 6
.. " 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24c., used	1 6
.. Provisional, 4c. on high values, 25c., 50c., 1, 2, 5 and to dollars	5 0
India, 1, 2, 3 and 5 rupees, magnificent copies	2 6
Persia, 1889, unused, 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 1, 2, 5 kran (cat. 7/11)	1 0
Venezuela, Miranda, 5, 10, 25 (cat. 2/6)	0 6
.. " 5, 10, 25, 50, 1 bolivar	1 9
Labuan, 1894, complete set, used	2 3
.. 1897, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8c., used	0 6
.. " 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24c.	1 6
.. " 25, 50, 1\$ (cat. 5/-)	1 6
Shanghai, 1893, 1/2, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 10, 15, 20c.	1 3
.. " Unpaid, 1/2, 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20	1 3

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Single Stamps 50 to 75% under catalogue.

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"H." c/o the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly,"

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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 **OCTOBER 16th and 17th**, and will consist of a **Fine Selection of all Countries**, including many varieties. Also about **50 lots Mafeking Besieged**, including a Complete Set, and many **Transvaal and Orange River Colony**, and a large number of Wholesale Lots.

CATALOGUES NOW READY.

OTHER SALES AS FOLLOW:—

1900.—October 30 and 31; November 13, 14, 27 and 28; December 11 and 12.

1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17; May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12.

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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Orange Colony, Transvaal with and without V.R.I., and other good Stamps; also Siege Notes, Slips, Autographs, etc., etc.

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Will Sell by Auction at his Great Rooms,

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On Thursday, October 25th, at 2 o'clock,

Over **100 magnificent Lots** of these rare Mafeking Siege Stamps, a great many used on Entire Original Envelopes, and many other rarities.

On View day prior from 2 till 5 and Morning of Sale.

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We Offer a Collection of . . .

British Plate Numbers

Containing 11 Complete Sets — ½d. red, 1d. red, 1½d. red, 2d. blue, 2½d. lilac-rose, 2½d. blue, 3d. rose, 4d. orange, 6d. violet, 6d. grey and 1/- green. 259 stamps in all. Fine condition. Mounted.

. . . **Price, £2 6s. 0d.**

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BARBADOS.—Wmk. Large Star, 1d., 4d. (3), CC. 4d., perf. 14 by 12½ (pair).

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GREAT BRITAIN.—Wmk. Anchor, 5/- on white, unique block of 8; wmk. Anchor, 10/-; wmk. Cross, 10/- and £1. 2/- brown, 1d. V.R., etc.

ROUMANIA.—57, 54 and 108p.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Colonial Print, 2d., 6d.; perf. and roulette, 6d., 10d., 1s.; perf. 11½; 6d. sky blue, 10d. orange; perf. 11½ × 12, 10d. orange-yellow.

NEW ZEALAND.—London print, 2d.; do. blente, 1s.; Pelure imperf., 1d., 2d. (2), 6d.; Serrated perf., 6d.; perf. 13, 1s. (2).

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NEW SOUTH WALES.—Sydney, 1d., 2d. and 3d. emerald-green; 8d. laureated. Registered imperf.

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GERMAN-CHINA. PROVISIONAL.

Owing to a sudden scarcity of 5 pfennig Stamps, the Post of Tsingtan-Kiautschou issued for a short period a Provisional Stamp of that value, by surcharging the 10 pfennig rose stamp with the new value, "5 pfg.", horizontally, in black.

Sufficient type of one kind not being available, various types appear on the sheet, three varieties of type of surcharge being at present known.

I have a good supply of all these known types and varieties of surcharge and will send same on approval.

These Provisionals being in use for a short time only, I recommend Collectors to purchase without delay.

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PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 147—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO., Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers, 10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.

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LUXEMBURG	2 "	AUSTRIA	2 "
ITALIAN STATES	4 "	BAVARIA	1 "
BADEN	1 "	ORANGE FREE STATE AND CHINA	1 "
PERSIA	1 "	TRANSVAAL	2 "

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*Antioquia, 1868, 1 peso red	4	0	0	Spain, 1853, 3 quartos Madrid.. ..	13	0	0
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*Bolivia, 1867, 500c. black	2	10	0	" 1854, 1 rl. light blue	11	10	0
Brazil, 1843, 90 reis black	1	10	0	" 1855, 2 rls. blue error, in a block of 35	12	0	0
" 1844, 180 " "	2	15	0	" 1865, 12c., frame, inverted perf.	9	0	0
" " 300 " "	3	10	0	*Switzerland, 5c. Vaud	4	10	0
*Denmark, 1870, 48sk.	1	10	0	" 24r. Basler.	3	3	0
*Egypt, 1866, 10 piast., State, blue	1	2	6	" 4r. Zurich	8	0	0
*France, 1849, 10c. block of 6	1	12	6	" 5+5 Geneva	18	0	0
" 1849, 1fr. orange-red	4	10	0	" 5+5 " wrong halves joined	40	0	0
" 1849, 20c. pair tête bêche	2	10	0	Roumania, 1850, 27, 54 and 108p.	85	0	0
" 1853, 1fr. block of 6	3	16	6	Servia, 1866, 2p. error	10	10	0
" 1853, 80c. pair tête bêche	3	3	0	*Finland, 1866, 10 pen., error	8	10	0
" 1870, 73, 10c. bistre on rose, pair tête bêche	0	9	0	*Swaziland, 10 shillings	3	10	0
*Spain, 1850, 10 rls. green	3	7	6	*Great Britain, 1d. V.R.	8	10	0
" 1851, 12 cs.	2	5	0	" " 2/- brown	4	15	0
" " 2 rls.	22	10	0	Modena, large B.G.	2	10	0
" " 6 rls.	3	7	6	Saxony, 3pfg., 1850	4	10	0
" 1852, 2 rls.	15	10	0	" 1851, 2 mgr. dark blue	3	15	0
" " 6 rls.	2	15	0	*Persia, 1894, complete set of 11	1	5	0
" 1851, 10 rls., pair	5	12	6	" 1899, " " 9	0	1	9
" " 6 rls., strip of 4	5	5	0	" 1899, " " 16	1	5	0
" " 2 rls.	13	10	0	*Labuan, jubilee set of 6	0	1	0
" 1852, 2 rls. block of 6	47	15	0	Peru, 1858, ½ peso rose	10	10	0
" 1853, 2 rls.	4	5	0	Mauritius, 1848, 1d. pair, early	22	10	0

* SIGNIFIES UNUSED.

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HELD BY

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(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

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

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

1900.—November 8th, 22nd and 23rd; December 6th and 7th.

1901.—January 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th, 31st; February 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th; March 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th and 29th; April 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; May 9th and 10th, 30th and 31st, and June 13th and 14th.

November 8th.—A fine selection of Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps including many rarities. Write for Catalogue.

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.

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The NEW "ABC" Catalogue (4th Edition).

WILL BE PUBLISHED EARLY IN NOVEMBER, and will be the Up-to-Date Catalogue for the coming Season. Many new features are introduced, and much additional information is given that will be found useful to Collectors. Contains Adhesives and Entires of all Countries in one Volume.

Price, 2/6; Post Free, 2/10.

A few copies of the 3rd Edition are on hand, price, 1/8 post free.

MAFEKING BESIEGED.

We have all these Stamps in Stock at Low Prices, from 15/- each. Particulars on Application. . . .

* ORANGE RIVER COLONY. *

	s.	d.		s.	d.
½d. on Half Penny, yellow, Type I. (Thick stops at foot of letters) ..	1	6	1d. mauve, Type I. ..	1	0
½d. " " " II. (Raised thin stops) ..	0	2	1d. " " II. ..	0	2
½d. " " " III. (Very thick stops in various positions) ..	10	0	1d. " " V. ..	0	6
½d. " " " IV. (Thick and thin stops mixed) ..	10	0	2d. violet " I. (Type II., 4d.) ..	0	8
(Block of 6 containing Types II., III. and IV.)			2½d. blue " I. ..	12	6
½d. " " " V. (Thick "V" in "V.R.I.")	0	6	3d. " " I. (Type II., 6d.) ..	0	8
There are 3 copies of Type II., 1 copy of Type IV., and 6 copies of Type V. in sheet of 60 stamps.			4d. " " I. (Type II., 3/6) ..	2	6
			6d. " " I. (Type II., 10d.) ..	2	3
			1s. brown " I. (Stop after "s" of Type I.) (Type II., 1/9) ..	1	9
			1s. " " I. " " II) ..	8	0
			5s. " " I. (Type II., 7/6) ..	25	0

Other varieties (missing stops, etc.) in Stock. All varieties can be supplied in pairs with the normal Types.

A FEW USED COPIES IN STOCK WHICH CAN BE SUPPLIED AT SLIGHTLY HIGHER RATES.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY, Surcharged on CAPE (already obsolete), 1/-.

TRANSVAAL, Surcharged V.R.I., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1/-.

Set unused, 4/6. Higher Values also in Stock at Low Rates. Approval Sheets, Medium Selections, Special Books of Separate Countries. For Stamps in Good Condition, our Prices are Cheaper than those of any other Firm. Novelty List of Philatelic Accessories, 32 pages, post free. Modern Transvaal and Orange Free State Issues are rising. A Good Selection at Low Prices can be sent.

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Where Collectors calling can inspect our Selections, of which there are generally about 150 on view, the Stamps contained in which constitute one of the finest stocks in Great Britain.



Published every alternate Saturday, at 77-78, High Holborn, London W.C. With which are incorporated the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian." CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Rochdale Philatelic Society, the Cambridge University Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, and the Central Philatelic Club.

No. 147.—Vol. VI. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1900. ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

"BUFFALO" STAMPS NOT YET DESIGNED.

It appears now that nothing is definitely settled regarding the issue of stamps to commemorate the great Pan-American Exhibition, to be held at Buffalo, N.Y., in May next. The one sure thing is that there will be an issue. The various circumstantial statements as to the "approved designs," etc., etc., have been so much imagination. No designs are yet approved, and it is not even certain that the Bureau of Printing and Engraving will be able to turn out a bi-coloured series of stamps. Thus the "Buffaloes," when they appear, may be pretty much like the "Omahas," of doubtful memory. According to the "Metropolitan Philatelist's" Washington correspondent, who has been interviewing some unnamed postal official on the subject, the stamps will certainly bear the inscription, "Commemorative Issue, 1901," but that is absolutely the only grain of fact he has to chronicle. It is expected that the question of colour and design will be settled before 1st January, 1901—officially settled this time, and not "intelligently anticipated" by an omnipotent Press.

A CHAT ABOUT THE MAFE-KING.

MR. J. R. F. TURNER, we suppose, has about the finest accumulation of Mafeking stamps to be found anywhere in private hands. He is the Philatelic Mafe-King. The "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain," in according Mr. Turner a niche in its own little gallery of celebrities, gives a

dazzling and tantalising description of Mr. Turner's "Siege" stamps, and of his great "find" of Colonial stamps of some years ago. Mr. Turner, whose home is at Oxford, is a good hockeyist and a grand oarsman, sings well, and plays cricket for his county. What you would call a pretty good all round man—eh?

HAS "BOBS" TURNED STAMP COLLECTOR?

IN "M.A.P." for October 20th, we read that dozens of army officers at the front have become "feverish stamp collectors." That we knew already, but Mr. T. P. O'Connor's chatty journal goes on to declare that "even Lord Roberts himself has found time to develop an enthusiasm for this curiously fascinating hobby." Prodigious!

BIRMINGHAM HOLDS THE EXCHANGE CLUB RECORD.

The Birmingham Philatelic Society's Annual Report should prove satisfactory reading to every member of that very live and go-ahead Society. During the twelve months covered by the report the Exchange Packets—the leading feature of the B.P.S. circulated stamps to the value of no less than £23,785 16s. 7d.; and of this total the value sold was £3,124 14s. 3d. The boast is made that this is a world's record.

"RIM'S CAPE-TO-CAIRO POST CARDS.

For some time "Rim's" post cards have been awaiting notice in the *Fortnightly*. "Rim" is a publisher of song cards, and, among other things, an artist of no mean merit. The post cards he has designed in commemoration of the opening of the Cape-to-Cairo route are being sold at many of the stamp shops. They represent ingenious bits of drawing; but it is a pity the reproduction is in one tint only. A little more colour would greatly heighten their effect. Look to it, "Rim."

"DACONET," AN EX-PHILATELIST.

MESSRS. VENTON, BULL & COOPER, we learn, are selling, on November 8th, a stamp collection formed by Mr. George "Referee" Sims, better known to thousands of newspaper readers as "Dagonet." The collection is nothing great. About £15, we understand, is its value.

BRAZIL: A SECOND PRINTING.

TURNING over a quantity of the current Brazilian 100 reis carmine and 200 reis blue, Mr. F. C. Penney has found that there has been a second printing of these stamps. This second printing lacks the inner line around the head, found on all the earlier copies of the stamps.

WAR STAMPS HELP TO BOOM PHILATELY.

"THE number of stamp collectors is continually increasing," said Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, recently, in reply to an inquisitive emissary of the "Daily Mail."

This increase is attributed largely to the boom in war stamps, and there is no doubt that this has had much to do with it. "The desire to possess a collection of Mafeking and other South African stamps (say Messrs. Gibbons) has led people to take up stamp collecting generally"; and, as is truly added, "most people who have once begun to collect become enthusiasts."

DANISH WEST INDIES FOR SALE.

PHILATELISTS have a keener interest than the general public in the proposed sale of the Danish West Indies to America. The latest news is that Denmark asks £7,000,000, and Uncle Sam is not disposed to go beyond £4,000,000.

A GOOD USE FOR GUMPAPS.

Most of us have read of rooms papered entirely with postage stamps. But the good monks of the Hospital of St. Jean de Dieu, at Ghent, have broken the record in this particular line; for we read in an American journal, that, in their leisure moments they have decorated the walls with gorgeous landscapes, glowing with colour and full of life, the said landscapes being formed entirely of the postage stamps of all the nations of the world. Palaces, forests, streams and mountains are represented, butterflies flit about in the air, birds of beautiful plumage perch on branches, snakes and lizards glide about, and innumerable animals find places here and there. The pictures are most artistic, in the style of Chinese landscape gardening, and already between 9,000,000 and 10,000,000 stamps have been used. What a fitting fate, this, for some of our Salvadors and San-Marinos!

A CHANGE OF EDITORS IN SAN FRANCISCO.

MR. SELLSCHOPP is leaving 'Frisco for a long jaunt abroad and in his absence the firm's lively little journal, "Filatelic Facts and Fallacies," will be edited by Mr. William E. Loy. On the Pacific Coast, Mr. Loy is a well-known stamp man, and was one of the founders of the Pacific Philatelic Society. "F.F. and F." is such an old and welcome exchange that we scarcely care to grumble as to its quality, but, certainly, during recent months the paper has contained very little Philately. If the new Editor will see to this, our delight will be without al-Loy. Ahem!

News Notes from all Quarters.

Forgeries of the Orange River "V.R.I." surcharges are about. "Non Lex," of the "Philatelic Chronicle" has seen one made with a rubber stamp! And there are others.

British North Borneo, during 1899, issued postage stamps of the face value of £20,800, the ultimate fate of these labels being as follows: Used to prepay postal matter, £800; bought by philatelists, £20,000! As the great Bertram says when he has accomplished a smart trick with the cards, "Isn't it marvellous!"

Mr. Rosenberg, of Woodville, New Zealand, informs us that the Postmaster-General of the Colony has cabled to the Agent-General directing him to have the necessary die prepared in connection with the issue of stamps for Universal Penny Postage. So New Zealand will not be long, now!

"Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" describes a freak postmark recently seen. This should have read "10. 00. 00," but owing to defective stamping it appeared as "100000"!

The Postmaster-General's Report for the year ended 31st March last, cites 2,246,800,000 as the number of letters delivered in the United Kingdom during the twelve months. And yet there are people who blandly ask you whether, in time to come, the 1d. heliotrope of Great Britain will be "worth anything"!

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.

GAMBIA—Concluded.		Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1898. Same wmk. and perf.; bi-coloured type.					
½d. green	1/1		
1d. carmine	1/2		
2d. orange and mauve	1/3		
2½d. ultramarine	1/4		
3d. mauve and ultramarine	1/5		
4d. brown	1/6		
6d. green and carmine	1/8		
1/- violet and green	1/3		

GIBRALTAR.

1886. Wmk. CA.; perf. 14; surcharged GIBRALTAR on Bermuda stamps.						
½d. green .. ..	..	..	1/4	1/3	1/9	1/3
1d. rose .. ..	..	..	1/6	1/4	1/6	1/4
2d. brown-violet .. ..	..	..	8/	6/	8/	6/
2½d. blue .. ..	..	..	6/	4/6	1/6	1/
4d. orange .. ..	..	..	12/6	9/	12/6	9/
6d. violet .. ..	..	..	20/	15/	20/	15/
1/- bistre .. ..	..	..	50/	37/6	50/	37/6
1887. Same wmk. and perf.; un- surcharged.						
½d. green .. ..	..	..	1/2	1/1	1/6	1/4
1d. rose .. ..	..	..	1/4	1/3	1/3	1/2
2d. brown-violet .. ..	..	..	1/6	1/	1/6	1/
2½d. blue .. ..	..	..	1/6	1/4	1/4	1/3
4d. orange .. ..	..	..	4/	3/	10/6	7/6
6d. violet .. ..	..	..	8/	6/	10/	7/6
1/- bistre .. ..	..	..	30/	22/6	27/6	21/
1889. Surcharged with value in centimos.						
5c. on ½d. green .. ..	..	..	1/6	1/4	1/6	1/4
10c. on 1d. rose .. ..	..	..	1/6	1/4	1/6	1/4
25c. on 2d. brown-violet	..	..	1/	1/9	1/3	1/9
25c. on 2½d. blue .. ..	..	..	1/	1/9	1/9	1/6
40c. on 4d. orange .. ..	..	..	3/	2/3	3/6	2/9
50c. on 6d. violet .. ..	..	..	3/6	2/9	7/6	6/
75c. on 1/- bistre .. ..	..	..	4/	3/	6/	4/6
Errors. Small 1 in surcharge.						
25c. on 2d. brown-violet	..	..	17/6	12/6	21/	15/
25c. on 2½d. blue .. ..	..	..	25/	20/	17/6	12/6
1889. Value in centimos.						
5c. green .. ..	..	..	1/1		1/1	
10c. carmine .. ..	..	..	1/2		1/1	
25c. blue .. ..	..	..	1/4		1/1	
40c. orange-brown .. ..	..	..	1/8		1/9	
50c. violet .. ..	..	..	1/9		1/8	
75c. olive-green .. ..	..	..	4/6		2/3	
1 peseta bistre .. ..	..	..	5/6		5/	
5 pesetas grey-blue ..	..	..	6/6		6/6	
1895. Same wmk. and perf.; bi-coloured type.						
20c. olive-green and brown	..	..	1/4		1/4	
1 peseta bistre and ultramarine	..	..	1/6		1/6	
2 pesetas black and carmine	..	..	3/		3/6	

GIBRALTAR—Continued.

1898. Value in English currency.

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
½d. green	1/1	1/1	1/1
1d. carmine	1/2	1/1	1/1
2d. lilac and blue	1/3	1/3	1/3
2½d. ultramarine	1/4	1/1	1/1
4d. orange and green	1/5	1/5	1/5
6d. violet and red	1/8	1/8	1/8
1/- bistre and red	1/3	1/3	1/3

1896. Surcharged Morocco Agencies in black on Gibraltar stamps. Local overprint.

5c. green .. ..	..	1/1	1/1	1/1
10c. carmine .. ..	..	1/2	1/2	1/2
20c. olive-green and brown .. ..	..	1/3	1/3	1/3
25c. ultramarine .. ..	..	1/4	1/4	1/4
40c. orange-brown .. ..	..	1/6	1/6	1/6
50c. violet (deep blue surcharge) .. ..	..	1/8	1/8	1/8
1 peseta bistre and ultramarine .. ..	..	1/6	1/6	1/6
2 pesetas black and carmine .. ..	..	2/9	2/9	2/9

The same, but with London overprint.

5c. green .. ..	..	1/1	1/1	1/1
10c. carmine .. ..	..	1/2	1/2	1/2
20c. olive-green and brown .. ..	..	1/3	1/3	1/3
25c. ultramarine .. ..	..	1/4	1/4	1/4
40c. orange-brown .. ..	..	1/5	1/5	1/5
50c. violet .. ..	..	1/8	1/8	1/8
1 peseta bistre and ultramarine .. ..	..	1/3	1/3	1/3
2 pesetas black and carmine .. ..	..	2/3	2/3	2/3

GOLD COAST.

1875. Wmk. CC.; perf. 12½.

1d. blue .. ..	..	50/	35/	21/	15/
4d. mauve .. ..	..	17/6	12/6	17/6	12/6
6d. orange .. ..	..	25/	20/	14/	10/6

1880. Wmk. CC.; perf. 14.

½d. orange-yellow .. ..	..	3/6	2/9	3/6	2/9
1d. blue .. ..	..	1/6	1/3	1/9	1/6
2d. green .. ..	..	6/	4/6	1/3	1/
4d. mauve .. ..	..	40/	30/	1/3	1/
6d. orange .. ..	..	7/6	5/6	3/	2/3

1884. Wmk. CA.; perf. 14.

½d. olive-yellow .. ..	..	40/	30/	10/	7/6
1d. blue .. ..	..	150/	100/	12/6	10/

1884-89.

½d. green .. ..	..	1/1	1/1	1/1
1d. rose .. ..	..	1/2	1/1	1/1
ONE PENNY on 6d. orange	17/6	13/6	6/	4/
2d. grey .. ..	..	1/4	1/2	1/2
2½d. ultramarine and orange .. ..	..	1/4	1/1	1/1
3d. greenish-yellow .. ..	..	1/6	1/3	1/3
4d. mauve .. ..	..	1/8	1/3	1/3
6d. orange .. ..	..	1/	1/3	1/3
1/- mauve .. ..	..	1/9	1/4	1/4
2/- brown .. ..	..	5/	1/	1/
2/- dark brown .. ..	..	3/	1/	1/

1891-98. Same wmk. and perf.

½d. lilac and green .. ..	..	1/1	1/1	1/1
1d. lilac and red .. ..	..	1/2	1/1	1/1
2½d. lilac and ultramarine .. ..	..	1/4	1/1	1/1
3d. lilac and orange .. ..	..	1/4	1/3	1/3
6d. lilac and mauve .. ..	..	1/8	1/3	1/3
1/- green and black .. ..	..	1/3	1/6	1/6
2/- green and carmine .. ..	..	2/6	1/6	1/6
5/- lilac and blue .. ..	..	7/6	3/	3/
10/- lilac and red .. ..	..	15/	3/	3/
20/- green and red	120/	75/	180/	120/
20/- lilac and black on red .. ..	..	30/	4/	4/

CORRESPONDENCE IS INVITED.

We invite correspondence, critical or otherwise, on the subject of "The Collectors' Guide to Values." Our aim is to make the "Guide" of the greatest use to the greatest number, and any suggestions we may receive, or any expressions of opinion as to Values, will be most carefully considered.—EDITOR, S.C.F.

Reminiscences of a Philatelist.

BY WALTER NATHAN.

(Continued from page 105).

I FEAR the details of my newspaper advertising system would not be of any great use to readers of the *Fortnightly*, as candidly, I played all the papers out as far as unearthing Philatelic treasures goes, and I should be very glad indeed to find a good medium now—a non-philatelic medium, of course. Still, although old collections became scarce and finally dropped off altogether in about the year 1895, they still fall now and then into the hands of a fortunate few, and only last week I was told the following instance, the narration of which may revive the drooping spirits of the bargain-hunter.

A solicitor in a large Lancashire city saw an advertisement in a local paper that a collection of stamps was for sale at a village some fifty miles away. Being interested in stamps he sent one of his clerks, who also had some knowledge of the subject, to inspect the collection, giving him £100 with which to negotiate if it proved desirable. On arriving at the village the clerk was directed to an isolated villa and there found a gentleman who had just inherited his late aunt's goods and chattels, and found among them some stamps which he had advertised. He produced a scrapbook containing a few stamps of no great value interspersed with engravings, cuttings from newspapers, crests, monograms and original sketches by the deceased.

The clerk, much disappointed, somewhat woefully enquired "if that were all." In reply he was told that this was the album, but there were other stamps, and the most curious receptacle for a valuable accumulation of philatelic treasures was produced in the shape of a family bible. In this were strips and blocks in mint state of most of the desirable stamps of Great Britain which had been issued since 1840. The old lady had purchased these stamps while current and placed them between the leaves of her bible. The possessor of this fine collection believed that the stamps were valuable but was content in the end to accept three times the face value, stipulating, however, that the album should be purchased for £5 and that if this were done he would throw in a portmanteau full of old letters which the old lady had received during her long life.

The portmanteau was brought down and on being opened disclosed envelopes bearing stamps from all the Australian Colonies from the first issues onwards. Besides enriching his own collection the solicitor realized over £400 profit on the purchase after sending the seller an additional £10 note as a mark of satisfaction.

To revert, however, to my own experiences the establishment of the "Star" newspaper in 1888 gave a great increase to the number of collections brought to me. I had begun advertising in the paper soon after its first issue and for four years the results kept me busily occupied. After that the letters began to dwindle, and finally I kept up my advertisement for a whole year without purchasing a single stamp. During the period of the greatest flow of replies from this source I should scarcely have known what to have done with the number of collections offered me, many of which contain only one or two specimens that I personally desired and as the owners usually wished to sell *en bloc* I should have had to refuse many of them had it not been for the inauguration of auction sales of postage stamps.

The late Mr. Douglas Garth, sometime secretary of the Philatelic Society of London, and an ardent Philatelist, wrote me that it was the desire of several leading collectors to try an experimental sale by public auction, and that he would be glad if I would assist by sending him specimens. This I was happy to do and the first of the sales of the present series was held by Mr. Thomas Bull, then of the firm of Messrs. Venton, Bull & Cooper. It proved a success, the prices realized, although small in comparison with those since attained, were satisfactory at the time, and Mr. Garth proved an ideal organizer, the catalogue being well compiled, the settlement prompt, and the charge reasonable.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, OCTOBER 27, 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.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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



Mr. J. W. SCOTT's declaration that stamps are more easily identified than men will strike a responsive chord in many a philatelist's heart. Who is there among us that cannot boast his own especial pets—cherished specimens that would be recognised among millions of others? In our own philatelic infancy we revelled in the possession of a sixpenny New Brunswick—yes, a real sixpenny New Brunswick, which despite its many shortcomings, put to shame all the other occupants of the twopenny copy-book in which our stamps were housed. By reason of the lustre imparted to it by a high quotation in the catalogues, our poor battered sixpenny New Brunswick reigned undisputed monarch of a small "scratch" collection.

"In the country of the blind the one-eyed man is King!"

And our 6d. New Brunswick was forgiven its close-clipped edges, its soiled surface, its grease spots, and the big hole in its centre, because—because it was a 6d. New Brunswick. We should have known that stamp again anywhere, and after the lapse of any period of time. We should know it now, if, poor thing, it may still chance to survive.

Thus, within limits, we find ourselves in hearty agreement with Mr. John Walter Scott when he declares that he would more easily identify a stamp after a lapse of six months than a man he had seen only a day ago! But we are not prepared to go the whole road with Mr. Scott. We believe in the ready identification of stamps bearing any distinctive mark, or groaning under distinctive mutilations like our sixpenny New Brunswick of cherished memory; but otherwise one stamp is apt to be "just the same as another" to a quite provoking extent.

The matter is one of some importance, as readers will gather from the article headed "Identifying Stamps," published in the supplement to this number of the *Fortnightly*. Many, doubtless, will think with us that Mr. Scott has endeavoured to prove a little too much. In the blunt and easy slang of our American brethren, he is asking a jury of his fellow men to bite off a little more than they can swallow. Between a postage stamp and a man, as subjects for identification, we must reluctantly give our vote to the "human."

* * *

Philately is booming in the Strand, at any rate. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, we understand, are taking over the "upper part" of the premises adjoining their own; and, if they can get it, they intend to annex the shop as well.

In Mr. John Westhorp's announcement on the back cover-page of our last issue, it should have been stated that all the philatelic gems he offers are *unused*. Collectors would do well to again study this interesting lot.

For some reason, probably not unconnected with the great popularity of Mafekings, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, have issued a revised "Addenda" to their British Empire catalogue. The pamphlet of 16 pages and cover costs 3d., and is cheap. Its most salient characteristic is the all round "appreciation" of "Mafeking" prices.

Continental pro-Boers are a curious folk! Because Mr. Walter Morley advertised some of the "V.R.I." stamps in a German paper he has had a number of letters from belligerent Germans breathing hatred of the British and all their works. It is all very silly, and the silliest thing about it is the fact that the writer of a post card addressed to Mr. Morley takes the pen-name of "Hans Cordua"—the Boer artilleryman who turned traitor to his oath of neutrality and headed the plot to kidnap Roberts!

Yet another "Anti-Mafeking" correspondent, "N.M.B.," voices a protest against the assumption that the antagonism to Mafeking stamps is confined to those who do not possess any. "N.M.B." happens to be a very well-known philatelist and his assurance that he has declined to buy Mafekings whenever offered him is quite good enough for us. We know also of a very prominent London dealer who has consistently declined to touch these stamps "on principle." Strange, but certainly true.

INTERESTING TO ALL ADVERTISERS!

Revised Terms for Announcements in the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly."

In spite of the fact that the circulation of the *S.C.F.* is increasing by leaps and bounds, we have decided to reduce our Advertising Tariff, in many instances, 20% lower than the present standing rate. We must point out, however, that the revised prices, as given below, are absolutely nett cash, and there will be no reduction made from them under any consideration.

The *S.C.F.* can certainly claim to have the best and widest circulation of any philatelic advertising medium in the United Kingdom, and we should advise all philatelists to take advantage of the following exceptionally cheap rates:—

Pages of Two Columns.

	For 1 insertion.	6 insertions.	12 insertions.	26 insertions.
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26 ..	1 17 6 ..

All correspondence on the subject of advertising should be directed to The Manager, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

We shall at all times be pleased to consider applications for special positions, &c.

Terms for insets will be furnished on receipt of particulars as to the size and weight of the circular or price list to be "inserted."

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."

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.

British Honduras.—Messrs. Bright & Son inform us of the receipt of the 5 cents (current type) in grey-black and blue on pale blue paper.

Cayman Islands (Jamaica).—Messrs. Bright & Son have two stamps from these Islands, as follows:—

½d. green | 1d. red

The type is that of the current 1 cent of the Straits Settlements.

Cochin.—Not long since a paragraph went the round of the Philatelic Press to the effect that annas and rupees would replace the "puttans" of the Cochin stamps of this State. We now learn that the native Cochin stamps are to be abolished altogether, the Post Office having been taken over by the Imperial authorities. Now look out for Cochin remainders!

Faridkot.—The new 3 pies carmine of British India has been surcharged "Faridkot State" in black in two lines. We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a specimen.

Greece.—Mr. F. C. Penney has the 20 lepta on 25l. dark blue, both perf. and imperf., and also a pair, "imperf. between."

India.—From the same firm we have received the ½ anna green envelope (small) with the stamp surcharged C.E.F. (*Chinese Expeditionary Force*) in the manner of the surcharges on adhesives already chronicled.

From Messrs. Bright & Son, just as we go to press, comes a set of the new Indian stamps, as follows:—

3 pies, grey-green.
½ anna green.
1 anna carmine.
2 annas lilac.
2a. 6 pies, blue.

Malaya.—The new oblong dollar stamps are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. The central device is the familiar group of elephants—three adult elephants and a baby—and in a scroll at foot is the inscription "Federated Malay States." Values and colours:—

1 dollar, green and sage-green.
2 dollars, red and green.
5 .. blue and green.

Malta.—Messrs. Bright & Son have shown us a specimen of the new 1s. 4d. stamp, showing a picture of the Grand Harbour at Valetta.

1s. 4d., red-brown—View of Valetta.

New Zealand.—The new ½d. green., 1d. carmine and 2d. purple envelopes, showing embossed head of Queen, are described in a letter from Mr. Charles Purdom. The stamps are circular and the up-to-date profile of Queen Victoria is embossed in white; but there is this difference between the ½d. and the other values. The ½d. stamp is inscribed "New Zealand" above, and "Postage One Halfpenny" below, the head of Queen, whereas, on the 1d. and 2d. values, the inscriptions are "New Zealand Postage" at top and value at bottom. We have to thank Mr. Purdom, also, for sending us a specimen of the twopenny stamp.

Perak.—Here we have a trio of provisionals, specimens of which are kindly sent from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co:

"One Cent" on 2c. "Tiger"
"ONE CENT" on 4c. ..
"One Cent" on 5c. ..

There is a difference in the typography of the overprint. On the 2c. and 4c. stamps the surcharge of "One Cent" is set with the initial letters in capital type, and the rest of the words in "lower case"; whereas the "ONE CENT" on 5 cents is entirely in capitals, as printed here.

Queensland.—A reader at Birmingham, H.S.J., informs us that the new 2s. Queensland, described by us as pale blue, is really printed in the peculiar shade known as "Palermo blue." We stand corrected. This comes of having no reliable guide to colour.

The Queensland War Stamps have appeared at last. Fatal delay! The war fever is cooling perceptibly in these chill October days. The Queensland "Khaki's" are a shade more hideous than those of Victoria. The one penny value (to be sold presumably at one shilling) is a tall rectangular label showing a head of Queen Victoria surmounting a military and naval group. The two penny stamp, oblong in shape, has a head of Queen Victoria in the centre; to the left a warship and to the right a Colonial trooper equipped for scouting.

Transvaal.—Messrs. Bright & Son have a specimen of the 2d. surcharged, in error, "V.I.R."

Turks Island—The new stamps show a sailing vessel in an oval frame. Messrs. Bright & Son have received the following:—

½d. green.	2½d. blue.	1s. purple-brown.
1d. rose.	4d. orange.	2s. violet.
2d. black-brown.	6d. violet.	3s. brown-lake.

The two values last named are in a larger size than the lower denominations.

The Frivolous Side of Philately.

BY ALFRED JINGLE.

It seems I am to be allowed less than half-a-column in this number of the *Fortnightly*, and in future my contributions are now entitled "The Frivolous Side of Philately," forsooth! I've a good mind to be desperately serious by way of getting even.

* * *

I grieve to learn that of the 72 philatelists who go to the making up of the Junior London Philatelic Society, only eight are of the tender sex, and this in face of the fact that a Dance and Conversazione is arranged for March 9th next! The Hon. Secretary must see if he can work in another dance or two, with a river picnic in the Summer, and tennis for Saturday afternoons when weather permits, a girl can't always be moping over her stamp album, can she?

* * *

In a spirit of sheer playfulness I gave some apparently meaningless philatelic riddles in a recent number of the *Fortnightly*. As I half expected (human nature being what it is), readers of the *S.C.F.* have insisted upon fitting answers to them. One of these answers I gave in the last number, and now a flippant correspondent, who evidently attached a string to that portion of his letter which contained his name and address, writes as follows:—

Your first conundrum is dead easy. Here is my solution:

Q.—When is a stamp dealer not a stamp dealer?

A.—When he's a member of the London Philatelic Society!

Oh, how rude!

* * *

Now as there appears to be a great interest taken in philatelic riddles I will ask you just one more:—

Why is the famous "Castle" Collection of European Stamps like an ancient mariner?

To the first reader of the *S.C.F.* who sends in a correct answer, I will present a fine used specimen of the 10 pfennig Germany, 1900 issue, well centred, and lightly postmarked.

Don't gasp, please! This is genuine.

Our Review of Reviews.

When are Originals Worse than Forgeries?

What can be behind the unreasoning prejudice shown in certain quarters regarding the Mafeking stamps? The "Philatelic Chronicle," of Birmingham, if remarkable for little else, has lately been most remarkable for its vitriolic references to "Mafekings." This animus is not confined to the editorial articles. The writer of "The Postman's Knock," and also the individual known as "Non Lex," join in the chorus of condemnation. The following paragraph from the column, headed "Philatelic Frauds," contains a string of statements which surely take high rank among the irresponsible vapourings of the minor journals:—

MAFEKING BESIEGED.—These stamps are being produced in comparatively large quantities by unauthorized parties in Cape Town and elsewhere, and the imitations are not to be distinguished from the genuine locals save by experts (*i.e.* sellers of a different brand). The originals are so colossal a fraud, however, that imitations fade into comparative insignificance. The safe plan is to leave them all severely alone.

But many who have followed this safe plan (in the hope of getting in at a lower price) now find that the values of Mafekings are rising instead of falling. It would have been a safe and more profitable plan to "get in at the basement," as they say on the Stock Exchange.

Alleged Postal-Fiscals of Hawaii.

"Morley's Philatelic Journal" for October (an excellent number) describes two alleged postal-fiscals of Hawaii, recently seen:—

The stamps are rather larger than ordinary, the measurements being 27 by 30½ mm. The chief feature is the slightly modified central design of the 25 cents, slate, postage stamps of 1883; the name appears on a band above, the value in words below, and in numerals at the sides; circles in the upper angles contain the dollar sign. They are somewhat coarsely printed on thick, white, wove paper, and are perforated 10. The values are "Elna Dala" (\$2) red, and "Elima Dala" (\$5) blue.

Both stamps, it is added, are *carefully* postmarked "Honolulu, H.I., Jun 24 (29) 1886." There is much virtue in that word, "carefully"!

An Index to Philatelic Literature.

An idea often discussed but never satisfactorily carried out is now being taken in hand by Mr. W. J. Stanton, of Detroit. "Stanton's Philatelic Index," published monthly, is an earnest attempt to provide a periodical guide to the more serious contents of the current philatelic journals. The little paper starts with only four pages, but closely as these are "set" it is quite evident that Mr. Stanton will have to enlarge if he is to carry out his expressed intention to "cover all philatelic publications."

Orange River "V.R.I.'s"—What are they worth?

The "V.R.I." stamps of the Orange River Colony have tumbled heavily in price since they first burst upon the philatelic world. So says Mr. Geo. S. McKearn in an article contributed to the "Weekly Philatelic Era"; and he is right. But are they worth even the reduced prices now asked for them? he questions, and being a lover of comparisons he contrasts the price asked for the 1 shilling "V.R.I." Orange River Colony with that at which the provisional 1c. on 3c. lilac, of Newfoundland (Type 1, the rarest type) may now be purchased. His comparison may be thrown into tabular form, thus:—

	Number issued.	Price in U.S.A.
Orange River, V.R.I., 1 shilling	139,200	2s. 6d. to 3s.
Newfoundland, 1c. on 3c., Type 1.	32,000	1s. 8d. to 2s.

Comparisons, however, are odious, and especially philatelic comparisons. We become more interested in Mr. McKearn's remarks when he comments on the noticeable disappearance of the 2½., 4d., 6d. carmine, from so many advertised sets of these stamps. These are good stamps to hold. The 5s.

value, again, he holds to have been much exaggerated in the reports of "quantities printed." The Free Staters, in his opinion, would not have used more than about 5,000 stamps of this denomination in a year, and, therefore, to credit them with having over a quarter of a million in stock at the time Lord "Bobs" entered Bloemfontein is absurd.

"The Australian Journal of Philately."

We have to welcome a new Colonial stamp magazine—the "Australian Journal of Philately." It has every appearance of being a venture that will succeed. Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle, its publishers, are amongst the most go-ahead of Antipodean stamp dealers. Mr. A. F. Basset Hull, although he has had to give up the work of regularly editing a stamp periodical, is evidently not going to bury his pen altogether. In No. 1 of the "Australian Journal of Philately," this always readable writer has a pleasant little article on

THE "G.O.S." OF PHILATELY.

"G.O.S.," being interpreted, means "Grand Old Stamp," and this title does unquestionably belong to the old fivepenny green of New South Wales, which is still doing duty in this year of Grace, 1900.

No other stamp (writes Mr. Hull) has remained in active use, unchanged in plate, design or colour for such a period. It is one of the most artistically designed and executed labels that delight alike the philatelist and the artist; its splendid proportions and evenly balanced wealth of detail dwarf all the meretricious concoctions of later days into absolute insignificance, and its long and honoured service is without rival in the annals of philately. Truly it deserves more than a niche in the Temple of Fame—rather is it worthy of a special throne in the Philatelic Valhalla!

Mr. Hull proceeds to get forth the stamp's record from the time when the first proof impressions were submitted (1855) to the present day; and makes quite an interesting chapter of history out of the "G.O.S."

Two "A.J.P.'s" Now!

The advent of the "Australian Journal of Philately" is a distinct blow to the busy philatelic journalist. Heretofore we have been able to write merely "A.J.P.," or if we felt a desire to be exact, "A. J. of P." to designate the "American Journal of Philately." In justice to Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle we can do that no longer. Too bad, isn't it?

Peruviana by Mr. Theodor Buhl.

"My favourite country, ever since the war between Chili and Peru of 1881-82," writes Mr. Theodor Buhl in the latest instalment of his 'Recollections,' "has been Peru. . . . From the very first I was interested in the Provisionals as they came over, but my enthusiasm was stimulated by a parcel of 20,000 sent to me from Piura, through the Bank of England. I made a lot of money out of this lot and even sold the Piura surcharges at £10 per 100. There were about 3,000 of the first issues, and amongst the later ones, hundreds of the surcharges for Arequipa, Cuzco, Puno, Ayacucho, &c., &c., and thousands of the "triangle" and "Chilian Arms" varieties. I supplied many of the leading dealers and commenced a specialist's collection of my own, which altogether cost me about £300, and which I exhibited at the London exhibition in 1890. It was afterwards broken up and many of the stamps are still in the well-known collections of Messrs. Hall & Parry, and in the Tapling collection, others which went to Mr. De Coppet having long since been dispersed all over the globe."

AMONG THE WORLD'S RAREST LOCALS.

Recurring to the subject of the "Chiapas" stamps of Mexico, as sold by him to the late Mr. Tapling, Mr. Buhl remarks: "I think I have handled at least half of all the known copies of these rarities. Until Mr. G. T. Koster discovered them during his travels in Mexico, only one value was known—the 2 reales, rose—and of that there were more forgeries than genuine stamps, the former being about twice as large as the real article. They are undoubtedly amongst the rarest locals in the world, and worthy of greater respect from philatelists than is usually vouchsafed them."

THREATENED MEN LIVE LONG.

Many who know Mr. Theodor Buhl, are unaware that at one time he was threatened with sudden death at the hands of an assassin, for his evidence against stamp forgers and

fakers. He thus tells the story in concluding the latest chapter of his "Recollections" in the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain." In each of the cases at the Old Bailey (he observes) "I was a witness for the prosecution, and after one of them, I was long bombarded with anonymous communications and threats, nasty and otherwise, some even to my private address, and a warning that I was to be ended with a revolver shot. The prosecutions certainly cleared the air and checked what was then becoming a serious menace to the welfare of philately, and the very existence of honest dealers."

The Notorious Oneglia Again.

E. Oneglia, of Turin, who trades in forgeries, and is candid enough to say so, is still sending out his touting letters broadcast. Here is a sample of Oneglia's extraordinary attempts at English correspondence:—

My house is the first, and, perhaps, the sole one in the world which has up to date put, *clearly and as such*, in trade the greatest stock of imitation stamps of every land, which, owing to the great expenses, made for, are known to-day as the best, for they have been made with the marvelous modern proceedings and are a wonder of engraving, filigree, indenting, overcharge, and stamp of obliteration.

For these reasons they have met with the universal approbation, so that most of the philatelists, who are boasting as experts, vexed, because they could not distinguish my imitation stamps from the genuine ones, made me the most unworthy commercial war.

If you want my new price-list with supplements of all my imitations, which I send gratis, you have only to give me your address, but very clear, and I will send it you at once. I am sure you will be very satisfied of its contents. If you will some specimens, as a trial, please add to your request a little sum.

I accept in payment rare stamps, to my mind, and buy also imitations.

For my imitations I have been awarded in various exhibitions 8 medals & crosses of merit, diplomas, etc., etc.

I sell my produces in order to favor those gentlemen who do not find, or will not, or cannot get the genuine stamps because they have been bought up by speculators who make a monopoly of them and are selling at usury prices.—I beg to write French.—Faithfully yours, E. ONEGLIA, Turin.

P.S.—I beg the gentlemen who have, till date, received my price list and are wishing to receive it further on, to communicate me their exact address in order to form a new index.

The "Virginia Philatelist," of Richmond, Va., in warning its readers against this man, asks how much longer the police of Turin are going to allow this man to remain at large? The question has been asked so many times in the *Fortnightly*, that we are glad to have an opportunity of quoting it from other columns, just by way of variety.

A Spaniard on the "Y" Surcharge.

The controversy on the "Y" surcharge of Cuba is alike fascinating and irritating. No man on earth appears to be able to settle this question for good and all, though many pretend to be able to do so. To a recent number of "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" Mr. Emiliano Martinez writes as follows:—

Whoever refers to the "Anales Administrativos" by Dr. Erenchun, a publication running for a number of years, under the auspices of the Spanish Government in Cuba, will find out:

1st. That the Y did not mean, nor intend to mean Interior, but Interino; or provisorio and provisional as later have been used on stamps. No doubt the Y was wrongly used by the printer, instead of I, but anyhow, Donna Ysabel, the Queen of Spain's name, and Ygnacio de Loyola, etc., etc., were printed this way all the time; and it is not long since this style has been discontinued.

2nd. The purpose of the Government in Cuba, under General Concha, was to afford a lower rate of postage for all printed matter, and the 2 rs. stamp, being of very little use, the Director of Posts availed himself of this stamp for said purpose, by having this surcharge done, and this can be seen yet on many circulars and all printed matter mailed between the islands and Spain.

3rd. If Y in that case would have meant And, then the circulars would have paid not only the $\frac{1}{2}$ rl. intended by the Government, but 2 rs. plus $\frac{1}{2}$ rl. This was continued until 1862, when a stamp of $\frac{1}{2}$ rl., the black one, appeared for that purpose.

The Official Gazette, where the resolution was first printed, could be consulted also if necessary.

Ah, that's just it! Why doesn't somebody hunt up that Official Gazette?

Sydney Philatelic Exhibition.

A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL SHOW.

FOR details of the Philatelic Exhibition recently held under the auspices of the Sydney Philatelic Club, in the "New South Welsh" capital, we are indebted to our indefatigable friends, Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle, of Sydney.

The Exhibition was held on Friday and Saturday, September 7th and 8th, in the Y.M.C.A. Hall, Sydney, a building admirably suited for the purpose, both as to size and light.

His Excellency, the Governor would have performed the opening ceremony had he not previously arranged a garden party at Government House for the same afternoon. His Honour, the Chief Justice was also unable to be present owing to his Judicial duties.

The Vice-President, Mr. Van Weenan, introduced Mr. S. H. Lambton, Deputy Postmaster-General, who in declaring the Exhibition open, expressed the hope that it would be the means of spreading a knowledge of Philately, and would lead to an increase in the ranks of stamp collectors. He gave a few figures showing to what extent Philately had progressed, and predicted a great future for it.

Admission to the Exhibition was free. A string orchestra discoursed sweet music on both days, and light refreshments were provided. The total attendance was estimated at 2,000, and the visitors expressed themselves much pleased with the display.

Some veteran philatelists grumbled mildly because no "surprises" in the way of rarities were shown, but the general impression was that the Exhibition was highly creditable; and when it is considered that out of a membership of 60, no less than 25 were represented, it goes to prove that there was a strong and earnest desire to make the undertaking successful.

Australians were very much in the ascendancy, but it must be said in justice to the exhibit kindly lent by the G.P.O. that only a selection was made from their splendid collection, which it was thought would not vie with those of private collectors.

The stamps shown by Mr. H. I. Himmelhoch and Mrs. Rienits were most meritorious. The former's exhibit included eight different plates of Views, eight of 1d. and 2d. laureated, and one registered, besides several of the rarest N.S.W. stamps, special notice being taken of a very fine unused 1d. and a 2d. Sydney View, and block of four 1st. Diadem wmk. "S" also unused. Mrs. Rienits' exhibit included in addition to plates of Views and laureated stamps, a very fine collection of early British Colonials which comprised several Cape wood-blocks.

Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle's own display was much appreciated. "We spared neither effort nor expense (the firm write) to make our stall worthy the occasion. It occupied the entire wall space on one side of the Hall, and was so arranged that everyone could see our exhibit easily. We made a special feature in mounting our stamps in glass frames with black background, which showed the margins to considerable advantage, and made the stamps stand out more conspicuously."

Mr. Hull, the Hon. Secretary, worked like a Trojan, and was congratulated on all sides on the successful results of his exertions.

THE EXHIBITS DESCRIBED.

From the Catalogue of the Exhibition (which, we learn, had to be "thrown together" in a hurry at the eleventh hour), we have collected the following details of the stamps shown by the twenty-five exhibitors:—

GENERAL POST OFFICE.—United States, 1847-1900, complete. France and Colonies, Portugal and Colonies, Holland and Colonies, Hawaii, Argentine, &c., &c., and the Exhibit shown at the London Philatelic Exhibition, 1890.

S. W. BALL.—New South Wales and Fiji.

B. BLUMENTHAL.—Various issues of Tonga, Spain, Guinea, Mozambique and Native Indian States. Entire sheets of Bussahir and Bamra.

J. F. COLE.—Victoria, all issues, including many pairs, blocks, and strips; Virgin Islands; Miscellaneous stamps.

JAMES COCKS.—New Zealand. Pigeon post, complete, used and unused.

G. H. DAVIS.—Queensland, Rarities, proofs, &c; Great Britain, Mulready envelopes.

ROBERT A. DALLEN.—Selection of stamps illustrative of animal life.

C. A. GILLES.—New South Wales. (Pairs, blocks and strips). New Zealand. (Pictorial issue, blocks of local prints). Queensland. (Early issues and serrated series). Old and rare Australians, &c.

FRED HAGEN.—Packets of stamps. Philatelic requisites. Stamp Catalogues from the early days to the present time, &c., &c.

O. HAUSSMANN.—Some rare Australians, etc.

H. I. HIMMELHOCH.—New South Wales, Sydney Views, 1859, reconstructed plates, &c.

W. A. HULL.—Portraits of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, as displayed on the stamps of Great Britain, British Colonies and Dependencies—113 examples.

A. F. BASSET HULL.—Cook Islands, Philatelic literature, &c.

S. H. LAMBTON.—Borneo and Labuan, Canada, New South Wales, Spain, Tasmania, Turkey.

S. M. LEVY.—Great Britain, New South Wales Fiscals.

J. H. PARRY.—Hongkong; surcharged; China, rare surcharges on Remittance Certificate; Queensland, 1879, imperf.; United States, 1851, Telegraph stamps (collection), &c.

A. P. PETTIFER.—United States. (Columbian issue), unused; New South Wales, Electric Telegraph stamp, 1871, with original design and etching; British Colonial, £1 stamps, Postage and Revenue, &c., &c.

W. RIDELY.—New South Wales. 3d. Sydney View, unused; 2d. View "Crevit" omitted; 2d. Laureated, stars in corners, unused, and 2 New South Wales curios. St. Vincent, unused pairs, surcharged 1d. and ½d. in red. Canada, 10d., imperf., unused, &c.

MRS. H. G. RIENITS.—New South Wales. Embossed letter sheets of 1838, Sydney Views including 2 reconstructed plates of the 1d. value, 1d. and 2d. Laureated 1851-54 series, 6 reconstructed plates, also various issues. Also a large display of British Colonial stamps.

G. F. ROBINSON.—New South Wales. Reconstructed plates, laureated "O.S." stamps, with elliptic obliteration, &c.

SMYTH & NICOLLE.—A fine display of rare Colonial and other stamps too numerous to mention. Also packets and sets of stamps, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' publications, &c.

A. J. TAYLOR.—New South Wales: Plate proofs of the 5/-, 1867, on "star" watermarked paper, in pairs. Essays for 6d. and 1/- Postage Stamp, 1852. Proofs of the 8d., 1855. Reprint of the 8d. Laureated, entire sheet, &c., &c.

Mrs. THIBBS.—Australian Colonies, Cook Islands, and many foreign countries; Orange Free State and Transvaal "V.R.I.'s," &c.

E. D. E. VAN WERKEN.—Queensland: New South Wales stamps used in Queensland, 1859-60; also essays, proofs, fiscal issues and other emissions from the Government Stamp Printing Office, Brisbane.

J. J. WITNEY.—United States periodicals, unused. Hawaiian Islands. New Zealand pictorial issue. Queensland, various issues, used and unused.

Where Can't You Buy Your "S.C.F."

In all the best known stamp shops both in the West End and in the City, the *Fortnightly* can be obtained. If any philatelist has any trouble in securing the paper he should at once communicate to us. Below we give the present list of agents:—

Mr. W. H. PECKITT, 440, Strand, W.C.

Messrs. WESTMINSTER STAMP CO., Victoria Street, Westminster.

Mr. EDMUND BLURTT, Catherine Street, Strand, W.C.

Messrs. BRIGHT & SON, 164, Strand, W.C.

Messrs. C. NISSEN & Co., 77/78, High Holborn, W.C., Wholesale Agent.

Messrs. H. ROSS-SHIELDS & Co., 75, Little Britain, E.C.

Mr. R. A. MATTHEWS, Aldersgate St., E.C.

Mr. J. W. JONES, 61, Cheapside, E.C.

Mr. F. C. PENNEY, Phillpot Lane, E.C.

Mr. W. JACOBY, Fenchurch Street, E.C.

Messrs. BLUETT & Co., Billiter Square, Fenchurch Street, E.C.

Mr. BERRY, 1, Cullum Street, E.C.

Messrs. WILLIAM STAMP CO., 120, Leadenhall Street, E.C.

In addition we have appointed agents in most of the large towns in the United Kingdom, but we are still anxious to increase and shall be glad to hear from Stamp Dealers, Newsagents, etc., who would be willing to have the *S.C.F.* on sale. We offer very advantageous terms, and any agent for the *S.C.F.* would affect good sales.

TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

REGARDING our remarks on the derivation of the word "Philately," we find that we have too readily credited a version of this matter long current in the philatelic press. The Rev. P. E. Raynor, of Ipswich, most kindly sets us right:—

"A slight error (Mr. Raynor writes) has crept into the account given (on p. 122 of the *S.C.F.*) of the derivation of the word 'Philately.' There is no Greek word 'telia' or 'teleia' (τελεία); 'telos,' plural 'tete' (τέλος, τέλη) is the word for 'tax,' and the compound formed from this would be 'Philately.' 'Philately' is really from 'philos' (φίλος) friend, and 'ateleia' (ἀτελεία), meaning 'immunity from tax or public burden,' the nearest Greek equivalent for 'franking.' The plan of affixing a postage stamp to a letter 'franks it,' and relieves the recipient from any charge or tax—these charges, we know, were very heavy before the days of Rowland Hill. Philately, therefore, means a love of 'franks,' i.e., of the labels which pay postage and frank a letter."

Thus the philatelist need no longer labour under the suspicion of being a lover of taxes. He can fill up his income-tax paper with all the mendacity of other honest folk, and look the whole world in the face once more. Our cordial thanks are due to Mr. Raynor for his great kindness, not only in setting this matter straight for our readers' benefit, but also in sending us the necessary Greek types for the proper enunciation of the Greek roots involved.

* * *

"A.W.G.," Edinburgh, evidently has a penny black Mulready envelope, worth, if in good condition, six shillings.

* * *

Mr. Leonard, of Londonderry, puts a question which will doubtless interest a number of other readers.

"Every stamp paper and catalogue (he writes) refers to the Mafeking stamps, with head of Baden-Powell, as 'large head' or 'small head,' but with the exception of the addenda to Gibbons' Catalogue, part II., I have not been able to discover any instructions how to tell the one from the other. Gibbons divides them into (a) 18½ mm. wide, (b) 21 mm. wide. As this must be interesting to many of your readers, will you kindly say in an early issue how this measurement is taken. Is it the perforations, or only the measurement of the frame enclosing the head? I have one which measures 22½ mm. over the perforations, while the frame measures 18½ mm. wide.

The measurement is of the frame only, and the dimensions given in "Gibbons" obviously represent the *widths* of the two varieties from left frame to right. There could be no question of measuring the stamps from edge to edge, for the margins are most variable. The particular specimen Mr. Leonard describes is evidently a "small head."

* * *

Two enquiries are before us as to the value of letters from the Cape and other parts of South Africa franked simply with penny British stamps and postmarked with the cancellation of the Army Field Post Office. We cannot see any value in these things at all. They are interesting, and for a time will have a certain value as curios—that is all.

Mr. A. A. Green, of Messrs. Green & Simpson, St. Heliers, Jersey informs us that he now intends carrying on his stamp business at 7, Belvidere Road, St. Heliers.

From the Auction Rooms.

THE feature of Messrs. Plumridge and Co.'s sales on October 9th and 10th was the unusually good quality of those too often unconsidered trifles described in the catalogues simply as the "remainder of the collections" of the various countries, many of these, at the two-day sale in question, realising over £5 per lot. Although a good number of "singles" were offered, the sale was not remarkable for any very conspicuous rarities. The following prices may interest our readers:

	£	s.	d.
British Columbia, CC. 12½, 1 dollar green ..	3	3	0
British Honduras, CA. 14, 6d. yellow, fine unused ..	2	0	0
Do. CA. 50c. on 1/- grey, small surcharge, fine ..	1	16	0
British South Africa, surcharged on Cape stamps, the set, unused	1	3	0
Cape of Good Hope, woodblock 4d. blue, average copy ..	1	14	0
Ceylon, Imperf. star, 1 g green, fine	2	0	0
Do. CC. 12½, 5d. purple-brown, fine ..	1	1	0
Mauritius, One shilling on 5/- violet unused ..	1	0	0
New Brunswick, 6d. yellow, fine ..	2	4	0
New South Wales, Sydney View 1d. red, very fine ..	1	7	0
Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown, a very fine copy used on small piece	1	5	0
St. Vincent, ONE PENNY on 6d. yellow-green, fine unused ..	2	8	0
Spain, Madrid, 1c. bronze, very fine	1	9	0
Do. 1865, perf. 19c. rose and brown, fine ..	1	16	0
United States, New York, Imperf., 3c. green, fine ..	1	16	0
Do. 1855, perf. 15, 90c. blue, mint ..	2	8	0
Do. State, 2 dollars, black and green, very fine unused ..	3	0	0
Wurttemberg, 70kr. lilac, slightly thinned ..	1	7	0
Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's sale on October 11th and following day included very few single stamps of special note, the majority of the lots containing several specimens. The following realisations should prove of interest:—			
Mafeking besieged Stamps. The set of 19 varieties, the 6d. on 3d. Bechuanaland being torn, the others fine ..	35	0	0
Do., do. another set ..	34	0	0
Mauritius post paid 1d. red, state of plate rather worn ..	1	18	0
Transvaal, 1877, surcharged V.R. TRANSVAAL on 1/ green, surcharge inverted, thinned	1	12	0
Do. 1887-90, 1 penny on 6d. blue, inverted surcharge showing the word "Penny" only unused ..	1	16	0
Zanzibar on India, blue, surcharge 1a, used on envelope ..	3	5	0
Do. error "Zanzibar" ¼a. green, used on piece with two others ..	2	10	0
Do. do. 1a. used on piece ..	2	15	0
Do. do. 2¼a. ditto ..	3	7	6
Do. do. 6a. unused with gum ..	5	0	0
Do. Provisional error, "2½" in red on 2a. blue, unused ..	7	10	0
Queensland, 1st issue, 6d. green, a horizontal pair slightly cut into at bottom ..	4	0	0

Western Australia, rouletted, 2d. black-brown on red, a poor copy .. 2 0 0

Mr. W. Hadlow offered 306 lots on October 15th, most of them being either wholesale or miscellaneous. Prices appear to have ruled at a very satisfactory average, so far as we are able to judge from the marked catalogue to hand. We were unable personally to attend this sale.

* * *

There was a "crowded house" for Mr. J. C. Stevens' auction sale in King Street, Covent Garden, on October 10th. Despite the large number of Mafekings offered by Mr. Stevens, prices were well maintained, even the commonest varieties realising over 10s. apiece. The complete sets sold at prices ranging from 26 to 35 guineas the set, and "Large Head" Baden Powell's all fetched more than £2 apiece. "Small Heads" and the Bicycle stamps realised, on an average, 17s. 6d. each.

Doings of Societies.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE opening meeting of the 7th session of the above Society was held at Messrs. Gordon & Co's. Rooms, 1, Cheapside, on Tuesday, the 11th. The President, Mr. Stamford in the chair. The following members present.—Messrs. Gray, White, Sugden, Foulger, Gaulke, and Quarkowsky. After the minutes of the last annual meeting had been read and duly confirmed, the President addressed the meeting. He touched briefly on the most important Philatelic events of the session, including a collection of new issues for 1900 which were very interesting to the members present. Also a copy of the Mafeking 1900 Siege full faced portrait of Col. Baden-Powell. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the President for his most interesting address.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

President:—A. H. Stamford.
 Vice-President:—W. H. Scott & W. M. Gray.
 Hon. Treasurer:—H. E. Sugden, 10, Claremont, Bradford.
 Secretary of Exchange Club:—W. E. White, 3, Manor Terrace, Manningham.
 Hon. Librarian:—C. Quarkowsky.
 Hon. Secretary:—A. J. Foulger, 90, Lister Avenue, Bradford.

MEETINGS FOR SESSION 1900-1901.

Date	Event
1900.	
Oct. 9	Paper by Mr. Gray on the Stamps of Lagos, &c.
Nov. 13	Paper by Mr. Scott on the Stamps of Mauritius.
Dec. 11	Display of Entires Mr. W. E. White.
1901.	
Jan. 15	Paper by Mr. Sugden on the Stamps of the United States.
Feb. 12	Paper by Mr. Foulger on the Stamps of the South African Republic.
Mar. 12	Display of Collections.
Apr. 9	Paper by Mr. O. Firth.
May. 11	Annual Meeting.

Meetings are held on the Second Tuesday of the month, at 7.30 o'clock, during the months of September to May, both inclusive. The Exchange Packet of Stamps is sent out on the 1st of each month, and the Sheets for

such Packet must reach the Exchange Secretary not later than the 25th of the preceding month.

Members are requested to observe Rule 9 of the Society, and to bring to the Meetings their collection of the Stamps of the country under discussion.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING was held on Thursday, October 18th, the president (Mr. F. H. Metcalfe) in the chair. Nine new members were elected. An exhibition was held of the stamps of South Africa, the principal collections shown being those of Messrs. Metcalfe, Peace, Chapman, and Sneath. They included some of the Baden-Powell Mafeking stamps. The membership of the society having increased, it was decided in future to hold the meetings at the Wharfedale Hotel. The next gathering is fixed for November 7th, when a sale and exchange of stamps will be held.

BRISTOL AND CLIFTON SOCIETY.

THE first meeting of the season was held on Thursday evening the 4th inst. at the society's room, 42, Cotham Hill, when Messrs P. J. Lloyd and R. Dalton exhibited very fine collections of New South Wales, including 1st plate Sydney views, and down to the present date in their various sorts and sizes, all extremely fine stamps. Mr. Lloyd's exhibit also contained a full re-constructed plate of perforation registration stamps, all of which were much appreciated by the members present. The attendance was not as large as the display deserved, but possibly the election may have had a prior claim on some of the members

DATES OF FORTHCOMING AUCTION SALES.

Following are the London auction fixtures for the ensuing fortnight. We invite the co-operation of all auctioneers in making these lists of dates complete:—

- October 29th. Mr. W. Hadlow at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet St., commencing at 5.30 p.m.
- November 1st and 2nd. Messrs. John Edwards & Co., at Anderson's Hotel.
- November 6th and 7th. Messrs. Plumridge & Co., at 63/4, Chancery Lane, W.C., commencing at 5 p.m. sharp.
- November 13th and 14th. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, commencing 4.30 p.m. precisely.
- November 15th. Mr. J. C. Stevens, at King St., Covent Garden, commencing at 2 o'clock.
- November 25th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, commencing at 5 p.m.

MAFEEKING BESIEGED STAMPS. Wanted used in letters that went through the siege and unused with gum.—J. R. P. Turner, Ilfley Road, Oxford.

MAFEEKING STAMPS, B.P. Heads (small), 30/-; Cyclista, 25/-; Lilac 3d. on 1d., 25/-; 6d. on 2d. Red and Green, 25/-; 1/- on 4d. brown and Green, 35/-; 1d. on 4d. Cape Green, 7/6; 3d. on 1d. Red Cape, 12/6; 6d. on 3d. Lilac, 40/-; All stamps sold with sworn copies of Lord Cecil's certificate of genuineness.—H. Shaw, 8, Melrose Gardens, West Kensington

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APPROVAL BOOKS of all Countries arranged in catalogue order for Beginners, medium or advanced collectors. Prices much below present catalogue rates. All stamps are perfect, picked copies, guaranteed. References required. Specialities "Peru" and "Argentine." Collections purchased for Cash. C. FORBES & CO., 42, Chester Road, East Ham, Essex.

COLLECTOR is desirous of negotiating for the Purchase of a good Collection of British Colonial Stamps, and is prepared to give a good price for one containing fine copies only. Apply: Box 134, Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

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2,000,000 English and Foreign Stamps, mixed, many obsolete, not picked over. Price, 10/- per 100,000. Must be sold.—MIDDLETON, 30, Dartmouth Park Hill, London, N.

V.R.I. Orange River Colony, Seychelles, Congo, Japanese Corea, Mexico, Crete, Victoria, Samoa (Provisional Government), Peru, Costa Rica ½ real, Selangor, Borneo, Persia, Hyderabad, French Guiana, Argentine, Sirmoor (Rajah), Switzerland (sur-charged "Ausser Kins"), N.S.W. Cyprus, Western Australia, 10d.—THE PREMIER STAMP COMPANY, Brighton.

MONACO, complete set, 1 centime to 1 franc, 3/6 (cat. 5/-); 5 francs, 5/6 (cat. 7/6)—A. COOPER, 56, Rue de France, Nice.

AUSTRALIANS.—50 varieties, clean, picked specimens, 1/1 post free.—CHAS. TURDOM, Neptune Street, South Lambeth.

CHINESE Imperial Post, Shanghai, Chefoo, Transvaal, Japanese Imperial Wedding, Crete, Alexandria, Malta, Russian Levant, Selangor, Travancore, six Peru, six Roumania, Persia. 40 Genuine Varieties, 1/1.—CHARLES SMITH, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA O.S., high values in superb used blocks at ¼ cat., or would exchange U.S.A. Columbus, 81, 5/9; 82, 3/9; 90c. purple, 2/- each; 81 black, 9d. each.—BOLTON, 5, Elmwood Road, Croydon.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE. Odd numbers supplied.—APPLEBY, Co-operative Terrace, Sunderland.

Having lately purchased several very large collections, and desiring to realise quickly, we are sending out approval sheets of good copies of stamps, catalogued from 1d. to £10, at

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Canada Jubilees, ½ cent to \$5, complete	42/-
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South Australia, 3d. on 4d. blue in red, superb specimens ..	20/-
Great Britain, 10/- and £1 anchor, the pair	25/-
" " 5/-, 10/- and 20/-, I.R. Off'n'l.	130/-
Nevis, 1d. red *, 4d. rose * and 6d. grey, the three ..	35/-

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Barbados and Trinidad (together)	12 kinds	1/0
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4d. three-cornered Cape on piece of original cover, very fine, 1/0.

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Ditto, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d. and 1/-, 6/- the set.

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" " " 5s.	..	3/6
" " " 10s., scarce	..	8/6
" " " 8d.	..	1/6 14/0
India, 1895, 2, 3, 5r. (3/- per set), (32 - 12 sets)		
Cape, 5s.	..	7d. 5/3
Persia, 1898, 1, 2, 5, 10k. (Cat 6/- set) (2/- per set)		
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B. Bechuanaland, 1894, 1/-, used	..	2 0
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B. Honduras, half of 2c., large surch., used as 1c. on part of original, scarce	..	2 0
Fiji, 1879, 2d. on 3d. green, cat. 2/6	..	1 0
Jamaica, 2/- C.C., unused	..	3 0
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Identifying Stamps.

MR. J. W. SCOTT SAYS IT IS EASIER THAN
IDENTIFYING MEN.

AN EXTRAORDINARY CASE.

IN earlier numbers of the *Fortnightly*,
our readers have made the acquaint-
ance of one, Edgar Nelton, a well-known
American Philatelist, who appears to
have been the victim of a singular ill-
fortune in his stamp collecting.

This gentleman, we think, has been
robbed of his various stamp collections
no less than three times! but on each
occasion, like the plucky spider in the
old story of Robert the Bruce, he has
started again at the bottom. We are
now reminded of the strange case of Mr.
Nelton by an article in the "Metropolitan
Philatelist," of October 13. Mr. Nelton,
we may note in passing, is now styled
Edgar Nelton Bradford. Where the
Bradford has come from we know not,
but it is certain that this is the Edgar
Nelton of old, so we shall proceed to
quote Mr. John Walter Scott's interest-
ing and, in some respects, extraordinary
article:—

Edgar Nelton Bradford has been robbed of
his stamps several times, all of which cases
have been duly reported in the "Metropolitan."
The robbery was bad enough, but to be laughed
at when he attempted to recover his stolen
property was, in our opinion, several times
worse, but at last Mr. Bradford has had his
innings, and on Monday last succeeded in
securing a small portion of one of his losses
and materially improved his chances of
securing another valuable lot. The case is
briefly as follows. In the early part of 1894
a room occupied by Mr. Bradford in a hotel in
Danville, Va., was broken open and a valuable
lot of stamps stolen therefrom. A circular
describing the stamps was published and sent
to the principal dealers. Some time after a
man by the name of Marks offered a portion
of the stamps to the J. W. Scott Co., Ltd.,
which was at once recognized as part of the
stolen lot; the owner was notified and in due
time an arrest was made. Unfortunately the
authorities did not see fit to try the prisoner,
who secured bail and the case was pigeon-
holed. Several other lots were traced to
Marks and were taken charge of by the police.
After several years Marks had the effrontery
to bring suit against Mr. Bradford to recover
the stamps and damages for detaining the
same. The case was tried before Judge
Gildersleeve and a jury, on Monday last, and
occupied an entire day. The main facts
in the case were admitted by both sides,
the case turning on the possibility of a
person being able to identify his stamps
after a lapse of six years. One of the
strongest pieces of evidence could not be
introduced owing to Mr. F. de Coppet failing
to keep his promise and testify. A certain
stamp being in court hearing Mr. de Coppet's
well known signature, the same having been
bought by Mr. Bradford at the de Coppet
sale the year previous. Mr. J. W. Scott
testified that every intelligent collector
would be able to identify at least half of
his more valuable stamps at any time. All
efforts to shake the witness' testimony were
unavailing, who swore "that he would be

better able to identify a rare stamp after a
lapse of five years than a man, five minutes
after he had left him." This was borne out
by Mr. Scott declining to identify Marks, al-
though he was a very uncommon looking
personage; he confined himself to swearing
that he bought the stamps from a man who
was arrested under the name of Marks, and
if the plaintiff was the person then under
arrest, he was the party who sold the stolen
property. Other witnesses testified to their
ability to identify their stamps after long
periods, and all the efforts of the plaintiff's
counsel failed to shake this testimony or to
confuse the minds of an intelligent jury; who
found for the defendant after a short delibera-
tion. Thus after a period of six years Mr.
Bradford again becomes possessed of a portion
of his stolen property.

We have made reference to this matter
in the Editorial columns of this number
of the *Fortnightly*.

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100 British Colonies all different	£ s. d.	0 2 0
200 " " " "	..	0 6 6
500 " " " "	..	1 7 6
1000 " " " "	..	6 0 0
1000 Stamps all different (no fiscals or cards)	..	0 18 6
2000 " " " "	..	3 0 0
3000 " " " "	..	9 7 6
4000 " " " "	..	17 5 0
5000 " " " "	..	28 10 0

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Transvaal, 1893, 1/- green, used	..	0 8
" " 1895, 5/-, catalogued 7/6, used	..	4 6
" " 1894, 1/- shafts, unused	..	10 0
Zululand, 1891-96, complete set, used, to 4/-, viz., 4 1/2, 1d., 2 1/2, 3d., 6d., 1/-, 2/6, 4/-	..	16 0
Niger, 1891 set, used, on entire letter, and ditto 1894 set, unlocal p. ints, New Zealand, and most of the German Colonials.	..	18 6

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47, Leicester Square, LONDON, W.C., MAKE THE SALE OF
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS A SPECIALITY.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that they have disposed privately of the fine collection forming the major portion of the Sale advertised to take place on October 30th and 31st and that in consequence the remainder of the lots will be included in the following sale on **November 13th & 14th.**

OTHER SALES AS FOLLOW:—

1900.—November 27 and 28; December 11 and 12.

1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17; May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12.

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.

Thursday, Nov. 15th.

SALE

OF

MAFEKING SIEGE STAMPS,

Orange Colony, Transvaal with and without V.R.I., and other good Stamps; also Siege Notes, Slips, Autographs, etc., etc.

Mr. J. C. STEVENS

Will Sell by Auction at his Great Rooms,

38 King Street, Covent Garden

On Thursday, November 15th, at 2 o'clock,

Over 100 magnificent Lots of these rare Mafeking Siege Stamps, a great many used on Entire Original Envelopes, and many other rarities.

On View day prior from 2 till 5 and Morning of Sale.
CATALOGUES ON APPLICATION.

HAVE YOU GOT THAT £10 NOTE?

If so please spend it judiciously and send for one of my splendid COLLECTIONS of ENGLISH STAMPS which contains Postage and Telegraph Adhesives, used and unused, nicely mounted in Universal Album.

Will send on Approval to responsible applicants.

THIS IS A UNIQUE OFFER!

A considerable number have been sold during the last two years to well-known English Specialists, and, according to testimonials received, have given much satisfaction.

Apply early as the supply is very limited.

JUST RECEIVED!

An unassorted parcel of PENNY REDS, Imperf., which we offer at 7d. per 100, or 3/6 per 1000.

FOREIGN STAMPS.

Guatemala, surcharge Provisional, 1886, 1 un centavo,	s. d.
Inverted, unused	2 6
Dominican Republic, 1895, Imperf, complete set of	
4, unused	6 0
Dominican Republic, in pairs, unused	12 0

CHARLES NISSEN & Co.,
77/8, High Holborn, London, W.C.

Always mention the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY in answering Advertisements.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

Surcharged "V.R.I."
All Unused.

	Thin V s. d.	Thick V s. d.		Thin V s. d.	Thick V s. d.
½d. orange	0 2	0 6	4d. blue	2 6	—
1d. violet	0 2	0 8	6d. blue	1 0	—
2d. violet	0 4	—	1/- brown	1 9	—
3d. blue	0 6	—	5/- green	7 6	20 0

Cape of Good Hope, 2½d. blue surcharged "Orange River Colony," 6d. each. 5 - per dozen.

* TRANSVAAL. *

We can offer a few obsolete high values at the undermentioned very low prices. All are postally used and in splendid condition

	s. d.		s. d.
1885, £5 dark green	22 6	1896, 2/6 purple and green	3 0
1895, 5/- slate	5 0		
1895, 10/- brown	4 6		

Undivided pairs, pro rata.

	Surcharged "V.R.I."	All Unused		s. d.
½d. green	0 2	4d. sage-green .. .. .	..	0 8
1d. carmine	0 2	6d. lilac .. .. .	..	1 0
2d. brown	0 4	1/- ochre .. .. .	..	1 9
2½d. blue	0 5	2/6 purple .. .. .	..	4 0
3d. mauve	0 6	10/- brown .. .. .	..	16 0

Guam, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 15c., and Special Delivery 10c. Set of 10 5 6
 Corea, 1900, 2 re., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 cheun 7 1 3
 Leeward Islands, Jubilee, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., 7d., 1/- and 5/- 8 25 0

For particulars and prices of other Novelties, see our 'Monthly List of Philatelic Novelties,' 6d. per annum, post free.

THE SECOND EDITION OF

* The Universal Standard Catalogue.

Now includes a SUPPLEMENT comprising all Stamps issued since the publication of the Catalogue in March, right up to August, 1900, also an entirely REVISED LIST of all the Stamps of Orange River Colony and Transvaal.

The Catalogue and Supplement bound together in One Volume, price 1/3 post free.

The Supplement alone, 3d. post free. Interleaved edition, cloth gilt, 2/6 post free.

The 'WHITFIELD' Interchangeable Albums are the Best for Advanced Collectors. Write for Details.

WHITFIELD KING & Co., Ipswich.

GERMAN-CHINA.

PROVISIONAL.

Owing to a sudden scarcity of 5 pfennig Stamps, the Post of Tsingtan-Kiautschou issued for a short period a Provisional Stamp of that value, by surcharging the 10 pfennig rose stamp with the new value, "5 pfg.," horizontally, in black.

Sufficient type of one kind not being available, various types appear on the sheet, three varieties of type of surcharge being at present known.

I have a good supply of all these known types and varieties of surcharge and will send same on approval.

These Provisionals being in use for a short time only, I recommend Collectors to purchase without delay.

At the same time I beg to remind Collectors that I can supply all German Colonial Stamps.

My new PRICE LIST for October (30,000 copies sent gratis) contains a complete Catalogue of all

GERMAN COLONIAL STAMPS

issued to date, illustrated, together with a List of all Post Offices in the German Colonies, with Price for Single Stamps and in Sets.

👉 I WANT TO BUY A LARGE COLLECTION. 👈

PHILIPP KOSACK, Berlin, C, Burgstrasse, 8.

OPPOSITE THE ROYAL PALACE.

Telephone Amt. V. 2157.

Telegraph Address—"Markenkosack."

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 148—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO.,

Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers,

10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "PHILATELIC, LONDON."

TELEPHONE No. 5596 AVENUE.

*The following **Approval Books** have just been made up:*

<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>GREAT BRITAIN</td><td>3 Vols.</td></tr> <tr><td>PERSIA AND CHINA</td><td>1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>SEYCHELLES AND St. HELENA</td><td>1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>LUXEMBURG</td><td>2 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>ITALIAN STATES</td><td>4 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>BADEN</td><td>1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>PERSIA</td><td>1 ..</td></tr> </table>	GREAT BRITAIN	3 Vols.	PERSIA AND CHINA	1 ..	SEYCHELLES AND St. HELENA	1 ..	LUXEMBURG	2 ..	ITALIAN STATES	4 ..	BADEN	1 ..	PERSIA	1 ..	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>BELGIUM</td><td>2 Vols.</td></tr> <tr><td>SWEDEN</td><td>1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>SWITZERLAND</td><td>2 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>AUSTRIA</td><td>2 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>BAVARIA</td><td>1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>ORANGE FREE STATE AND CHINA</td><td>1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>TRANSVAAL</td><td>2 ..</td></tr> </table>	BELGIUM	2 Vols.	SWEDEN	1 ..	SWITZERLAND	2 ..	AUSTRIA	2 ..	BAVARIA	1 ..	ORANGE FREE STATE AND CHINA	1 ..	TRANSVAAL	2 ..
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TRANSVAAL	2 ..																												

"INTERCHANGEABLE PHILATELIC ALBUMS."

We have much pleasure in announcing that we have been awarded the highest possible award (Silver Medal) at the recent Paris Exhibition, for our well-known make.

Full particulars of these fine Albums will be sent on application.

SPECIAL OFFERS:

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
*Antioquia, 1868, 1 peso red	4 0 0	Spain, 1853, 3 quartos Madrid.. ..	13 0 0
*Argentine, 1889, 1, 5, 10 and 20 pesos	4 10 0	" " 3 " "	15 15 0
*Bolivia, 1867, 500c. black	2 10 0	" " 1854, 1 rl. light blue	11 10 0
Brazil, 1843, 90 reis black	1 10 0	" " 1855, 2 rls. blue error, in a block of 35	12 0 0
" " 1844, 180 " "	2 15 0	" " 1865, 12c., frame inverted, perf. ..	9 0 0
" " 300 " "	3 10 0	*Switzerland, 5c. Vaud	4 10 0
*Denmark, 1870, 48sk.	1 10 0	" " 2½r. Basle	3 3 0
*Egypt, 1866, 10 piast. slate-blue	1 2 6	" " 4r. Zurich	8 0 0
*France, 1849, 10c. block of 6	1 12 6	" " 5 + 5 Geneva	18 0 0
" " 1849, 1fr. orange-red	4 10 0	" " 5 + 5 .. wrong halves joined ..	40 0 0
" " 1849, 20c. pair tête bêche	2 10 0	Roumania, 1850, 27, 54 and 108p.	85 0 0
" " 1853, 1fr. block of 6	3 16 6	Servia, 1866, 2p. error	10 10 0
" " 1853, 80c. pair tête bêche	3 3 0	*Finland, 1866, 10 pen., error	8 10 0
" " 1870/73, 10c. bistre on rose, pair tête bêche ..	0 9 0	*Swaziland, 10 shillings	3 10 0
*Spain, 1850, 10 rls. green	3 7 6	*Great Britain, 1d. V.R.	8 10 0
" " 1851, 12 cs.	2 5 0	" " " 2/- brown	4 15 0
" " " 2 rls.	22 10 0	Modena, large B.G.	2 10 0
" " " 6 rls.	3 7 6	Saxony, 3pfg., 1850	4 10 0
" " 1852, 2 rls.	15 10 0	" " " 1851, 2 ngr. dark blue	3 15 0
" " " 6 rls.	2 15 0	*Persia, 1894, complete set of 11	1 5 0
" " 1851, 10 rls., pair	5 12 6	" " 1899, " " 9	0 1 9
" " " 6 rls., strip of 4	5 5 0	" " 1899, " " 16	1 5 0
" " " 2 rls.	13 10 0	*Labuan, Jubilee set of 6	0 1 0
" " 1852, 2 rls. block of 6.. ..	47 15 0	Peru, 1858, ½ peso rose	10 10 0
" " 1853, 2 rls.	4 5 0	Mauritius, 1848, 1d. pair, early	22 10 0

* SIGNIFIES UNUSED.

CORRESPONDENCE in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

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 ensuing Season will be as under:—

1900.—November 22nd and 23rd; December 6th and 7th.

1901.—January 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th, 31st; February 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th; March 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th and 29th; April 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; May 9th and 10th, 30th and 31st, and June 13th and 14th.

NOV. 22nd and 23rd.—A Fine Private Collection of Unused, etc., including the following Rarities: United States, 24c. with inverted centre used and very fine. Labuan, 1st issue, complete unused and rare provisionals. Gibraltar, complete unused. A fine lot of Ceylons, including rare imperfs, scarce provisionals, etc. Transvaal, 3d. and 1s. with red surcharge. Fine unused Mafekings, Rare German envelopes. India, a fine lot, including the rare 2 as. green, unused. North Borneo, complete, mostly unused, including the rare error 10d. Mexico, a fine lot, including errors. Great Britain, £5 unused, and most of the present issues of Colonials complete, 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 (Philatello Department), 35, Old Jewry, LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM," LONDON. Telephone Number, 5076 Bank. ESTABLISHED 1761.

NOW READY.

The NEW (4th) Edition OF The "ABC" Catalogue

UP-TO-DATE CATALOGUE FOR THE NEW SEASON.

Many new features are introduced, and much additional information is given that will be found useful to Collectors.
All Countries in Alphabetical order.

Contains Adhesives and Entires of all Countries in One Vol.

About 850 p.p., and nearly 6,000 illustrations.

Price, 2/6; Post Free, 2/10. *A few Copies of the 3rd Edition on hand, 1/6 post-free.*

MAFEKING BESIEGED, ORANGE RIVER COLONY, } All these War Provisionals in Stock at Low Prices.
TRANSSAAL, VRYBURG, } Particulars on Application.

Approval Sheets, Medium Selections, Special Books of Separate Countries. For Stamps in Good Condition, our Prices are Cheaper than those of any other Firm. Novelty List of Philatello Accessories, 32 pages, post free. Modern Transvaal and Orange Free State Issues are rising. A Good Selection at Low Prices can be sent.

BRIGHT & SON, 164, Strand, W.C.

Where Collectors calling can inspect our Selections, of which there are generally about 150 on view, the Stamps contained in which constitute one of the finest stocks in Great Britain.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

With which are incorporated the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," 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 Rochdale Philatelic Society, the Cambridge University Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, and the Central Philatelic Club.

No. 148.—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

WHO'LL BUY A MILLION "ENTIRES" ?

MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS ABJURE THE ENVELOPE AS FLAT, STALE AND UNSALEABLE.

"ENTIRES" are bad stock.

That is the irresistible conclusion to be deduced from the portentous announcement made by Mr. Charles J. Phillips that his firm will cease importing envelopes, post cards, etc., at the close of the current year.

Owing to the great expansion of the Stanley Gibbons' business the firm have secured the whole "upper part" of the chemist's shop next door, and are now putting in a new floor, which, while being completely fire-proof, will also, presumably, prevent any chemical fumes arising from Messrs. Nurthen's shop to create a fearful and wonderful array of chemical changelings in Messrs. Gibbons' stock. Owing, also, to this great expansion of trade Messrs. Gibbons have resolved upon a contraction of their business. It sounds a little Irish, but there it is in cold print in the "Monthly Journal" for October 31st. From December 31st of this year, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, will "cease importing any more post cards, envelopes, wrappers or local stamps," and at the same time will cease chronicling any in the "Monthly Journal" or the Gibbons' catalogues.

"It is considered," writes Mr. Phillips, with sardonic humour, "that the end of the century is the best time that could be adopted by us in taking this step." Mr. Phillips, will, we hope, pardon us if we take time to fully consider this proposition!

Meanwhile Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, have a little lot of nearly a million "entires" going cheap. It is the "Entire" collector's opportunity.

HE ORIGINATED ST. KILDA'S POSTAL SYSTEM.

MR. JOHN SANDS, who recently died, was the originator of the St. Kilda post. This is like no other post in the world. The St. Kilda Islanders being cut off during winter from all communication with the mainland, the curious postal system devised by Mr. Sands is their only means of correspondence with the outer world. The St. Kilda mails are deposited in a number of small boxes of a special make: these are cast into the sea, and sooner or later, the strong current wafts them to the mainland. A precarious post, truly.

A STAMP THIEF'S CONFESSION.

MR. J. W. SCOTT, of New York, recently received this letter:—

Dear Sir:—This summer I bought some stamps of you: while looking at a book, the enclosed stamp came loose so I thought I would take it, not thinking at the time I was doing *wrong*, as a friend of mine said he had taken many a stamp from you and you never missed them. I had a collection of over 8,000 stamps, and having just sold it, I thought I would return your stamp, it being the only one I did not get honestly. Hoping you have not missed it.

The only comment Mr. Scott makes upon this is of an oracular nature. "We have frequently been robbed," says he, "and occasionally we have had restitution made voluntarily, but strange to say while the goods have been returned, the accompanying confession has never been truthful." The reader is then left to draw his own conclusions.

ABOUT BERLIN, AND ITS COMING CONGRESS.

It is announced that the Annual German Philatelic Congress (the thirteenth) will be held next year at the capital, Berlin. Fun is freely poked at the "Berliners" by many thousands of Germans (just as Londoners are chaffed by "smart" English provincials) but they make good philatelists all the same. Berlin, we must not forget, is the home of the "Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung"—perhaps the most authoritative philatelic magazine in the world—and the Berlin dealers are among the shrewdest and most successful in the Fatherland.

NEW "SCOTT" CATALOGUE IN THE PRESS.

THE publishers of the "Scott" catalogue, in accordance with their usual custom, are sending out "advance sheets" of the forthcoming 60th edition to those philatelists who have subscribed for same. The first instalment of these "advance proofs" comprises U.S.A. and Confederate States. In American issues there is a notable increase in the minor variations now listed, but no sensational changes in price have been made, save perhaps in the section devoted to Revenue stamps.

"BUFFALO" STAMP DESIGNS ARE SELECTED!

IT seems to be a game of "First she would and then she wouldn't" with the American postal authorities. In the last *Fortnightly* we announced, on the authority of the "Metropolitan Philatelist" that the design for the Buffalo Exhibition postage stamps were not approved, and that doubts still existed as to whether the stamps would be bi-coloured or not. We have now to contradict all this, and on the authority of the same journal! "The optimist" in his "Washington Notes" in our contemporary dated October 20th states categorically that the Pan American, or Buffalo, series of postage stamps will be printed in two colours, and that the designs have definitely been decided upon, as follows:—1c. a "Lake" steamship; 2c., a railway train; 4c., an automobile; 5c., Niagara Falls; 8c. the canal locks of Saulte Ste. Marie; 10c., an ocean steamship. The stamps, though of the same shape as the "Omaha" set, will be smaller—about 30 mm long by 22 mm deep; the inscriptions will read: "Commemorative Issue, 1901" and "United States Postage," and in America the stamps will be collected by philatelists and placed in stamp albums.

ROBBED OF HIS STAMPS AT A COUNTRY HOTEL.

QUITE an air of romance pervades the story of the theft of Mr. John Snyder's stamp album, as related by that gentleman in a letter to "Mekeel's Weekly." Writing from Tocoona, Washington, Mr. Snyder says:—

I intended going to New York two or three weeks ago, but when in Detroit changed my mind and went back home. I took my stamp-book along to try to dispose of it at New York. On my return I stopped at Ritzville on business. At the little country hotel I was shown a room at 8 p.m., and I put my grip in it and locked the door. Forty minutes later, when I returned, I found my door open, my grip open, and the album stolen. The album was one of the Scott Co.: it was about twelve inches long, six wide and one inch thick, red back and with this name inside: "John Snyder, Chillicothe, Ohio, 1869." I immediately hunted up the police, locally; I offered one hundred dollars reward and no questions asked; I telegraphed the Spokane police, etc.

All to no purpose, however!

By the way, those readers of the *Fortnightly* who are not conversant with the American language may like to know that "grip," in this connection, signifies "bag."

A CHOICE COLLECTION CHANGES HANDS.

MR. JOHN F. SEYBOLD, of Syracuse, N.Y., has purchased the fine collection of Mr. Albert Ginty of the same city. Mr. Ginty, it appears, was a great collector in the "eighties," and "Mekeel's Weekly" tells us that his fine 10,000 variety collection is exceptionally strong in British North America and West Indies.

Philately as a vehicle of charity is no new thing, as witness the War Fund Auction recently held in London. Now, in New York, Mr. W. F. Gregory is organising an auction in aid of the sufferers from the recent terrible disaster at Galveston.

The actual value of a hobby, even such as may seem trivial, is not always immediately apparent; its effect lies in the broadening influence which it exerts upon the growing mind.—"Public School Magazine."

Chinese stamps, it is frequently remarked, include no blue, black, or purple specimens. These colours are associated with mourning and funeral rites in the land of the Celestials; that is why the Chinaman "bars" them on his stamps. Yet we "Foreign Devils" of Englishmen began our postal issues with a black stamp, and even the penny British stamp of to-day is not far removed from what is regarded as our secondary mourning hue!

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.

GREAT BRITAIN.

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1840. Mulready Envelopes.				
1d. black	12/6	9/	12/6	9/
2d. blue	25/	20/	30/	20/
<i>Mulready Wrappers.</i>				
1d. black	10/6	7/6	10/6	7/6
2d. blue	25/	20/	30/	20/
1840. Wmk. Small Crown. Imperf.				
1d. black	20/	12/6	1/6	1/4
1d. grey black	17/6	10/6	1/4	1/3
2d. blue (without lines) ..	100/	60/	1/6	1/
2d. pale blue (do.)	100/	70/	1/9	1/3
1841-54. Same wmk. Imperf.				
1d. red brown	1/	1/8	1/	1/
1d. pale red-brown	5/	3/6	1/2	1/
1d. orange brown	5/	3/6	1/6	1/4
2d. blue	10/6	6/6	1/2	1/
2d. pale blue	12/9	7/6	1/2	1/
6d. deep mauve	120/	60/	3/6	2/6
6d. mauve	120/	60/	3/6	2/6
6d. violet	150/	75/	5/	3/6
10d. brown	100/	60/	8/	5/
1/- green	160/	90/	2/6	1/6
1/- deep green	200/	110/	3/6	2/6
1855. Wmk. Small Crown. Perf. 16.				
1d. red-brown (Die 1)	5/	3/	1/2	1/
1d. yellowish-brown (ditto) ..	5/	3/	1/2	1/
1d. red-brown (Die 2)	12/6	7/	1/	1/6
2d. blue	80/	40/	1/9	1/6
2d. deep blue	80/	40/	1/9	1/6
<i>Wmk. Small Crown. Perf. 14.</i>				
1d. red-brown (Die 1)	40/	21/	1/	1/8
1d. orange brown (Die 2)	17/6	8/	1/	1/8
2d. blue	300/	150/	1/6	1/
<i>Wmk. Large Crown. Perf. 16.</i>				
1d. red-brown (Die 2)	80/	40/	2/	1/3
1d. bright red (white paper) ..	100/	50/	1/6	1/
2d. blue	800/	400/	4/	2/6
2d. blue (thinner line under postage)	800/	400/	4/	2/6
<i>Wmk. Large Crown. Perf. 14.</i>				
1d. red-brown	3/	2/	1/2	1/
1d. orange-brown	5/	3/6	1/6	1/3
1d. brick-red	3/	3/	1/2	1/
1d. red-brown (or white paper) ..	7/6	4/	4/	2/6
1d. pale red (do.)	15/	8/	1/6	1/4
1d. rose-red (do.)	1/4	1/2	1/	—
2d. blue	25/	15/	1/2	1/
2d. blue (thinner line under postage)	40/	22/6	1/4	1/2
1858. Wmk. Large Crown. Perf. 14.				
<i>Letters in all four corners.</i>				
1/4d. rose	1/4	1/3	1/	1/
1d. deep red	1/2	1/	1/	1/
1d. brick-red	1/2	1/	1/	1/
1d. orange-red	1/6	1/3	1/	1/

GREAT BRITAIN—Continued.	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1½d. red	2/	1/3	1/2	1/1
1½d. deep red	2/	1/3	1/2	1/1
1½d. deep red (lettered in error on PC)	200/	100/	50/	30/
2d. blue	1/6	1/	1/1	
2d. deep blue				
1855-57. Wmk. Small Garter.				
4d. carmine	500/	300/	4	2/
<i>Wmk. Medium Garter.</i>				
4d. carmine on blue paper	700/	450/	6/	4/
4d. carmine on white paper	300/	200/	3/	2/
<i>Wmk. Large Garter.</i>				
4d. carmine	20/	12/6	1/2	1/1
<i>Wmk. Emblems.</i>				
6d. lilac	17/6	10/6	1/2	1/1
6d. deep lilac	20/	12/6	1/2	1/1
1/- green	25/	15/	1/9	1/6
1/- deep green	35/	22/6	1/9	1/6
1862. Wmk. Emblems. Small white letters in corners.				
3d. carmine	12/6	7/6	3/	2/
3d. pale carmine	10/	6/	2/	1/3
4d. vermilion (wmk. large garter)	10/	6/	1/2	1/1
4d. red (wmk. large garter)	10/	6/	1/2	1/1
6d. lilac	12/6	7/6	1/1	2/
6d. deep lilac	20/	12/6	1/3	1/1
9d. bistre	15/	8/	4/	2/3
9d. straw	15/	8/	4/	2/3
1/- green	20/	12/6	1/9	1/6
1/- deep green	30/	17/6	1/6	1/1
<i>Same as above, but with hair lines.</i>				
4d. vermilion	10/	6/	1/2	1/1
6d. lilac	15/	8/	2/	1/1
9d. straw			700/	400/
1868. Wmk. Emblems. Large white letters in corners.				
3d. rose	7/6	4/6	1/6	1/4
4d. vermilion (wmk. Garter)	7/6	4/6	2/	1/1
4d. red (ditto)	6/	4/0	1/2	1/1
6d. lilac	10/6	6/6	1/2	1/1
6d. deep lilac	12/6	8/	1/2	1/1
9d. straw	40/	25/	6/	4/
10d. red-brown			1500/	1000/
1/- green	12/6	8/	1/6	1/4
1867. Wmk. Spray. Large white letters in corners.				
3d. rose	5/	3/	1/1	
3d. deep rose	6/	4/	1/2	1/1
6d. violet	30/	20/	1/6	1/4
6d. mauve	15/	8/	1/3	1/2
9d. straw	10/6	6/6	2/6	1/6
10d. red-brown	12/6	8/	2/6	1/6
10d. deep red-brown	20/	12/6	3/	2/
1/- green	7/6	5/	1/3	1/2
1/- deep green	17/6	10/6	1/4	1/2
2/- blue	30/	17/6	1/6	1/1
2/- deep blue	45/	27/6	2/	1/3
2/- brown	105/	65/	50/	30/
1872. Same as before, but head in hexagon.				
6d. chestnut	15/	8/6	1/9	1/6
6d. deep chestnut	20/	12/6	1/3	1/9
6d. grey	12/6	7/6	1/6	1/4
1867. Wmk. Maltese Cross.				
5/- rose	35/	21/	2/6	1/6
5/- deep rose	45/	27/6	3/	2/
10/- grey-green	350/	250/	21/	15/
20/- brown-lilac	550/	400/	30/	22/6
1873-82. Wmk. Anchor. Blue Paper.				
2½d. lilac rose	7/6	5/	2/6	1/6
5/- rose	250/	150/	12/6	7/6
10/- grey-green	1200/	800/	25/	20/
20/- brown-lilac	1600/	1000/	60/	42/
100/- orange			100/	60/

GREAT BRITAIN—Continued.	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
<i>Ditto White Paper.</i>				
2½d. lilac-rose	7/6	5/	1/3	1/3
2½d. lilac-rose, lettered, L.H.F.L.				
5/- rose	400/	280/	17/6	12/6
10/- grey-green	1600/	1000/	35/	25/
20/- brown lilac	2000/	1300/	75/	55/
100/- orange				
<i>Wmk. Orb</i>				
2½d. lilac-rose	4/6	3/	1/1	
2½d. blue	3/6	2/6	1/2	1/1
<i>Wmk. Spray. Large Coloured Letters in Corners.</i>				
3d. rose	3/6	3/6	1/1	
3d. pale rose	3/	2/	1/1	
4d. vermilion (wmk. garter)	20/	14/	2/	1/3
4d. sage-green (wmk. garter)	5/	3/6	1/6	1/1
4d. grey-brown (wmk. garter)	15/	10/6	6/	4/
6d. pale chestnut				
6d. grey	4/	2/6	3/	1/2
6d. dark grey	4/6	3/	1/3	1/2
1/- green	7/6	5/	1/6	1/4
1/- deep green	12/6	7/6	1/9	1/6
1/- salmon	17/5	12/6	5/	3/6
1880. Wmk. Crown.				
2½d. blue	2/	1/3	1/1	
3d. rose	4/	2/0	1/6	1/1
3d. lilac, surcharged 3d. in carmine	2/6	1/9	1/6	1/4
4d. grey-brown	5/	3/6	1/4	1/2
6d. grey	4/	2/9	1/3	1/6
5d. lilac, surcharged 6d. in carmine	3/	2/	1/9	1/6
1/- salmon	7/	5/	1/1	1/8
1880-81. The same.				
4d. green	16/	14/	1/1	
4d. dark green	13/	12/	1/1	
1d. venetian-red	13/	12/	1/1	
1d. lilac (14 dots in each corner)	5/	3/	1/3	1/2
1d. venetian-red	19/	16/	1/2	1/1
2d. rose	2/6	1/6	1/2	1/1
5d. indigo	5/	3/6	1/4	1/2
1883-34. The same				
4d. slate blue	12/	1/1	1/1	
1d. lilac (16 dots)	13/	12/	1/1	
1½d. lilac	1/6	1/	1/2	1/1
2d. lilac	2/6	1/6	1/3	1/2
2½d. lilac	1/9	1/6	1/2	1/1
3d. lilac	2/	1/3	1/3	1/2
4d. green	4/	2/6	1/9	1/5
5d. green	2/6	1/6	1/4	1/2
6d. green	2/	1/3	1/4	1/2
9d. green	5/	3/6	4/	2/
1/- green	7/6	5/	1/8	1/4
2/6 lilac on blue paper (wmk. anchor)	40/	25/	7/6	5/
5/- rose ditto ditto	100/	60/	15/	10/
10/- ultramarine ditto ditto	120/	75/	20/	12/6
2/6 lilac on white paper ditto	2/6		1/2	1/1
5/- rose ditto ditto	5/		1/1	1/2
10/- bright blue ditto ditto	30/	20/	15/	10/
10/- ultramarine ditto ditto	10/		1/3	1/9
20/- brown-lilac (wmk. 3 crowns)	80/	50/	12/6	7/6
20/- brown-lilac (wmk. 3 orbs)	200/	120/	17/6	10/6

NOTE.—We omit the current issue to save valuable space.

CORRESPONDENCE IS INVITED.

We invite correspondence, critical or otherwise, on the subject of "The Collectors' Guide to Values." Our aim is to make the "Guide" of the greatest use to the greatest number, and any suggestions we may receive, or any expressions of opinion as to Values, will be most carefully considered.—EDITOR, S.C.F.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 10, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

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Some Noteworthy Personal Opinions on the Mafeking stamps are published elsewhere in this number. They have been specially contributed to the *Fortnightly*, and will well repay a careful reading.

Two Philatelic Insurance Cases of extreme importance are, at the moment of writing, engaging judicial attention. The alleged instrument of loss is, in the one case, fire, and in the other case, burglary. We hope to publish interesting summaries of these remarkable—not to say *sensational*—actions in our next issue.

Since our last reference to the "Y" stamp of Cuba, Mr. J. M. Andrieni has contributed a long and most exhaustive article on the subject to "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News," finally submitting to philatelic students the following conclusions:—

- That Y represents in archaic Spanish the word Ynterior.
- That $\frac{1}{4}$ real (3½c.) was the regular local postage.

The evidence Mr. Andrieni adduces is overwhelming. The "Y" controversy is a controversy no longer.

Another blow is dealt at the much-neglected "Entire" by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' announcement that after the 31st of December next they will cease to import post-cards, wrappers, envelopes, and local stamps. At the same time their existing stock is being offered at reduced rates. It seems probable that Parts III. and IV. of the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue have been created only to die an early death.

Several of the C.I.V.'s have been seen in the stamp shops. Wounds and trophies are not the only things "the boys" have brought home.

Mr. A. H. Dingwall, in a letter to a contemporary, suggests that Exchange Club Secretaries should be paid. "It should be made worth a man's while to undertake the onerous duties of a Secretary to a club." The implication is that, at present, the work is *not* worth a man's while. In that case, the cynic may ask, why is the work done?

The "London Philatelist" announces with deep regret the death of Dr. J. H. Redman, well known among philatelists at Brighton and in London. Dr. Redman took a prominent part in the formation of the Brighton Philatelic Society in 1891, and was Vice-President of that body until 1898, when he removed to London.

Sixty Thousand Mafekings.

OFFICIAL STATISTICS AS TO NUMBERS ISSUED.

MR. A. H. STAMFORD, well-known as a member of the Philatelic Society, London, and also as President of the Bradford Philatelic Society, has sent the "London Philatelist" the following "numbers of each denomination of stamps issued during the siege of Mafeking, March 23rd to May 17th, 1900."

No.	Denomination	Surcharged
7,680	4d. green, Cape, square	1d.
5,280	4d. " " figure of "Hope"	1d.
6,000	4d. red, English, overpr't'd "Bechuanaland Protectorate"	1d.
6,000	1d. red, Cape	3d.
1,800	1d. lilac, English, overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" (Small Type)	3d.
1,800	1d. lilac, ditto (Large Type)	3d.
840	3d. Cape	6d.
1,440	3d. yel., English, overpr't'd "Bechuanaland Protectorate"	6d.
3,600	3d. lilac, British Bechuanaland	6d.
1,200	2d. green and red, English, overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" (with "6d." printed above)	6d.
1,200	2d. green and red, English, overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" (with "6d." printed below)	6d.
1,440	4d. Cape	1s.
2,320	4d. brown and green, "British Bechuanaland"	1s.
240	6d. red	1s.
1,440	6d. red, "Bechuanaland Protectorate"	1s.
570	1s. green, "British Bechuanaland"	2s.
6,072	3d. Local, small size, with Baden-Powell's bust	
3,036	3d. " large size	
9,476	1d. " Bicycle stamp	

61,431 Total.

The information is official, Mr. Stamford receiving the figures direct from the Postmaster of Mafeking. It will be seen that the "market" appreciation of the relative scarcity of these stamps has been marvellously accurate.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS DURING THE SIEGE.

We have to thank Mr. J. R. F. Turner for sending us a mass of interesting information regarding the postal arrangements in Mafeking during the time of the siege. The following extract from the "Local Mems" of the "Mafeking Mail" for Thursday, March 22nd, of 1900 is, perhaps, important:—

Private letters will in future be sent by the Intelligence Department by runners in batches of 30 (letters not runners) at a time. First come, first served. The communications will be despatched in the order they are received. Don't all speak at once.

The following details as to postage rates, sale of stamps, etc., appeared in the "Mafeking Mail" two days later—that is, on March 24th:—

The sale of stamps for letters for local delivery will be restricted. Letters for Northern and Southern routes must be handed to the Postal Official on duty, and stamps cannot on any account be sold.

RATES OF POSTAGE LETTERS.

Local delivery (within town limits), 1d. per half oz. Delivery at Outposts and Forts, 3d. per half oz. Letters for United Kingdom, Cape Colony and Natal *via the SOUTH*, 6d. per half oz. Letters for United Kingdom, Cape Colony, Natal and Rhodesia *via the NORTH*, 1/- per half oz.

The restriction of the sale of stamps in Mafeking is used as a great point by those who believe in the "Besieged" stamps as a legitimate, and even a *necessary* issue, but on the other hand the anti-Mafeking man will tell you that the bold, bad official speculators in the besieged town purposely devised this restriction as a means of keeping the "plums" all to themselves.

Too many medals; too few competitors! must be the epitaph of the Paris Philatelic Exhibition. The jury were confronted with an odd, but not unique, difficulty—they had more medals at their disposal than they could possibly award. Something of the same sort occurred at Manchester. "The Muddle of Medals," the "London Philatelist" calls it. It is a case of too much generosity on the part of the medal-givers. An excellent fault!

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF "MAFEKINGS"?

PROMINENT BRITISH PHILATELISTS RETURN INTERESTING ANSWERS TO THE "FORTNIGHTLY'S" QUESTIONS.

NOT long ago, one, S. M. Hamilton, a member of the I.P.U., and therefore presumably a philatelist, wrote a letter to a contemporary in which the following sapient passage found place:—

It is very hard for any sane person to believe that Mafeking, which, famous though it be, is only a village not more than half a mile across, could have need of a postal service of its own, much less require a special issue of stamps.

Most of our prominent philatelists being persons noticeably *sane* in their ideas and habits of life, it occurred to us to ascertain how the special issue of Mafeking stamps "struck" them, and to enquire whether, as sane persons, they found any difficulty in believing in the necessity for a special issue of stamps for the "Village on the Veldt." Accordingly the following circular letter was despatched to some thirty representative philatelists, amateur and professional in town and country:—

THE HOLLIES, BLACKHEATH PARK, S.E.

Dear Sir,

31st October, 1900.

The "Mafeking Besieged" Stamps have created an intense interest among all classes of philatelists, and have given rise to an amount of argument and discussion almost unprecedented in connection with a single issue of stamps. That the popular interest in these stamps is not of a mere academic character is, I think, proved by the steady level of price maintained at the many "Mafeking" auctions held by Mr. J. C. Stevens and Messrs. Debenham & Storr, as well as at the regular philatelic auctions devoted only in part to "Mafekings."

In view of this very practical interest in them, the question whether the Siege Stamps (the surcharge series, as well as the "Baden Powell" and "Bicycle" varieties) were a wholly unnecessary and speculative issue, or whether, on the other hand, the creation of these Provisionals was justified, either wholly or in part, by the exigencies of the Siege, becomes one of distinct importance to Philatelists.

I venture respectfully to invite a few words from you as to your personal view of the matter, for publication, with the views of other well known philatelists, in the next issue of my paper, the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

Apart from the main question whether these stamps are, in a philatelic sense, a fully legitimate issue, it would be interesting to know whether, in your opinion, the stamps are worth the prices now being paid for them. I feel, however, that I must not trespass too far on your indulgence. If you will be so kind as to send me a few words on the enclosed post card at your earliest convenience, I shall be very greatly obliged.

With compliments, believe me, yours very faithfully,

PERCY C. BISHOP.

The letter, purposely, was not sent to such known lovers of Mafekings as Mr. J. R. F. Turner or to such determined "Mafeking-phobes" as Mr. H. L. Ewen, Mr. B. W. Warhurst, &c.; but went simply to representative philatelists whose views were not yet public property. In printing the first batch of answers here we beg to thank our correspondents for the general courtesy and promptitude displayed.

MR. W. B. AVERY:

I do not intend to buy Mafeking Siege Stamps at the present (what I consider) absurdly high prices. I have little doubt that, in the course of a short time, these stamps will be obtainable at very much lower prices.

MESSRS. BRIGHT & SON:

Although we think the issue of the Mafeking Siege Stamps was an unnecessary one, they are so interesting that we hesitate to say more than this against them. Taking into consideration the great and abnormal demand, we think that, with few exceptions, the present prices will be maintained, and perhaps will rise still further.

MR. M. P. CASTLE:

I cannot think that the Mafekings were really necessary. They were, however, regularly issued and used, and franked letters home. These facts, and the great public interest in all appertaining to the war will always insure their collection and appreciation. I expect they will temporarily drop in price—owing to the numbers offered—but, later on, will regain their value.

MR. E. D. BACON:

I consider that more information is necessary before a definite opinion can be formed of the real status of the "Mafeking Besieged" stamps. *At present* I cannot help believing that the issue of such a number of varieties is probably wholly due to a huge speculation and if it were not for the patriotic furor engendered by the thrilling defence of the town, I fancy the stamps would have been pronounced "speculative and unnecessary" by every philatelist.

At the same time there is no gainsaying the fact that their issue, along with the surcharged stamps of the two South African Republics, has been the means of bringing philately prominently before the public and no doubt thereby adding many recruits to the ranks of stamp-collectors.—A point, again, that has perhaps induced some philatelists to look more or less favourably upon their issue.

As regards the present prices of the stamps, I consider them still inflated, and I expect to see them fall for most of the varieties, and, looking at the numbers printed of certain of them, I shall not be surprised if the fall is considerable in some instances.

MR. W. H. PECKITT:

I do not think the issue was wholly unjustified, but I should not be at all surprised to learn that the local philatelists had erred in favour of a larger issue than was absolutely necessary.

With regard to market value I think this is quite high enough, if not too high, at present, and I am very glad that I have consistently advised my customers not to buy at the higher prices that have up to the present been ruling.

MR. J. A. TILLEARD:

I have not considered the question referred to in your letter of the 31st ult.: sufficiently to form any opinion which would be of any value.

The question appears to me to depend upon facts which I should imagine cannot be accurately ascertained at present, in the absence of those who were principally concerned in the issue of the stamps.

MR. HUBERT F. LOWE:

You ask me if I consider the "Mafeking Besieged" stamps an unnecessary and speculative issue. To this I answer unhesitatingly YES. You also ask me if in my opinion the stamps are worth the price paid for them. To this also I answer YES. I know no way of estimating the *worth* of anything except by means of the price paid for it.

You must not, however, assume from these answers, either that I am not going to put "Mafekings" in my collection, or that I think they will rise in value. The Columbus issue of the U.S. was both unnecessary and speculative and is nevertheless not passed over by collectors. I might also point out that such stamps as the Cape "Errors" were unnecessary and though not speculative in their origin have been undoubtedly good stamps to speculate in.

As regards the probable prices of Mafekings in the future, it is well to remember the maxim "Never prophesy unless you know." As a general rule, however, prices of provisional

stamps issued in limited quantities are high at first, then fall, and afterwards rise again. If I knew at what precise date the Mafekings would touch "bottom price," I should be very glad to publish the information for the benefit of the readers of your paper, unless, as might possibly be the case, I thought it would be to my advantage, from a financial point of view, to keep it a profound secret.

MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING & CO. :

In our opinion the Mafeking stamps were an official and legitimate issue. Whether they were absolutely necessary or not, we have no information which would justify us in giving an opinion.

MR. EDWARD J. NANKIVELL :

I think there will always be a soft side on the part of English philatelists towards Mafeking Siege stamps, and that we shall not be too rigid in drawing the line as to their absolute necessity. They have done postal duty within and without Mafeking.

Prices are at present the shuttlecock of sheer speculation and probably are no criterion whatever of ultimate catalogue prices. Personally, I think they are being run up by a passing boom.

MR. GORDON SMITH :

That the stamps were properly used for the purpose for which they were created, there can be no doubt, but in view of the very large proportion which the stamps postmarked by complaisance bear to those actually used on envelopes, it would appear that the supply of stamps unsurcharged would have been sufficient to have met all lawful requirements. The absence of philatelic (?) suggestion in Kimberley has probably saved us a further series.

MR. H. A. SLADE :

To maintain that the Mafeking Besieged Stamps were wholly speculative and unnecessary is surely absurd. Col. Baden Powell and his comrades were in too tight a corner and were too practical to devote much attention to the needs of philatelists. Whether the postal officials manipulated the varieties in any way is another matter: it is beyond doubt that the creation of these provisionals was at any rate partly justified by the exigencies of the Siege.

I think the stamps are worth the prices being paid for them. The issues were limited and will quickly be absorbed by collectors and relic hunters, which will ensure quotations being maintained.

Other interesting replies we reluctantly "hold over" until the next issue of 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.

Orange River Colony.—Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen kindly sends us the newest of new things, viz., the current ½d. green Cape with black surcharge, "Orange River Colony" in three lines as on the surcharged 2½d. Capes.

Perak.—Messrs. G. Hamilton-Smith & Co. have shown us the new Perak provisionals, 3c. on 8c. and 3c. on 50c. There appears once in each sheet a variety without stop.

South Australia.—Mr. T. J. Bolton has kindly sent us specimens of the ½d. and 6d. with wide "O.S." surcharge. The 2½d., with wide surcharge, is not yet to hand. We have also had the pleasure of a chat on the subject of these stamps with Mr. L. S. Charlick, of Adelaide, now on a visit to London.

* * * Owing to the pressure of matter, our space for "New Issues" in this number is small. Several items from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Messrs. Bright & Son, and others, are unavoidably held over. In our next number we hope to recommence our illustrations of New Issues, by the special request of many readers of the paper.



Why not a School Stamp Collection?

That excellent monthly the "Public School Magazine" has just given publicity to "A plea for a School Stamp Collection." Few schools, the magazine asserts, possess a collection of stamps to be used and enjoyed in common like the school library or the school playing ground. Well this is news.

Few! We had not thought that there were *any* such collections in this country. We remember reading of a college collection formed by the scholars of a large educational establishment in America, and it is pleasing to know that the example has been copied to some extent in English schools. The writer in the "Public School Magazine" urges an extension of this system. "The use," he says, "of a good stamp collection is surely apparent. As a means of instilling into youthful minds, a fundamental knowledge of a subject upon which they are usually exceptionally ignorant—geography to wit—it is, in its own way, unrivalled."

There are of course difficulties in the way of the formation of a school collection. Who will undertake the work? Who will give the stamps? And to whom shall be entrusted the charge of the collection when formed? "These matters," says the Public School Magazine, "should devolve upon a philatelic society to be formed among the boys of the school already interested in stamps." This sounds rather like putting the cart before the horse. It is a case of first form your philatelic society and then get together your school stamp collection.

Where shall a Beginner draw the Line?

Good Philately is the same the whole world over, whether the collector be a Duke or a dustman; and we personally think that the sooner a young collector, or to speak more precisely a beginner (for a beginner in philately may be anything but young), enters upon the serious stage of stamp collecting the keener his enjoyment of the hobby will be. Still a philatelist must walk before he can run, and many a beginner finds a real difficulty in knowing where he shall "draw the line." Advanced philatelists perhaps go too far in the hunt for microscopical varieties. On the other hand the young beginner undoubtedly halts on the brink of the really enjoyable stage of philately by ignoring the minor details that so frequently make all the difference between a common stamp and a rarity.

A Catalogue for the Novice.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s "Standard Catalogue for Stamp Collectors" is a serious attempt—the first serious attempt, we think in this country—to provide the young philatelist with a catalogue after his own heart. This little book, with only a few exceptions, lists just the stamps that a beginner would look upon as distinct varieties and lists these only. Intricate variations of watermark, paper, printing, &c., are as a general thing ignored, and as a consequence the adhesives of the whole world are contained within a smaller space than Messrs. Stanley Gibbons devote to the adhesives of the British Empire alone.

How to Value an Album of Stamps.

In the career of every stamp collector, young or old, tyro or advanced philatelist, there comes a time when one requires to sell stamps, and to sell them to the best advantage. Especially is this the case when, a collector having reached the end of his tether (or got to the bottom of his purse), as a "General Collector" suddenly resolves to devote himself entirely to one particular group of stamps.

The question how a collector may most profitably realise is very sensibly discussed in the November number of "The Captain," that excellent boys' magazine which has come so rapidly to the front. The writer of the article therein, "What Will My Stamps Fetch?" gives some very sensible directions

as to how a collector whose stamps are only of moderate values may arrive at the price that he should fairly expect his album to realise in the open market. He writes as follows:—

A collector wishing to realize may arrive at the value of his stamps in one of two ways—he may take them to a dealer to be valued, or he may value them himself, using the current dealers' catalogues as a guide. In the first event the dealer will ask a fee varying from 5s. upwards, and his valuation will certainly not err on the side of exaggeration, for he will have before him the possibility of a "deal" on the basis of the value he quotes. Dealers are necessarily the best judges of the market in stamps; but a collector whose album is of modest proportions will generally find it the cheaper and easier course to value the stamps himself.

How is this to be done? Well, a dealer's priced catalogue is the chief accessory required. With the catalogue as a guide, go through the album, and value the several stamps therein on this basis:—

Stamps catalogued at 1d. or less disregard altogether.

Stamps priced in the book at 1½d. to 6d. each value at one-third of the catalogue prices.

Stamps catalogued at 7d. up to 5s. value at one-half of the catalogue figures; and all stamps catalogued at more than 5s. may be taken at about two-thirds of the dealers' quotations.

Unused British Colonial stamps are an exception to the foregoing rules, for these may always be regarded as worth, at least, their face value.

The total arrived at in this way will pretty fairly represent the market value of the album. Allowance, however, must be made for all stamps in a bad state of preservation, or with exceptionally heavy and disfiguring postmarks; and torn or otherwise damaged stamps must, as a general thing, be ignored altogether.

Questions Will be Answered.

"The Young Stamp Collector," if sufficient interest be shown therein, will become a permanent feature of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. Beginners in Philately needing advice are requested to address their queries to the Editor, at 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C. Envelopes should be marked "Young Stamp Collector" in the top left-hand corner.

The Financial Side of Philately.

WHERE do all these big collections go to? It is a question as difficult to answer as the old lady's historic query regarding the pins. They go somewhere, and that is all we can say. Messrs. G. Hamilton-Smith & Co., the negotiators of that biggest deal on record, the sale of the "Castle" collection of Europeans, have recently bought a few more little trifles of collections, some running into three, some even into four figures! It is a gratifying and encouraging sign of the times to learn that the sellers of these large collections are getting bigger prices for their albums than would have been possible some months ago. There has been a particularly firm tone about Philately this last month or so.

* * *

Mr. H. Marks, we hear, has just disposed of his superb collection of Transvaals, the purchaser being Mr. D. Field, of the Royal Arcade, Bond Street. The stamps are a beautiful lot, embracing nearly all the varieties known to the cataloguer, to say nothing of some that are unknown to him. One gem of the first magnitude is the exceedingly scarce error of surcharge, "V.R. Transvaal." Mr. Marks was awarded a medal for his Transvaals at the Manchester Philatelic Exhibition.

* * *

Mr. A. A. Bartlett, of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, writes us, under date, October 12th:—

Over a year ago (September 28th, 1899), on the strength of seeing his advertisement in the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, I sent E. G. B— of Grahamstown, Cape Colony, stamps to the value of £7 9s. 3d. for exchange, and have never heard a word from him of any description. Do you know anything of him or can you suggest any way in which I could collect the debt?

At present we publish only the initials of the person complained of, in the hope that the paragraph above may be read by him—with satisfactory results.

Our Review of Reviews.

The Stamp Men of Brussels.

Mr. William B. Hale, described as "the stamp drummer of America" is doing Europe. He has sent the "Metropolitan Philatelist" an account of Philately, as he found it, in the Belgian capital. Mr. J. F. Laurie, an American, is located in the Rue d'Arenberg, and another gentleman well-known in America, Mr. Theo. Van-den-Henvel, better known as Henry Collin, has a well-placed stamp shop near the Cathedral of St. Gudule. Other firms mentioned are Messrs. Gelli & Tani, and Mons. Belin. Mr. Hale was taken to see the retired Mons. J. B. Moens ("pronounced Moons here" Mr. Hale is careful to point out) and found the ex-dealer enjoying a well-merited ease in "a palatial residence."

Canada, 8 cents, purple, 1892-97.

The Canadian 8 cents purple—that which, as the writer expresses it, appeared at the tail-end of the issue of 1892-97—is the subject of interesting comment in the "Canada Stamp Sheet." There are, the writer points out, three varieties of colour—slate, lilac-grey, and purple. The first two are common, but the purple is harder to get than many people are aware. A careful observer will find that it is comparatively seldom that this shade is offered either on approval sheets or over the counter of the stamp-dealer. The purple stamp is at once detected, even in an unfavourable light, by a glance at the back, which shows a purplish tinge, whereas the backs of the slate and the lilac-grey show a dead white. "Like the ten cent of the maple leaf series it bids fair to become a rare stamp" concludes the writer.

The Cook Islands' Philatelic Postmaster.

Mr. Ralph W. Gosset, to whom we are indebted for many items regarding the Cook Islands postage stamps, has just been appointed Postmaster of the Federation. The "Montreal Philatelist," by the way, announces that Mr. Gosset has in preparation for that journal an exhaustive article on the Cook Islands' stamps, the first instalment of which will be published at an early date.

Samoa, 1½d. on 2d., new Printing.

"I wish," writes "Sand Burr," the New Jersey correspondent of the "Weekly Philatelic Era," "to chronicle a new printing of the 1½d. on 2d. Samoa, which made its appearance in the early months of the present year, 1900. Description: Perforated 11×11; surcharge in black ink instead of blue; fraction bar not extending so high; lettering of surcharge much lighter than in the first printing. The most striking difference," continues the correspondent, "is found in the shape of the end of the base in the figure 2 of the new surcharge, which has the end turned up vertically at a right angle."

Mr. Phillips to Visit America again.

Very shortly, as he tells us in the "Monthly Journal," Mr. Charles J. Phillips will start out on a second stamp hunt in the States and Canada. He expects to reach New York, on or about Nov. 24th, and thereafter to visit Philadelphia, Washington, Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago, Denver, San Francisco, Detroit, Toronto, Montreal, Portland and Boston.

An Apology Scarcely Called For!

What hobby on earth can show such humours as Philately? In the always readable "California Notes" of "McKeel's Weekly" we find the story of a parcel of Chinese stamps consigned to a San Francisco firm by their correspondent in the Middle Kingdom. The stamps, much to the surprise of the consignees, contained a number of specimens of the 9 candareens of the issue previous to the last. These were sent, it appeared, as a sort of job lot, and the agent

apologised for the fact that they were in "an imperfect condition," and added that on this account he would put them in at face value, foregoing his usual commission. *The stamps were imperforate vertically!* Oh, blessed "imperfection."

Fifteen Pages of British East Africa.

The October "American Journal of Philately" brings us a most exhaustive article on the stamps of the British East Africa and Zanzibar Protectorates from the pen of Mr. John N. Luff. The paper runs to a length of 15 pages—more than a third of the "A.J.P.'s" space—and is one of the most painstaking and thorough articles it has ever been our good fortune to read. It should be a boon to every philatelist who fancies the somewhat tortuous issues of East Africa.

"The trade in Current Unused Stamps."

In No. 145 of the *Fortnightly* we wrote at some length on the controversy as to the importation of current unused Colonial stamps. The "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain," replying to "Ewen's Weekly," comments on its original article, now adopts an altered tone. It no longer contrasts current stamps with obsolete stamps as *media* for investment, but strongly denounces philatelic speculation of any sort or kind. Here our contemporary is on safer ground.

It should be the aim of every stamp journal (says the "P.J.G.B.") to foster the study of stamps, and to help collectors to take an intelligent interest in their specimens, but in some quarters it would seem that the highest aim of an editor is to play upon their commercial instincts. To attract novices by promises of huge profits if they buy the proper things, is not the way to bring the right sort of recruit to our ranks, for if he finds that he has been misled, his interest has gone at once. It is for this reason that we again raise this subject, and we warn collectors who have come in on the new issue wave, that if they do not wish to sink, they must seek some other interest than monetary profit.

With every word of this we cordially agree. The pity is that the "P.J.G.B." did not take this line before. Its earlier article read very like an attack on the business of a rival trader.

Rules for Philatelic Philanthropists.

"Proceed as follows," says the Rev. S. T. Bartlett, of Madoc, Ontario, in a printed leaflet headed, "Postage Stamps for Missions."

"Gather all the stamps you can," says this very practical minister. "Throw out the bad ones at once. Soak the others in water till the gum is all dissolved. Water will not injure the stamps. [They don't know everything in Madoc, Ontario, do they?] Dry the washed stamps in the most convenient way. If the gum has been all dissolved, the stamps may be dried by heat in bunches without sticking together. Enclose the stamps when ready to mail in a strong wrapper, mark the pkt. "printed matter," write your name and address on the outside, do not seal the pkt., prepay it with ½ cent stamps if possible, and address it as below."

As below of course is the address of the Rev. S. T. Bartlett. "Prices of stamps vary," he adds. "Variety, condition, etc., determine this point. Stamps used prior to 1870 are comparatively rare and should be kept by themselves."

They should! On that point we are in hearty agreement with the Rev. S. T. Bartlett. The stamps should be kept by themselves, and as far away from the people who solicit "Stamps for Missions" as may be conveniently possible. We have never quite liked these people who tout for contributions of stamps for benevolent purposes. This Mr. Bartlett, doubtless, is a good and worthy man, who is working hard for the poor and the suffering according to his lights. But what is to hinder the charitably disposed philatelist from himself selling his spare stamps (and he can sell them to far better advantage than any minister), and devoting the proceeds to the poor and suffering?

To the individual about to send his duplicates to a charitable agent or agent, we tender Mr. Punch's invaluable advice to the Man About to Marry. We have never liked the Stamps—for—Charity scheme. It is bad business, from the point of view of the beneficiaries themselves, and it opens the door to dishonesty.

TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

ADDRESSING us from Ladysmith, under date October 3rd, a reader of the *Fortnightly* provides a more explicit account of the "Stampless envelopes of Natal" recently alluded to by our contributor, "Hawk-Eye." The correspondent writes:—

In No. 143 reference is made to "a curious envelope which passed through the Natal post in 1895 without a postage stamp.

As I am in a position to elucidate this, I do so for the benefit of your readers. At the latter end of 1895, the department were not able to supply the public with ½d. stamps, and the 6d. violet of 1863 was, as you know, surcharged "One Halfpenny." This issue, of which there was roughly a quarter-of-a-million copies was bought up in two days, chiefly by speculators, and the department were again without a stock of halfpenny stamps! As a further surcharge could not at once be put into circulation owing to the time it would take to print (the "Half" on id. were then in the printers' hands) a circular was issued to all post offices to accept coin from the public and to endorse the article in the way that the one you refer to was endorsed—in this case the name being J. W. Coleman.

I believe Durban was the only office at which it was found necessary to so endorse articles, as among several circulars I have had I have not seen a single one with any other postmark than Durban, and I believe that the endorsing was only for a day.

As regards the query, *Why did not the postmaster use bisected stamps?* the answer is very simple. He had no official authority to do so. Consequently, had he done so, the articles would have been surcharged double on receipt at other offices.

* * *

"I have not seen mentioned certain varieties of the O.R. Colony surcharges," writes the same correspondent. "I have the following:—

The V.R.I. 1d. without dot after "I."

The V.R.I. ½d. with "I" instead of "1."

The 2½d. blue Cape surcharged "Orange River Colony," without period after "Colony."

* * *

Regarding our warning as to forged "V.R.I.'s," Mr. Neville Stocken has shown us the 2½d. blue, Orange River, genuinely postmarked, but with surcharge forged; also the 6d. carmine, unused, with surcharge forged. These forgeries are to be found among genuine O.R.'s forming sets. Complete sets must be scanned warily.

* * *

Our recent note concerning the removal of our correspondent in the Channel Islands, Mr. A. A. Green, represents a slip—or, rather, a series of slips, of the pen. Mr. Green's new address is not Belvidere Road, St. Helier's, as stated, but 7, Belvidere Terrace, Millbrook, Jersey.

* * *

Interesting letters from Mr. R. G. Rolfe, Mr. Ralph Wedmore, "H. K. L.," and others, we must reluctantly hold over until our next number.

Our New Issue Chronicle, by the way, is unavoidably a somewhat scanty one this time, and the "Frvolities" of our Mr. Alfred Jingle have had to make way for matters of interest and importance.

The day of picking up bargains is not altogether gone. Mr. John J. Oesch, of Chicago, writes that a collector of that city recently received, in an exchange selection, a stamp priced at 3s., which on examination proved to be an error catalogued at £10.

From the Auction Rooms.

The following are the most interesting realisations at the various Philatelic Auctions held in London since our last report:—

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale, Oct. 16th and 17th, 1900.

	£	s.	d.
British East Africa, 1896, 5s. black on blue ..	2	14	0
Do. do. do. 2 rupees red ..	2	4	0
Do. do. do. 5 rupees green ..	1	16	0
Canada, imperf., 10d. blue on medium paper ..	5	5	0
Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red, thinned* ..	4	15	0
Do. do. 4d. blue, discoloured* ..	3	7	6
Do. do. Mafeking Besieged, fancy capitals, 1d. on 4d. green (1st type*), with gum ..	1	5	0
Do. do. 1/- on 4d. green, perfs. cut at left ..	1	1	0
Do. do. 6d. on 3d. brown on yellow, fine ..	3	3	0
Do. do. Sans-serif capitals, 3d on 1d. lilac*, mint ..	2	6	0
Do. do. 1/- on 6d. lilac on red, on entire, original ..	3	11	0
Do. do. 1/- on 4d. brown and green, British Bechuanaland, fancy capitals, on piece of original ..	1	5	0
Do. do. another, on entire original ..	2	10	0
Do. do. 6d. on 3d. lilac unappropriated die mint ..	3	4	0
Do. do. Another used on piece of original ..	1	1	0
Do. do. Sans-serif capitals 2/- on 1/- green on piece of original ..	3	5	0
Do. do. Baden Powell's, 3d. blue (small size)* mint ..	2	10	0
Do. do. Mafeking Besieged, the set of 19, all fine and on pieces of original ..	28	10	0
Denmark, 1st issue 2rs. blue* ..	2	10	0
Finland 1866, 10 penni purple brown error of colour* ..	5	0	0
India, 1st issue 4a. blue and red a pair 18mm. apart with blue dividing line ..	1	1	0
Do. Gwalior, 1st issue, short inscription, 1 rupee, grey unused mint ..	1	6	0
Do. do. long inscription, 12a. sepia ditto ..	1	5	0
Do. do. 6a bistre ditto ..	2	6	0
Do. do. 12a. mauve ditto ..	2	12	0
Nevis, perf 15, engraved, 4d. orange*, but no gum (No. 1 on plate) ..	1	10	0
New Brunswick, 3d. red* ..	1	6	0
Do. 6d. yellow ..	2	8	0
Newfoundland, 1/- carmine, slightly damaged ..	8	10	0
Portugal, 1855, head with straight hair, 5 reis red-brown, fine, with large margins* ..	8	5	0
Sierra Leone, C.A., HALF-PENNY on 14d. lilac, with inverted surcharge*, mint ..	3	5	0
Tasmania, 1st issue, 1d. blue, cut rather close and thinned* ..	4	4	0
United States, 1869, 24c. purple and green, error, inverted centre, three perfs. missing and slightly thinned ..	12	10	0

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Sale, October 25th & 26th, 1900.

	£	s.	d.
British Bechuanaland, 1888-89, 4d. vermilion with inverted surcharge, Protectorate small type ..	2	10	0
British East Africa, Provisional, MS. surcharge, 4a. A.B. on 2as. vermilion ..	5	10	0
Do. do. do. 1 anna on 3as., a horizontal pair used on entire, registered with 24as., very fine ..	4	12	6
Do. do. on Company's stamps, 5as. black on grey ..	3	3	0
Do. do. do. 2 rupees ..	2	12	6
British Guiana, 1853, 4c. dark blue, slight crease at back ..	2	15	0
Cape of Good Hope, Woodblocks, 1d. brick red, a fine unused pair, the design being very slightly cut into on one side ..	51	0	0
Cashmere, 1866, 1 anna emerald-green* ..	6	0	0
Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperf., 2 pinholes ..	15	0	0
French Soudan, 1st issue, 0.15 on 75c. rose carmine, imperf. ..	2	17	6
Lagos, 1885-87, 10c. lilac brown ..	8	5	0
Lubeck, the error, 24sch. brown* ..	1	8	0
Madagascar, general issue, 1891, 5 francs lilac ..	1	10	0
Moldavia, 1st issue, 108 paras blue on pink, defective, but expert's guarantee of genuineness* ..	11	0	0
Natal, 1869-74, 1c. green, with curved surcharge in black, fine ..	4	7	6
Nevis, 1867, 1/- yellow-green, No. 11 on plate* ..	12	5	0
Newfoundland, 64d. carmine-vermilion* ..	6	10	0
Oil Rivers Provisional, 4d. in carmine caps. on 24d., No. 15* mint ..	1	14	0
Do. do. 4d. in blue caps. on 24d., No. 15a*, mint ..	1	16	0
Do. do. 4d. in blue fancy caps. on 2d., No. 22 ..	3	3	0
Do. do. 4d. in blue fancy caps. on 24d. No. 25 ..	1	16	0
Do. do. 4d. in green slanting caps. on 24d. No. 27 ..	1	10	0
Do. do. 1/- in vermilion, on 2d. No. 29* mint ..	2	4	0
Portuguese Indies, 1883, 44 in black on 40 reis blue (S.G. No. 158) ..	5	0	0
St. Lucia, 1st issue, 6d. green, *fair ..	1	10	0
St. Vincent, provisional 4d. on 1/- vermilion, slight tear at side ..	6	15	0
Swaziland, 10c. brown ..	2	4	0
Switzerland, Winterthur 24r. black and red ..	1	18	0
Uganda, 2nd issue, V.R. and name added, 10c. violet ..	2	12	0
.. 1st issue, 30c. black ..	1	6	0
Zululand, 5c. carmine, fine ..	2	2	0

Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Sale October 23rd and 24th.

	£	s.	d.
Brazil, slanting figures, 600 reis black* ..	4	10	0
British Columbia, Vancouver Island, wmk. CC. imperf., 10c. blue, a fine copy ..	1	6	0
Do. CC. 14. 10c. blue and rose-pink, mint ..	3	3	0
Do. CC. 12 1/2. 5c. red and black, mint ..	1	10	0

Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Sale continued.

	£	s.	d.
British Guiana, 1856, 4c. black on magenta, a large sized copy used on piece of original ..	18	0	0
British Honduras, C.A. 14. 1c. grey ..	1	15	0
Canada, imperf., 74d. green, light postmark, fine ..	2	4	0
Ceylon, C.A. 14, 2 cents on 4c. lilac-rose, a horizontal strip of three, mint ..	3	5	0
Columbia, 1862, imperf., 1p. lilac on bluish fine copy, pen cancelled with two others on piece of original ..	2	17	6
Gt. Britain, £5 orange on blue paper, telegraphically used ..	1	16	0
Hungary, Litho., 3kr. pale green, off centre but mint ..	1	7	0
Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. vermilion, early plate, but cut into ..	2	6	0
Do. do. 2d. blue on white paper, error Penoe, early plate, used on piece of original ..	11	10	0
Naples, Cross, 4t. blue, used on small piece ..	3	0	0
Nevis, C.A., perf. 14, 4d. blue a horizontal pair* ..	2	8	0
New Brunswick, 1/- violet, torn at bottom ..	7	10	0
Oil Rivers, 4d. in vermilion on 24d. (S.G. No. 18), mint ..	1	1	0
Do. 4d. in carmine on 24d. (S.G. No. 15), mint ..	1	12	0
Do. 1/- in violet on 2d. (S.G. No. 28), mint ..	1	16	0
St. Christopher, "ONE PENNY," small surcharge on 24d. ultramarine, used with 1d. carmine on original, but rather faded centre ..	12	10	0
St. Vincent, 24d. on 4d. lake-brown (S.G. No. 55), a mint block of 6. top and bottom margins ..	4	0	0
Spain, 1852, 2 reales, pale red, a horizontal pair with fair margins, but heavy postmark ..	9	0	0
Switzerland, Neuchatel, 1851, 5 centimes black and red, large margins but without gum* ..	9	0	0
Tasmania, 1st issue, 4d. orange, large margins* ..	1	16	0
Virgin Islands, C.A. 14, 1/- deep brown, used on piece of original with Agt postmark ..	1	5	0

W. Hadlow's sale, October 29th.

Canada, 10d. on thin paper, fine ..	0	17	0
Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red, fine colour, but cut close ..	1	10	0
Ceylon, wmk. Star, 9d., imperf., violet-brown, thinned ..	1	2	0
Newfoundland, 2d. vermilion, very fair ..	1	0	0
New South Wales, Laureated, 2d. dark blue, stars in corners, 1st state of plate, badly cut left side ..	0	17	0
Portuguese Indies, 6 on 10c. yellow ..	2	10	0
Do. do. 6 on 40c. blue ..	2	2	0
Do. do. 6 on 50c. blue ..	1	10	0
Do. do. 4 1/2 in black on 40c. blue, surcharged twice, variety of 162 ..	4	4	0
Russian Levant, 2kr. brown and blue, damaged ..	1	12	0
Scinde Dawk, 4a red ..	1	4	0

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

Secretaries of Societies are invited to contribute, promptly, brief reports of their meetings, fixtures, &c.

HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the first meeting of the season, held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, on Tuesday, October 2nd, Baron de Worms was elected an honorary member, and ten new ordinary members were admitted.

Mr. Franz Richenheim gave a paper and display on "The History of the German Colonies and German Post Offices in Foreign Countries and their different Issues of Stamps," and received therefor a hearty and unanimous vote of thanks.

H. A. SLADE, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Ingleside, St. Alban's Herts.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. DORNING BECKTON.

Hon. Secretary—G. FRED H. GIBSON, Kersal, Manchester.

THE Syllabus for the Session 1900-1901 has been arranged as follows:—

- Nov. 9. Paper, "Fading of Stamp Colours." M. W. JONES.
- " 21. (Wednesday.) Annual Dinner, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 7. Paper, "Orange River Colony." W. DORNING BECKTON
With Display by J. H. ABBOTT, W. DORNING BECKTON, and G. F. H. GIBSON.
- 1901.
- Jan. 4. Display with Notes, "St. Helena." VERNON ROBERTS
Exhibit by Members of Stamps for Sale and Exchange.
- " 18. Paper, "Official Stamps." G. B. DUERST.
C. H. COOTE, G. B. DUERST.
- Feb. 1. Display with Notes, "Roumania." J. C. NORTH.
Exhibit by Members of Stamps for Sale and Exchange.
- " 15. Paper, "Recent Issues." J. C. NORTH.
Exhibit by Members of Stamps for Sale and Exchange.
- Mar. 1. Display with Notes, "Sarawak." J. H. ABBOTT, W. DORNING BECKTON.
- " 15. Short Papers on Interesting Stamps. G. F. H. GIBSON, W. GRUNEWALD, W. W. MUNN.
- " 29. Display with Notes, "Holland." A. H. HARRISON.
Exhibit by Members of Stamps for Sale and Exchange.
- April 3. (Wednesday.) Auction Lots.
- " 12. Lantern Exhibition. J. H. ABBOTT.
- " 26. Display with Notes, "Egypt." E. T. ROBERTS, W. DORNING BECKTON.

At the opening meeting of the session, held at the Grand Hotel, October 5th (Mr. Abbott presiding), the Hon. Secretary reported that at the Paris Philatelic Exhibition the eight members of the Society who had exhibited stamps had received thirteen medals—three gold, nine silver, and one bronze. A selection from the exhibits was on view during the evening. In the unavoidable absence of the President, Mr. Abbott gave a short account of the Paris Exhibition.

The second meeting, held October 12th, was attended by twelve members including the chairman, Mr. Dorning Beckton. Mr. J. Woodroffe was elected an ordinary,

and Captain S. H. Godfrey a corresponding member of the Society.

Mr. Nathan Heywood read a paper entitled "A Defence of Beauty Spots," in which he urged that beauty of design and execution should not be confined to speculative, and therefore uncollectible issues, but he extended to stamps intended for genuine postal use.

A display of the stamps of Belgium, together with a few notes, was given by Mr. Munn.

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC UNION.

I.P.U. members are notified that it is intended to hold a Private Competitive Exhibition, probably at Essex Hall, Strand, W.C., on January 26th next. Money prizes, amounting to about ten guineas, will be awarded to the best exhibitors in the various classes. A noteworthy rule, governing all stamps shown, is that no single exhibit shall comprise more than 50 stamps. Further particulars are to appear in the December issue of the "P.J.G.B." Meanwhile, the President of the I.P.U., Mr. H. R. Oldfield, has signed a somewhat despairing manifesto, pointing out that the Com-

mittee's efforts (in the way of arranging meetings, &c.) during past seasons have not met with a very gratifying support. "H," writes Mr. Oldfield, "there are, say, ten or twelve members who would like and would undertake regularly to attend such meetings, your Committee would be very glad to revive them."

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Hon. President: W. B. AVERY, Esq.

President: R. HOLLICK, Esq.

Vice-Presidents:

T. W. PECK, Esq., W. PIMM, Esq.

Committee:

Messrs. P. T. DEAKIN, C. A. STEPHENSON, W. S. VAUGHTON, W. G. WALTON.

Hon. Sec. & Treasurer:

MR. G. JOHNSON, 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

The Officers for the ensuing year were elected as above. The Accounts shewing a balance in hand of £79 8s. 11d. were audited and approved.

The Report was approved and 3000 copies ordered to be printed. "The Stamp Collector" was adopted as the official journal of the Society for the next year.

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53, St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C.

SPECIAL PACKETS.

	£	s.	d.
100 British Colonies all different	0	2	0
200 " " " "	0	6	6
500 " " " "	1	7	6
1000 " " " "	6	0	0
1000 Stamps all different (no fiscals or cards)	0	18	6
2000 " " " "	3	0	0
3000 " " " "	9	7	6
4000 " " " "	17	5	0
5000 " " " "	28	10	0

MARVELLOUS VALUE. COMPARE PRICES.

WALLACE BROS.,

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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.

THE "ROWLAND HILL" BOOKLET

FREE FROM

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OFFICE OF THE "MONTHLY CIRCULAR"

37 & 39, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, W.C.

H. ROSS-SHIELDS & Co.,

75, LITTLE BRITAIN, LONDON, E.C.

Two minutes from G.P.O.

Hayti, well assorted, used, 6d. per doz., 3/6 per 100.

Newfoundland, 1898, ¼, 1, 2, and 3c. 5d. per set, 2/9 per 12 sets.

Special Mixture, splendid value, 2/- per 100.



Senf's Postage Stamp Album

Is the best in the World
Price List on application

Ranging from 4d. to £6 5s.

C. F. LUECKE, Publisher, LEIPZIG, SAXONY.

It was decided to hold two auctions for the use of members only on December 6th, 1900, and February 14th, 1901. Full particulars will be found in the Report which will also contain a list of the chief philatelic works in the Society's library.

The Programme was fixed as follows: 1900.
Nov. 6 (Tuesday)—Display. British North America, New South Wales, etc.—Mr. W. B. Avery.
Dec. 6—Auction.

1901.
Jan. 3—Display with notes. West Indies.—Mr. W. Pimm.
Feb. 14—Auction.

March 7—Display. Modern Issues.—Mr. C. A. Stephenson.
April 4—Display with notes. South Australia.—Mr. R. — ?

May 2—Paper. New Zealand, type 1.—Mr. T. W. Peck.

Each meeting commences at 8 p.m. Auctions at Great Western Hotel, Birmingham. All other meetings at 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

JUNIOR LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The membership roll of this Society for Juniors now numbers 72. Full particulars may be had of the Secretary, Mr. Crosby Blunsom, 7 Carmina Road, Upper Tooting. The programme for the season has been fixed as follows:—

Nov. 3—"Stamp Collecting." An introduction to the hobby (illustrated by lantern views), by Fred J. Melville, Esq.

Nov. 17—"Pictorial Postcards," by E. W. Richardson, Esq., Editor of the "Picture Postcard."

DATES OF FORTHCOMING AUCTION SALES.

Following are the London auction fixtures for the ensuing fortnight. We invite the co-operation of all auctioneers in making these lists of dates complete:—

November 13th and 14th. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, commencing 4.30 p.m. precisely.

November 15th. Mr. J. C. Stevens, at King St., Covent Garden, commencing at 2 o'clock.

November 20th and 21st. Messrs. Plumridge & Co., at 63/4, Chancery Lane, W.C., commencing at 5 p.m. sharp.

November 22nd and 23rd.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, commencing at 5 p.m.

Having lately purchased several very large collections, and desiring to realise quickly, we are sending out approval sheets of good copies of stamps, catalogued from 1d. to £10. at

8d. in the 1s. discount.

State requirements and class of Stamps desired.

Entire at one-third of Gibbons' latest catalogue prices.

BRIDGER & KAY,

65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C.

BUY AFRICANS!

Transvaal, 1883, 1/- green, used ... 0 8
" 1885, 5/-, catalogued 7/6, used ... 4 6
" 1894, 1/- shafts, unused ... 11 0
Zululand, 1891-96, complete set, used, to 4/-, viz.,
43, 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1/-, 2/6, 4/- ... 16 0
Niger, 1891 set, used, on entire letter, and ditto
1894 set, unwatermarked, set used, the sets 18 6
Have nearly all local prints, New Zealand, and most of the German Colonials.

LUDWIG ZIBLER,

98, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.

4d. three-cornered Cape on piece of original cover, very fine, 1/6.
20 Colonial Stamp: all different, 6d.
Orange Colony, V.R.I., 4d. and 1d., 5d. the pair.
Ditto, 4d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d. and 1/-, 6/- the set.
Johore, 1894, 3c. on 5c., 3c. on 6c., catalogued 3/-; my price 1/- the pair.
Price list of cheap sets, &c., post free. Old Collections and loose, rare and medium stamps bought.
Established 1877. **A. BOUCARD,**
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MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION

Now on view. Every stamp priced simply and reasonably. Europeans and British Colonials a feature. Also a large collection of entire envelopes and postcards at about 1/2 to 1/3 Catalogue prices.

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Established 1884

NEW MIXTURES OF WEST AFRICAN AND WEST INDIAN, &c.

In Groups as shown, made up in Packets of Hundreds. Per 100
Barbados and Trinidad (together) 12 kinds ... 1/9
Bermuda, Grenada and Leeward Isles, 10 kinds ... 2/9
British Guiana 9 kinds ... 1/9
Gold Coast, Lagos, and Sierra Leone 10 kinds ... 2/6
St. Vincent, St. Lucia & Newfoundland, 11 kinds ... 4/6
Mauritius and Hong Kong 10 kinds ... 1/6
Straits Settlements 8 kinds ... 2/3
Straits Native States, Johor, Perak, Selangor, &c. All now superseded by Stamps of Federated Malay States 12 kinds ... 3/6
Trinidad and Jamaica 10 kinds ... 1/1

WYRSCOUGH & Co., 61, 62, Gracechurch St., London E.C.

Old Postage Stamps Wanted.

BLUETT'S STAMP SHOP, 111, LITER 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 Indian, and old Australian stamps. Up to £1000, cash down, paid for a really fine old collection. Established 15 years. Bankers, London and County.

STAMPS.—25 varieties, 2d., 3d., 3s., 4d., 5d., 6d., 6s., 8d., 1s., 10d., 1/2, 1/1, 2s., 2s. superior, 6d.; 5s., 1/-, 7s., 1/6; 10s., 2/- (N.B. These Packs are excellent value, containing many old and new issues, no damaged stamps). Approval Sheets, splendid variety, good discount, low prices. Collections and Loose Lots bought; also old B. Colonials. Selections of Europeans, &c., sent on approval on receipt of satisfactory references. Rare O.F. State and Transvaals wanted. Mention *Fortnightly*. Note the address—PEARCE & STAMFORD, 7, Katharine Street (opposite Town Hall), Croydon.

5d. Niger Coast, purple ... 9d.
6d. " " yellow-brown ... 1/3
1 " " black ... 2/3
1/2d., 1/4 and 2d. Niger Coast, CA., the 3, 6d.

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Dealer in British & Foreign Postage Stamps and Coins.

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A FEW OFFERS.
B. Bechuanaland, 1894, 1/-, used ... 2 0
B.C.A., 1d. red & blue, 1898, used, rare ... 2 0
B. Honduras, half of 2c., large surch., used as 1c. on part of original, scarce ... 2 0
Fiji, 1879, 2d. on 3d. green, cat. 2 6 ... 1 0
Jamaica, 2/- C.C. unused ... 3 0
Do. 5/- C.C., do. scarce ... 10 6

I hold a Fine Stock of Transvaal, Orange River Colony and Mafeking Stamps.

Collection of 8,000 to 10,000 Stamps, all different, always on view, priced separately, at lowest prices. Send list of wants.

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.

Approval Books.
Arranged according to Countries and dates of issue. All prices much under Catalogue. Many Bargains. Good Discount. Also Cheap selections of Sets. Jubilee Envelope and Card, 5d.; Black Mulready, 8/-; Ceylon Service, 1r. 12c. 5/- (cat. 15/-); 40 different Japan, 7d.; 19 Borneo, 2/-; A few Gibbons' Imperial Albums, new, to clear, half price.

J. H. Telfer, Ravens Park, Catford London.

Found at last: The Cheapest Stamp Shop for Packets, Sets and Mixtures. A grand assortment at 9d. per 100.

30 British Colonials including (all unused) 1 Newfoundland; 2 Canada, 4c. and 3c.; Straits Settlements, 1c. on 8c. green; Mauritius, St. Vincent, Orange Free State, 8c., price 6d. Set of 61 abuan, 5d. 6 Borneo, 2d.

All kinds of Stamps wanted. Best price given.
THOMPSON & BECK, 24, Cullum Street, City.

APPROVAL SHEETS of collectors duplicates, for collections, up to 5000.—VALANCE CROMARTIE, Cockington, Toiquay.

GOOD SELECTIONS, moderate prices, liberal discount.—B. C. McARTHUR, Oak Villa, Malvern Road, Leytonstone.

MAKING STAMPS, B.P. Heads (small), 30/-; Cyclists, 20/-; Lilac 3d. on 1d., 25/- and 30/-; 6d. on 2d. Red and Green, 25/-; 1/- on 1d. Brown and Green; 35/-; 1d. on 1/2d. Cape, 25/-; 3d. on 1d. Red Cape, 12/6; 6d. on 3d. Lilac, 40/-; All stamps sold with certificate of genuineness.—H. SHAW, 8, Melrose Gardens, West Kensington.

POSTALS. Collector offers 1000, splendidly mixed, for 10/-, immense variety, no rubbish—Approval. Reference THOMPSON, 31, Crowndale-rd., London, N.W.

GIVEN AWAY. Transvaal Surcharged V.R.I. To all applicants for our Approval Sheets, enclosing stamped addressed envelope, we give a perforation gauge and 500 stamp mounts, and to all purchasers of six-pennyworth of stamps from the Approval Sheets, we give an Unused Transvaal Surcharged V.R.I. CHARLES & KNIGHT, 19, Mildash Road, East Dulwich, London.

ORANGE FREE STATE. obsolete, mint, 1/4 orange, 3d.; 1d. purple, 3d.; surcharged 1/4, 1d. purple, 5d.; 6d. blue, 2/6, 1/-; Brown, 2/6. Limited supply. CHAS. PURLOW, Neptune Street, South Lambeth.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE.—Want Lists solicited. R. APPLEBY, Co-operative Terrace, Sunderland.

MAKING BESIEGED STAMPS. Wanted used letters that went through the siege and unused with gum.—J. R. F. TURNER, Ifley Road, Oxford.

MAKING STAMPS, B.P. Heads (small), 30/-; Cyclists, 23/-; Lilac 3d. on 1d., 25/-; 6d. on 2d. Red and Green, 25/-; 1/- on 1d. Brown and Green, 35/-; 1d. on 1/2d. Cape Green, 7/6; 3d. on 1d. Red Cape, 12/6; 6d. on 3d. Lilac, 40/-; All stamps sold with sworn copies of Lord Cecil's certificate of genuineness.—H. SHAW, 8, Melrose Gardens, West Kensington.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE. a Speciality—Write Lehner, 50, Buckingham Palace Road, London.

COLLECTOR is desirous of negotiating for the Purchase of a good Collection of British Colonial Stamps, and is prepared to give a good price for one containing fine copies only.—Apply: Box 134, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

AUSTRALIANS.—50 varieties, clean, picked specimens, 1/- post free.—CHAS. PURLOW, Neptune Street, South Lambeth.

CHINESE Imperial Post, Shanghai, Chefoo, Transvaal, Japanese Imperial Wedding, Crete, Alexandria, Mafia, Russian Levant, Selangor, Travancore, six Peru, six Roumania, Persia. 40 Genuine Varieties, etc. CHARLES SMITH, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA O.S., high values in superb used blocks at 1/2 cat., or would exchange U.S.A. Columbus, 8s, 5/9; 2s, 3/9; 9c. purple, 2/- each; 8s black, 9d. each.—BOLTON, 5, Elmwood Road, Croydon.

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.



63/4, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents.

The next Sales will be held on **TUESDAY, November 20th, and following day**, commencing at 5 p.m. sharp, and will consist of a very fine Private Collection, broken up into lots. The Collection contains all the Rarities of Spain; New Brunswick, 1/-, very fine; Naples, ½t. blue (Arms and Cross), and other Stamps too numerous to mention. *The Owner has instructed us to Sell entirely Without Reserve.*

Other Sales will take place bi-monthly, and Philatelists having Entire Collections or Loose Stamps to dispose of should make immediate arrangements if inclusion is desired in early auctions. As MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & Co. are the only firm of Auctioneers confining their whole attention to the Sale of Stamps on Commission, and do not deal or even collect on their own account, the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious. Commission on lots sold, 10%. 1/6 per lot (irrespective of value) being charged on unsold lots.

— CASH ADVANCES AND VALUATIONS MADE. —

Settlements usually in eight days, at the very latest within 14 days from date of Sale. Bids from buyers unable to attend the sales personally executed without charge and at prices as much below limits as possible.

— CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION. —

Mr. W. HADLOW,

Stamp Auctioneer & Dealer,

331, STRAND, W.C.

AUCTIONS at frequent intervals. . . .
Commission 10% inclusive.
. . . . Catalogues Free

BOOKS OF STAMPS sent on Approval at 50%
Off Gibbons' Current Catalogue.

Special Selections of all BRITISH COLONIALS,
including unused and shades, all picked
specimens. Discount, 20%.

Good references required.

Collections and Selections Bought for
Prompt Cash.

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All correspondence on the subject of advertising should be directed to The Manager, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

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Has now ready for approval some splendid selections of stamps of all countries, and will be pleased to hear from collectors desiring to see them.

Prices in most cases are from 50% to 75% below catalogue.

Approval Books always in demand; many unsolicited testimonials.

One of the largest stocks in the world to select from.

Selections suitable for the most advanced collector as well as the beginner. Cheapest dealer.

Address all letters as above.

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 NOVEMBER 13th and 14th, and will consist of a fine selection of all countries, including—Cape, 1d., Woodblock, very fine; 1/- green, triangular, block of 5 and a pair, very fine. United States, a very fine lot, including—1861, 5c. brick red, and 1868, 90c., with grille, both unused; Departmentals, complete sets, both used and unused, &c., &c. Nevis, practically complete, including the 1/- yellow-green. 50 lots of Mafeking, including the rare 1/- on 6d. British Bechuanaland. A fine lot of Transvaal, including superb mint pairs of 1/- and 2/-, Queen's head, and other issues, &c., &c. CATALOGUES NOW READY.

OTHER SALES AS FOLLOW:—

1900.—November 27 and 28; December 11 and 12.

1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17; May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12.

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.

Thursday, Nov. 15th.

SALE
OF

MAFEKING SIEGE STAMPS,

Orange Colony, Transvaal with and without V.R.I., and other good Stamps; also Siege Notes, Slips, Autographs, etc., etc.

Mr. J. C. STEVENS

Will Sell by Auction at his Great Rooms,

38 King Street, Covent Garden

On Thursday, November 15th, at 2 o'clock,

Over 100 magnificent Lots of these rare Mafeking Siege Stamps, a great many used on Entire Original Envelopes, and many other rarities.

On View day prior from 2 till 5 and Morning of Sale.

CATALOGUES ON APPLICATION.

Have You got
that £10 Note?

If so please spend it judiciously and send for one of my splendid COLLECTIONS of ENGLISH STAMPS which contains Postage and Telegraph Adhesives, used and unused, nicely mounted in Universal Album.

Will send on Approval to responsible applicants.

THIS IS A UNIQUE OFFER!

A considerable number have been sold during the last two years to well-known English Specialists, and, according to testimonials received, have given much satisfaction.

Apply early as the supply is very limited.

JUST RECEIVED!

An unassorted parcel of PENNY REDS, imperf., which we offer at 7d. per 100, or 3/6 per 1000.

CHARLES NISSEN & Co.,
77/8, High Holborn, London, W.C.

J. WESTHORP, 
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Will gladly send on approval to responsible applicants Selections of FOREIGN and COLONIAL STAMPS ranging from One Penny to £200 each. Selections are neatly arranged in Collecting Books.

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NEW ZEALAND.—London print, 2d.; do. bleute, 1s.; Pelure imperf., 1d., 2d. (2), 6d.; Serrated perf., 6d.; perf. 13, 1s. (2).

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THE

STAMP COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 149—Vol. VI. SATURDAY NOVEMBER 24, 1900. ONE PENNY.

G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO.,

Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers,

10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "PHILATELIC, LONDON."

TELEPHONE No. 5596 AVENUE.

The following Approval Books have just been made up:

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"INTERCHANGEABLE PHILATELIC ALBUMS."

We have much pleasure in announcing that we have been awarded the highest possible award (Silver Medal) at the recent Paris Exhibition, for our well-known make.

Full particulars of these fine Albums will be sent on application.

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*Bolivia, 1867, 500c. black	2	10	0 1854, 1 rl. light blue	11	10	0
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.. .. . 1844, 180	2	15	0 1865, 12c., frame inverted, perf.	9	0	0
.. .. . 300	3	10	0	*Switzerland, 5c. Vaud	4	10	0
*Denmark, 1870, 48sk.	1	10	0	.. .. . 2½r. Basle	3	3	0
*Egypt, 1866, 10 piastres, slate-blue	1	2	6	.. .. . 4r. Zurich	8	0	0
*France, 1849, 10c. block of 6	1	12	6	.. .. . 5+5 Geneva	18	0	0
.. .. . 1849, 1fr. orange-red	4	10	0	.. .. . 5+5 wrong halves joined	40	0	0
.. .. . 1849, 20c. pair tête bêche	2	10	0	Roumania, 1850, 27, 54 and 108p.	85	0	0
.. .. . 1853, 1fr. block of 6	3	16	6	Servia, 1866, 2p. error	10	10	0
.. .. . 1853, 80c. pair tête bêche	3	3	0	*Finland, 1866, 10 pen., error	8	10	0
.. .. . 1870 73, 10c. bistre on rose, pair tête bêche	0	9	0	*Swaziland, 10 shillings	3	10	0
*Spain, 1850, 10 rls. green	3	7	6	*Great Britain, 1d. V.R.	8	10	0
.. .. . 1851, 12 cs.	2	5	0	.. .. . 2½ brown	4	15	0
.. .. . 2 rls.	22	10	0	Modena, large B.G.	2	10	0
.. .. . 6 rls.	3	7	6	Saxony, 3pfg., 1850	4	10	0
.. .. . 1852, 2 rls.	15	10	0	.. .. . 1851, 2 ngr. dark blue	3	15	0
.. .. . 6 rls.	2	15	0	*Persia, 1894, complete set of 11	1	5	0
.. .. . 1851, 10 rls., pair	5	12	6	.. .. . 1899, 9	0	1	9
.. .. . 6 rls., strip of 4	5	5	0	.. .. . 1899, 16	1	5	0
.. .. . 2 rls.	13	10	0	*Labuan, Jubilee set of 6	0	1	0
.. .. . 1852, 2 rls. block of 6	47	15	0	Peru, 1858, ½ peso rose	10	10	0
.. .. . 1853, 2 rls.	4	5	0	Mauritius, 1848, 1d. pair, early	22	10	0

* SIGNIFIES UNUSED.

CORRESPONDENCE in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

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 ensuing Season will be as under:—

1900.—December 6th and 7th.

1901.—January 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th, 31st; February 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th; March 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th and 29th; April 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; May 9th and 10th, 30th and 31st, and June 13th and 14th.

December 6th and 7th.—A very fine Selection including the following—Maaritus, superb made up plates of Post Paid 1d. and 2d. and large and small fillets; Transvaal, 1/- green, block of 7, all with V.R. Transvaal inverted, provisional, 1d. on 6d. Queen's Head, on entire unused sheet; Canada, 12c. black; Great Britain, 4d. medium garter, an unused pair; Mafekings, unused and used; New Zealand, 1d. on pelure, unused; Gibraltar, complete; Zanzibar, blue surcharge on Indian, and many others.

January 3rd and 4th, 1901.—Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to Sell on these dates the Collection of the late W. A. S. WESTOBY, Esq.

January 31st and February 1st, 1901.—Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell on those dates, a portion of the well-known Collection of G. NORMAN, Esq., of Calcutta.

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.

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CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Rochdale Philatelic Society, the Cambridge University Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Canton Stamp Exchange Society, the Central Philatelic Club, and the Ladies' Stamp Exchange.

No. 149.—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

RUBBER STAMP SURCHARGES ON U.S.A. ISSUES!

RECENTLY, according to the "Metropolitan Philatelist's" Washington correspondent, certain parties appeared at the place of business of a Washington dealer with one set each of the current U.S.A. issue, the Omaha set, "Periodical" set of 1875, and the last issue of "Periodicals," all complete and surcharged "Specimen." The overprinting was accomplished by means of a rubber stamp! and the type used was of an exceedingly small size. Not only that, but a dark coloured ink was used throughout, and the surcharging was so hurriedly done that on many of the stamps it could only be distinguished by close examination—notably on the stamps of the \$1, \$2 and \$5 values which would readily have done postal duty without the surcharge being detected.

Washington experts say such a surcharge has never heretofore been seen, although the parties selling the stamps to the dealer assert and claim to be able to produce proof that they were rubber-stamped at the Post Office Department.

AGAINST THE FORCERS OF "ITALIAN DUCKIES."

MR. W. J. STANTON, of Detroit, much power to his elbow, is doing his little best to interfere with the impudent operations of the notorious Oneglia and other Italian makers and hawkers of forged stamps. Into the penal code of the United States of America, Uncle Sam, in his wisdom, introduced a very sensible law against the use of the mail for fraudulent purposes. This law Mr. Stanton invokes in a letter he has

just addressed to Postmaster-General Smith at Washington. It is a law which we think has no parallel in the British Statute Book. Would that it had!

There is some faint hope that the official addressed by Mr. Stanton on the subject will do something. Officials do, sometimes—in America. Already a reply has reached Mr. Stanton in Detroit requesting that a copy of the specific circular he alludes to (offering forgeries of United States and other postage stamps) be sent to him at the Post Office Department. That looks like business.

THE "EMPIRE" OF NEW ZEALAND.

IS moving his famous resolution extending the boundaries of New Zealand in order to include the Cook group, the islands of Atiu, Mangaia, Karatonga, Atutaki, Mitiaro, Mauke and Hervey (Manauia), and Palmerston (Avatiau), Savage (Ninet), Pukapuka (Dangere), Rakaanga, Manahiki, and Penrhyn (Fengareva) Islands, the Premier, the Hon. R. J. Seddon, said that New Zealand now for the first time claimed to have a foreign policy, and in years to come would be a strong, self-contained nation with colonies of her own.

The conditions laid down by the chiefs in agreeing to annexation vest in the natives themselves the ownership of the land, the establishment of native land courts and of provisions with regard to Crown lands, and the right of representation in the New Zealand Parliament.

But what about postage stamps?

THE FUTURE OF FIJI.

The matter of Fiji is in obedience. The Fijian Federation is at present under Crown Colony Government, and the Imperial consent must be awaited before the group can come under the friendly sway of New Zealand.

TO DESIGN THE NEW N.Z. STAMP.

New Zealand has aimed high in its choice of a designer for the new "Imperial Penny Postage" stamp, for we are informed that the artist selected is no less a person than Sir E. J. Poynter, President of the Royal Academy. It is not too much to say that the whole world will await with interest the outcome of such a task entrusted to such an artist.

THE CASE OF ARCHIBALD BUCHANAN.

ARCHIBALD BUCHANAN, the man arrested in America on charges of wholesale fraud and forgery in connection with stamps, as already fully related in the *Fortnightly*, was brought for trial before the Federal Grand Jury at Chicago on Monday, October 22nd.

Buchanan is said to be one of a gang of counterfeiters who have travelled all over the world and secured perfect

impressions of postmarking stamps for their own nefarious purposes. In order to convince their dupes that the stamps were genuine, Buchanan and his friends are said to have placed them on printed envelopes bearing addresses of foreign firms or individuals, and postmarked them with just such marks as are used in post offices through which they would have to pass in order to reach their destination.

The charge of forgery was brought against Buchanan because he had in his possession the collection of forged stamps, and also the chest of implements used in their manufacture; but he lays the charge to one Clank, who was arrested previously on a less important charge and "jumped" his bail, being now at large.

INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO CONVICT?

At the trial on October 22nd, (we gather from the "Weekly Philatelic Era") Mr. F. N. Massoth was the main witness for the prosecution, and on his testimony, a true bill was found against Buchanan. It is believed, however, that the evidence now in hand is insufficient to convict the defendant and the philatelists in Chicago have been called on to furnish as much additional evidence as possible. Several of the members of the local society are seeking for such evidence, and Mr. Wolsieffer has obtained the stamps (?) sold to the Milwaukee collectors.

HOW MR. ANDREINI'S BURGLAR WAS CAUGHT—AND LOST.

The house of Mr. J. M. Andrieni, the well known New York philatelist, has been "burgled" by one Frank Emerson, a negro. The coloured gentleman does not appear to have come for the Andrieni stamp albums, but rather for the jewellery belonging to the fair side of the household. He got away with about £100 worth, the success of his exploit being mainly due to the carelessness of a mason working at the house. This mason, Schafer by name, afterwards handsomely atoned for his negligence by leading the police to the Tenderloin Club, where the negro was arrested. A search of the man's clothing brought to light the stolen jewellery.

Later news is to the effect that Emerson has killed one gaoler, wounded another, and made good his escape. A nice handful, truly! We trust Mr. Andrieni will receive no further visits from him.

Speculation in Unused Colonials.

HOW PHILATELY AFFECTS GAMBIA'S FINANCES.

The Report of the Administrator of the Colony of Gambia (Sir R. B. Llewelyn) for 1899, just issued as a Colonial Office Paper, contains the following passage:—

There was an increase under every head of Revenue, except the Post Office, in which there was a falling off from £2,140 to £589, in part owing to the adoption of the penny postal rate, but mainly to be attributed to the falling off in the demand for postage stamps by collectors, who, in the previous year, purchased a large quantity of the old issue and new issue on the change that was made in May, 1898, of the dies.

The difference between the two years, then, was £1551, and this difference Sir R. B. Llewelyn attributes mainly to the falling-off of philatelic orders. This falling-off, it is perhaps unnecessary to explain, is no falling-off in the normal demand for unused current stamps, but really represents the disappearance of a sudden and special demand created by the change of issue. Allowing an ample proportion for the purchase of sets of the new issue by dealers, etc., it is fair to assume that at the time of the withdrawal of the old Gambia stamps philatelists bought up at least £1000 worth of the "retiring" series—a series, be it remembered, which had been in issue for a matter of sixteen years!

Now you can get a heap of stamps for £1000 reckoning at face value; and it must be remembered that the highest Gambian face-value is one shilling!

What has become of all these stamps?

Have they been stowed away by those deluded philatelists who, according to the Editors of the "P.J.G.B." are hoarding up unused Colonials in pairs, blocks and even complete sheets against the day when their prices shall have risen an hundredfold in the catalogues of the dealers?

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.

GREAT BRITAIN—Continued.

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
--	----------------	---------------------------	----------------------	-------------------------

1882-85.

Overprinted in black.

I.R.
OFFICIAL.

½d. green .. .. .	..	..	2/	1/3	1/2
½d. slate .. .. .	..	..	1/6	1/3	1/2
1d. lilac .. .. .	..	..	1/6	1/1	
2½d. lilac .. .. .	..	..	15/	5/	3/6
6d. grey .. .. .	..	..	3/6	1/6	1/4
1/- green .. .. .	..	..	150/	20/	12/6
5/- rose .. .. .	..	..	60/	45/	30/
10/- blue .. .. .	..	..	80/	15	35/
20/- brown-lilac (wmk. 3 crowns)	..	..	420/	300/	200/
20/- brown-lilac (wmk. 3 orbs)	..	..	420/	300/	200/

1888. The same.

½d. vermilion .. .. .	..	..	1/6	1/1	
2½d. purple on blue .. .. .	..	..	1/6	1/4	1/2
1/- green .. .. .	..	..	5/	1/3	1/9
20/- green .. .. .	..	..	150/	63/	42/

1883-86. Surcharged GOVT.
PARCELS.

1½d. lilac .. .. .	..	..	10/6	3/6	2/6
6d. green .. .. .	..	..	30/	8/	4/6
9d. green .. .. .	..	..	20/	3/6	2/6
1/- salmon .. .. .	..	..	20/	4/	2/6

1888-97.

1d. lilac * .. .. .	..	..	1/	1/3	1/2
1d. lilac (surcharge inverted)	..	..	200/	150/	90/
1½d. purple and green .. .. .	..	..	1/6	1/2	1/1
2d. green and red .. .. .	..	..	2/6	1/4	1/2
4½d. green and red .. .. .	..	..	3/6	1/9	1/6
6d. purple and red .. .. .	..	..	3/6	1/3	1/2
9d. purple and blue .. .. .	..	..	4/	1/4	1/2
1/- green .. .. .	..	..	5/	1/8	1/4

1896.

Surcharged in black O.W.
OFFICIAL.

½d. vermilion .. .. .	..	..	20/	3/6	2/6
1d. lilac .. .. .	..	..	20/	2/6	1/6

1896. Surcharged ARMY
OFFICIAL.

½d. vermilion .. .. .	..	..	1/3	1/1	
½d. vermilion AI for AL .. .. .	..	..	10/	4/6	3/
1d. lilac .. .. .	..	..	1/3	1/1	
1d. lilac, AI for AL .. .. .	..	..	4/	5/	3/6
2½d. purple on blue .. .. .	..	..	1/6	1/3	1/2

The next countries to be "valued" will be Grenada and Griqualand. As to these (and especially the latter) we shall be glad of any help that philatelists interested can give us.

We invite correspondence, critical or otherwise, on the subject of "The Collectors' Guide to Values." Our aim is to make the "Guide" of the greatest use to the greatest number, and any suggestions we may receive, or any expressions of opinion will be most carefully considered.

Our Review of Reviews.

Errors of Hawaii, Provisional Government.

Mr. W. H. Colson contributes to "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" a warning against certain so-called errors of the mauve Hawaiian Provisional Government. He urges that the only genuine errors are the two listed in Scott's catalogue, as follows:—

a: "189"

b: No period after "Govt."

The error "a" (Mr. Colson explains) was caused by the figure "3" dropping out of the form; the mishap was almost immediately discovered and rectified. This rarity is found on the middle stamp of the bottom row of the sheet.

The error "b" is a genuine error in the type. It occurs on the first stamp in the second row and is found on nearly all the values. This omission was supplied in the second printing.

Certain other *soi-disant* errors that have recently come under his notice Mr. Colson denounces as frauds. These include double and inverted surcharges, surcharged without "g" in date, etc.

I have come to the conclusion that the following test is a good one:

In the genuine the words *Prov. Govt. measure* about $16\frac{1}{2}$ mms in length.

In the counterfeit the same words measure about $15\frac{1}{2}$ mms., showing a difference of 1mm. There are also slight differences in the letters which become apparent on very close comparison.

Mr. Colson has also seen another stamp, the 12 cents mauve, with forged surcharge printed in black; and in this case the same test will apply.

WHAT WILL BECOME OF THESE HAWAIIANS?

While on the subject of Hawaii it may be mentioned that there are still nearly 200,000 Hawaiian stamps at the Department awaiting the decision of the American Postmaster-General as to their fate. There is said to be a very large proportion of "provisional government" issues among this lot and about \$100 worth of the older unsurcharged, but collectors (writes Mr. J. M. Bartels) need have no fear about their ever getting on the market to affect the price of the stamps of this country.

We wonder, by the way, whether these 200,000 odd Hawaiians are the stamps referred to in the following interesting newspaper despatch from Honolulu:

HONOLULU, Oct. 20.—Hawaiian Postmasters who held office under the Republic are endeavoring to have the United States redeem several thousand dollars worth of Hawaiian stamps. Under the laws of the Republic, the Postmasters purchased their stamps outright. When annexation came no provision was made for redeeming these stamps.

If these are the stamps it would appear to be no certainty, as Mr. Bartels claims, that they will never come on the market to the prejudice of existing stocks.

Genesis of the U.S.A. "Stamp Book."

THE handy little books of low value stamps produced by ingenious Uncle Sam, appear to have caught on. During the first three months of issue, the sales amounted to no less than three millions of books! The inception of the "stamp book" idea is credited by the Washington correspondent of the "Metropolitan Philatelist" to Mr. Edwin C. Madden.

The story goes that Mr. Madden, who is Third Assistant Postmaster General, found a lot of two-cent stamps in his pocket tightly stuck together. He had taken special pains to avoid just such a contingency, and the occurrence nettled him so that he determined to devise a means to avoid such trouble in future. He finally hit upon the plan of a stamp book and presented the scheme to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, who promptly cold-shouldered it. Mr. Madden then laid the matter before Postmaster General Smith, who was at once captivated with the idea. He consulted with Mr. Gage, Secretary of the Treasury, who promptly endorsed the scheme and gave orders to the Bureau to go ahead with the work.

The large and continued demand for the books in all parts of the country has abundantly vindicated the judgment of Mr. Madden.

Whispers from the Provinces.

LIVERPOOL:

The Liverpool Society is going strong. General satisfaction is expressed that the *Fortnightly* has come back to its old position of official organ.

I saw a quick deal here the other day. A man bought some Transvaals for £5, paid cash on the spot, and re-sold them, ten minutes later, for £9 10s., also spot cash. How's that for Liverpool.

BIRMINGHAM:

There is much bitterness over what is, after all, not a very tremendous matter—I mean the choice of an official organ of the Birmingham Philatelic Society. "The Philatelic Chronicle" has gone out and the "Stamp Collector" has come in. The former is very wrath and the latter is quickly jubilant. The only person whose wishes do not appear to be considered at all is the ordinary unofficial member of the B.P.S.

It seems this question of the Official Organ was voted upon by less than half-a-dozen members out of a total membership of some hundreds. I daresay if the whole of the B.P.S. were canvassed as to the rival claims of the "Chronicle" and the "Collector" many of them would vote for—*neither!*

Philatelic Jottings from All Quarters.

When the surcharge met Greece, then came the tug-of-war—and the surcharge showed up on top.—"Mekeel's Weekly."

Advantages of post-card collecting: No higher face value than 3d.; forgeries almost unknown. Disadvantages? That's another story.

"How to Collect Stamps"—bah!" cried the sour and cynical city dealer as he threw down the 417th journal that had attacked that well-worn subject. "When will some paper tell me how to collect stamp accounts?" And he turned mournfully to the contemplation of his Michaelmas accounts.

In "Mekeel's Drummer," a little paper avowedly published to "drum up" business for the C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Company, of St. Louis, we find a portrait of Col. Chas. A. Coolidge, now commanding the 9th U.S. Infantry in China. Col. Coolidge has been an ardent stamp collector for twenty years past.

It is stated that the sale of the U.S.A. "Periodical" stamps in £1 sets realised something like £125,000. It is to be hoped Uncle Sam is satisfied, for nobody else is.

Owing to the prevalence of philatelic burglaries an American philatelist, Mr. W. H. Mitchell, suggests that stamp collectors form an alliance against the burglar as is already done in certain important trades.

In a recent letter to an American dealer (the "Weekly Philatelic Era" informs us) appeared this modest suggestion: "If you can supply me with the better grade of *unused British Colonials* at fifty per cent. off you may send me a selection. All specimens must be in first-class condition, well centered, original gum, etc.

The "Daily Express" has recently published an article showing the remarkable increases in the prices of Transvaal and Orange Free State stamps.

Philatelists at Somerset House.

WE must give even Somerset House its due. A subscriber to the *Fortnightly* visited that classic pile the other day intent on recovering face value, or something like it, for a quantity of British stamped stationery he possessed. To his delight (and our amazement) the particular Geni of the Red Tape who attended to him pointed out that the stationery was of some considerable philatelic value. Thereupon our subscriber hied him to the nearest stamp shop and sold on very satisfactory terms. Good old Somerset House!

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 24, 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.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 77-78, 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



OUR good Colony of Victoria appears to be playing it very low down in postal matters. Unless "visions is about," the following official circular has been issued from the postal headquarters in Melbourne.

SPECIMEN STAMPS: A set of Victorian Postage and Postage due stamps of all denominations from ½d. to 20s. including Post Cards, Stamped Envelopes, and Newspaper Wrappers may be purchased for £1. The full set, from ½d. to £100 may be obtained for £5.

Application to be made to the Comptroller of Stamps. The stamps will be cancelled either by light postmark or by being marked "Specimen," as the purchaser may desire.

The new departure is looking spirited philatelic criticism all over the world; and little wonder! The "American Journal of Philately" suggests to the Victorian Government to start a grocery section and various other sidelines in connection with its business.

It could be said of most post offices throughout the world that they have a department of philately—the world's dealers leave them no option as to that—but no post office, we think, has ever gone into the business of stamp dealing with quite such brutal frankness as this!

The special evil of the thing lies in that clause of the circular which leaves it to the purchaser's option whether the stamps shall be "highly postmarked" or overprinted "specimens." Stamps overprinted "specimens" are sanctified by tradition. We do not like them, so, in the homely old phrase, we "hump" them. But stamps post-marked-to-order are an abomination, and it is almost inconceivable that the Government of a great and prosperous colony like Victoria should so far forget all the pride and circumstance of State as to hawk "Job lots" of its own stamps spuriously postmarked "to suit customers' requirements," so to say!

This journal has been again chosen as official organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society.

Christmas is coming, and so is the *Fortnightly's* Christmas Number. We shall endeavour to make our next issue (published December 8th) the finest Christmas Number ever published by any philatelic journal. There will be no increase of price.

A curious mistake was made in the last instalment of our "Guide to Values." The 8d. orange was forgotten altogether! Well, we will leave the matter to our readers. "What prices for the British 8d. orange?" We will give a year's subscription to the *S.C.F.* (for self or friend) to the sender of the best answer to that question.

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.

Chili.—Mr. F. D. Walters, of Valparaiso, kindly sends us a post card bearing the new type of Chilian stamp:

2c. red on pale blue.

China.—The 5 cents appears in a new shade—pale vermilion. Our thanks are due to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a specimen.

Dhar.—Two new stamps for this Indian State are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.:

1 anna violet.
2 annas green.

Dominican Republic.—A complete new set of oblong stamps is sent us by the same firm. These are oblong in shape and show in the centre a map of the island which is shared by Haiti and the Dominican Republic. There are nine values from ¼ centavo to 1 peso.

The ½c. and ¼c. of 1899, by the way, have reappeared, printed in black.

German Levant.—We have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a set of the 1900 German Empire stamps, overprinted in paras and piasters, for use in the East. The surcharges are black except for the 3 mark value, which has a red overprint.

German Morocco.—From the same firm we have the new set for German Morocco, comprising twelve stamps of the 1900 German Empire set overprinted with new values in centimos and pesetas. The surcharge on the 3 mark stamp is red; on all the others black.

Greece.—Various readers have sent in specimens of the new Greek surcharges. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have compiled the following list of all the varieties so far received:

Type of first issue (large head).

30 on 40 lept, lilac.
40 on 2 lept, bistre.
50 on 40 lept, buff.
3 drachma on 10 lept, orange.
5 .. on 40 lept, violet.

Same type, surcharged "A.M." in addition to new value.

1 drachma on 40 lept, violet on blue.
2 .. on 5 lept, green.

Type of 1886 (small head).

20 on 25 lept, ultramarine.
20 on 25 lept, blue.
20 on 25 lept, indigo.
1 drachma on 40 lept, red-lilac.
2 .. on 40 lept ..

Same type (small head) surcharged "A.M." in addition to new values.

25 on 40 lept, red-lilac.
50 on 25 lept, blue.

All these varieties exist both perf. and imperf. The perforated stamps can only be obtained at the Athens P.O. by ordering in whole sheets, when they are perforated for you while you wait. The letters "A.M." signify "Axia Metaliki," meaning "value in coin," as they are only sold at the gold rate of exchange and not for the depreciated paper currency. The "A.M." stamps are used exclusively for international postal parcels.

These surcharged stamps (Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. add), will cease to be available after the current year, as will all other stamps now current in Greece, an entirely new set being in preparation for issue on January 1st next.

Japan.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the latest new Japanese stamp, the 1½sen. blue. This is in the type of the current 4 sen.

South Australia.—Supplementing the note in our last, Mr. J. T. Bolton, of West Croydon, kindly sends us the 2½d. blue with wide "O.S." surcharge.

PHILATELISTS' INSURANCE POLICIES.

TWO NOTABLE CASES OF CONTESTED CLAIMS SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE "FORTNIGHTLY."

AS we intimated in the last issue of the *Fortnightly*, two actions at law dealing with the question of philatelic insurance have recently engaged judicial attention—the one in London; the other in Jersey. The latter is perhaps the more interesting case of the two, the plaintiff (and, we are happy to say, the *successful* plaintiff,) being a gentleman well known among the philatelists of the Channel Islands.

To Mr. A. A. Green, of Millbrook, Jersey, we are indebted for copies of the "Jersey Express" and other local journals giving reports of the case of

LA CLOCHE v. THE SUN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

As a preliminary we may mention that the plaintiff, Mr. George Francis La Cloche, has traded in partnership with his sisters, under the style and title of George Francis & Co., Stamp Dealers. By that name he will be better known to many of our readers.

The case takes us as far back as January 4th, 1897, on which date, Mr. G. F. La Cloche, effected an insurance against fire with the Sun Insurance Office, a company represented in Jersey by Messrs. Richard Spurrier and John Le Cronier, whereby, in consideration of an annual premium of £2 5s., Mr. La Cloche insured a quantity of foreign stamps of considerable value, for a sum of £1000. The premiums were regularly paid up. On the 17th December, 1898, a fire broke out on the premises occupied by Mr. La Cloche, and certain effects, including the greater part of the stamps, were destroyed. The insurer immediately notified the fact to the agents of the Sun Company, and shortly after the Office sent over a special representative and obtained from Mr. La Cloche all information with reference to the fire, and a statement of the stamps destroyed. At the request of the representative a few days later, Mr. La Cloche forwarded him his stock and bank books and other documents in order that he should verify the justice of the claim. In the month of April, 1899, the representative returned to the Island, and Mr. La Cloche asked him for the return of his books and documents, but it is said that the representative neglected and even refused to do this. After many applications made without any satisfactory results, the insurer caused a letter to be forwarded to the Sun Office, dated 17th May, 1899, offering that the differences should be submitted to arbitrators as specified in certain clauses of the Insurance Policy, and the plaintiff nominated P. P. Guiton, Esq., as his arbitrator, the Office having appointed theirs. The arbitrators were unable to settle upon the choice of an umpire.

At last, in consequence of the repeated delays, Mr. La Cloche summoned the Sun Insurance Office to show cause why they should not be condemned to pay him the sum of £1000, which amount would only partly cover the loss he had sustained; and furthermore to show cause why they should not be condemned to pay him interest on the said sum from the 17th December, 1898, until the day of payment, and the further sum of £300, by way of indemnity on account of the injury sustained by Mr. La Cloche in consequence of the unjustifiable conduct of the Sun Insurance Office.

The representatives of the Sun Company, replying to the writ, stated that the defendant Company was the largest and most important Fire Office in England, and was compelled, much against its will, to dispute the claim at issue. The Company, when satisfied of the legitimacy of a claim, speedily effected a settlement. Counsel continuing, claimed that in virtue of a certain clause of the contract, entered into between the parties, differences were to be submitted to arbitrators before legal proceedings could be instituted.

The foregoing is a brief outline of this matter up to the time of its first being brought into court at St. Helier's, Jersey. There were many adjournments, and not until October 25th and 26th of the present year did the case come on for final hearing at the Royal Court, before Mr. W. H.

Venables Vernon, the Bailiff, and Jurats Dorey and C. Le Gros. For the petitioner, Advocates Alavoine and Baudains; for the Company, the Solicitor-General and Mr. J. Syvret.

Advocate Alavoine, on behalf of Advocate Baudains, read the writ, the Greffier's return, and the Acts of the Court.

Of the depositions of the several witnesses, which had been reduced to writing, and were now read by Advocate Alavoine and the Solicitor-General, the following is the substance:—

AN INTERRUPTED GAME OF BILLIARDS.

Mr. John Helier Lander had known Mr. George Francis La Cloche, the plaintiff, since 1892. He was present on the occasion of the fire. He had called to have a game of billiards with Mr. La Cloche. He previously went to see plaintiff's collection of stamps, which were out to dry in an upstairs room. They had not been two minutes in the billiard room when they heard Mrs. La Cloche calling out that she thought she heard some crackling as if something was on fire; both witness and plaintiff rushed upstairs and found the room in flames; they got water and extinguished the fire. Witness usually visited plaintiff twice a week. The witness accompanied plaintiff to the Sun Insurance Office, and reported what had happened to Mr. Le Cronier, added that the room had been left just as it was after the fire was put out. Mr. Le Cronier replied that it was their duty to save anything if possible. Witness remarked that he thought the things should be left until seen by the Inspector. Mr. Le Cronier answered that they had his authority to save what they could in the interests of the Company.

Acting on these instructions they removed all that remained, washing the stamps and placing them on blotting paper. Witness did not know how many stamps there were in the room before the fire; they were mostly on sheets, and these were piled in stacks in two or three places. There may have been more or less than a thousand of those sheets; he could not tell exactly. He heard no explosion. When witness and plaintiff left the upstairs room for the billiard room Mr. La Cloche locked the door and took the key, but he could not say whether he kept it on his person, as witness preceded plaintiff. Witness was in plaintiff's company the whole of the time. About six weeks later witness met Mr. Le Cronier, one of the agents of the Company, and in answer to his query, Mr. Le Cronier stated that the agent having found things so satisfactory, he thought Mr. La Cloche's claim would soon be settled.

Cross-examined: From time to time Mr. La Cloche had shown witness a few stamps that he happened to have about, but never a collection, as witness took little interest in stamps, until that evening, and this was doubtless due to the fact that they were drying. He thought there were about five piles, but the two principal piles were on the desk. Mr. La Cloche showed witness some sheets from these piles and told him the stamps were very valuable. The piles on the desk reached to within six or eight inches from the gas bracket above. These stamps had been drying for the whole of the day, and Mr. La Cloche intended putting them away in the safe as soon as the game of billiards was over. He believed the gas was left full on when they quitted the room, as they were to go back to put the stamps away. He had no authority whatever to question Mr. Le Cronier with reference to the insurance money; he merely asked because he thought the Company were a long time in paying up. The fire lasted, he thought, about five minutes at the most. It was extinguished with water brought in buckets from the bathroom.

A LOSER IF PAID IN FULL.

Dr. Maxwell Le Cronier, another witness, saw the room the following morning. The varnish of the desk and some clothes were burnt. There were a number of stamps in a more or less charred condition. There were also traces of water about the room. Witness takes a great interest in all matters connected with stamps. He had examined plaintiff's collection either in February or March preceding the fire, but he had seen portions of the collection up to two days before the fire. He came to the conclusion from what he saw that plaintiff must have had between £1,500 to £2,000 invested in stamps. The list produced, purporting to be the list of the stamps destroyed, corresponded with the stamps he had seen at Mr. La Cloche's. Many of the stamps mentioned could not be purchased at double their face value. Vouchers or receipts for stamps bought were not always obtained; in some cases it would be impossible to get them. Invoices were not furnished by the Post office when stamps were bought direct. About a week or ten days before the fire Mr. La Cloche showed witness several books of stamps, which

he said he had purchased. Three or four weeks after the fire witness met Mr. John Le Cronier, one of the agents of the defendant Company, who in the course of conversation said to witness: "They told me they were quite satisfied, and I expect a cheque in about ten days or a fortnight." Witness replied that he was very glad, knowing that with the full amount of the insurance paid Mr. La Cloche would still be a loser.

In cross-examination, witness said he examined Mr. La Cloche's collection of stamps to see whether they were any he (witness) wanted to buy. He could not at present give an approximate value of the stamps of any country, but he must have seen Mr. La Cloche's collection some 50 times. The stamps were generally set out in books, drawers, envelopes or sheets and some in a loose condition. On one occasion he noticed plaintiff had about £50 worth of Nova Scotia stamps. Some were in existence, he believed, at the time of the fire, although petitioner had previously disposed of some. The stamps he examined were of a very high class. He thought it was quite possible to specify rare stamps and their value (as done by plaintiff) without the assistance of any documents. Witness could easily do it with his own collection.

AN OFFER OF £600 FOR A HALF SHARE.

Mr. G. S. Deans had seen Mr. La Cloche's collection of stamps. He carefully examined them, and offered plaintiff £500 for a half share, which offer he refused. After further examination witness offered plaintiff £600 for a half share, which plaintiff was prepared to accept from the New Year, '99. In cross-examination, he said that Mr. La Cloche did not definitely accept witness's offer. The matter was left open. To the best of witness's recollection the stamps were nearly all British Colonials, and the offer he made was based on the face value.

Mr. John Le Sæur, builder and contractor, who often acts as local Assessor for the Insurance Companies, visited Mr. La Cloche's house in that capacity. He examined the furniture that had been damaged and the extent of the damage, which he valued at £5, and which he thought was finally accepted by the Sun Fire Insurance Company. He was of opinion that the fire was purely accidental.

Mr. P. Baudains, proprietor of Beau Rivage, the residence of Mr. La Cloche at the time of the fire, produced a plan of the house.

Mr. C. V. Selfe, F.C.I., an assessor of fire losses to the principal insurance companies, stated that he received instructions respecting this case from the Secretary of the Sun Fire Office in December, 1898, and accordingly proceeded to Jersey. He called at the agent's office, and then visited plaintiff's residence, taking notes of this and subsequent interviews. On the first occasion plaintiff gave him particulars about the fire, and of Mr. Lander's visit, and explained to witness that his two sisters had a one-fifth interest and he, plaintiff, four-fifths. Petitioner also stated that his uncle, Mr. Le Cronier, the agent of the Sun Fire Insurance Company, had experimented in quickly closing the door, so as to see if a sheet of stamps could thereby be carried from the desk to a gas bracket near by, but that they had only succeeded in slightly moving a sheet, and could not raise it to the gas bracket. Witness tried the experiment together with plaintiff, but failed to account for the fire in that way. Plaintiff, in answer to witness's question, stated that the window was not opened on account of the dampness. There was no fire-place in the room. Witness came to the conclusion that the fire was caused by some unaccountable accident. He was then in no wise dissatisfied with the case. Originally he thought that the stamps destroyed were a private collection, but found out that they were the property of a dealer, and was agreeably surprised to have produced a stock book, and a book showing the profits. He congratulated plaintiff upon having those books.

THE FAILURE TO SHOW INVOICES.

Witness asked petitioner to search diligently for any invoices or papers respecting the purchase of the stamps, when the loss could then be easily ascertained, and his (witness's) report would then be forwarded without delay. Petitioner replied that he could not produce any invoices or receipts, and that it was not usual in a business of that kind to have invoices. Upon his return to London witness ascertained that it was customary to obtain invoices from Colonial Post Offices and other dealers, and subsequently found out, in the presence of Mr. La Cloche, that the largest dealer of stamps in Jersey had such invoices, and obtained the loan of a few. In the course of his investigations witness ascertained that copies of invoices could have been obtained, and he then became dissatisfied with the case and doubted the *bona fides* of the claims. It is an exceptional thing to find insurances upon stamps, they being generally kept in fireproof safes. At witness's request petitioner sent him his bank pass-book, the book of addresses, the stock and profit book, together with the remains of the stamps. These were the only documents produced by plaintiff, though witness repeatedly asked for copies of the invoices, as the correspondence between witness and plaintiff and his solicitor proved. The Company were entitled thereto under

the 6th condition of their policy which, however, had not, up to the present moment, been complied with. Under date of 1st May, 1899, petitioner sent witness copies of certain letters and invoices. Witness had examined these last-mentioned documents (the only invoices or vouchers put in in support of the stock book and claim made from it). Witness found one transaction, 14th September, 1899, represented by a cheque for £103, which from the pass book appeared to have been paid on the 15th September, 1896. He had, however, failed to trace this one parcel in the stock book or claims. As this was in 1896, and the fire occurred at Christmas time, 1898, and as no explanation had been given, witness did not consider that it was a fair document to produce in support of a claim against the Sun Fire Insurance Company for goods destroyed more than two years later. He concluded that this transaction had no connection with the subject of the present case. Witness explained at length the result of his examination of the other voucher. From the bank pass-book witness found that no payments for stamps had been made for considerably more than twelve months anterior to the fire, except two—January 10th, 1898, and January 11th, 1898. Mr. La Cloche told witness that he estimated his nett profit at 12 per cent.

A "PERFECTLY ABSURD" CONTENTION.

The stamps which had been put to dry (continued the witness) and which were destroyed represented, according to the plaintiff, £1,213 19s 3d. From subsequent examination of the room and contents and from enquiries made, and from the knowledge about stamps since acquired, witness regarded it as perfectly absurd to contend that such a large quantity of stamps as the claim represented could have totally disappeared. There was not a sign of smoke on the wall paper against which the desk stood, nor upon the floor. There was no damage to the room or decorations of the room. It was impossible for fire to make any headway without ventilation, the window was not broken, and plaintiff told witness that the door was locked.

Witness asked petitioner for particulars with regard to certain sales, which, from the inspection of his books, appeared to have been made by him some time before the fire, but no satisfactory information was given. Mr. La Cloche promised to obtain copies of invoices and send them on to him. Later in the day he made a similar promise in the presence of Mr. Le Cronier, his uncle and the agent of the company. Plaintiff had, however, failed to furnish either the invoices or information in conformity to Article 6 of the Policy of insurance. He had not supplied a scrap of paper to show the purchase of a single stamp for considerably over twelve months previous to the outbreak of fire, but he sent witness (through his Solicitor) copies of some odd purchases; these were the only documents furnished to the office to show the purchase of his alleged valuable collection.

In cross-examination by the plaintiff's Counsel, Mr. Selfe said he was not dissatisfied with the case on the occasion of his first visit, but then he had not made a complete examination of the books, and thought that all materials necessary for the proving of the claim would be furnished. An early settlement would certainly have been effected had plaintiff furnished requisite explanations and copies of invoices. Two anonymous letters were received at the Head Office of the Sun Fire Insurance Office respecting the case at issue. Witness did not know who wrote them.

A SPECIAL RATE OF PREMIUM.

This concluded the reading of the evidence. The insurance policy being produced at the Bailiff's request, it was ascertained that the insurance premium paid was not the ordinary 2s. per £100, but a special rate of 5s. per £100.

DISPUTE AS TO VALUE ONLY.

Advocate Baudains, addressing the Bench for plaintiff, said that the case he would have the honour to develop was one of vital importance to all persons who affected an insurance with an Insurance Company. Plaintiff effected an insurance policy with the Sun Fire Office for £1000 little expecting, however, that a fire would ever break out on his premises. Events, nevertheless, proved the contrary, and, as a matter of fact, a fire broke out on the evening of Dec. 17th, as stated by Mr. J. H. Lander, who happened to be on the premises at the time. That a fire had really taken place was admitted by defendants, though their Counsel, in questioning witnesses, always referred to the "supposed fire," implying thereby a doubt. Would defendants insinuate that plaintiff had voluntarily set fire to his house? If so, they should have stated so; but no they had been silent on this point, merely disputing the quantity of stamps destroyed. The learned Counsel, in analysing the evidence adduced, laid particular stress on the testimony of Dr. Hardwick Le Cronier, who had considerable experience in all matters concerning stamps. It would surely not be said that this gentleman had exaggerated the amount of his valuations; nor could he be accused of interest in the case. Mr. Deans was not an expert in

stamp matters, but he had carefully examined the face value of unused stamps, and as a result offered plaintiff £600 for a half share of his collection.

The Bailiff remarked that unless Mr. Deans hoped to realize more than the face value of the stamps, the transaction would not be understandable.

Advocate Baudains. Obviously so.

Proceeding, Counsel said that the value of petitioner's collection was £1,214, whereas the stamps saved represented £35. Plaintiff, if necessary, would be prepared to be heard on oath as to the value of his collection of stamps.

The Bailiff remarked that the Company had insured plaintiff's collection of foreign stamps without taking any inventory thereof; the agent had not even gone to examine the stamps.

The Solicitor-General: It would serve no purpose to examine a collection of stamps which changed hands every day. The insurance was effected with Mr. La Cloche, not with George Francis & Co.

Advocate Baudains replied that a host of objections were now raised for the first time, which of course were not allowable. Plaintiff had furnished the defendants with all the documents he could possibly get hold of. The difference in value of Nova Scotia stamps was explained by the fact that plaintiff had ascertained that a depreciation had taken place, and amended his list accordingly. The increase of the Cyprus and Central Africa stamps was due to their scarcity. The same number of stamps appeared on both lists, and the difference in value only varied in proportion to their respective market value. The number in the several classes of stamps corresponded exactly.

The Bailiff remarked that this did not affect the question of the fire. Was it reasonable for an assured to make a claim without furnishing proof of the destruction by fire of the effects insured?

As touching this, Advocate Baudains invited the earnest attention of the Court to Mr. Lander's evidence. That witness was on the premises at the time of the outbreak of the fire.

The Bailiff: If I understand rightly, defendants claim that it is impossible for such a large quantity of stamps to have been destroyed by fire so rapidly in a room which was practically hermetically closed.

Advocate Baudains, resuming, said that Mr. Lander was devoid of all interest in the case, and he had affirmed that on entering the room he thought the whole room was on fire. Surely his testimony should outweigh that of any person who did not witness the fire, and who only examined the premises subsequently? Mr. Selfe's testimony on this point was merely hearsay.

MR. LA CLOCHE'S PARTNERS.

The Solicitor-General, in his opening remarks, stated that the Sun Insurance Company had effected a policy of insurance with Mr. La Cloche, the plaintiff, on his "collection of stamps" in his private dwelling house, at Beau Rivage. There was nothing whatever to indicate that the assured was a dealer, and trading under the style and designation of George Francis & Co. The defendants did not wish, however, to raise technical difficulties. The fact that Mr. La Cloche had partners should certainly have been communicated to the Company, and not concealed from them.

Advocate Baudains here remarked that the Misses La Cloche had advanced their brother £250, the latter undertaking to pay them interest thereon in proportion to his profits.

The Solicitor-General, continuing, said that plaintiff was quite innocent—so much so that he concealed this fact from the Company.

The Bailiff: Mr. La Cloche spontaneously disclosed this information to the Company, and instead of telling the assessor that he had no books whatever he supplied them with all the documents he had at his disposal.

The Solicitor-General, proceeding, said he had no desire to attach more importance to this incident than it deserved. This of course did not vitiate the contract, but required from the Court greater attention than if dealing with a private individual only. Plaintiff informed Mr. Selfe of the partnership, giving the shares of the respective partners, and in order that petitioner could allot his partners' profits it was decided necessary to keep a set of books. Numerous leaves of his stock book had been torn away.

Advocate Baudains: This book formerly belonged to his uncle, the Rev. La Cloche, who died fifty years ago.

The Solicitor-General: The Rev. La Cloche did not own all these stamps. Then he, Rev. La Cloche, was guilty of having torn away the missing leaves from the book. The learned Counsel, continuing, said this fact might be unimportant if the date of the first transaction was furnished. Failing the production of books, absolute proof should be required of plaintiff as to the quantity and value of stamps he had in his possession at the time of the outbreak of the fire.

The Bailiff remarked that the Law of the Island did not compel a business man to keep any books. Defendants admitted that a fire had occurred and that a quantity of stamps had been destroyed. Now defendants assumed an attitude which somewhat complicated the question at issue. They contended that a certain condition of

the policy of Insurance not having been complied with, they owed plaintiff nothing.

The Solicitor-General: What has been the Company's attitude since the fire?

Advocate Baudains: Very bad. (Laughter).

The Solicitor-General, continuing, read over Mr. Selfe's evidence.

THE TERRIBLE CLAUSE SIX.

This done, Counsel said it was noteworthy that not a single document had been produced by plaintiff giving any details of the purchase of stamps for a full twelve months prior to the outbreak of fire. Plaintiff had failed to comply with clause 6 of the contract, and was thereby deprived of any claim against the Company. This was an obstacle that plaintiff could not possibly overcome. Again, it was quite fair and only reasonable to ask plaintiff to show the value of the stamps he had disposed of since Mr. Le Cronier had seen his collection as a whole. Petitioner's statements were uncorroborated by a particle of proof. Evidence, he urged, should be given to Mr. Le Cronier's direct statement, but not to his impressions. Setting aside Mr. Le Cronier's evidence for the moment, Counsel proceeded to deal with Mr. Deans'. Plaintiff formerly made no mention whatever of this witness, to whose statement he now sought to attach great importance. When the accessor came over to Jersey and called at Mr. La Cloche's, why did not petitioner at once inform him of Mr. Deans' offer? and why should Mr. Deans still have in his possession the notes of his valuations of the collection of the stamps at the time of the fire and subsequently get rid of it? The speaker pointed out that Mr. Deans' statement was not corroborated in any particular by anyone.

On the conclusion of the Solicitor-General's speech, the court adjourned until November 6th.

THE EVIDENCE OF THE PLAINTIFF.

The Court of three judges (known in the legal phraseology of Jersey as the Superior Number), reassembled on November 6th, to give judgment in the case.

It was ruled that the plaintiff had furnished the Company with all the documentary evidence necessary for the establishment of his claim involved by the fire, which was apparently accidental, and the defendant had not proved the contrary; and as to the value in dispute, it was clearly established that the plaintiff, being a philatelist, had collections of a value considerably over £1,200 at the time of insurance, and which in the course of his transactions as Stamp Dealer had fluctuated in value to such an extent that the value appeared to be known alone by plaintiff. The Court considered that the plaintiff should be heard upon oath as supplementary evidence to substantiate his claim.

Mr. George Francis La Cloche was then placed in the witness box. Interrogated by the Bailiff, he gave details of the value and description of the stamps destroyed by fire, the loss he had sustained being estimated at £1,400.

The court retired, and eventually ruled for the plaintiff, Mr. La Cloche, but disallowed damages and interest.

NICOLAS v. THE OCEAN ACCIDENT AND GUARANTEE CORPORATION.

This case differs from the Jersey affair only in the nature of the consuming element. While fire devoured the stamps of Mr. George Francis La Cloche, burglars decamped with the philatelic treasures of Mr. Nicolas, of Beckenham. This latter gentleman insured his stamps with the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation for £800. Burglars, it was claimed, entered the house at Beckenham by means of a scullery window, which was high and difficult of access. Picking a lock they reached the kitchen, and passed thence to the dining room, where Mr. Nicolas' stamp albums were kept in a small fancy cabinet with a glazed front. There was a good deal of silver, etc., in the house, but the thieves appear to have come for stamps and stamps only. A singular point in the case was the fact that the burglars did not leave the house by the French windows in the dining room, giving easy access to the lawn at the back of the house, but retraced their steps to the scullery, and made their escape by the way they had come.

The case being still in abeyance at the moment these lines were written, we must withhold a full report of this second most interesting action until the next number of the *Fortnightly*.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF "MAFEKINGS"?

PROMINENT BRITISH PHILATELISTS RETURN INTERESTING ANSWERS TO THE "FORTNIGHTLY'S" QUESTIONS.

WE now give the remainder of the replies received to our queries regarding the Mafeking stamps:—

BARON A. DE WORMS:

Not having taken much interest in the "Mafeking" stamps I know but little about them. Their issue has always appeared to me as being a speculative and unnecessary one. The present prices, I should think, must be much above the real value of the stamps, considering the large numbers now on the market.

MR. HERBERT R. OLDFIELD:

Whatever any individual may think about the Mafeking Stamps, there is very little doubt that they will be collected. I have not sufficient knowledge to justify me in expressing an opinion as to whether their issue was necessary or not. Undoubtedly they have become speculative, and I think that many of the postmarked to order specimens will be detected and tabooed by most collectors, and probably sink to a very low value. Many of us will make a careful note of certain dates, and act accordingly.

Personally, I consider that used varieties that have done genuine postal service, and unused copies, are well worth collecting, but unless intending purchasers have acquired the requisite information, they should leave used copies alone. I write purely as an ordinary collector, and without any special knowledge.

REV. R. B. EAREE:

I must leave to those better-informed than myself, the question as to whether the Mafeking provisionals were necessary or not, but I fancy that, in any case, they will not very long retain their present prices. At present, of course, the whole nation looks upon them as "war-relics"; but when the national boom has passed away, I cannot help thinking that there will be a considerable fall.

MR. R. EHRENBACH:

I consider them decidedly an unnecessary issue, especially the locals and hardly think that they would have been issued had not the P.O. service in Mafeking numbered philatelists in their ranks.

Were not those whole sets which came over all signed as to their genuineness by a *Philatelist* (the Postmaster himself?) And how is it that at the outset the numbers printed were given more or less officially as being far less than afterwards turned out to be case?

As to prices, I do not venture any prophesy. But one remark I should like to add: If these stamps were issued because it was dangerous to deliver letters during the siege, was it not likewise dangerous to go to the post office and buy the stamps to put on the letters—to be delivered to Market Square—quite near the Post Office!

MR. W. HADLOW:

In the first place, I do not consider the issue of surcharged stamps or of the Baden-Powell or Bicycle stamps to have been necessary. The stamps would have answered the same purpose unsurcharged, and even if the 1d. and 3d. values had run short (and considering the large quantity of stamps that are given as having been surcharged this seems unlikely). The Baden-Powell and Bicycle stamps would have answered every requirement.

Secondly.—Most of the stamps now being offered by auctioneers and dealers were postmarked during the siege, and were never intended to pay postage, but simply to serve as mementoes of a siege as glorious as it was bravely sustained. What philatelic value can these possibly have?

Thirdly.—Why are the unused stamps so rare? Because, as I say again, these were not sold or given away as stamps, but as mementoes, and were never meant or expected to pay postage.

Fourthly.—If such an issue was necessary, why have we no Kimberley's and Ladysmith's?

No! I maintain they were an altogether unnecessary issue, and although my pocket has suffered to a very large extent by my not dealing in these stamps, I think I am right, and I am not likely to have anything to do with them other than by auctions.

I do not wish in any way to run down those letters that come from either of the besieged places and that passed through the enemies' lines. These must be very, very few, and I consider them to be of the greatest philatelic value and interest, but holders of these have not been proof against such prices as were paid and offered for these interesting mementoes of the war. I, for one, do not like to deal in stamps that are £5 to £10 in one day and 20/- to 10/- in a month. I do not think this is at all a credit to the philatelic dealer. At the same time I must admit that these stamps seem to be the cause to an end, that is the advancement of interest in stamps by the outside public, which means a stimulating of the study of stamps in general.

HIS HONOUR JUDGE PHILBRICK, Q.C.:

As it seems beyond question that the Mafeking Besieged stamps did actually defray postal rates, and were in use during the siege of the town, they must be collected by every serious Collector, and are indispensable to the series of the Country.

But whether they were not created in unnecessary numbers, or with a shrewd view to speculation, is a question I am not able to solve in the present state of our information. I think it very doubtful if they are a "fully legitimate issue," and if I were collecting, I should wait long before I gave the present prices.

MR. W. DORNING BECKTON:

The surrounding circumstances connected with their issue are altogether too strong for English collectors, and I feel convinced that ultimately they will be accepted by Philatelists generally with a "Don't let it occur again."

That absurdly high prices have been paid (especially three months ago), for these stamps is well-known, but I believe they are rapidly finding their proper level, if some of the varieties have not already done so.

In the majority of cases, I understand, it is the Stamp Speculator who is likely to be hit, and if this is so, Philatelists will owe a debt of gratitude even to Mafekings.

MESSRS. KIRKPATRICK & PEMBERTON:

We consider that the Mafeking provisionals were not issued for speculative purposes, and that the military authorities in the besieged town were wise in economising their small stock of stamps by surcharging to higher values. The extract from the "Mafeking Mail" which has recently been published goes a long way to prove that there was a *legitimate* need for the stamps while the list of the numbers that were printed, shows that these were small enough to justify the prices now being obtained.

MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED:

All we have to say about Mafeking stamps is said through the medium of the supplement to our Catalogue and our Monthly Journal.

From the Auction Rooms.

The following are the most interesting realisations at the various Philatelic Auctions held in London since our last report:—

Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Sale Nov. 6th and 7th.

	£	s.	d.
Bergedorf, imperf., 3sch. blue on rose, used on piece of original ..	1	2	0
Do. do. 4sch. black on brown ..	1	18	0
Bremen, perf. 13, 7gr. black on yellow ..	1	12	0
British Bechuanaland, Protectorate on 2/- green, faded. ..	1	9	0
Do. 1895, surcharge reading downwards, on 1d. carmine, error with word "British" missing, mint ..	0	15	0
British Central Africa, 1898, £10 yellow, fiscally used on piece of original ..	3	17	6
British South Africa, 1st issue, £5 sage-green, used on small piece of original ..	2	2	0
Do. do. £10 brown ..	3	10	0
Cape of Good Hope, "Mafeking Besieged," complete set with exception of 1/- on 6d. British Bech., used on piece of original ..	22	0	0
Do. Cyclist 1d. blue*, with part gum ..	0	18	0
Colombia, 1861, imperf., 2½ cent black*, no gum ..	1	5	0
Dominica, C.A., perf. 14, 1/- lilac-rose, mint ..	1	16	0
Gt. Britain, 1870, 1½d. deep red, variety lettered O.P.P.C. ...	1	9	0
Do. wmk. Spray, 2/- blue*, with gum ..	1	5	0
Mexico, 1864-66, imperf., 3 centavos brown*, with gum ..	2	6	0
South Australia, rouletted, 10d. in blue on 9d. yellow*, with part gum ..	1	6	0
Do. 1887-93, £1 blue mint ..	1	3	0
Spain, 1851, 6r. blue, *with gum ..	2	2	0
Switzerland, Vaud. 4c. black and red defective ..	6	10	0
Do. Winterthur, 2½rp. black red ..	1	18	0
Tasmania, 1st issue, 1d. blue slightly thinned ..	1	2	0
Transvaal, 1877, imperf. 3d. mauve, surcharged, V.R. TRANSVAAL in red on back of stamp, apparently *poor condition ..	3	3	0
Do. 1878, 1 Penny in red on 6d. black (S.G.No.168) thinned ..	0	3	0
Do. 1887, £5 deep green ..	0	19	0
Trinidad, Pin perf. 14 (1d) rose-red, mint ..	1	1	0
Do. do. 4d. brown-lilac, mint ..	1	3	0
Do. do. 6d. yellow-green do. ..	1	4	0
Do. Clean cut perf. 4d. brown-lilac, mint ..	1	6	0
Turks Islands, wmk. C.C., 1/- slate-green, mint ..	1	10	0
United States, 1855, 9oc. deep blue, *no gum, fair ..	1	14	0
Victoria, 1862, wmk. words, 6d. oran. heavy postmark ..	1	0	0
Virgin Islands, 1883-84, ½d. yellow buff ..	1	11	0
Zululand, £1 purple on red mint ..	1	7	0

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Sale, November 8th, 1900.

	£	s.	d.
Afghanistan, 1289, 6 shahi purple ..	1	11	0
Do. 1293, ¼ rupee brown* ..	3	0	0
British Guiana, 1852, 1c. black on majenta, cut close ..	2	16	0
Do. do. 4c. black on deep blue used on piece, fine margins, rubbed on face ..	3	5	0
Do. 1862, 2c. black on yellow, unused and signed, poor ..	1	12	0
British Honduras, 1891, Provisional, "6" in red on 10c. with inverted surcharge, used on entire envelope with ordinary stamp ..	3	2	0
Do. do. a similar lot but with black surcharge ..	3	2	0
Do. do. 6 in black on 10c. and 6 in red on 10c. both with inverted surcharges used together on entire ..	6	6	0
British Bechuanaland, 1889, provl. ½d. on 3d. lilac, used on piece of original ..	1	5	0
Cape of Good Hope, woodblock 1d. red ..	3	15	0
Do. do. do. 4d. blue ..	1	10	0
Ceylon, 1st issue, 9d. imperf. ..	2	6	0
Do. wmk. star, perf. 2/- blue ..	1	7	0
Do. Provl. 5c. on 24c. plum ..	1	10	0
Gt. Britain, 2/- brown, rather poor ..	1	3	0
Do. £5 orange ..	1	12	0
Do. £5 on bluish surcharged specimen, mint ..	1	0	0
Fiji Islands, 2d. in black on 6c., with plain V.R. ..	3	17	6
Mauritius, Post Paid, 2d. blue, an early impression but thinned ..	4	4	0
Montserrat, wmk. C. and C.A., 4d. blue ..	2	2	0
Naples, 50 grana lake ..	1	8	0
New Brunswick, The Connell*, poor copy ..	3	3	0
New South Wales, Laureated, 8d. orange ..	1	14	0
Puttialla State, 4as., surcharged "State" only, the word "Patuala" being omitted, used on entire ..	7	0	0
St. Vincent, wmk. star, 1/- claret* ..	3	0	0
United States, 1855, 9oc. blue*, thinned ..	1	16	0
Western Australia, 1st issue, 2d. brown black on red*, cut into ..	1	4	0
Do. C. and CC., ½d. in red and green on 3d. cinnamon*, mint ..	4	10	0

DATES OF FORTHCOMING AUCTION SALES.

Following are the London auction fixtures for the ensuing fortnight. We invite the co-operation of all auctioneers in making these lists of dates complete:—

November 27th and 28th. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, commencing 4.30 p.m. precisely.

December 4th and 5th. Messrs. Plumridge & Co., at 63¼, Chancery Lane, W.C., commencing at 5 p.m. sharp.

December 6th and 7th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, commencing at 5 p.m.

The Talk of the Trade.

Messrs. G. HAMILTON-SMITH & Co. show us yet another variety of V.R.I. Transvaal 3d. value. The last letter, "I," in surcharge drops much lower than the other letters. This only appears in the 3d. stamp once in the sheet. Another error occurs in the 6d. value, only here the dot after the "V" in the surcharge is omitted once in the sheet.

A variety on the new Greek Provisionals is pointed out by Mr. Penney. A larger "O" appears in the 30 on 40, 40 on 2 and 50 on 40 perf. and imperf., than on any other of the series.

Mr. Jacoby has discovered yet another interesting variety in the Transvaals "V.R.I.'s." In the ¼d. and 1d. there appears an extra large dot after the "I" in the surcharge V.R.I., to be seen only once in a sheet.

Mr. Philipp Kosack's new "Briefmarken Preisliste, just to hand, gives prices for an enormous variety of stamps, both used and unused; and is noteworthy for an up-to-date price list of the German Colonial issues.

Mr. D. Field unconsciously did a man a good turn the other day. He sold him a copy of the Mafeking 1s. on 6d. British Bechuanaland, with surcharge reading "Bechuanaland." It will be seen that there is a superfluous "j" here, and Mr. Field is now inclined to believe that there is another one keeping a stamp shop in Royal Arcade, New Bond Street. However, we all have our little troubles, and Mr. "Dave" Field looks none the worse for his.

Swagger, New Bond Street, by the way, is to have another firm of stamp dealers among its settlers. Messrs. Hugo Griebert & Co., beginning to feel lonesome at Eldon Road, Kensington, intend to open up business at 13 & 14, New Bond Street, forthwith.

MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION

Now on view. Every stamp priced simply and reasonably. Europeans and British Colonials a feature. Also a large collection of entire envelopes and postcards at about ¼ to ½ Catalogue prices.

F. C. BEPLER, 109, Cheapside, London.
Established 1888.

STAMPS.—25 varieties, 2d.; 30, 3d.; 35, 4d.; 50, 6d.; 65, 8d.; 85, 10d.; 100, 1/-; 25 superior, 6d., 50, 1/-; 75, 1/6; 100, 2/-. (N.B.—These Packets are excellent value, containing many old and new issues—no damaged stamps). Approval Sheets, splendid variety, good discount, low prices. Collections and Loose Lots bought; also old B. Colonials. Selections of Europeans, &c., sent on approval on receipt of satisfactory references. Rare O.P. State and Transvaals wanted. Mention *Fortnightly*. Note the address: **PEARCE & STAMFORD, 7, Katharine Street (opposite Town Hall), Croydon.**

4d. three-cornered Cape on piece of original cover, very fine, 1/6.
20 Colonial Stamps, all different, 6d.
Orange Colony, V.R.I., ½d. and 1d., 5d. the pair.
Ditto, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d. and 1/-, 6/- the set.
Johore, 1894, 3c. on 5c., 3c. on 6c., catalogued 3/-; my price 1/- the pair.
Price list of cheap sets, &c., post free. Old Collections and loose, rare and medium stamps bought.
Established 1887. **A. BOUCARD,**
42a, Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.

THE "Dagonet" Collection.

I have purchased the above celebrated Collection formed by G. R. SIMS, Esq., which contains a large quantity of Rare, Foreign, and Colonial Stamps.

This Collection is now being split up, and I am prepared to send Selections from it on approval to responsible applicants.

All Stamps priced at half current catalogue. Send list of wants.

MAFEKING STAMPS.

Baden-Powell, used ... 17/6
Bicycle Stamp, ,, ... 12/6

New Greek Provisionals, 20, 30, 40, 50 aenta, 1, 3 and 5, drachma, imperf., unused, 10/- the complete set.
Perforated, 20, 30, 40, 50 aenta, 1, 2, 3 and 5, drachma, 13/6 the set complete, all unused.

F. C. PENNEY,

24, PHILPOT LANE, London, E.C.

DISPERSING . . .

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Rich in early Issues.

A third of catalogue all round. Approval Sheets against good references.

Collectors kindly note that this is not a catch advertisement but prices will really be 66 2/3 per cent. under catalogue.

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3, CURSITOR STREET,
Chancery Lane, E.C.

SOUTH AMERICA.

I desire to enter into exchange relations with collectors in all parts of the world.

RARE FOR RARE.

I offer the stamps of CHILI (1852 to 1900) PERU and BOLIVIA.

Basis; Scott, Senf or Stanley Gibbons.

Address:—

Enrique de la Fuente,

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LIMACHE, (Chili)

BARGAINS.

5d. Niger Coast, purple ... 0/9
6d. ,, ,, yellow-brn. 1/3
1/- ,, ,, black ... 2/3
1/2d., 1d. and 2d. Niger Coast CA., the 3, ... 0/6

List of Cheap Stamps and Sets Gratis. Postage extra under 1/-.

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Chichester Rents,

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75, LITTLE BRITAIN, LONDON, E.C., 2 minutes from G.P.O.

10,000 well mixed Continentals, 2/-; by post 2/4
100,000 ditto, 17/6, carriage extra.

Wholesale and Retail Price-List free.

We are offering this Season early issues of all Countries, at 20 per cent. to 70 per cent. under catalogue. All the Australian Colonies have been re-arranged, and price up to £5000. Also ready 120 Books of separate Countries priced low. Special Books just made up. Transvaal, Orange Free State, Cape Triangular, Europeans, unused North American, West Indies, &c. Wanted to buy Sydney Views and other old Australians. Established 23 years.

GEO. CALLF & Co., Seaford, Sussex.

Old Postage Stamps Wanted.

BLUETT'S STAMP SHOP, BILLITER SQ., 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 & County.

Having lately purchased several very large collections, and desiring to realise quickly, we are sending out approval sheets of good copies of stamps, catalogued from 1d. to £10, at

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State requirements and class of Stamps desired.

Entires at one-third of Gibbons' latest catalogue prices.

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BUY AFRICANS!

Transvaal, 1881, 1/- green, used ... 0 8
" 1885, 5/-, catalogued 7/6, used ... 4 6
" 1894, 1/- shafts, unused ... 10 0
Zululand, 1891-96, complete set, used, to 4/-, viz., 1/2d., 1d., 2 1/2d., 3d., 6d., 1/-, 2/6, 4/- ... 16 0
Niger, 1893 set, used, on entire letter, and ditto 1894 set, unwatermarked, set used, the 2 sets 18 6
Have nearly all local prints, New Zealand, and most of the German Colonials.

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STAMPS!

One hundred British Colonial Postage Stamps; all different and genuine: post free. 2/6.

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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.

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Arranged according to Countries and dates of issue. All prices much under Catalogue. Many Bargains. Good Discount. Also Cheap selections of Sets. Jubilee Envelope and Card, 5d.; Black Mulready, 8/-; Ceylon Service, 1r. 12c. 5/- (cat 15/-). 40 different Japan, 7d.; 19 Borneo, 2/- . . . A few Gibbons' Imperial Albums, new, to clear, half price.

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NEW MIXTURES OF WEST AFRICAN AND WEST INDIAN, &c.,

In Groups as shown, made up in Packets of Hundreds.

Barbados and Trinidad (together)	12 kinds	1/0
Bermuda, Grenada and Leeward Isles,	10 kinds	2/0
British Guiana	9 kinds	1/0
Gold Coast, Lagos, and Sierra Leone	10 kinds	3/0
St. Vincent, St. Lucia & Newfoundland,	11 kinds	4/0
Mauritius and Hong Kong	10 kinds	1/6
Straits Settlements	8 kinds	2/3
Straits Native States, Johor, Perak, Selangor, &c. All now superseded by Stamps of Federated Malay States	12 kinds	3/6
Trinidad and Jamaica	10 kinds	1/3

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SPECIAL PACKETS.

100 British Colonies all different	£	s.	d.
200 " " " "	0	2	0
500 " " " "	0	6	6
1000 " " " "	1	7	6
1000 Stamps all different (no fiscals or cards)	0	18	6
2000 " " " "	3	0	0
3000 " " " "	9	7	6
4000 " " " "	17	5	0
5000 " " " "	28	10	0

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Sheets of good Medium Stamps at Low Prices sent on Approval on receipt of satisfactory Reference.

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Hayti, well assorted, used, 6d. per doz., 3/6 per 100.

Newfoundland, 1898, 1/2, 1, 2, and 3c. 5d. per set, 2/9 per 12 sets.

Special Mixture, splendid value, 2/- per 100.



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Philatelic Societies' Reports.

Secretaries of Societies are invited to contribute promptly, brief reports of their meetings, fixtures, &c.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Nov. 6th. The election of the following new members was confirmed. Messrs H. Griebert, F. B. Vandeleur, W. A. Jutsum, W. K. Hall, H. Clamp and J. W. Jones. The following were then unanimously elected members. Mrs. Livingston, Commander B. H. Chevallier, R.N., Messrs. C. E. Baker, J.P., F. J. Durrant, S. E. Gammell, C. H. Mercer, J. R. Ponder, W. H. Woodroffe, G. Padoux, and W. Swire.

Mr. W. B. Avery then gave his display of British North America and New South Wales to a good attendance of highly appreciative members. The superb condition of the specimens were in re-constructed sheets, was a revelation to those who had not previously seen the collection, and the whole display was a great treat to all present. Several uncatalogued varieties were noted by the members, and a long and most delightful meeting was brought to a close by a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Avery, who replied in his usual felicitously manner.

The first auction takes place on December 9th.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. G. Johnson, B.A. Official address: 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

CARDIFF PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The first annual meeting of this society was held at No. 3, Park Place, Cardiff, on the 16th Oct., the following members being present. Mr. Walter Scott, president; Messrs. E. W. Shackell and W. J. Trounce, vice-presidents; Mrs. Groves, librarian; and Messrs. H. G. Blair, J. L. Everett, De Vere, Hunt, W. A. Jutsum (hon. sec.), G. E. Petty and B. Rowlands.

The report for the past session showed a membership of 26, with an average attendance at the meetings of 12. The financial position of the society was good, there being a balance to its credit after the payment of all liabilities.

All the officers were re-elected for the next year, viz.:—President, Walter Scott, Esq. Vice-Presidents, E. W. Shackell, Esq., J.P., and Alderman Trounce, J.P. Committee, Messrs. C. J. Beddington, J. L. Everett, C. E. Petty, W. H. Renwick, and B. Rowlands. Librarian, Mrs. Groves. Hon. Sec., Mr. W. A. Jutsum.

The programme for the session was arranged as follows:—

- Dec. 11. Display with Notes, "Brazil." 1901. Mr. G. E. Petty.
- Jan. 8. " " "Canada." Mr. W. H. Renwick.
- Feb. 12. " " "United States." Mr. W. J. Trounce.
- Mar. 12. Display with Notes, "Greece and Ionian Isles." Mr. E. W. Shackell.
- Apr. 9. Display with Notes, "Gibraltar and Morocco Agencies." Mr. Jutsum.

Mr. J. E. Everett then displayed his Cuban stamps and made some remarks upon them. The president and several other members also exhibited their specimens of that country. It is hoped that the ensuing session will see the society developing itself, and becoming a means of usefulness in enabling its members to gain much knowledge in matters philatelic.

All meetings are held at the Y.M.C.A. Hall (opposite the Taff Vale Railway Station), on

the second Tuesday in each month, at 7.30 p.m., unless otherwise notified.

The society held its first night of the present session in its room at the Y.M.C.A. Institute, on November 13th, the President being in the chair. After the routine business had been disposed of, the President gave a paper on the stamps of Ceylon, followed by a display of his collection. The latter is probably the finest collection of Ceylon to be seen in the district, as not only does it contain almost every known variety, but each specimen is one of the finest to be got.

The secretary and several other members also exhibited their collections.

Official address: 371, Cowbridge Road, Cardiff.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The last meeting was an "At Home" with Mr. H. M. Hepworth, at Headingley. The stamps of the British African colonies formed the subject of discussion. Messrs. Hepworth, Egly, and Thackrah showed their fine collections, and on behalf of Mr. T. K. Skipwith, unable to be present, was exhibited his fine series of British Bechuanaland stamps. Mr. George Hainsworth showed his album, which included a great number of most interesting stamps.

The only novelty shown was the control-letter X of the current English penny stamp, brought by Mr. W. Denison Roxbuck, F.I.S., who also showed some entires of Sierra Leone and a Transvaal service envelope commandeered to a British officer's use at Pretoria, and impressed with the Field Post obliteration of a fresh type to those hitherto known.

There being a vacancy in the office of president, Mr. Herbert M. Hepworth was unanimously re-elected to fill it, and afterwards, under his chairmanship, Mr. George Hainsworth was balloted for and elected a member of the society.

The members present were most hospitably and kindly entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Hepworth.

THE LADIES' STAMP EXCHANGE.

MISS LOUISE HAYNES, hon. secretary, has sent us the rules of her Exchange Club for Ladies. These appear to be very sensible and equitably conceived. All the members of Miss Haynes' society are amateurs, and the secretary, being herself a non-philatelist, there is absolute equality between member and member. Lady readers of the *Fortnightly* wishing to join should communicate with Miss Haynes, at 10, Botoum Gardens, West Kensington, W.

W. H. REGAN,

Dealer in British & Foreign Postage Stamps and Coins,

51 Queens's Road, Bayswater, London, W.

A FEW OFFERS.

	s.	d.
B. Bechuanaland, 1894, 1 used	2	0
B.C.A., 1d. red & blue, 1898, used, rare	2	0
B. Honduras, half of 2c., large surch., used as 1c. on part of original, scarce	2	0
Fiji, 1879, 2d. on 3d. green, cat. 2 6	1	0
Jamaica, 2/- C.C., unused	3	0
Do. 5/- C.C., do. scarce	10	6

I hold a Fine Stock of Transvaal, Orange River Colony and Mafeking Stamps.

Collection of 8,000 to 10,000 Stamps, all different, always on view, priced separately, at lowest prices. Send list of wants.

Found at last : The Cheapest Stamp Shop for Packets, Sets and Mixtures. A grand assortment at 9d. per 100.

30 British Colonials including (all unused) 1 Newfoundland; 2 Canada, 3c. and 3c.; Straits Settlements, 1c. on 8c. green; Mauritius, St. Vincent, Orange Free State, &c., price 6d. Set of 6 Labuan, 5d. 6 Borneo, 2d.

All kinds of Stamps wanted. Best price given.

THOMPSON & BECK, 24, Cullum Street, City.

IMPORTANT NOTICE re SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS.

Although our rates for private pre-paid 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.

VACANCIES exist in the County of Stafford Stamp Exchange for a few reliable Members. Good sales. Excellent management. Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly supplied to Members at reduced rates.—Rules, &c., from JAS. SPIEY, Winona, Corporation Street, Stafford.

ORANGE FREE STATE AND TRANSVAAL. Stamps overprinted V.R.I. Free State current sets, 12 6; complete sets (6d. carmine, 3d. and 2 1/2d. out of issue included), 50-. Transvaal current sets, 30/-; part sets, values up to 1-5, 7 6, post free. Free State current V.R.I.'s in quantities at 10 per cent. to 20 per cent. over face. Correspondence invited.—JAMES CAMPBELL, Box 245, Bloemfontein, Bankers, Bank of Africa.

LADIES' STAMP EXCHANGE, best medium for disposing of duplicates. Settlements monthly. Each member sees packet first in turn.—Rules from (Miss) L. HAYNES, 10, Batoum Gardens, West Kensington.

CHINESE Imperial Post, Shanghai, Chefoo, Transvaal, Japanese Imperial Wedding, Crete, Alexandria, Malta, Russian Levant, Selangor, Travancore, six Peru, six Roumania, Persia. 40 Genuine Varieties. J. CHARLES SMITH, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA, O.S., high values in superb used blocks at 1/2 cat., or would exchange U.S.A. Columbus, 81, 5/9; 22, 3/9; 90c. purple, 2/- each; 24 black, 6d. each.—BOLTON, 5, Elmwood Road, Croydon.

GIVEN AWAY: Transvaal Surcharged V.R.I. To all applicants for our Approval Sheets, enclosing stamped addressed envelope, we give a perforation gauge and 500 stamp mounts, and to all purchasers of six-penny worth of stamps from the Approval Sheets, we give an Unused Transvaal Surcharged V.R.I.—CHARLES & KNIGHT, 19, Mildash Road, East Dulwich, London.

MAFEEKING STAMPS, B.P. Heads (small), 30/-; Cyclists, 25/-; Lilac 3d. on 1d., 25/-; Ed. on 2d. Red and Green, 25/-; 1/- on 4d. brown and Green, 15/-; 1d. on 4d. Cape Green, 7/6; 3d. on 1d. Red Cape, 12/6; 6d. on 3d. Lilac, 40/-. All stamps sold with sworn copies of Lord Cecil's certificate of genuineness.—H. SHAW, 8, Melrose Gardens, West Kensington.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE, a Speciality.—Write Lehner, 50, Buckingham Palace Road, London.

COLLECTOR is desirous of negotiating for the Purchase of a good Collection of British Colonial Stamps, and is prepared to give a good price for one containing fine copies only.—Apply: Box 134, Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

AUSTRALIANS. 50 varieties, clean, picked specimens, 1/1 post free.—CHAS. PURDON, Neptune Street, South Lambeth.

APPROVAL SHEETS of collectors duplicates, for collections, up to 5000.—VALLANCE CROMARTIE, Cockington, Torquay.

GOOD SELECTIONS, moderate prices, liberal discount.—B. C. McARTHUR, Oak Villa, Malvern Road, Leistonstone.

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MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.



63/4, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents.

The next Sales will be held on **TUESDAY, December 4th, and following day**, commencing at 5 p.m. sharp. Among other rare stamps will be included Switzerland, Geneva, the double stamp, *unused*, and Vaud 4c., besides an extremely useful assortment of miscellaneous lots.

Other Sales will take place bi-monthly, and Philatelists having Entire Collections or Loose Stamps to dispose of **should make immediate arrangements** if inclusion is desired in early auctions. As MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & Co. are the **only firm** of Auctioneers confining their whole attention to the Sale of Stamps on Commission, and do **not** deal or even collect on their own account, the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious. Commission on lots sold, 10%. 1/6 per lot (irrespective of value) being charged on unsold lots.

— CASH ADVANCES AND VALUATIONS MADE. —

Settlements usually in **eight days**, at the very latest within 14 days from date of Sale. Bids from buyers unable to attend the sales personally executed without charge and at prices as much below limits as possible.

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including unused and shades, all picked
specimens. Discount, 20%.

Good references required.

Collections and Selections Bought for
Prompt Cash.

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Have You Got that £10 Note ?

If so please spend it judiciously and send for one of my splendid Collections of English Stamps, which contains Postage and Telegraph Adhesives, used and unused, nicely mounted in Universal Album.

. . . Will send on Approval to responsible applicants.

— THIS IS A UNIQUE OFFER ! —

A considerable number have been sold during the last two years to well-known English Specialists, and, according to testimonials received, have given much satisfaction.

Apply early as the supply is very limited.

INVERTED.

Penny Lilac, a Complete Sheet of 240 with Wmk.
Price - - - £2 10s. 0d. net.

CHAS. NISSEN & Co., 77-78, High Holborn,
London, W.C.

GEO. GINN,

16, Baronet Road, Tottenham,

Has now ready for approval some splendid selections of stamps of all countries, and will be pleased to hear from collectors desiring to see them.

Prices in most cases are from 50% to 75% below catalogue.

Approval Books always in demand ; many unsolicited testimonials.

One of the largest stocks in the world to select from.

Selections suitable for the most advanced collector as well as the beginner. Cheapest dealer.

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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 November 27th and 28th, and will contain amongst other fine and scarce Stamps:—Great Britain, 1d. black, V.R., a block of 6 and a pair, mint, superb; 2d. blue, without lines, a block of 24, being the two bottom rows of sheet with full margins and inscription; Entire sheets of 1d. and 2d. Mulready covers, &c.

Messrs. P. & S. have received instructions to Sell, on February 5th, 6th and 7th, 1901, a magnificent PRIVATE COLLECTION, the finest that has ever been offered for Sale by Auction in this country. It contains a large proportion of fine unused, and the majority of the more interesting countries are practically complete. Amongst the Rarities are:—

AUSTRIA, the rose, yellow and red Mercuries.
BULGARIA, 5 in black on 30 stotinki.
FRANCE, 1 franc orange on entire and 15c. brown on rose error, *se tenant* with 10c. mint.
GREAT BRITAIN, 1d black, V.R. 10d. octagonal pair, mint, 2/- brown unused.
HUNGARY, lithographed, complete, unused.
MECKLENBURGH SCHWERIN, 3sch. dotted ground rouletted.
MECKLENBURGH STRELITZ, 1sch. mauve on entire.
MODENA, 1 lire on entire, and large B.G.
NAPLES, ½ tornese Arms (2) very fine, ½ tornese Cross (4, one on entire).
OLDENBURG, the four issues complete, unused.
PRUSSIA, 2 sgr. with solid ground, mint, superb.
MOLDAVIA, 27, 54, 81, and 108 paras.
ROUMANIA, 5 bani, blue, error.
RUSSIAN LEVANT, 1865, 2 and 20 kopecs.
SAXONY, 1st issue 3pf. used on entire and unused, 1851, the rare error ½ngr. black on blue.
SWEDEN, 1st issue complete unused.
SWITZERLAND, Zurich, 4 rapen (2, one on entire) Geneva, 5+5 on piece. Basle 2½ rappen on entire, Vaud 4c. on entire
SERVIA, 1866, error 2 para, green on rose.
SPAIN, 1850, complete, unused, 1851, 1852 and 1853, 2 reals, Madrid 3 cuartos on entire, 1854, 1 real light blue a superb pair, 1855 2 reals blue error, 1865 12 cuartos with centre inverted, perf. and imperf., former on entire.
TUSCANY, 9 crazie, white paper, on entire, 6o crazie, 2 soldi and 3 lire
WURTEMBERG, the first 7 issues, complete unused (with two exceptions) 7okr. (2) etc.
CEYLON, 4d., 8d., 9d., 1/9 and 2/- imperf., 8d. perf. star, unused, 2 rupees 50c. unused, etc., etc.
LABUAN, 6 in red on 16c. and 8 on 12c.
INDIA, 1st issue, ½a. red and 4a. unused, no wmk. 2a. green, Service Provisionals 2, 4 and 8a.
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, 1854, 1 real, and 1863, 1 and 2 reales, surcharged Habilitado.
CAPE, Woodblock errors, 1d. blue and 4d. red.
LAGOS, wmk. C.A. 2/6, 5/-, and 10/- mint.
MAURITIUS, Post Paid 1d. (3) and 2d. (3) Large Fillet 2d. etc.

NATAL, 1st issue complete, etc.
SIERRA LEONE, 6d. imperf. unused.
TRANSVAAL, a very fine lot.
ANTIOQUIA, 1st issue, complete.
BARBADOS, 1d. on half of 5/- unused.
BOLIVAR, 1st issue, 10c. green on entire.
BRAZIL, first 4 issues complete.
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 10c. imperf. 10c. and 1 dollar perf. 12½, unused.
BRITISH GUIANA, 1st issue, 4c. on pelure, and 8c., cut round, and 12c., cut square, 1852, 1 and 4c., latter on entire, 1856, 4c. magenta and 4c. blue, latter on original, 1862, 1c. (3), 2c. (3), and 4c. (4), all different types.
BUENOS AYRES, 1st issue, 2, 3, 4 and 5 pesos, unused.
CANADA, imperf., 7½d. and 10d., unused, 12d. black, used, perf., 6d., unused, etc., etc.
GUATEMALA, 1881, 2, 5 and 20c., with inverted centres.
NEW BRUNSWICK, 1/-, superb.
NOVA SCOTIA, 1/-, unused.
NEWFOUNDLAND, 6½d. carmine, unused, and 1/- orange, used, very fine.
PERU, Medio Peso, rose, error on entire.
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, 1862, 1 real, and 1865, 1 real, unused.
ST. VINCENT, wmk. star, 4d. dark blue, 4d. ultramarine, 1/- vermilion and 5/- lake, unused, 4d. on 1/-, used, wmk. CA., 4d. blue and 4d. red-brown, unused, etc., etc.
TOBAGO, 1st issue complete, 6d. ochre C.C. and C.A. unused.
TURKS ISLANDS, 1/- lilac and a rare lot of 1881 provisionals.
COLUMBIAN REPUBLIC, 1863, 50c red error.
UNITED STATES, Brattleboro 5 cents. St. Louis 5 and 10 cents, 1869 15, 24 and 30 cents with inverted centres, Departmentals complete including State, 2, 5, 10 and 20 dollars.
REUNION 1st issue, 15 and 30c. on entire.
HAWAII, 1st issue 5 and 13 cents blue, very fine.
QUEENSLAND, imperf., 1d. 2d. 6d. and 1/-
VICTORIA, 6d. orange and 5/- blue and yellow, Registered stamp rouletted, etc.
WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 1st and 2nd issues complete, imperf. and rouletted wmk. C.C., 2d mauve error, etc and others too numerous to mention. **CATALOGUE IN PREPARATION.**

OTHER SALES AS FOLLOW:—

1900.—December 11 and 12.

1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17; May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12.

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.

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ESTABLISHED 1794.

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GREECE. All the new surcharges.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY

TRANSVAAL = = =

} Surcharged V.R.I.

HONG KONG

INDIA = =

} New colours.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. New issue, with map of Island.

 **And all other New Issues in Stock.**

For Prices see our Monthly List, sent post free for 6d. per annum.

The **UNIVERSAL STANDARD CATALOGUE**

Is complete up to August, 1900. Price, **1/3** post free.

The "**WHITFIELD**" **INTERCHANGEABLE ALBUMS**

Are the best for Advanced Collectors, and we send them on Approval. Write for details.

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HUGO GRIEBERT & CO.,

Foreign Stamp Merchants & Importers,

Gold Medal International Philatelic Exhibition, Paris, 1900.

Diploma of Honour „ „ „ **Regensburg, 1899.**

Through the very great extension of our business, we have been obliged to move into more **Commodious and Central Premises**, and have taken a Shop and Offices, at . . .

 **13/14, New Bond Street** (Next Door to Long's Hotel,) **London, W.**

Where we hope to be favoured with a visit from our numerous Customers. We shall have on show a **very fine selected Stock of Rare British Colonials, European and other Foreign Stamps at Moderate Prices.**

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 **Several Fine Collections from £50 up to £3000.**

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Christmas Number, Circulation 3,500.

THE

STAMP COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 150—Vol. VI. SATURDAY DECEMBER 8, 1900. ONE PENNY.

G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO.,
Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers,
10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "PHILATELIC, LONDON." TELEPHONE No. 5596 AVENUE.

*The following **Approval Books** have just been made up:*

<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>GREAT BRITAIN</td><td>3 Vols.</td></tr> <tr><td>PERSIA AND CHINA</td><td>1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>SEYCHELLES AND St. HELENA</td><td>1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>LUXEMBURG</td><td>2 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>ITALIAN STATES</td><td>4 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>BADEN</td><td>1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>PERSIA</td><td>1 ..</td></tr> </table>	GREAT BRITAIN	3 Vols.	PERSIA AND CHINA	1 ..	SEYCHELLES AND St. HELENA	1 ..	LUXEMBURG	2 ..	ITALIAN STATES	4 ..	BADEN	1 ..	PERSIA	1 ..	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>BELGIUM</td><td>2 Vols.</td></tr> <tr><td>SWEDEN</td><td>1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>SWITZERLAND</td><td>2 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>AUSTRIA</td><td>2 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>BAVARIA</td><td>1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>ORANGE FREE STATE AND CHINA</td><td>1 ..</td></tr> <tr><td>TRANSVAAL</td><td>2 ..</td></tr> </table>	BELGIUM	2 Vols.	SWEDEN	1 ..	SWITZERLAND	2 ..	AUSTRIA	2 ..	BAVARIA	1 ..	ORANGE FREE STATE AND CHINA	1 ..	TRANSVAAL	2 ..
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TRANSVAAL	2 ..																												

"INTERCHANGEABLE PHILATELIC ALBUMS."

We have much pleasure in announcing that we have been awarded the highest possible award (Silver Medal) at the recent Paris Exhibition, for our well-known make.
Full particulars of these fine Albums will be sent on application.

SPECIAL OFFERS:

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
*Antioquia, 1868, 1 peso red	4 0 0	Spain, 1853, 3 quartos Madrid	13 0 0
*Argentine, 1889, 1, 5, 10 and 20 pesos	1 10 0	.. .. . 3	15 15 0
*Bolivia, 1867, 500c. black	2 10 0	.. .. . 1 rl. light blue	11 10 0
Brazil, 1843, 90 reis black	1 10 0	.. .. . 1855, 2 rls. blue error, in a block of 35	12 0 0
.. .. . 1844, 180	2 15 0	.. .. . 1865, 12c., frame inverted, perf.	9 0 0
.. .. . 300	3 10 0	*Switzerland, 5c. Vaud	4 10 0
*Denmark, 1870, 48sk.	1 10 0	.. .. . 2½r. Basle	3 3 0
*Egypt, 1866, 10 piast., slate-blue	1 2 6	.. .. . 4r. Zurich	8 0 0
*France, 1849, 10c. block of 6	1 12 6	.. .. . 5 + 5 Geneva	18 0 0
.. .. . 1849, 1fr. orange-red	4 10 0	.. .. . 5 + 5 .. wrong halves joined	40 0 0
.. .. . 1849, 20c. pair tête bêche	2 10 0	Roumania, 1850, 27, 54 and 108p.	85 0 0
.. .. . 1853, 1fr. block of 6	3 16 6	Servia, 1866, 2p. error	10 10 0
.. .. . 1853, 80c. pair tête bêche	3 3 0	*Finland, 1866, 10 pen., error	8 10 0
.. .. . 1870/73, 10c. bistre on rose, pair tête bêche	0 9 0	*Swaziland, 10 shillings	3 10 0
*Spain, 1850, 10 rls. green	3 7 6	*Great Britain, 1d. V.R.	8 10 0
.. .. . 1851, 12 cs.	2 5 0	.. .. . 2/- brown	4 15 0
.. .. . 2 rls.	22 10 0	Modena, large B.G.	2 10 0
.. .. . 6 rls.	3 7 6	Saxony, 3pfg., 1850	4 10 0
.. .. . 1852, 2 rls.	15 10 0	.. .. . 1851, 2 ngr. dark blue	3 15 0
.. .. . 6 rls.	2 15 0	*Persia, 1894, complete set of 11	1 5 0
.. .. . 1851, 10 rls., pair	5 12 6	.. .. . 1899, 9	0 1 9
.. .. . 6 rls., strip of 4	5 5 0	.. .. . 1899, 16	1 5 0
.. .. . 2 rls.	13 10 0	*Labuan, Jubilee set of 6	0 1 0
.. .. . 1852, 2 rls. block of 6	47 15 0	Peru, 1858, ½ peso rose	10 10 0
.. .. . 1853, 2 rls.	4 5 0	Mauritius, 1848, 1d. pair, early	22 10 0

* SIGNIFIES UNUSED.

CORRESPONDENCE in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

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 ensuing Season will be as under:—

1901.—January 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th, 31st; February 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th; March 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th and 29th; April 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; May 9th and 10th, 30th and 31st, and June 13th and 14th.

January 3rd and 4th, 1901.—Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to Sell on these dates the Collection formed by the late W. A. S. WESTOBY, Esq.

January 31st and February 1st, 1901.—(First Portion).—Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions from G. NORMAN, Esq., of Calcutta, to sell a portion of his very fine and well-known Collection, including the following rarities:—

Great Britain, the V.R. with trial postmark, 10d. octagonal, an unused block of 4, medium garter, 4d. on blue, unused, and ditto on white, 1856, 10d., plate 2, &c.

Spain, complete and very fine, including 1851, 2 reales, unused.

Switzerland, Geneva on entire, envelope stamp used on entire as adhesive; Zürich, 4r., both types very fine.

Naples, Arms, very fine.

Roumania, 54 paras, very fine.

Tuscany, complete, and all the rarities in fine condition.

St. Louis, 5c. and 10c., very fine.

Cape, Woodblocks, 1d. red, unused; 4d. dark blue, very fine, and errors.

Mauritius, very fine specimens of the early issues.

Reunion, 1st issue, 15cts., used.

India, $\frac{1}{2}$ a. red, 9 arches; $\frac{1}{2}$ a. red, 8 arches, a fine unused pair of each; 4 annas, unused, showing rosettes; 1856, 2as. green, a pair and single, used; Service stamps, 2, 4 and 8 annas.

British Guiana, 1850, 12cts.; 1856, 4c. magenta, very fine; 1862, Provisionals, a fine lot.

Buenos Ayres, 4 pesos vermilion.

British Columbia, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., imperforate.

Canada, 12d. black, used, superb.

Newfoundland, 1/- vermilion and 1/- orange, very fine.

West Indies, very fine, including Lady McLeod on entire, Oldenburg and other German States, very fine, also Modena, &c.

February 28th and March 1st.—MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell the Second Portion of the fine Collection formed by J. NORMAN, ESQ., of Calcutta.

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 (Philatello Department), 35, Old Jewry, LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM," LONDON. Telephone Number, 3076 Bank. ESTABLISHED 1761.



The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

Published every alternate Saturday, at 77-78, High Holborn, London, W.C.
 With which are incorporated the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."
 CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Canton Stamp Exchange Society, the Central Philatelic Club, and the Ladies' Stamp Exchange.

No. 150.—Vol. VI. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1900. ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

DATES OF MAFEKING ISSUES.

FURTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION CONTRIBUTED BY MR. A. H. STAMFORD.

MR. A. H. STAMFORD, to whom we are indebted for the information recently published as to the quantities issued of the Mafeking Siege Stamps, has now sent to the "London Philatelist" the following list of "dates of issue":

March 23rd.	1d. green, originally 3d. Cape "square."
" "	3d. red .. 1d. Cape.
" 24th.	6d. mauve .. 3d. Cape, watermarked <i>Anchor</i> .
" "	1s. olive .. 1d. Cape.
" 27th.	6d. lilac .. 3d. British Bechuanaland.
" 28th.	1d. red .. 4d. Home; sur. "Bechuanaland Protectorate."
" 29th.	1s. brown and green, orig. 3d. Home; sur. "Bechuanaland Protectorate."
April 4th.	1d. green, originally 3d. Cape, figure "Hope."
" "	6d. yellow .. 3d. Home; sur. "Bechuanaland Protectorate."
" "	3d. lilac .. 1d. Home; sur. "Bechuanaland Protectorate."
" 6th.	6d. (with 6d. above) red and green, originally 2d. Home; surcharged "Bechuanaland Protectorate."

All the foregoing large serif surcharge.

" 7th.	3d. (Local). Baden Powell, small head.
" 10th.	3d. (..), Colonel Baden-Powell, large head.
" "	1d. (..), Bicycle.
" 25th.	6d. (with 6d. below), red and green, originally 2d. Home; surcharged "Bechuanaland Protectorate." Small plain black letters surcharge.
" "	3d. lilac, originally 1d. Home; surch. "Bechuanaland Protectorate." Small plain black letters surcharge.
" "	1s. red, originally 6d. Home; surch. "Bechuanaland Protectorate." Small plain black letters surcharge only.
May 3rd.	1s. red, originally 6d. Home; surch. "British Bechuanaland." Small plain black letters surcharge.
April 25th.	2s. white and green, originally 1s. Home; surcharged "British Bechuanaland." Small plain black letters surcharge.

Appended to the list is the certificate of Mr. J. V. Howat (Staff Postmaster to Major-General Baden-Powell during the Mafeking Siege) that "the above is a correct list of the dates of issue of the Mafeking stamps."

A WORD ABOUT FORGERIES.

This same Postmaster Howat, in the course of a letter to Mr. Stamford, writes:

It is to be regretted that before investing, investors did not seek for information from the Postal Department on the following points:—Date of issue of each denomination and descriptive list of stamps. In order to protect you from being defrauded, I hasten to inclose herewith the following particulars. From it you will see that the following stamps mentioned in your letter were not issued by me, and are therefore clearly forgeries, viz:

- 6d. on 3d. Cape, claret; watermarked CA.
- 1s. on 6d. "Bechuanaland Protectorate" on English. Serif surcharge.
- 1s. on 6d. "British Bechuanaland" on English. Serif surcharge.

Those issued were:

- 6d. on 3d. Cape, magenta; watermarked *Anchor*.
- 1s. on 6d. "Bechuanaland Protectorate" on English. Small plain black letters surcharge.
- 1s. on 6d. "British Bechuanaland" on English. Small plain black letters surcharge.

As the surcharging of these stamps was solely under my control in my capacity as Staff-Postmaster to General Baden-Powell, and having kept a very careful record of the number of and date of issue, I am the only person in a position to give the required information. In purchasing stamps (sic) it is advisable to obtain those post-marked, and to carefully scrutinise such postmarks. In all stamps submitted to me for inspection and report it was found that the dated stamp impression did not compare with the dimensions of that used at Mafeking.

THREE YEARS IN COAL FOR A STAMP CLEANER.

EUGENE GARVIN, the American so-called "stamp dealer" against whom there was a charge of "washing and restoring Revenue Stamps," as already fully reported in the *Fortnightly*, has now been sentenced to three years imprisonment.

VERTICAL SLIDES FOR THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

ABOUT twelve months ago it was announced that experiments were in progress at the British Museum, with a view to the choice of some plan of permanently accommodating the Taping stamps in such a way as to place the whole collection on view at one time. We scarcely expected to hear any more about this matter for some years, but to our surprise Mr. Bacon is already in a position to report progress. Museum and other officials are such hustlers, nowadays!

Drawers, it appears, have been found unworkable; so the Taping stamps are to be mounted on slides, which will pull out in a vertical instead of a horizontal direction. Mr. Bacon gives a full description of the plan in the "London Philatelist," and regards the idea of substituting slides for drawers as "a particularly happy one."

Doubtless we owe this satisfactory consummation in very large measure to Mr. Bacon himself, whose work in arranging and classifying the Taping stamps was a Herculean task worthily fulfilled.

The stamps of the Italian States are those at present on view at the Museum.

L.P.S. EXPERTS TO MEET ONCE A MONTH.

THE Expert Committee of the London Philatelic Society have issued the following announcements, through the medium of the "London Philatelist":—

1.—The Committee can in future examine stamps only once a month, and will meet for that purpose at dates as nearly as possible at the commencement of each month.

2.—All stamps submitted to be expertised must be received not later than the last day of the month preceding.

3.—The fee must always be sent with the stamps, and in future will be as follows:—

FOR STAMPS PRONOUNCED GENUINE.

Three shillings for a single stamp.

Two shillings and sixpence each for more than one stamp; a proportionate return being made in the case of forgeries or reprints.

FOR STAMPS PRONOUNCED FORGERIES OR REPRINTS.

One shilling and sixpence each.

Pairs, strips, and blocks counted as one stamp.

It should be remembered that the fee for genuine specimens includes a certificate and photograph of the stamp, and it has been found that the expenses of registration and postage between the various members of the Committee, with the photographs, has on the average entailed a loss to the Society. The difficulties that at one time blocked the path of the Committee have now happily been removed.

ONE OF OUR OLDEST DEALERS DEAD.

THE news of the death of Mr. Thomas Ridpath, of Liverpool, will be received with universal regret throughout the philatelic world.

As a stamp dealer, Mr. Ridpath dated back to the "sixties" although less than fifty years of age at the time of his death. He spent some years, as a lad, in the employment of Messrs. Young and Stockall, who were among the pioneers of stamp dealing in this country. When Mr. Ridpath set up in business for himself, in Liverpool, he made rapid headway in the calling he had chosen, for he combined great business ability with an astonishing knowledge of the world's stamps.

Mr. Ridpath's connection with the historic "find" of first issue British Guianas at once recurs to the mind of the philatelist of long standing. These gems passed almost exclusively through his hands.

The deceased was great on post cards and other entires.

His knowledge of cards in particular might be placed in the same category as Sam Weller's acquaintance with the intricacies of the great Metropolis.

Wherever he went—and he travelled much—Mr. Ridpath was popular. His outward reserve cloaked a cordial and generous nature; and as a business man he was above reproach—prudent, courteous, and scrupulously just.

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.

GRENADA.

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
--	-------------	---------------------	----------------	-------------------

1861. *No wmk. Perf. 14 to 15.*

1d. green	10/	7/	4/	2/6
6d. rose	50/	30/	7/6	5/

1864. *Wmk. Small Star. Perf. 14 to 15.*

1d. green	7/6	5/	1/6	
1d. blue-green	7/6	5/	1/6	1/4
6d. rose	30/	21/	2/6	1/9
6d. vermilion	30/	21/	2/3	1/6

Wmk. Large Star. Perf. 14 to 15.

1d. blue green	20/	12/6	3/	2/3
6d. vermilion	140/	80/	10/6	4/6

Wmk. Large Star. Perf. 14.

1d. green	20/	12/6	1/3	1/9
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1875-81. *Wmk. Large Star. Perf. 14.**Surcharged POSTAGE & value.*

½d. mauve	1/6	1/	1/6	1/
2½d. rosy-red	10/	6/	4/	3/
4d. blue	6/	4/6	4/	3/
1/- deep mauve	25/	17/6	4/6	3/6

The same but wmk. Broad Pointed Star.

2½d. rosy-red	75/	50/	20/	15/
2½d. claret	100/	70/		
4d. blue	90/	60/	50/	37/6

1883. *CA. 14 (De La Rue type).*

½d. green	1/		1/	
1d. rose	5/	3/6	1/6	1/4
2½d. ultramarine	16/	14/	12/	11/
4d. slate	1/	18/	14/	13/
6d. mauve	1/6	1/	3/6	2/6
8d. bistre	4/6	3/6	6/	4/6
1/- pale violet	25/	17/6	17/6	12/6

1883. *Provisionals. Fiscal stamps surcharged. Wmk. Small Star. Perf. 14.*

1d. orange surcharged POSTAGE in black	50/	30/	6/6	5/
1d. orange surcharge "Postage" in manuscript				
½d. on half. 1d. orange, surcharged POSTAGE in black diagonally				
½d. on half orange, with same surcharge in smaller type	200/	100/	15/	10/6
1d. orange, with manuscript surcharge in red				

1886. *Wmk. Large Star. Perf. 14.*

d. on fiscal stamps.
Surcharged 1 POSTAGE

In black on 1½d. yellow	2/	1/6	2/	1/6
Ditto ditto surcharge inverted				
Ditto on 1/- yellow	2/	1/6	3/	2/3

GRENADA—Continued.	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
<i>Wmk. Small Star. Perf. 14.</i>				
The same surcharge on 4d. yellow ..	7/6	5/	15	10/6
1887. CA 14 (<i>De La Rue type</i>).				
1d. rose (postage and revenue) ..	1/2		11	
1888-90. <i>Wmk. Small Star. Perf. 14.</i>				
Surcharged 4d. on fiscal stamps.				
In black on 2/- yellow, italic "d" ..	1/6	1	3/6	2/6
Ditto ditto upright "d" 100/	75/	75/	85/	60/
Surcharged HALF PENNY on 2/- yellow	5/	3/6	6	4 6
POSTAGE POSTAGE d.				
Surcharged AND on 2/- yellow	1/6	1/	15	10 6
REVENUE POSTAGE AND REVENUE on 2/- yellow	12/6	9	15/	10/6
1d				
1890-92.				
Do. do. on CA 14, 8d. bistre	1 6	1/	2/6	1 9
Do. do. do. sur. inverted ..				
Surcharged 2½d. on 8d. bistre ..	1/9	1/6	1 6	1/
1895-99. CA 14. <i>Bi-coloured Series.</i>				
½d. lilac and green ..	1/1		1	
1d. .. " carmine ..	1/2		1	
2d. .. " brown ..	1/3		1/3	
2½d. .. " ultramarine ..	1/3		1/1	
3d. .. " deep yellow ..	1/4		1/4	
6d. .. " green ..	1/8		1/8	
8d. .. " black ..	1/10		1/10	
1/- green and deep yellow ..	1 3		1/3	
1898. CC. 14.				
2½d. ultramarine (pictorial) ..	1/4		1/4	
<i>Unpaid Letter Stamps.</i>				
1892. CA. 14.				
1d. black ..	1/3		6	
2d.	1/6		6	
3d.	1 6		9	
Provisionals overprinted SURCHARGE POSTAGE and value.				
1d. on 8d. bistre ..	100/	65/	2 6	1/6
2d. on 8d. bistre ..	100/	65/	1	2/9
1d. on 6d. mauve ..	25/	20/	1 0	1/
2d. on 6d. mauve ..	30/	24/	4/	2/9

The next country to be "valued" will be Griqualand. As to this we shall be glad of any help that philatelists interested can give us.

We invite correspondence, critical or otherwise, on the subject of "The Collectors' Guide to Values." Our aim is to make the "Guide" of the greatest use to the greatest number, and any suggestions we may receive, or any expressions of opinion will be most carefully considered.

THE KORAN FORBIDS RELIGIOUS PICTURE POST-CARDS.

THE Sultan of Turkey has forbidden the introduction into the Ottoman Empire of picture postcards bearing the names of God and his prophet Mahomet, drawings of the Kaaba and all other Mussulman religious buildings, as well as portraits of Mahomedan women.

The local police have seized all such cards found in the possession of salesmen of Turkish nationality in Constantinople.

The interdiction is founded upon the prohibition in the Koran forbidding the use among the Faithful of all animal and even vegetable life in any drawing or decoration by Mussulmans. This decision of the Sublime Porte will prove a severe blow to an artistic and perfect legitimate trade in the Ottoman Empire.

The Values of Grenadas.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

Dear Sir,—Your invitation to a critical correspondence on the stamps of the countries appearing in the *Collectors' Guide to Values*, induces me as a Specialist Collector and Student of some years standing of the stamps of Grenada, to call the attention of the compilers of that useful list to the fact that if they desire to give anything like the correct money value of the early issues of these stamps, they must in no way blindly follow the arrangement so nicely set forth in some of the current dealers' lists. Though many are the reasons against the tendency of the present day to enhance the value and importance of the multitude of minor varieties continually coming to light, care should be taken that major varieties (if I may use the term) and even distinct issues are not buried by a too anxious desire "to limit" or what is perhaps worse to save trouble in the arrangement of stock books.

An exceedingly scarce stamp in the unused state, is the one penny blue-green, of the unwatermarked issue—no modern catalogue lists, or even mentions it—but none the less it has a history distinct from the commoner, and probably later issued penny yellow-green, with no watermark, usually overpriced at 10/- to 12/- unused. The former is a stamp to look for and perchance find, the latter to avoid. The second issue is stated to consist of:

1d. yellow-green	6d. rose
1d. blue-green	6d. dull red
	6d. vermilion

the stamps being printed upon small star watermarked paper and said to be perforated in a compound manner.

Here we have included in this misleading and imperfect summary, in the case of the penny value two distinct stamps differing in colour as well as quality of paper and gum, and in gauge and method of perforation as well as in the position of the star watermark (which may appear upright or sideways according to the particular stamp). Another stamp, the 1d. perf. 14. small star, formerly also entangled in this list has only in the very latest catalogue received a place to itself. Again the 6d. value on small star paper is merely listed as of three "shades," whereas there is not only a fourth, printed in a peculiar deep rose upon paper which always shows the watermark in the sideways position—a stamp frequently found in the postmarked condition but almost unobtainable unused—but there is also a fifth deep vermilion variety which differs from the former four by being printed on thick paper, perforated a fairly clean cut 15 with the small star watermark sideways. I should also like to remind the compilers that these five "shades" of the sixpenny value as they are inaccurately called were each a distinct issue, with definite periods of use.

So it seems to me that it would be utterly futile to make any attempt to correctly price the early 1d. and 6d. values of Grenada, unless a rational classification is first arrived at and stated.

In reference to the actual prices of these stamps obtaining in the dealers' lists, I should like to mention one that seems to me unduly excessive; the 6d. vermilion, large star used, prices out at 15/-! whereas it is quite as common if not commoner than the 6d. small star vermilion. (Gibbons No. 7) merely listed at 3/-. The reason for this is simple enough, the two stamps being rather difficult to separate one from the other, and anyone who cared to take the trouble could, not so very long ago, on going the round of the dealers' books of this country have secured for himself a very considerable number of the "rarer stamp" at the price of the commoner.

Furthermore there is another reason to believe that the unused 1/- deep mauve, 1875, is less scarce than the corresponding unpostmarked value in the *De La Rue* issues of 1883. Yet the latter is priced at 30/- while the older and infinitely scarcer stamp figures at 27/6; the albums and stockbooks of the collector and dealer and especially of the hybrid form, the collector-dealer will on inspection verify this. Trusting that these few remarks may show that a certain amount of care is necessary in revising the existing catalogues, both in arrangement and price.

I beg to remain, dear sir, yours faithfully,
New Oxford & Cambridge Club, J. WRAY MERCER.
Pall Mall, W., 30th Nov., 1900.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, DECEMBER 8, 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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AN indignant correspondent takes an unexpected view of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' decision to discontinue their dealings in Entires. He appears to question their *right* to adopt the course announced in the last number of the *Fortnightly*.

"Why," he asks, "should a leading firm who, as publishers of the leading catalogue, are placed in an exceptionally influential position—why should they be able to suddenly depreciate the value of my holdings in Entires by the calm announcement that they will no longer recognise these things in their publications? I hold that it is the bounden duty of Messrs. Gibbons, after *selling* the goods for years and years on the basis of their catalogue, to at least preserve that *basis* intact, even if they decline to deal in Entires themselves. What do you say, sir?"

Well, the proposition is a little startling. We must think it over. Meanwhile the views of some of our contemporaries on the action of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, may be of interest:

"In the interests of collectors, the decision is to be deplored," says the "London Philatelist."

On the same subject, "Stamps," a journal conducted principally by a philatelist much interested in, and very well informed upon, Entires, holds forth as follows: "It is one of the little ironies of human vanity that just when students and collectors of entire cards and covers have congratulated themselves upon the dawn of a brighter era for their study, the holder of the largest stock of those treasures in this country should come to a decision to abandon its position in regard to them, for economic reasons. During the past year or two there has been a steady increase in the number of collectors, who from one cause or another have been led to add entire pieces to their collections, or to form separate collections of them. It would appear, therefore, a very inopportune moment for any misgivings as to the value of Entires either as a study or an investment."

What have *Fortnightly*-readers to say?

* * *

A Merry Christmas to our readers and to all philatelists. Likewise a prosperous New Century.

Every Postal Subscriber should receive with this number of the *S.C.F.*, special insets emanating from Messrs. Alfred Smith & Son, and Mr. F. C. Penney.

Some Fine Old Collections are being auctioned just now. At "Puttick's" there is being dispersed a little lot that seems to contain every gem known to philately save only the "Post Office" Mauritius. Messrs. Venton, Bull & Cooper, too, are disposing of a portion of the fine "Norman" collection, as advertised.

Who is "Anti-Humbug," who writes a long letter to "Stamps" on the subject of the Mafeking Issues? This

person describes himself as a member of the London Philatelic Society. We shall not reprint, nor even quote from, his letter; it is too absurdly scurrilous. But we shall take leave to suggest that the Hon. Secretary of the London Philatelic Society bring this matter of "Anti-Humbug's" letter before the Council and ascertain, if possible, the writer's identity. If he be really a member of the London Philatelic Society his letter would seem to stamp him as a person whose resignation might be received without an overwhelming degree of regret.

The "Paraphe" of Puerto Rico.

AN INTERESTING CHAPTER OF POSTAL HISTORY—HOW THE "CHANGES" WERE "RUNG" ON CUBAN AND PUERTO RICAN STAMPS IN THE "SEVENTIES."

THE story well bears re-telling, and it is well re-told in the "International Philatelic Review," how certain of the Puerto Rico surcharges originated, and how the similarity or "identity," if we may use that word, of the Cuban and Puerto Rican issues of 1855-1873 opened the door to an elaborate system of fraud.

Thus runs the story in our Transatlantic contemporary:

Popular interest in the issues of Puerto Rico at the present time may serve as our excuse for bringing to light an explanation of some of the surcharges used on the Spanish Puerto Rican stamps, and their origin. We quote liberally from a note by Mr. V. G. De Yassi, in the "Philatelic Record," and others. From 1855 until 1873 the stamps issued for Cuba and Puerto Rico were alike. In 1873, however, the Puerto Rican government observed a falling off in the revenue derived from the sale of postage stamps as compared with telegraph stamps, and a secret investigation developed the fact that Puerto Rican merchants were in the habit of selling the stamps below face value, and further research showed that Cuban merchants frequently remitted stamps to Puerto Rico in payment of small amounts, as the depreciated paper currency of Cuba was accepted in payment for them in Havana, while in Puerto Rico they could be purchased only for gold, thus making the transaction a profitable one for the Cubans.

The criminal proceedings which were instituted as a result of these inquiries established the genuineness of the stamps offered under face value in Puerto Rico and put a stop to the speculation in the following manner. About the middle of 1873 all stamps sold by the Puerto Rican post office were surcharged, and these only were thereafter accepted for postage. The surcharge applied consisted of the *paraphe* of some prominent postal official.

In earlier days it was the custom among officials and other personages whose names were attached to important documents to protect their signatures from forgery by the addition of a meaningless intricate flourish continuous with the last letter and which, being a purely individual invention constructed after no design or law of composition, was extremely hard to imitate. This protective ending of the signature is the *paraphe*.

The *paraphe* surcharged upon the stamps of 1873 was that of the Governor General. In 1874 that of the Governor General and the Intendente or Superintendent of Posts. This set consisted of three values, 25c., 50c. and 1p. None of the 50c. or 1p. were ever put into actual circulation however.

In 1875 the same values of Cuban stamps were surcharged as in 1874 and put into use.

In 1876 the 25c., 50c. and 1p. Cuba, were again surcharged with two *paraphes* as before, but of the new officials. In June 1875 the officers having charge of the stamped paper of the island stole 325,800 of the 25c. and 19,000 1p. values. In order to render these stolen stamps valueless, the *paraphe* of the Governor General was repeated on all those remaining, making a triple surcharge on stamps of Puerto Rico used after June 1876.

What *We* Think of "Mafekings."

SUMMING UP THE EVIDENCE.

IN the two previous issues of the *Fortnightly* we have given the views of nineteen firms and individuals prominent in philately on— firstly, the status of the Mafeking stamps, and, secondly, the market value of same. The discussion has evoked remarkable interest, and perhaps a brief summing up of the evidence for and against will form an acceptable sequel.

The nineteen gentlemen and firms whose opinions have been given may be classified, with a fair degree of accuracy, as follows:—

	An unnecessary issue?		A speculative issue?		Are prices justified?
	YES.	NO.	YES.	NO.	
Baron A. de Worms ..	1	—	1	—	No
Mr. H. R. Oldfield ..	—	—	1	—	—
Rev. R. B. Earée ..	—	—	—	—	No
Mr. R. Ehrenbach ..	1	—	1	—	—
Mr. M. P. Castle ..	1	—	—	—	Yes
Mr. W. B. Avery ..	—	—	—	—	No
Messrs. Bright & Son ..	1	—	—	—	Yes
Mr. E. D. Bacon ..	—	—	1	—	No
Mr. W. H. Peckett ..	—	1	—	—	No
Mr. J. A. Tilleard ..	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. Hubert F. Lowe ..	—	—	—	—	Yes
Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. ..	—	1	—	—	—
Mr. E. J. Nankivell ..	?	?	—	—	No
Mr. Gordon Smith ..	1	—	—	—	—
Mr. H. A. Slade ..	—	1	—	1	Yes
Mr. W. Hadlow ..	1	—	—	—	No
Judge Philbrick ..	—	1	?	?	No
Mr. W. Dorning Beckton ..	?	?	—	—	Yes
Messrs. Kirkpatrick & Pemberton ..	—	1	—	1	Yes

There is a discouraging array of blanks here, owing to the indefiniteness of many of the letters received. In some cases where we have recorded definite votes against the names of the gentlemen concerned, we have had to interpret the somewhat vague expressions of the writers as best we could. We have tried to do this with a scrupulously open mind, and with a view to arriving at a true consensus of opinion.

The result of a "count" of the more or less definite judgments delivered is appended:—

	Ayes.	Noes.
On the question of <i>unnecessary</i> issue ..	6	5
On the question of <i>speculative</i> issue ..	4	2
As to whether present prices are justified ..	6	8

It will be seen that it is "a pretty near thing."

Glancing through some individual opinions, it will be noted that philatelists like Mr. M. P. Castle, Mr. Nankivell and Mr. Dorning Beckton, while not believing in the Mafekings as a legitimate and necessary postal issue, yet prefer to look upon them in the most favorable light. Mr. Nankivell well says that "there will always be a soft side on the part of British philatelists towards the Mafeking Siege Stamps." We think there will.

Mr. Hadlow is the author of one of the most interesting letters received, and though his views will be unpalatable to many, one sees that he writes with honesty and sincerity, and moreover practises as he preaches.

Mr. Hubert Lowe obviously is a believer in the aphorism that speech is given us to conceal our thoughts, and Mr. J. A. Tilleard, Hon. Secretary of the London Philatelic Society, fills seven lines of the *Fortnightly* by saying nothing in a manner that any member of his distinguished profession might envy.

Mr. Ehrenbach we think, goes too far in imputing 'motives.'

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, with consummate tact, make their contribution to the discussion an advertisement of their own publications.

For the rest, there is a general disinclination on the part of the writers to tie themselves down to any definite opinion in the absence of a full knowledge of the circumstances.

On the subject of prices, while many denounce the prices paid in the first flush of the boom as ridiculous there are others who opine that if Mafekings slump at all they will "pick up again" later and may even go to a higher level.

OUR OWN OPINION.

Our view of the matter is that the terms "necessary issue" and "unnecessary issue" are misleading ones, and we are sorry now that these expressions have been so generally used. An issue, although not strictly *necessary* (using that word in its imperative sense), may quite well be not unnecessary—that is to say, it may be more or less a justifiable issue. We are firmly of the belief that the Mafeking Siege stamps were, in the words of our circular letter, "justified by the exigencies of the siege."

Was the issue speculative? The best answer to this is the assertion of one of our correspondents that the stamps *became* speculative. They have undoubtedly been made the medium of speculation, but this is scarcely of the nature of a reproach. As to the allegation that they were speculative in their inception we have seen not a shred of positive evidence in support of the statement. In short, after much earnest weighing of the pros and cons, we believe the Mafeking stamps to be a perfectly bona fide and legitimate issue of postage stamps.

THE QUESTION OF THE "LOCALS."

Various considerations compel us to revise our opinion regarding the status of the 3d. stamps with head of Baden-Powell. Mr. J. R. F. Turner contends that this is not a Local stamp, but he has hardly put together a convincing case. Because the Baden-Powell stamps have occasionally franked letters to the outer world it is by no means proved that this label is other than a Local. Before now we have franked letters to various parts of London and the provinces with 5 cents Cingalese stamps (very like the current 1d. British at first glance), and on one occasion we startled a friend in the Midlands by sending him a letter from London bearing 25 centimes French stamp. Because postal officials are occasionally careless or complaisant we must not allow their little eccentricities to over-rule our own judgment as to the status of the various stamps employed.

Mr. G. V. Howat Postmaster at Mafeking during the Siege, describes the 3d. Baden Powell stamp as a Local. And who should know better than he?

ARE THE PRICES JUSTIFIED?

This question of prices is, after all, one that every philatelist can work out for himself. We now have the fullest official information as to quantities issued. Weigh these stamps in the same scale as other provisional British Colonial Stamps and we think it will be found that the man who hesitates to buy now may wait longer and fare worse.

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.

British Columbia.—From Mr. F. C. Penney we have received a specimen of the 5 cents stamp on blue paper.

Japan.—A new letter card, 3 sen., mauve on buff, is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. The card is perforated at the sides only, and has a gummed flap. The stamp is of the ordinary adhesive type.

Korea.—Two values to add to those of the new set already chronicled:—

15 cheon, mauve.
20 cheon, red.

Our thanks are due to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for specimens.

Perak.—We have to thank the same firm for a list of the provisionals received to date:—

One Cent on 2c.
ONE CENT on 4c.
One Cent on 5c.
One Cent on 8c.
Three Cent on 8c.
Three Cent on 50c.
Three Cent on \$1.
Three Cent on \$2.

Reminiscences of a Philatelist.

BY WALTER NATHAN.

(Continued).

DESPITE the success which attended the auction organized by the late Mr. Douglas Garth, the fate of sales of stamps by public sale for some time wavered in the balance. The chief opposition came from the trade, as it was supposed by some dealers that the innovation would be fatal to their business. It was argued that both for buying and selling the middle-man's occupation, unless he were a stamp auctioneer, would be curtailed, his profits shorn, and his sources of supply diverged into the public channel. If the whole weight of the trade had been thrown into one scale it is possible that auctions would have died in infancy, but fortunately both for the dealers themselves and for collectors, some prominent traders were sufficiently long sighted to discern their ultimate interests across the immediate annoyance of increased outlay and diminished profits.

There can be no doubt that while individual fortunes were made on the old lines, as may be instanced the case of M. Moens, and of at least three English dealers, the general prosperity of the trade would never have reached its present altitude if it had not been for auctions. Philately is indebted to two prime benefactors; first to the late Mr. Tapling who not only sustained the science by his life's example and disinterested kindness to all engaged in the pursuit, but gave an official cachet to stamp-collecting by bequeathing his collection to the Nation; and secondly to Mr. Douglas Garth for his instrumentality in establishing a free market in the objects collected.

Before auctions there was no free-market. In legal phraseology I believe anything exposed in a shop window is considered to be offered in "Market-overt." But even if this be so in law it is not so in fact. A free market means a market in which goods can be realised, under ordinary circumstances, at the moment. Price is not so much an element in the matter as an immediate conversion of the goods into cash. Before the establishment of auctions it was practically impossible to do this with stamps. For some time even after the introduction of public sales, auctioneers were disinclined to make advances on goods entrusted to them for sale, a certain indication that they doubted whether a free-market had yet been established. Now all is changed. The leading auctioneers — Messrs. Venton, Bull & Cooper, Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, and Messrs. Plumridge & Co., not only advertise that "liberal advances are made pending sale where desired," but generally satisfy their clients in this respect, with the result that from a merely fancy value, stamps have so far attained an intrinsic value, that they have become a pawnable commodity, with at least two pawnbrokers willing to accept them as security for advances. Nor is it likely the progress along the path of acknowledged value will stop here, and before another decade has passed I venture to prophesy that Bankers will accept collections of stamps as security with the same facility that they now do stocks and shares.

It, however, took time for auctions to make their way, and in the interim I profited by some fine collections being brought to me. In 1890 I had an especially good variety of collections, until I began to think that the value of rarities must really be fictitious, and that there were quantities of every variety about. I have often regretted having formed so erroneous an impression, as it influenced my purchases, and I have since learnt that the apparently inexhaustible supply of good stamps was but a temporary efflux which was soon to dry up. That I had some reason for the opinion I formed, wrong though it was, a brief account of some of the collections I purchased in 1890 will show.

In the spring of the year, two ladies called in answer to my advertisement, and produced a small manuscript book and a paper bundle of loose stamps, which they asked me to buy. I looked through the book, and expressed my willingness to purchase, and enquired the price. The spokeswoman hesitated, and finally said: "I do not think I ought to take

less than £5 for the collection." I asked if £5 would satisfy her, and she replied: "Oh! yes, and if you will give £5 you can have the loose stamps as well."

Having passed over the £5, obtained a receipt for the money, and completed the transaction on business lines, I proffered the lady a small increase on the agreed price, as the collection was, although small, extremely nice, containing among other stamps the following:—

Bremen, p en scie, 2g. and 5s.g. fine used specimens.
 B. Guiana, 1862, prov., crossed ovals, 1c. and 2c., with full roulet.
 Canada, ½d., 6d., 6½d., 10d., fine, and 4 3d., on ribbed paper.
 Cape, 8 triangular, including 2 shilling.
 Ceylon, 9d., 10d., 1/-, imp., fine, and 16 star perf. issue.
 Hanover, 11, including 10g., fine.
 Hamburg, 9, including 7g. orange, perf.
 Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown.
 Mauritius, Small Fillet, fine, and 1d. and 2d. Greek border.
 Mecklenburg Schwerin, ¼. roulette, 2s. lilac, used and fine.
 Natal, 1/-, 1857, cut small Nevis, 8 1861, issue.
 New Brunswick, 3d. and 6d. Nova Scotia, 3d. and 6d.
 Newfoundland, 2d., 4d. and 6d. orange.
 N.S.W., 5 views, in first state.
 Queensland, imp., 1d., and 14 of 1861 to 1868 issue.
 S. Australia, 1/-, imp., and 16 varieties of subsequent issues.
 Trinidad, litho., deep blue of the first printing, 3 specimens.
 Victoria, 20, from 1853 to 1868.
 W. Australia, 7 of 1854 to 1860.
 Wurtemberg, 18k. purple, 18k., imp., with and without thread.

It will be seen that I had reason to be satisfied, and although it is a well recognised business principal that one should buy as cheaply as possible, I certainly thought the lady was entitled to an increase on the price asked. The result of my action, which was entirely spontaneous, without the slightest ulterior thought, is interesting, and should encourage everyone to err in liberal treatment rather than the reverse.

Three days subsequent to the purchase of the collection the lady returned bearing an immense bundle. She said that she had been so satisfied with my treatment of her that she had hunted up a large number of stamps which had been accumulated by a deceased relative, and which totalled to many thousands, and would accept the same price as I had given for the collection. I had an important engagement, and had no time to go through the stamps, but the first envelope I opened contained 36 Hamburg, 7g. orange, perf., and that was quite enough to warrant the purchase, which on examination (and the quantity may be judged when I state that it occupied me for more than a week sorting out the stamps), proved to contain the following:—

Fifty-four 3d. views of Sydney, all in the first state of plate, including a specimen of the yellow-green, blue paper, which had escaped postmark, and was virtually in mint state. This I let the late Mr. Taplin (who was particularly fond of unused views) have for £10. 27 Trinidad, litho., of the same deep blue and first state as I had found in the book. Dr. Verdel had some of these, and such specimens never seem to come on the market now. 62 Wurtemberg, 18k., first issue; 35, 2nd issue, including a splendid block of 4, 700 English 1d. black and 58 2d. blue, without lines. 127 Victoria, 1st and 2nd issues. 1900 French, including 72 10c. of 1852 About 3000 N.G. Confed., &c. Altogether fully 20,000 stamps, nearly all on original pieces of envelope, a magnificent lot both as regards condition and the rarity of many specimens.

A peculiarity of this purchase may be mentioned in the fact that the book did not contain a single forgery, an unique experience as far as I am personally concerned in buying old collections, and that the condition of the stamps was superb, scarce one being clipped, and where a stamp was undesirable it was owing to heavy postmark, or being creased in folding.

This lot supplied material to entirely fill the album which I had obtained with the £15 lot, and I procured several blank books for the accommodation of my rapidly increasing collection.

I began to see thus early that I must make a speciality of some class of stamps, and for a long time wavered between the charms of several countries.

Our Review of Reviews.

Courier Stamps of Wei-Hai-Wei.

An article on the stamps of the Wei-Hai-Wei to Chifu

Courier Post in the "London Philatelist" contains little more than the information already given in No. 125 of the *Fortnightly*. A few items, mainly of a statistical nature, may be quoted as supplementary to the data we have already published:



"Dollar Chop" issue.



Shanghai issue.

This courier post (says the writer of the "London Philatelist's" article) was successfully run till April, 1899, when the Chinese Imperial Post decided to start a post office at Wei-hai-Wei, and took over the couriers.

A British post office was established on Liu-kung-tao in or about September, 1899.

During the time that the courier post ran, about 850 2 cent and 300 5 cent stamps of the "dollar chop" issue, and 4000 2 cent and 4000 5 cent stamps of the "Shanghai" issue were struck. Of these 850 worth of the 5 cent stamps were in hand when the post was stopped, and these were sold to a dealer in Shanghai.

The 2 cent stamps were used for letters, the 5 cent stamps being used for parcels.

It is noticed that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons catalogue the courier post in Part III. of their Catalogue. As, however, the post ran from British into Chinese territory, it is a question whether it would come under the heading of a local post.

This last contention we cannot endorse, for in our view all those postage-stamps are Locals whose area of availability is restricted. The Wei-Hai-Wei Courier stamps were admittedly restricted to an interchange of mail matter between "British China" and one particular part of the Middle Kingdom. In any early number of the *Fortnightly* we hope to devote some space to a full exposition of our views on this subject. "Locals," to our way of thinking, are in sore need of better classification and, so to speak, "definition," than has yet been given them.

New Variety, First Transvaal Republic.

Mr. E. D. Bacon, in a letter to the London Philatelic Society's organ, describes an uncatalogued variety of the first South African Republic 1s. value, as shown him by Mr. R. B. Yardley. Mr. Bacon writes:

The stamp in question, which is unused, is printed on hard-surfaced white wove paper, like that of Nos. 42 and 42a of Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue. It is yellow-green in colour, is imperforate, and has yellowish gum. The one penny on this paper has been known for many years, the sixpence has since been found, and now we have the one shilling to add to the set.

OTHER UNCATALOGUED S.A.R. STAMPS.

I take this opportunity (adds Mr. Bacon) of drawing attention to sundry other uncatalogued varieties of the First South African Republic stamps that I have come across during the last few months. One of these is the one shilling of Borrius' printing, imperforate. I have seen two unused imperforate specimens of this stamp, which so far has been catalogued as only found rouletted 15½. Another consists of a specimen of the one shilling, rouletted 15½, on undoubted pelure paper.

I have also seen several used imperforate specimens, including pairs, of the three pence of Borrius' printing—a stamp, again, that the catalogues only recognise as having been issued rouletted. On the other hand, I do not believe that the three pence printed in Germany was ever issued for postal use in the Transvaal in an imperforate condition, although this variety figures in more than one recent list of the stamps of this country.

The First Provisional of "German China."

Mr. Franz Reichenheim's paper on "German China Provisional Stamps," as read before the Philatelic Society, London, on October 26th, gives an exhaustive description of a most interesting stamp. We reproduce the paper in its entirety from the columns of the "London Philatelist":—

For the first time since German stamps have been issued, a Provisional issue has been put in circulation by the Post Office, Tsingtau, in the German Colony Kiautchau (China), on or about May 9th, 1900.

About this date the German Post Office in this Colony ran out of 5 pf. stamps, and to comply with the public demand for this value, some sheets of 1807 10 pf. stamps, surcharged diagonally "China," were surcharged horizontally in black.

5 Pfg.

underlined with a blue pencil drawn with a ruler, except on the very first sheets, on which only the figures 5 were underlined.

As the little printing office in Tsingtau had not a sufficient number of types of figure 5 and the letters of the same kind in stock, they were obliged to take three sorts of types, one after the other, to be able to surcharge at least half a sheet at a time (50 stamps). These three different types are arranged on each pane in the following way:

1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
1.	11.	11.	11.	11.	11.	11.	11.	11.	11.
11.	11.	11.	11.	11.	11.	11.	11.	11.	11.
11.	11.	11.	111.	111.	111.	111.	111.	111.	111.
			44	44		47			50
					a		b		

Type I. (stamps Nos. 1 to 21) 5 Pfg.

The top line of the 5 is short, the lower curve ending in a dot. The letters are in medium serif type. The whole surcharge 11 mm. long.

Type II. (stamps Nos. 22 to 43) 5 Pfg.

The top line of the 5 is longer and more curved, the lower curve ending in a flourish. The letters are thick serif type. The whole surcharge is 12 mm. long.

Type III. (stamps Nos. 44 to 50) 5 Pfg.

The surcharge is in narrow "antique" type. The top line of the 5 is well curved, the lower curve ending in a dot. The whole surcharge measures 10½ mm.

There exist two minor varieties

- (a) Fourth stamp of bottom row on each pane broken f
- (b) Seventh " " " " " 5

and as these two minor varieties happen to appear on Type III., of which only seven specimens exist on each pane, only ten regular surcharges of this type are found on each sheet.

As each pane has been separately surcharged, the position of the surcharge varies, and appears on some panes through the centre of the stamps, and on others over the original value.

The first postmark known on these stamps is May 9th, 1900, and the latest date of obliteration I have seen on them so far is the middle of August this year.

The two pairs of these stamps—in Types I. and II. respectively on original envelope, forwarded by a firm in Tsingtau to Hamburg, and obliterated "Shanghai 11. 5. 00," you have before you, have very probably escaped obliteration in Tsingtau, and the mistake was discovered and made good in Shanghai, as these surcharged stamps were not issued by the German Post Office in the latter place.

In July a new surcharge, also horizontally in black, on the 10 pf. German China stamps appeared in Tsingtau, reading

5 Pf.

only 9½ mm. long

The 5 and letters are similar to the Type II. of the previous issue, the dot at the end of the surcharge surrounded by a small circle, the

whole surcharge also underlined with a blue pencil, as in the May issue.

The German Post Office in Futchau (China), opened on June 7th, 1900, issued the same value surcharged

5 pf

in black, on the 10 pf German China stamp of 1897, in August this year. The surcharge here is only 8½ mm. long, and has neither a dot at the end nor is it underlined. The 5 and letters are much larger and thicker than in the other issues, and instead of a capital letter P, we find here a small p.

I am afraid we shall hear by-and-by of some more authorised German Colonial provisionals, not to speak of the use of bisected stamps, as the "Steamer" issue for the German Colonies, and the surcharged "Germania" and "Picture" stamps for the German Post Offices in foreign countries, which were expected before the 1st October this year, seem to have been delayed for some reason or other.

I will not conclude this paper without tendering my best thanks to Mr. Hans Müller, President of the Hanover Philatelic Society and editor of *Vertrauliches Korrespondenzblatt Philatelistischer Vereine* and *Germania Bloetter*, Mr. R. Meyer, of this Society, and Mr. Philipp Kosack, of Berlin, for their kindness in furnishing me with some interesting details on the matter, and submitting me complete sheets, photographs of sheets, and various specimens of the different surcharges, for compiling this paper.

Is it a True Canadian Local?

Mr. Basil C. Hamilton, of Winnipeg, writes as follows in the "Montreal Philatelist":—



In the article in the "Montreal Philatelist" of September regarding Montreal local stamps, there occurs the statement "No genuine locals have ever been used in Canada." As the article is simply a condensed reproduction of one written in 1872, possibly the statement may have referred to that period. If so, so be it; but in case it was intended also to apply to the present, I wish to point out that there was a local issued in Canada in 1897, which the proprietors claim was in use during that year.

It appears the Upper Columbia Tramway and Navigation Company, operating a line of steamers on the Columbia River from Golden, B. C., to Windermere, were contractors for carrying the mail to and from those points and for Fort Steele; but in 1897 the contract was awarded to a firm who put on a line of stages; some of the people would not be broken off from the old style, at times more convenient, and persisted in handing letters to officers and crew of the boat to be delivered. In order to put a stop to this the Co'y. had stamps printed, 1,000 in number, in blocks of 20, four rows of five, which sold for \$1 per block. One stamp was supposed to be affixed to every letter posted on the boat. The particulars I have given I have gleaned from Mr. Parson who is the secretary of the company, during a visit made in 1898. He admitted the greater portion of the blocks were then on hand and I saw in his office, at Golden, B. C., many of the sheets, four of which he sold me at cost price.

Now for the other side of the statement about their being at one time in use. I spent four and a half months that summer under canvas among the mountains and though I made enquiries of all the settlers whom I met, few of them had ever seen the stamps in use, some of them had never heard of them. Enquiries from the postmasters gave me assurance that some letters had passed through their hands, bound for other parts, bearing both the local and the government stamps, but where bound?—"Well! they did not just remember." They did not remember seeing many.

The secretary admitted that he had at one time taken an interest in stamp collecting, and though he did not say so, recollections of his earlier pleasures may have moved him to start the Company's locals. At any rate the statement is made good by his word and that of the postmaster at Windermere, that there were some of these locals used for the purpose of paying postage on the Company's boat.

The type-set illustration given above, although it will convey a fairly accurate idea of the U.C. Co.'s stamp, is not a fac-simile of the Local.

Mr. B. W. Warhurst begins, in "Stamps," an exhaustive article on the post-cards of the Orange Free State.

It is announced from Washington that the "Buffalo" stamps will not be available for foreign, but only for domestic postage.

TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

IF SUBSCRIBERS will peel off the ½d. postage stamp on the wrapper in which this number of the *Fortnightly* is sent out, they will find underneath it a Shanghai stamp. In fact it is a Shanghai wrapper. An advantageous purchase of a remainder of Shanghai stationery has enabled us to deal out this little shock of surprise.

Only one attempt is to hand in reply to our invitation to S.C.F. readers to price the 8d. British, omitted inadvertently from the Great Britain section of our "Guide to Values." The sole entrant is the Rev. P. E. Raynor, whose values read:

Unused mint.	Unused average copy.	Used very fine.	Used average copy.
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
12 0	10 0	2 0	1 0

Thus, in the sporting vernacular, the result is: *Rev. P. E. Raynor* . . . *v.o.*; and the prize of a free year's subscription to the *Fortnightly*, either for self or friend, is at this gentleman's disposal.

By the way, we are indebted further to Mr. Raynor for an interesting letter on Luxemburg.

I enclose for your inspection (he writes) an error which I do not think has been noticed, viz.: 8 P for S P. on the Luxemburg 1c. The 8 is not merely a broken or faulty S, nor a heavy impression of an S. This was my own thought on first noticing it, but on looking at it through a glass I saw it was a genuine figure 8. The shape of the character is different, and its size rather smaller than the capital S. As a printer of over 30 years standing, frequently handling types and noticing their differences, I am quite certain on this point; and I think every practical printer would confirm it. . . . Of course in these heavy faced types ("Egyptian") there is necessarily very little difference between the S and 8; and the smaller the type the nearer they approach each other. This would account for the error having escaped detection so long.

A close inspection of the specimen sent shows that the supposed "S" of the surcharge is indeed a veritable "8."

It seems that our information as to the value of the interesting little collection formed by Mr. "Dagonet" Sims was wrong. Mr. F. C. Penney, who has the reputation of being a good buyer, bought the collection at Auction for a much higher price than the value we mentioned; and what is more to the point he is very pleased with his "deal."

Much sound sense is embodied in a letter from Mr. Ralph Wedmore, of Tulse Hill, on the subject of Current v. Obsolete Issues:

To the collector spending even £20/30 only per annum, on a few countries, it is of small moment (he writes) to spend two or three pounds in keeping his collection up-to-date in new issues. And these to save time he will probably buy unused. The interest of his collection does not lie in them, but in those stamps of old issue, of some of which, as he will tell you, "he has never seen finer copies in any collection."

But the collector, who spends say a maximum of £5 a year, and puts all his money in the new issues, forms a collection which in no way differs, except in choice of countries, from thousands of others, replete with beautiful unused sets, as like one another as peas in a pod. The curse of the small collector is the desire to increase his collection in number. Is it not more interesting, as it is certainly more valuable, to have a small collection of medium and rare stamps, rather than a large collection of common stamps; the catalogue value of both collections being equal?

The Stamps of Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

BEING A PAPER READ BEFORE THE PACIFIC PHILATELIC SOCIETY BY MR. A. H. WEBER.

THE stamps of this ancient dukedom present many interesting facts to the general collector, while to the specialist, or the student of minute varieties, there is a mine of wealth in store for him.

The first issue was an imperatorate one in July, 1856, engraved on wood, printed on white wove paper, and consisted of four values: 4-4 sch. red, 3 sch. orange-yellow, 3 sch. yellow, and 5 sch. blue. These were printed by the Prussian State printing office, and delivered to the authorities on the dates and in the quantities named:—

June 9, 1856—6300 sheets	4-4 sch.—756,000 stamps.
—1800 .. 3 ..	216,000 ..
600 .. 5 ..	72,000 ..
Nov. 26, 1856—200 .. 3 ..	24,000 ..
Dec. 16, 1856—1650 .. 3 ..	198,000 ..

The sheets contained 120 stamps each—12 rows of 10. The 4-4, or whole, was spaced uniformly through the sheet, so that each $\frac{1}{4}$ was an equal distance from its neighbour, or $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm. apart. The sheet thus contained of this value 480 stamps. The 3 sch. and 5 sch. were spaced $1\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 mm. apart. No dividing lines were printed in, but on the margins at the right and left were printed the numerals 1 to 12 as counters for the rows. The necessary postage rate conditional by the variations of the tariff for local and foreign mail matter was made up by combining the various values with the requisite number of the 4-4 value.

The second issue was made July, 1864, the stamps having been printed and delivered June 12th in response to a rush order of May 31st, and consisted of 500 sheets, or 60,000 stamps, of the 4-4 value. This issue was voluntarily rouletted by the printing office, the squares being of 24mm. in size, and was accepted by the authorities as desirable. The narrow spacing of the stamps made it awkward to roulette them accurately, and a new plate was prepared for the next issue, by removing the ground work of dots and spacing each group of four $\frac{1}{4}$ sch. a little wider apart, 2mm. instead of $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm. as formerly. Although 60,000 stamps were printed and issued, the demand for them was so urgent that they were immediately distributed, and a further lot of the 4-4 value (the third size) was delivered by August 10, 1864. The scarcity of this stamp may be attributed to the fact that very little notice of it was taken at the time of its issue. The soft mesh-wove paper on which it was printed was not durable, and the stamps were soon destroyed; besides this the whole lot was used up in about two months.

The third issue began in July, 1864, and continued until August, 1867, though the official announcement is dated September 30th. It consisted of two values, the 4-4 red, vermilion, rose-red, carmine, pale red, and the 4 sch. brown and red-brown. This time the sheets contained 100 stamps each, and the several deliveries were as follows:—

August 10, 1864—4000 sheets	4-4 sch.	400,000 stamps
January 9, 1860—5000 ..	4-4 ..	500,000 ..
February 23, 1867—2000 ..	4-4 ..	200,000 ..
August 24, 1867—1200 ..	4-4 ..	120,000 ..
July 15, 1864—100 ..	5 ..	10,000 ..
March 20, 1865—150 ..	5 ..	15,000 ..
October 20, 1865—150 ..	5 ..	51,000 ..
January 26, 1867—60 ..	5 ..	6,000 ..
June 11, 1867—100 ..	5 ..	10,000 ..

The paper used for the second issue was a peculiar mesh-wove, and a sub-issue can be made of the third issue because a quantity of each value was printed on this paper, which is the typical paper of the 4-4 value rouletted with background of dots. A further variety of this issue is the 5 sch. brown on thick paper, but it is impossible to approximate the date of its printing, delivery, or issue.

The fourth issue was made September, 1865, and consisted of the 3 sch. orange-yellow, rouletted 12, but the squares rouletted were 23 mm. instead of 24mm. as were the 4-4 and 5 sch. in last issue. The paper of this issue is rough, somewhat yellowish, showing pores, but not like the mesh-wove

paper used before. The stamps of this issue were ordered to be printed Aug. 1, 1865, and on Aug. 16th 800 sheets or 96,000 stamps were delivered. The old plate of 1865 was undoubtedly used for this issue, and when the rouletting began then the difficulty arose, caused by the lack of space between the stamps.

The fifth issue was in October, 1866, consisting of 500 sheets, or 50,000 stamps, of 2 sch. violet. The stamps were delivered to the authorities August 18th of the same year.

The sixth issue was made in June, 1867, and consisted of the 3 sch. orange-yellow, on a paper whiter and smoother than the previous issues, rouletted 12. A new plate was prepared for this issue, with wider space between the stamps, and the roulette squares were 24mm. each side. The deliveries of this issue were as follows:—

June 11, 1867—200 sheets	3 sch.—20,000 stamps
August 24, 1867—200 sheets	3sch.—20,000 stamps

A sub-issue can again be made, as this stamp was also printed on a thick paper similar to the paper used for the 5 sch. brown, but the dates and quantities are unknown.

The seventh issue was made September, 1867, the 2 sch. value, lilac, grayish lilac, and bluish-lilac. Delivery was made September 7, 1867, consisting of 200 sheets, or 20,000 stamps. There is a variety of this stamp in which the figure 2 in upper right-hand corner has no dot or ball at the beginning of the character.

There are many other minor points of interest to the specialist, the consideration of which show how much there is to learn in even the most insignificant stamp issue, and how well the study of the collector is repaid—"Filatelic Facts and Fallacies."

The Newest Catalogue.

FOURTH EDITION OF MESSRS. BRIGHT & SON'S "A.B.C."

"A GOOD CATALOGUE" will be the popular verdict on the Fourth Edition of Messrs. Bright & Son's "A.B.C." Catalogue of the World's Postage Stamps.

At a moment like this, when Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' abandonment of "Entires" is a general topic of conversation, one notices with special interest that Messrs. Bright & Son adhere to their now time-honoured policy of binding Parts I (Adhesives) and II (Entires) together in one compact volume at 2s. 6d. The publishers claim that they make no profit on this book, as a book. One can well believe it. The "A.B.C." is cheap at 2s. 6d., and would not be dear at double the price. Its "get up" is good, both philatelically and from the typographer's point of view. Type and paper must needs be cunningly chosen if one is to accommodate over 800 pages of closely-set matter in a book that is little more than one inch thick, and yet maintain a pleasing level of typographical clearness throughout. The new illustrations are many and good, and we note with pleasure that the poorer half-tones that once marred the pages of our "Bright" are now all but a vanished quantity.

It is almost an axiom that the perfect philatelic catalogue will never appear; but we may say that we have studied the new "Bright" for a square two hours without discovering a defect of any consequence. There are additions of many illustrated minor varieties, which, with other new matter, make the new "Bright" a vastly better book than the Third Edition.

The prices we have not had time to study carefully at the moment of writing this notice. In Brazil, a country we almost instinctively turn to in a new catalogue as being one in which we are personally interested, we notice a stiffening of the prices for many of the earlier stamps, especially unused.

It goes without saying that Orange Free State and Transvaal stamps show enormous increases over Messrs. Bright's last edition (published about a year before the war) and a noticeably good feature of the Catalogue is its up-to-dateness in respect of all the South African provisionals. We may return to the subject of Messrs. Bright's Fourth Edition in our next. Meantime we can cordially commend it as a really excellent catalogue for all classes of collectors.

HUGO GRIEBERT & CO.,

Foreign Stamp Merchants & Importers,

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" " " worn plate ..	0 17 6
Barbadoes, 1873, 5/- rose fine ..	1 7 6
United States, 1847, 10 cents on grey	0 9 0
" " 1851, 5 cents, brown, exceptionally fine	1 12 6
" " dept. of State, 90 cents fine	1 10 0
" Columbus Issue, complete set, used fine, 1 cent to \$5 ..	2 15 0

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450 " " " " " " " "	0 2 0
400 Varieties " " " " " " " "	0 10 0
300 " " " " " " " "	0 1 0
500 " " " " " " " "	0 2 6
750 " " " " " " " "	0 6 0
1000 " " " " " " " "	0 6 6
1500 " " " " " " " "	0 18 6
2500 " " " " " " " "	2 0 0
5000 " " " " " " " "	5 10 0

The above Packets contain only Postage Stamps and not any Fiscals, Wrappers, cut Envelopes, &c.

J. LOUIS, 42½, Old Broad Street (Corner of Union Street), E.C.

The Talk of the Trade.

We have reason to know that a little less conventionality in the wording of Stamp Dealers announcements would be conducive to the benefit of the advertiser. Messrs. C. Nissen & Co., have done remarkably well out of their recent advertisements headed "Have you got that £10 note?" That little touch of topicality worked wonders.

Mr. D. Field has deftly turned the laugh upon us for the paragraph we inserted in our last number, which contained a few inaccuracies. One of these was our description of Royal Arcade as being in New Bond Street, whereas it is in Old Bond Street, as probably most London philatelists are aware our business editor must have been writing with some cheap German pen.

We hear by the way that Mr. Field has disposed of the remarkably fine collection of Transvaals (with the exception of the unique error), *en bloc*.

A little bird has just whispered to us that Mr. West is parting with his fine collection of Gt. Britain, and Messrs. John Edwards & Co., are disposing of it privately. It is a used collection practically complete, and many gems are even duplicated.

We have yet another addition to our list of S.C.F. agents. The *Fortnightly*

can always be had of Messrs. Thompson & Beck, at 24, Cullum Street, who in spite of the competition all round them, manage to dispose of a goodly number of the journal.

Messrs. Hamilton Smith & Co., have shown us some very interesting varieties of surcharge on the Greek stamps. There are no less than six distinct varieties of the 25, viz., double surcharge, inverted surcharge, treble surcharge, perforated and imperf. and perf. between. Of the inverted and double surcharge there exists two distinct shades. Messrs. H. S. & Co. inform us that there is only one complete sheet of each variety in existence, and as the surcharge is now obsolete these varieties should be exceedingly scarce.

Greece will shortly boast of a very beautiful complete new set of stamps now being prepared by Messrs. Bradbury Wilkinson & Co.

DATES OF FORTHCOMING AUCTION SALES.

December 11th Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, commencing 4.30 p.m. precisely.

December 13th Mr. J. C. Stevens, at 38, King Street, Covent Garden, commencing at 2 o'clock.

December 18th and 19th. Messrs. Plumridge & Co., at 63/4, Chancery Lane, W.C., commencing at 5 p.m. sharp.

January 3rd and 4th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, commencing at 5 p.m.

Bargains in Sets.

GREAT BRITAIN.

	No. in set.	Price.
1d. black, 1d. red, 2d. blue ...	3	0 6
1d. red, 1d. rose-red, 2d. blue, stars, perf.	3	0 3
½d. red, 1½d., 2d. blue, 4 letters ...	3	0 3
2½d. lilac-rose, 2½d. blue, 3d., 4d., 6d. ...	5	0 9
1880, ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 5d. ...	5	0 8
1883, ½d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s....	8	1 5
1887, ½d. to 1s....	12	0 9

TRANSVAAL.

1885-90, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s.	8	1 8
1894, Shafts, ½d., 1d., 2d. ...	3	0 8
1895, Pole, ½d., 1d., 2d., 6d., 1s. ...	5	2 3
Pole, 5s., 10s. ...	2	9 0
1896, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1/2, 2/6	9	4 9
½d. on 1/2, 1d. on 2½d. ...	2	0 6
1895, 6d. rose-pink (Postygel) ...	1	1 3

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CHARLES NISSEN & Co.,

77/8, High Holborn, London, W.C.

SOUTH AFRICANS.

During this month only I offer the following remarkably cheap sets of the above:—

26 Transvaal ... 5 -	10 Br. South Africa 3 6
12 Br. Bechuanaland 3 -	12 Orange Free State 2 -
9 Natal 1-.	

The stamps are all used and in fine condition. The Transvaal and Orange Free State include several surcharges.

T. H. THOMPSON, . .

Ashville, Bishop Auckland.

D. FIELD, 

4 and 5, Royal Arcade, Old Bond Street, and Albermarle Street,

Wishes to Purchase several CHOICE COLLECTIONS, General or Specialists.

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On View, a Very Fine Stock of RARE BRITISH COLONIALS, and other Stamps, at Moderate Prices.

I particularly want to Purchase RARE BRITISH COLONIALS, especially AFRICANS.

. . . Highest Prices Paid.

From the Auction Rooms.

The following are the most interesting realisations at the various Philatelic Auctions held in London since our last report:—

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale, Nov. 13th and 14th.

	£	s	d.
British East Africa, 1895, 5s. black on blue*, mint ..	3	10	0
British South Africa, 1896, One Penny on 3d. grey, a pair ..	7	7	0
Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red, good margins ..	1	4	0
Do. do. Triangular, 1 yellow-green, a block of 5 ..	5	5	0
Do. do. do. do. a pair ..	2	0	0
Do. do. Mafeking Besieged, 1/- on 4d. pale green, a pair ..	3	3	0
Do. do. do. do. 6d. on 3d. brown on yellow ..	2	9	0
Do. do. do. do. Sans-Serif Surchage, 1/- on 6d. brown on red ..	6	0	0
Do. do. Mafeking Besieged, 2/- on 1/- green ..	3	5	0
Do. do. do. do. set of 19 varieties ..	26	0	0
Ceylon, Wmk. Star, 9d. lilac-brown* ..	6	10	0
Gt. Britain, Telegraph, 5/- rose, plate 3, Wmk. Cross, a pair* ..	2	2	0
Nevis, perf. 13, 1/- green* (No. 5) ..	2	8	0
Do. perf. 15, 1/- blue-green*, no gum (No. 8) ..	2	6	0
Do. do. 1/- yellow-green* do. (No. 10) ..	11	10	0
Do. do. Lithographed, 4d. orange* (No. 5) ..	3	12	6
Do. do. do. 6d. grey* (No. 12) ..	4	5	0
New South Wales, Sydney View, 3d. green on laid paper, showing a wmk. ..	2	4	0
Do. do. Diadem, 6d. grey-brown, wmk. 8*, good margins ..	7	15	0
Orange Free State, 1896, Halve Penny on 3d. blue, a pair with inverted surcharge* ..	2	10	0
Orange River Colony, 1900, 6d. carmine, the second printing, with all dots raised, on entire ..	1	12	0
Transvaal, 1878-79, Queen's Head, 1/- green, a pair*, mint ..	2	6	0
Do. do. do. do. 2/- blue, a similar pair* ..	1	0	0
United States, 1861, 5c. brick red* ..	7	10	0
Do. do. 1868, 90c. blue*, off centre ..	3	10	0
Do. do. Executive, 1 to 10c.*, no gum ..	5	5	0
Do. do. Justice, 1 to 90c., complete ..	4	14	0
Do. do. Navy, 2c. green, error*, off centre ..	3	18	0

Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Sale, Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 20th and 21st.

Barbados, 1873, 5/- dull rose, 2 or 3 perfs. cut ..	1	6	0
Do. 1878, 1d. in black on half 5/-, dull rose ..	5	0	0
Bremen, 1861-63, 10gr. black, used, on piece of original ..	1	13	0
British South Africa, 1891, ½d., 2d., 1d., all surcharged on 6d. ultramarine, and 8d. on 1/- brown, mint set ..	5	0	0
Canada, 7½d. green ..	1	5	0
Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 1d. red, heavy postmark ..	1	0	0
Great Britain, 1869, 2/- brown, heavy postmark ..	1	1	0
Do. do. £5 orange, postally used ..	1	12	0
Do. do. wmk. orbs, £1 purple-brown, surcharged "I.R. Official," mint, overprinted "specimen" ..	3	15	0
Do. do. Current issue, 5/-, 10/- and £1, ditto ditto ..	3	0	0
Jamaica, Fiscal Postals, 5/- lilac and blue, used on entire ..	1	12	0
Naples, 1860, arms, ½t. blue, used, on small piece of original ..	9	0	0
Do. do. do. but with pinhole ..	2	0	0
New Brunswick, imperf., 6d. yellow ..	1	12	0
Do. do. 1/- mauve ..	10	10	0
Newfoundland, 4d. carmine, cut close ..	1	16	0
New South Wales, Sydney View, plate 2, 1d. red, a vertical pair ..	3	0	0
Do. do. plate 1, 2d. deep blue, slightly torn ..	1	6	0
Do. do. plate 2, 2d. blue ..	1	5	0
New Zealand, 1855, blued paper, imperf., 1/- green ..	1	7	0
Nova Scotia, 6d. dark green, slightly thinned ..	1	11	0
Do. 1/- deep mauve, poor ..	2	0	0
Philippine Islands, 1854, imperf., 5c. orange-red ..	1	7	0
Do. do. do. 10c. deep carmine ..	1	9	0
Do. do. do. 1r. slate blue, *poor ..	1	4	0
Do. do. do. 2r. olive-green ..	1	3	0
Queensland, wmk. star, imperf., 6d. deep green, torn at bottom ..	1	12	0
St. Lucia, 1883-86, CA., perf. 14, 6d. lilac, *with gum ..	1	7	0
Do. do. 1/- venetian red, *without gum ..	2	2	0

	£	s	d.
St. Vincent, CA., 14, 4d. bright blue* ..	2	4	0
Spain, 1851, 2 reales red, repaired ..	8	5	0
Do. 1852, 2 reales pale red, smudgy postmark ..	3	15	0
Do. 1853, 2 reales vermilion*, no gum ..	7	0	0
Switzerland, Geneva, the double stamp, 10c. black on yellow-green, severed and rejoined ..	5	17	6
Tasmania, 1st issue, 1d. blue ..	1	6	0
Fobago, CC., 14, 6d. stone, mint ..	2	2	0
Trinidad, litho. (1d.) blue on thick paper, slightly creased ..	4	10	0
Do. do. 1860, (1d.) slate, worn impression ..	2	2	0
Do. do. do. (1d.) red ..	1	4	0
Do. 1863, perf. 11½, 1/- purple-blue ..	1	1	0
Tuscany, 1851-52, 2s. brick red on azure ..	5	7	6
Do. 1853, 9c. lilac-grey on white paper ..	3	0	0
United States, Columbus issue, mint set, from 1c. to \$5 ..	3	3	0
Victoria, the "Too Late" 6d. stamp ..	1	5	0
Western Australia, 1st issue, 1/- red-brown* ..	2	4	0
Do. do. 1857, imperf., 2d. black on red, cut into ..	1	14	0

Messrs. Venton, Bull & Cooper, Nov. 22nd and 23rd.

British Guiana, 1862, Provisional 2c. border of grapes, torn slightly ..	1	12	0
Ceylon, 1st issue, 1/9 green, rather poor ..	1	9	0
Do. 2 rupees, 50c. lilac, rose, poor ..	1	7	0
Do. Provisional 5c. on 24c. purple-brown, postally used ..	1	10	0
Great Britain, 2/- brown ..	2	0	0
India, 1856-64, 2as. green* ..	2	8	0
Labuan, 1st issue, wmk. C. and CA., sideways, 2c. on blue-green* ..	2	17	6
Do. do. 12c. carmine* ..	6	0	0
Mexico, 1864-66, eagle, 3c. brown, surcharged Mexico in gothic type and figures, defective ..	2	4	0
North Borneo, 1891 92, Provisionals, 6 cents on 1886-1889 issue, 8c. green* ..	2	10	0
Queensland, 1st issue, 2d. blue, imperf., used on piece of original ..	2	12	0
St. Vincent, compound perf., 1d. rose-red ..	4	7	6
United States, 1869, 24c. green and purple inverted centre ..	20	10	0
Virgin Islands, 1887-89, provisional 4d. in violet on 1/- crimson* ..	1	6	0

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale, Nov. 27th and 28th.

British South Africa, 1890, £10, fiscally used ..	1	2	0
Cape of Good Hope, "Mafeking Besieged," 6d. on 3d. magenta ..	2	12	6
Do. do. do. 1/- on 4d. pale pale green ..	1	11	0
Do. do. do. another ..	1	10	0
Do. do. do. 6d. on 2d. green and carmine, on entire ..	1	1	0
Do. do. do. 6d. on 3d. brown on yellow ..	2	15	0
Do. do. do. 1/- on 6d. lilac on red ..	1	8	0
Do. do. do. another on entire ..	1	14	0
Do. do. do. 1/- on 4d. brown and green ..	1	2	0
Do. do. do. Sans serif, surcharge 1/- on 6d. lilac and red ..	6	5	0
Do. do. do. 2/- on 1/- green ..	3	2	6
Do. do. do. another on entire ..	3	5	0
Ceylon, imperf., 8d. brown ..	11	10	0
Great Britain, 1849, imperf., 1d. black, V.R., a block of 6, one stamp defective ..	40	0	0
Great Britain, a pair of ditto ..	14	15	0
Do. 2d. blue, no lines, a block of 24*, slight crease between rows ..	155	0	0
Hanover, imperf., 10 gros. green*, but defective ..	1	1	0
Hong Kong, wmk. CC., 18c. lilac* ..	3	10	0
Lagos, wmk. CA., 10/- lilac-brown, penmarked ..	6	10	0
Natal, wmk. Star, imperf., 3d. blue*, no gum ..	2	0	0
Newfoundland, 1/- carmine, defective ..	8	10	0
Turks Islands, 1881, 4 on 1d. red, type 16* ..	2	4	0
United States, 1855, 90c. blue*, off centre ..	2	1	0
Do. do. another, re-perforated ..	1	5	0
Do. 1869, 30c. blue and carmine*, no gum ..	2	0	0

In "The Mercury," of Durban, Natal, it is pointed out that Natal is now the only British Colony in South Africa, using a separate set of stamps for telegraphic purposes. The journal calls for the amalgamation of postal and telegraphic stamps as in the Old Country and most other British Colonies.

Messrs. John Edwards & Co.

hold Periodical Sales by Auction of rare postage stamps throughout the season and will be happy to hear from clients desiring to include collections or stamps of all kinds; being attended by the leading collectors and dealers, and supported by buying orders from their large and well-established private connection at home and abroad.

Liberal Cash Advances pending realization if required. Prompt Settlements. Moderate Terms.

The next Sale will take place on **Monday, December 17th, 1900**, at **ANDERTON'S HOTEL, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.**

CATALOGUES GRATIS ON APPLICATION.

Messrs. JOHN EDWARDS & CO. beg to announce that they have now on sale An extremely Fine and Valuable Specialist's Collection of the Stamps of Great Britain,

Which they will be pleased to send on approval to responsible collectors on application.

This Collection consists principally of *used* specimens in *first-class condition*, and comprises a fine series of shades of all the issues and varieties which have been collected with special regard to the condition of the specimens during many years. It has received highest awards at the leading Philatelic Exhibitions, and is practically complete in all the varieties, plate numbers, &c., including 1d. black and 2d. blue (no lines), a fine lot; 1d. red and 2d. blue (stars), a very fine range of shades and varieties, including 1d. "Archer" and other roulettes; the red "Cardiff" penny and other rare *imperf's*; the 1½d and 2½d. errors; a fine series of the octagonal issues and of the various 4d. rose; 3d., plate 3 (secret mark); 6d. brown, plate 13, and 6d dark brown, plate 12; 2/- brown (5); about 30 specimens of the 10/- grey and £1 Anchor and Cross; "I.R. Official," the high values; extremely rare proofs and essays, and many other rarities.

Collections and large or valuable lots of Stamps Sold by Private Treaty.

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PRICES TO SUIT ALL BUYERS.

SPECIAL SOUTH AFRICAN SETS.

Orange Free State, 10 varieties, including rare surcharges	3/-
Orange River Colony, 10 varieties, including thick V's, and rare 4d.	7/-
Transvaal Republic, 24 varieties, including surcharges	5/-
Transvaal, V.R.I., ½d. to 1/-	4/-
British South Africa, all issues, 12 varieties	3/-

SPECIAL STOCK BOOKS

Nearly 100, all priced singly, may be had by responsible Collectors.

INTERNATIONAL ALBUMS

Over 500 pages, fully illustrated, cloth gilt, 4 to, post free, 4/-
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Philatelic Societies' Reports.

Secretaries of Societies are invited to contribute, promptly, brief reports of their meetings, fixtures, &c.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The third meeting was held on Friday, October 26, when the President, Mr. Dorning Beckton, took the chair. There were ten other members present. Mr. H. E. Walker gave a display of "The Stamps of Mexico," explaining in detail the various issues and varieties, which included the 1 real, 1861, error of colour, 1 real, 1862, error of colour, surcharged "Mexico" in Gothic type, many of the Guadalajara issue, 12c., 1872, blue on laid, and other good stamps.

The fourth meeting took place on Friday, November 9, the President being in the chair, and thirteen other members and one visitor present. A resolution of sympathy with the family of the late Mr. T. Ridpath, formerly an honorary member of the Society, was passed. In illustration of a paper on "The Fading of Stamp Colours," read by Mr. M. W. Jones, Mr. G. Fred H. Gibson, Hon. Secretary of the Society, showed a number of bisected stamps of various countries, one half of each stamp having been exposed for several weeks to strong sunlight, and notes taken of the changes in colour every seven days.

G. FRED H. GIBSON, Hon. Sec., Kersal, Manchester.

HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A SPECIAL meeting was held at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on Tuesday, October 23.

The following were elected ordinary members of the Society: Mrs. Kingsley, Philipp Kosack, F. J. Melville, F. Neck, H. W. Plumridge and D. Thomson.

At the conclusion of general business Mr. W. B. Avery gave a display of his magnificent collection of the stamps of the British West Indies. Where all the islands were so strongly represented it is difficult to make comparisons; but perhaps Nevis, with its wealth of every difference of paper printing, shade, etc., its entire and reconstructed sheets, and its practical completeness, attracted the greatest attention from the members, St. Vincent being a good second. When the last of the sheets had been passed round the Chairman (Mr. G. Haynes) passed a hearty and enthusiastic vote of thanks to Mr. Avery for his great courtesy to the members, and intimated that he (Mr. Avery) had consented to accept a Vice-Presidency to the Society, and had promised to renew his kindness on some future occasion. Mr. Avery returned thanks for his reception, and congratulated the Society on its progress during the past year.

H. A. SLADE, Hon. Secretary, Ingleside, St. Albans.

JUNIOR LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

AT Clapham Hall, on Saturday, November 17, the members listened to an interesting lecture on "Picture Postcards," delivered by Mr. E. H. Richardson. The lecturer displayed a great variety of cards, collected on his travels.

On Saturday last, December 1st, at the usual fortnightly meeting at Clapham Hall, a Lecture was given on the "Stamps of Belgium" by Mr. E. C. C. Tidman, the Vice-President. The discourse was very interesting and was illustrated with a great number of specimens mounted on cards. The lecturer reviewed the whole history of these stamps (of which he makes a speciality) from its first issue. The Chairman, Mr. Fred. J. Melville, intimated that the next meeting would be a

departure from the ordinary routine, viz.:—4 short papers to be read instead of the usual lecture. All philatelists and friends are heartily invited to attend this meeting, which will be held in Clapham Hall, Old Town, Clapham, S.W., on December 15th, at 7:30 p.m.

LADIES' STAMP EXCHANGE.

THE Ladies' Stamp Exchange is growing very quickly, four new members having joined this month. The fact that DEALERS are excluded is an important point. The Secretary, though not now a collector, will examine any doubtful stamps for members.

A feature of this club is the Monthly Auction Sheet, to which any member can send rarities, or stamps of which she does not know the value, sending with the stamp her reserve price, and after bids have been made by members the stamp is sent to highest bidder on receipt of remittance for same. Ten per cent. of the stamps sent in last month were disposed of.

Secretary: Miss L. Haynes, 10, Batoum Gardens, West Kensington.

LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

ON Monday, November 10th, a most successful meeting of the above Society was held at the "Alexandra" Hotel, Dale Street, there being an attendance of 17 members and 5 visitors.

During the evening a display of the Stamps of Uruguay and the Argentine Republic was given, and greatly appreciated by all those present.

The Committee are desirous of making these meetings not only enjoyable, but instructive, and to that end appeal to the members for their kind support, and if this will only be given the future prosperity of the "Liverpool Philatelic Society" is assured.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING held in the Patent Room of the Leeds Public Library, on November 6th, took the form of a "Philatelic Gathering," to which all the known collectors of the city and district were invited. The chair was occupied by the President (Mr. H. M. Hepworth), who welcomed the visitors, after which various messages of regret at inability to attend were received, and several candidates were proposed for membership.

Various novelties were shown by Mr. Eugene Egly, Mr. Councillor J. Green Hirst, and others.

There was a general display of stamps by the members. The President showed his West Indian colonies, Mr. Egly part of his general collection, Mr. J. H. Hackrah his British and British Colonials, Mr. T. K. Skipwith his British stamps, and Mr. W. Denison Roebuck part of his collection of British obliterations.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE usual Fortnightly Meeting was held on Wednesday, November 22nd, at the Wharfedale Hotel, the President (Mr. F. H. Metcalfe) occupying the chair. The subject for discussion was the collection of local stamps. Some very interesting information was given by various members on this subject, chiefly by Mr. Sneath, on the stamps of Uganda, and by Mr. Peace, on the stamps of Russia. The general opinion was that when these stamps are authorised by the different Governments their inclusion amongst ordinary postal issues is advisable.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

ON Thursday last, December 6th, the first Special Auction of the season was held, Mr. H. W. Plumridge wielding the hammer as Honorary Auctioneer. A report will appear in the next Fortnightly.

THE WILLIAM STAMP CO.,

120, Leadenhall St., LONDON, E.C.

	Each.	Per 12
*Bahamas, 1859, 1d. lake	3/0	50/0
*Trinidad, 1851, 1a. purple-black	4/6	42/0
" " 1d. grey-brown	7/0	72/0
" " 1d. deep blue	6/0	60/0
3 Persia, 1898, 1, 2, 5, 10kr. (cat. 6-)	2/0	per Set.
3 Persia, 1897, 5ch. on 8ch., 1kr. on 5kr., 2kr. on 5kr., unused (cat. at 8/6)	3/0	"
3 U.S. Omaha, 50c., 41, 82	8/6	"
8 Sudan, 1893 (complete)	4/0	"
2 Transvaal, 1890, 10 0; £5 Postally	31 0	pair.
200 Stamps, 1/0; 200 ditto (Superior) 1 6; 500 ditto, 6 0; 1,000 ditto, 15 6. Each packet contains stamps, all different.		

Xmas Presents of Grand Cheap Packets.

These are unused, and can supply in pairs or blocks. Postage extra.

IMPORTANT NOTICE re SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS.

Although our rates for private pre-paid 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.

SUBSCRIPTION 1901. Send current numbers foreign Journals, also price lists. A GIBSON, Alexandria Park, Nottingham.

NEWS, 4d. litho, on piece (fine), 10s. Other good class Colonial and foreign equally reasonable. Also commoner. LEVY, 17, Fenchurch, E.C.

BREAKING Collection Stamps. Clean. Half Catalogue. Sheets on approval. PEEKE, St. Dunstan's, Sherbourne Road, Bournemouth East.

TRANSVAAL, surcharged V.R.I., 4d. to 2 6 inclusive, the set 10; valued at 30. GARARD, C.O.J. Ligo, Stationer, 63, Station Road, Camberwell.

COLLECTION about 150 stamps, many old and scarce. Must sell quickly, £5. Also barrel full of old red British postage stamps, lot cheap.—HAYNES, 10, Batoum Gardens, W. Kensington.

ORANGE FREE STATE, surcharged V.R.I., 4d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 1s., 2s. the set. ditto, next issue, 15.—ORANGE STAMP COMPANY, Box 226, Bloemfontein.

O.F.S., 3d., 1d. mint, 6d. pair, 1d., T.L., 5d. Australians, 50 varieties, 1 1 post free. CHAS. PURDUM, Neptune Street, South Lambeth.

TRANSVAAL, Military Government, surcharged V.R.I., four different, 1 3. Orange River Colony provisionals, four different, 1 1. eight different, 5.—CHARLES SMITH, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey.

DISPERSING two fine collections, rich in early issues. A third of catalogue all round. Approval sheets against good references. Collectors kindly note that this is not a catch advertisement but prices will really average 64 per cent. less than catalogue, and the stamps are not modern speculative rubbish but good substantial old issues.—H. A. McMILLAN, 3 Curator Street, Chancery Lane, E.C.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA O.S., high values in superb used blocks at 1/4 cat., or would exchange U.S.A. Columbus, 21, 5/9; 22, 3/9; 90c. purple, 2; each; 21 black, 9d. each. BOLTON, 5, Elmwood Road, Croydon.

APPROVAL SHEETS of collectors' duplicates, for collections, up to 5000.—VALLANCE CROMANTIE, Cockington, Torquay.

GOOD SELECTIONS, moderate prices, liberal discount.—B. C. McARTHUR, Oak Villa, Malvern Road, Leytonstone.

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MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.



63/4, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents.

The next Sales will be held on TUESDAY, December 18th, and following day, commencing at 5 p.m. sharp; and will principally consist of the fine Collection of J. E. Rowe, Esq., of Southampton, who has favoured us with instructions to sell his property entirely without reserve.

Other Sales will take place bi-monthly, and Philatelists having Entire Collections or Loose Stamps to dispose of should make immediate arrangements if inclusion is desired in early auctions. As MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & Co. are the only firm of Auctioneers confining their whole attention to the Sale of Stamps on Commission, and do not deal or even collect on their own account, the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious. Commission on lots sold, 10%: 1/6 per lot (irrespective of value) being charged on unsold lots.

— CASH ADVANCES AND VALUATIONS MADE. —

Settlements usually in eight days, at the very latest within 14 days from date of Sale. Bids from buyers unable to attend the sales personally executed without charge and at prices as much below limits as possible.

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TRANSVAAL, VRYBURG, | Particulars on Application.

Approval Sheets, Medium Selections, Special Books of Separate Countries. For Stamps in Good Condition, our Prices are Cheaper than those of any other Firm. Novelty List of Philatelic Accessories, 32 pages, post free. Modern Transvaal and Orange Free State Issues are rising. A Good Selection at Low Prices can be sent.

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Where Collectors calling can inspect our Selections, of which there are generally about 150 on view, the Stamps contained in which constitute one of the finest stocks in Great Britain.

Always mention the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY in answering Advertisements.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, Literary, Fine Art, Philatelic Auctioneers, and

47, Leicester Square, LONDON, W.C.,

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SALE OF

RARE POSTAGE STAMPS A SPECIALITY.

December 11th. Catalogues now ready.

Messrs. P. & S. have received instructions to Sell, on February 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th, 1901, a magnificent PRIVATE COLLECTION, the finest that has ever been offered for Sale by Auction in this country. It contains a large proportion of fine unused, and the majority of the more interesting countries are practically complete. Amongst the Rarities are:—

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MECKLENBURGH SCHWERIN, ½sch. dotted ground rouletted.
MECKLENBURGH STRELITZ, 1sch. mauve on entire
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NAPLES, ½ tornese Arms (2) very fine, ¼ tornese Cross (4, one on entire).
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MOLDAVIA, 27, 54, 81, and 108 paras.
ROUMANIA, 5 bani. blue, error.
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CEYLON, 4d., 8d., 9d., 1/- and 2/- imperf., 8d. perf. star, unused, 2 rupees 50c. unused, etc., etc
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INDIA, 1st issue, ¾a. red and 4a. unused, no wmk. 2a. green, Service Provisionals 2, 4 and 8a.
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, 1854, 1 real, and 1863, 1 and 2 reales, surcharged Habilitado.
CAPE, Woodblock errors, 1d. blue and 4d. red.
LAGOS, wmk. C.A. 2/6, 5/-, and 10/- mint.
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CANADA, imperf., 7½d. and 10d., unused, 12d. black, used, perf., 6d., unused, etc., etc.
GUATEMALA, 1881, 2, 5 and 20c., with inverted centres.
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NOVA SCOTIA, 1/-, unused.
NEWFOUNDLAND, 6½d. carmine, unused, and 1/- orange, used, very fine.
PERU, Medio Peso, rose, error on entire.
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And others too numerous to mention.

CATALOGUE IN PREPARATION.

OTHER SALES AS FOLLOW:—

1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 7, 8, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17; May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12.

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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Thursday, December 13th.

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THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 151—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 22, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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.. .. 1849, 1fr. orange-red	4 10 0 5+5 .. wrong halves joined	40 0 0
.. .. 1849, 20c. pair tête bêche	2 10 0	Roumania, 1850, 27, 54 and 108p.	85 0 0
.. .. 1853, 1fr. block of 6	3 16 6	Servia, 1866, 2p. error	10 10 0
.. .. 1853, 80c. pair tête bêche	3 3 0	*Finland, 1866, 10 pen., error	8 10 0
.. .. 1870 73, 10c. bistre on rose, pair tête bêche	0 9 0	*Swaziland, 10 shillings	3 10 0
*Spain, 1850, 10 rls. green	3 7 6	*Great Britain, 1d. V.R.	8 10 0
.. .. 1851, 12 cs.	2 5 0 2 .. brown	4 15 0
.. .. 2 rls.	22 10 0	Modena, large B.G.	2 10 0
.. .. 6 rls.	3 7 6	Saxony, 3pfg., 1850	1 10 0
.. .. 1852, 2 rls.	15 10 0 1851, 2 ngr. dark blue	3 15 0
.. .. 6 rls.	2 15 0	*Persia, 1894, complete set of 11	1 5 0
.. .. 1851, 10 rls., pair	5 12 6 1899, 9	0 1 9
.. .. 6 rls., strip of 4	5 5 0 1899, 16	1 5 0
.. .. 2 rls.	13 10 0	*Labuan, Jubilee set of 6	0 1 0
.. .. 1852, 2 rls. block of 6	47 15 0	Peru, 1858, ½ peso rose	10 10 0
.. .. 1853, 2 rls.	4 5 0	Mauritius, 1848, 1d. pair, early	22 10 0

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1901.—January 3rd and 4th, 17th and 16th, 31st; February 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th; March 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th and 29th; April 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; May 9th and 10th, 30th and 31st, and June 13th and 14th.

January 3rd and 4th.—A very fine Selection of British and Colonial Postage Stamps, including the following:—Great Britain, 1d. black, V.R. used. Moldavia, 54 paras. A fine lot of Zanzibar, including blue surcharge ½ anna on Indian, unused. The error "Zanibar" in an unused pair, etc. Fine lot of Transvaals, Orange Free State, etc., also a few collections.

January 16th and 18th, 1901.—Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to Sell on these dates the Collection formed by the late W. A. S. WESTOBY, Esq.

January 31st and February 1st, 1901.—MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell on those dates, a portion of the well-known Collection of G. NORMAN, Esq., of Calcutta.

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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.

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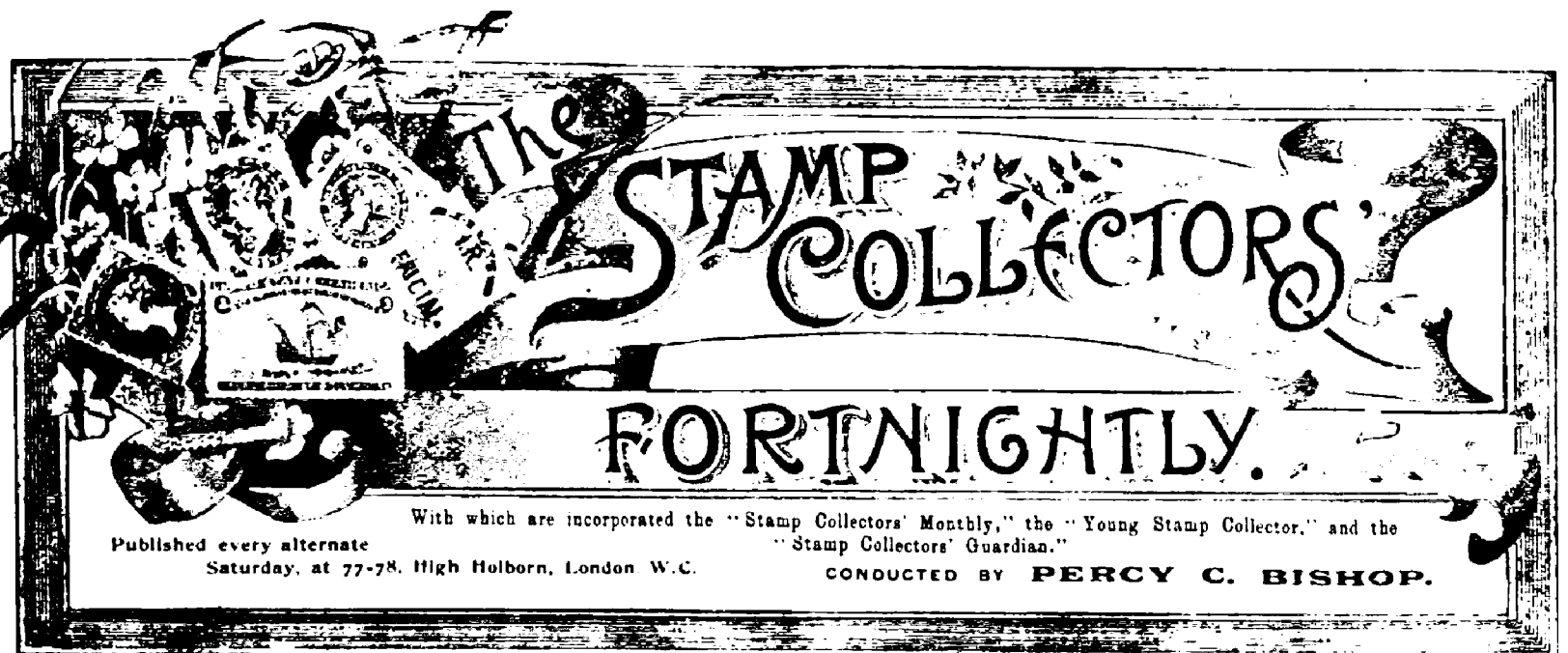
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The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

Published every alternate Saturday, at 77-78, High Holborn, London W.C.

With which are incorporated the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Canton Stamp Exchange Society, the Central Philatelic Club, and the Ladies' Stamp Exchange.

No. 151.—Vol. VI. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1900. ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

CHARGE AGAINST A BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIST.

A JEWELLER'S PROSECUTION THAT INVOLVES A PHILATELIC TRANSACTION AND A STAMP AUCTIONEER'S CHEQUE.

HENRY PELHAM STOKES, a clerk in holy orders, of 135, Conybere Street, Birmingham, was charged before Mr Chapman, at Clerkenwell Police Court, on Thursday, December 6th, with obtaining by means of false pretences from William Edward Hurcombe, of 15, Devonshire Street, Islington, a gold watch and chain and a diamond star brooch, valued at £85 15s.

The prisoner, who was in clerical attire, was accommodated with a seat throughout the proceedings. Mr. Grain appeared as his counsel.

Mr. Burnard, the solicitor for the prosecution, said that as a result of communications which had passed between the parties, his client met the accused at the Caledonian Hotel in the Adelphi, London, on October 3rd, and Stokes agreed to purchase from him for £85 15s. a gold repeater watch, a diamond pendant, and a gold chain, which the prosecutor showed him. Stokes said the articles would do "very nicely," and when told that the price was for cash, he produced a cheque book and was about to draw a cheque, when the prosecutor said he would prefer cash or notes. Stokes asked if he would object to him dating the cheque forward, and he

replied, "Yes, I do, for even among clergymen there may be rogues." The prisoner then drew from his pockets a cheque for £20, drawn to his order on the Bank of England, and offered this to Hurcomb, together with a post-dated cheque for £65 15s. Hurcomb demurred to the acceptance of these in payment, but after Stokes had reassured him by showing him some papers relating to shares and had told him that he could rest assured the cheque would be met, he agreed to take the cheques. The agreed price of the watch was £42, that of the chain £8 10s., and that of the brooch £35. Evidence would be called to show that on the evening of the same day Stokes sold the chain to a jeweller named Pickett, of Oxford Street, for £7 10s., and that on the next day he disposed of the watch and pendant to Messrs. Spink, of Piccadilly. The cheque for £65 15s., given to the prosecutor, was drawn on the Moseley Road Branch of the London City and Midland Bank, where on that day the prisoner's account was overdrawn to the amount of £12 17s. Mr. Leonard Brown, cashier of the Moseley Road Branch Bank, Birmingham, produced the books showing the overdraft mentioned, and said Stokes had no authority to overdraw his account. He admitted, in cross examination by Mr. Grain, that the bank had allowed the accused to overdraw at times. He believed that at one time it was overdrawn to the amount of £70. At the time the account was opened he knew that Stokes was an officiating clergyman in Birmingham, and therefore asked for no references. The accused paid into his account between the end of June and November 16th last sums amounting to £1,022.

When the post-dated cheque was not honoured enquiries were made at Birmingham by Mr. Wilcocks, acting as agent for the prosecutor, and £10 on account was paid to Wilcocks. He received from the accused the following letter, dated October 30:—"£30 will be paid to-morrow (Wednesday) if you will kindly send a wire to that effect. The remaining £25 will be paid on Saturday morning. I hope you will kindly accede to this. P.S.—I admit what you say in your letter about my not disclosing past failures, and I am sorry for it." The money was not received as promised in that letter, but Mr. Hurcomb received another letter from the prisoner, dated November 4, in these terms:—"Restitution will be made to you. That is the wish and determination of my heart. I have confessed to my vicar, and I am not allowed to do further duty until restitution has been made. Please write to my vicar before you write to my bishop."

Mr. Burnard said that certain information had reached him that morning with reference to the £20 cheque of the Bank

of England, and as he wished to make enquiries he asked for a further remand.—Mr. Grain said there was no question that the £20 cheque had been paid, and unless it was suggested that it had been improperly obtained it had no connection with the case.

Mr. Chapman, however, granted a remand for another week. Although the magistrate had offered to allow bail, Mr. Grain said that in accordance with his advice the offer would not be accepted.

When the case came on again, at the same court, on Thursday, December 13th.

Henry Wilfred Plumridge, a stamp auctioneer, of 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, London, stated that prisoner called upon him in the forenoon of October 3rd, bringing with him a number of stamps, and among them a shilling mauve New Brunswick stamp. He asked that these might be offered at auction and witness promised to do this. Stokes then asked for an advance of £30 or £35, and witness handed him a cheque for £20.

Mr. Grain: That is the cheque the accused gave to Hurcomb, and it was honoured.

The witness added that he afterwards sold the stamps, and the net amount they realised was £15. He discovered that one of the stamps had a "faked" perforation.

Algernon Charles Cummings, a member of the Civil Service, living at Battersea Park, was next called, but his evidence was objected to by Mr. Grain.

Mr. Burnard said the New Brunswick stamp mentioned by last witness was obtained by Stokes from Mr. Cummings, to whom he had not paid a penny for it.

Mr. Grain urged that this fact had nothing to do with the charge before the Court.

In reply to a question, Mr. Cummings said he did not at present propose making any charge against Mr. Stokes in respect of that stamp. He had had previous dealings with Mr. Stokes, and had been paid, although at times he had had to wait for the money. He was not sure that Mr. Stokes would not pay him for the New Brunswick stamp.

The magistrate held that the evidence could not be admitted.

Henry George Harrison, prosecutor's manager, produced a letter from Mr. Stokes, dated September 20, making an enquiry concerning the purchase of jewellery to the value of about £80, and asking if a bill at two months, accepted at his bankers, would be taken in payment. A reply was sent that the business was conducted on ready-money lines, and suggesting that Stokes should defer making the purchase until he was in a position to pay cash. Prosecutor carried on a separate business in the city as T. Gamage and Sons, and had branch establishments at Lynton and Lynmouth.

This evidence completed the case for the prosecution, and Mr. Burnard asked that the accused might be committed for trial.

Mr. Chapman: What is the false pretence?

Mr. Burnard: That he required the watch for his personal use. You will remember he said that, and produced the watch he was then wearing, which was not worth 10s.; but within an hour of getting possession of the watch from my client he disposed of it. Another false pretence was that he had an available balance at his bankers, and that he required it to pay for shares which he had purchased.

Mr. Chapman: Have you disproved that?

Mr. Burnard: I have proved that at the time his banking account was overdrawn to the amount of £12.

Mr. Grain submitted that the case was not one which should be sent for trial, on the ground, among others, that on the facts as presented by the prosecution a jury would not, and certainly ought not, to convict. Indeed, they would probably be told by the Judge that the indictment was not sustained. There were some facts not particularly in favour of the accused, but looking at the case as a whole, and particularly at the way in which the prosecution had been initiated, he urged that the magistrate would be justified in dismissing the case, leaving the prosecutor to claim, if he cared to do so, the right to be bound over, under the Vexatious

Indictments Act, to prosecute at the sessions at his peril. No substantial false pretence, he contended, had been made out. The first alleged pretence was no pretence at all, and had no influence upon the mind of the prosecutor in inducing him to part with the jewellery. Nor did the allegation that he gave a cheque for £65 knowing it would not, and could not, be met, disclose a false pretence. The law upon that point was laid down many years ago in the case of the *Queen v. Husleden*, in which it was held that, in the words of Mr. Justice Lush, "giving a cheque is not a representation that the giver then has funds in the bank to the amount of the cheque. Many a man draws a cheque either intending to pay in money to meet it, or having the right to overdraw." Those observations seemed to apply to this case. In ten months over £1,000 has been paid in to the credit of the prisoner's account, and he had had an overdraft amounting at one time to £70. The circumstances were such as to justify him in drawing a cheque as he did without infringing any arrangement with the bank. He did not state or infer that he had money at the bank at the moment; his statement was simply that he had an account at the bank, and this was true. Throughout the accused had not concealed his name or position, either when purchasing the goods or in the disposal of them. There was no doubt that this prosecution was instituted by Hurcomb in order to put severe pressure upon the accused and upon his friends, as had been shown by the letter to the Rev. J. Bell, and the threat to communicate with the Bishop. No doubt there had been improper and undesirable conduct on the part of the accused, but it might be pointed out that he had remained in custody since November 22nd, and although extensive publicity had been given to the case, not a single person had come forward in the meantime to make a complaint against him.

Mr. Chapman said he had no sympathy with the prosecutor, because he thought the case had been taken up entirely with a view to get money. Perhaps the jury might come to the same conclusion; but he thought a prima facie case had been made out, and he would commit the accused for trial.

Mr. Grain: Through me, the prisoner says, "I am not guilty of any fraud. I reserve my defence and call no witnesses here."

The magistrates acceded to a formal application for bail, but advantage was not taken of this, and Mr. Stokes was removed in custody.

MR. STOKES ACQUITTED.

At the Sessions on Tuesday, December 18th, the jury decided that Mr. Stokes was innocent of the charge of obtaining money by false pretences. The accused was, accordingly, acquitted.

LA CLOCHE V. THE SUN INSURANCE COMPANY.

We are indebted to Mr. A. A. Green, of Millbrook, Jersey, for later information concerning the interesting action of *La Cloche v. the Sun Fire Insurance Company*, and also for a copy of the "Jersey Express" containing the following report of the further proceedings:—

Before the Court of the "Superior Number" (W. H. Venables Vernon, Esq., Bailiff, and Jurats Gallichan, Dorey, C. le Gros, G. le Gros, Aubin, Renouf and Payn.) December 4th—Appeal Case: *La Cloche v. Sun Fire Office*.

In this appeal case the Court was occupied in hearing arguments from counsel against the ruling of the Inferior Number of the 6th ult., awarding Mr. La Cloche's claim of £1,000 as loss of Foreign and Colonial stamps covered by insurance.

After deliberation, the Superior Number confirmed the previous ruling in favour of Mr. G. F. La Cloche, the appellants (the agents of the Sun Fire Office) being mulcted in costs.

The Solicitor-General, on behalf of the latter Company, was allowed to appeal from this ruling to Her Majesty's Privy Council.

The case is therefore, in legal terminology, still *sub judice*. The Solicitor-General was allowed a further appeal to Her Majesty's Privy Council, and we gather that there is every likelihood that that appeal will be persisted in.

WHAT A LOT OF LETTERS THEY MUST WRITE!

From a work published by Messrs. Sampson, Low & Co., on "European Settlements in the Far East," the Editor of the "London Philatelist" extracts the following items of information regarding Borneo and Labuan:—

EUROPEAN POPULATION IN 1900.			
British North Borneo	200		
Labuan	30		
NUMBER OF DIFFERENT STAMPS ISSUED			
British North Borneo.		Labuan.	
Adhesives	124	Adhesives	110
Entires	10	Entires	7
	134		117

It appears from this that in the last seventeen years there have been two new varieties of stamps created for every three white men resident in Borneo and Labuan. What a lot of letters they must write, those fellows down there!

GUAM PAYS UNCLE SAM A GOOD DIVIDEND.

CAPTAIN RICHARD P. LEARY, Governor-General of Guam, and what is far more to the point Postmaster-General of that same interesting isle, is back in Washington. "The Optimist," in his latest letter thence to the "Metropolitan Philatelist" declares that the net profit on Guam's second postal issue was \$10,000. Captain Leary, he justly adds, deserves a rest. So does Philately.

Philatelic Jottings from All Quarters.

Of many appreciative Press comments upon the Xmas S.C.F., one of the most kindly appears in the "Financial Times." And as the "Financial Times," like the *Fortnightly*, is absolutely Trustworthy, the moral is obvious.

U.S.A. stamps are now "the only sort" in use in Hawaii. It is stated that U.S.A.'s posted in Hawaii can be detected by the distinctive colour of the postmark, which is violet.

Some months ago the *Fortnightly* chronicled the "barometric" post card, a novelty hailing from Italy. The card shows a figure bearing an umbrella, and the weather prospects are shown by the "gamp's" changes in colour. It is now explained that these variations are due to the card being steeped in a certain chemical compound.

According to "Ewen's Weekly" the new pictorial issue of the German Colonies run to 123 varieties, with a total face value of about £6!

"Philologos," of the "Monthly Journal," explains for the benefit of young collectors, the meaning of the letters found in the four corners of the stamps of Bergedorf. These stand for "Lubeck Hamburger Post Ablage"—i.e., Lubeck and Hamburg Post Office.

Large quantities of postmarked copies of the £5 Transvaal stamps have been dumped on the market by some person or persons unknown. Result, a slump in the market price, which, according to a contemporary, is now about sixteen shillings!

Collectors are warned against an enterprising Florentine who has forged 5 franc Monaco stamps to sell.

Jokes that have seen Long Service.**DATED BACK.**

"And you assure me that this postage stamp of Napoleon is positively genuine?"

"Sir! there can be no doubt of it! This collection came to me from my great uncle who commenced it in the last century."

A HIDEOUS DOUBT.

She (as her lover is about to start on a journey round the world)—"My dear Adolf, will you be true to me when you are far away? Promise me that you will write to me from every town you visit."

He: "Oh, Ada, it is love that prompts you to say this? Ada, swear to me, do you really love me, or are you merely collecting picture post-cards?"

Philatelists on the Rialto.**"STAMP DRUMMER" HALE DESCRIBES THE STAMP BOURSE OF THE CHAMPS ELYSEES.**

IN a letter from Paris to the "Metropolitan Philatelist," Mr. William B. Hale, the "American Stamp Drummer," describes the Paris Philatelic Bourse, as follows:

The Paris Stamp Bourse is an institution which is unknown in the United States, and in fact is not in operation in any other city in exactly this manner; it is also a sort of myth in the minds of many Americans. I found that such a thing existed in Paris, even if only boy and girl collectors were present. So I will describe the Paris Stamp Bourse in some detail as I found it to-day, a fete day in Paris and consequently well attended.

First I will say that in the United States we have no such "fete day" as it is to-day; it being the "festivity of the dead," or day when the Parisian is supposed to forget his gaiety and at least he does not work, for everything except the cafe is closed, and don-h's black clothes, buys a wreath of artificial flowers and goes to the cemeteries and decorates the tomb of his family. Possibly attends service in the cathedral and incidentally finds he has yet time on his hands and finishes with festivity perhaps. I had appointments with two philatelists in the morning, but failed to find either man in; "Pardon, Monsieur! C'est le Fete!" to-day, I was told, which was considered ample excuse.

So I went to the Stamp Bourse, which is in the open air, on the "Champ d'Elysee," or promenade near one of the entrances to the Exposition from the opera side. I found there some two hundred persons, mostly men, a few women, and a few young men and boys, richly dressed young ladies in the latest creation in toilets with their pet poodle under one arm, buying stamps from perhaps a plainly dressed servant girl. The office boy disposes of his finds in his employers waste letter basket to a merchant who is in immaculate Prince Albert and silk hat, diamond studded fancy dress shirt, and carries a gold headed cane; the brilliantly costumed army officer and the Arab with flowing white and blue robes may exchange together. A Persian with fierce moustache and dreamy eyes, who spoke in altogether English, German, French and Persian (and a little of each in each sentence), sold me some Persian stamps at genuine bargains. A gentleman whose face and garments proclaim that he is a second Edwin Booth, the only living tragedian (in Paris), we are assured, needing funds, sells me the high value Obock, in which he had speculated, in fine condition at under face, and soon wends his way with the gold Napoleons to the first cafe to eat, drink and be merry, on this the Fete day of the Dead.

I had some odd match and medicine stamps in my pocket I had purchased in England, and showing them as samples of what I wished to buy, found the French market quite alive to their value, there being many revenue collectors here, and I sold most of the lot to one amateur present at the regular American prices; quite a surprise for me as I had expected to buy U.S. revenues in Europe not to sell, all of which adds to my belief that in the stamp business are more surprises and more in pure luck than in any other trade.

About four in the afternoon a brisk shower comes up, but the people are prepared, the umbrella is raised, and standing in little groups the trade continues and not until it is positively dark does the traffic stop and the enthusiasts and speculators return to their homes, ending for the day a peculiar philatelic experience for me, but for the Parisian a customary bi-weekly event. Occasionally great bargains are to be had here; occasionally some clever forgery is sold, but I found most of the goods of the usual character found in dealers' stock, with very few fakes.

The stamps of France and of Europe sell best, in fact they very much want good Europeans here and those sell very well; many collectors specialize, only collecting France and Colonies, or only Europe, general collectors not being as plentiful as in the United States. I have sold some of my Europeans very well (and quickly) on this side of the pond, and regret I have not more in my stock and less of British Colonials which are selling slowly.

From the roll of the Birmingham Philatelic Society's Committee the name of Mr. W. G. Walton must now be deleted. He has resigned.

Mr. Herbert R. Oldfield's firm, Messrs. Oldfield, Bartram and Oldfield, Solicitors, are removing from St. Stephen's Chambers, Telegraph Street, to more ample accommodation at 13, Walbrook. The fact will interest many philatelists. One notices, by the way, that the *other* Oldfield is Mr. M. P. Oldfield. He ought to be a philatelist, too—with those initials.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, DECEMBER 22, 1900.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

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The Griqualand section of our "Collectors' Guide to Values" is giving considerable trouble. We expected our "Guide to Values." to know, is a terribly difficult corner of the philatelic globe—from the point of view of the essayist and the cataloguer. Dealers' lists and catalogues afford eloquent testimony of this, and as for dealers' stock-books, many of these are only to be described as a fearful and wonderful parody on what well-arranged stock-books should be.

We think we can promise definitely that the Griqualand list will appear in the next *Fortnightly*, and when it does appear the list will be a good one. We have been fortunate enough to secure the loan of a well-known specialist's collection to guide us in our tabulation and valuation of the Griqualand stamps. Moreover, we shall hope to publish, alongside the "Guide to Values," a short article on this most interesting country.

We are happy to be able to append to our report of the charge brought against the Rev. Stokes, of Birmingham, the news that that gentleman was acquitted when brought to trial before a jury. The Clerkenwell magistrate, perhaps, would have done well to decline to send this case for trial at all. It was a prosecution which one could describe as not very far removed from the class known as "vexations." It is never a pleasant thing to us to see a philatelist on his trial; and it is therefore a pleasure to record the fact that Mr. Stokes (who, by the way, declined to avail himself of the proffered bail) has left the court with his character vindicated.

Once again, a merry Christmas to every reader. And many of 'em!

Replying to our suggestions regarding the member of the London Philatelic Society who wrote to "Stamps" over the pen-name of "Anti-Humbug," a correspondent proposes that all members of the London Society who detain stamps an unconscionable time, omit to pay their debts, &c., should also be called upon to resign. That is as it may be. It is most certainly not to the point. We were censuring a man who wrote a scurrilous and contemptible letter to a public print. The same man's private actions would not concern us in the slightest. If a member of the London Society owes another philatelist money, or detains his stamps, the aggrieved party has his remedy. But the staunch fellows who defended Mafeking, and the gallant officers who led them—these have no "County Court" or other remedy against the man who shoots his scurrilous words at them from the safe "cover" of a *nom de plume*. "He who steals my purse steals trash," etc

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.

France.—Mr. J. Howard Hall sends "Ewen's Weekly" the following description of the new French stamps:—

They will be of three designs.

1st design, by M. Joseph Blanc and engraved by M. Thomas, will be used for the values 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 centimes.

2nd design, by M. Mouchon, who is his own engraver, will be used for the 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 centimes values.

3rd design, by M. Luc-Olivier Merson, engraved by M. Thévonin, to be used for values 40 and 50 centimes, 1, 2 and 5 francs.

It has been asked, why so many designs?

The reason given is that there are 15 values to issue, and it was difficult to get the different distinctive colors. With this new system, there will be only five colors required for each design, thus making up the fifteen distinctive prints, so this is a great simplification.

Since the above was in type later tidings regarding the issue has reached the *Fortnightly* from Messrs. Bright & Son and the William Stamp Company.

Mr. W. H. Peckitt we must thank for the loan of a complete set of the stamps. The design of the First Type (1c. to 5c.) show an allegorical device in which Justice plays a prominent part; the Second Type is the design predicted for the new French issue some months ago, while the Third Type (oblong) shows a female figure in a Phrygian cap (doubtless intended to symbolise the French Republic), sitting down and apparently doing a hard think. Colours and values as follows:

FIRST TYPE.	SECOND TYPE.
1c. grey	10c. carmine
2c. purple	15c. orange
3c. red	20c. brown
4c. brown	25c. blue
5c. green	30c. mauve
THIRD TYPE.	
40c. scarlet, blue background.	
50c. brown, blue background.	
1 franc crimson, blue background.	
2 francs grey-black, yellow background.	
5 francs blue, yellow background.	

New Zealand.—Now on their way to the Colony are some 2,000,000 specimens of the penny stamp, with which New Zealand will inaugurate penny postage on January 1st.

It was intended (as already stated in the *S.C.F.*) that Sir Edward Poynter, P.R.A., should design the new stamp, but that eminent artist was reluctantly compelled to decline.

The design has been executed by an expert English engraver, and is exceedingly pretty.

The stamp, which is printed in red on a white ground, is symbolical of New Zealand disseminating penny postage. In the centre is a female figure bearing in her hand the caduceus, the rod or staff borne by Mercury as a sign of office and authority. In the background is a steamer with a mountain in the distance, which are intended to represent New Zealand, and beside the figure is a globe to represent universality.

The New Zealand newspapers waxed sarcastic over the difficulty of symbolising so much as this on a postage stamp, but the engraver has proved himself quite equal to the task, and the result is one of the most artistic stamps New Zealand has ever issued.

The 2,000,000 stamps now on the way out won't last very long, for New Zealand uses, on an average, some 72,000,000 of all values in the course of a year.

Orange River.—Mr. W. H. Earl has information from Cape Town that the ordinary Orange Free State stamps have been overprinted "Orange River Colony," but has not yet received any data as to values.

Federation's Philatelic Side.

HOW WILL THE GREAT AUSTRALIAN "COMBINE" AFFECT THE STAMP COLLECTOR?

THE third number of our newest colonial contemporary, the "Australian Journal of Philately," contains the following interesting article anent the philatelic possibilities bound up in the federation of the Australian Colonies:—

On the 14th of this month (November) the permanent heads of the Post and Telegraph Departments of the Australian Colonies will meet in Sydney to discuss the arrangements consequent on the establishment of the Commonwealth. Among the subjects to be considered, the following will probably be included:—

An uniform rate of postage.

Date on which the Departments will be handed over to the Federal authorities.

Temporary arrangements pending the establishment of the General Post Office and Government Printing Office at the Federal Capital.

Stamps postmarked to order.

The Commemoration stamps.

The Federal stamps.

Universal postage.

The fixing of an uniform rate of postage should not be a difficult task. At present the rates differ in the various colonies, but there seems to be a consensus of public opinion that the rate ought to be 1d. per ½-oz., and we certainly think this should meet the requirements of the case. With increased facilities in the future, 1d. per ½-oz. ought to be sufficient to prepay the postage on any letter or packet throughout Australia. A rate of 6d. for the first 1-lb. and 3d. for each subsequent 1-lb. on parcels should be ample to cover the cost.

Our Postmaster-General (Mr. Crick) speaking three months ago as to the date on which the Departments should be handed over to the Federal authorities, said it would take a year to perfect the arrangements. It is only reasonable to assume that it would take some time to make the transfer, but we are at a loss to know what has caused delay since the Constitution Act received the assent of Her Majesty. Why is it that this Conference was not held three or four months ago, and a cut and dried programme prepared before now?

The following extract from the "Sydney Morning Herald," of 8th August, bearing on this subject, will be of interest:—

"It has been arranged that a conference of 'heads of departments' connected with the various Post Offices of the federating colonies shall be held at an early date with a view of assisting in the arrangements which will be necessary before the postal service can be taken over by the Commonwealth Parliament.

"The Postmaster-General (Mr. Crick) recently received a letter from the Victorian Postmaster-General suggesting that the conference should be held in Melbourne, and proposing that it should be convened about the month of September. Yesterday Mr. Lambton, Deputy Postmaster-General of New South Wales, replied on behalf of Mr. Crick, informing the Melbourne authorities that as the suggestion for the holding of the conference emanated from this colony Mr. Crick thought that the conference should be held here. At any rate, the New South Wales Postmaster-General considered that he should have been asked whether he would consent to the meeting taking place in Melbourne. Further, the southern authorities were informed that the date suggested for the holding of the conference was considered by Mr. Crick to be far too early.

"Speaking to a "Herald" reporter last night, Mr. Crick explained his views on the subject.

"It would be no good to hold a conference yet," he observed. "A lot of preliminary work has to be done. As a matter of fact the postal authorities can decide very little until we know what the policy of the Commonwealth Parliament will be. Take, for example, one of the first questions which will probably spring up, that of universal postage. Is it to be a penny or twopenny postage? Of course, we might get over the difficulty by drawing up two schemes, one having reference to the smaller charge, and the other dealing with the larger one."

"My intention was," remarked the Postmaster-General, "as soon as we have got through the work this session, that the permanent heads of the Postal Departments connected with the federating colonies should meet and discuss details relating to preliminary matters affecting postal policy. The conference would have to be adjourned until after the assembling of the Federal Parliament, when it would again meet, the Ministers of the Crown having charge of the departments being present on this occasion. The conference

would decide definitely the basis upon which the departments shall be handed over to the Federal Government."

"The matter is not all plain sailing," Mr. Crick observed, "as I can show you in a few moments. Take our own office. We have 5000 employees here. How are you going to control them by an official at Melbourne? They are at present under the Public Service Board in Sydney. Before they can be 'taken over' the Federal Parliament will have to decide whether they shall continue to work under our own board, as at present, or whether Federal Public Service Commissioners shall be appointed."

"The fact is," (insisted the Postmaster-General) "that it will be necessary for the Commonwealth Parliament to pass a bill before the postal service can become a federal one, and in my opinion 12 months delay will be necessary. In any event it will take that time to arrange matters with the view of arranging uniformity."

Part of Clause 69 of the Constitution Act reads as follows: "On a date or dates to be proclaimed by the Governor-General after the establishment of the Commonwealth, the following departments of the Public Service of each State shall become transferred to the Commonwealth—Posts, Telegraphs, and Telephones."

Temporary arrangements will have to be made pending the establishment of the General Post Office and Stamp Printing Department at the Federal City. The latter should be part and parcel of the Post and Telegraph Department, and under the direct control of the Postmaster-General. A fixed determination should be arrived at and rigidly carried out. It will always be necessary to have large working staffs at the present Head Post Offices, the only officers who will be required to be transferred to the Federal City being Chiefs, who will superintend arrangements, and the clerks necessary to assist them. The actual work will have to be carried on as hitherto.

The functions of the Post and Telegraph Department are those which their names indicate, and should not be a revenue raising institution. The country at large receives the benefit of postal facilities, and if there happens to be a deficiency, it should be provided for out of the taxes. The palpable manner in which the New Zealand Government has sought to obtain revenue by the issue of all sorts of varieties is to be deplored. Our own authorities, and those of Victoria, are not blameless. At present the former sell to the public postmarked sets of postage dues at 10s. per set, and the latter dated postmarked sets of all current values up to £100 for £5. This is in direct contravention of the understanding arrived at at the Conference held in Hobart a year or two ago, and, we understand, in violation of the regulations of the International Postal Union. It is to be hoped that a definite decision to discontinue this practice will be agreed to. The Postal authorities should be careful to avoid appearing in any way to cater for stamp collectors. It ought to be beneath their dignity, and we should be pleased if they ignored our existence altogether and let us "paddle our own canoe."

This brings us to the question of Commemoration stamps. In the "Sydney Morning Herald," of 26th October, appeared another letter, suggesting the desirability of issuing stamps to commemorate the establishment of the Commonwealth, at a price which would leave a surplus for some charitable or patriotic object. All these letters seem to emanate from one person (they are couched in the same language) who is evidently quite mad on his pet project. Why should the Postal Department be made use of in this manner, it is outside their functions altogether? Somehow we have a lurking suspicion that our friend's motive is not so charitable and patriotic as to provide food for philatelic speculation. Perhaps it is as well that our readers should know that the International Postal Union (which regulates all postal matters) has decreed that such stamps shall only be available for use in the countries in which they originate. Further, the principal postage stamp dealers throughout the world will not accept them as regular issues, do not include them in their catalogues, or provide spaces for them in their albums.

Speaking of "patriotic plasters," "The American Journal of Philately," says, "these must be considered as curiosities and not as postage stamps, as we are scarcely justified in including in the latter class varieties which are sold at the Post Offices of origin at twelve times the rate at which they are accepted for postal duty."

We may be permitted to repeat the remark made in our October number, viz.:—"War stamps have fallen very flat, and a great many people have lost a lot of money over consumptives which they bought for a rise." Mr. Crick, our P.M.G., being approached on this subject some months ago, not only put down his foot but both feet against the suggestion. We hope he will keep them down.

The establishment of the Commonwealth will be sufficiently commemorated without the necessity of issuing a special stamp, but we think the Colonies ought to be brought into line, pending the issue of a permanent Federal series. This could easily be done by causing all the postage stamps of the six Colonies to be surcharged in plain black type "A. C." 1901 in two lines. The type could be set up in a few minutes, it could then be electrotyped to suit the

different sizes of stamps and sheets; each Government could overprint its own stamps, and all could be issued simultaneously throughout the Commonwealth on the 1st January, 1901. Electrotypes taken from the original type would ensure all being exactly alike, and each Government could continue to print their stamps as now, with the surcharge, until such time as they were superseded for ever by the issue of one set under the supervision of the Federal Postal Authorities.

It is almost premature to discuss the subject of a Federal issue. It would be better to let matters settle down before this is approached. It will be a difficult matter to adjust to the satisfaction of all parties owing to provincial jealousies. In our opinion it would be wise to abandon any idea of "picture" stamps, and adopt one design for all values. This drastic statement will probably shock many of our friends who are looking forward to the appearance of some gloriously beautiful labels which will outshine New Zealand, Tasmania, Omaha, or the best productions of De la Rue, Seebek, or Waterlow, but it is not made without serious consideration of the obstacles to be encountered in selecting a few pretty views in a country where they are so plentiful—opinions will differ.

There are various methods of producing a suitable design, we would suggest, however, that it be thrown open to competition all over the world and a handsome prize awarded to the one accepted. This being accomplished the die could be prepared where it could best be turned out. A difference of opinion exists as to whether this could be obtained better in England than in America, and there is a general feeling that our own stamp printing departments have not sufficiently skilled workmen to produce a die equal to the occasion. The die having been procured, electrotypes could be made from it, same as for the surcharge already referred to. Until the stamp printing for all the states is undertaken by the Federal printing office, each state could print those required for their own district, all to be printed on paper watermarked "A.C." The object of this arrangement would be to insure that all the issues might be identical, the only difference would be a mere question of workmanship.

We do not approve of the suggestion that the Federal stamps should be printed abroad. Stamps have been printed in the Australian Colonies for the past 50 years, and the various governments have gone to considerable trouble and expense in obtaining the best printers and the latest styles of stamp printing machinery, we have no hesitation therefore in saying that our local stamp printing departments are quite able to produce a satisfactory article and there will be more gratification in the knowledge that the work is done in Australia.

Universal penny postage has now been so widely adopted that it behoves the Conference to make an effort to agree to fall into line with other countries. The 1st of January next would be a fitting time to introduce it and the concession would be hailed with delight. There should be no difficulty in obtaining the sanction of the six Parliaments to the change. New Zealand has already decided to do so, and why should we be behind all others?

How will all these changes affect Philatelist? We shall be enabled to draw a line at a fixed point and we trust that 50 years hence those of us who are alive will look back with pride and pleasure at the stamps which gave birth to a new Philatelic era.

"Habilitados" of Puerto Rico.

INTERESTING PAPERS BY MR. J. M. ANDRIENI.

THAN Mr. J. M. Andrieni, of New York, probably no philatelist can speak with greater authority on the stamps of the erstwhile Spanish Colonies. Of Puerto Rico Mr. Andrieni has made a special study, the fruits of which are given to collectors in the shape of two articles contributed to "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" of October 25th and November 15th. Doubtless these will prove of great interest and value to the many British philatelists who have been attracted to the stamps of the "transferred" colonies of Spain.

FIRST ARTICLE.

The Habilitado stamps of our new possession in the Caribbean Sea have engaged the attention of many collectors since their issue in 1898. There is no question whatever about their having been a genuine emergency issue. On December 24th, 1898, I sent to the "Weekly" the original decree dated June 4th, 1898, and its English translation, together with a detailed list of the values and quantities surcharged Habilitado para 1898 y 99. It will be remembered that a new series of Spanish colonial stamps had been sent to the island early in 1898 and that war having been declared in April, the

blockade of all the island ports quickly followed, effectively preventing the arrival of further supplies of stamps. The Habilitados were then issued.

STAMPING BY RUBBER DIES.

The stamping was done by means of a rubber die. At first there were two Habilitado rubber stamps with ten dies each and afterwards each rubber stamp was cut in two, with five dies each, so as to facilitate the stamping. There were also two rubber stamps, five dies each, to surcharge Impuestos de Guerra or war stamps. In order to surcharge all the stamps with the rubber dies a great many old sheets and panes, partly used, were placed together and when the stamps were in small quantities the officials resorted to pasting the fragments together on loose pieces of paper before surcharging them. Different issues of the same values were thus surcharged at the same time.

VARIETIES OVERLOOKED IN OFFICIAL LISTS.

Recent developments satisfy me that this carelessness in surcharging stamps must be accountable for the strange appearance of certain values which were not known to collectors at the time that the auction sale of the remainders took place. It is as well for us not to rely too much on official figures or descriptions, as we know that the official mind is prone to overlook little things, such as varieties of colour and issue, which must be studied by the discriminating collector. Thus we have in Scott's catalogue:—

3c. dark blue.	3c. claret brown.
5c. yellow green.	5c. light blue.
6c. orange.	6c. lilac.

In the surcharging of which the officials merely took into consideration the face value of the stamps. Similar carelessness must have occurred with the 2m., 4c. and 40c. because while a single color of each denomination has been catalogued, these three values are known in two colours, namely:—

NOT CATALOGUED.	CATALOGUED BY SCOTT.
2m. flesh.	2m. yellow green.
4c. dark blue.	4c. brown.
40c. red violet.	40c. salmon.

Some of these values have been found surcharged side by side with same values of another issue in a different colour and some have been discovered among a lot of remainders bought at a nominal figure in conjunction with other denominations, and thus eliminating the suspicion of fraudulent issue.

The 4m. violet, not catalogued, is also known in this surcharged set.

THE SALE OF REMAINDERS AT AUCTION

A few days before the closing of Spanish sovereignty the remaining postage and fiscal stamps and postal cards were sold at auction and to a Mr. Fontanals was awarded the lot, which included the Habilitados. This was on October 14th, 1898. Mr. Fontanals assured me, when he was in this country last, that one of the Habilitado dies had unaccountably disappeared, and this die was missing when he delivered his stamps in Paris last year. I often asked Mr. Fontanals to let some philatelic society have all these dies in order to destroy them and thus enhance the value of his lot and establish the reputation of the Habilitados, but for one reason or another, I could not obtain the desired dies from him, although he acknowledged the propriety of destroying them before witnesses. Now that the stamps have passed out of his hands, together with the dies, one of which is missing, collectors will naturally feel that there is no possible guarantee against the making of Habilitados or Impuestos as long as such dies remain in possession of parties unknown. It will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to detect any difference in the surcharges if the dies are unofficially used, though there is a slight chance perhaps in noticing a difference in the ink, specially if the surcharge is applied in a temperate climate.

WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE DIES?

As I mentioned in the "Weekly" on February 25th, 1899, the price paid by Mr. Fontanals for the lot of 12,698,303 stamps, with a facial value of \$434,299, was \$7528 in provincial money, or, in round numbers \$5,000 United States gold. After selling sundry lots in Puerto Rico, in the United States and elsewhere, he sold the remainder for Pcs. 50,000—equal to about \$10,000 American gold. He did not sell the lot direct to a dealer, but he accomplished the business through a commission merchant in Paris, who sold the lot in turn to a dealer (M. Lemaire), who resold it to another Paris dealer (M. Robert), both intermediaries making larger gains. I should imagine, than Mr. Fontanals himself. Both Messrs. Lemaire and Robert are dealers in good reputation, but who can tell what has become of the missing die or what will become of the five dies which were sold with the lot in Paris?

(To be continued.)

Mafeking Stamps Demonetised.

AN IMPORTANT DECREE.—ARE THE STAMPS STILL AVAILABLE FOR MILITARY MAIL MATTER ?

TO Mr. W. H. Earl, and to a subscriber at the Cape, Mr. W. H. Kulmann, we are indebted for copies of the "Cape Government Gazette," of November 9th, containing the following official notice from the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Cape Town :—

"MAFEKING BESIEGED" POSTAGE STAMPS.

IT is hereby notified for general information that the re-issues of Cape Colony and Bechuanaland Protectorate Postage Stamps placed in circulation by the Military Authorities during the investment of Mafeking, as well as the specially issued local stamps, are not available for the prepayment of any article of mail matter which may be posted at any *Civil* Post Office in the Cape Colony. A list of the stamps referred to is published hereunder.

S. R. FRENCH,
Postmaster-General.

General Post Office,
1st November, 1900.

LIST OF POSTAGE STAMPS ISSUED BY THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES AT MAFEKING DURING THE SIEGE.

Face value.	Description.
½d.	Cape of Good Hope (old design), overprinted and surcharged "Mafeking 1d. Besieged."
½d.	Cape of Good Hope (new design), overprinted and surcharged "Mafeking 1d. Besieged."
½d.	Great Britain overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate," surcharged and overprinted "Mafeking 1d. Besieged."
1d.	Great Britain overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 3d. Besieged."
1d.	Great Britain overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 3d. Besieged." (Smaller type)
1d.	Cape of Good Hope, overprinted and surcharged "Mafeking 3d. Besieged."
2d.	Great Britain, overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 6d. Besieged."
2d.	Great Britain, overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 6d. Besieged." (Smaller type.)
3d.	Cape of Good Hope, overprinted "Mafeking 6d. Besieged."
3d.	British Bechuanaland (lilac series), overprinted "Mafeking 6d. Besieged."
3d.	Great Britain, overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 6d. Besieged."
4d.	Great Britain, overprinted "British Bechuanaland" and "Mafeking 1s. Besieged."
4d.	Cape of Good Hope, overprinted "Mafeking 1s. Besieged."
6d.	Great Britain, overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 1s. Besieged."
6d.	Great Britain, overprinted "British Bechuanaland" and "Mafeking 1s. Besieged."
1s.	Great Britain, overprinted "British Bechuanaland" and "Mafeking 2s. Besieged."
3d.	Local postage stamp with photograph of Lt.-General Baden-Powell's bust. (Small size.)
3d.	Local postage stamp with photograph of Lt.-General Baden-Powell's bust. (Large size.)
1d.	Local postage stamp with photograph of Sergt.-Major Goodyear on bicycle.

STILL AVAILABLE FOR MILITARY PURPOSES ?

In the Postmaster-General's announcement above, we have italicised the word "*Civil*," because it has seemed to us that the use of that word may mean that the stamps are still available for military purposes. The same thought suggests itself to Mr. W. H. Earl, as is mentioned in a note he writes us on the subject :—

"One might suppose from this (writes Mr. Earl) that the stamps may be used by the military postal authorities."

On the other hand, of course, it is quite likely that P. M. G. French uses the word "*Civil*" merely to indicate the extent

of his official jurisdiction, the Field Post Offices being outside the purview of his department.

IS THE ISSUE REPUDIATED ?

Of course, those persons to whom the Mafeking stamps are anathema maranatha will accept this proclamation as an official repudiation of the "Siege" stamps. However, there does not appear to be the smallest evidence in support of such a view as that. Far more likely is it that the fear of the forger has been uppermost in the official mind.

Be this as it may, the effect is the same: the stamps are demonetised. And that, in connection with a British Colonial issue, which may be said to have gummed itself to the great heart of the public, is a regrettable thing—a most highly regrettable thing.

We shall hope to hear that, as the proclamation seems to suggest, the stamps are still available for the postage of military letters.

Our Review of Reviews.

The Camera the Faker's Foe.

A scientist, remarks "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News," announces that the way to find out whether a postage stamp has been used or not is to photograph it. If the postmark has been obliterated the blue or green color will not make any impression on the plate, while the black traces of obliteration will appear with great clearness. Even when the stamps have been well washed and no traces of obliteration can be seen by the naked eye or through the microscope, the photograph will show very clearly the two concentric circles of the stamp, the date, and even the name of the locality.

For Lovers of the "Entire."

The Editor of that bright little quarterly magazine, "Postal Cards and Covers," makes an announcement as to the future :—

When this modest little publication made its first blushing entry into this cold and callous world (writes he) it was hoped that it might aspire to the dignity of a monthly issue in its second year. But although welcomed by a small circle of enthusiasts, and kindly received by our contemporaries, we do not find indications of any very general desire for a monthly magazine, and shall therefore continue to make a quarterly issue during the forthcoming year.

There was a great opportunity here to change the quarterly into a monthly (prospects of success notwithstanding) as a counterblast to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' anti-Entire pronouncement. However he would be a person of supernatural courage who dared to launch a monthly for Entire-collectors in this country. And it must be said for Mr. Walter Wilson's quarterly journal that it covers its appointed ground in a very capable manner.

HUMOURS OF PHILATELIC CORRESPONDENCE.

"Navy Blue," a contributor of lighter reading to "Postal Cards and Covers" gives us some droll experiences of "international" Philately.

Some very funny messages (he tells us) come to me sometimes from foreign collectors who try to air their knowledge of English. One little French girl on being asked if she could possibly get a view card of a certain chateau near which she lived, to show how thoroughly she had tried to procure one, wrote "I overthrew all the warehouses, but alas! one does not exist!"

Another correspondent, an Austrian nobleman, wrote: "Dear Ladi—I thank you very much for the cart. I will exchange with you carts, with for sorts whout you have. I sent you so match carts as you mi sent; mine brither adresse est Baron Paul von S—."

I would here explain that I was not truckling in wheeled vehicles, merely the harmless pasteboard, but the German "Karte" and the English "Card" had proved too great an obstacle for our friend.

An Italian lady addressed me thus "Sweet collector friend, I thank you very much, I pray you expedier me to posta cartes of London—my shake hands—Carmeline de L—."

A German student who was evidently filled with remorse after he had written, put: "I have the honour of advising that my first answer to you remain undone—I beg to double revenge, yours

estemefully, I should like one posts cart of you residence; Ah! me what have I done? Hermann W—."

The German word "Revanche" (reply) is a great stumbling block; foreigners so frequently interpret it into our English "revenge," which has of course a totally different meaning from the one they intend, hence such wording as: "According to your advertisement I transmit to you this card requesting your complaising answer—Do you send me revenge?"

A pair of bogus Hawaiian Postal-Fiscals.

We referred in a recent number to a pair of so-called postal-fiscals of Hawaii which were chronicled, *cum grano salis*, by "Morley's Philatelic Journal." In a later "Morley" (November) their earlier history is revealed. Mr. A. B. Kay informs our contemporary that this brace of frauds figured in a "manufacturer's" list of forgeries reprinted in the "Philatelic Record" of October, 1897, the item reading as follows:

HAWAII (ESSAYS): 2 dols. rose, 5 dols. blue, 2s. per pair, 12 pairs for £1; unused or postmarked.

The same list tenders six varieties of the 1d. on 6d. Transvaal, of 1879, against which it may be seasonable to repeat a warning. The prices vary from 3/- to 8/- apiece, the set being offered for 30/-.

A NEW EDITOR FOR "M.P.J."

The December number of "Morley's Philatelic Journal," completing that journal's first year of life, contains the announcement that Mr. A. Preston Pearce is retiring from the editorial chair, and will be succeeded by Mr. L. W. Fulcher. The new Editor is "well up," on Fiscals and Telegraphs, as is testified by his many excellent contributions to the journal he will henceforth conduct.

The Scarcest Cook Islands Stamp.

The December issue of the "Stamp Collector" (Birmingham) contains this "Whisper from the Antipodes."

A great number of your readers will have noticed in the papers an account of the Annexation of certain Pacific Islands by the New

Zealand Government (which should have taken place many years ago had the Mother land listened to the pleadings of the Great Pro-Consul Sir George Grey), but they may not have thought of the interest it would be to philatelists, more especially collectors of Great Britain and Colonies. Of course it means the closing down of the Cook Islands as a stamp issuing country, and New Zealand controlling the Post Office, &c. The stamp that must become the most valuable in proportion to its issued value will be the only surcharge (Half-Penny on 1d. blue), surcharged One-Halfpenny, in three lines, in black, used in that interesting group of Islands, the total issue of them being £22 10s. od. and the Bird series will become fairly valuable, only being in use so short a time. The stamps of New Zealand that will be most affected by the reduction of the Postage in and out of the Colony to 1d. on January next, will be the 2½d. Postage Stamp and 5d. Postage Due, which will hardly be wanted after that date; but the best whisper I can send readers of your paper this mail is to get specimens of stamps issued by all the Islands adjacent to New Zealand and so save themselves from paying the high prices that will be wanted later on; Federation being the goal to which affairs are tending.

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Falkland Island, 1878, 1/- bistre-brown, unused	3	0
Montserrat, 1883, 4d. blue, CC., unused . . .	14	6
Transvaal, 1895, 5/- slate, used	5	0
" " 10/- brown, used	4	0
" " 10/- brown, unused	15	0
Baden, 1862, 3okr., used	12	6
Sicily, 50g., red-brown, used	15	0
U.S.A., 1869, 30c. blue and carmine	7	6
" " 1c. brown, without grill	6	0

STAMPS ON ORIGINAL ENVELOPES.

Dominica, 1877, 1d. lilac, CC., perf. 14, block of 4	6	0
Dominica, 1877, 1/- lilac rose, CC., perf. 14	15	0
U.S.A., 1855, 24 lilac	10	6
" " 24 purple	12	6

CHAS. NISSEN & CO.,

. . . 77/8, High Holborn, London, W.C.

From the Auction Rooms.

The following are the most interesting realisations at the various Philatelic Auctions held in London since our last report:—

Mr. W. Hadlow's Sale November 29th and 30th.

	£	s.	d.
Bremen, 7gr. black on yellow	1	8	0
British East Africa, 1st issue, ½, 1 and 4 annas *	5	2	6
British Guiana, 1852, 4c. black on deep blue, rubbed ..	1	2	0
Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 1d. deep red, thinned ..	2	12	6
do. do. 4d. dull blue, creased	1	2	0
Ceylon, wmk. star, perforated 8d. brown	3	3	0
Dominica, wmk. C.A. 1/- mauve *	1	10	0
Gwalior, black surcharge, 1 rupee grey, short surcharge *	2	15	0
Mauritius, 2d. post paid, early state of plate, but poor..	2	10	0
Nevis, perf. 13, 4d. rose *	1	16	0
Do. do. 6d. lilac *	2	2	0
Do. do. 1/- green * o.g.	3	3	0
Do. engraved, 4d. deep rich orange *	3	9	0
Do. do. 1/- blue green *	2	18	0
Do. do. 1/- yellow green *	12	10	0
Do. Litho. perf. 15, 4d. orange *	4	12	6
Do. do 6d grey *	4	7	6
New Brunswick, 1st issue, 6d. yellow on bluish * ..	14	10	0
Saxony, 1st issue, 3pf red	3	8	0
St. Vincent, wmk. star, 5/- dull lake *	9	2	6
Transvaal, 1877, 6d. blue surcharged V.R. Transvaal, imperf without stop after Transvaal, * no gum ..	2	18	0
Do. 1/- green same surcharge, rouletted* o.g. ..	4	5	0
Do. 1883, 1/- green vertical strip of 4, top stamp inverted	2	0	0
Victoria, 1st issue 2d. grey-lilac	3	9	0

Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Sale, Dec. 4th and 5th.

Bahamas, CA., 14, £1, venetian-red, * with gum ..	1	2	0
British Central Africa, 1898, CC., 14, £10 yellow, fiscally used	3	10	0
British Columbia, CC., 12½, 5c. red and black, *, mint ..	1	12	0
British Honduras, CC., 12½, 2 cents. on 6d. rose, * ..	1	3	0
Cape of Good Hope, Triangular (De la Rue type), 1d. bright brown-red, a pair, *	2	8	0
Do. do. Triangular, 4d. slate-blue, a pair, *	2	6	0
Do. do. do. 6d. bright mauve, a pair, *	3	5	0
Do. do. Mafeking Besieged, 3d. on 1d. red, a horizontal pair, and 6d. on Bechuanaland, 3d. lilac, used on original	2	4	0
Mafeking Besieged, 1/- on 4d., without stop after Mafeking ..	1	6	0
Do. 3d. on 1d. in fancy type, and 6d. on 2d. sans serif type *	4	10	0
Do. 6d. on 2d., sans serif type, a horizontal pair, used on entire original, sent by Mayor of Mafeking to Buluwayo	2	4	0
Do. do. Baden-Powell, small head, 3d. blue*	1	12	0
Do. do. do. large head, 3d. grey-blue, defective* ..	2	4	0
Do. do. do. a used copy, showing defect on plit. ..	1	18	0
Ceylon, C.C. 12½, 4c. grey*, with gum	28	0	0
Gt. Britain, Mulready envelope, 2d. blue, used	1	3	0
Do. 1d. black, wmk. large crown inverted, a pair*, showing margins on right	2	10	0
Do. £5 orange, not postally used	1	3	0
Do. 10/- blue, "I.R. Official"	2	6	0
Do. £1 green do. creased	2	2	0
Nevis, perf. 13, 1/- green, defective*	1	0	0
Do. C.A. 1/- lilac*	0	19	0
Newfoundland, 6d. orange, cut into	0	19	0
Nova Scotia, 5c. blue, a horizontal pair, off centre* ..	1	6	0
St. Lucia, wmk. star, perf., (6d.) green	1	5	0
St. Vincent, 1877, wmk. star, compound perf., 6d. pale yellow-green *	1	1	0
Do. 1881, ½d. in red on right half of 6d. yellow-green ..	1	9	0
Switzerland, Geneva, 1843, the double stamp, black on yellow-green, a horizontal pair *	30	0	0
Do. Vaud, black and red	12	5	0
Transvaal, 1896-97, 2½d. blue and green, surcharged V.R. in violet, used on entire	1	1	0
Trinidad, surcharged "O.S.," set from ½d. to 5/- * ..	5	10	0
Victoria, the "Too Late" stamp	1	1	0
Virgin Islands, CA., 4d. on 1/- crimson, a horizontal strip of 5 *	4	10	0

Birmingham Philatelic Society's Sale at the Great Western Hotel, Birmingham, on December 6th.

	£	s.	d.
British Guiana, 1856, 4c. black on magenta, defective ..	2	0	0
Ceylon, CC., 8d. a pair*	1	0	0
Great Britain, 2/- brown	1	10	0
Montserrat, CA. 14, 2½d. brown*	0	18	0
South Australia, GF. in black on 2d. perf., 10 on official envelope	2	0	0
U.S.A. Navy 7c *	1	10	0
Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow, fair	2	12	0
Virgin Isles, 3d. yellow	1	19	0
Do. 6d. rose, perf. 15*	3	0	0

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Sale, Dec. 6th and 7th.

Afghanistan, 1290-91, Shahi, purple, a horizontal pair* ..	5	0	0
Canada, 12d. black, poor copy	25	0	0
Ceylon, C. and C.C., 2d. emerald green, block of 4* ..	6	2	6
Do. do. 4d. rose block of 4*	1	14	0
Do. do. do. horizontal strip of 4 deep colour* ..	2	2	0
Do. do. 5d. myrtle-green, block of 4*	1	12	0
Do. do. 5d. yellow-green do.	2	4	0
Do. do. 8d. reddish-brown do.	2	0	0
Do. do. 9d. black-brown do.	1	13	0
Do. do. 10d. orange do.	1	13	0
Do. do. 2/- dark blue do.	2	2	0
France, Journal Stamp, 2c. rose imperf.*	1	14	0
French Colonies, 1871-77, 4c. grey	0	19	0
Gt. Britain, 1855-57, 4d. rose-carmine on white, wmk. medium garter, horizontal pair *	16	10	0
Hanover, 10gr. green	1	5	0
India, Service Stamp, 4as. green and purple *, but creased ..	1	14	0
Mafeking Besieged, Baden-Powell, large head	2	2	0
Mauritius, post paid, 1d. vermilion, an entire made up plate consisting of one vertical pair and ten singles; the pair and 3 others are on bluish paper	110	0	0
Do. Large Fillet, 2d. blue, an entire made up plate, consisting of a vertical pair and ten singles, 4 are cut close	178	0	0
Do. Post-Paid, 2d. blue, an entire made-up plate, consisting of a block of 4, used on piece, and 8 singles	245	0	0
Do. small fillet, 2d. blue, an entire made-up plate, early impressions	18	0	0
Monaco, 1st issue, 5 francs	1	0	0
New Zealand, pelure paper, 1d. vermilion *	6	10	0
Saxony, 3 pfennig red	3	6	0
Scinde, ¼a. red	1	10	0
Transvaal, Queen's Head, 2/- blue *	1	11	0

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale, Dec. 11th.

British East Africa, 1895, 5 annas	2	11	0
British South Africa, Triangular, 1/- yellow-green, a pair, cut into	1	10	0
Cape of Good Hope, Mafeking Besieged, 6d. on 3d. magenta ..	2	18	0
Mafeking Besieged, 1/- on 4d. pale green	1	14	0
Do. 3d. on 1d. lilac*	1	5	0
Do. 6d. on 3d. brown on yellow	2	1	0
Do. Sans-serif surcharge, 3d. on 1d. lilac and 6d. on 2d. green and carmine	1	12	0
Do. 1/- on 6d. purple on red	1	4	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1900, Mafeking Besieged, sans-serif, 1/- on 6d. purple on red	4	12	6
Do. do. do. another	4	15	0
Do. do. do. 2/- on 1/- green	2	18	0
Nevis, perf. 15, 4d. orange*	1	0	0
Do. do. Lithographed, 6d. grey*	4	0	0
United States, 1856, 90c. blue, defective	1	16	0
Wurtemberg, 1858-60, 9kr. carmine*	1	15	0

Mr. J. C. Steven's Sale, Dec. 13th.

Mafeking Besieged, set of 19	24	0	0
Do. do. 6d. on 3d. Bech. Prot. cut into	2	0	0
Do. do. set of 19	23	0	0
Do. do. another set	25	0	0
Do. do. Baden-Powell, large head*	3	0	0
Do. do. 6d. on 3d. Bech. Prot.	3	3	0
Do. do. 1/- on 4d. Cape	2	10	0
Do. do. another	2	0	0
Do. do. 2/- on 1/- Brit. Bech.	3	0	0
Do. do. Baden-Powell, large head*	2	15	0
Do. do. 1/- on 6d. Bech. Prot.*	3	10	0

BARGAINS.

5d. Niger Coast, purple ...	0/9
6d. ,, ,, yellow-brn.	1/3
1/- ,, ,, black ...	2/3
½d., 1d. and 2d. Niger Coast CA., the 3, ...	0/6

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Gold Coast, Lagos, and Sierra Leone	10 kinds	3/6
St. Vincent, St. Lucia & Newfoundland,	11 kinds	4/6
Mauritius and Hong Kong	10 kinds	1/6
Straits Settlements	8 kinds	2/3
Straits Native States, Johor, Perak, Selangor, &c.	All now superseded by Stamps of Federated Malay States	12 kinds
Trinidad and Jamaica	10 kinds	1/3

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100 British Colonies, all different	£ s. d.
200 " " " " " "	0 2 0
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1000 " " " " " "	1 7 6
1000 Stamps all different (no fiscals or cards)	6 0 0
2000 " " " " " "	0 18 6
3000 " " " " " "	3 0 0
4000 " " " " " "	9 7 6
5000 " " " " " "	17 5 0
	28 10 0

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MINT COLONIALS—CUT FINE!

Transvaal, V.R.I., 4d. to 1/-, 3/6. Orange Free State, V.R.I., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d. and 1/-, 3/-; O.R.C. on 4d. Cape green, 1d.; O.R.C. on 24d. Cape, blue, 14d.; old O.F.S., 4d. yellow, 24d.; old O.F.S., 1d. mauve, 3d.; Jamaica, C.C. 12½, 2/-, 2/10; Jamaica, C.C. 12½, 5/-, 10/-. All mint. Postage extra.

W. ERNEST IRVING,

27, Wolseley Road, Crouch End, London, N.

50 per cent. Discount.

Sheets of Good Medium Stamps, from 3d. upwards, at 50% below catalogue prices, sent on approval to all applicants by

S. KIRBY,

8, Kepler Road, Clapham.

First-rate Packets of 100, all different, for 1/-

12 Insertions 20/-

26 " " " " " " 37/6

DATES OF FORTHCOMING AUCTION SALES.

January 31d and 4th. Messrs. Venton, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, commencing at 5 p.m.

Jan. 8th & 9th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, commencing 4.30 p.m. precisely.

January 15th and 16th.—Messrs. Plumridge & Co., at 63/4, Chancery Lane, W.C., commencing at 5 p.m. sharp.

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

Secretaries of Societies are invited to contribute, promptly, brief reports of their meetings, fixtures, &c.

HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A GENERAL MEETING was held at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet Street, London, E.C., on Tuesday, Dec 4th, 1900, at 7 p.m.

Present: Messrs Hayner (in the chair), Boyes, Bradbury, Cosh, Frenzel, Hansburg, Laing, Mardon, Melville, Meyer, Sidebotham, Simpson, Standem, Sutherland, Thomson, Wane, Wills, Slade, and two visitors.

Dr. C. Malling and F. H. Oliver were elected ordinary members.

The January meeting was postponed to January 8th, as the 1st Tuesday falls on New Year's Day.

At the conclusion of business Mr. L. L. R. Hansburg showed his collection of the stamps of Grenada, accompanied by explanatory notes. The collection, which was nearly complete, was much appreciated by the members, and the Chairman passed a unanimous vote of thanks to Mr. Hansburg for his courtesy in giving such a display. The vote was suitably responded to, and exchanges, discussion, &c., was indulged in at 8.30 p.m. The meeting terminated at 9.30 p.m.—H. A. SLADE, Hon. Sec and Treasurer, Ingleside, St. Albans.

BRISTOL AND CLIFTON SOCIETY.

THE usual fortnightly meeting was held on Thursday, October 25th. In the absence of the president, Mr. D. H. McPherson was requested to take the chair. A very interesting collection of "Forgeries" was exhibited. Those shown by Mr. Perrett were especially so, consisting of both Colonial and Continental stamps in blocks, in some of which it required the critical eye of an expert to detect the differences between the genuine and the forged stamps. Messrs. McPherson, Dalton and Stooke showed several specimens. Mr. Dalton's exhibit contained a reconstructed sheet of the 2d. lithograph, also a copy of the L.Q. Messrs. Lloyd and Cartwright, who were unable to be present, also sent specimens: Mr. Cartwright sending three values of the late Orange Free State stamps with forged V.R.I. surcharges, likely to entrap the unwary collector.

JUNIOR LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

ON Saturday last the usual fortnightly meeting of the Junior London Philatelic Society was held in Clapham Hall. As announced, short papers were read instead of the usual lecture. Mr. Fahy headed the list by speaking on a very interesting subject, viz.: The Mafeking Stamps. This gave rise to a lively discussion in which nearly everyone present joined. Mr. Chas. Purdam read a short paper on the stamps of Cook Islands, displaying a nearly complete collection of same. A short article was also read on Branch Collecting. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to each speaker.

COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

The 50th meeting was held on Monday, November 12th.

The Treasurer's report showing a cash balance in bank of \$939.32, exclusive of U.S. bonds, was approved as read.

Mr. Bruner presented to the Club the book on "The Postage Stamps of Switzerland," and on presenting this handsome volume explained that this work had been purchased with money collected by private subscriptions among the members of the Club. A vote of thanks was tendered to the committee which obtained the subscriptions and also to the subscribers.—ALBERT PERRIN, Secretary, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York, U.S.A.

Metropolitan Stamp Exchange

104, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.

(Ten doors from the Shaftesbury Theatre).

Is now under entirely new management and proprietorship. A fine Collection of Stamps on view, also Cheap Packets and Sets.

Collections wanted, large or small, also loose stamps in any quantity for Cash.

J. LOUIS (Proprietor), Old Broad Street, E.C.

THIS WEEK'S BARGAINS & SPECIAL OFFERS.

Mauritius, 1842, 1d. early state fine	£3	10	0
" " " " worn plate	0	17	6
Barbadoes, 1873, 5 - rose fine	1	7	6
United States, 1847, 10 cents on grey	0	9	0
" " 1851, 5 cents, brown, exceptionally fine	1	12	6
" " dept. of State, 90 cents fine	1	10	0
" Columbus Issue, complete set, used fine, 1 cent to \$5	2	15	0

Selections sent on approval. Send list of wants.

GRAND VALUE IN PACKETS.

100 British Colonial Stamps	£	s.	d.
450 " " " "	0	2	0
200 Varieties " " "	0	10	0
300 " " " "	0	1	0
500 " " " "	0	2	6
750 " " " "	0	10	0
1000 " " " "	0	18	6
1500 " " " "	2	0	0
2500 " " " "	5	10	0

The above Packets contain only Postage Stamps and not any Fiscals, Wrappers, cut Envelopes, &c.

J. LOUIS, 42½, Old Broad Street (Corner of Union Street), E.C.

THE "Dagonet" Collection.

I have purchased the above celebrated Collection formed by G. R. SIMS, Esq., which contains a large quantity of Rare, Foreign, and Colonial Stamps.

This Collection is now being split up, and I am prepared to send Selections from it on approval to responsible applicants.

All Stamps priced at half current catalogue. Send list of wants.

MAFEKING STAMPS.

Baden-Powell, used	17	6
Bicycle Stamp, ..	12	6

New Greek Provisionals, 20, 30, 40, 50 aenta, 1, 3 and 5, drachma, imperf., unused, 10 - the complete set.

Perforated, 20, 30, 40, 50 aenta, 1, 2, 3 and 5, drachma, 13/6 the set complete, all unused.

F. C. PENNEY,
24, PHILPOT LANE, London, E.C.

IMPORTANT NOTICE re SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS.

6 insertions for the price of 5.
12 insertions for the price of 9.
26 ins. (whole year) for the price of 18.

V.R.I. TRANSVAAL. 4d. to 6d., 2/-; 4d. to 1/-, 3/3. Set of pairs, red penny English, original gum, well centred, 71 to 224, except 105, 4d. and 1d. early controls, all unused.—MR. EARL, Newcastle, Staff.

ALL Stamp Collectors should write for my Approval Sheets of old and new stamps. Lowest possible prices and 3d. in the 1s. discount allowed. References with first application will greatly oblige. Every stamp guaranteed genuine. No receipts sold by me.—F. V. BANKS, 35, Summerhill Avenue, Maindee, Newport, Men.

WANTED—No. 126 of the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly." We will send in exchange postage free the next three numbers of the Journal.—Apply the Publishers, 77-78, High Holborn, W.C.

SITUATION sought by Girl, nearly 18, twelve month's experience of Stamp and Club work. References permitted to Mr. A. Preston Pearce, 98, Alexandria Rd., Matley, Plymouth. EDITH BEEK, Gorran Haven, near St. Austell, Cornwall.

BILL Stamps, Revenues, Fiscals, 1000 finely assorted for 10s., immense variety, no rubbish, satisfaction or money returned. Approval against reference.—THOMPSON, 31, Crowndale Road, London, N.W., on Hazuar reference book.

GRAND XMAS PACKET—Marvelous value, 50 different stamps including New Issues of Austria, Holland, Hungary, together with a set of new German 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 pf., and many other scarce varieties, 4d. postage extra.—A. T. DANIEL, 6, New City Road, Barking Road, Plaistow, Essex. 1/8

BRITISH Central African Surcharged Stamps "One Penny" on 3s. unused, mint condition, 3/6 each. One Penny "Provisionals" for "Internal Postage" used, or original pieces of envelopes, 3/- each. Cash with order.—KNOWLES, Stationer, Padham Road, Bunley.

SUBSCRIPTION 1901. Send current numbers foreign Journals, also price lists.—A. GISHORNE, Alexandria Park, Nottingham.

BREAKING Collection Stamps. Clean. Half Catalogue. Sheets on approval.—PELLE, St. Dunstan's, Shelborne Road, Bournemouth East.

TRANSVAAL, surcharged V.R.I., 4d. to 2/6 inclusive, the set 10/-, valued at 30/-.—GARARD, 670 J. Lingo, Stationer, 63, Station Road, Camberwell.

COLLECTION about 1150 stamps, many old and scarce. Must sell quickly, £5. Also barrel full of old red British postage stamps, lot cheap.—HAYNES, 10, Batoum Gardens, W. Kensington.

ORANGE FREE STATE, surcharged V.R.I., 4d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 1s., 8/6 the set, ditto, first issue, 15/-.—ORANGE STAMP COMPANY, Box 226, Bloemfontein.

O.F.S., 4d., 1d., mint, 6d. pair, 1d., T.F., 5d. Australians, 50 varieties, 1/1 post free.—CHAS. PURDOM, Neptune Street, South Lambeth.

TRANSVAAL, Military Government, surcharged V.R.I., four different, 1/3. Orange River Colony provisionals, four different, 1/1. eight different, 5/-.—CHARLES SMITH, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey.

DISPERSING two fine collections, rich in early issues. A third of catalogue all round. Approval sheets against good references. Collectors kindly note that this is not a catch advertisement but prices will really average 6/4 per cent. less than catalogue, and the stamps are not modern speculative rubbish but good substantial old issues.—H. A. McMILLAN, 3 Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane, E.C.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA, O.S., high values in superb used blocks at 1/4 cat., or would exchange U.S.A. Columbus, \$1, 5/9; \$2, 3/9; 9cc purple, 2/- each; \$1 black, 9d. each.—BOLTON, 5, Elmwood Road, Clendon.

APPROVAL SHEETS of collectors' duplicates, for collections, up to 5000.—VALLANCE CROMARTIE, Cockington, Torquay.

GOOD SELECTIONS, moderate prices, liberal discount.—B. C. McARTHUR, Oak Villa, Malvern Road, Leytonstone.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE.—"Fwen's Weekly," Volumes 1, 2, 1/- each; 3, 4, 1/6 each. "Philatelist's Supplement," complete, 20/-. "Stamp Collectors' Journal," Volumes 13, 15, 3/6 each; 20, 2/6. "Philatelic Chronicle," Volumes 2, 3, 2/6 each. "Foreign Stamp Collectors' News," 30 numbers, complete, 1/4. "Stamp Dealers' Journal," 1895, complete, 1/-. "Stamps," Volumes 2, 3, 2/- each. All post free. Want lists solicited.—APPLBY, Co-operative Stores, Sunderland.

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.



63/4, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents.

The next Sale will be held on

. . . . TUESDAY, JANUARY 15th, and following day.

Other Sales will take place bi-monthly, and Philatelists having Entire Collections or Loose Stamps to dispose of should make immediate arrangements if inclusion is desired in early auctions. As MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & Co. are the only firm of Auctioneers confining their whole attention to the Sale of Stamps on Commission, and do not deal or even collect on their own account, the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious. Commission on lots sold, 10%. 1/6 per lot (irrespective of value) being charged on unsold lots.

— CASH ADVANCES AND VALUATIONS MADE. —

Settlements usually in eight days, at the very latest within 14 days from date of Sale. Bids from buyers unable to attend the sales personally executed without charge and at prices as much below limits as possible.

— CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION —

W. H. PECKITT,

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V.R.I. ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

A fine selection of all varieties, including those of 6d. rose, 2nd printing.

5/-	V.R.I. TRANSVAAL.	-	-	-	20/-, unused.
10/-	do.	-	-	-	17/6, unused.

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ORANGE FREE STATE,

ORANGE RIVER COLONY,

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PRICE LISTS FREE.

RARE STAMPS BOUGHT.

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 8th and 9th, and will consist of a FINE SELECTION OF ALL COUNTRIES.

Catalogues ready shortly.

Following Sale, on January 22nd and 23rd, will consist of a fine PRIVATE COLLECTION, containing many Scarce Stamps. Catalogue in preparation.

Messrs. P. & S. have received instructions to Sell, on February 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th, 1901, a magnificent PRIVATE COLLECTION, the finest that has ever been offered for Sale by Auction in this country. It contains a large proportion of fine unused, and the majority of the more interesting countries are practically complete. Amongst the Rarities are:—

AUSTRIA, the rose, yellow and red Mercuries.
BULGARIA, 5 in black on 30 stotinki.
FRANCE, 1 franc orange on entire and 15c. brown on rose error, *se tenant* with 10c. mint.
GREAT BRITAIN, 1d black, V.R. 10d. octagonal pair, mint, 2/- brown unused.
HUNGARY, lithographed, complete, unused.
MECKLENBURGH SCHWERIN, $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. dotted ground rouletted.
MECKLENBURGH STRELITZ, 1sch. mauve on entire
MODENA, 1 lire on entire, and large B.G.
NAPLES, $\frac{1}{2}$ tornese Arms (2) very fine, $\frac{1}{2}$ tornese Cross (4, one on entire).
OLDENBURG, the four issues complete, unused.
PRUSSIA, 2 sgr. with solid ground, mint, superb.
MOLDAVIA, 27, 54, 81, and 108 paras.
ROUMANIA, 5 bani, blue, error.
RUSSIAN LEVANT, 1865, 2 and 20 kopecks.
SAXONY, 1st issue 3pf. used on entire and unused, 1851, the rare error $\frac{1}{2}$ ngr. black on blue.
SWEDEN, 1st issue complete, unused, and the "Tretio" error.
SWITZERLAND, Zurich, 4 rapen (2, one on entire) Geneva, 5+5 on piece. Basle $2\frac{1}{2}$ rappen on entire, Vaud 4c. on entire
SERVIA, 1866, error 2 para. green on rose.
SPAIN, 1850, complete, unused, 1851, 1852 and 1853, 2 reals, Madrid 3 cuartos on entire, 1854, 1 real light blue. 1855 2 reals blue error, 1865 12 cuartos with centre inverted, perf. and imperf., former on entire.
TUSCANY, 60 crazie, 2 soldi and 3 lire
WURTEMBERG, the first 7 issues, complete unused (with two exceptions) 7okr. (2) etc.
CEYLON, 4d., 8d., 9d., 1/- and 2/- imperf., 8d. perf. star, unused, 2 rupees 50c. unused, etc., etc.
LABUAN, 6 in red on 16c. and 8 on 12c.
INDIA, 1st issue, $\frac{1}{2}$ a. red and $\frac{1}{2}$ a. unused, no wmk. 2a. green, Service Provisionals 2, 4 and 8a.
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, 1854, 1 real, and 1863, 1 and 2 reales, surcharged Habilitado.
CAPE, Woodblock errors, 1d. blue and 4d. red.
LAGOS, wmk. C.A. 2/6, 5/-, and 10/- mint.
MAURITIUS, Post Paid 1d. (3) and 2d. (3) Large Fillet 2d. etc.

NATAL, 1st issue complete, etc.
SIERRA LEONE, 6d. imperf. unused.
TRANSVAAL, a very fine lot.
ANTIOQUIA, 1st issue, complete.
BARBADOS, 1d. on half of 5/- unused.
BOLIVAR, 1st issue. 10c. green on entire.
BRAZIL, first 4 issues complete
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 10c. imperf. 10c. and 1 dollar perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, unused.
BRITISH GUIANA, 1st issue, 4c. on pelure, and 8c., cut round, and 12c., cut square, 1852, 1 and 4c., latter on entire, 1856, 4c. magenta and 4c. blue. latter on original, 1862, 1c. (3), 2c. (3), and 4c. (4), all different types.
BUENOS AYRES, 1st issue. 2, 3, 4 and 5 pesos, unused.
CANADA, imperf., 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 10d., unused, 12d. black, used, perf., 6d., unused, etc., etc.
GUATEMALA, 1881, 2, 5 and 20c., with inverted centres.
NEW BRUNSWICK, 1/-, superb, and the "Connell" stamp.
NOVA SCOTIA, 1/-, unused.
NEWFOUNDLAND, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. carmine, unused, and 1/- orange, used, very fine.
PERU, Medio Peso, 100c. error on entire.
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, 1862, 1 real, and 1865, 1 real, unused.
ST. VINCENT, wmk. star, 4d. dark blue, 4d. ultramarine, 1/- vermilion and 5/- lake, unused, 4d. on 1/-, used, wmk. CA., 4d. blue and 4d. red-brown, unused, etc., etc.
TOBAGO, 1st issue complete, 6d. ochre C.C. and C.A. unused.
TURKS ISLANDS, 1 - lilac and a rare lot of 1881 provisionals.
COLUMBIAN REPUBLIC, 1863, 50c red error.
UNITED STATES, Brattleboro 5 cents. St. Louis 5 and 10 cents, 1869 15, 24 and 30 cents with inverted centres, Departmentals complete including State, 2, 5, 10 and 20 dollars.
REUNION 1st issue, 15 and 30c. on entire.
HAWAII, 1st issue 5 and 13 cents blue, very fine.
QUEENSLAND, imperf. 1d. 2d. 6d. and 1/-
VICTORIA, 6d. orange and 5/- blue and yellow, Registered stamp rouletted, etc.
WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 1st and 2nd issues complete, imperf. and rouletted wmk. C.C., 2d mauve error, etc.
And others too numerous to mention.

CATALOGUE IN PREPARATION.

FULL LIST OF SALES FOR 1901:—

1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 7, 8, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17; May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12; October 1, 2, 15, 16, 29 and 30; November 12, 13, 26 and 27; December 10 and 11.

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.

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GREECE. All the new surcharges.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY

TRANSVAAL = = =

} Surcharged V.R.I.

HONG KONG

INDIA = =

} New colours.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. New issue, with map of Island.

 **And all other New Issues in Stock.**

For Prices see our Monthly List, sent post free for 6d. per annum.

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Foreign Stamp Merchants & Importers,

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Diploma of Honour „ „ „ **Regensburg, 1899.**

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Where we hope to be favoured with a visit from our numerous Customers. We shall have on show a **very fine selected Stock of Rare British Colonials, European and other Foreign Stamps at Moderate Prices.**

 **We especially desire to Purchase for immediate Cash** 

 **Several Fine Collections from £50 up to £3000.**

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NEXT "FORTNIGHTLY" will be the SPECIAL NEW-CENTURY NUMBER.

THE

STAMP COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 152—Vol. VI. SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1901. ONE PENNY.

J. WESTHORP,

13, REGENT'S PARK ROAD,

LONDON, N. W.

The following Books are now ready, and will gladly be sent to responsible
Collectors at home and abroad:-

- | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 St. Vincent | 30 Ceylon | 17 Italy and Roman States |
| 2 Nevis | 31 Straits Settlements | 18 Italian States |
| 3 Brit. Honduras & Prince Edward Island | 32 India | 49 France |
| 4 British Guiana | 32 ^a Indian States (surcharged on Indian) | 50 French Colonies (2 vols) |
| 5 Barbados | 32 ^b Hong Kong | 51 Greece |
| 6 Newfoundland | 33 Labuan and North Borneo | 51 ^a Hungary |
| 7 New Brunswick and Nova Scotia | 34 Indian Native States | 52 Spain |
| 8 Canada and B. Columbia | 35 Mauritius | 53 Portugal |
| 9 Turks Island and Tobago | 36 St. Helena and Gambia | 53 ^a Portuguese Colonies |
| 10 Dominica and Virgin Island | 37 Lagos, Sierra Leone and Gold Coast | 54 Holland |
| 11 Trinidad | 38 Natal | 54 ^a Surinam, Curacao |
| 12 St. Christopher, Antigua and Montserrat | 38 ^a Cape of Good Hope | 54 ^b Belgium |
| 13 Bahamas, Falkland Islands and St. Lucia | 39 B. East, B. South and B. Central Africa, &c. | 55 Bulgaria, Eastern Roumelia, &c. |
| 14 Grenada and Jamaica | 40 Switzerland | 56 Austria |
| 15 United States (3 vols) | 40 ^a Oldenburg | 56 ^a Turkey, Servia, &c. |
| 16 Helligoland, Cyprus, Gibraltar | 41 Wurtemberg and Bremen | 57 Germany |
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| 23 Victoria | 45 Bavaria | 62 Cabul |
| 24 South Australia | 45 ^a Baden and Prussia | 63 Portuguese Indies |
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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 ensuing Season will be as under:—

1901.—January 16th and 18th, 31st; February 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th; March 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th and 29th; April 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; May 9th and 10th, 30th and 31st, and June 13th and 14th.

January 16th and 18th, 1901.—Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to Sell on these dates the Collection formed by the late W. A. S. WESTOBY, Esq.

January 31st and February 1st, 1901.—MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell on those dates, a portion of the well-known Collection of G. NORMAN, Esq., of Calcutta, which contains the following rarities:—

GREAT BRITAIN, the V.R. with trial postmark, 10d. octagonal, an unused block of 4, medium garter, 4d. on blue, unused, and ditto on white, 1856, 10d., plate 2, &c. SPAIN, complete and very fine, including 1851, 2 reales, unused. SWITZERLAND, Geneva on entire, envelope stamp used on entire as adhesive; Zürich, 4r., both types very fine. NAPLES, Arms, very fine. ROUMANIA, 54 paras, very fine. TUSCANY, complete, and all the rarities in fine condition. ST. LOUIS, 5c. and 10c. very fine. CAPE, Woodblocks, 1d. red, unused; 4d. dark blue, very fine, and errors. MAURITIUS, very fine specimens of the early issues. REUNION, 1st issue, 15cts., used INDIA, ½a. red, 9 arches; ½a. red, 8 arches, a fine unused pair of each; 4 annas, unused, showing rosettes; 1856, 2as. green, a pair and single, used; Service stamps, 2, 4 and 8 annas. BRITISH GUIANA, 1850, 12cts.; 1856, 4c. magenta, very fine; 1862, Provisionals, a fine lot. BUENOS AYRES, 4 pesos, vermilion. BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2½d. imperforate. CANADA, 12d. black, used, superb. NEWFOUNDLAND, 1/- vermilion and 1/- orange, very fine. WEST INDIES, very fine, including Lady McLeod on entire, Oldenburg and other German States, very fine, also Modena, &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.

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The NEW (4th) Edition OF The "ABC" Catalogue

UP-TO-DATE CATALOGUE FOR THE NEW SEASON.

Many new features are introduced, and much additional information is given that will be found useful to Collectors.
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CONDUCTED BY **PERCY C. BISHOP.**

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Canton Stamp Exchange Society, the Central Philatelic Club, and the Ladies' Stamp Exchange.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

WELL-KNOWN PHILATELIST ROBBED.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GAME OF BLUFF.

MR. T. P. DORMAN, of Northampton, a very well-known philatelist, has been the victim of a most audacious railway-station robbery.

At the Marylebone Police Court on Friday, December 28 (When William Forester, aged 28, was charged with the theft of property to the value of £300) it was explained that Mr. Dorman arrived at Euston Station on the afternoon of the 4th of December about an hour before his train for Northampton was due to depart. He had with him six packages, which he left in the central hall in charge of a porter.

Shortly afterwards, it appeared, the prisoner entered the hall, and was seen to examine the luggage, and then take up a position near the telegraph office. A porter, who was passing, saw him, and, thinking that he wanted a porter, spoke to him. Forester, in reply, said he thought he was unable to catch the train he had intended travelling by, and did not know what to do; but eventually he determined to take his luggage away. The porter, impressed by his gentlemanly appearance, asked if the six packages on the barrow before him were his, and receiving his assent, he hailed a cab and placed the luggage on it. The prisoner then drove away.

AN IMPUDENT LETTER.

Forester, it seemed, proceeded to Windsor, where he was living, apparently, in high style at the White Hart Hotel. Thence he went to Ealing, where he posted the following letter to Mr. Dorman, at Northampton, the letter being written on Mr. Dorman's own notepaper, and accompanying it being a doctor's prescription belonging to Mrs. Dorman:—

If Mr. T. P. Dorman on receipt of this will send a telegraph money order for £50 to A. Bruce, Post Office, Ealing, he will have his property, books, papers, etc., restored to him intact. Any notification to the police authorities will prevent A. Bruce from restoring Mr. and Mrs. Dorman's valuable belongings. Unless Mr. T. P. Dorman transmits the £50 immediately his property will be destroyed.

Information was promptly given to the L. & N.W. Railway police, and observation was consequently kept at the Ealing Post-office, with the result that when the prisoner came there for a telegram he was arrested.

Previous convictions having been proved, the prisoner was committed for trial.

VALUABLE PROPERTY STILL MISSING.

At the London County Sessions on Tuesday last, January 1st, the prisoner pleaded guilty.

It appeared that the most valuable portion of Mr. Dorman's property was still missing. So, to allow the prisoner to give information, sentence was postponed.

RARER THAN THE POST OFFICE MAURITIUS.

Is an advertisement now current Messrs. Bright & Son claim to possess a stamp which is "rarer than the Post Office Mauritius." This is the 4½ on 40 rems (No. 47), Portuguese India, 1882 ("A.B.C." Catalogue, No. 216; Gibbons', No. 158). Messrs. Bright claim that the copy of this stamp which they are now offering for £45 is the only known specimen of this stamp, and that "it is therefore the greatest rarity procurable." Yet we seem to remember hearing something about a 1 cent British Guiana of 1856, of which only one specimen exists. Be this as it may, Messrs. Bright & Son should speedily get £45 in exchange for a stamp which, quantity for quantity, is "rarer than the 'Post Office' Mauritius."

PARIS MEDALS NOT TO BE SELF-BOUGHT.

It is a great pleasure to record the fact that winning exhibitors at the Paris Philatelic Exhibition will not, after all, be asked to pay for the medals awarded to them. The leading French Philatelic Society, mindful of the dignity of French philatelists as a whole, has now decided to do the

needful," and the medals are to be delivered as soon as possible to the winners thereof. It is a happy ending to a regrettable incident.

INTERESTING VARIETY OF B.E.A. ON INDIA.

MR. A. E. MOORE, of Nottingham, tells of an interesting variety of the British East Africa surcharged on the 1½ anna of India. This shows an inverted V in lieu of an "A" in the word "Africa."

VARIETIES OF THE "V.R.I." TRANSVAALS.

WE are indebted to Messrs. Bright & Son, for this interesting little list of the varieties of "V.R.I." Transvaals they have so far seen:—

Surcharge Inverted: ½d., 1d., 2½d.
Without stop after "V": ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d.
Without stop after "I": 10s.
Error "V.I.R.": 2d.
With dropped "I": ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., and 6d.

THE "FEDERATION" BOOM IN AUSTRALIAN STAMPS.

MR. J. H. SMYTH, of Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle, Sydney, and Mr. Fred Hagan, of the same city, have been talking to newspaper representatives on stamps generally, and the present boom in Australian stamps in particular.

"In view of the accomplishment of Federation," said Mr. Smyth, "many people are hurrying to secure complete sets of the stamps now issued in the different colonies or States, some to complete a collection and others to hold for an increase in values."

"Is anything known of the design of the new Federal stamp?" asked the interviewer.

"Not yet; that will have to be decided later on. My opinion is that the new stamp will not be issued for some little time after Federation is accomplished. There will be preliminaries to arrange. But what will happen will probably be this: The issues at present in use in the States will be 'surcharged' with the words 'Federal Australia,' and the year 1901, just as the Transvaal and Orange State stamps were utilised with the letters 'V.R.I.' printed across them."

"One good effect which Federation will have on the stamp business," said Mr. Fred Hagan, chatting to the same Press representative, "is that it will bring about something like finality in the issue. At present dealers are quite disgusted at what goes on in some colonies. The stamps are changed and rechanged with remarkable rapidity. In Queensland there have been numerous issues and alterations in a year or two."

"In Victoria the Government has decided to make a business of issuing cancelled stamps in sheets. This is playing it low down, and is on a par with what little South American Republics or Borneo do to make revenue. But I believe it is contrary to the agreement at the Intercolonial Postal Conference."

"Has the prospect of Federation led to an increase of business in Australian stamps?" Mr. Hagan was asked.

"Yes; already local collectors are buying full sets of present State stamps to hold for a rise, which is sure to come by-and-by when the issues are out of date. There have been enquiries, too, by dealers abroad, and I have sent to England some very large parcels of Australian stamps—about 300,000 of New South Wales alone."

AN INTERESTING MAFEKING ENVELOPE.

ON a Mafeking envelope recently purchased by Messrs. John Edwards & Co., and afterwards re-sold by them to Mr. Bannister, there is a curious and interesting duplication of postmarks. The envelope was franked with two Baden-Powell small heads, was despatched from Mafeking to Kimberley, and—this is the curious point—it bore two "Mafeking" postmarks of different dates! One, a large cancellation, shows date May 11, and the other, a smaller postmark, is dated May 20. It has been assumed that this may be taken as an indication that the letter was detained in the post office of the besieged town nine days; but there is, obviously, an alternative possibility. The larger postmark,

showing the earlier date, may have been, for some reason withdrawn from use and then inadvertently used on the later date without the customary revision of its type. But whatever be its "story" the envelope is undeniably interesting.

THE TALK OF THE TRADE.

MESSRS. MYERSCOUGH & Co. have vacated their premises at 61/62, Gracechurch Street and are now installed in a suite of offices at 3, Broadway, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

Two alterations of auction dates must be noted. Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper and Messrs. Plumridge & Co., to avoid clashing, have altered their January fixtures to the 16th and 18th, and the 14th and 15th respectively.

THE SIXPENNY ROSE FIJI, PRINTED ON BOTH SIDES.

MESSRS. NISSEN & Co. have shown us the sixpenny rose Fiji with very distinct printing on both sides of the stamp. On the reverse the printing is clearly below the gum. This is a stamp with a story. The postmaster is said to have held back the sheet or sheets of the doubly printed stamp, and to have distributed copies among his friends. The variety is not catalogued.

THIS IS GOOD NEWS INDEED!

THE Stamp Department at the British Museum, which has as its nucleus the magnificent collection bequeathed by the late Mr. T. K. Tapling, is to be greatly extended, writes the London correspondent of the "Western Mercury." In response to a hint from the authorities, the Crown Agents of various Colonies have secured and are presenting as perfect a series of Colonial stamps as possible, and I learn that special inquiries have been made with regard to the issues printed in South Africa during the war. Many applications have been made to the Museum authorities with regard to the stamp collections, and I gather that arrangements are under contemplation which will make them far more accessible to the public.

A Local, or Not a Local?

MR. TURNER CONTENDS THAT THE "BADEN-POWELL" IS "A FULL PLEDGED POSTAGE STAMP."

MR. J. R. F. TURNER writes us as follows:—

Touching some remarks in your last issue re Baden-Powell stamps with which my name was coupled, I would ask you, in fairness to myself, kindly to give publicity to the following facts.

I have in my possession seven envelopes that went through the sieve entirely franked with Baden-Powell stamps, each envelope bearing a strip or block of 4, and three letters partly franked with them, while several more I know to be in the hands of certain collectors.

It is thus not the case of a stray letter having passed through the post unobserved. Nearly all these letters are marked, 'PASSED PRESS CENSOR' in violet and initialled both by an official in the Mafeking P.O. and by J. Powell (J.P.) the P.M. at Buluwayo. As the Baden-Powell stamps on these letters, which ranged over the whole month of April, and are addressed to various people, were affixed by the postal authorities at Mafeking, it goes without saying that they used them *deliberately* to frank letters out of Mafeking. Moreover apart from this evidence which is surely conclusive, if the 3d. stamp was meant for local use only, why were not the words 'Local Post' printed at the foot, as in the case of the 1d. Cyclist stamp? But even supposing that the B.P. was *originally* issued as a local stamp from the evidence advanced it would appear that it soon lost its local character and came to be regarded as a full fledged postage stamp, otherwise the Postal Officials at Mafeking would not have used it to frank numerous letters out of Mafeking. Indeed this action on their part, surely established the Baden-Powell stamps true character beyond the shadow of a doubt.

P.S.—The evidence of the Postmaster at Mafeking is not always to be relied on. In an article in the "London Philatelist" it is stated on his authority that the B.P. 3d. was issued on April 7th. In contradiction to this statement, I may say that I have a block of 4 postmarked April 1st, and two singles postmarked April 2nd.

Also I would point out, that as the Mafeking "Fancy Capitals" varieties were printed in rows of 6 at a time, these must have been at least six, not five as stated in the article, of certain stamps with *inverted* surcharge.

Our Review of Reviews.

A Philatelic Novice at Forty Years of Age.

Mr. E. Shorthouse, of Birmingham, is the well known philatelist of the December "P.J.G.B." Until he was forty, he had never heard of stamp collecting. At that point in his life (1877), an album published by Zschiesche, of Leipzig, came his way, and he made up his mind to collect stamps. Mr. Shorthouse is proud now, and justifiably so, of the instinct which urged him to collect unused stamps. He knew and dealt with the late E. L. Pemberton, and from 1885 until 1889, Mr. Charles J. Phillips was his philatelic mentor. When the latter removed to London to take over the management of the Stanley Gibbons' business, Mr. Shorthouse appears to have felt like a fish out of water. "I lost interest," he tells us, "and decided to realise to the dealers. . . . Although I sold at ludicrously low prices to our present ideas, the stamp 'hobby' has nevertheless given me £3,200 profit. I now only 'hold' and 'collect' Great Britain—a fine collection; also an extraordinary (£500) hoard of 'Greece,' said to be one of the finest in England, besides a few minor countries still left."

An enthusiast on the subject of Stamp Collecting, Mr. Shorthouse confesses that two other pursuits give him greater pleasure—Chess and Croquet. He plays a strong game on the chess-board, and became a Silver Medalist at Croquet in the year 1896.

At a French Philatelic Auction.

Mr. William B. Hale, whose description of the Stamp Bourse in the Champs Elysées we quoted in the *Fortnightly*, sends the "Metropolitan Philatelist" a chatty report of a Stamp Auction at the Hotel Drouot, Paris. The auction, consisting of about 100 lots, lasted for nearly four hours and realised a total of only 2000 francs—about £80!

A Postal Angel of Paraguay.

Angel Pesa is the Guardian Angel of Paraguay's postal affairs. At any rate he is "Director of Posts" in that delectable Republic. The "P.J.G.B." merely toys with the subject in describing him as "a gentleman of considerable public spirit."

When, a few weeks ago, M. Angel Pesa found that there was a shortage of postage stamps of the denominations 5c. and 10c., he at once saw how awkward it would be for the public not to be able to obtain those values, and ordered 20,000 telegraph stamps to be surcharged "5" for postage, and a similar number to be converted into 10c. A new issue, of a new design altogether, was expected daily, so he thought that number would be sufficient. Oddly enough Angel Pesa though he had the stamps ready, omitted to inform the public of the fact at first, and they were only on sale between 5 and 7 o'clock one evening, during which time about 1000 of each value were disposed of. But rather than the department should be saddled with the remainders, M. Pesa appropriated the lot.

"And yet," remarks the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain,"—"and yet they say chivalry is dead!"

Big Collection of Bolivia Sold.

THE fine collection of Bolivian stamps formed by Mr. H. R. Oldfield has been sold, we learn, to Mr. J. W. Jones, of Cheapside. It is described as "the best specialised collection of Bolivar in existence," and we can well believe that the claim is well founded. The excellent articles that Mr. Oldfield has written on Bolivia are a monument to his patient study of this interesting, and too neglected, country.

Great care (says a warning note in the "Canada Stamp Sheet") should be taken in soaking or cleaning grilled stamps. In many instances the grilling is so faint that prolonged soaking and pressure when damp entirely obliterates the grill, and makes a scarce stamp a very common one.

Curious Pricing by Senf.

A PHILATELIST GLANCES THROUGH THE BUFF SENF, WITH ASTONISHING RESULTS.

To the Editor of the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly."

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I trust that I shall not be encroaching too much on your valuable space, but as it is upon a matter that probably interests most of your readers, you may perhaps see your way to inserting this letter.

Having heard many criticisms re the low prices prevailing in the 1900 edition of that usually most estimable of all catalogues, Messrs. Senf Bros., I decided to invest in one, and run through it to see if there were any stamps priced that one would jump at the chance of buying—in fact absolute bargains. I submit the following as a few, from a hasty perusal:—

	Priced	£	s.	d.
Barbados, Imperf., 6d. rose, unused	1	10	0
Griqualand, large G in red on 5/-, unused	0	15	0
New Zealand, no wmk., imperf. 1/-, unused	5	0	0
.. .. perf. 13, 2d. blue, unused	2	0	0
.. .. " .. 6d. brown,	2	0	0
.. .. wmk. N.Z., impf., 6d.	10	0	0
.. .. " .. perf., 1/- green,	2	10	0
*Mauritius, 1d., early state, unused	17	10	0
.. .. 2d.,	17	10	0
New S. Wales, Diadem, impf., 8d. oran., unused	..	15	0	0
Newfoundland, carmine-vermilion, 2d., unused	..	7	10	0
Tuscany, 9, crazie on white, unused	11	0	0

Doubtless there are many more instances as mine was a very rapid survey and that only of the fairly well-known varieties. Perhaps some of your readers might be able to put a price on some of the above-mentioned stamps compatible with what they would expect to have to pay if they wanted them—your valuable lists for collectors has not got so far as the majority of countries in question—these prices should make an interesting comparison with those in the catalogue.

Surely it is much better to leave a stamp unpriced than to put a price that does not represent the value of the stamp at all.

It seems such a pity that a catalogue which is so neatly got up and has the advantage of containing prices for envelopes and postcards, in addition to adhesives, should so greatly mislead collectors as to the real value of certain stamps.

Apologising for the length of the foregoing.

I am, Mr. Editor,

Yours faithfully,

A PHILATELIST.

* I presume the catalogue means early state.—WRITER OF THE LETTER.

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The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JANUARY 5, 1901.

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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It would really seem from the interesting letter of "a Philatelist," published elsewhere in this number, that Messrs. Senf Brothers, of Leipzig, combine philanthropy and Philately. Some of the prices assigned to good stamps in the "Buff Senf" are undoubtedly "give-away" prices. The only trouble is that Messrs. Senf, when put to it, may be found to be out of stock of these particular varieties. We make no allegation that this is so; but as nothing would please us better than to put our readers "on" a real good thing, we cordially advise *Fortnightly* subscribers to make application to Messrs. Senf for the particular stamps mentioned by our correspondent, and also many others that are priced in Senf with what we may call princely moderation.

Years ago the *Fortnightly* defended Messrs. Senf against an attack on their catalogue by Mr. C. J. Phillips, of the firm of Stanley Gibbons, Limited. That defence, to those who know the true inwardness of the matter, is not at all inconsistent with the observations we have made above.

We shall hope to have from Messrs Senf some explanation of the curious pricing pointed out by the writer of the letter we have published. Anything the firm may write us in explanation or extenuation we shall be happy to insert in our next issue.

* * *

THE New Century is here. May it bring happiness and prosperity to every reader of the *Fortnightly*. This present issue of our paper, by the way, is reduced to less than its usual proportions by reason of the fact that we have been disappointed in more than one direction. The "Collectors' Guide" to Griqualand—unhappily, is not quite ready at the moment of going to press.

The "New Century" number of the *Fortnightly*, which will be our next issue, published January 10th, will we think be worthy of its name. There will be no increase of price either to advertisers or subscribers, although a much larger edition will be printed and the paper will be an unusually attractive one, from a literary and philatelic point of view.

* * *

"Philatelic Fun" is the name of the newest journalistic project in Canada. It looks as if the jokes for No. 1. are taking over-long in the laying, for the publishing date has been "moved on" from November, 1900, until the current month. We shall await the coming of "Philatelic Fun" with a sympathetic interest. Previous attempts to couple Philately and Humour have been failures of the most miserable description.

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.

Deccan.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a provisional $\frac{1}{2}$ anna on $\frac{1}{4}$ anna, red, with new value surcharged in black in native characters.

German Colonies.—The new sets for all the German Colonies should be out by the time these lines are in print. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., who are making a special feature of the prompt supply of these stamps, have already sent us the following:

Camerouns: 3pf. to 80pf. (nine stamps).

German East Africa: 2 to 40 pesa (eight stamps).

The stamps are all of the now well-known warship design. In all, the new issues of German Colonial stamps will total 115 distinct stamps, which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. are prepared to supply at the price of £7 10s. the complete series.

Macau.—Messrs. Bright & Son have shown us a new issue of the stamps of Macau, viz., 5c. brown, 10c. blue, 15c. pale green and 20c. pale brown on buff. They also inform us that most probably Timor will follow suit with a new series of stamps.

Malta.—Regarding the farthing stamp, Mr. W. H. Peckitt has received a letter from the Postmaster-General to the effect that there is no stamp of this value in use and that nothing whatever is known of it.

Turks Island.—Mr. Peckitt has information from the postal authorities of Turks Island that there will be no issue of the new stamps until the stock of the existing series is exhausted.

Messrs. John Edwards & Co. have seen the 2½d. Transvaal with a surcharge of "V.R." impressed by means of a rubber stamp. The specimen seen was sent from Rustenberg to Cardiff and shows all the postmarks.

United States (Buffalo).—The Postmaster General of the United States of America, in his annual report, thus describes the stamps of the forthcoming issue for the Pan-American Exhibition at Buffalo:

1-cent.—The lake steamer presents the port bow, the pilot house is well forward, and it is propelled by side wheels. Colour green and black.

2-cents.—The train of four cars is drawn by a locomotive with four drivers; four parallel tracks are shown. Colour red and black.

4-cents.—The automobile is of the closed-coach order, with two men on the box and a part of the United States Capital at Washington as a back-ground. Colour red-brown and black.

5-cents.—This presents the largest single-span steel bridge in the world; two trolley cars are seen upon it, and a full view of Niagara Falls is shown under, beyond and up the river, with the graceful springing arch as a frame. Colour blue and black.

8-cents.—The ship canal locks at Sault Sainte Marie, Mich., are given in a view from a higher point, including the immediate surroundings. Colour lilac and black.

10-cents.—An ocean steamship of the American line, with two smokestacks and masts, presents its starboard bow lapped by a rising wave. Colour light brown and black.

Contrary to a statement already published the "Buffalo" stamps will not be an issue within the meaning of that statute of the Washington Postal Congress which restricts the availability of "stamps issued for a limited period of use." The Buffalo stamps, it is now stated, will not be so issued, but will always be recognised as available for postal duty.

The "Revue Philatelique Francaise," which is the organ of the leading French Philatelic Societies, will be edited, henceforth, by M. Henri Douchet, of Mericourt, L'Abbe.

"Habilitados" of Puerto Rico.

INTERESTING PAPERS CONTRIBUTED BY MR. J. M. ANDRIENI
TO "MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS."
(continued from page 162).

Counterfeits of this issue have recently appeared in the market. Two lots sent to dealers here shows the same characteristics and both were sent by the same party, who claims to have obtained them from certain official archives. Inasmuch as the government offices mentioned by him enjoyed under Spanish dominion franking privileges, his allegations as to the origin of his stamps cannot be true. The surcharge on these counterfeits is to all appearances made by means of a single rubber stamp, but the application is very neatly and leisurely done, and is, therefore, a work superior in this respect, to the genuine official surcharging. The ink bears little resemblance, either in colour or in thickness, to the ink on the original stamps. Then the multiplication of varieties is a suspicious feature of the lots.

FORGERIES WITH IMPOSSIBLE DATES.

The surcharges are not at all dangerous. There are several decided points of difference between originals and counterfeits. Some of the cancelled specimens bear unmistakable marks of fraud in such impossible dates as—97, Mar—, May—, Ago 96, any of which is sufficient to brand the stamp, so surcharged as a counterfeit. The decree authorizing the Habilitados is dated June 4th, 1898. The American troops occupied San Joan, October 18th, 1898.

For those who are interested, I append a list of counterfeits I have seen. I am indebted to Mr. A. Krassa for this courtesy. It is understood that all the stamps are used, except the first named:—

- 1½m. violet, normal and inverted.
- 2c. flesh, cancellation illegible.
- 3c. blue, cancellation illegible.
- 3c. brown, cancellation—97.
- 4c. slate, cancellation illegible.
- 5c. blue, cancellation illegible.
- 6c. lilac, cancellation Mar—.
- 8c. rose, cancellation May—.
- 20c. slate, cancellation Ago 96, double surcharge.
- 20c. slate, cancellation illegible.
- 20c. slate, cancellation illegible, inverted surcharge.

They were all surcharged in reddish ink, except the 6c. lilac and the 8c. rose, both of which were surcharged in bluish ink.

Mr. Luff reports having seen similar counterfeit surcharges on other values, viz.:—on 1m. lilac brown, 4m. blue green, 1c. claret, 5c. yellow green and 5c. blue green.

A MORE DANGEROUS COUNTERFEITER

Altogether this counterfeiter has done his work so bunglingly that I apprehend no great risk to collectors by his wrong-doing.

Unfortunately a more subtle and a more dangerous counterfeiter has been busily at work surcharging these stamps and selling them to dealers in this country. After a thorough investigation of the matter, in which I have been aided by dealers and collectors, especially Mr. Luff, who kindly permitted me to examine numerous sheets and panes from the stock of the Scott Stamp Company, I have come to the conclusion that there exist counterfeit surcharges on the following stamps.

- 1½m. violet, not catalogued by Scott.
- 2m. flesh, not catalogued.
- 3c. dark blue, catalogued.
- 6c. orange, also catalogued.
- 8c. rose, red surcharge, not catalogued.
- 40c. red violet, not catalogued.

All unused, except the 3c. dark blue, which exists used, in quantities. I have seen several 3's plainly cancelled in 1896.

FORGERIES SURCHARGED SINGLY.

The surcharge on these stamps appear to be uniform and differs only very slightly from the original surcharge. In one main feature the good and the bad differ, namely, that while the good were all surcharged in rows of ten or five, the bad ones are invariably found surcharged singly. Herein lies, I believe, the greatest danger of this counterfeit to collectors. No one who examines a single specimen, or a pair, or even a block of these counterfeits can arrive at a proper conclusion regarding the manner of surcharging. A difference from the genuine surcharge can, however, be detected on a single specimen.

Of the 1½m. violet there appears to be a genuine and a bad surcharge. As to the genuineness of the 4c. dark blue, it is impossible

to write at the present moment, as no specimen has been examined. This variety is catalogued by Stanley Gibbons, and no one has seen it here. The 1900 catalogue of S. G. lists the varieties here considered as spurious, excepting the 40c. red violet, which is not listed.

From Mr. Luff's sheets I have satisfied myself that the Impuestos, like the Habilitados, have been officially surcharged in rows of ten and five. Such varieties as may appear to have been surcharged singly must be accepted with caution.

FRAUDS THAT ARE CATALOGUED.

A warning should be sounded against all the stamps catalogued by Senf's 1900 Catalogue under these three headings:—"Provisional" set, the 4c. on 5m. and the "Habilitado Oct. 17, 1898" set, which are all frauds of the worst type. Gibbons' catalogue last year included all these varieties, but in the 1900 catalogue only the surcharges appear, with this note: "The surcharging applied to stamps of type 12 was done as a private speculation purely," which is a very mild way of putting it.

From the Auction Rooms.

The following are the most interesting realisations at the various Philatelic Auctions held in London since our last report:—

Mr. J. G. STEVENS' Sale, Dec. 15th.

	£	s.	d.
Mafeking Besieged, another	3	10	0
Do. do. 2/- on 1/- British Bech.*	4	4	0
Do. do. another*	5	5	0
Do. do. Baden-Powell, large head*	2	12	6
Do. do. 6d. on 3d. Cape	3	0	0
Mafeking Besieged, 1d. on ½d. Bechuanaland, without stop after Mafeking	1	6	0
Do. do. 6d. on 2d. Bech Prot., square type, a pair*	2	15	0
Do. do. Baden-Powell, large head	2	6	0
Do. do. 1/- on 4d. British Bech.*	2	2	0
Do. do. Baden-Powell, large head	1	15	0
Do. do. 1/- on 4d. Cape	1	16	0
Orange Colony, 1d. error, surcharged V.R. instead of V.R.I.	2	0	0
Transvaal, V.R., in rubber type, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 1/- and 2/6 used	6	6	0

Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, Dec. 13th.

British East Africa on Company, surcharged 2½ in large figures on 4½a.	1	0	0
British Honduras, 6c. in red on 10c., inverted surcharge, used on original with another	2	2	0
Mauritius, Post Paid, 2d. blue, error, "Penoe" poor	2	12	6
Nevis, wmk. C.A. 1/- lilac*	1	5	0
Oil Rivers, Half penny on 2½d. in vermilion (Gibbons No. 14) but twice surcharged	2	5	0
St. Vincent, 5/- lake, wmk. star, surcharged "Fifty Pounds Revenue"	4	10	0
Virgin Islands, 4d. on 1/- with border*	0	19	0

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & CO.'S Sale, Dec. 18th & 19th.

British Colombia, CC. 12½, 5c.*	1	5	0
Do. 1 dol. perf. clipped, poor*	1	14	0
British Honduras, CC. 14, 6d. rose*	2	8	0
Do. CA. 14, 1/- grey	1	12	0
Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 1d. red, rather poor	2	0	0
Do. do. 4d. blue, defective	1	12	0
Ceylon, wmk. star, perf. 19 green*	3	0	0
Do. do. 2/- blue off centre*	1	3	0
Gt. Britain, 1847, 1/- pale green, margins, but split and mended	1	18	0
Do. £5 orange	1	7	0
Do. 1885, 10/- blue, "I.R. Official"	2	0	0
Do. ,, 20/- green do.	2	0	0
Hong Kong, 1874-97, 10 dollars rose, off centre*	1	2	0
Mauritius, 1859-61, imperf. 1/- yellow-green, a horizontal pair*	2	17	6
Naples, cross ½t. blue, used on entire newspaper	2	12	6
Natal, 1st issue, embossed, 1d. blue	1	12	0
Do. 1862, no wmk., imperf., 1d. rose-red, a very fine block of four*	3	15	0
Do. no wmk., rough perf., 6d. grey, a horizontal pair*	1	5	0
Nevis, 1861, 4d. rose*	1	7	0
Do. do. another, used	1	6	0
Do. 1867, perf. 15, engraved, 4d. orange*	1	5	0

Reminiscences of a Philatelist.

BY WALTER NATHAN.

(Continued).

It may be taken as a sound general rule that nothing can be done effectually unless a decided mind is brought to bear on the matter. I found this in my attempts to decide which group of countries I should specialize. In theory nothing seemed simpler; in practice nothing was more difficult. If one section of my collection had far outweighed all others in number and rarity, I should not have wavered as I did; but not only was it good all round and carried desirable stamps in every stamp-issuing country, but the constant supply coming in made the decision of one week inapplicable to the next. Finally, I took up England and Colonies and United States. This was a large order, and would be difficult to handle to-day, but in 1890 not only were the varieties less numerous, but the facilities of acquiring specimens at moderate prices greater.

The majority of catalogues at that time discarded minor varieties in the same manner, if not to so great an extent as Messrs. Whitfield King do in their Universal Standard catalogue recently published. No notice was taken of such differences as those formed by the different plates from which the Sydney views were printed; Nevis, 1867 to 1880, were lumped together and no distinction between engraved and lithographed marked. Imperforated and perforated were considered quite sufficient to satisfy the appetite of the most voracious hunter after varieties, and measurements of perforation were unnoticed.

It will thus be seen that if a specialist had not the assistance now supplied by the excellent catalogues issued by several firms of stamp dealers, and above all by the superb monographs published by the Philatelic Society of London, excelled only by that *magnum opus*. The stamps of Switzerland, beyond which it is difficult to imagine the energy and patience of philatelic compilers going; he had splendid opportunities of acquiring rarities in the minor varieties both

from collectors and dealers if his knowledge had only been equal to the circumstances. Although I made an intelligent effort in the right direction, I have distinct recollections of passing very scarce stamps, especially in dealers' approval books. However, I owed many advantageous purchases to the information I gathered from two sources, the large catalogue of M. Moens, and the catalogue for collectors, compiled by Captain (now Major) E. B. Evans, published by Messrs. Pemberton, Wilson & Co., who then carried on business at Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush. M. Moen's catalogue was undoubtedly the groundwork from which started the excellent publications of to-day, but his inclusion of fiscal varieties made the book rather cumbrous for the collector of postals only. Major Evans' catalogue was not only handier, but excellent in every way, and as that gentleman continues an active force in the philatelic world, I have often wondered he does not issue a later edition of the same work. No one is better fitted to compile an ideal catalogue, and despite the number of such works already on the market, I feel sure there would be plenty of room for any book for which Major Evans was responsible. The catalogue published by P.W. & Co., was I believe the first English work to give a glossary of the Oriental characters found on the stamps of Afghanistan, Alwur, Bhopal, Cashmere, Faridkot, Jhind, Nepal, Nowanugger, Persia, Rajpeepla, Sirmoor and Soruth.

The usefulness of the two pages thus occupied in the catalogue can hardly be over-rated. In addition, I believe this catalogue was the first English one to discriminate between places of printing. We are all now well acquainted with the triangular Cape stamps printed respectively by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., and by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., with the Colonial and London printings of the stamps of New Zealand, South Australia, &c.; but at that time even Captain Evans only noted if I remember aright, the German and Local prints of the Transvaal. From this innovation attention was directed to a source from which a host of varieties spring, and as the Transvaal occupies so large a share of attention just now, it is interesting to remember this fact. Armed with these two excellent works I was in a far better

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.



63/4, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents.

The next Sale will be held on

. MONDAY, JANUARY 14th, and following day,

And will consist of a Fine Private Collection broken up into Lots and containing many Rarities.

Other Sales will take place bi-monthly, and Philatelists having Entire Collections or Loose Stamps to dispose of should make immediate arrangements if inclusion is desired in early auctions. As MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & Co. are the only firm of Auctioneers confining their whole attention to the Sale of Stamps on Commission, and do not deal or even collect on their own account, the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious. Commission on lots sold, 10%. 1/6 per lot (irrespective of value) being charged on unsold lots.

— CASH ADVANCES AND VALUATIONS MADE. —

Settlements usually in eight days, at the very latest within 14 days from date of Sale. Bids from buyers unable to attend the sales personally executed without charge and at prices as much below limits as possible.

— CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION. —

position than the majority of those with whom I came in contact, but my knowledge was greatly inferior to the comparative tyro of to-day. Still it served fairly well at the time. Nevertheless a knowledge of varieties ought to be accompanied by a knowledge of their relative values, and I well remember selling a 5c. Vancouver Island imperforate (of which variety I had several) for the modest sum of 10/-. Some little time after I compensated for this error by purchasing an equally good specimen from a sheet valued by an expert for 17/6.

I found the pursuit of minor varieties even more interesting than that of leading types, but in my energy I included as distinct varieties specimens which were merely deviations from normal types and marked no distinct issue, error, change of printing, &c. Among these was a 6d. Western Australia of 1855, which was certainly on laid paper, without a vestige of the swan wmk., but on sending it to Mr. Tapling he decided it was from the edge of the sheet, and was not worthy of acceptance as a variety. Another variety was the 4d. of 1861, *wmk. a pair of swans*. This was not a mere portion of another swan seen with the usual wmk., but a complete pair swimming side by side. I got rid of both these stamps in deference to better opinion than my own as to their collectable character, the 6d. went at the normal price of the ordinary variety, but the 4d. fetched £4, both being sold at auction. Despite the auctioneer's opinion that the man who purchased the latter stamp got no bargain, I have often wished I had kept it, as I have never seen one like it before or since, although subsequently I came across the 5/- Barbados, 1873, with a perfect star watermarked in each of the four corners. I got one variety which I can well spare at the present day—St. Vincent, 4d. on 1/- vermilion with inverted surcharge, as I believe there is now no doubt that this variety is bogus. Labuan 6c. on 16c. blue, I met with three 6's surcharged, but this I think was all right, as was also a very rare variety of the Post Paid Mauritius on very thick yellow paper, almost approaching in substance a thin card. This was a lovely impression showing every line in the plate, and of brilliant vermilion. I believe I was the

first to find the Serrated and Serpentine variety of the 6d. orange Victoria of 1854. I had several and offered one at auction describing it as "Perforated and Rouletted." It fetched £8, and the sum realized brought out others so that the price fell, and now is below half of what I originally got. Another variety which I had was the 6d. brown, imp., Ceylon, without wmk. This was of the shade of the perf. no wmk. issue. I had previously seen a specimen in a collection which a gentleman, who has since become a well-known dealer, brought to me for sale in 1887, and this was the second and only other specimen I have ever come across. As both were unused it is possible that they were proofs, or that one sheet may have escaped perforation. The U.S. 1869 issue with inverted centres are well-known and command high prices, but those specimens with shifted centres can sometimes be picked up at the prices of normal specimens. I have two showing 6mm. of white paper in the centre of the stamp, and they certainly look quite as distinct varieties in an album as the inverted centres. When we find a misplaced stroke, as in the 2½d. variety of Transvaal issue of 1887-90, enhances the selling price 50 times it would seem reasonable that these shifted centres should be equally collectable, and be priced quite as highly as the 2½d. Transvaal.

(To be continued).

A very "pushful" organisation is the Chicago Philatelic Society. A series of competitive exhibitions has just been arranged

Nothing new under the sun! The "Quaker City Philatelist," the latest journalistic venture in Philadelphia has a name that takes us back to the "eighties." The *other* "Quaker City Philatelist," at one time classed among the world's leading stamp papers, died (we think in 1891) apparently from the want of sufficient energy to go on living. Or perhaps it was the printer's bill. Some things you never know.

W. H. PECKITT,

Dealer in Rare Stamps,

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V.R.I. ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

A fine selection of all varieties, including those of 6d. rose, 2nd printing.

5/-	V.R.I. TRANSVAAL	-	-	-	20/-, unused.
10/-	do.	-	-	-	17/6, unused.

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Philatelic Societies' Reports.

Secretaries of Societies are invited to contribute, promptly, brief reports of their meetings, fixtures, &c.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

DECEMBER 6th.—The members held their first Auction on the above date at the Great Western Hotel. Mr. H. W. Plumridge, of Chancery Lane, London, wielding the hammer. The attendance was the largest that has ever been to a Philatelic Auction in the City, and showed the effect of advertising and the increasing interest of the public in stamp matters. The auction was arranged for the benefit of members and to encourage philately locally, and to this end the Committee allowed a proportion of small lots to be included. They made no charge on unsold lots and there was no minimum commission, the Society being prepared to meet any loss incurred, but it was so successful even under these conditions that all expenses will be covered.

The ordinary meeting followed and the following were unanimously elected members: Mrs. R. H. Harris, Dr. W. J. Tury, Messrs. J. E. Joselin, F. J. Henderson, J. B. Vickerman, C. C. Bentzen, and M. Z. Booleman. Votes of thanks were accorded Messrs. Bright & Son, Th. Lemaire, J. W. George, and H. E. Deats, (American Philatelic Association) for donations to the Library. It was decided to form a collection of priced Auction Catalogues, and to have them bound in volumes for reference. Any member who has any old catalogues, priced and unpriced, which are no use to him, would confer a favour by sending them to the Hon. Sec., who will defray expenses. If anyone has bound volumes priced he would greatly oblige by lending them to the Society for a short time in order that the prices may be copied.

NEXT AUCTION.—The next auction will be held on Feb. 14th, 1901. Lots must reach the Hon. Sec. by Jan. 28th, at the latest

CARDIFF PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President: WALTER SCOTT, J.P.

At this Society's Meeting, on Tuesday evening, December 11th, the President in the chair, and Mrs. Groves, Mrs. Marshall, Messrs. J. C. Bedlington, H. G. Blair, W. G. Bowden, T. Edwards, W. S. Jutsum, B. Rowlands, Ald. Trounce, and a lady visitor being present, the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Jutsum displayed his stamps of Gibraltar and Morocco Agencies and made some remarks upon the various issues—and a vote of thanks was accorded him for his paper.

His collection of Gibraltar is complete except the 10c. omitted value. It was remarked that the broken N variety in the overprint on the 25 on 2d. and 25 on 2½d. of the Aug. 1889 issue was entitled to be catalogued equally with the short 1 variety.

At the meeting to be held on January 8th, Mr. W. H. Renwick is down on the programme to give a display of his Canadians. Official address, 371, Cowbridge Road.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING was held on Wednesday, December 19th, at the Wharnclyffe Hotel. The president (Mr. F. H. Metcalf) occupied the chair. The evening was devoted to a display of the stamps of Europe. The principal collections shown were those of Messrs. Peace and Chapman, which were almost complete. Mr. Chapman also showed a complete set of the new French stamps. Mr. Sneath also also showed several "Mafeking."

BARGAINS.

5d. Niger Coast, purple ...	0/9
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We are offering this Season early Issues of all Countries, at 20 per cent. to 70 per cent. under catalogue. All the Australian Colonies have been re-arranged, and price up to £5000. Also ready 120 Books of separate Countries priced low. Special Books just made up: Transvaal, Orange Free State, Cape Triangular, Europeans, unused North American, West Indies, &c. Wanted to buy Sydney Views and other old Australians. Established 23 years.

GEORGE CALLF & Co., Seaford, Sussex.

MINT COLONIALS—CUT FINE!

Transvaal, V.R.I., 11 to 1/-, 3/6; Orange Free State, V.R.I., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 1/-, 3/-; O.R.C. on 4d Cape green, 1d.; O.R.C. on 24d. Cape, blue, 3d.; old O.F.S., 4d. yellow, 24d.; old O.F.S., 1d. mauve, 3d.; Jamaica, CC. 12½, 2/-, 2/10; Jamaica, CC. 12½, 5/-, 10/- All mint. Postage extra.

W. ERNEST IRVING,

27, Wolseley Road, Crouch End, London, N.

STAMPS.—25 varieties, 2d.; 30, 3d.; 35, 4d.; 50, 6d.; 65, 8d.; 85, 10d.; 100, 1/-; 25 superior, 6d.; 50, 1/-; 75, 1/6; 100, 2/-. (N.B.—These Packets are excellent value, containing many old and new issues—no damaged stamps). Approval Sheets, splendid variety, good discount, low prices. Collections and Loose Lots bought; also old B. Colonials. Selections of Europeans, &c., sent on approval on receipt of satisfactory references. Rare O.F. State and Transvaals wanted. Mention *Fortnightly*. Note the address—PEARCE & STAMFORD, 7, Katharine Street (opposite Town Hall), Croydon.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE re SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS.

Although our rates for private pre-paid 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.:—Advertisers will greatly oblige us by letting us have copy EARLY whenever possible.

6 insertions for the price of 5.
12 insertions for the price of 9.
26 ins. (whole year) for the price of 18.

STAMPS: Approval Sheets, very cheap, good discount.—C. MACKAY, c/o Reekie, 2, Viewforth Gardens, Edinburgh.

WANTED to buy Envelopes and Newspaper Wrappers, any Countries, cut square only, either used or unused. Send selections on approval to NORMAN C. HOREWOOD, Bendigo, Victoria, Australia.

STAMP BUSINESS, old established City shop with room in rear, rent only £52; furniture and fixtures, including typewriter (cost £24) and show-cases, &c., price £50, a bargain.—R.S., c/o *Fortnightly* Office.

COLLECTOR specializing in breaking a large Colonial Collection at half dealers prices. Strongest in Australians and Africans. References.—FRANK H. MADHISON, St Neots, Hunts.

NEW wholesale Lots, suit dealers, at about half usual wholesale prices to clear. Particularly from H. A. McMILLAN, 3, Cursitor St., Chancery Lane, E.C.

ALL Stamp Collectors should write for my Approval Sheets of old and new stamps. Lowest possible prices and 3d in the 1s. discount allowed. References with first application will greatly oblige. Every stamp guaranteed genuine. No reprints sold by me.—F. V. BANKS, 35, Summerhill Avenue, Maindee, Newport, Mon.

GRAND XMAS PACKET Marvellous value, 50 different stamps including New Issues of Austria, Holland, Hungary, together with a set of new German 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 pf., and many other scarce varieties, 4d. postage extra.—A. T. DANIEL, 6, New City Road, Barking Road, Plaistow, Essex.

BRITISH Central African Surcharged Stamps "One Penny" on 3d. unused, mint condition, 1/6 each. One Penny "Provisionals" for "Internal Postage" used, or original pieces of envelopes, 3/- each. Cash with order.—KNOWLES, Stationer, Padham Road, Burnley.

COLLECTION about 1150 stamps, many old and scarce. Must sell quickly, £5. Also barrel full of old red British postage stamps, lot cheap.—HAYNES, 10, Batoum Gardens, W. Kensington.

ORANGE FREE STATE, surcharged V.R.I., 4d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 1/-, 8/6 the set, ditto, first issue, 15/-. ORANGE STAMP COMPANY, Box 226, Bloemfontein.

DISPERSING two fine collections, rich in early issues. A third of catalogue all round. Approval sheets against good references. Collectors kindly note that this is not a catch advertisement but prices will really average 60% per cent. less than catalogue, and the stamps are not modern speculative rubbish but good substantial old issues.—H. A. McMILLAN, 3 Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane, E.C.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE. "Even's Weekly," Volumes 1, 2, 2/- each; 3, 4, 1/6 each. "Philatelists' Supplement," complete, 20/-. "Stamp Collectors' Journal," Volumes 13, 15, 3/6 each; 20, 2/0. "Philatelic Chronicle," Volumes 2, 3, 2/6 each. "Foreign Stamp Collectors' News," 30 numbers, complete, 1/4. "Stamp Dealers' Journal," 1885, complete, 1/-; "Stamps," Volumes 2, 3, 2/- each. All post free. Want lists solicited. APPELBY, Co-operative Terrace, Sunderland.

DATES OF FORTHCOMING AUCTION SALES.

January 14th and 15th.—Messrs. Plumridge & Co., at 63/4, Chancery Lane, W.C., commencing at 5 p.m. sharp.

January 16th and 18th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, commencing at 5 p.m.

January 22nd and 23rd.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, commencing 4.30 p.m. precisely.

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 8th and 9th, and will consist of a FINE SELECTION OF ALL COUNTRIES.

Catalogues ready shortly.

Following Sale, on January 22nd and 23rd, will consist of a fine PRIVATE COLLECTION, containing many Scarce Stamps. Catalogue in preparation.

Messrs. P. & S. have received instructions to Sell, on February 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th, 1901, a magnificent PRIVATE COLLECTION, the finest that has ever been offered for Sale by Auction in this country. It contains a large proportion of fine unused, and the majority of the more interesting countries are practically complete. Amongst the Rarities are:—

AUSTRIA, the rose, yellow and red Mercuries.
BULGARIA, 5 in black on 30 stotinki.
FRANCE, 1 franc orange on entire and 15c. brown on rose error, *se tenant* with 10c. mint.
GREAT BRITAIN, 1d black, V.R. 10d. octagonal pair, mint, 2/- brown unused.
HUNGARY, lithographed, complete, unused.
MECKLENBURGH SCHWERIN, ½sch. dotted ground rouletted.
MECKLENBURGH STRELITZ, 1sch. mauve on entire
MODENA, 1 lire on entire, and large B.G.
NAPLES, ½ tornese Arms (2) very fine, ¼ tornese Cross (4, one on entire).
OLDENBURG, the four issues complete, unused.
PRUSSIA, 2 sgr. with solid ground, mint, superb.
MOLDAVIA, 27, 54, 81, and 108 paras.
ROUMANIA, 5 bani, blue, error.
RUSSIAN LEVANT, 1865, 2 and 20 kopecs.
SAXONY, 1st issue 3pf. used on entire and unused, 1851, the rare error ½ngr. black on blue.
SWEDEN, 1st issue unused, and the "Tretio" error.
SWITZERLAND, Zurich, 4 rapen (2, one on entire) Geneva, 5+5 on piece. Basle 2½ rappen on entire, Vaud 4c. on entire
SERVIA, 1866, error 2 para, green on rose.
SPAIN, 1850, complete, unused, 1851, 1852 and 1853, 2 reals, Madrid 3 cuartos on entire, 1854, 1 real light blue, 1855 2 reals blue error, 1865 12 cuartos with centre inverted, perf. and imperf., former on entire.
TUSCANY, 60 crazie, 2 soldi and 3 lire
WURTEMBERG, the first 7 issues, complete unused (with two exceptions) 70kr. (2) etc.
CEYLON, 4d., 8d., 9d., 1/9 and 2/- imperf., 8d. perf. star, unused, 2 rupees 50c. unused, etc., etc.
LABUAN, 6 in red on 16c. and 8 on 12c.
INDIA, 1st issue, ½a. red and 4a. unused, no wmk. 2a. green, Service Provisionals 2, 4 and 8a.
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, 1854, 1 real, and 1863, 1 and 2 reales, surcharged Habilitado.
CAPE, Woodblock errors, 1d. blue and 4d. red.
LAGOS, wmk. C.A. 2/6, 5/-, and 10/- mint.
MAURITIUS, Post Paid 1d. (3) and 2d. (3) Large Fillet 2d. etc.

NATAL, 1st issue complete, etc.
SIERRA LEONE, 6d. imperf. unused.
TRANSVAAL, a very fine lot.
ANTIOQUIA, 1st issue, complete.
BARBADOS, 1d. on half of 5/- unused.
BOLIVAR, 1st issue, 10c. green on entire.
BRAZIL, first 4 issues complete
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 10c. imperf. 10c. and 1 dollar perf. 12½, unused.
BRITISH GUIANA, 1st issue, 4c. on pelure, and 8c., cut round, and 12c., cut square, 1852, 1 and 4c., latter on entire, 1856, 4c. magenta and 4c. blue, latter on original, 1862, 1c. (3), 2c. (3), and 4c. (4), all different types.
BUENOS AYRES, 1st issue, 2, 3, 4 and 5 pesos, unused.
CANADA, imperf., 7½d. and 10d., unused, 12d. black, used, perf., 6d., unused, etc., etc.
GUATEMALA, 1881, 2, 5 and 20c., with inverted centres.
NEW BRUNSWICK, 1/-, superb, and the "Connell" stamp.
NOVA SCOTIA, 1/-, unused.
NEWFOUNDLAND, 6½d. carmine, unused, and 1/- orange, used, very fine.
PERU, Medio Peso, rose, error on entire.
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, 1862, 1 real, and 1865, 1 real, unused.
ST. VINCENT, wmk. star, 4d. dark blue, 4d. ultramarine, 1/- vermilion and 5/- lake, unused, 4d. on 1/-, used, wmk. C.A., 4d. blue and 4d. red-brown, unused, etc., etc.
TOBAGO, 1st issue complete, 6d. ochre C.C. and C.A. unused.
TURKS ISLANDS, 1/- lilac and a rare lot of 1881 provisionals.
COLUMBIAN REPUBLIC, 1863, 50c red error.
UNITED STATES, Brattleboro 5 cents. St. Louis 5 and 10 cents, 1869 15, 24 and 30 cents with inverted centres, Departmentals complete including State, 2, 5, 10 and 20 dollars.
REUNION 1st issue, 15 and 30c. on entire.
HAWAII, 1st issue 5 and 13 cents blue, very fine.
QUEENSLAND, imperf., 1d. 2d. 6d. and 1/-
VICTORIA, 6d. orange and 5/- blue and yellow, Registered stamp rouletted, etc.
WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 1st and 2nd issues complete, imperf. and rouletted wmk. C.C., 2d mauve error, etc.
And others too numerous to mention.

CATALOGUE IN PREPARATION.

FULL LIST OF SALES FOR 1901:—

1901.—January 8, 9, 22 and 23; February 5, 6, 7, 8, 26 and 27; March 12, 13, 26 and 27; April 16 and 17; May 7, 8, 22 and 23; June 11 and 12; October 1, 2, 15, 16, 29 and 30; November 12, 13, 26 and 27; December 10 and 11.

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:

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 17th, 1901.

A GREAT SALE OF

Making AND Stamps

USED AND UNUSED IN MINT STATE.

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38 King Street, Covent Garden

On Thursday, January 17th, at 2 o'clock,

A Fine Lot of MAFEKINGS, which will include 4 Complete Sets, used. A fine selection of Rustenburg, surcharged in Rubber type, unused, mint, and used, and many other rarities.

On View day prior from 2 till 5 and Morning of Sale

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Mr. STEVENS begs to announce that he is now holding once a month Sales by Auction of Rare Stamps and Collections. Particulars and terms of Sales on application.

SOME USEFUL STAMPS.

	s.	d.
Falkland Island, 1878, 1 - bistre brn., unus.	3	0
Montserrat, 1883, 4d. blue, CC., unused	14	6
Transvaal, 1895, 5 - slate, used	5	0
" " 10 - brown, used	4	0
" " 10 - brown, unused	15	0
Baden, 1862, 3okr., used	12	6
Sicily, 50g., red-brown, used	15	0
U.S.A., 1869, 30c. blue and carmine	7	6
" " 1c. brown, without grill	6	0

STAMPS ON ORIGINAL ENVELOPES.

Dominica, 1877, 1d. lilac, CC., pf. 14, blk. of 4	6	0
Dominica, 1877, 1 - lilac rose, CC., perf. 14	15	0
U.S.A., 1855, 24 lilac	10	6
" " 24 purple	12	6

CHAS. NISSEN & CO.,

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4 and 5, Royal Arcade, Old Bond Street, and Albermarle Street.

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Bermuda, Grenada and Leeward Isles	10 kinds ... 2/9
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St. Vincent, St. Lucia & Newfoundland	11 kinds ... 4/6
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Straits Settlements	8 kinds ... 2/3
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50 British Colonials including (all unused) 1 Newfoundland; 2 Canada, 4c. and 3c.; Straits Settlements, 1c. on 8c. green; Mauritius, St. Vincent, Orange Free State, &c., price 6d. Set of 6 Labuan, 5d. 6 Borneo, 2d. All kinds of Stamps wanted. Best price given.

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SPECIAL PACKETS.

	£	s.	d.
100 British Colonies, all different	0	2	0
200 " " " "	0	6	6
500 " " " "	1	7	6
1000 " " " "	6	0	0
1000 Stamps all different (no fiscals or cards)	0	18	6
2000 " " " "	3	0	0
3000 " " " "	9	7	6
4000 " " " "	17	5	0
5000 " " " "	28	10	0

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J. H. Telfer, Ravens Park, Catford London.

As I am about to leave the Island, I am desirous of clearing out my stock of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Albums, 1900 Catalogues, &c., &c., at reduced rates. Prices on application. I am also selling a limited stock of stamps of foreign countries at reduced prices to clear.

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British and Colonial Stamp Dealer.

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NEW-CENTURY NUMBER.

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY
PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")
No. 153—VOL. VI. SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1901. ONE PENNY.

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.



63/4, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents.

The next Sale will be held on

Tuesday, Jan. 29th, and following day.

Other Sales will take place bi-monthly, and Philatelists having Entire Collections or Loose Stamps to dispose of should make immediate arrangements if inclusion is desired in early auctions As Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co. are the only firm of Auctioneers confining their whole attention to the Sale of Stamps on Commission, and do not even collect on their own account, the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious. Commission on lots sold, 10% . . . 1/6 per lot (irrespective of value) being charged on unsold lots.

CASH ADVANCES AND VALUATIONS MADE.

SETTLEMENTS usually in EIGHT DAYS, at the very latest 14 days from date of Sale. Bids from buyers unable to attend the sales personally executed without charge and at prices as much below limits as possible.



CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION.

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 ensuing Season will be as under:—

1901.—January 31st; February 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th; March 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th and 29th; April 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; May 9th and 10th, 30th and 31st, and June 13th and 14th.

January 31st and February 1st, 1901.—MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell on those dates, a portion of the well-known Collection of G. NORMAN, Esq., of Calcutta, which contains the following rarities:—

GREAT BRITAIN, the V.R. with trial postmark, and a mint unused pair 10d. octagonal, an unused block of 4, medium garter, 4d. on blue, unused, and ditto on white, 1856, 10d., plate 2, &c. SPAIN, complete and very fine, including 1851, 2 reales, unused. SWITZERLAND, Genua on entire, envelope stamp used on entire as adhesive; Zürich, 4r., both types very fine. NAPLES, Arms, very fine. ROUMANIA, 54 paras, very fine. TUSCANY, complete, and all the rarities in fine condition. LABUAN, complete, very fine. CAPE, Woodblocks, 1d. red, unused; 4d. dark blue, very fine, and errors. MAURITIUS, very fine specimens of the early issues, including Large Fillet on entire. REUNION, 1st issue, 15cts., used. INDIA, ½a. red, 9 arches; ½a. red, 8 arches, a fine unused pair of each; 4 annas, unused, showing rosettes; 1856, 2as. green, a pair and single, used; Service stamps, 2, 4 and 8 annas. German States, very fine, also Modena, &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 (Philatello Department), 35, Old Jewry, LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM," LONDON. Telephone Number, 5076 Bank. ESTABLISHED 1761.

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UP-TO-DATE CATALOGUE FOR THE NEW SEASON.

Many new features are introduced, and much additional information is given that will be found useful to Collectors. All Countries in Alphabetical order.

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Where Collectors calling can inspect our Selections, of which there are generally about 150 on view, the Stamps contained in which constitute one of the finest stocks in Great Britain.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

Published every alternate Saturday, at 77-78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

With which are incorporated the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Canton Stamp Exchange Society, the Central Philatelic Club, and the Ladies' Stamp Exchange.

No. 153 -- Vol. VI.

SATURDAY JANUARY 10, 1902.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

NO CHANGE IN AUSTRALIAN STAMPS JUST YET.

THE "Australian Philatelist" has the authority of "a high authority of the G.P.O." for stating that there will be no immediate change in Australian stamps as a result of Federation.

Not until July, perhaps not until January, 1902, will the State Post Offices be amalgamated under one head. It is most positively stated that there will be no surcharging of existing stamps for "United Australia."

In all probability, we learn, the first stamps issued by the Commonwealth will be surface-printed from plates prepared in England. Either the New South Wales or the Victorian Government Printing Office will undertake the work until such time as the Federal Office is ready.

I.P.U. EXHIBITION AT EFFINCHAM HOUSE.

MEMBERS of the International Philatelic Union have declared in favour of the proposed competitive exhibition with no uncertain voice. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. T. H. Hinton, announces that the exhibition will be held in the rooms of the London Philatelic Society, Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, on Saturday next, the 26th instant, from 3 to 8 p.m.

The entries are good in quality and number; and Mr. Hinton anticipates a success.

FORESHADOWING A NEW U.S.A. ISSUE.

"THE OBITERATOR," the writer of the "Metropolitan Philatelist's" Washington intelligence, declares that a new issue for the United States—a new *permanent* issue, quite apart from commemorative stamps—is one of the probabilities of the near future.

Specific details, he tells us, cannot yet be given, for the simple reason that details have not been given consideration.

But from reliable sources it has been ascertained that the official of the Post Office Department in charge of such matters has in mind the production of a new series of postage stamps that will supersede the regular set now in use, the latter having, so far as the department goes, been in service since 1804, although of course philatelists regard the 1804 and 1805 sets as separate and distinct, by reason of the watermarking of the paper since 1807.

SHIPMENTS OF NEW STAMPS TO NEW ZEALAND.

It appears that parcels of the new penny New Zealand stamps sent from London by the s.s. San Francisco were due to reach the Colony on December 10th; 60,000 more, shipped on the Waverley, due between the 15th and 20th, and then a little parcel of 900,000 by the Papanui, due to reach their destination on the last day of the old century. There can be no doubt, therefore, that the new stamp (of which we give a more exact description in our "New Issues" column) was issued punctually on New Year's Day in the "Island Colony."

A STAMP DEALER CUNNINGLY VICTIMISED.

MR. C. DALY, of 15, Great Portland Street, W., writes us as follows:—

Last Saturday I went to the sea-side, leaving my shop in charge of a lady. On Monday a young gentleman, fair, stooping shoulders, consumptive looking, and with an effeminate voice, called and asked to have some stamps sent on approval to Doctor B's of Portland Place. He wanted to purchase £4 worth. My assistant refused to give them without my authority, so the young gentleman said he would telegraph to me for permission. He went out and returning informed her that the landlord of my private lodgings had telegraphed to me. Later on a telegram arrived purporting to come from me through the landlord saying that he could have a certain stamp album. My assistant made up a parcel (over £50 worth) and the doctor's son carried them off.

On enquiring at the doctor's later on it turned out that he had no son, and that I was the victim of a clever conspiracy. The young man seemed well acquainted with London dealers and mentioned among others, Mr. Zissler. I should be glad if any of your readers would let me know of any customer, aged about 18 or 19, answering to the above description. The stamps stolen were mostly unused Canada Jubilee, Greek "Games," Cyprus, Barbados Jubilee, and Brazil unpaid.

The Talk of the Trade.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER are disposing of the bulk of the fine collection of Mr. G. Norman, of Calcutta, on January 31st and February 1st.

MR. F. C. PENNEY has shown the contents of one of his packets of 1000 varieties of Foreign and Colonial stamps. We must say the value, at the price of 15s., is astonishing. Beginners would find such a packet as this a very useful start.

ANOTHER STAMP ROBBERY IN THE CITY.

MR. J. LOUIS, of 42½, New Broad Street, writes us, under date January 2nd:—"An assistant of mine disappeared on the 19th December last from my employ and his home, taking with him several books and sheets of my stamps, etc., of which I enclose a list of the most conspicuous specimens. The man is about 27 years of age, and has a mark upon his face by which he can easily be identified.

Below we give a list of some of the stolen stamps:

LIST OF SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL STAMPS MISSING.

- British Central Africa, Cheque stamp, perf., on part original.
 " East " 2 annas, red imperf. and unused.
 British Guiana, 4 unused, various perfs., 1860.
 Indian Service Postage, large square unused, Cat. No. 519.
 Newfoundland, 8d. scarlet vermilion, unused.
 " 6d. lake, very fine and 1 poor copy.
 N.S.W., Sydney View, 2d. grey-blue.
 " 1854, 1d. orange, watermarked, unused, cut close, no gum.
 " 3d. green, used.
 Queensland, 1866, Lithographed 4d. slate and 4d. lilac.
 " Registered rough perf. and 4d. yellow, lithographed, 1868-69.
 St. Vincent, 2 4d. ultramarine, perf. 11 12½
 Seychelles, 45 cents on 48, unused.
 Tasmania, 1853, 4d. orange, fine octagon.
 Victoria, 1862, 4d. rose, watermark five shillings.
 " 2d. lilac, watermark, three pence.
 " 1857 63. 4d., no watermark in perf., used.
 Western Australia, 1854, 1d. black and 2d. vermilion, used.
 " " 1857, 6d. black bronze, poor specimen.
 " " 2d. I. R., cat. No. 210, unused.
 Zanzibar, four varieties of the 2½ annas on 4 annas, myrtle green.
 " 2½ on 2 annas blue India, used.
 New Zealand, 4d. rose, perf. 10, unused.
 Argentine, 10 cents green, laid paper, 1867.
 Austria, 2 k.r. orange, badly centered, 1858-59.
 Bolivia, two Bolivians, used, 1897.
 Bremen, 5 sgr. on piece of original, very fine.
 Hawaii, \$1 provisional.
 Spain, five of the 19 cuartos and others.
 Orange Free States, 6d. pale rose, unused.
 Transvaal, £5 deep green, used, very fine.
 Spain, 19 cuartos, 1862, unused, carmine on white.
 " " " lilac on white.
 South Australia, two 1/-, roull., one orange and one yellow.
 Mexico, 10 pesos blue, 1896, with side margins.
 United States, 1855, 10 cents green, unused, with ink spot on left eye.
 " 1895-99, \$2 and \$5.
 " 1895, \$2, periodical, with blue line cancellation.
 Roman States, 50 baj. and 1 scudo, both unused.
 Prussia, 10 sgr. on goldbeater skin.
 Colombia, 1870-77, 5 and 10 pesos, unused.
 France, 15 cents green, fine, 1849, and 20 cent, on tone paper, unused, same date.
 New Caledonia, No. 70 in Gibbons, 15c. on 30, 1900.
 Brunswick, 1/3 black, unused, no gum, 1853-6.
 " 1/3 " " 1859, in perf.
 Hamburg, 7 sch. orange, used, some perfs. clipped, 1864-5.
 Denmark, 1870, 48sk., fine.
 Holland, 1891, 5 gulden, Neapolitan provinces, 50c., bluish-grey, used.
 Japan, 1874, 2 sen. yellow, unused, thick wove paper.
 " 1876, 5c. emerald, unused.
 Liberia, 1864-9, 6c., 12c. and 24c., the latter damaged, all used.
 Portugal, 1867, 240 reis.
 Mozambique, Co. pair of 1000 reis, used, 1894.
 Russian Levant, No. 13 Gibbons, used.
 Mauritius, 1859, 6d. blue and 6d. slate, perf., used, 1862.
 Wurtemberg, 1865, two 7kr., poor specimens.
 Canada, 50 cents blue, unused, badly centered.
 Cyprus, 1882-86, 6 piastres grey-black, die, one unused.
 Norway, 1856, 20k. orange, unused.

The "Salomon" Type of Hayti.

EFFECT OF MADAME SALOMON'S STRIKING RESEMBLANCE TO THE GODDESS OF LIBERTY.

A LETTER full of interest for all philatelists, and particularly so for those who are specially interested in the stamps of the Republic of Hayti, is published in the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain." The letter emanates from a philatelist resident in the "Black Republic," who addressed it to that well-known French writer on philatelic subjects, Mons. Victor Flandrin.

It was not until 1881, as every schoolboy should know, that Hayti went into the postage-stamp business at all. Prior to that date letters for the interior of the Republic were prepaid in cash, and outgoing letters were handed to the consuls of the various countries of destination.

Now the writer of the letter under notice was one of the original members of a Philatelic Society in Hayti which was virtually called into being by the issue of Haytian stamps in 1881. He had an uncle a member of the Senate, and from this august relative he received early information to the effect that the design contemplated for the first postage stamps of the Republic was in allegorical representation of the Arms of Hayti. He promptly set about considering the best means of protesting against such an undesirable consummation. He, as well as his fellow philatelists, ardently desired a series of stamps showing effigies or portraits. Finally a deputation of the philatelists of Hayti waited upon the President, General Salomon, who listened to their views with great attention. The most the General would do, however, was to abandon the Arms and agree to a Head of Liberty in lieu thereof. Thus it happened that the first stamps of Hayti bore the effigy of Liberty. The stamps were engraved and printed by Mr. T. Richard of Paris, in sheets of 300 stamps, viz., six panes of 50; the first issue was of 1,025,000 stamps for the six values. Of these only 25,000 were 20c.

"LIBERTY" ? OR THE PRESIDENT'S WIFE ?

The most curious part of the whole letter lies in its concluding paragraph, which we here reprint *verb et lit* :

Now you will undoubtedly want to know why General Salomon so completely changed his views that he allowed his own portrait to appear on the stamps of 1887. The reason is rather a curious one, and is as follows: When our stamps were put in circulation, some one stated that the Head of Liberty resembled Madame Salomon. By and by this statement spread, and one journal said "The president would not have *his* portrait on the stamps, but he put his wife's on instead. That is not what was asked for !!!"

The president was finally bound to admit that the likeness, by a singular coincidence, was very marked, and finally agreed to the portrayal of his own features on the issue of 1887.

The Hon. Secretary of the Birmingham Philatelic Society notifies us that the "Birmingham Philatelic Exchange," advertised by Mr. W. G. Walton, has no connection whatever with the Exchange Packets of the Birmingham Society.

* * *

We are in receipt of a card from Mr. T. C. Cartwright, Hon. Librarian of the Bristol & Clifton Philatelic Society, notifying his removal from York Crescent Road, to 5, Northampton Park, Canonbury, London, N.

* * *

A number of Transvaal stamps with inverted V.R.I. are now coming over. "Ewen's Weekly" has grounds for believing that they come from Holland.

* * *

Cochin, it was understood, would lose its postal autonomy forthwith. But this is not so. There will shortly be a complete new outfit of Cochin stamps, with the values in annas.

The Official History of the Mafeking Stamps.

THEY ARE "PURELY MILITARY ISSUES."

IN reply to an enquiry from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., of Ipswich, Mr. French, Postmaster-General of the Cape Colony, has furnished a very full and interesting "Memorandum" on the circumstances of the provisional and, as it now appears, purely military issues of stamps at Mafeking during the siege. The chief points established in this statement are:—

(1) Lieut.-Col. Lord Edward Cecil, controller of the postal affairs of Mafeking during the siege, "commandeered" all the unused postage stamps in the hands of the civil postal authorities in the town, and paid for them at their full face value.

(2) The whole of the overprinted stamps were disposed of before the relief of the town was effected.

(3) The stamps are regarded, by the Civil Authorities, as "purely military issues," and hence the recent official notice proclaiming their non-availability for the prepayment of mail-matter posted either in the Cape Colony or the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

(4) The Civil Authorities are cognisant of the fact that the Mafeking surcharges have been extensively forged.

Appended will be found both the Cape Postmaster-General's letter to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. and the "memorandum" enclosed therein.

General Post Office,
Cape Town,
19th Dec., 1900.

GENTLEMEN,

With reference to your letter of the 21st September last, I beg leave to enclose a memorandum on the subject of the Postage stamps issued by the Military Authorities at Mafeking during the siege of the town, which I think will be found to contain all the information you require.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
M. S. FRENCH,
Postmaster-General.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.,
Ipswich, England.

MEMORANDUM.

POSTAGE STAMPS OVERPRINTED AND RE-ISSUED AT MAFEKING DURING THE SIEGE.

After careful enquiry into the matter, the following would appear to be the facts, so far as can be ascertained, in connection with the overprinting, surcharging, and re-issue of the stamps now known as the "Mafeking Siege Stamps."

Shortly before the 23rd of March, 1900, it was found possible to forward despatches by runners from Mafeking both by the North and South routes, and a service was accordingly established by the Military Authorities. Owing to the high amounts which had to be paid to the runners, it was decided to charge special rates for any private letters conveyed, and the following tariff was adopted, viz:—

Via the North, 1/- per ½oz.
Via the South, 6d. per ½oz.

From a statement made by the Military Authorities, it would appear that in order to provide a sufficiency of stamps to admit of the prepayment of private letters, it was further decided to surcharge all the unsold stamps in the possession of the Local Postmaster, and Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Edward Cecil, under whose supervision the Post Office was carried on during the siege, accordingly purchased the stamps at their face value, and caused them to be overprinted and surcharged at the works of Messrs. Townshend and Son, the Publishers of the "Mafeking Mail" newspaper. On the 23rd of March, the stamps, as overprinted, were issued for the first time at their enhanced value, and, it is understood, the

whole of the overprinted issues had been disposed of before the relief of the town was effected.

Owing to the interruption of communication, the Postal Authorities at Cape Town could not be consulted in the matter, either as regards the sale or the overprinting, and from the time the stamps originally passed out of the hands of the Civil Postmaster the Colonial Post Office Department ceased to have any control whatsoever over their treatment. In view of these circumstances, and of the fact that the whole of the additional revenue derived from the sale of the stamps at their surcharged value was retained by the Military Authorities, the Postal Administration of the Cape Colony, and the Bechuanaland Protectorate have decided to regard the stamps in question as purely Military issues, and (in the month of November last), official notices have consequently been published in the "Government Gazette" proclaiming their non-availability for the prepayment of mail-matter posted either in the Cape Colony or in the Protectorate.

The average number of letters per week forwarded *via* the North from the 23rd of March was approximately 60, a runner leaving Mafeking twice per week; and *via* the South 30, once per week. It is, however, more than probable that many of the runners were captured by the Boer forces, and that the letters being conveyed by them never reached a British Post Office.

The Local stamps—viz. those actually manufactured in Mafeking and bearing representations of the bust of Major-General Baden-Powell and Sergeant-major Goodyear, of the Cadet Corps, on a bicycle—were used entirely for a postal service which was arranged within the town and between the various outposts. The whole of the three varieties of these stamps were printed by means of photography; the photograph being taken by Mr. D. Taylor, and the gumming and perforating executed by Messrs. Townshend & Son. The two varieties of the "Baden-Powell" pattern were designed by Captain Greener, the Chief Paymaster, whilst the one of the bicycle pattern was designed by Dr. W. A. Hayes.

It is evident from specimens which have been submitted to the Postmaster-General at Cape Town that extensive forgeries of the overprinted stamps have taken place; the fraud consisting in the unofficial overprinting, surcharging and, in many cases date-stamping of genuine Cape Colony stamps.

General Post Office, Cape Town,

7th December, 1900.

MAJ.-GEN. BADEN-POWELL'S REPLY.

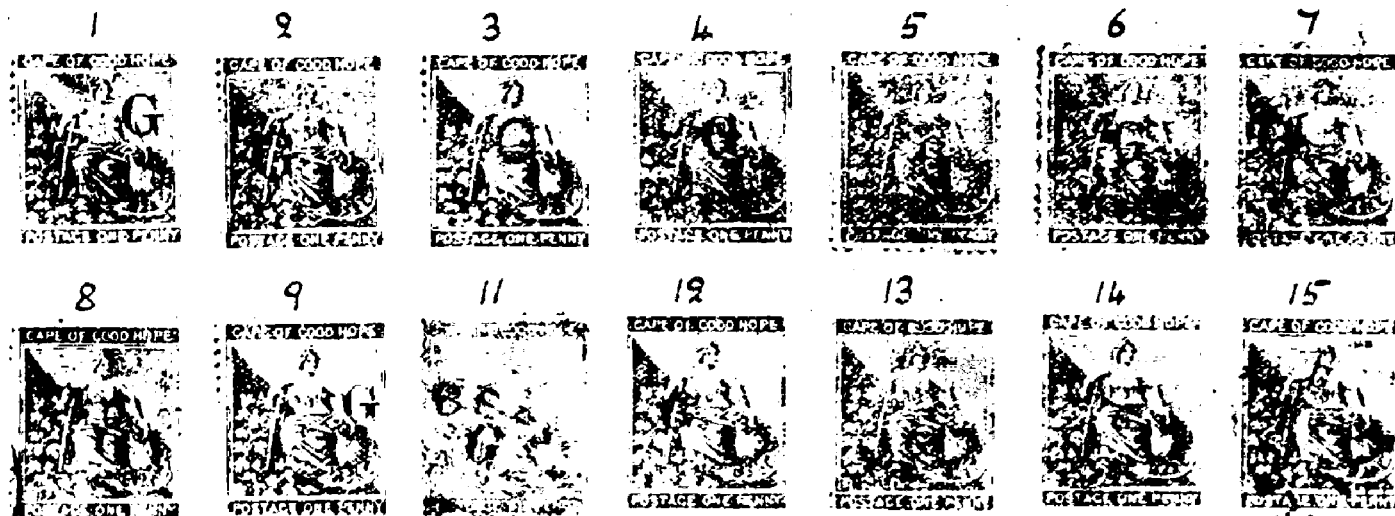
With commendable enterprise, Mr. Fred J. Melville, President of the Junior London Philatelic Society, sought to "draw" Major-General Baden-Powell on the subject of the stamps issued more or less under his auspices during the famous Mafeking Siege. It would have been a great score to obtain the gallant "Bathing Towels" own views on the issue, for it is quite certain that these would have made breezy reading. Alas! The exigencies of war would not permit. Mr. Melville's letter was sent along, possibly with others of a like nature, to the Postmaster-General of the Cape Colony, who, as a reply, forwarded to Mr. Melville the official "Memorandum" we have quoted above. This memorandum, Mr. Melville read to the members of the Junior London Philatelic Society, at the last meeting as Maj.-Gen. Baden-Powell's reply.

The Hawaiian remainders stored in the P.O. Department at Washington may have been destroyed by this time; but the latest American exchanges to hand report: "date of execution not yet fixed."

In reply to an enquiry, the Commandant of Rustenburg informs "Ewen's Weekly" that as far as he is aware all values of Transvaal stamps were issued there with "V.R." overprint, that all records of the numbers printed appear to be lost, no doubt owing to re-occupation by the Boers; and that they were issued by authority of General Baden-Powell, during the Boer investment of the town.

Varieties and Values of Griqualand.

(AN ARTICLE TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH "THE COLLECTORS' GUIDE TO VALUES" ON THE OPPOSITE PAGE.)



IN THE ABOVE SPECIAL PLATE THE TYPES OF GRIQUALAND ARE NUMBERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY'S WORK ON THE STAMPS OF AFRICA.

AS it is impossible for collectors to identify the different types of surcharge from the ordinary catalogues, and as the London Philatelic Society's work on the stamps of Africa is not in the hands of all our readers, we have prepared a special plate illustrating the various types. The types are numbered as in the London Society's work, from which we have obtained valuable information as to the settings of the surcharges of issues III. and IV. As regards issue IV, we have information not possessed by the editors of that work, as we have, through the kindness of a well-known collector, been able to examine an almost complete sheet of the 1d. of this issue. Luckily the few stamps missing from this sheet appear in a block of 32, which the London Society illustrate, so that we are in possession of full information as to the setting of two whole panes.

As our Guide to Values is largely based on the proportions in which different types appear on the sheet, we will first give the numbers of each type on each sheet, which are as follows:

Issue III. 1st setting.—Type 1 (8); Type 2 (18); Type 3 (14); Type 4 (13); Type 5 (5); Type 6 (2).

2nd setting.—Type 1 (2); Type 2 (19); Type 3 (11); Type 4 (9); Type 5 (5); Type 6 (4).

Since we do not know the relative numbers printed of each setting for each value, we are not able to decide from these figures the relative rarity of all the varieties. It is clear, however, that Type 2 is the commonest, and next come Types 3 and 4, which are approximately of equal value. From our experience of the stamps, we consider Type 5 the next in point of scarcity, and that Types 1 and 6 are of about equal rarity. If we are correct in this last assumption, it shows that about three times as many stamps were produced from the 1st setting as from the 2nd.

Issue IV.—One pane, *i.e.*, 60 out of the 120 stamps, consist entirely of type 9. Many of the stamps vary a little from the normal type, and some of these seem to be intermediate between Type 9 and Type 4, still we think they may be fairly considered as belonging to Type 9. On the other pane we have Type 3 (12), Type 4 (11)—this is undoubtedly Type 4 rather than Type 9—Type 7 (11), Type 8 (13), Type 9 (6)—making 66 altogether—Type 10 (1), Type 11 (4), Type 12 (13). Of these, Types 3 and 4 cannot be distinguished from those

of issue III. Of the remainder, Type 9 is comparatively common, Types 7, 8 and 12 are about equally scarce, Type 11 comes next, and Type 10 is evidently a great rarity. We are not sure that we ought not to chronicle an additional type as one of the stamps we have reckoned as Type 12 is distinctly different from the normal, in fact it is intermediate between Types 10 and 12. It measures about the same as Type 12, and much less than Type 10, but it resembles the latter in general appearance, as the back of the G is very thick.

The relative rarity of the different types of issue V. is difficult to ascertain, but we think our estimates are approximately correct. We have not listed the varieties of double surcharge and inverted surcharge. The majority of them are worth little more than the single and erect varieties. In the case of the red surcharge on the ½d., both of Type 13 and Type 14, specimens showing the inverted surcharge are commoner than those with the surcharge in its proper position.

We illustrate and catalogue only 3 Types of the small surcharge, Types 13, 14, 15, as we are inclined to doubt the absolute accuracy of the London Society's lists as regards Types 16 and 17. It is as stated in the preliminary note concerning issue V. there were only two settings of this issue, the ½d. and 5s. should exist with Type 17. Furthermore, if the first setting comprised Types 13, 14 and 15, as stated, why is Type 15 unknown in red? On our present information we incline to the view that probably the first setting consisted of Types 13 and 14, and the second setting of Types 15, 16 and 17, Type 15 largely predominating.

We have not thought it necessary to give prices for indifferent copies in the case of this country as they would be uniformly proportioned to those of fine copies throughout. In this case of used copies, stamps not showing the Kimberley postmark should be worth somewhat less than those that show it distinctly.

As far as we are aware there are no very dangerous forgeries of the earlier issues, those we have seen being easily detected on comparing them with the genuine types. Imitations of the smaller surcharges are much more common and not always easy to detect, unless they happen to be on stamps not watermarked CC. and Crown, as is frequently the case.

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.

GRIQUALAND.	Unused mint	Used very fine
I. 1874. Manuscript Surcharge.		
1d. in red, one 4d. blue ..	.. 60/	50/
II. 1877. Surcharged G.W.		
1d. red (black surch.) ..	.. 30/	20/
4d. blue (red surch.) ..	.. 12/6	7/6
III. 1877. Surcharged Type 1 in red.		
½d. black .. ..	.. 8	10/6
4d. blue (a) .. ..	.. 25/	10.
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 25.	10/
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 18/	9/
1s. green .. ..	.. 18/	9
5s. orange .. ..	.. 300	16
Surcharged Type 1 in black.		
1d. rose .. ..	.. 5/	5
Surcharged Type 2 in red.		
½d. black .. ..	.. 3/	1
4d. blue (a) .. ..	.. 10/	4
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 10	4/
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 7	3/6
1s. green .. ..	.. 7.	3/6
5s. orange .. ..	.. 120/	6/6
Surcharged Type 2 in black.		
1d. rose .. ..	.. 2/	2/
Surcharged Type 3 in red.		
½d. black .. ..	.. 4	5/6
4d. blue (a) .. ..	.. 12/6	5/
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 12/6	5/
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 8	4/
1s. green .. ..	.. 8/	1/
5s. orange .. ..	.. 140	7/6
Surcharged Type 3 in black.		
1d. rose .. ..	.. 2	4/
Surcharged Type 4 in red.		
½d. black .. ..	.. 4/	5/6
4d. blue (a) .. ..	.. 12/6	5
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 12/6	5
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 8	4
1s. green .. ..	.. 8/	4
5s. orange .. ..	.. 140	7/6
Surcharged Type 4 in black.		
1d. rose .. ..	.. 2/6	2/6
Surcharged Type 5 in red.		
½d. black .. ..	.. 6/	8
4d. blue (a) .. ..	.. 20	8/
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 20	8/
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 14	7
1s. green .. ..	.. 14	7/
5s. orange .. ..	.. 240/	13
Surcharged Type 5 in black.		
1d. rose .. ..	.. 4/	4/

GRIQUALAND—Continued.	Unused mint	Used very fine
Surcharged Type 6 in red.		
½d. black .. ..	.. 8/	10/6
4d. blue (a) .. ..	.. 25/	10/
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 25	10/
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 18/	9/
1s. green .. ..	.. 18/	9/
5s. orange .. ..	.. 300/	16/
Surcharged Type 6 in black.		
1d. rose .. ..	.. 5/	5/
IV. 1877. Surcharged in black. Surcharged Type 7.		
1d. rose .. ..	.. 5/	5/
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 40/	20/
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 60/	25/
Surcharged Type 8.		
1d. rose .. ..	.. 5/	5/
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 40/	20/
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 60/	25/
Surcharged Type 9.		
1d. rose .. ..	.. 2/	2/
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 15/	8/
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 20/	10/
Surcharged Type 10. This type is similar to Type 12, but larger, measuring rather more than 5 mm. across.		
1d. rose .. ..	.. 20/	20/
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 150/	80/
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 200.	100/
Surcharged Type 11.		
1d. rose .. ..	.. 7/6	7/6
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 37/6	30/
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 50/	37/6
Surcharged Type 12.		
1d. rose .. ..	.. 5/	5/
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 25/	20/
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 37/6	25/
V. 1878. Surcharged Type 13 in red.		
½d. black .. ..	.. 3/6	3/6
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 60/	20/
Surcharged Type 13 in black.		
½d. black .. ..	.. 1/	1/9
1d. rose .. ..	.. 4	13
4d. blue (a) .. ..	.. 300/	150/
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 10/	2/
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 4/	2
Surcharged Type 14 in red.		
½d. black .. ..	.. 1/6	1/6
4d. blue .. ..	.. 30/	10/
Surcharged Type 14 in black.		
½d. black .. ..	.. 1/6	1/6
1d. rose .. ..	.. 1/	1/9
4d. blue (a) .. ..	.. 400/	200/
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 30/	10/
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 20/	10/
Surcharged Type 15 in black.		
½d. black .. ..	.. 1	1/9
1d. rose .. ..	.. 4	13
4d. blue (b) .. ..	.. 1/6	6
6d. lilac .. ..	.. 4/	2/
1s. green .. ..	.. 10/	4/
5s. orange .. ..	.. 100/	3/

We are always glad to have the views of our readers on the values assigned to stamps in our "Collectors' Guide." In the case of this Griqualand instalment, which has been prepared with particular care, we shall be especially glad of any criticisms, suggestions, or emendations, that our readers are in a position to supply.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JANUARY 19, 1901.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

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OUR fascinating hobby has weathered so many storms, withstood so many shocks, in the past that it is beginning to be regarded—and we think justly so—that stamp collecting is a pursuit that will endure when nine out of ten of the ephemeral fads and crazes of to-day are gone and forgotten. From a mere schoolboy's pastime Philately has grown into a serious and scientific pursuit. As a certain picturesque individual in the opera of "Rip Van Winkle" sings of his pipe, so might a philatelist sing of his hobby:—

My latest love will last
When follies of youth are past

And how stands Philately to day? In our opinion the hobby occupies a better, a safer, an altogether more satisfactory position than at any previous time in its history. There are some who point to the years 1893 to 1896 as marking the zenith of Philately's prosperity; but we think they are wrong. In the period mentioned Philately was, in reality, in a position fraught with extreme danger. The hobby became, just at that time, a greater favorite in "society" than it had ever been before. Many rich and titled people were attracted to the pursuit, and for some time Stamp Collecting became the spoilt darling of the drawing rooms. But society folk are fickle. Many dropped the hobby as soon as the craving for novelty was satiated. Such people could never become philatelists. And the "boom" of the middle "nineties" brought their inevitable sequel—a drop in prices, or, more correctly, a readjustment of prices on a common-sense level. That boom did Philately no real good. Booms never do. The exploitation of a market, consequent upon a sudden spurt in business, is of benefit only to the shrewder dealers and to those speculators who come into a hobby for what there is "in it," and hop out again as soon as their "turn" is made. Philately, as we all know, came through its ordeal with flying colours; and we firmly believe that our hobby has commenced the Twentieth Century under the most favourable auspices. The possibility of our seeing another "boom" in prices such as the rapid and fictitious inflations that were witnessed some years ago is, happily remote. We say happily remote because to the generality of amateur philatelists such a boom is by no means a boon. But that stamp collecting will continue to flourish and prosper, and that it will do so largely as a result of the severe lessons of the past, we are firmly convinced. The best of luck during the Twentieth Century (or so much of the Twentieth Century as they will see) is our hearty wish to all readers of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

* * *

OWING to a great rush of business at our printing works, a regrettable mistake was made in connection with the last issue of the *Fortnightly*. The "Very Important" forms, notifying expiry of Subscriptions, were inadvertently inserted in

the wrong batch of papers, and many postal subscribers were informed that a renewal was due when such was not the case. On the other hand, many from whom renewal remittances were due received no notification at all. We shall rectify the mistake by sending this number to all subscribers, irrespective of expiry, and with a renewal form for only those readers whose subscriptions are actually due.

* * *

WE are happy to be able to give the promised Griqualand article in this number. With the help of the special illustrations of type many readers who have hitherto looked upon Griqualand as a hopeless case, will now be able to master all the intricacies of what is really a most interesting series of stamps.

Griqualand stamps have long been the sport of fortune. Few have properly understood them. Forgers and fakers have worked their nefarious will upon them. Hence the chaotic condition of our available information regarding these, in many instances, extremely scarce issues; and hence, also, the almost incredible lack of knowledge which marks the Griqualand "stock-books" of some of our leading firms of dealers.

The article and the guide to values given in this number represent a deal of patient labour, but if we have succeeded to some extent, in piercing the shadows that have enshrouded Griqualand in the past we shall be more than content.

* * *

FOR some time a big conspiracy has been hatching in the *Fortnightly* Office. It is a conspiracy having two aims—first, the enrichment of such readers of the *Fortnightly* as will help us in a very simple matter; second, the increased prosperity of the *Fortnightly* by the help of its subscribers in all quarters of the globe. This may sound rather like the co-operative economy of the good ladies of the Scilly Islands, who, tradition states, eked out a precarious livelihood by doing one another's washing. But let us explain. We hope, by means of a prize competition on a scale quite unprecedented in philatelic journalism, to greatly increase the *Fortnightly's* list of postal subscribers. For the help our readers give us in attaining this end, we are ready to pay, and at a liberal rate; and when we publish the full scheme, we think it will be one that every reader of the *Fortnightly* not already satiated with riches will want to go in for. Our competition will be marked by a few features not common to journalistic prize contests, such as the following:—

- 1.—The competition will call for no special skill or knowledge, but merely the will to work and help.
- 2.—There will be no coupons to purchase and fill up.
- 3.—Every competitor, however small the results he shows, will receive a prize.
- 4.—There will be no restrictions of any kind whatever. Anyone on this or any other planet will be eligible to compete, and there will be a scrupulously fair field for all.
- 5.—The cash prizes to be awarded will be placed in the custody of an eminent and independent philatelist, whose receipt will be published.

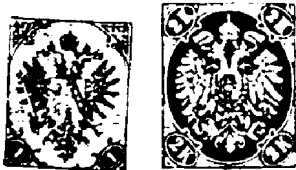
By means of a competition based on these generous lines we hope to add 2000 or more new subscribers to our list. And we think we shall do it. At the earliest possible moment—we hope in our next number—we shall publish full particulars of the competition.

* * *

SOME think that our "Guide to Values" takes too high a level of price; others criticise it on the contrary tack. Messrs. Bright & Son make a very practical kind of comment upon the prices we assigned to the surcharged Grenada Provisional, 2d. on 8d. They offer to purchase a dozen used or unused specimens at the figures we give, and for first-class specimens they are ready to "go a little more." Messrs. Bright's new catalogue, by the way, provides a most excellent list of Grenadas, and one that disposes of most of the objections raised in Mr. Wray Mercer's letter to the *Fortnightly* on the defective cataloguing of this colony's stamps.

Notes on New Issues.

Bosnia.—The full series of the current Bosnian Stamps is made up by the issue of the 40 heller stamp, and two higher values still—1 and 2 kronen. It may be well to recapitulate the values and colours of the whole series up to date :



Type I. Type II.
 Type I.—5 heller, green
 6 " brown
 10 " red
 20 " rose
 25 " blue

Type I.—1 heller, black
 2 " grey
 3 " yellow
 Type I. 30 heller, brown
 40 " orange
 50 " violet
 Type II.—1 krona, rose
 2 " blue

British Honduras.—The new 5 cents stamp is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Adhesive : 5c. blue and black. on blue paper

Denmark.—From Copenhagen, Mr. Bertel Fuglsang writes us that it is announced there on high authority—in fact, almost officially—that the current 25 öre stamp will very shortly be withdrawn and replaced by 24 öre value, for which there is now far greater need.

Dhar.—"We are informed," write Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., "that the Dhar State Post Offices were closed on January 1st, 1901." If this means closed "for good" the news is welcome, for it means one petty Indian State the less to worry about. But on first reading Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s intimation we feared it might merely mean that the employées of the Dhar Post Offices had been given a holiday on New Year's Day; and somehow this dread suspicion haunts us still.

Dominican Republic.—The full set of the lithographed series of stamps, already alluded to, comprises the following values and colours :—



1/2 centavo, blue.
 1/2 " red.
 1 " olive
 2 centavos, green.
 5 " red-brown.
 10 " orange.
 20 " brown-violet.
 50 " grey-black.
 1 peso, brown.

Finland.—Apparently the new Finnish stamps are now coming over. We have seen an illustration of the 5 penni stamp in one of the daily newspapers, but so far no actual specimens of the new issue. As already stated the new stamps are identical with the current Russian set except that the values are expressed in the Finnish currency. The full set, we understand consists of 2, 5, 10 and 20 penni, and 1 and 10 marks.

France.—We now illustrate the three types of the new French stamps, already full described :



German Morocco.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. sends us the current 5 mark German, overprinted at each side "Marocco," and at bottom "6 pes. 25 cts."—all the overprinting being in black. This completes the list of the stamps for German Morocco.

Indo-China.—The 10 centimes stamp has received the red surcharge, "Colis Postaux," for parcels post use. We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a specimen.

Labuan.—We have received, from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., the 4 cents orang outan, carmine and black.

Malta.—We are indebted to Mr. F. P. Norton, of Cockington, Torquay, for a specimen of the 1/4d. Maltese stamp (chronicled in the S.C.F. some time ago, by a printer's error, as of the value of 1s. 4d).



To Mr. Gibson Sugar, at present with the Mediterranean squadron, we are indebted for the following note regarding this stamp: "I sent to the Post Office here on the 3rd instant, but the stamp had not been then issued. On the 5th, though, it was on sale. The stamps will be used for prepaying newspapers in the island, which previously had been delivered free."

New Zealand.—Here is a more precise description of the much-talked-of new penny stamp, furnished by the "New Zealand Times" :—

It is of the ordinary size, printed in carmine—the Postal Union colour—and bears in crescent shape formation the words "Universal Postage." Above this is a full-length female figure representing the Postal Union, a globe, and a steamship at sea, while a view of Mount Egmont forms the background. At each corner is a star, the four forming the Southern Cross.

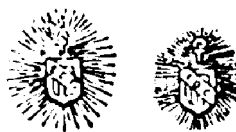
Paraguay.—The new stamps are of a somewhat colourless design, with the usual Paraguayan lion and cap of liberty. The following values are ready :—



2 centavos greenish-grey.
 3 " brown.
 5 " green.
 8 " maroon.
 10 " carmine.

Specimens of the 2, 3, 5 and 10 centavos have been sent us by Mr. H. W. Gassington; the 8 centavos maroon is chronicled by Messrs. Alfred Smith & Son's "Monthly Circular."

Salvador. The latest novelties from this hotbed of Gumpapism are a series of stamps of the type of 1899, but with date altered to 1900 and colours changed, and surcharged with the device illustrated here. There are two distinct types of this surcharge. We are indebted to the "Monthly Circular" for a compilation of the varieties so far seen :—



TYPE I.

TYPE II.

1 centavos, light green (surcharge 1 in violet).
 1 " green (" II " ")
 2 centavos, dull pink (" I " ")
 2 " red (" II " ")
 3 " grey (" I " ")
 3 " slate (" II " ")
 5 " slate-blue (" I " ")
 5 " blue (" II " ")
 10 " " (" I " ")
 10 " ultramarine (" II " ")
 13 " orange (" I " ")
 13 " " (" II " black)

Turks Islands.—We have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., for a set of the new "Turks and Caicos Islands" stamps, from 1/4d. to 3s. The colours, already given in the *Fortnightly*, No. 147, may be repeated here.



1/4d. green. 2 1/2d. blue. 1s. purple-brown.
 1d. rose. 4d. orange. 2s. violet.
 2d. black-brown. 6d. violet. 3s. brown-lake.

Uruguay.—The most thickly surcharged stamp we have ever seen is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. This is the 10 centesimos, carmine and black, "Suarez," overprinted with large "5" and "centesimos" in black. There are also the black overprint "1900" and the semi-circular "Provisorio" in red. And it was quite a pretty stamp, originally!

It is stated that 200,000 specimens of this provisional were issued on the 1st of December last.

Reminiscences of a Philatelist.

BY WALTER NATHAN.

(Continued from page 171).

PERSONALLY I found the pursuit of varieties even more interesting than collecting stamps per set. This, perhaps, was due to my having collected coins before I devoted myself exclusively to stamps. And in this connection it is interesting to note two facts. That on the management of Stanley Gibbons devolving on their present able and energetic Managing Director, a marvellous improvement took place in their catalogue, especially with respect to the chronicling of minor varieties; and that Mr. C. J. Phillips, during his residence at Birmingham, interested himself in coins as well as stamps. I have found that philately has followed very closely in the lines marked by numismatics, and I also think that any collectors desiring valuable "tips" could have obtained them from the history of numismatics, and that it is not yet too late to profit by lessons supplied by the older science. When stamp collecting started very little attention was paid to condition, no notice taken of varieties of perforation, watermarks, or plate numbers. Paper and pigments in which the stamps were fixed were regarded with indifference, while "line engraving," lithograph and woodblocks were considered much about the same, or confused one with the other.

Now in coin collecting condition of specimens has always been of the first importance. The different places of mintage, expressed in words in the early Saxon and Norman pieces, and by mint-marks on coins from the time of the Wars of the Roses to Charles II., have always been a factor in fixing the market value of the piece. Specialism has far outnumbered the votaries of a general collection. In every particular is philately following in the wake of numismatics. But there is one detail which has yet to be followed, and judging by analogy it will be so followed in due course. Coin collectors have always regarded proofs and patterns as not only an interesting branch of their science, but have agreed that the market prices of such pieces should in most cases be equal, and in many instances in excess of pieces which have done the work of currency. Proofs and patterns among stamp collectors are for the most part disregarded, and with the exception of a few specimens, such as the 1d. V.R. English, can be purchased at very moderate prices. I think a judiciously formed collection of such things, and of "specimen" stamps would not only be an interesting pursuit, but give the collector a grand profit on his outlay. Of course where the plates still are available for further printings there is the risk of a large additional number being placed on the market. But this risk is not unknown in coin collecting, and the find at Waddon Chase some fifty years ago brought to light about 30,000 of what had hitherto been a very rare coin. Nevertheless a collection of coins judiciously formed during the past half century would show an investment which would have been highly lucrative, and at their present prices a collection of proofs and essays of stamps, and "specimen" stamps will I feel sure do the same.

In my last article I omitted to mention one variety which deserves to be noted, inasmuch as it is uncatalogued, and of very great rarity. It is the 6c. United States of the 1870 issue, printed by the National Bank Note Co., with embossing covering the entire back with the exception of the plain paper margin between the design and the perforation. The genuineness of the embossing is undoubted, and it is rather curious while the 1868 5c., 30c. and 3c. (which is the commonest of the three in my opinion) are generally catalogued with embossings of various dimensions, and with embossings covering the entire back, that the 1870 issue should only be catalogued with embossing of two dimensions. Those interested in U.S. stamps might find interesting varieties in the embossings of this issue of 1870 and I can at least guarantee the existence of the 6c. with embossing over the entire back.

In the year with which I am now dealing the first exhibition of the Philatelic Society of London was held at the Baker Street Bazaar, and was a complete success. This exhibition

together with sales of stamps by auction, which had now been working well for two years, gave a wonderful impetus to collecting. It is too far back for an account of the exhibits to interest readers, but it may be worth noting what wonderful bargains could have been secured at this exhibition. Exhibitors were allowed to offer their exhibits for sale, the price being confided to the Committee who negotiated the sale. The celebrated collection of British Guiana stamps formed by Mr. Luard changed hands. Among other things it contained a pair of the 2c. rose, 1851, 4c. orange, 4c. yellow and 8c. green, with quite a variety of 12c. blue of same issue, 1856, 4c. magenta (shades) and blue on the surfaced paper, and the very rare 4c. blue on "sugar-paper." The many other fine things of later issues it is not worth while to note in order to emphasize what a splendid purchase this was at the price at which it was sold: £500—I believe. When a single cut round copy of the 2c. rose has since changed hands for over £800, a profit is shown which may well induce speculators to turn their attention from gold-mines to investments in postage stamps. Another bargain which was offered by a dealer who had a stall at the exhibition, was the 2d. Post Office Mauritius on original envelope, price £200. The 2d. is quite as unobtainable by the ordinary collector as the 1d., and in 1898, Messrs. Plumridge & Co., 63/4, Chancery Lane, the Philatelic Auctioneers, were offering for sale by private treaty an envelope bearing two 1d. Post Office Mauritius, price £2100; while Mr. Peckitt, the well known dealer in rare stamps, gave I believe nearly £1000 for a single specimen of the 1st issue Mauritius. Certainly equally remunerative investments are to be found in other lines, but they occur but rarely. The £800 investment which produced £26,000 in the case of "Charlie's Aunt" was described by Counsel as "the chance of a life time." During my life I had one similar opportunity offered me. I was asked to invest £100 in Dunlop Tyres in 1886-7. I refused. Three years later I had an opportunity of purchasing the same shares, this time price £2000. I again refused, and when the Company was reconstructed under Mr. Hooley's purchase, I believe the holding which I could have obtained for £100—realised upwards of £20,000. With stamps, however, it is not a solitary appreciation of value here and there, but a good all round steady rise, such as would gladden the heart of a "bull" in any of the markets of the Stock-exchange.

Will there be a "Bourse" in stamps? I do not refer to the amateur one held in Paris, but to the real thing. It is far-distant, but not impossible. In the meantime there is a large amount of quiet speculation, and those who bought, and held one of Mr. Thompson's £100—lots, have no reason to regret the purchase, despite the fall which West Indians have experienced.

Present day collectors will say, "those were the days when good investments could be made; we don't get the chance now." The same complaint is made in every other occupation, but it has no real basis.

The truth is that every period presents its own opportunities, and although they may differ in character, they do not in result. While traders were complaining that money could not be made in the 90's as it was in the 50's and 60's, bigger fortunes were being piled up by scores than had been made by individuals in the old times.

So is it with stamps. "There are as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it." If such absolute bargains cannot be picked up, there are more of good average purchases about, and even in current stamps those who got a lot of 6d. emerald N.S.W., 1898 p. 12, and Trinidad, 10/-, O.F.S., V.R.I., 2½d. blue, and 6d. carmine, Transvaal, V.R.I., 5/-, &c., &c., at face value, will be able to look at their purchases three years hence, and feel they have not trafficked in vain.

But I find that instead of giving reminiscential experiences I have taken to prognosticating. I beg to apologise to the reader, and to assure him that there is no extra charge.

If I did not buy the "Luard" collection in 1890, I made purchases, which, in a small way, satisfied me. For £15 I got a collection of 1,000, which contained 4d. Ceylon, imp., fine; Vancouver, 5c., imp., unused; B. Guiana, 96c., unused; Virgin Is., 6d., perf. 15, and 1/-, single line border, both fine

used specimens; together with a host of good stamps in European countries, which I no longer collected.

Another old collection which I got about the same time for the same figure was even a better bargain, as it contained a set of fine Ceylon imp. stamps, the 8d. having the largest margins I had ever seen on the stamp, Newfoundland 6d. and 1s. carmine of a lovely shade, being somewhat deeper than the ordinary scarlet-vernilion, although the stamps showed no signs of being oxidised. U.S. 24c. inverted centre (here I may remark that as a matter of personal experience I believe the 30c. inverted centre is at least five times as rare as the 24c. although at one time Messrs. Stanley Gibbons were offering a 30c. at 25% above the price of a 24c.) and another lot of good stamps which I did not want. Yet another collection which I purchased for £25 contained nearly 1,500 varieties of good old stamps. After taking about 600 varieties from the album, I sold the remainder to Mr. G. How for £30.

(To be continued.)

Junior London Philatelic Society

THE PRESIDENT REPORTS PROGRESS.

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

DEAR SIR,

More than a year has passed since I last had occasion to write you. Then the Junior London Philatelic Society was not more than a few weeks old. Now I am happy to say that, thanks to the kindly notices with which we have been favoured by your own and other publications, we have made remarkable progress.

Our first year's experience has shown us the need of an institution like the Junior London Philatelic Society. We did a great deal of work in helping young collectors last year, but for the coming season we have a programme that, if the expectations of the committee are realised, will have a very far reaching influence on the popularity of the hobby.

In the first place we have organised an exchange scheme. The first packet showed great promise. In the third packet we have inaugurated a feature (which I believe is quite novel) in sending round a "Want Book," in which the members state their wants. The book is sent to all members in rotation and they are thus enabled to better estimate the kind of stamps required by their fellow members.

The most important scheme for the New Century, however, is that which provides for the organisation of local, provincial, colonial, and foreign branches of the Society. The headquarters in London provided the sole meeting place for the member during the last season. This of course excludes all members out of town from one of the chief advantages of the Society. The new scheme, which is already in operation at several centres (notably Cape Colony, Croydon, Manchester, Southport and elsewhere), provides for grants from the Society's funds to cover the expenses of meetings, etc., held at the various centres.

The Society would be very glad if you would bring before the notice of your readers the fact that we would like to hear from all who live in districts (suburban, provincial, colonial or foreign) where there are openings for branches of the Society.

The kindly co-operation of the various provincial societies for advanced philatelists is earnestly solicited and will be gratefully acknowledged.

Thanking you in anticipation of the continuance of past favours.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

FRED J. MELVILLE.

President.

30, Acre Lane, Brixton, S.W.

New Philatelic Publications.

MR. HINTON'S NEW ALBUM: "THE EMPIRE."

MR. T. H. HINTON has compiled, and Mr. Ernest Nister, of Paternoster Row and St. Bride Street, has published the above-named new Stamp Album. It is, both in scheme and execution one of the best printed albums we have seen.

The British Empire, as one might expect in "The Empire" Stamp Album, is given pride of place in this new book. Various coloured maps inserted at intervals through the volume cannot fail to be of real value to the philatelist, who, whatever his geographical attainments may be, is frequently at a loss in these days of quick political changes to know where this colony is or to what country such-and-such a place belongs. A novel feature, reflecting great credit upon Mr. Hinton, is the series of marginal notes—or to be more correct, head notes—pointing out many of the most interesting facts concerning the stamps of the various countries and colonies.

The new album is a large quarto, is well bound and well "guarded"; and if the paper is a thought flimsier than we should like to see it, one must remember that to provide a stout paper is incompatible with the difficult task of accommodating the stamps of the whole world in a single volume. On the whole Mr. Hinton and his publisher, Mr. Nister, have done remarkably well. The "Empire" Album probably sells at about 10s. 6d., but this is guess-work on our part. We have been unable to find any indication of price in or upon the copy of the work now before us.

A SECOND GLANCE AT THE "A.B.C." CATALOGUE.

Since our original notice of the Fourth Edition of Messrs. Bright & Son's "A.B.C." Catalogue we have been requested by that firm to mention that, by an error, the blocks illustrating the varieties of the type of 25 centimes Belgium, 1884, have been transposed, the block showing Type II. being in the place that should be occupied by that of Type I. and *vice versa*.

Again, in the prices assigned to the Making Stamps, on page 502, Messrs. Bright & Son wish it be known that number 110 quoted at 25s. should be number 111.

We have more than once expressed our view that one of the chief advantages of Messrs. Bright's Catalogue is that strict alphabetical arrangement which justifies its title of "A.B.C." But it is apparent that the publishers experience a good deal of difficulty in adhering strictly to the A.B.C. arrangement.

One seeming inconsistency, although perhaps too slight to be worth mentioning, may be pointed out. For instance, Tolma has a place to itself under "T." and so it is with the other Provinces of the Republic of Colombia; but we look in vain for Perak under "P." That state, with others comprised within the term "Malaya," appears under "Federated Malay States," at the tail-end of "Straits Settlements." This arrangement seems to fall far short of the ideal.

On this subject we have a post card from a correspondent, "A.B.J.," which reads:—

If Messrs. Bright's catalogue is strictly alphabetical, why does Holland come before Holkar?

But this is hyper-critical.

We find a feeling of very general satisfaction as to the prices in Messrs. Bright's latest edition. On the whole it is a catalogue that comes nearer to our idea of perfection than any we have yet seen.

The United States Government contemplates an issue of stamps for Tutuila. Where on earth is Tutuila?

Stamp collectors in Paris, say the newspaper correspondents, stormed the post offices at the Palais du Luxembourg and the Palais Bourbon when the new French stamps made their appearance. In the first ten hours £800 worth were sold to "the excited stampists," and "several persons were trampled upon."

The Young Stamp Collector.

. . . A MISCELLANY FOR BEGINNERS.

Mr. Basil Hamilton's Interesting Lecture to Young Philatelists.

IN the course of an able address to the newly-formed Winnipeg Philatelic Society—which we hereby welcome into the ranks of the world's stamp clubs—Mr. Basil Hamilton gave so many excellent hints to young collectors that we have extracted the gist of this gentleman's remarks from the complete report appearing in the "Montreal Philatelist." Mr. Hamilton, speaking where he did, and to whom he did, naturally advocated the collection of Canadian stamps, and after drawing attention to the comparative scarcity of many varieties even among the recent emissions of the Dominion, the speaker proceeded as follows:—

Having secured the used varieties of the present issues the beginner should commence work with them as a foundation, and "under build," as it were, by striving to get anterior issues.

Keep a constant eye on the post office for changes, for the first thing you know there will be some "flake" issue, such as the Canada purple 2c. envelope, or the 8c. Jubilee scare, and you will be left lamenting. Never hesitate about buying several copies of a stamp of new issue whose value does not exceed a shilling.

Having a few stamps, do not rush about to get an expensive album, or even a cheap one to stick them in, but content yourself for the first few hundred stamps with a scribbling book, and by means of hinges, or stickers, obtainable at 6d. a thousand, fasten them in under the country's head to which you think they belong, having a care in the arrangement of the impromptu album to divide the countries of the eastern from those of the western hemisphere.

The purchase of your "stickers" brings you into your first contact with a dealer, and then you have passed the threshold of the maze; you are a Junior Member, a first degree man of the great craft of stamp collectors. Your interest from now is established and you long to learn the hidden mysteries of the order.

There is one great book, open to all the faithful, the study of which will open many a locked door and explain matters that it took your old predecessors long years to learn. This key to stamp collecting, this almost essential volume, is a stamp catalogue obtainable from 2/- up. It is full of interesting matters. If it is in the English language it will contain a cut of every stamp ever issued except those of the country of the publisher of the volume, and give most exhaustive particulars as to all known varieties; also the price at which every stamp is obtainable from the firm who issue the book. Take my advice: use all the information the book contains except the prices. The prices are most deceptive. Later you will make use of that part for exchange purposes, but for the present abandon it. Now that you are in the toils of the stamp dealer your expenditure begins, but be very careful how you spend, or you are likely to rue it. The best way is to start with a shilling packet which will comprise perhaps 1,000 mixed stamps, with possibly 150 different kinds. This will keep you sorting and thinking for many a day.

The next process is to remove the pieces of paper which have adhered to the specimens when used for postage. Most of these will come off with a few minutes' soaking in a basin of water. There are two countries to be careful of: Russia and the early Japanese. If these stamps are moistened the color will come off them. Most of the others are safe. Avoid putting any stamps into your mouth, to remove their backs. Besides being a filthy habit there is no saying what disease you may contract from the dried saliva.

Backs peeled off, stick the stamps all in your scribbling book, arranging them in countries, according to the pictures in the catalogue. With very little practice you will get to learn the country to suspect as being the stamp's owner. A word in English, or a familiar one in French, a postmark of some well known place, the distinguishing coat of arms of the country—these will become your guides for generalities and from them your knowledge will gradually extend.

Quantity secured and roughly arranged, it is time to look out for quality and intelligent arrangement. To accomplish this the first requirement is a new album. Of albums the variety is legion, from the shilling kind with crude wood-cuts of the leading stamps of various countries to the books that run into several volumes and contain pictures of all the stamps issued. For those who can afford

the cost there is an album which stands without a parallel. Its pages are of heavy paper indented in a wide cardboard frame, it has blank spaces for the stamps and its binding is so arranged that any page may be removed and a limited number of new pages added. Its cost is according to its excellence, far above its fellows. Abandoning the small albums first mentioned as most pernicious and the expensive as too dear, brings us down to the variety obtainable at all the way from five shillings to five pounds, of a fixed number of pages, bearing illustrations which are right up to date for the time of publication. These are good if it were the intention and only possible for the collector to gather all the stamps shown within one year then drop the hobby for ever. If he attempts to continue the pursuit, he is confronted with the objection of finding no space in the album allotted for succeeding issues. The only alternates offering being either not to collect further or stick the new stamps about on the page margins, or as is possible with the expensive kinds of album buy the supplement at the end of the year. The subject is one that yet remains to be settled to the satisfaction of all collectors and forms a very vexed question.

What strikes me as the best solution for a new collector, is to buy two well bound large volumes, one for each hemisphere, with a line border around every page, to act as guide, and place the stamps according to the catalogue, allowing very liberal spacing and leaving no room for rare gems which are practically unobtainable. Under the head of rare gems you may easily place any stamp cataloguing £1 or over, as the number that will fall into your hands except by direct purchase are extremely few and easily accommodated at any time. In fact it is just a question whether it is wise to hang valuable stamps on a slender hinge in a collection which is to be handled by chance acquaintances. It is doubtful if it does not offer a temptation to remove them, too strong at times to be resisted.

Album and stamps secured, the next thing is to fasten the stamps in position.

This may be done in three ways at least, two of which are no longer popular. The two styles almost obsolete are: to cut short slits in a page at points representing the position of the corners of a stamp and insert the stamp corners into the slits; and to paste the stamps down flat. A third way, which is now almost universal, is to fasten the stamps into position with hinges. The fastening in by hinges presents the two advantages of being open for examination and easy of removal—unfortunately too easy it has proved in many cases—and presents the *bad* feature of being crushed at times by the careless turning of the album's leaves. But it will be wiser on the whole to use hinges.

Only one more point remains. To be intelligent in stamp collecting as in any other pursuit of the present day, the collector must be up to date, he must read and exchange view with his confederates; and a good way to gain this end is to subscribe to a good stamp paper.

We have slightly modified the phraseology of Mr. Hamilton's excellent paper here and there to make it fully intelligible to young English readers. It is one of the soundest, most sensible lectures to philatelic novices it has ever been our good fortune to read.

Types of the Current 200 Reis Brazil.

THE current 200 reis of Brazil, as we announced some weeks ago in the *Fortnightly*, has been re-drawn. We now reproduce from Messrs. Alfred Smith & Son's "Monthly Circular" enlarged illustrations that clearly show the principal difference in the revised version of the stamp:—



THE OLD TYPE.



THE RE-DRAWN TYPE.

A glance at the inner oval containing the profile of Liberty at once reveals the difference between old and new. The white border of this central space, hitherto existing only on the right hand side of the oval, has now been completed by carrying it round to the left also. At the same time there have been slight "touching-up" in various other portions of the stamp. This white border, however, will be the handiest and speediest means of separating the two types.

Our Review of Reviews.

Mr. L. W. Fulcher Joins the Editors.

The new editor of "Morley's Philatelic Journal" has nothing of the New Broom about him. Mr. Fulcher is convinced that no alteration in the lines laid down by his predecessor would be for the better. Therefore he intends to inaugurate no rash experiments, to introduce no sensational novelties; and doubtless he is right. His first number, the January "M.J.P.," is a fit successor of the twelve issues Mr. A. Preston Pearce has given us.

Mr. Morley's "Extract" of Cook Islands.

We have before remarked upon Mr. Walter Morley's workmanlike style of philatelic writing. He is concise but thoroughly terse but exhaustive. He crams the whole philately of the Cook Islands Federation into little more than a page of "Morley's Philatelic Journal"; and there seems to be no essential item left out. The *Fortnightly* having taken more than a passing interest in Cook Islands, let us glance at the chief points in Mr. Morley's Reference List.

In the issue of 1892 Mr. Morley lists six varieties on the buff, or toned paper—there being dark and pale shades of both the 1½d. mauve, and the 2½d. blue. Further there is an interesting variety to record—as yet, we believe, uncatalogued—in the shape of the 1½d. mauve, with a short "1" in the "½" of "½d."

Coming to the 1893-94 series, with head of Queen Makea, Mr. Morley finds the normal perforation to be 12×11½. Messrs. Bright, in their new catalogue, we see, have it "11½ to 12." All values, however, are to be found also perf. 11½ and perf. 12. The 11½, Mr. Morley tells us, is "very scarce." The varieties found here are the 1½d. mauve perforated 11½ by 12, and the 10d. green in the curious compound perf. of 11½ at top and right side and 12 at bottom and left side.

At some time during 1898 a new perforation, 11, was adopted for all values, and Mr. Morley has observed that the colours of this series are of a somewhat brighter tint than the preceding issues.

Mekeel's Special Chinese Number.

A gorgeous production, with a coat like Joseph's, of many colours, is the "Chinese Special" of "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News," dated November 22nd, 1900. We saved the number as a *bonne bouche* for Christmas reading, and hence the lateness of our review.

The number is all, or nearly all, China. If there is anything concerning Chinese postal matters that one cannot find within the covers of this special number we should like to be told of it. He who wants more Chinese postal and philatelic lore than he gets here must be a monomaniac.

There was, by the way, a good story current, once upon a time, of an editor who was driven mad by a cranky reader who fired in a constant fusillade of enquiries about wheels. He gave that editor no rest, but eternally plagued him on the subject of wheels, cart wheels, bicycle wheels, motor wheels, the science of wheels, the gravity of wheels, and the way wheels had of coming off their axles without being wanted to. His only interest in life was wheels; he suffered, possibly, with "wheels in the head," which is an American expression the meaning of which we have not quite mastered. But certain it is that the crank ran his wheel correspondence to such lengths that the poor editor's head spun; and one day he penned an editorial—the last the poor fellow was ever destined to write—intimating that the next number of his journal would be a Special Wheel Number, devoted entirely to wheels—wheels big and wheels little, all kinds of wheels, cab wheels, cart wheels, fly wheels, Catherine wheels, weals on the back, and Wheels of Fortune. "This great issue," he declared, "will make its appearance, come wheel or woe, on Tuesday next. Look out for it. Order it.

Devour it; eat it all up, and your life will run on wheels for evermore. The world wants to know about wheels, and this number will tell them. Everything about wheels from tyre to axle, from spoke to lynch-pin. Wheels for the million. See our next Tuesday's issue—" etc., etc. But the number never appeared for the poor man was taken away to a sanatorium before the ink of his quaint editorial was thoroughly dry.

We have been wondering whether the Chinese question had got on Mr. C. E. Severn's nerves that way, and whether he decided to put all that everybody ever knew or wanted to know about the Celestials' stamps into one number of "Mekeel" just to silence some obstreperous "constant reader" gone cracked on China. Anyhow, the Chinese "Mekeel" is a good and thorough piece of work, containing as it does an exhaustive article on "The Celestial Empire—Historically considered," which is not extraordinarily interesting, and other articles on Chinese, Korean and Formosan stamps, which are.

Reversed Watermarks Not Worth Much.

Mr. W. Dornier Beekton thinks there is a tendency to make too much of a fuss about a reversed watermark. *Apropos* a statement that the Egyptian 20 paras on 5 piastres, 1884, with reversed surcharge, is one of the rarest varieties of that country, the Manchester Society's President writes to the "London Philatelist" as follows:—

"I cannot agree, however, with a statement of this kind, because however rare it may be it is putting an altogether exaggerated value upon this class of variety, a value which is not warranted by the present feeling collectors evince towards reversed watermarks. In a specialised collection they certainly tend to make it more complete, but the interest attached to them is very small. Collect them if you will, by all means, but don't look upon them as objects of all absorbing interest, otherwise you will some day have a cruel awakening.

Which Century's Stamps will you Collect?

The advent of the new Century, remarks "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News," is not unlikely to leave its mark on present day methods of collecting. Already several collectors have been heard to express their intention of making a fresh start, by taking only those varieties which shall be issued on and after January 1st, 1901. Others, however, intend to try the effect of collecting only such issues as have been made *prior* to the first day of the New Century.

New Issues of the Past Decade.

One of "Der Philatelist's" contributors has gone to the trouble of counting up, and tabulating as follows, the "New Issues" of the past ten years:—

	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	
Europe	116	89	69	71	61	73	31	56	41	140	780
Asia	90	124	100	98	107	119	120	158	148	64	1128
Africa	17	221	230	293	260	221	173	319	128	75	2057
America	23	259	217	149	207	235	206	333	219	144	2192
Australia	52	67	121	20	37	12	35	30	39	65	478
Totals	648	760	737	631	672	660	565	896	578	488	6635

Africa, kindly note, is second in point of numbers, and is only 35 stamps behind the whole of the Americans. The Dark Continent is getting a little too enlightened in some things!

The Faces at a Philatelic Auction.

The observant London Correspondent of the "Metropolitan Philatelist," Mr. G. Lionel Campbell, has been noticing the types of men who attend the various kinds of auctions in London.

It is curious to note how the various auction rooms of London have their regular frequenters, and how these differ in stamp according to the character of the room. If you go to Christie's you will see, in addition to the well-known art dealers, shrewd-looking men on the look-out for pictures, plate and art work generally. These men are usually quiet and reserved—apparently suspicious of each other, and not much inclined to an interchange of opinions. If, on the other hand, you go to Sotheby's where bibliomaniacs assemble, you will see at times, a curious mixture of pompous purse-proud men, and learned, spectacled bankish men, who gloat over what they cannot buy, and who let their tongues run without ceasing—making a general

fuss over things intrinsically trivial. To see a nice respectable, well dressed set of men, go to a sale of postage stamps. Here you will see little crowds stand round the door talking in a faint whisper and scanning their precious bits of paper, comparing notes, and arguing whether a perforation is 14 or 14½. You will sometimes see a rather oldish looking man sitting alone and taking no interest in the sale until the end, when he will bid for some collection to give to his son as a Christmas present. The men who go to these sales are much younger than those you see at either Christie's or Sotheby's.

The Broken "M" of "Ottoman Empire."

Mr. P. T. Deakin, a well-known committee-member of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, notes a curious error in certain values of the Turkish issues from 1876 to 1891. The type of stamp concerned is Gibbons' Type 9 (Nos. 80 to 144 in the Gibbons' Catalogue); and the error or more correctly, misprint, is a defective or clipped "M" in the word "Ottoman." In the right hand half of this letter "M," Mr. Deakin tells us in the January issue of the "Stamp Collector," the line dividing the up and down stroke is missing, and the letter, as printed, looks like a bad N. There are minor details in the other letters, also, but they do not seem consistent, like that of the M, which is *clear and whole* in the 10, 20, and 50 paras and 5 piastres, and *chipped or broken* into the semblance of an N, in the 1 and 2 piastres; whilst in the 5 paras there are both kinds of letter commonly found in stamps side by side.

Why Some People Don't Collect Post-Cards.

In the same number of the "Stamp Collector" (an excellent New Century number, by the way) Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., Hon. Secretary of the Birmingham Society, gives many excellent points in favour of post-card collecting. These recommendations are nine in number, and they range from the economy of post-card collecting to the practical immunity from fraud by forgery which card-collectors enjoy. Nine excellent advantages in their way, but if only it were possible to add a tenth, as follows:—

(10) As time goes on post-cards will increase in value.

But Mr. Johnson, with, doubtless, a reputation for veracity to live up to, could not write such a thing as that, for it is directly opposed to the truth. In view of recent developments—the retirement of Mons. Moens and the abandonment of "Entires" by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited—there is, unhappily, little prospect of post-cards proving a remunerative investment. And this, we fear, is one reason why many philatelists eschew the otherwise fascinating post-card.

No true collector thinks only of the money side of his hobby, but money is money, and a man who lays out hard cash in the pursuit of his favorite pastime expects to be able to sell out at any rate without loss. Is there, in the present circumstances, any guarantee that a collector of "Entires" would be able to do so?

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TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnighly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

MR. FRED J. ABBOTT, of Grahamstown, Cape Colony, writes us as follows, under date Dec. 2nd, 1900:

In your issue of S.C.F. just to hand, I notice a paragraph from Mr. A. A. Bartlett, Prince Edwards Island re stamps sent to "E. G. B." of this town. The only Philatelist I know with those initials is E. G. Booth, if it is he you refer to, I beg to write on his behalf. If the stamps left Prince Edward Island on September 28th, they would not reach here until some time in November. Now Mr. Booth, who is a captain in our local corps, the 1st City Vol. Rifles, left with his regiment for the front early in November, and has been fighting for his Queen and Country ever since, so that if Mr. Bartlett can contain his soul in patience until this miserable war is over, I have no doubt he will hear from my friend, who, I do not believe has yet seen the sheet referred to; I hope in justice to E. G. B. you will give this the same publicity as you did Mr. Bartlett's enquiry.

Some of your correspondents seem to think that Mafeking stamps and their issue was a shrewd business transaction, but I think if they will look at the variety of stamps surcharged, it will prove to them that the local post office authorities had used all of the regular stamps and had to have recourse to any unused stamps they could get hold of for the purpose of carrying on postal communication, personally I know it was very difficult for Mafeking residents to purchase stamps; for a month before the siege was raised I managed to get a message thro' to a friend to "Secure me twelve sets of Mafeking stamps" and he could not get one complete set, he only secured me 16, and 6 were duplicated. The message went by telegraph to Durban, cable from Durban to Beria, telegraph from Beria to Lobatsi, runner from Lobatsi to Pitsani and Heliograph from Pitsani into Mafeking, which I think is a record in Philatelic cheek.

* * *

With Philately entering upon its second century, it is interesting to recall how "Punch," in 1842, regarded the first manifestations of a desire to accumulate used stamps. In February, 1842, "Punch" held forth as follows:—

A NEW MANIA

has bitten the industriously-idle ladies of England. To enable a large wager to be gained, they have been indefatigable in their endeavours to collect old penny stamps; in fact, they betray more anxiety to treasure up Queen's heads than Henry VIII. did to get rid of them. Colonel Sibthorp, whose matchless genius we have so often admired, sends us the following poem upon the prevailing epidemic:—

When was a folly so pestilent hit upon,
As folks running mad to collect every spit upon
Post-office stamp that's been soiled and been writ upon?
Oh for Swift! such a subject his spleen to emit upon.
'Tis said that some fool in mustachios has split upon
The rock of a bet,
And therefore must get,
To avoid loss and debt,
Half the town as collectors, to waste time and wit upon,
Bothering and forcing their friends to submit, upon
Pain of displeasure
To fill a peck measure
With the coveted treasure
Of as many old stamps as preforce can be lit upon,
To paper a room, or stuff cushions to sit upon.
Do, dearest Punch, let fly a sharp skit upon
This new pursuit, and an ass's head fit upon
The crest of the order of Knights of the Spit upon.

We are indebted to Sir Edward Sullivan for kindly sending us a transcript of the above severe, but amusing criticism. Times have changed since 1842, and we dare swear that even the "London Charivari" would find less hard things to say concerning Philately to-day.

From the Auction Rooms.

The following are the most interesting realisations at the various Philatelic Auctions held in London since our last report:—

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.'s Sale, Dec. 18th & 19th.	
	£ s. d.
Newfoundland, 4d. orange	1 2 0
New South Wales, Sydney View, 1d. pale red, on laid paper	2 6 0
Do. 1888, wmk. 5/-, 20/- blue*	1 12 0
New Zealand, 1855, blued paper, 1d. red	1 8 0
Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown*	1 8 0
Queensland, 1868, perf. 13, 6d. apple-green*	1 1 0
St. Lucia, wmk. star, 4d. blue*	1 3 0
St. Vincent, 1869, no wmk., 4d. yellow	0 19 0
Do. no wmk., compound perms., 1/- slate-grey, perms blind on two sides*, part gum	0 18 0
South Australia, 1871, wmk. V. and Crown, 4d. purple, fair	1 18 0
Trinidad, 1861, clean cut perms., 1d. rose-red*	0 16 0
Turks Islands, 1873, wmk. small star, 1/- lilac, defective..	4 4 0
United States, 1855, 90c. deep blue*, without gum	2 2 0
Do. 1861, perf. 12, 5c. yellow-ochre*	1 9 0
Do. 1869, 90c. carmine and black, off centre	1 2 0
Do. Navy, 90c.*	1 6 0
Victoria, 1865, 10d. slate, without the usual wmk. and shewing curious defect of plate	2 2 0
Virgin Islands, 1867-68, perf. 15, double line frame, 1/- rose, carmine on bluish tinged paper*	2 15 0
Do. do. Single lined frame, 1/- rose-carmine*	1 8 0
Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER'S Sale, Jan. 3rd & 4th.	
Barbados, 5/- rose	1 8 0
British East Africa, 1st issue, 1s. on 2d.	2 2 0
Gt. Britain, 1d. black, V.R. in upper corners, used, but poor	7 5 0
Do. £5 orange	1 14 0
Do. "Govt. Parcels," on 1d. lilac, inverted and used on entire envelope	3 17 6
Jamaica, 1867, half a 1d. blue, used as 3d., on entire	1 0 0
Natal, 1st issue, 1/- buff, 27 by 26 mm.	2 17 6
Nevis, 1st issue, 1/- green*	1 11 0
Newfoundland, 6d. orange	1 5 0
Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown*	1 5 0
Roumania, Moldavia, 1st issue, 54 paras blue on green	7 10 0
Straits Settlements, Bangkok, C. & C.C., 96c. slate	2 12 0
Do. do. 2c. on 3c., wide S*	1 16 0
Do. Johor, 1891, 2c. on 24c., error "Censt"	2 18 0
Do. Perak, "P.G.S.," 12c. blue*	1 7 0
Do. do. do. 12c. purple*	1 8 0
Do. Sungei Ujong, 10c. slate	1 10 0
Transvaal, surcharged 3d. mauve on green, with Transvaal above V.R.	4 4 0
Do. Queen's Head, 1d. in black on 6d. (V instead of Y in penny)	3 3 0
Virgin Islands, 1867-68, 1/- crimson, with coloured margins* on blued paper	1 7 0
Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sale, Jan. 8th & 9th.	
Argentine Republic, 1864, imperf., 15c. blue, defective	1 10 0
Bahamas, wmk. CC., perf. 12½, Fourpence on 6d. violet	0 19 0
British East Africa, 1895, 2 rupees red	1 13 0
British Guiana, 1852, 4c. blue	2 10 0
British South Africa, 1896, Bulawayo Provisionals, One Penny on 3d. grey, a pair	6 5 0
Do. do., a single copy used, together with One Penny on 4/- grey.. .. .	5 0 0
Canada, Imperf. 7½d. green	1 6 0
Cape of Good Hope, "Mafeking Besieged" 6d. on 3d. magenta	2 10 0
Do. do 1/- on 4d. green	1 8 0
Do. do. on Bechuanaland, 6d. on 3d. brown on yellow	2 5 0
Cape of Good Hope, "Mafeking Besieged," sans-serif surcharge 1/- on 6d. brown on red	6 0 0
Do. do. 2/- on 1/- green	2 8 0
Do. do. another	2 10 0
Ceylon, imperf. 8d. brown, good margins	12 10 0
Do. wmk. CC., 5d. purple brown, thinned	1 0 0
Do. do. 2r. 50c. lilac-rose damaged	0 19 0
Great Britain, 2/- brown* part gum	4 0 0
Do. Mulready 2d. envelope	0 18 0
Grenada, wmk. broad pointed star, 2½d. claret, clipped*	2 10 0

	£ s. d.
Nevis, perf 15, 1/- yellow green* no gum	8 5 0
Do. do. 6d. grey*	4 12 6
Do. Wmk. C.A., 1/- violet*	0 19 0
New South Wales, Sydney View, 2d. blue, plate 3, 1st retouch	1 2 0
Orange Free State, 1877, 4d. on 6d. rose, type c*	1 5 0
Do. do. another type d. inverted*	2 12 0
St. Lucia, wmk. star, 4d.* defective	0 18 0
Sierra Leone, wmk. CC., perf. 14, 4d. blue*	0 19 0
Spain, 1850, 6 reales blue* but no gum	2 0 0
United States, 1869, 90c. black and carmine	1 12 0
Zanzibar, 1896, blue surcharge ½ anna green, and a pair of 1 anna purple, used together on piece of original	6 0 0
Do. do. ½ anna green, a strip of 3 and 1 anna purple do. do.	8 10 0
Do. do. 1 anna purple the error, Zanzibar "se tenant" with the normal variety*	3 3 0

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.'s Sale, Jan 14th and 15th.

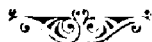
Antigua, CC., perf. 14, 2½d. red-brown.. .. .	1 2 0
British Bechuanaland, 1st issue, 1/- green*	0 18 0
British East Africa, 1895, surcharged in black, 5r. olive-green, perforated on all sides	1 18 0
British Honduras, C.A., perf. 14, 6d. yellow	1 12 0
British South Africa, 1st issue, £1 indigo blue*	1 12 0
Canada, imperf., 12d. black, surcharged "Specimen" in red	1 14 0
Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red, defective	1 0 0
Do. do. 4d. blue	1 9 0
Do. Mafeking Besieged, Baden-Powell, large head, 3d. blue	1 18 0
Ceylon, imperf., 9d. brown, thinned	1 1 0
Dominica, C.A., perf. 14, 1 - lilac-rose*	1 18 0
Gambia, imperf., wmk. CC., 6d. deep blue*	0 18 0
Gold Coast, 1891, 20 - lilac and black on red*	1 2 0
Gt. Britain, 1867-69, 2/- brown, fair	1 12 0
Great Britain, wmk. anchor, £5 orange, creased*	4 12 6
India, 1866, surcharged "Service" 2a. purple (S.G. No. 516)	1 10 0
Newfoundland, 6d. carmine, defective	1 10 0
New South Wales, Sydney View, 3d. pale green, a horizontal pair, on stamp cracked	5 5 0
Do. 1851, 2d. deep blue*	1 7 0
New Zealand, 1872, wmk. star, perf. 10 x 12½, 6d. blue	0 18 0
Do. 1875, 5/- grey*	1 0 0
Portugal, 1st issue, 100r. lilac, penmarked	1 1 0
St. Vincent, 1866, small perms., 1/- slate-grey, oil centre*	1 0 0
Sierra Leone, 1894, CC. perf. 14, Half Penny, on 1½d. lilac, a vertical pair*	5 0 0
Do. CA. 14, Half Penny on 1½d. lilac, surcharge inverted*	1 12 0
South Australia, 1860, rouletted, 2/- rose-carmine*	2 6 0
Sweden, 1872, 20 ore vermilion (the error)*	11 0 0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ rappen blue black and carmine*	6 10 0
Transvaal, surcharged "V.R. Transvaal" in black on 1d. red, on thick smooth paper, a rouletted pair*	2 0 0
Do. do. 1d. red, rouletted (S.G., No. 68)*	1 14 0
Do. 2½d. on 1/- green, error (S.G., No. 230), fair	1 0 0
Do. 1900, surcharged V.R. in violet rubber type, set from 3d. to 1/-	3 5 0
United States, 1855, 90c. deep blue, defective and off centre*	1 6 0
Do. State, 2 dollars	2 15 0
Do. do. 10 dollars	7 15 0
Victoria, 1868-81, 5 - blue on yellow	3 3 0
Western Australia, 1st issue, rouletted, 1d. black, a horizontal pair	2 0 0
Zululand, £1 purple on red*	1 8 0

DATES OF FORTHCOMING AUCTION SALES.

January 29th and 30th.—Messrs. Plumridge & Co., at 63/4, Chancery Lane, W.C., commencing at 5 p.m. sharp.
 January 31st and February 1st.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, commencing at 5 p.m.
 February 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, commencing 4.30 p.m. precisely.

A fine copy of the 4d. blue Western Australia, with inverted swan, has been added to the "Leinster" Collection, in the National Museum, Dublin. The stamp was first sent, in error, to the Trustees of the British Museum, London.

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1000 " " " "	..	1	7
1000 Stamps all different	..	6	0
(no fiscals or cards)	0	18	6
2000 " " " "	3	0	0
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4000 " " " "	17	5	0
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Philatelic Societies' Reports.

(Secretaries of Societies are invited to contribute, promptly, brief reports of their meetings, fixtures, &c.)

THE JUNIOR LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the last meeting, which was held on Saturday, January 12th, was read Major-General Baden-Powell's reply to an enquiry made by the above Society regarding the Mafeking stamps. This was very interesting and instructive, as it settled all doubts that had been before experienced with reference to these stamps. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Major-General Baden Powell for his kindness in thus putting the matter on a clear footing.

An article was also read by the Chairman entitled—"The Story of Stamp Collecting in the XIX Century," which was enjoyed by everyone present.

The next meeting of the Society will be held on Saturday, February 9th, in Clapham Hall, Old Town Clapham, at 7.30 p.m. At this meeting will be given a display of various collections of stamps. All philatelists and others are heartily welcome.

BRISTOL AND CLIFTON SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting was held on Thursday, January 3rd, at the clubroom, 4, Cotham Hill, when a programme of meetings and displays of stamps for the ensuing season was arranged, and the following officers elected.—President, Mr. P. J. Lloyd; Vice-President, Mr. J. Perrett; Committee, Mr. N. Glyde Heaven, Mr. J. H. Reynolds, Mr. J. W. Stooke, and Mr. J. P. Way; Exchange Packet Secretary, Mr. D. H. McPherson; Hon. Librarian, Mr. T. C. Cartwright; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. R. Dalton.

CARDIFF PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President: WALTER SCOTT, J.P.

The January meeting held on the 8th was presided over by the President, Mrs. Marshall and Messrs. W. G. Bowden, F. Edwards, J. L. Everett, W. H. Facey, W. S. Jutsum, B. W. King, J. T. Milburn, W. H. Renwick, B. Rowlands, Alderman Trounce and one visitor being present.

Mr. Milburn presented a cop. of Bright's 4th edition of their priced catalogue to the Society.

At the close of business, Mr. W. H. Renwick gave a paper on the Stamps of Canada, accompanied by a display of his Collection.

The paper which was listened to intently showed that great attention had been paid to its preparation as it dealt with the various issues minutely and contained a lot of interesting side matter. Mr. Renwick's collection contained the various issues in many shades and the pence series was well represented but the 2d. was not amongst the number. This stamp was only seen in a specimen state in the President's Collection.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Renwick for his paper.

The subject for the next meeting is the "United States of America," to be introduced by Alderman Trounce. Official address 371, Cowbridge Road.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The meeting of the Leeds Philatelic Society on the 4th of December, 1900, took the form of an "At Home" at St. Clement's Vicarage, Sheepscar, Leeds, when the members were heartily welcomed and most hospitably enter-

tained by the Rev. T. S. Flemming and his wife and daughters.

The subject of the evening was a display of the stamps issued by countries in Eastern Asia, including China, Japan, Hong Kong, Sarawak, Borneo, the Straits Settlements and their various dependencies, Siam, the Dutch Indies, Labuan, the Philippine Islands, &c. These were shown by the host and Messrs. Thackrah and E. Egly. There were several novelties. The last-named member brought the 1 mark carmine of the new issue of Germany, also the new designs 5 pfening green and 10 rose of the same country, surcharged to and 20 paras respectively for use in the German Levant offices. Mr. J. H. Thackrah showed the one anna of India in the new colour (scarlet) as required by the Postal Union Code, also a set (unused) of eight values 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s., 6d., and 10s. of the Transvaal stamps, overprinted "V.R.I." The Rev. T. S. Flemming showed the 1 centavo green and 20 centavos orange of Peru in unsevered pairs; also a new type of the Army Field Post obliteration on a letter from the front. Of other curiosities, Mr. W. Denison Roebuck, F.R.S., showed picture post cards from Paris, with the portrait of ex-President Kruger. The host also showed used "Army Official" stamps, of which the 3d. green had not been before seen by the members, to whom Mr. Flemming kindly presented copies.

The stamps of France were the chief feature of the display at the following meeting, which took the form of an "At Home" with Mr. Joseph Scott, first President of the Society at Far Headingley. In addition to Mr. Scott's own fine collection of France and Colonies, the members were treated to interesting exhibits by Mr. Thackrah, Mr. Egly, Mr. W. A. Jefferson, Mr. Wm. Beckwith, &c. The next meeting was announced for January 8th, with a discussion on "Catalogues and Prices" as the chief feature of the agenda.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

ANNUAL DINNER.

THIRTY attended the annual dinner of the Manchester Philatelic Society at the Grand Hotel, on November 21st, last. It was a highly enjoyable function. Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, President, in a pleasant after-dinner speech, mentioned that eight medals had been awarded to members of the Society for their exhibits at the Paris Philatelic Exhibition. The President was able to announce that the splendid sum of £110 had been raised by the sale of the Manchester Philatelic Society War Fund stamps for the relief of Lancashire sufferers by the war. Some Kruger coins, from 1d. to £1 were afterwards raffled and the evening wound up with a series of musical, ventriloquial and humorous "turns" by the members and friends.

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC UNION.

A COMMITTEE MEETING took place at Essex Hall, on Monday, December 10th, 1900. Present:—Mr. H. R. Oldfield (in the chair), Messrs. L. W. Fulcher, W. Hadlow, W. S. King, Dr. Marx, H. Thompson, P. L. Pemberton, and the Hon. Sec.

Sufficient Entries having been received, it was unanimously resolved to hold the suggested Exhibition on Jan. 26th. (See a paragraph under "Philately at Home and Abroad" in this number of the *Fortnightly*.)

SCOTTISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The usual monthly meeting was held in 5, St. Andrew Square, on Monday, December 10th,

1900.—Present: Mr. R. S. Richardson, Hon. Vice-President, in the chair; Dr. Alexis Thomson, and Messrs. Baxter, Fleming, Kerr, Miller, and Fish. The display for the night consisted of the stamps of Queensland, and collections were shown by Dr. Thomson and Messrs. Richardson, Miller, and Fish. Messrs. Henderson and Kerr were appointed auditors for the year.—WILLIAM FISH, M.A., Hon. Sec., 18, Montpelier Terrace, Edinburgh.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF INDIA.

A GENERAL meeting of the Society was held on Friday, 7th December, 1900, at Mr. Larmour's residence, 50, Bentinck Street, Calcutta, at 6 o'clock, Mr. C. F. Larmour being in the Chair, Mr. Corfield, in the absence of the Treasurer, presented a provisional financial statement, and the issue during the year of Mr. G. A. Anderson's hand-book on the Stamps of Bhopal and the first of Mr. D. P. Masson's hand-books on those of Jammu and Kashmir was reported. It was resolved that the affiliation of the North West Provinces Philatelic Club to the Society be terminated as and from the 31st December. The following officers were re-elected for the year 1901; President, Mr. C. Stewart Wilson (Lahore); Vice-Presidents, Messrs. C. F. Larmour (Calcutta), D. P. Masson (Lahore), and W. Dorning Beckton (Manchester); Hon. Treasurer, Mr. D. P. Masson (Lahore); Hon. Secretary, (Mr. W. Corfield (25, Mangoe Lane, Calcutta); Editor of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, Mr. C. Stewart Wilson; Council, the above *ex-officio* and Major L. E. du Moulin (South Africa), Major E. B. Evans (Sydenham), Major F. H. Hancock (Jullundur), Lieutenant-Colonel G. F. A. Harris (Calcutta), Major C. H. J. Hopkins (Tynemouth), Professor O. V. Müller (Bombay), and Messrs. G. A. Anderson (Bombay), J. Cornwall (Lucknow), W. S. Coult's (Penang), T. Hoffmann (Calcutta), G. F. Melbourn (Tooting), G. Norman (Calcutta), E. Sassoon Gubboy (Calcutta), F. N. Schiller (Calcutta), P. A. Selve (Hyderabad), J. A. Lilleard (London), and J. N. O. Thurston (Burma).

Having lately purchased several very large collections, and desiring to realise quickly, we are sending out approval sheets of good copies of stamps, catalogued from 1d. to £10, at

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IMPORTANT NOTICE re SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS.

Although our rates for private pre-paid 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.:

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6 insertions for the price of 5.
 12 insertions for the price of 9.
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DISPERSING Old Collection. Several hundred pounds worth of early issues, British, Foreign and Colonial, rare, medium and common; suit all collectors. Don't miss this. Write at once. References and countries wanted. WRIGHT, Ivy Cottage, St. Neots.

WANTED, to buy post cards, envelopes and wrappers, any countries, used or unused. —MISS BARROW, Grange Road, Darlington.

V.R.I. TRANSVAAL, used, on entire, set, 1d. to 6d., very fine, 4/6. Also others cheap. —ROXBURGH, Grove Dazzette, Jersey.

BOOK containing mostly old Colonial stamps, price £6 10s. Also a few other good lots. Approval. —CLEMENT CORDRILY, Vicarage Drive, Eastbourne.

VACANCIES exist in the County of Stafford Stamp Exchange for a few reliable Members. Good sales. Excellent management. *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* supplied to Members at reduced rates. Rules, &c., from JAS. SPIRLEY, Winona, Corporation Street, Stafford.

TO GERMAN PHILATELISTS IN LONDON. —Wanted, a gentleman to undertake a little translating, German into English. Address by letter only: Box 135, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

SPAIN. New issue, 1901 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50 cents, 1, 1, 10 pesetas. Unused set, 13/8. Cash with order. JUAN ESTARELLAS CARRONELL, San Magin, 112, Palma de Mallorca. On "Bazaar" Reference Register, 179, Strand, London. Journals inserting this advertisement will be paid by return mail against voucher copy.

RED Penny English, plate, 71 to 221. 3L and 1L control letters. V.R.I. Transvaal, 1d. to 6d., 1 to Gambia, 1d. carmine lake, 9d. All mint. —MR. EARL, Newcastle, Staff.

FROM a fine private collection, superb picked British Colonial Stamps, both mint and very fine used copies at one third to one half Stanley Gibbons' prices. Advertiser will send any portions on approval against good references. Box 141, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

COLLECTORS having good duplicates to dispose of at moderate prices, in exchange for others, will find the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange Club worthy of a trial, being the best exchange in Scotland. Monthly Packet £150 to £250. Membership 50, and reference can be had from any of them as to prompt monthly settlements on return of packets. Rules sent and all enquiries answered by the Sec., JOHN JOHNSON, Moss Side, New Deer, Aberdeenshire.

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FINE Collection in handsome 12/- album, over 1300 different. Approval. Deposit, £5.—STAMPS, 50, Elingham Road, Harringay, London.

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WANTED to buy Envelopes and Newspaper Wrappers, any Countries, cut square only, either used or unused. Send selections on approval to NORMAN C. HOREWOOD, Bendigo, Victoria, Australia.

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GRAND XMAS PACKET—Marvellous value, 50 different stamps including New Issues of Austria, Holland, Hungary, together with a set of new German 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 pf., and many other scarce varieties, 1d. postage extra. —A. J. DANIEL, 6, New City Road, Barking Road, Plaistow, Essex. 48

BRITISH Central African Surcharged Stamps "One Penny" on 3s. unused, mint condition, 1/6 each. One Penny "Provisionals" for "Internal Postage" used, on original pieces of envelopes, 3 each. Cash with order.—KNOWLES, Stationer, Padham Road, Burnley.

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ORANGE FREE STATE, surcharged V.R.I., 1d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 1/-, 8/6 the set; ditto, first issue, 15/-. —ORANGE STAMP COMPANY, Box 226, Bloemfontein.

DISPERSING two fine collections, rich in early issues. A third of catalogue all round. Approval sheets against good references. Collectors kindly note that this is not a catch advertisement but prices will really average 66 2/3 per cent. less than catalogue, and the stamps are not modern speculative rubbish but good substantial old issues.—H. A. McMILLAN, 3 Curator Street, Chancery Lane, E.C.

Always mention the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY in answering Advertisements.

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FRANCE, 1 franc orange, on entire, and 15c. brown on rose, error, *se tenant*, with 10c., mint.
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RUSSIAN LEVANT, 1865, 2 and 20 kopecks.
SAXONY, 1st issue, 3pf., used on entire and unused, 1851, the rare error ½ngr. black on blue.
SWEDEN, 1st issue, unused, and the "Tretio" error.
SWITZERLAND, Zurich, 4 rappen (2, one on entire), Geneva, 5+5, on piece. Basle, 2½ rappen, on entire. Vaud, 4c., on entire.
SERVIA, 1866, error, 2 para green on rose.
SPAIN, 1850, complete, unused, 1851, 1852 and 1853, 2 reales, Madrid, 3 cuartos on entire, 1854, 1 real light blue, 1855, 2 reales blue, error, 1865, 12 cuartos, with centre inverted, perf. and imperf., former on entire.
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CEYLON, 4d., 8d., 9d., 1/9 and 2/, imperf., 8d., perf., star, unused, 2 rupees 50c., unused, etc., etc.
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PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, 1854, 1 real, and 1863, 1 and 2 reales, surcharged Habilitado.
CAPE, Woodblock, errors, 1d. blue and 4d. red.
LAGOS, wmk. C.A., 2/6, 5/- and 10/-, mint.
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CANADA imperf., 7½d. and 10d., unused, 12d. black, used, perf., ed., unused, etc.
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NOVA SCOTIA, 1/-, unused.
NEWFOUNDLAND, 6½d. carmine, unused, and 1/- orange, used, very fine.
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THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 154—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 2, 1901.

ONE PENNY.

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.



63/4, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents.

The next Sales will be held on

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12th and 13th,

And will consist of a FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION broken up into lots.

Other Sales will take place bi-monthly, and Philatelists having Entire Collections or Loose Stamps to dispose of should make immediate arrangements if inclusion is desired in early auctions. As Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co. are the only firm of Auctioneers confining their whole attention to the Sale of Stamps on Commission, and do not even collect on their own account, the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious. Commission on lots sold, 10% 1/6 per lot (irrespective of value) being charged on unsold lots.

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SETTLEMENTS usually in EIGHT DAYS, at the very latest 14 days from date of Sale. Bids from buyers unable to attend the sales personally executed without charge and at prices as much below limits as possible.



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Periodical Sales by Auction of RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY

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(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

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

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

1901.—February 14th and 15th, 28th and March 1st, 14th and 15th, 28th and 29th; April 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; May 9th and 10th, 30th and 31st, and June 13th and 14th.

February 14th and 15th.—A fine Private Collection of British, Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps, also a few Collections.

February 28th and March 1st.—**SECOND PORTION** of MR. G. NORMAN'S Collection, including the following Rarities: CANADA, 12d. black, superb used specimen. NEWFOUNDLAND, 4d., 6d., 6½d., 1/- carmine-vermilion, 1/- orange-vermilion, etc. NEW BRUNSWICK and NOVA SCOTIA, 1/-s. BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2½d. imperforate, unused. ST. LOUIS, 5c. and 10c., very fine. BRITISH GUIANA, 1st issue, 12c. cut square, 1856, 4c. fine, fine 1862 provisionals, including 4c. unused and signed. ST. VINCENT, 1d. on half 6d., fine, unused pair, 4d. on 1/- used, 5/- wmk. star, unused, etc. TURKS ISLES, 1/- lilac, superb, and a fine lot of provisionals. BARBADOS, 1d. on half 5/-, used on piece. TRINIDAD, fine lithographs, Lady McLeod on entire. ANTIOQUIA, 1st issue, 2½, 5c. and 1 peso. BUENOS AYRES, 4 pesos, vermilion, 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.

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Where Collectors calling can inspect our Selections, of which there are generally about 150 on view, the Stamps contained in which constitute one of the finest stocks in Great Britain.



The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

Published every alternate Saturday, at 77-78, High Holborn, London W.C.
 With which are incorporated the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."
 CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Canton Stamp Exchange Society and the Ladies' Stamp Exchange.

No. 154.—Vol. VI. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1901. ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

I.P.U. EXHIBITION POSTPONED.

In consequence of the lamented death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, it was decided to postpone the International Philatelic Union's Exhibition, fixed for January 20th. This will now be held at the same venue—the London Society's Rooms, Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, on February 23rd.

AN UNDER-ESTIMATED STAMP.

Mr. J. W. DORMAN, writing us from Georgetown, British Guiana, expresses the opinion that the 1 dollar black on green, British Guiana, 1889, is a far rarer stamp than is generally supposed, and is worth considerably more than the price we assigned to it—15s.—in our "Collectors' Guide to Values." Mr. Dorman points out that only 146 copies of the stamp were sold, and as all the remainders were overprinted "one cent" in red, there can be no danger of a resuscitation.

THE PENNY STAMP A MEMENTO OF THE QUEEN.

"A CITIZEN of London" writes the "Morning Post" as follows:—

Will you grant me space to make a suggestion which will, I venture to think, commend itself to His Majesty's Government? It is that, following the precedent of the United States with its portrait gallery of Presidents, some of our postage stamps should continue to bear the representation of our late beloved Sovereign. As it was during the Queen's reign that postage stamps were introduced, the penny stamp, at least, might remain a memorial of one for ever enshrined in the hearts of her people.

Mr. G. Lionel Campbell, a philatelist, has written the "Daily Mail" to the same effect.

STAMPS AND COINS OF KING EDWARD VII.

Edward the Seventh, it is of interest to place on record, is the first English monarch to figure upon a British and Colonial postage stamp, remarks the "Sheffield Independent." It is equally curious to observe, moreover, that while His Majesty is the first Sovereign to be thus commemorated, the first stamp to come into vogue was adopted in 1841, the year of his birth.

No more stamps will be printed with the head of Queen Victoria and no more coins will be minted, observes the "Bristol Mercury." It will be one of the earliest duties of the department concerned to bring out a new design embodying the head of the new King, and no doubt he will see that some of our ablest artists are consulted so as to secure a satisfactory result. The coins already made will of course be issued, and as those dated 1901 would not go forth to the public till towards the end of the year there is time to make up for the delay caused by the new arrangement. In the same way there is bound to be a large stock of stamps in hand, and those will be exhausted before the new ones are issued. From time to time alterations in the colour of half-penny and penny stamps have been decreed, but it has taken some time to exhaust the stock in hand and to bring the new style into general use.

FEDERAL PROSPECTS FROM A PHILATELIC STANDPOINT.

The "Australian Journal of Philately" has some additions to make to the budget of Philatelic-cum-Federation news already to hand:—

The questions of Penny Universal Postage and Intercolonial Postal Rates have been shelved for the present, to be dealt with by the Federal Postmaster-General.

As to the surcharging of the stamps at present in use through Australia on the 1st January next, we understand this subject has not yet been finally disposed of. We are still of the opinion that they ought to be over-printed, and have reason to believe they will be.

The Postmaster-General of Victoria has decided upon a design for Commemorative Postcards to be issued on January 1st. About a quarter of a million of these cards will be printed and sold at one penny each. He has also introduced a Bill reducing the postage on inland letters to one penny per half ounce, from 1st April next. Will this force the hands of the Conference?

Tasmania has already taken steps, by public notice, to sever the postal service from the Duty Department. On and after the 1st inst. those stamps which have hitherto been available for both postage and duty purposes will be available for the latter only. We have received the 3d. platypus surcharged revenue in small capitals, and we may add that we have also received a letter bearing one of these surcharged stamps posted on 30th November.

Until the post-offices are amalgamated the revenue derived from the sale of postage stamps will be the property of each State, but on and after the 1st January, 1901, the revenue derived from the stamps used for duty purposes will be the property of the Federal Government, consequently it is understood that those Australian Colonies which at present permit postage stamps to be used also for duty purposes will provide separate and distinct stamps for the latter.

The introduction of halfpenny post cards is another matter that has been shelved for consideration by the Federal Postmaster-General. The first gentleman to hold the office of the Federal Postmaster-General will certainly enjoy no sinecure.

Under another heading we have summarised the proceedings of the recent Postal Conference in Sydney in their relations to the philatelic aspect of Australian Federation.

BIG STAMP PURCHASE BY A SYDNEY FIRM.

OUR good friends in Sydney, Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle, publishers of the "Australian Journal of Philately," have effected the purchase of a "magnificent general collection," formed by "an eminent Australian collector who, for private reasons, does not wish his name made public." The value of the collection runs into several thousand pounds sterling. It is exceptionally rich in rare Colonials—Ceylon, Nevis, St. Vincent and the Australian Colonies, being the best represented sections.

A CILT-EDGED SALE AT "PUTTICK'S."

MANY philatelists who are not regular auction frequenters will turn up at Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's rooms, 47, Leicester Square, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday next, February 5, 6, 7, and 8, for the fine sale of scarce stamps so freely advertised for months past. There can be no doubt whatever that the collection which will be dispersed North, South, East and West on these four days is one of the finest accumulations of good stamps ever brought under the hammer. The catalogue itself is a thing of beauty, splendidly printed, and illustrated with large quarto photographic plates, showing the chief gems of the collection. We can foresee a record muster of the *cognoscenti* on Tuesday next at "Puttick's."

AN INSATIABLE CRAVING FOR NEW ISSUES.

THE "Leeds Mercury" of January 14th, commits itself to the following:—

"Philatelists should not dwell too hopefully upon the prospect of a new issue of British stamps to signalise the beginning of the new century. It is true, we are told that the postal authorities are considering a fresh design for the penny stamp, but the matter has been in this stage for many months past, and official procrastination is more marked in respect of new postal issues than it is in any other branch of State work. St. Martin's-le-Grand dreads to be suspected of encouraging such a fad as philately is regarded in official circles. A Post-office magnate once confessed this weakness. Stamp collectors, he declared, were the worry of his life. *They would have him authorise fresh issues every year, and, by way of retaliation, he favours the policy of making designs last.* It is thought, however, that a slight change will be decided upon very shortly. The suggestion to revert to the old brick-red for the penny stamp is favourably entertained."

The italics are our own. Little efforts such as this on the part of our leading London and provincial papers are useful, in that they keep philatelists amused in moments that might otherwise be dull to boredom.

CZAR SUPPRESSES A PHILATELIC CONGRESS.

It is wrong to be a philatelist—in Russia.

According to the Copenhagen correspondent of the "Daily Express," the fifth annual congress of philatelic societies convened to assemble at Helsingfors (Finland) has been prohibited by order of the Czar's representative, the Governor-General.

Doubtless this worthy Russian Official imagines that a philatelist is some sort of an Anarchist. There is a lot of deplorable ignorance concerning the very simplest thing in the highest and most intelligent circles. Years ago when we were associated with a journal which had the word "Philatelic" in its title we were constantly written to by "scientific" people of all sorts and conditions, from professors down to students. They thought Philately was some sort of Philology or other 'ology.

The New "Scott" Catalogue.

A DISCURSORY REVIEW OF THE 60TH EDITION—MR. J. W. SCOTT'S ALLEGATION OF BAD FAITH—THE GOOD POINTS OF THE BOOK, AND THE BAD.

THERE are 658 pages in the 60th Edition of the "Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue" (Scott Stamp & Coin Company, New York), as against 625 in the 59th Edition. This increase in bulk may be taken as representing the natural growth of the world's postal issues rather than any amplification of the educational side of the "Scott" Catalogue. This catalogue, in fact, has always lagged behind its European rivals in the matter of explanatory and instructive notes. Nor, so far as we have been able to see, does the 60th "Scott" make any attempt to "catch up" in this direction. It is, however, a catalogue that brings us the best obtainable reflex of the American market in stamps. And on the issues of the United States and Colonies it is the authority *par excellence*.

Long ago, the Scott Company gave post-cards a formal notice-to-quit, and the 1900 "Scott" listed only adhesives, envelopes and wrappers. The 1901 Edition, now lying before us, continues this curious condition of affairs, there having been no further use of the "pruning knife" called into being by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited. A cynic once advised us never to allow ourselves to be surprised at anything that might occur in the philatelic world; but we are only human, and we marvel greatly that a firm of stamp dealers, while eschewing post-cards, should still cling to Envelopes and—of all things in this world—*Wrappers!*

But shall we ever fully understand a Stamp Dealer's Catalogue? Shall we ever master all the manoeuvrings and all the wire-pullings, and, above all, the many intricate considerations of stock-in-hand and market expediency, that go to the making-up of these so-called guides to values? Messrs. Scott, of New York, call their catalogue the "Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue." We, personally, do not quarrel with the title, but we would remind the publishers that it is a title which saddles them with a certain responsibility towards the philatelic public.

Here it may be mentioned that certain charges have been made against the Scott Stamp and Coin Company, by the organ of a rival New York firm, the J. W. Scott Company—charges which would seem to imply that the publishers of the catalogue under notice are not fully discharging their duty towards the philatelic public. In the "Metropolitan Philatelist" dated January 12, Mr. John Waiter Scott publishes the following statements, *apropos* of a suggestion that a "Collectors' Catalogue" by the American Philatelic Association.

Stamp collectors throughout the world feel one common want, and that is a reliable stamp catalogue. Some few years ago the Stanley Gibbons Co., under the lead of its energetic chief, C. J. Phillips, issued a catalogue, which, backed up by the enormous stock of the company, endeavoured to dictate the prices of stamps to the world, and is, in fact, the base on which all other catalogues of postage stamps are built, modified to meet the stock of the issuing firm. Stamps that are not in stock are marked low to enable purchases to be made. Sometimes where a very large stock is on hand prices are marked up to enable wholesale deals to be made at a great reduction. Different dealers in different countries each have their own mode of working the philatelic public by the aid of a "complete," or a "standard" catalogue. The new addition of the American catalogue illustrates another mode of working the public. Some years ago a representative of its publishers discovered a sheet of 4c. Columbus stamps printed in blue, instead of ultramarine, in the collection of one of the leading collectors in the country. A large offer was made for sheet but not enough to tempt the owner to sell; however, it was duly noted in the catalogue and continued in a second edition. The sheet of stamps was at length secured by a rival dealer (who by the way distributed the lot in a few months at ten dollars each, although of course the fact of the entire lot being sold was unknown to the catalogue publisher), so when a new edition of the catalogue was issued the 4c. blue Columbian is omitted from the list and a foot note states "the so-called 4c. blue error is not in the color of the 1c. stamps, but it is merely a slight variety in shade." Facts like these are causing collectors throughout the world to

demand an independent catalogue that will reflect as near as possible the market price of every stamp, uninfluenced by petty spite or grasping rapacity.

What may be the sentiments of Mr. John Walter Scott towards the Scott Stamp and Coin Company, and *vice versa*, we do not know. Nor do we care. But here is a very definite accusation of sharp practice brought against the publishers of the "Scott" Catalogue, and it is a charge they would do well to face, and answer forthwith. We have no wish to pass acrimonious reflections upon any firm of stamp dealers or philatelic publishers, but in the interests of stamp collectors, we regard it as a most serious matter that it should be possible to call in question the good faith of a firm of catalogue publishers in this way. And just as we have given prominence to Mr. J. W. Scott's accusation, we shall be pleased, nay, more than pleased, to give full publicity to the Scott Stamp and Coin Company's reply. Certain singular circumstances in connection with Messrs. Senf's latest catalogue (set forth in a recent letter from a *Fortnightly* reader), taken in conjunction with this suggestion of bad faith in the compilation of the new "Scott," are calculated to encourage a suspicion that a dealer's catalogue is looked upon—by its publishers—as merely a convenient device for "rigging the market." We most earnestly warn catalogue publishers against taking that view. In this country, we honestly believe, the warning is not needed.

The prices in Messrs. Scott's both Catalogue call for little comment. Neither on the up nor the down grade are any startling changes discernible. In British and British Colonial Stamps the figures given are practically on all fours with Gibbons' current quotations.

In Scott's catalogue we invariably find listed certain stamps that are not universally recognised as collectable. Doubtless there is thought to be a demand for same, or the practice would not be persisted in. One looks in vain, however, for any logical line of demarcation. Why, for instance, should the *10c. Republic of Cuba* be listed and priced while the *Revolutionary issue of the Filipinos* is ignored? The *Filipinos*, a patriotic American will tell you, have no proper government. There is no *Filipino Republic*. But then, by the same token, there never was a *Cuban Republic*. All the *Chinese Locals* and *Moorish "Courier" stamps* and *Spanish "Carlist" issues* are listed in Scott's with great precision, but we see no mention of the *Russian Rural Stamp*, than which there are no more justifiable nor more *essential Locals* in the world. There is a stamp of *Tierra del Fuego*, it seems; but Scott's Catalogue appears to have the monopoly of it. The stamps of the *Central American Steamship Company* are also listed exclusively in this book. And seeing all these unconsidered trifles one finds one's self asking, perhaps a little angrily, what the *Scandinavian Locals* have done and why the special stamp of the *Portuguese sharpshooters* is left out?

But if Scott's Catalogue displays a little illogicality in this regard—a point one might easily labour overmuch—it is amply atoned for in the scrupulous care with which the work, as a whole, is turned out. Such countries as *Canada, Cuba, Hawaii, Hayti, Japan, Netherlands, New South Wales, Orange River, Persia, and the Transvaal* (now entered as *Vaal River Colony*) strike one as being better done here than in other handbooks. In the *United States* many new sub-varieties are added, notably *imperforate* or *part imperforate* varieties of the issues of 1894, 1895 and 1898-99.

Typographically, Scott is now, as always, a triumph of clearness combined with compactness. In our short examination of its pages one inverted illustration is the only printer's error we have observed.

The sole British agent for the sale of the Catalogue is Mr. W. T. Wilson, of 92, Birchfield Road, Birmingham. The price is 2s. 4d., postage paid.

"THE BRITISH STAMP DIRECTORY."

What imp of vanity or self-consciousness is it that impels us to look for our own name on receiving a new directory? When our copy of the "British Stamp Directory" (Philatelic Publishing Company, Birmingham) came to hand, we looked among the B's for "Bishop, P. C.," and found him not.

Wherefore, our first impulse was to throw the book aside as worthless. But it is not worthless. It is a creditable attempt to list all the philatelists, amateur and professional, in the British Isles. Those whose names appear in it are not in any need of commiseration, for the book is a presentable shillings-worth; and those who, like the writer, have been overlooked, may console themselves with the reflection that they will escape a vast quantity of circulars, and other printed matter, that might otherwise come to them from people with stamps and things to sell.

MR. HINTON'S "EMPIRE" ALBUM.

Our assumption as to the price of Mr. T. H. Hinton's newly-issued album, "The Empire," was correct. In addition to the cloth-bound album at 10s. 6d., however, there are better editions, as follows:—Cloth-bound, 15s.; whole-bound, with gilt edges, 21s.

A Postal Conference in Sydney.

IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO FEDERAL SURCHARGES AND SPECIAL ISSUES.—THE QUESTION OF AUSTRALIAN PENNY POSTAGE.

THE permanent heads of the Post Offices of the six Australian Colonies have been assembled in conference at Sydney, N.S.W., engaged in a consideration of the weighty postal problems confronting the Statesmen of "United Australia." The *Sydney Daily Telegraph* and other newspapers (for copies of which we are indebted to Messrs. Smythe and Nicolle) bring us the formal report, which is the net result of the Conference. Much of the subject matter of this document is of great interest to philatelists.

AUSTRALIAN PENNY POSTAGE.

On this subject the Conference has been inconclusive. The report says:—

We have carefully considered this very important question, and find that, as accurately as can be estimated, the annual loss of revenue to each State by the adoption of the penny postage within the Commonwealth, allowing for no increase of correspondence, would be, approximately, as follows:—New South Wales, £83,000; Victoria, £55,000; Queensland, 58,886; South Australia, £40,000; Western Australia, £34,200; Tasmania, £24,500. Total, £295,586. The further loss, by extending the penny postage to the United Kingdom and all other British possessions, would be £20,924, or an aggregate of about £316,510.

Against this loss there would probably be a gain of about £45,000 per annum by imposing a postage on newspapers in New South Wales, Western Australia, and Tasmania, and the reduced rates on letters would result in a large increase of correspondence.

In view, however, of the loss of revenue we refrain from making any definite recommendation.

FEDERAL POSTAL ISSUES, &c.

Several suggestions (the report proceeds) respecting the issue of Federal postage stamps have been made, and one proposal was that a special set of postage stamps should be issued, the design of which should be symbolical of the birth of the Commonwealth; that these stamps should be procurable for a period of, say, three months, and the proceeds from their sale, or a portion thereof, be devoted towards the establishment of a public institution, such as a hospital in the Federal city. It is pointed out that under the Washington Convention, so called commemorative postage stamps of temporary validity, such as those for hospital purposes, could not be used for correspondence outside the colony of origin, and in the opinion of the conference there are obvious financial difficulties in the way of issuing Federal postage stamps before the transfer of the Postal Departments to the Government of the Commonwealth.

The issue of a new halfpenny postage stamp in each State to commemorate the contemplated visit of the Duke and Duchess of York is recommended, the design of the stamp being a bust of the Duke of York.

It is further recommended: (1) That, pending the introduction of special postage stamps and postal notes upon the transfer of the post offices to the Federal Government, all postage stamps and postal notes of the federating colonies be valid within any part of the Commonwealth; and (2) that all such postage stamps and postal notes be overprinted with the letters "A.C." (Australian Commonwealth).

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 2, 1901.

Editor PERCY C. BISHOP.
Business Manager SYDNEY BISHOP.

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Now, if ever, is the time to issue the special Mourning Stamp for which various amiable agitators, mostly writing from rural vicarages, have mildly clamoured in the columns of the daily Press. To-day there will be laid to rest the greatest Queen in history. Whatever we are, whatever our station in life, whatever our political views, whatever our sentiments regarding any subject under the sun, we join hands and hearts to-day in a loyal tribute to her memory. Throughout the realm all work is abandoned on this funeral day of Queen Victoria. All sordid thoughts, all base desires, are sunk in the common sorrow that afflicts us. Philatelists, perhaps more than any other class, have reason to appreciate the world-wide greatness of she who ruled us so wisely and so well for three and sixty years. Henceforth, in the tenderness and care with which a philatelist handles a scarce Queen's-head colonial stamp in mint condition, will there not be an added feeling of loving reverence in honour of the distinguished dead? We think it safe to say there will.



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* * *

"THE Queen is dead; long live the King!" Just as the sceptre passes from the gentle hand of the dead Monarch to her son, King Edward VII., so must the time-honoured bust of Queen Victoria give place to—what? To the portrait or profile of King Edward VII.? That seems to be the inevitable course, but there are many English men and women who will fervently echo the wish, already expressed by the writer of a letter to the Editor of the *Morning Post*, that at least one of the new British stamps should continue to bear the profile of the great and good Queen Victoria. It would be a popular and a fitting thing to re-issue the current mauve stamp (officially known as "purple") with a mourning border superadded, and thus adopt (though not with the object originally intended) the oft-mooted suggestion of a mourning postage stamp. Then every letter written by every man, woman or child in the three Kingdoms would be a silent but eloquent testimony to the nation's sorrow, and, thanks to Imperial Penny Postage, similar evidences of national grief would be carried to the uttermost ends of the earth.

But what of the King's stamps? It has startled many folk to reflect that these will be the first "King's stamps" in Britain. Penny postage is a thing belonging entirely to Victoria's reign, and no King of Great Britain and Ireland has yet been portrayed on a postage stamp, save, of course, our new King, Edward VII., who, as Prince of Wales, has figured on more than one of the issues of Newfoundland. Precisely what course will be taken in the matter of new stamps (and new coins) it is impossible to say, and perhaps premature to enquire. Certain it is that our postal authorities, or their financial taskmasters, the Lords of the Treasury, will act with their usual slow decorum in this as in all things. A whisper has gone forth that a new stamp is already designed, and its design approved; but if there be any truth in this, the story refers, not to any new issue occasioned by the death of Queen Victoria, but to a long contemplated revision of the existing penny stamp to comply with the colour, recommendations of the Postal Union. The number of British Colonies requiring new sets of stamps will be great, but infinitely less great than would have been the case ten years ago. Within the past decade, Malta, Mauritius, the Turks and Caicos Islands, Trinidad, and many other British possessions have substituted some scenic, armorial, or allegorical device for the Head of the Sovereign. Thus the coming revolution in Colonial issues, though greater than anything of its kind yet experienced, will not be of such a sweeping nature as one is apt, at first blush, to imagine.

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RHEUMATISM having intervened to keep the Editor of the *Fortnightly* otherwise amused, we regret that the details of the great prize competition are not yet ready, in the meantime, however, we will essay

A SMALL COMPETITION,
or rather, puzzle, to go on with. What is the *colour* of the new 10 centesimos of Uruguay?—the new Waterlow-printed stamp chronicled in this number of the *Fortnightly*. We have not ventured to assign any colour to this label in our "Notes on New Issues," and we observe that the "P.J.G.B." contents itself with a "?" where the name of the colour ought to be. For the best reply (limited to 150 words) we will award as a prize a year's free subscription to the *Fortnightly* for self or friend. Now, ye colour experts, here is a chance for you! All attempts to fix the colour nomenclature of this unfortunate stamp must reach us by February 23rd at latest.

Mr. W. R. Joynt, of Dublin, the well known philatelist who is arranging the Leinster collection, has been lecturing on stamps in the Irish capital, and the fact that he has been asked to repeat a lecture (owing to the hall being too small to admit all those who desired to attend), has led the "Dublin Evening Telegraph" to set down all it knows, which isn't much, concerning stamp collecting.

Philatelists residing in or near the sylvan glades of Pentonville may find it convenient to know that an agent for the *S.C.F.* has been appointed in that locality—Mr. J. Miller, 245, Pentonville Road, N.

Now is a fitting time, as the "Philatelic Journal of India," the "Australian Journal of Philately" and other papers point out, to agitate for a return to the dignified and the beautiful in British Colonial postage stamp production. The great Australian Commonwealth has to choose for itself a postage stamp. Let it be one that will do Australia honour. The stamps of Nova Scotia are held up as a model, and these are beautiful stamps indeed; but there should be no need to go to past achievements for present inspiration. It is a question of brain and money and pride of race; and Australia has all three.

Some of the halfpenny newspapers are chiding the Turks and Caicos Islands for decorating their postage stamps with "a ship and a heap of sand" instead of the head of the reigning sovereign of the British Empire.

Notes on New Issues.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and contemplated change 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.

Cayman Islands.—We have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for specimens of this new Colonial issue. Only the ½d. and 1d. are so far to hand:—

½d. green | 1d. carmine

The stamps, as already stated, are in the usual De La Rue type.

Chili.—The 30 centavos carmine has been overprinted with an enormous "5." The provisional thus created made its appearance on the afternoon of December 28, 1900; and the total number to be surcharged according to official decree is 1,750,000. For this information and specimens of the stamps we are indebted to Mr. F. D. Walters, of Valparaiso.

Finland.—Scarcely was the ink of the last *Fortnightly* dry ere we received the expected new Finnish stamps from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. Those to hand are:

5 penni, green.
2 .. yellow.
10 .. rose.
20 .. blue.
1 mark, mauve, green centre.
10 .. black, grey centre.

The 10 marks stamp is of much greater size than the others. As we have said the new stamps are identical with the ordinary Russian issue except for the words indicative of value.

France.—A great deal is being said and written about a soldiers' stamp, the direct result of an Act of the French Legislature which confers upon every French soldier the privilege of two free letters a month. The soldiers' stamp, it is said, will be of the value of 15 centimes, the inland letter postage in France being still the equivalent of 1½d. per half-ounce. Pending the completion of the new design, the ordinary 15-centime stamp will be used, but, to prevent their sale by the soldiers, the letters "F.M.," signifying "Franchise militaire," are to be printed upon the vignette. An officer will be charged with their distribution in each regiment, and, before being posted, the letters themselves will have to pass through his hands also.

German Colonies.—Somewhat unexpectedly, it would seem, a complete outfit of the new colonial stamps has been provided for Kiaou Chaou. This brings the total issue up to ten distinct sets of stamps, with a grand total of 128 varieties, representing a face value of nearly £7. We may now formally chronicle the complete range of these stamps, as all, we understand, are now obtainable.

The stamps of the Carolines, the Cameroons, German Samoa, New Guinea, German South West Africa, the Marianne Islands, the Marshall Islands, Kiaou Chaou and Togoland, are priced in pfennigs and marks, and the following values and colours are common to all:—

3pf. brown	40pf. black and carmine on white
5pf. green	50pf. .. violet on buff
10pf. red	80pf. .. carmine on rose
20pf. ultramarine	1mk. carmine
25pf. black and orange on yellow	2mk. blue
30pf. buff	3mk. violet
	5mk. carmine and black

German East Africa alone has stamps with values expressed in pesas and rupees as follows:—

2 pesa brown	20 pesa carmine and black on white
3 .. green	25 .. violet and black on buff
5 .. red	40 .. carmine and black on rose
10 .. ultramarine	1 rupee claret
15 .. orange and black on buff	2 rupees light green
	3 rupees carmine and black

Greece.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us two more provisionas:—

20 lepta on 40l. Olympic Games.
50 2dr. " " "

The surcharge, which is red in each case, comprises the new value in words and figures and the capital letters A.M.

Messrs. Hamilton Smith & Co. have shown us doubly-surcharged varieties of the 25 lepta on 40 lepta, red surcharge, and the 50 lepta on 40 lepta, black surcharge.

Hungary.—We gather from the "I.B.J." that the 1 filler of Hungary has appeared in a new colour—violet; and that three new values have been created:



1 filler, violet
20 .. brown
35 .. red-lilac
2 kronen, blue



Italy.—The King (Mr. de Grave Sells writes us from Cornigliano), has examined the different designs for the new postage stamps, and has chosen that in which he is represented full face, rejecting all those in profile at first sight. The design is the same for stamps of all values. The portrait is surrounded by a small frame ornamented with a frieze in the style of the Norwegian postage stamps. The new stamps will be a little larger than the "Humbert" issue.

New Zealand.—Mr. Peckitt notifies us of the receipt of two additional values of the current set of unpaid letter stamps, as follows:—

6d., green and red. | 1s., green and red.

The Khaki Stamp.—We are in receipt of a post card from our valued correspondent, Mr. A. Rosenberg, of Woodville, N.Z., franked with the new 1½d. "Khaki" stamp. The stamp is not of the true khaki colour but is a distinct brown. It shows horses, men, and a tented field—a veritable "warscape." The stamp is oblong.

Southern Nigeria.—To Messrs. Bright & Son we are indebted for a complete list of the new Southern Nigeria stamps. Design, head of Queen in centre on solid ground. The stamps are plate-engraved.

½d. pale green and black	1/- olive green and black
1d. carmine	2/6 brown
2d. red-brown	5/- orange yellow and black
4d. sage-green	10/- violet and black on yellow
6d. violet	

Transvaal.—Mr. J. T. Bolton tells us he has seen the 1s. "V.R.I." Transvaal with inverted surcharge, and ½d. and 1d. of the same series without stop after "I."

Uruguay.—Two stamps of the expected new set (Waterlow printing) are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. The 5 centesimos, blue, shows head of girl in circle (the "Genius of Uruguay"); the 10 centesimos a girl leading a lamb ("Commerce controlling the cattle industry of the country.")

Victoria.—Mr. Norman C. Horwood, of Bendigo, kindly writes us a line on one of the new penny "Commonwealth" post-cards of Victoria. On the reverse is an armorial trophy of the federating Colonies surmounted by portraits of Queen Victoria, the Duke of York, and Lord Hopetown. The card is issued in five different colours and the first printing, Mr. Horwood tells us, will number 125,000.

DATES OF FORTHCOMING AUCTION SALES.

February 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, commencing 4.30 p.m. precisely.

February 12th and 13th.—Messrs. Plumridge & Co., at 63/4, Chancery Lane, W.C., commencing at 5 p.m. sharp.

February 14th and 15th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, commencing at 5 p.m.

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**SCOTT'S STANDARD
POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE.**

It contains many new features and improvements, Alphabetical Table of Technical Terms used in Philatelic Catalogues, Coin Table and the very latest and most accurate quotations of any catalogue published. The newest issues in the catalogue include China Expeditionary Force; Dominican Republic, 1900; German Levant, 1900; Greek Provisionals, Mafeking Siege, Orange River Colony, Transvaal and Orange Free State V.R.L. issues and new issue Turks Island.

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Bermuda, Grenada and Leeward Isles, 10 kinds	... 2/9
British Guiana	9 kinds ... 1/9
Gold Coast, Lagos, and Sierra Leone	10 kinds ... 3/6
St. Vincent, St. Lucia & Newfoundland, 11 kinds	... 4/6
Mauritius and Hong Kong	10 kinds ... 1/6
Straits Settlements	8 kinds ... 2/3
Straits Native States, Johor, Perak, Selangor, &c. All now superseded by Stamps of Federated Malay States	12 kinds ... 3/6
Trinidad and Jamaica	10 kinds ... 1/3

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1/- " " black	2/3
1/2d., 1d. and 2d. Niger Coast CA., the 3, ...	0/6

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Falkland Islands, 6d., no wmk., mint . . . each 2/6
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100 British Colonies all different	0	2	0
200 " " " " " "	0	6	6
500 " " " " " "	1	7	6
1000 " " " " " "	6	0	0
1000 Stamps all different (no fiscals or cards)	0	18	6
2000 " " " " " "	3	0	0
3000 " " " " " "	9	7	6
4000 " " " " " "	17	5	0
5000 " " " " " "	28	10	0

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From the Auction Rooms.

The following are the most interesting realisations at the various Philatelic Auctions held in London since our last report :—

Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, Jan. 17th, 1901.

	£	s.	d.
British East Africa, 1st issue, 3an. on 1d., 1an. on 2d., and 2an. on 5d.*	5	5	0
Do. on Company 2s. pair	2	12	6
Do. on a single with double surcharge	3	10	0
Cape of Good Hope, "Mafeking Besieged," 1- on 6d., Bechuanaland Protectorate small type..	1	12	0
Do. do. Baden-Powell, large head, 3d. blue on blue	1	5	0
Great Britain, 1/- green, plate 2, with hairlines,* imperf.	2	14	0
Heligoland, 3 copies of 2pf. and 3 copies of 1pf., used, on entire	5	7	6
Nevis, litho, 6d. grey	4	4	0
Do. do. another*	4	1	0
Do. do. perf. 13, 1/- green*	1	16	0
St. Christopher, wmk. C.A., 4d. blue*	3	3	0
St. Helena, perf. 12½, 6d. dull blue*	1	8	0
Tasmania, Pelure paper, 1d. deep red, a pair, defective	1	1	0
Transvaal, 1894-95, 5/- slate, surcharged V.R.I.*	0	17	0
Turkey, 25 piastres, black*, no gum	0	17	0
Victoria, Too Late, 6d.	0	19	0

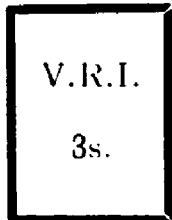
Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER'S Sale, Jan. 18th.

Antioquia, 1st issue, 1 peso	1	4	0
Ceylon, no wmk., 5d. rich brown	1	6	0
Dutch Indies, unpaid letter stamp, 5c., yellow-ochre	1	5	0
Great Britain, 1840, 1d. grey-black, worn plate*	1	1	0
Do. do. V.R., in upper corners, 1d. black, a horizontal pair*	16	0	0
Do. 2½d. lilac-rose, plate No. 17*	1	5	0
New South Wales, "O.S." in red, 2d. blue, perf. 11 by 12*	1	0	0
Do. do. 3d. green, perf. 12 by 10*	2	0	0
Do. do. 8d. yellow, perf. 10*	1	16	0
Do. do. 9d. on rod. red-brown, perf. 12 by 10	1	10	0
Philippine Islands, 1st issue, 1 rl. blue, a horizontal strip of 3, creased	1	12	0
Transvaal, 1878, 3d. mauve on buff, a vertical strip of 3*	1	8	0
Do. 1879, small v r., 1d. red on orange, a vertical strip of 3, one stamp torn	2	15	0
Do. do. a horizontal pair*	1	18	0
Do. do. 3d. mauve on green, a pair*	2	2	0
Do. Queen's Head, ½d. vermilion, a block of 6*	1	2	0
Do. do. 2/- blue	2	0	0
Do. Provisionals, 1d. in black on 6d. Queen's Head, the set of 7 types, some damaged	7	0	0
Do. do. a similar lot, but without the "V" variety	4	15	0

Orange River Fiscals.

(BY JAMES CAMPBELL, BLOEMFONTEIN.)

COLLECTORS of O.R.C. Fiscals will be interested to hear that a slight change has been made in the overprint of these stamps. The letters used are slightly different to the former overprint, the type now being "Pica Roman No. 15." The letters are set much closer together, there being just sufficient room for the low dots between each letter. Further, after the value it will be found there is a low dot which was not to be met with in the first surcharge.



So far the values and quantities overprinted as above are as follows :—

£4	..	12,000 stamps.	5/-	..	54,000 stamps.
£3	..	36,000 "	4/-	..	30,000 "
£2	..	48,000 "	3/-	..	114,000 "
10/-	..	48,000 "	2/-	..	234,000 "
8/-	..	7,200 "	1/6	..	324,000 "
7/-	..	8,400 "	1/-	..	84,000 "
6/-	..	30,000 "	6d.	..	120,000 "



NOTES ON THE STAMPS OF QUEENSLAND.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE BERKELEY PHILATELIC CLUB
BY MR. WALTER M. LESTER.

QUEENSLAND is an interesting field for the philatelist because of the many varieties in watermarks, and the engraving, paper and perforations. At first the stamps of the other Australian colonies, principally those of New South Wales, were used, until a supply could be obtained, and it was not until 1860 that a separate issue was made for the colony of Queensland. One of the puzzling things about these various colonies is that Western Australia should be supplied before Queensland, because it is a much smaller and less thickly inhabited region. Another thing: at this time the other colonies were receiving their stamps from the Crown printers perforated, while those sent out for Queensland were imperforated.

From 1860 to 1875 the officials ran out of stamps twice, and had to borrow from New South Wales. These stamps thus used are sought after by collectors in Australia, but unless on the original covers they are hard to identify, as Queensland post offices had no definite cancellation. In this respect they are altogether unlike the stamps of Antigua used in St. Christopher, with the well-known postmark "A12."

The imperforate stamps were soon exhausted, and they were superseded by the perforated ones, ranging 14 to 16. From 1861 to 1865 the watermarks in use were the large and small star varieties, with the exception of a brief period when unwatermarked paper was used. After this, until 1880, three more unwatermarked stamps are met with, but whether all three were intentionally printed so or not is doubtful. In support of this statement their scarcity and high value may be cited.

The next watermark to be introduced was the one which made its appearance in 1866, found only on the 1d. and 2d. values. This consists of the words "Queensland Postage Stamps" in the sheet, arranged in the following manner :—

Queensland
Postage Postage
Stamps Stamps

The letters used were script capitals, somewhat resembling the letters in the watermark of some Mexican issues, "Papel Sellado," an illustration of which may be found in Scott's Catalogue. It required several of these watermarks to cover the sheet, and on each stamp part of a letter may be found. This issue was soon followed by a regular set, having in addition to the watermark just mentioned a small truncated star, that is a star with blunt points. These are found perforated 12, 12 x 13, and 13.

In 1869 this watermark was superseded by the crown and Q, which is still in use, though it has assumed different forms and types. In 1895 many of the watermarks appear with the tail of the Q turned in the opposite direction, but this is probably due to the fact that the paper was printed on the side opposite the surface intended by the manufacturer.

In 1882 new designs for the stamps were used, and all were perforated 12, except a few which are found compound. The variety with "LA" in Queensland joined is the most generally known minor variety, though the variety with a barred "C" (making it a G) in the "pence" of fourpence is the scarcest, as only one appeared in the plate. The 1d.

with PE missing is said to be only a clogged type in the printing.

In 1889 the 1d. and 2d. stamps were re-engraved, and in the process the period in the 1d. was cut away, and the lines on the neck of the queen in the 2d. value do not touch the standard line at the left, but appear broken. In 1891 the same plates for all the values up to 1sh. were used with a new gauge of perforation, 12½. Later the 13 gauge was also used. I have two shilling stamps perforated 12 and 13 respectively, but have never seen one perforated 12½.

In regard to the provisionals of 1895-6, Scott mentions large Crown and Q stamps as appearing in 1895, but I understand they appeared in December, 1894. The description given in the catalogue is hardly sufficient, but the easiest method of ascertaining if you have the right stamp is by noting the thickness of the paper. The paper was intended for beer revenue stamps, and had 66 watermarks to the sheet; but in the emergency it had to be used to make up a shortage in the 1d., 2d. and 1sh. values of postage stamps, with the result that when 120 stamps were printed to the sheet, on which there were only 66 watermarks, no single stamp could get an entire watermark. Besides that, the watermarks for the revenue stamps are larger than those for the regulation sheets of postage stamps. It is hard to find this watermark without resorting to benzine. Soon after these were used up the varieties with the moire on the back appeared, the ½d. on thin wove paper, and the 1d. on paper of about the same thickness as the beer duty paper. After 440,000 of the ½d. were printed on thin paper, 150,000 more were printed on the beer duty paper. Both these varieties ought to be catalogued, as the publishers enumerate six to eight varieties of nearly all the Guadeloupe stamps, when none of us have enough of them to warrant looking over our possessions for varieties. I am not certain whether the stamps of 1896 have the crown and Q embossed before or after the printing, and this is an interesting point to be determined, but the cataloguers are silent.—*Philatelic Facts and Fallacies.*

TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

WE offer no opinion as to the meaning of the following extraordinary epistle, but as its writer sent it to the *Fortnightly* office by registered post, we feel that we cannot do less than give it publicity.

The Collectors' Paradise,
(date) Anniversary of some Salvador issue.

DEAR SIR, During the last two or three days I have noticed in the City, men selling envelopes each containing a thousand stamps of all nations. I invested in one of these packets, and on examining its contents discovered the enclosed rare specimen.

Hoping you will appreciate its value.

I remain, yours truly.

A philatelic cheerful Idiot.

The stamp enclosed, we may add, was an ordinary 4d. British, with a wealth of postmark.

F. S. (Shoreditch).—Thanks. We have made a note of the omission, which will be rectified as soon as possible.

H. D. B.—The stamp is a forgery.

M. F. (Liverpool): Many thanks for the item, which must appear in our next number.

NOTICE: Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, publish a catalogue of local stamps, but no further edition of the same will appear.

EXCHANGE on sheets by Gibbons, no common.—**VAHAN BASSIAN**, Constantinople. Member Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

DISPERSING Old Collection. Several hundred pounds worth of early issues, British, Foreign and Colonial, rare, medium and common; suit all collectors. Don't miss this. Write at once. References and countries wanted. **WRIGHT**, Ivy Cottage, St. Neots.

WANTED, to buy post cards, envelopes and wrappers, any countries, used or unused. **MISS BARKOW**, Grange Road, Darlington.

V.R.I. TRANSVAAL, used, on entire, set, 43. to **RONDEL**, Grove Diaz-ite, Jersey.

BOOK containing mostly old Colonial stamps, price £6. 10s. Also a few other good lots. Approval.—**CLEMENT CORDREY**, Vicarage Drive, Eastbourne.

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ALL Stamp Collectors should write for my Approval Sheets of old and new stamps. Lowest possible prices and 3d. in the 1s. discount allowed. References with first application will greatly oblige. Every stamp guaranteed genuine. No reprints sold by me. **F. V. BANKS**, 35, Summerhill Avenue, Maudes, Newport, Mon.

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SPAIN. New issue, 1901. 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50 cents, 1, 4, 10 pesetas. Unused set, 13/8. Cash with order.—**JUAN ESTARELLAS CARBONELL**, San Magin, 142, Palma de Mallorca. On "Bazaar" Reference Register, 170, Strand, London. Journals inserting this advertisement will be paid by return mail against voucher copy.

RED Penny English plates 71 to 221, 44. and 1d. control letters. **V.R.I.**, Transvaal, 3d. to 6d., 1/10. Gambia, 1d. carmine lake, 9d. All mint. **MR. EARL**, Newcastle, Staff.

FROM a fine private collection, superb picked British Colonial Stamps, both mint and very fine used copies at one third to one-half Stanley Gibbons' prices. Advertiser will send any portions on approval against good references.—**Box 111, Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.**

COLLECTORS having good duplicates to dispose of at moderate prices, in exchange for others, will find the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange Club worthy of a trial, being the best exchange in Scotland. Monthly Packet £150 to £250. Membership 50, and reference can be had from any of them as to prompt monthly settlements on return of packets. Rules sent and all enquiries answered by the Sec., **JOHN JOHNSON**, Moss-Side, New Deer, Aberdeenshire.

WANTED, Roll Top Desk. Exchange whole or part in Colonial stamps. Address, with full particulars, **Box 136, Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly**, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

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FINE Collection in handsome 12/ album, over 1300 different. Approval. Deposit, £5.—**STAMPS**, 50, Eppingham Road, Harringay, London.

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COLLECTOR specializing is breaking a large Colonial Collection at half dealers prices. Strongest in Australians and Africans. References.—**FRANK H. MAUDISON**, St. Neots, Hunts.

TRANSVAAL, £5, 16/- each; 16½, 1887, 2/6 each; 2/6, 1896, 2/3 each; 10/-, 1895 2/3 each (Gibbons 5-3). All superb *postally* used copies. British South Africa, 1890, 2/6, mint, 5/- each (Gibbons 12 00); 4/-, mint, 6/6 each (Gibbons 15 1/2); 5/-, mint, 8/6 each (Gibbons 17 6). Postage extra, cash with order, and early application necessary to secure.—**J. S. ROX** (Member Stamp Exchange Protection Society), Halesworth, Suffolk.

A FINE lot of African and Australian Stamps for sale, including Triangular Capes, O.F.S., early Mauritius, Niger Coast, the rare provisionals, etc., all priced cheaply and 50 per cent. discount allowed; also old European, U.S.A., etc. at 66½ off catalogue. Approval against references.—**BOLTON**, 5, Elmwood Road, Croydon.

TRANSVAAL and Free State Duplicates, many unused and scarce, including V.R.I. errors.—**COLONIAL**, c/o *Fortnightly*.

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OLDENBURG, the four issues complete, unused.
PRUSSIA, 25gr., with solid ground, mint, superb.
MOLDAVIA, 27, 54, 81 and 108 paras.
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SAXONY, 1st issue, 3pf., used on entire and unused, 1851, the rare error ½ngr. black on blue.
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SERVIA, 1866, error, 2 para green on rose.
SPAIN, 1850, complete, unused, 1851, 1852 and 1853, 2 reales, Madrid, 3 cuartos on entire, 1854, 1 real light blue, 1855, 2 reales blue, error, 1865, 12 cuartos, with centre inverted, perf. and imperf., former on entire.
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WURTEMBERG, the first 7 issues, complete, unused (with two exceptions), 70kr. (2), etc.
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LABUAN, 6 in red on 16c. and 8 on 12c.
INDIA, 1st issue, ½a, red and 4a., unused, no wmk., 2a. green, Service Provisionals 2, 4 and 8a.
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, 1854, 1 real, and 1863, 1 and 2 reales, surcharged Habilitado.
CAPE, Woodblock, errors, 1d. blue and 4d. red.
LAGOS, wmk. CA., 2/6, 5/- and 10/6, mint.
MAURITIUS, Post Paid, 1d. (3) and 2d. (3), Large Fillet, 2d., etc.

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BUENOS AYRES, 1st issue, 2, 3, 4 and 5 pesos, unused.
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NOVA SCOTIA, 1/-, unused.
NEWFOUNDLAND, 6½d. carmine, unused, and 1/- orange, used, very fine.
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THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY
PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")
No. 155—Vol. VI. SATURDAY FEBRUARY 16, 1901. ONE PENNY.

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With which are incorporated the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

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Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Canton Stamp Exchange Society and the Ladies' Stamp Exchange.

No. 155.—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1901

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

ALL ½d. BRITISH "ENTIRES" TO BE GREEN.

We have the authority of the Post Office to state that at an early date the embossed and impressed stamps on the British ½d. wrappers, post cards and envelopes will be printed in green, as is already the case with the ½d. adhesive. Also the colour of the penny stamp on the penny newspaper wrapper will be carmine.

There is silence, however, on the subject of the change of colour of the 1d. adhesive.

We are informed that the stationery above described, in its new colours, will not be on sale until after Easter—probably not until Whitsuntide.

KING EDWARD THE SEVENTH'S STAMPS.

Semi-official pronouncements on the subject of the new stamps to be issued with profile of King Edward VII. indicate that the new design will be introduced gradually. There are great stocks of Queen Victoria stamps on hand and these will certainly be exhausted first. In the case of coins it has been customary to show the head of each successive sovereign looking in the opposite direction to that of his predecessor. Thus, King Edward VII's profile will look to the right in the new coins, and possibly the same rule will be observed with regard to stamps.

STAMP DEALERS "OBLICED" BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

WE do not pretend to grasp the true inwardness of this paragraph from the "Australian Philatelist" of December 31st, 1900:—

An employé of the Government Printing Department of this colony has been remarkably kind to a firm in this city, who, we are

informed, are in possession of some of the late sixpenny green, and the present one penny, threepence, sixpence, and one shilling issues of New South Wales, in an imperforate state. They were, however, given on the understanding that they were not to be sold in Australia. Some of the philatelists in this city have seen and been offered them and will be likely to purchase, but the aforesaid veto we presume will determine the holders not to part with them to philatelists in Australia, although we believe that they are being offered in New Zealand and other places outside. Speaking only in the interests of philately we think these stamps should be placed in the category of unauthorised issues, as we are certain that the post office authorities would not sanction the issue of these unofficial samples.

If these statements are well founded, there has been a piece of jobbery which reflects credit neither on the guilty government employé nor on the firm of stamp dealers to whom, as the "A.P." euphemistically expresses it, he was so "kind." In an accusation appearing in a philatelic journal owned by stamp dealers, one is never able to subdue a certain suspicion of malice arising from trade rivalry. The "Australian Philatelist" having said so much, is, in our opinion, called upon to say more. In the meantime the warning as to imperforated copies of the stamps mentioned should not pass unheeded.

FAKED ROULETTES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Writing to the Editor of the "Australian Philatelist" a Western firm assert that they have recently had the offer of a quantity of Western Australian Roulettes, and on making inquiries, they have what they consider positive proof that these stamps, which are genuine in themselves, have been rouletted either by or to the order of the present owner. The writers add: "There is quite a little story attached to this ingenious transaction, but time prevents us at present from further exposing the swindle."

THE ALUMINIUM STAMP MAY FOLLOW.

It is stated that experiments with aluminium as a substitute for paper are now under way in France. It is now possible to roll aluminium into sheets four-thousandths of an inch in thickness, in which form it weighs less than paper. By the adoption of suitable machinery these sheets can be made even thinner and can be used for book and writing paper. The metal will not oxidise, is practically fire and waterproof, and is indestructible by worms. Aluminium paper may be followed sooner or later—later, we expect—by the aluminium stamp!

MR. CHARLES J. PHILLIPS ABROAD.

THE head of the firm of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, Mr. Charles J. Phillips is back from his four month's trip through

the United States and Canada. Varying the old saw, he returns a gladder and a wiser man, for he has accomplished one of the principal objects of his trip—viz., the inauguration of a New York branch of Stanley Gibbons, Limited—and has acquired dollars and new experiences in the land of the stars and stripes. The following are some of the varieties Mr. Phillips has picked up while on his travels:

COOK ISLANDS: The ½d. on 1d. with inverted overprint.

GUATEMALA: The 1c. on 2c. of 1886 (Gibbons' No. 56) with the date printed twice, but rest of surcharge normal.

SALVADOR: In a block of four of the 1c. on 2c., 1891 (Gibbons' No. 64), purchased by Mr. Phillips, one stamp of the quartette has escaped the surcharge.

TURKS ISLAND: An entire envelope is in Mr. Phillips' possession franked with a half of the 5d. olive green and carmine, severed diagonally. This was addressed to a business firm in New York and is postmarked Turks Island, December 31st, 1895, and "P.O.N.Y. 1—14—96. Paid All" within a circle.

VENZUELA: In a block of the 25c. of 1898 (Gibbons' No. 213) one stamp is printed upside down.

Mr. Phillips crossed the Atlantic on the "Campania" in company with Mr. Henry Calman of the Scott Stamp and Coin Company. He visited all the leading centres, and at Washington was taken over the premises of the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, where Uncle Sam's stamps are manufactured.

SEQUEL TO SOMERSET HOUSE STAMP THEFTS.

READERS may recollect the story told in No. 141 of the *Fortnightly* under the heading, "Stamp Thefts Culminate in Suicide." A clerk employed in a capacity of some responsibility in the Stamp Department of Somerset House had been detected in extensive thefts of "I.R. Official" and other stamps. Detectives proceeded to arrest the delinquent, who, however, strangled himself in his bedroom.

To this tragic case there is an unpleasant, not to say scandalous sequel in the compulsory retirement, on considerably reduced allowances, of a number of officials who were employed in the same office as the suicide for years, and who, under the statute embodying the age limit, were not liable to be called upon to take their pensions for periods varying from ten to sixteen years.

What is the explanation?

The general public are probably not aware (says the "Weekly Dispatch" in a special article on the case) that the Postal and Stamps Departments are the only branches of the Civil Service in which employes are required to make good the "shortages" of colleagues.

A couple of striking illustrations of this rule are given by our contemporary, and these are declared to be practically on all fours with the present position at Somerset House, except that in the latter case the culprit's colleagues have refused to make good the deficit.

By compulsorily retiring them on reduced pensions, however, the Government still attain their purpose, as the saving in salaries and the smaller allowances will soon make up the value of the misappropriated stamps.

Could there be a more disgraceful example of the innocent suffering for the guilty?

TIERRA DEL FUEGO'S ONLY STAMP.

In our review of the new "Scott" Catalogue we said: "There is a stamp of Tierra del Fuego it seems; but Scott's Catalogue appears to have the monopoly of it." A reader of the *Fortnightly*, Mr. A. J. Brandon, has now been kind enough to send us the following excerpt from a philatelic journal:

One of the rarest of postage stamps, probably, is that of Tierra del Fuego, the history of the issue being hardly known even to the world of philatelists. A correspondent in Patagonia, however, sends me the following story of how the Tierra del Fuego stamp originated, and why so few are in the hands of collectors. A small steamer runs occasionally from Ushuwaia, the principal town of Argentine del Fuego, to Sandy Point (Puntas Arenas, Chili), in the Straits of Magellan, conveying local correspondence to catch at the latter point the Pacific Mail steamers for the West Coast of South America. The authorities at Ushuwaia state that a Mr. Popper, a member of the Argentine Trading Company there, had the stamps printed on his own authority, and had them used on one batch of letters by this steamer to indicate the postage (paid, we presume to

the trading company for conveyance of the mails). The Government of Argentine Republic, however, of which Tierra del Fuego forms a part, confiscated the stamps and stopped their use, and the Chilian authorities at Sandy Point equally objected to them, so that the circulation of Tierra del Fuego stamps came to an untimely end. It thus appears that they were not in any way a government issue, though they may have been genuinely used by a letter-carrying company.

We are much indebted to Mr. Brandon for this interesting paragraph, but it seems only right to explain that the note originally appeared—unless our memory plays us false—in the "American Journal of Philately," the organ of the Scott Stamp and Coin Company!

THE STAMP COLLECTOR'S BOGUS TELEGRAM.

As a sequel to the news published in No. 153 of the *S.C.F.*, concerning a fraud said to be practised upon Mr. C. Daly, stamp dealer, of Great Portland Street, we now present the following report of the prosecution at Marlborough Street Police Court on Friday, January 25th:—

James Bulmer (20), a student at St. Mark's College, Chelsea, was charged before Mr. Fenwick with stealing three stamp albums, worth £15, belonging to Charles Daly, a stamp dealer, of 159, Great Portland Street.

Miss Laura Gregory stated that she took charge of Mr. Daly's premises while he was away at Christmas time. The prisoner called at the shop and said his name was Boxall, and that he was a nephew of Dr. Boxall, of Portland Place. He wanted to buy some stamps, and would like to take three albums to select from. On his representing that he had communicated with Mr. Daly (as already related in the *Fortnightly*), she let the prisoner have the albums. As he did not return, information was given to the police.

Detective-Sergt. Scholes, in reply to the magistrate, said that Bulmer had not been in trouble before.

The Rev. Robert Hudson, principal of St. Mark's College, said he knew Bulmer as a student bearing an excellent character.

Finally, Mr. Fenwick directed a remand, and accepted Mr. Hudson and the prisoner's father as sureties for his reappearance.

A PHILATELIST OF MANY NAMES.

The young man Bulmer, alias Lloyd, alias Smith, against whom there is a charge of stealing from Mr. C. Daly, of Great Portland Street, three stamp albums "by means of a trick," was again before the Marlborough Street magistrates on Friday, February 1st.

The solicitor for the defence said his client would plead guilty, and as the stamps had nearly all been recovered, he asked the magistrate to deal with the case at once.

The magistrate, however, remanded the case for 14 days.

It was understood that at the next hearing there would be other charges against the accused. There were several clerical witnesses in Court ready to speak to his good character. There were also present Mr. W. Hadlow, with the Solicitor for the Stamp Trade Protection Society, and Mr. P. L. Pemberton, of Holborn. The latter had been subpoenaed as a witness but was not heard.

MR. ZISSLER'S DISCLAIMER.

In our previous reference to the above matter it was stated, on Mr. Daly's own authority, that the accused mentioned the names of various stamp dealers and said he knew Mr. Zissler. The last-named gentleman takes exception to the use of his name in connection with the case, and protests that he is not acquainted with the man now on remand.

GERMANY STARTS A COUNTER FOR PHILATELISTS.

GERMANY, that Universal Provider among the nations, has entered the stamp business now. The "Stamp Collector" translates from a German newspaper the following details:—

Since December 17th, 1900, a special Office for the sale of Colonial stamps, etc., has been opened in connection with Post Office 19, Berlin, S.W. (Beuth Str.) The whole range of different postage stamps and entires for the Colonies issued in German Currency will be sold at face value. For the Post Offices in the Levant and in Morocco—stamps of which bear a surcharge in Piastre and Peseta currency respectively—the original German face value is to be paid, whilst for German East Africa, having a rupee currency, the following German equivalent will be charged, viz:—2 Pesas as 5 Pfennig, 3 Pesas

—7 Pf., 5 Pesas—12 Pf., 10 Pesas—23 Pf., 15 Pesas—34 Pf., 20 Pesas—45 Pf., 25 Pesas—56 Pf., 40 Pesas—90 Pf., 1 Rupee—1 Mark 45 Pf., 2 Rupees—2 M. 90 Pf., and 3 Rupees—4 M. 35 Pf., Inland Postcards at 3 Pesas cost 7 Pf., Reply Cards 14 Pf., Postal Union Cards at 5 Pesetas are 12 Pf., and reply cards double this amount. All stamps and entires of any Colony and Post Office abroad can be ordered from the above mentioned office by letter on sending in the amount required, enclosing also return registered postage.

The only redeeming feature of this thoroughly business-like announcement (adds our contemporary) is to be found in the concluding sentence: "All the stamps and entires formerly issued for the German Colonies and Post Offices abroad (that is the old Eagle type) will not be sold by the Home Post Office." This is a consolation for those collectors who have bought the older sets at considerably above face value. There will be, therefore, no fear of a drop in prices for the Eagle stamps.

STRANGE ADVENTURES OF A "NEW ISSUE" ITEM.

SOME few issues ago, the *Fortnightly* was able to give an early description of the newest stamp from Malta—the farthing label showing view of Valetta. Unfortunately, in the rough note we took of the information furnished by Messrs. Bright & Son we wrote the farthing, so:—"1-4." Consequently the value of the new stamp appeared in the *Fortnightly* as 1s. 4d.! The sequel is droll. That mistaken New Issue item has travelled all round the world. Philatelic journals in almost every country have solemnly heralded a 1s. 4d. stamp of Malta, and without giving the smallest acknowledgment of the source of the information. We take this opportunity of apologising to these good people for having misled them. But we must point out that had they acknowledged the *S.C.F.*, they could now throw all the blame upon us. Honesty is the best policy, even in philatelic journalism.

SOME DANGEROUS SWISS FORGERIES.

WE have recently seen some exceedingly dangerous forgeries of the "double Geneva," and other rare Swiss Cantons. We hope to give more detailed information in our next number.

A BUSY WEEK AT "PUTTICK'S."

THE shade of Sir Joshua Reynolds re-visiting 47, Leicester Square, on February 5, 6, 7, or 8, would have shuddered to see so many men of such unmistakably sane appearance bidding big prices for little scraps of paper. The sale held at "Puttick's" on the days mentioned will rank as one of the most important of recent years. The prices were good and a sum representing a comfortable fortune will be the net result of the dispersal of a splendid collection. In the next *Fortnightly* we shall give a good selection of the prices realised, but for the benefit of impatient readers we may mention that priced copies of the catalogue—itsself a work of art—may be obtained at 5s. each from the Auctioneers.

The statement has been made in the Press that H.R.H. the Duke of Cornwall and York was a large buyer at the auction under notice.

News Notes from all Quarters.

Mr. M. P. Castle has been elected a member of the Sydney Philatelic Society, and is nominated also for the Philatelic Society of Victoria.

The 1 cent value of the "Buffalo" stamps is practically ready, and the whole set should be available by the end of the current month, thinks the "Metropolitan Philatelist's" correspondent at Washington.

The current 2d. of Queensland is reported by the "Australian Philatelist" printed in a chalky blue. "The various shades of colour used in printing this stamp since it was first issued are truly bewildering," adds our contemporary.

"As relics of a famous siege they will always have an interest; as stamps we feel that their interest is of a very minor character." Thus the Editor of "Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal" on subject of the stamps of Mafeking.

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.

HELIQOLAND.

	Unused mint	Used very fine		
1867. Rouletted.				
½ sch. green and rose (type A)	.. 35/	15/	70/	15/
½ sch. (type B)	.. 90/	40/	90/	60/
1 sch. rose and green	.. 35/	20/	25/	17/6
2 sch. rose and green	.. 16/	3/	7/	5/
6 sch. green and rose	.. 19/	16/	25/	17/6
1869-73. Perf.				
½ sch. green and deep rose (error of color)	.. 2/	1/	120/	75/
½ sch. rose and green	.. 2/6	1/3	100/	60/
½ sch. green and rose	.. 2/	1/	12/6	8/6
½ sch. yellow-green and rose	.. 4/	2/	12/6	8/6
½ sch. rose and green	.. 19/	14/	90/	60/
1 sch. rose and green	.. 10/	5/	17/6	12/6
1 sch. rose and yellow-green	.. 15/	7/6	17/6	12/6
1½ sch. green and rose	.. 2/	1/	22/6	17/6
1875-79. Perf. 14½.				
1 pf. green and rose	.. 16/	13/	40/	25/
2 pf. rose and green	.. 16/	13/	45/	30/
3 pf. orange and green	.. 2/6	1/3	80/	50/
5 pf. green and rose	.. 16/	3/	31/	2/3
5 pf. yellow-green and rose	.. 19/	14/	31/	2/3
10 pf. rose and green	.. 16/	13/	21/	1/3
10 pf. deep rose and green	.. 3/	1/6	2/6	1/9
20 pf. deep rose, green and yellow	.. 7/6	3/3	7/6	5/
20 pf. deep rose, deep green & orange	40/	25/	20/	15/
20 pf. bright vermilion, bright green and yellow	.. 16/	12/	2/	1/6
25 pf. green and rose	.. 16/	3/	2/6	1/9
50 pf. rose and green	.. 2/	1/	2/6	1/9
1 m. green, scarlet and black	.. 7/6	5/	30/	22/6
1 m. green, bright rose and black	.. 30/	20/	30/	22/6
5 m. green, bright rose and black	.. 15/	10/	55/	40/
Perf. 11½.				
1 m. green, scarlet and black	.. 40/			
5 m. green, scarlet and black	.. 40/			

We are always glad to have the views of our readers on the values assigned to stamps in our "Collectors' Guide."

We record, with regret, the death of Surgeon-Major Flood in South Africa. Major Flood was a keen philatelist and an old and valued subscriber to the *S.C.F.*

An ingenious automatic device for weighing and indicating the necessary postage for samples and third-class mail packages has been regularly installed in the French G.P.O., writes a Paris correspondent. Instead of handing such packages to the employés for weighing, one simply places them on the scales, and almost instantly there appears a little card stamped with the weight and the denomination of the stamp or stamps required. Any package placed on the scale that exceeds the maximum amount allowed for that class of mail matter immediately causes to appear a card with the words, "Too heavy."

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 16, 1901.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays. Henceforth the journal will be published (on behalf of the proprietors) by Messrs. Plumridge & Co., at their Offices, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, London.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (12 numbers)	...	1	6

Private Advertisements are inserted at the rate of one halfpenny per word. The scale for trade announcements will be furnished on application.

Address all business letters: The Manager, "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY," 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, London; and all Editorial communications to the Editor, at the same address.



WE want every reader of this number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* to read with particular attention the "The Story of the S.C.F.'s Development," published in another column. An essential part of the scheme to develop the *Fortnightly*, and to make it a greater power for good in the philatelic world, will be the Great Prize Competition already alluded to. Full details of this Competition will be given in our next number.

One of the Minor Journals published in America has befriended the forging fraternity by illustrating the exact type of the genuine and the spurious Porto Rico "Habilitados." Publicity is not always an unmixed blessing.

Writing further on the subject of the inefficient cataloguing of the stamps of Grenada, Mr. J. Wray Mercer criticises Messrs. Bright's list of this country, "inasmuch as it fails on the one hand to list the 1d. green, perf. 14, on either large or small star paper, and on the other hand chronicles an imaginary 1/4d. upon the broad star paper." Regarding Messrs. Bright's sub-division into thick and thin papers. Mr. Mercer says: "I should like to point that the early 1d. and 6d. Grenadas may be found upon paper possessing every gradation of thickness from a pelure to a thick cartridge, and that such variation of thickness is a consequence of the paper being hand-made."

To the same Correspondent we are indebted for the following intelligent and suggestive criticism of our "Collectors' Guide to Values":—

Collectors, he writes, consider more, as a basis of value, the supply of a certain stamp, while the dealers, treating the stamp from a commercial standpoint, by greater stress on the demand. And as an article is worth what it will fetch the dealer is entitled to ask what he hopes he can get for it. The catalogue in the S.C.F., however, is essentially a guide for collectors and should not pander more than necessary to the vagaries of popular prejudice.

Our Recent Article on Brazil (*Fortnightly* No. 153), was based on information given in Alfred Smith & Son's "Monthly Circular," the Editor of which journal now writes us as follows:—

I must plead guilty to a mistake with regard to the Brazilian varieties (200 reis blue) described and illustrated in your issue of January 19th on the authority of Alfred Smith & Son's *Monthly Circular*. By an unlucky chance the specimens I examined seemed to confirm the information on which my note was founded. I now see that the 'varieties' are found in various degrees on the same sheet, and are no doubt due to the stamps being still printed in two impressions, as was the case when this value was bi-coloured. That is supposing these stamps to be typographed, which I believe them to be. M. Mahé, however, calls them lithographs. The varieties would then be explained by irregular placing in the transfers.

The Philatelic Press at Home and Abroad.

THE STORY OF A COMING BIG DEVELOPMENT OF THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY" BY A SYNDICATE OF PHILATELISTS.

NOT long since, several London philatelists, of whom the Editor of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* chanced to be one, discussed, among other things, the present position and prospects of the British Philatelic Press. It was an informal, in fact quite a chance gathering, but the conversation was destined to lead to important results.

One gentleman present, a prominent member of the London Philatelic Society, called attention to the astonishing fact that while the leading German philatelic paper, the "Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal," had a circulation of 13,000, and the principal journal in America, a circulation of 9,000, there was no English philatelic magazine that could point to a sale in any way approaching these figures. The nominal postal rates in force in America and other circumstances favouring philatelic publishers in other countries, were advanced, but there was still a consensus of opinion that this state of affairs was distinctly disgraceful. Something, it was thought, should be done to support and develop a really good British philatelic journal, with the view of making that journal a fit representative of this country, and of London, the "Metropolis of Philately."

The Editor of the *Fortnightly* then made a proposal. To conduct and develop a live philatelic journal as it should be conducted and developed, affords enough work to keep one man fully employed. When that one man has numerous other irons in the fire, his philatelic charge must suffer. So it has been—at times—in the case of the *Fortnightly*. The Editor, in the informal "talk" now under notice, suggested the formation of a syndicate to finance, develop and generally conduct the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. The idea was well received, and, thanks to the enthusiasm shown by those to whom it was mooted, the scheme is now practically an accomplished fact.

A strong syndicate has been formed—strong both in purse and in personnel—to improve and develop the paper, which, for over six years, has held a prominent place in British philatelic journalism.

The aim of the syndicate will be to build up a subscription list of 10,000 readers of the "Fortnightly." To that end nothing that brain and money can do will be left undone.

Thus out of a casual chat great things grew. But when it came to a question of settling details it was found that several small matters needed adjustment. The idea of an entirely independent office for the *Fortnightly* was rejected on the ground of the great expense. As an alternative, an offer made by Mr. H. Wilfred Plumridge, of Messrs. Plumridge & Co., was considered and accepted. Messrs. Plumridge & Co., who are not stamp dealers, but merely auctioneers and commission agents in the strictest sense of the words, agreed, on most acceptable conditions, to apportion a part of their offices at 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, to the business side of the *Fortnightly's* affairs, and also to undertake the general business and advertising management of the paper.

AS TO THE SCHEME GENERALLY.

In the *Fortnightly* the Syndicate are confident that they have secured the very journal for their purpose. In the past the S.C.F., by its prompt exposures of swindles and shady issues has saved its readers many hundreds of pounds; and this policy of safe-guarding the interests of the bona fide philatelists as against the sharpers and harpies who from time to time crawl into the fold, will be continued as vigorously in the future.

Three shillings and threepence per annum, the amount of the yearly postal subscription to the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, is little enough to pay for twenty-six issues of a bright, breezy fearless newspaper, combining a valuable news-service with occasional instructive articles by specialists of the countries whereof they write. There are many who have reasons to regard this 3s. 3d. as the best investment of their philatelic year, and as time goes on we shall hope to make the *Fortnightly* as necessary to the philatelist as his hinges or his perforation gauge!

In the present Editor of the *Fortnightly*, who will continue to act in that capacity, we have a journalist who has been continuously associated with the philatelic Press from the year 1885. In the head of the firm who will undertake the business management of the paper, viz., Mr. H. Wilfred Plumridge, we have a gentleman remarkable for his energy, shrewdness, and keen commercial acumen. And in the gentlemen who constitute the Syndicate, we have a number of well informed philatelists who, in their own interests as well as the interests of the philatelic public, will help the paper in the capacity of, so to speak, honorary associate editors, striving always to help the *Fortnightly* by means of literary contributions, suggestions for new features and in a hundred-and-one other ways. Mr. Sydney Bishop, as Secretary of the Syndicate, will continue to represent the *Fortnightly's* Advertisement Department.

HOW PHILATELISTS MAY HELP US.

In our efforts to make the *S.C.F.* a greater and more influential organ of philatelic opinion, we have no hesitation in asking all philatelists (including of course all those constant readers who have stuck to the old paper through thick and thin) to help us by recommendations to their friends and by sending in such items of news as may come their way.

While on this subject we should like to point out that many of the old subscribers of the *Fortnightly* have not yet renewed their subscriptions, despite the fact that since Mr. Percy Bishop purchased the *S.C.F.* from the Official Receiver in December, 1899, every existing contract—save only *one*, which we shall refer to anon—whether for advertisements or subscriptions was filled by the new proprietor at his own expense, and of course without the smallest hope of any return, save the goodwill of the readers and advertisers whose lost property (to speak bluntly), was thus restored to them. From many readers we have received expressions of gratitude couched in the most graceful terms, and these kindly letters have more than recompensed us for the course we adopted on re-starting the paper. But there are still many of the "Old Guard" whose remittances we should be most glad to receive.

The one contract unfulfilled by the new proprietor of the *S.C.F.* was the contract of the old proprietors to distribute prizes of considerable value among the competitors in a certain prize contest. That liability also we would gladly have shouldered, to remove the last slur upon the *S.C.F.'s* name, if it had been possible fairly to award the prizes due. It was not impossible. The documentary evidence as to the efforts of the various competitors was destroyed or lost, and the only solatium that can now be offered to the philatelists who entered into that contest is to invite them to "try again" in the new competition (details of which are to appear in the next number of the *Fortnightly*), the prizes offered in connection with which will most certainly be awarded when due.

THE SYNDICATE'S FIRST MOVE.

The first means to be adopted in developing the *Fortnightly* will be the Great Prize Competition, already alluded to in these columns. Particulars of the competition will appear in the next number of the *Fortnightly*, copies of which will be sent broadcast to all the active philatelists on our lists, at home, on the continent, in America, and in all corners of the British Empire.

The cash prizes (guaranteed) will amount to £20 or more, and there will be a prize for every competitor. The latter statement is no catch phrase, but is to be accepted literally as it stands—*There will be a prize for every competitor!*

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.

Bermuda.—A provisional farthing stamp is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., the one shilling grey being surcharged:

ONE
FARTHING

and the original value barred out in black. Our correspondents are informed that 240,000 specimens of this stamp were prepared, and that the issue was exhausted within twenty-four hours.

A new farthing stamp of a permanent type is to appear very shortly.

Macau.—A stamp of 78 avos, black on blue, with value and name in red, is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

New Zealand.—Regarding the new penny stamp Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., write us as follows:—

The stamp was intended for Universal Penny Postage, but the consent of the neighbouring Australian colonies and of the Universal Postal Union not having been obtained, its use is for the present restricted to postage on letters posted for delivery within the Colony or to any British possession. For letters addressed to Australia the postage from New Zealand remains at 2d. the $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., and for all foreign countries at 2½d. the $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

Orange River Colony.—Mr. James Campbell writes us from Bloemfontein, under date January 12th:—"By the time this is in your hands, I fully anticipate that the O.R.C. Postal Administration will have issued a new post card in the shape of the Cape Colony card, overprinted 'Orange River Colony.' As far as I can learn, the first value likely to appear is the 1d. single, which has been out of issue for some time back."

Portuguese India.—We have three novelties from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.:—

12 tangas, blue on pink.
1 rupee, black on blue.
2 rupees, mauve on buff.

Sarawak.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the latest novelty from Rajah Brooke's dominions:—

1 cent blue and red.

The value is in the second colour. Design showing portrait of Rajah, as usual.

Soudan.—From the same firm we have the following values of the new "Postage Tax" stamps. The stamps are of small oblong shape showing a Nile gunboat in centre.

2 milliemes orange, black centre.
4 .. green, brown centre.
10 .. violet, green centre.
20 .. red, blue centre.

Spain.—We must thank Messrs. Whitfield King for a set of the new Spanish stamps, as follows:—

2 cents, green.
5 .. dark green.
10 .. pink.
15 .. dark blue.
20 .. olive-grey.
25 .. light blue.
30 .. light green.
40 .. olive-green.
50 .. blue-green.
1 peseta, mauve.
4 .. violet.
10 .. orange.

Uruguay.—To the values already chronicled of the new set, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. enable us to add:—

1 centesimo green.

The design shows a herd of cattle.

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Bermuda, Grenada and Leeward Isles	10 kinds .. 2/9
British Guiana	9 kinds .. 1/9
Gold Coast, Lagos, and Sierra Leone	10 kinds .. 3/6
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Straits Settlements	8 kinds .. 2/3
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GEO. CALLF & Co., Seaford, Sussex.

STAMPS.—25 varieties, 2d.; 30, 3d.; 35, 4d.; 50, 6d.; 65, 8d.; 85, 10d.; 100, 1/- 25 superior, 6d.; 50, 1/-; 75, 1/6; 100, 2/- (N.B.—These Packets are excellent value, containing many old and new issues—no damaged stamps). Approval Sheets, splendid variety, good discount, low prices. Collections and Loose Lots bought; also old B. Colonials. Selections of Europeans, &c., sent on approval on receipt of satisfactory references. Rare O.F. State and Transvaals wanted. Mention *Fortnightly*. Note the address—PEARCE & STAMFORD, 7, Katharine Street (opposite Town Hall), Croydon.

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Falkland Islands, 6d., no wmk., mint ... each 2/6
O.F.S., 1/- brown, surcharged T.F., mint ... each 1/9
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100 British Colonies, all different . . .	0	2	0
200 " " " " " " " " " "	0	6	6
500 " " " " " " " " " "	1	7	6
1000 " " " " " " " " " "	6	0	0
1000 Stamps all different (no fiscals or cards)	0	18	6
2000 " " " " " " " " " "	3	0	0
3000 " " " " " " " " " "	9	7	6
4000 " " " " " " " " " "	17	5	0
5000 " " " " " " " " " "	28	10	0

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THE "ROWLAND HILL" BOOKLET

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ALFRED SMITH & SON,

OFFICE OF THE "MONTHLY CIRCULAR"

37 & 39, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, W.C.

HOLLAND & COLONIES.

Wholesale and Retail.

FINE STOCK. CHEAP PRICES.

OTTO WEISMANN,

Established 1885. Rotterdam.

Approval Books.

Arranged according to Countries and dates of issue. All prices much under Catalogue. Many Bargains. Good Discount. Also Cheap selections of Sets. Jubilee Envelope and Card, 5d.; Black Mulready, 8/-; Ceylon Service, 1r. 12c. 5/- (cat 15/-), 40 different Japan, 7d.; 19 Borneo, 2/- . . . A few Gibbons' Imperial Albums, new, to clear, half price.

J. H. Telfer, Ravens Park, Catford London.

AS I am about to leave the Island, I am desirous of clearing out my stock of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Albums, 1900 Catalogues, &c., &c., at reduced rates. Prices on application. I am also selling a limited stock of stamps of foreign countries at reduced prices to clear.

A. A. GREEN,

British and Colonial Stamp Dealer,

7, Belvidere Terrace, Millbrook, Jersey.

Special Inch Advertisements

(Prepaid and Unchangeable).

12 INSERTIONS	20 -
26 " (whole year)	37/6



Senf's Postage Stamp Album
Is the best in the World.
Price List on application.
Ranging from 4d. to £6 5s.

C. F. LUECKE, Publisher,
LEIPZIG, SAXONY.

From the Auction Rooms.

The following are the most interesting realisations at the various Philatelic Auctions since our last report:—

Messrs. PLUMBRIDGE & Co.'s Sale, Jan 29th and 30th.

	£	s.	d.
British Bechuanaland, 1889, Protectorate on ½d. vermilion, inverted surcharge ..	1	3	0
British Columbia, wmk. CC., perf. 12½, 5c. red and black*	1	6	0
British East Africa, 1 ANNA, A.B. surcharged with hand stamp on 4a. ..	2	15	0
Do. do 1895, surcharged "British East Africa" on 1a. green *	1	13	0
British Guiana, wmk. CC., perf. 12½, 4c. blue ..	1	10	0
Cape of Good Hope, Mafeking Besieged, 1d. on Cape ½d. green (present type), a block of 4* ..	5	5	0
Do. do 1/- on ½d. grey-green Cape ..	1	1	0
Do. do 1/- on ½d. Bechuanaland *	1	3	0
Do. do 1/- on 6d. lilac on red Bechuanaland Protectorate, 2 copies ..	2	0	0
Do. do a single copy ..	1	3	0
Cape of Good Hope, Mafeking Besieged, Baden Powell, Large Head ..	1	2	0
Ceylon, wmk. star, 1/- blue, violet, block of 4* ..	2	15	0
" no wmk., clean cut perfs., 6d. brown, horizontal pair*	1	4	0
" wmk. C.C., perf. 12½, 2d. maize & 4d. rose, pair of each*	2	2	0
" " " 5d. yellow-green, a block of 4* ..	2	8	0
" " " 9d. brown, a block of 4* ..	1	16	0
" " " 10d. orange-red, horizontal pair*	0	18	0
" " " 2/- deep indigo, a block of 4* ..	2	10	0
Gibraltar, 1s. bistre*	1	15	0
Gold Coast, wmk. C.C., perf. 12½, 1d. blue*	1	9	0
Great Britain, wmk. small crown, perf. 16, 2d. deep blue*	1	9	0
Do. £5 orange, a horizontal pair ..	2	12	6
Do. A single copy, smudgy postmark ..	1	5	0
Do. British Levant, 12p. on 2/6, on blue paper*	1	14	0
Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. vermilion, 2 copies, both early impressions, shewing diagonal and perpendicular lines ..	13	0	0
Naples, Cross, ½t. blue, a horizontal pair, one margin cut into Natal, wmk. star, imperf. 3d. blue, a horizontal pair*	5	5	0
Newfoundland, 1897, 1c. on 3c., dull purple, a block of 50..	2	10	0
New South Wales, Sydney View, 1d. red ..	1	6	0
Do. 1888, wmk. 5/-, 5/- deep mauve, a pair horizontal*	2	15	0
Do. 1890, 20/- ultramarine* ..	1	5	0
Queensland, Imperf., 1d. carmine-rose ..	1	0	0
Sierra Leone, C.C. 12½, 2d. mauve, a block of 4* ..	3	17	6
Do. C.C. 14, 2d. mauve, a block of 4 with control numbers ..	1	7	0
South Australia, 1871, wmk. V. and Crown, 4d. purple, defective ..	1	5	0
Spain, 1853, 2 reales vermilion ..	3	7	6
Switzerland, Neuchatel, 5c. black and red ..	1	4	0
Tasmania, 1st issue, 1d. blue, cut close *	1	6	0
Do. wmk. numeral, perf. 12½, 2d. yellow-green, with brown gum *	1	7	0
Transvaal, 1878, Queen's Head, 1/- green, a horizontal pair*	2	14	0
Do. do a single ..	1	2	0
Do. 1887-90, £5 deep green ..	0	17	0
Trinidad, litho. (1d.) blue, medium plate, on thick paper..	0	19	0
Do. 1859, imperf., 4d. dull purple ..	1	2	0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER'S Sale, Jan. 31st, and Feb. 1st.

British Central Africa, 1st issue, £2 rose-red ..	2	10	0
British East Africa, 1890-91, 4as. grey..	1	14	0
Do. 1891-95, provisional value, surcharged in dull violet with a hand stamp, and initialled, 1 anna, A.B. on 4as. brown *	6	6	0
Do. on Company's stamps, 5as. black on grey-blue ..	2	18	0
Do. do do 2 rupees, brick-red on entire ..	2	17	0
Do. do do 5 rupees on entire ..	2	4	0
Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red*	8	0	0
Do. do 1d. red ..	3	15	0
Do. another copy defective ..	3	3	0
Do. do error, 1d. blue, defective ..	10	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Cape of Good Hope, 4d. deep blue ..	9	10	0
Do. do error, 4d. red defective ..	10	0	0
Cyprus, 1/- green ..	1	3	0
Fernando Po., 1st issue, 20 c. de esc., brown ..	1	6	0
France, 1st issue, 1 franc orange, corner missing ..	2	0	0
Gibraltar, 1st issue, 1/- bistre*	1	16	0
Gold Coast, 1891-94, 20/- green and red*	4	10	0
Gt. Britain, 1d. black, with V.R. in upper corners, a horizontal pair ..	17	0	0
Do. a single specimen, used ..	7	10	0
Do. 1847-54, octagonal issue, 10d. brown, die 2, a block of 4* ..	16	0	0
Do. 1855-57, wmk. medium garter, on white paper, 4d. carmine*	8	0	0
Do. 1868, 10d. red-brown, plate 2, defective ..	4	0	0
Do. 2/- pale blue* ..	1	11	0
Do. 2/- brown*, part gum ..	4	12	6
Do. 1873-80, 8d. brown-lilac* ..	3	0	0
Do. £5 orange, with registered cancellation ..	1	18	0
Guinea, 1st issue, 10 reis orange-yellow ..	2	2	0
India, first issue, ½a. red, 9½ arches, a horizontal pair*	18	10	0
Do. Another pair, not so fine ..	12	12	0
Lagos, C. & CA., 5/- blue* ..	5	12	6
Do. Do. 10/- lilac-brown..	8	0	0
Labuan, 1879, 12c. carmine, with dotted red obliteration ..	4	0	0
Do. 1880, Provisionals, "6" (twice) in red, on 16c. blue ..	7	0	0
Do. 1883, Provisional, surcharged in red, with pen and ink, one dollar (and Postmaster's initials), on 16c. blue* ..	9	10	0
Do. 1885, Provisionals, 2 "Cents" (capitals), on 16c. blue ..	4	10	0

News-Notes from Australia.

FROM the "Australian Philatelist" and other sources we gather the following interesting items of news:—

PENNY INLAND POSTAGE IN VICTORIA.

Victoria's Parliament has passed through all its stages the Penny Post Bill, providing for the inland penny post from the 1st April, 1901.

A COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE DECLINED.

The post office authorities of this Colony (New South Wales) have had a proposal made to them by a collector for the issue of a commemorative stamp, of the value of ½d., for issue on the inauguration of the Commonwealth; the design to show the head of the Duke of York as a centre piece and the stamp to remain in use until the Federal stamps were issued. The offer was, however, declined.

PHILATELISTS AND THE "COMMONWEALTH" STAMPS.

At a meeting of the Sydney Philatelic Society on December 19th, 1900, Mr. Pettifer moved and Mr. Parkes seconded—"That the Secretary be instructed to write to the kindred Societies in Australia and Tasmania, to invite their co-operation in formulating proposals in connection with the issue of Commonwealth stamps."

It was then proposed by Mr. Smyth and seconded by Mrs. Tibbs—"That the following members form a committee to deal with the above motion: Messrs. Cole, Dallon, Davis, Gilles, Hagen, Haussmann, Himmelhoch, Basset Hull, W. Hull, Mancy-Lake, Lasker, Lukey, Nicolle, Parry, Parkes, Pettifer, Robinson, Rourke, Slade, Smyth, Van Weenan, Witney, Colonel Williams, Mrs. Tibbs and Mrs. Reimits, with power to add to the number." Carried.

N.S.W. POSTAGE STAMPS NOT AVAILABLE AS FISCALS.

From the Treasury of New South Wales, under date Sydney, December 14th, and over the signature of Sir William Lyne, Premier and Colonial Treasurer, the following notice has been issued:—

The Public are hereby notified that on and after the 1st of January next Postage Stamps must no longer be used for the stamping of documents of any kind which require to be stamped under the Stamp Duties Act. All such documents must, on and after the date named, be stamped with either Impressed or Adhesive Duty Stamps, in accordance with the provisions of the Stamp Duties Act No. 27, 1898, and the Stamp Duties Amendment Act No. 53, 1900.

Philatelic Societies' Reports.**LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

At the meeting held at the Patent Library, on January 8th there was a discussion on the subject of stamp catalogues, their prices, and the relation of prices to values. The fact that priced catalogues are issued by dealers, and not by collectors or societies, was felt to be inevitable, and it was conceded that these catalogues are very helpful to collectors, not merely as a guide to values, but also as to arrangement. The discussion was opened by Mr. John H. Thackrah, who occupied the chair, in the absence of the President, and it was joined in with much vigour by Messrs. W. Robinson, E. Egly, W. K. Skipwith, and other members.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A Conversation was held by this Society, at the Cutler's Hall, on January 16th, when a very interesting display of stamps was to be seen.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

January 3rd.—Display, West Indies, by Mr. W. Pimm.

The following were unanimously elected members:—Miss L. A. Blogg, Messrs. J. W. Gillespie, J. Leonard, C. Wells, J. E. J. Stoyel, E. C. Baxter, Fisher, J. J. Forster, J.P., G. C. Rowe.

It was decided that the next Auction should extend over two nights, February 14th and 15th, and that advertisements should be included in the catalogue.

It was unanimously decided to provide photographic albums for the photos of members, and every member is herewith cordially invited to send his or her photo, cabinet or carte de visit sizes for inclusion in same, and each one is requested to sign their autograph across the corner. Every member present

promised to send his as a start towards what should be a very interesting collection.

Mr. W. Pimm then gave a display of his fine collection of West Indies, parts of which have been awarded several medals at the various exhibitions.

THE COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

The 62nd Meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the club house on Monday evening, January 14th, 1901.

Present, Messrs. Adreini, Calman, Low, Luff, Scott and Perrin.

The Special Committee reported that they had made an investment for the club as authorized, purchasing a \$1000 West Shore 4 per cent. bond due in the year 2361 and guaranteed by the New York Central, the cost of said bond being \$1,140; approved.

Moved by Mr. Luff, seconded and carried that the Board make an appropriation of the sum of \$100 to the Literary Committee to be used for the purchase, binding, etc., of books and papers during the year.

The Treasurer was authorized to renew the lease of the club house for another year at the same rental.

The names of two of the applicants for membership to the club having been posted the required length of time, their names were balloted upon and Messrs. Phillips and Ward were declared unanimously elected subscribing members.

ALBERT PERRIN, Secretary,
351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

JUNIOR LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

An ordinary meeting of the above Society was held in Clapham Hall on Saturday, Feb. 9th. At the commencement of the meeting a motion was passed expressing condolence with His Majesty King Edward the VII. on the death of Queen Victoria, and expressing loyal congratulations on his accession to the

Throne of Great Britain and Ireland, India and the Colonies.

The business of the meeting was a general display, in which the following gentlemen took part:—Mr. J. Feeney (General). Mr. Ralph Wedmore (English), Mr. Chas. Purdam (Cook Islands), Mr. J. M. Wilkie (General), and the President (English). A vote of thanks was passed to these exhibitors.

IMPORTANT.—Arrangements have been made for a special Lecture, on Feb. 23rd, in Clapham Hall, Old Town, Clapham, at 8 p.m., when Mr. Bertram W. H. Poole will describe his adventures on a journey of over 1000 miles in search of V.R.I.'s. Admission will be by tickets, which can be obtained free of charge from the Hon. Secretary, 7, Carminia Road, Balham, S.W.

All stamp collectors in London on that day will be heartily welcome.

CROSBY BLUMSUM, *Hon. Sec.*

HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A GENERAL MEETING was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet St., E.C., on Tuesday, Feb. 5th, 1901, at 7 p.m.

Mr. Chas. P. Sisley was elected an ordinary member of the Society.

The business of the meeting being finished, a general display of stamps on the part of members took place, and the innovation was so favourably received as to warrant a repetition at an early date. Mr. Bradbury showed a very fine collection of Colonials and British; Mr. Calf fine sheets of rarities; Mr. Ehrenbach a specialist's collection of Danish West Indies; Mr. Reickenheim one of Crete; Mr. Melville one of Hayti; Mr. Sidebotham and Mr. Simpson, Colonials and Colonials and English respectively, and Mr. Wills a fine sheet of errors and curiosities.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer*,
Ingleside, St. Albans.

W. H. PECKITT,

Dealer in Rare Stamps,

440, STRAND, W.C.,

Has recently purchased . . . **TWO MAGNIFICENT GENERAL COLLECTIONS,**

Comprising—a fine range of Colonial and other rarities in first-class condition, such as Turk's Islands, Canada, Newfoundland, St. Vincent, Labuan, etc.

NEW STOCK BOOKS of SPAIN, ORANGE RIVER COLONY,
ORANGE FREE STATE, LUXEMBOURG, GREECE, etc. . . .

ALL RECENT NEW ISSUES IN STOCK.

SINGLE STAMPS & COLLECTIONS Bought for Cash.

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 February 5, 6, 7 and 8. Copies of the Catalogue of the above Sale with the Prices Realized for each Lot, printed in the margin, can be had upon application, Price, 5/- . . .

The next Sale will take place on February 26th and 27th, 1901. CATALOGUE READY SHORTLY.
Following Sale, March 12th and 13th. CATALOGUE IN PREPARATION.

OTHER SALES AS FOLLOWS:—1901.—Mar. 12, 13, 26 & 27; April 18 & 17; May 7, 8, 22 & 23; June 11 & 12.

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,

47, Leicester Square, London, W.C.

ESTABLISHED 1794.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

Rate: 3 Words a Penny.

Advertisements, which must be prepaid, should be sent to the Manager at 63/64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., not later than the Tuesday preceding publication.

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.:—
Advertisers will greatly oblige us by letting us have copy EARLY whenever possible.

6 insertions for the price of 5.
12 insertions for the price of 9.
26 ins. (whole year) for the price of 18.

MINT COLONIALS. Orange River Colony, 4d. to 1/-, 7 stamps 3/6; Transvaal (V.R.I.), 3d. to 1/-, 8 stamps, 3/10; British South Africa, 1905, obsolete 3d. to 1/-, 8 stamps, 5/3 (cat. 7/0); Gibraltar, pre-seta issue, obsolete, 2 stamps, 4/9 (cat. 7/-); Sarawak, 1871, obsolete, 5 stamps, 1/9 (cat. 3/3); English 5/- Telegraph (used), 1/- (cat. 3/-). On "Bazaar" reference.—"PHILATELIST," Uplands, Swanwick, Hampshire.

FOR SALE, by private treaty, a Specialist's Collection of Australia and Oceania (adhesives only), numbering over 3,200. The stamps are mostly picked specimens, nearly 700 being unused, with a good proportion of rarities. Mounted in 3 oblong card albums.—REV. P. S. RAYNOR, School House, Ipswich.

WANTED, Hayti, all issues up to 1891 in blocks, strips and pairs, unused and used, specially 1881, 20c.—Nissen & Co., 77/78, High Holborn, W.C.

ORANGE FREE STATE, surcharged V.R.I., 3d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 7/-, 8/6 the set; ditto, first issue, 15/-.—ORANGE STAMP COMPANY, Box 226, Bloemfontein.

STAMPS—Approval Sheets, very cheap, good discount.—C. MACRAY, c/o Reekie, 2, Viewforth Gardens, Edinburgh.

WANTED to buy Envelopes and Newspaper Wrappers, any Countries, cut square only, either used or unused. Send selections on approval to NORMAN C. HURWOOD, Bendigo, Victoria, Australia.

ALL Stamp Collectors should write for my Approval Sheets of old and new stamps. Lowest possible prices and 3d. in the 1s. discount allowed. References with first application will greatly oblige. Every stamp guaranteed genuine. No reprints sold by me.—F. V. BARRS, 35, Summerhill Avenue, Maidce, Newport, M.n.

BRITISH Central African Surcharged Stamps "One Penny" on 3s. unused, mint condition, 1/6 each. One Penny "Provisionals" for "Internal Postage" used, or original pieces of envelopes, 3/- each. Cash with order.—KNOWLES, Stationer, Padham Road, Burnley.

BOOK containing mostly old Colonial stamps, price £6 10s. Also a few other good lots. Approval.—CLEMMENT CORDREY, Vicarage Drive, Eastbourne.

VACANCIES exist in the County of Stafford Stamp Exchange for a few reliable Members. Good sales. Excellent management. Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly supplied to Members at reduced rates.—Rules, &c. from JAS. SPIREY, Winona, Corporation Street, Stafford.

COLLECTOR specializing is breaking a large Colonial Collection at half dealers prices. Strongest in Australians and Africans. References.—FRANK H. MADISON, St. Neots, Hunts.

CHINESE Imperial Post, Shanghai, Bermuda, Transvaal, Japanese Imperial Wedding, Crete, Puttialia, Malta, Russian Levant, Newfoundland, Travancore, six Peru, six Roumania, Nepal; 40 genuine varieties, 1/1.—CHARLES SMITH, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey.

COOK ISLANDS, first issue.—1d., 1 1/2d., 2 1/2d., 10d., mint, 4/8.—CHAS. PURDOM, Neptune Street, South Lambeth, S.W.

A FINE collection of good genuine stamps to be sold. Cheap approval sheets sent on application to MITCHELL, 51, Ledbury Rd., Westbourne Grove, W.

"POSTAL CARDS & COVERS," a quarterly magazine, 1/- per year, post free—SCOTT & WILSON, Reginald Mount, Leeds.

TRANSVAAL and Free State Duplicates, many unused and scarce, including V.R.I. errors.—COLONIAL, c/o Fortnightly.

ORANGE FREE STATE AND TRANSVAAL Stamps overprinted V.R.I. Free State current sets, 12/6; complete sets (6d. carmine, 4d. and 2 1/2d. out of issue included), 50/-; Transvaal current sets, 30/-; part sets, values up to 1/-, 7/6 post free. Free State current V.R.I.'s in quantities at 10 per cent. to 20 per cent. over face. Correspondence invited.—JAMES CAMPBELL, Box 245, Bloemfontein. Bankers, Bank of Africa.

SERGE RAISEVITCH, a Grodner, Russia, sells and exchanges Local Russian Stamps. For references apply Publishers, S.C.P.

WANTED Collection of British Stamps.—WINDERS FRODSHAM, Cheshire.

STAMP Business (Shop) in West End, near Piccadilly, Kent, only £60. Established nearly seven years. Price, including good fixtures, £50.—ALPHA, c/o Fortnightly, 63/4, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

25% to 75% under catalogue price, a fine selection of medium Stamps, neatly arranged in books, according to countries, always on view. **Colonial Sets** from 1d. to 5/- in large varieties to be had from

W. JACOBY,

145, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

Whitfield King & Co.'s

NEW PRICE LIST for 1901

. . . WILL BE READY ON MARCH 1st.

It marks a new departure for the new century, being of convenient pocket size and with covers printed in colours. All prices carefully revised throughout. Sent anywhere on receipt of a penny stamp for postage.

THE UNIVERSAL STANDARD CATALOGUE

OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD, Second Edition, fully Illustrated, and neatly printed on good paper. Every stamp priced. Post free, 1/3.

Our Monthly List of Philatelic Novelties

is sent post free for SIXPENCE per annum, and contains quotations for all new issues and special bargains.

The "WHITFIELD" Interchangeable Albums

are still the best for advanced collectors, and we send them on approval. Write for details.

WHITFIELD KING & CO., IPSWICH.



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) " " " " " "	4	9
Vol. III. (Nos. 53 to 78) " " " " " "	4	9
Vol. IV. (Nos. 79 to 104) " " " " " "	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 Collector's Fortnightly,"
63 and 64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.



D. FIELD,

4 and 5, Royal Arcade, Old Bond Street,
and Albermarle Street,

Wishes to Purchase several CHOICE COLLECTIONS,
General or Specialists.

. . . Prompt Cash to any amount.

On View, a Very Fine Stock of RARE BRITISH
COLONIALS, and other Stamps, at Moderate Prices.

I particularly want to Purchase RARE BRITISH
COLONIALS, especially AFRICANS.

. . . Highest Prices Paid.

FISCALS!

SPECIAL OFFER:

100 Fiscal Stamps all different, many scarce, from all
Countries. Price, 2/ SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

BRAZIL, 1,000, 2,000, 3,000, 4,000, 5,000, 10,000, 15,000,
20,000, and 50,000 reis. This fine set of Stamps
in fine condition. Price, 1/9.

1000 MIXED FISCAL STAMPS, no rubbish, 12/6

FISCAL STAMPS ON APPROVAL.

Wanted All Kinds of Revenue Stamps

CHARLES NISSEN & Co., 77-78, HIGH HOLBORN,
LONDON, W.C.

GRAND PRIZE COMPETITION. CASH PRIZES, £20, etc., etc.

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 156—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1901.

ONE PENNY.

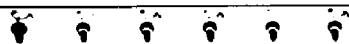
W. H. PECKITT,

Dealer in Rare Stamps,

440, STRAND, W.C.,

HAS RECENTLY PURCHASED

Two Magnificent General Collections



Comprising—A fine range of Colonial and other rarities in first-class condition, such as Turk's Islands, Canada, Newfoundland, St. Vincent, Labuan, etc.

NEW STOCK BOOKS of SPAIN, ORANGE RIVER COLONY,
ORANGE FREE STATE, LUXEMBOURG, GREECE, etc.

ALL RECENT NEW ISSUES IN STOCK.

SINGLE STAMPS & COLLECTIONS Bought for Cash.

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 ensuing Season will be as under:—

1901.—March 14th and 15th, 28th and 29th; April 11th and 12th, 25th and 26th; May 9th and 10th, 30th and 31st, and June 13th and 14th.

A Very Fine PRIVATE COLLECTION, including the following rarities:—Ceylon, superb specimens of 4d., 8d., 9d., 1/9 (2 unused shades), and 2/- imperforate, also duplicates and a fine lot of the later pence issues. India, 1/2a. red, unused; 2a. green, unused. Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. and 2d., fine early specimens, including pair 1d. on entire Greek border, 1d. and 2d. superb. Cape Woodblocks, 1d. (3), and 4d. (6 shades), 1/- emerald, unused, etc. Mafeking Besieged, 2 complete sets. New South Wales, Sydney Views (30), Laureated, 6d. error, Walls, etc. South Australia, scarce Departmentals. Orange Free State, V.R.I. sets. Nevis, fine early issues. British Guiana, 4c. on deep blue, fine and other scarce varieties. Canada, Pence issues, also Jubilee set, unused. New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, 1/-'s. Newfoundland, 6½d. carmine, used. Lagos, the rare 2/6 unused, mint. United States, a fine lot.

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.

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No. 156.—Vol. VI.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1901.

ONE PENNY.

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DANISH WEST INDIES DANISH STILL.

The Danish Government has suddenly broken off all dealings with the United States of America for the sale of the Danish West Indian Isles. The reason of this is a very satisfactory offer made to the Danish Government on the part of a rich Danish East-Asian steamship company, who offer to assist, and in future to administer the islands. The opportunity has been seized to keep the islands under the Danish Crown, and the American Government has been informed of the decision.

IRELAND TO HAVE A PHILATELIC CLUB.

OUR most cordial wishes are with Mr. W. R. Lane Joynt and other well-known Irish philatelists in their efforts to form an Irish Philatelic Club.

On Tuesday, February 12th, a well-attended meeting to further this object was held at the Royal Hibernian Hotel, Dublin.

Mr. William Lane Joynt, who presided, said that almost every large city in Great Britain boasted a philatelic club or society—Birmingham having one numbering over 250 members. Since the death, some 15 years ago, of Mr. Gerrard, of Clare Street, no regular dealer in foreign stamps had opened business premises in Dublin, and no place of meeting existed where collectors could discuss the many interesting subjects connected with their hobby. Such a meeting place was a matter of great importance, where a reference library of the standard works on Philately, and copies of all the current Philatelic magazines could be consulted, and where social gatherings could be held for the purposes of exchanging duplicates, or hearing short papers discussed.

The formation of the "Irish Philatelic Club" was proposed by Mr. T. A. Stodart, seconded by Mr. J. N. Mostyn, and carried unanimously; and a committee consisting of Mrs. Beauchamp and Messrs. W. Lane Joynt, T. A. Stodart, J. N. Mostyn, and W. G. Williams was appointed to make inquiries as to the acquisition of suitable premises, and to draft the necessary rules.

The club will not be limited to residents in Dublin, but will be open to collectors in all parts of the world, and a special feature will be a large number of corresponding members in the Colonies and various foreign countries, whose duty it will be to send to the club consignments of new issues, so that members will be able to acquire them at a trifle over the face value.

Philately at Home and Abroad.

"THE STAMPS OF THE KING."

REPLYING to a letter from the Editor of the *Fortnightly*, under date February 14, the Secretary of the General Post Office writes: "I am directed by the Postmaster-General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 9th instant, and to state that no decision has yet been taken with regard to the design of the stamps of the present reign."

A GEORGE THE THIRD STAMP.

In a recent editorial we wrote, apropos of King Edward VII.'s stamps: "It has startled many folk to reflect that these will be the first "King's stamps" in Britain." Of course we referred only to postage stamps. All the same we are indebted to Mr. A. Preston Pearce for a specimen of a George III. stamp—a fiscal—showing head of that monarch in a central medallion. The design, Mr. Pearce remarks, is too little known.

GREEN BRITAIN, 4d., GREEN: VARIETIES.

WE have information to the effect that of the current 4d. green, British, two distinct dies exist. Also the stamp is found both on wove and on laid paper.

IS IT A LEAKAGE AT THE PRINTER'S?

"THERE are a good number of imperforate (and some un gummed) Fiji about now" remarks Mr. C. de Grave Sells in a letter to the *Fortnightly*. "Some of these are evidently 'wasters,' and have the surcharges in all sorts of wrong positions, and some duplicated. But where are they coming from? Another leakage at the printer's?"

Philately in the Police Courts.

THE CASE AGAINST JAMES BULMER—ALSO ANOTHER IMPORTANT PHILATELIC PROSECUTION.

THERE were three further charges against James Bulmer when the accused was again brought before the Marlborough Street Magistrates on Friday, February 15th. As already stated Bulmer, a young man of 20, described as a student, is charged with fraudulently obtaining foreign stamps from Charles Daly, Stamp Dealer, 159, Great Portland Street. The evidence shows that Bulmer went to Mr. Daly's shop, and induced Laura Wilkinson, who at the time was in charge of the premises, to part with the albums in order, as he said, that his uncle, Dr. Boxall, of Portland Place, might select some stamps for him, and return those not purchased the same evening. The accused did not return, and the police were communicated with, the result being that he was arrested. Dr. Boxall knew nothing of him.

Mr. Daly now deposed that the value of his stamps was about £50 in reality, the amount of £15 being put down in error. They had all been taken from the albums and put into another book he had seen in the possession of the police.

Three further charges being preferred against the prisoner, Mr. Newton said that the accused appeared to have carried on systematic frauds on stamp dealers all over the country, and was believed to have obtained stamps worth in the aggregate the sum of £400.

Alfred Ernest Moore, of Maple Street, Nottingham, said he was a dealer in stamps. On February 22nd, 1898, he received a postcard dated from 23, Upper Marylebone Street, and signed in the name of Allan Fitzgerald, asking for a selection of obsolete stamps to choose from, and giving as a reference the City Bank. Believing the application to be genuine, he sent a book of stamps, worth £3 15s. 1d., but never got his money or the property back. In October of the same year he received another post card in the same hand-writing as the first, but signed "G. R. Sergeant," requesting some Colonial stamps to be sent, and giving as reference a firm at Bournemouth. He sent nothing, but communicated with the police. Subsequently he received a letter, dated from an address in High Street, Putney, again in the same hand-writing, asking for more stamps to select from, to be sent to "Howard Lloyd, Esq.," and giving H. Smith as a reference. This letter was sent to the Stamp Exchange Protection Society.—Cross-examined: He had never seen his stamps since.

Mr. Rowsell: Do you send stamps to everyone who writes you a letter?—The Witness: Not now.—(Laughter). I used to send to almost everyone.

Annie Chaseney, a newsagent, of 112, High Street, Putney, said that she received letters at her shop during January last for "H. Smith," and had handed the prisoner one of them. She had since received some more letters for him, but had handed them to Detective-Sergeant Scholes.

Arthur Dully, a newsagent and stationer, of 61, High Street, Putney, said that on the 18th of January the prisoner called and asked him to take in letters for "Howard Lloyd." Five or six letters for Howard Lloyd arrived, and one of them was handed to the accused.

Mrs. Bates, a newsagent, of Drummond Street, N.W., said that in 1898 she knew the prisoner as "G. R. Sergeant." He asked her to receive letters for him. She said, "If it is all right I will." Several letters, some of them registered, arrived, and she gave them to him. A number of others came, but she took them back to the Post Office, and shortly afterwards a police officer called about the matter.

Mary Noble, of Upper Marylebone Street, stated that in 1898 she kept a newspaper shop in that street. No one of the name of Allan Fitzgerald lived there during her occupation of the premises. Letters addressed in that name arrived, and a man called and took them away. She did not know the prisoner. Subsequently the police arrived. Looking at the prisoner again she thought that he resembled "Allan Fitzgerald."

Frank Coleman, an estate agent, of Eastnor, Ledbury, deposed to having put an advertisement in a philatelic journal, in reply to which he received a letter purporting to come

from 61, High-street, Putney, and requesting that some stamps should be sent to the writer, Howard Lloyd, to select from for exchange, and giving "H. Smith, Esq.," as a reference. The letter stated that Mr. Smith was a bank manager. He sent the stamps, but got no money or stamps in exchange. He had since seen his stamps in possession of the police.

Jules Bolton, a philatelist, of Croydon, told a similar story. He sent stamps worth about £2 15s. to H. Smith, who gave "Howard Lloyd, Esq.," as a reference, stating that "Howard Lloyd" was the director of a bank in the city.

Mr. Newton informed the magistrate that in possession of the prisoner six or seven thousand stamps were found, nearly all of which were believed to have been obtained as described. He was instructed, after another remand was granted, to ask that the accused should be committed for trial.

Mr. Rowsell urged the magistrate to deal summarily with the case, pointing out that all the stamps could be returned to their owners.

Mr. Denman said the case was a bad one. Such a collection of stamps might some day have realised a large sum of money. The accused would be again remanded, and must find bail in two sureties of £40 each.

THE PRISONER COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.

On the resumed hearing of the charges against Bulmer, at Marlborough Street, on February 22nd, Mr. Rowsell, counsel for the defence, said that Bulmer would plead guilty to the four charges preferred, and suggested that the case might be dealt with summarily. Magistrate Plowden, however, decided that it must go before a jury, and committed the prisoner for trial on bail in two sureties of £50 each.

A FRENCHMAN'S "RARE STAMPS."

AN EXTRAORDINARY STORY OF ALLEGED FRAUDS ON LEADING LONDON DEALERS.

Henri Bauche, a Frenchman, aged 34, described as a commercial traveller, has been called upon to answer grave charges of alleged frauds upon London stamp dealers. The story of the arrest of the accused, which we have no space to tell in its entirety in this number, reflects great credit upon Mr. J. W. Jones, of Cheapside, and upon Mr. Hadlow, and others associated with him in the Stamp Dealers' Protection Association.

At Bow Street on February 15th, before Mr. D. Rutzen, the accused, Henri Bauche, was charged with obtaining £53 worth of foreign stamps by means of false pretences from William Hadlow, 331, Strand. Mr. Harry Wilson prosecuted; Mr. Caldicott defended. It was stated that on Saturday afternoon the accused went to Mr. Hadlow's office and offered to change foreign stamps (apparently worth about £53) with him. The prosecutor, however, subsequently discovered that the stamps he had received were, with the exception of about 30s. worth, forgeries.

Detective-Sergeant Haynes proved arresting the prisoner at the office of a stamp dealer in Cheapside. He had in his possession a number of foreign stamps and four French bank notes. When charged at Bow Street the prisoner said, "I don't understand English law. Can't I arrange it? It is only a matter of stamps, not money."

The prisoner was then remanded, and on the hearing being resumed, on February 27th, there was quite a gathering of philatelists present. Mr. Yardley, Mr. E. D. Bacon and others, gave expert evidence.

Mr. Bacon said that for six years he was the expert engaged at the British Museum, and he had been a member of the London Philatelic Society since 1880. The magistrate enquired: would an amateur know whether these stamps were right or wrong? Mr. Bacon replied that the majority of collectors would get expert opinion on the subject before purchasing.

The detective who arrested Bauche stated that he had found the bulk of the stamps given to the prisoner in exchange for his forgeries. For the benefit of the accused, the evidence was interpreted.

Counsel for the defence asked for bail on the score of the prisoner's illness, and this was agreed to. In the end Bauche was committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court, and allowed bail—£200.

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.

HONG KONG.	Un- used mint	Un- used average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1862. No wmk.; perf. 14.				
2c. brown ..	.. 4/	2/6	4/	2/6
8c. pale yellow ..	.. 10/	6/	2/	1/3
12c. pale blue..	.. 10/6	6/6	2/	1/3
18c. lilac ..	.. 10/6	6/6	2/	1/3
24c. green ..	.. 25/	17/	5/	3/
48c. rose ..	.. 40/	25/	10/	6/
96c. grey ..	.. 35/	25/	15/	10/
1863-80. Wmk. C. and CC.; perf. 14.				
2c. brown ..	.. 1/9	1/6	1/4	1/3
2c. rose ..	.. 1/6	1/4	1/6	1/4
4c. slate ..	.. 1/4	1/3	1/2	1/1
5c. ultramarine ..	.. 5/	4/	1/	1/8
6c. lilac ..	.. 3/	2/	1/9	1/6
8c. orange-yellow ..	.. 4/	2/6	6/	4/
10c. mauve ..	.. 3/	2/	1/6	1/6
12c. pale blue ..	.. 4/	2/6	9/	1/6
12c. blue ..	.. 1/6	1/4	1/4	1/3
16c. yellow ..	.. 21/	15/	2/	1/3
18c. lilac ..	.. 120/	80/	20/	10/
24c. blue-green ..	.. 6/	4/	1/9	1/6
24c. yellow-green ..	.. 4/	2/6	1/6	1/4
30c. vermilion ..	.. 20/	14/	1/9	1/6
30c. mauve ..	.. 4/	2/6	1/3	1/2
48c. pale rose..	.. 12/6	8/6	1/	1/8
48c. rose ..	.. 15/	10/	1/3	1/9
48c. brown ..	.. 20/	15/	5/	3/6
96c. yellow-brown ..	.. 200/	140/	25/	18/
96c. grey ..	.. 15/	10/6	2/	1/3
Wmk. C and CC.; perf. 12 1/2.				
4c. slate ..	.. 250/	160/	17/6	12/6
Provisionals.				
5c. on 8c. orange ..	.. 12/6	8/6	10/	7/
5c. on 18c. lilac ..	.. 7/	5/	3/6	2/6
10c. on 12c. blue ..	.. 8/6	6/	1/6	1/
10c. on 16c. yellow ..	.. 50	35	12/6	8/6
10c. on 24c. green ..	.. 12/6	8/6	4/	3/
16c. on 18c. lilac ..	.. 20/	14/	10/6	7/
28c. on 30c. mauve ..	.. 15/	10/	3/	2/
1882. Wmk. CA.; perf. 14.				
2c. rose ..	.. 1/2	1/1	1/1	
5c. ultramarine ..	.. 1/3	1/2	1/1	
10c. mauve ..	.. 20/	15/	1/9	1/6
10c. green ..	.. 2/	1/6	1/1	
10c. blue-green ..	.. 100/	60/	1/3	1/9
Provisionals.				
²⁰ CENTS on 30c. red ..	.. 1/3	1/9	1/3	1/2
⁵⁰ CENTS on 48c. brown ..	.. 8/6	6/	2/9	2/
¹ DOLLAR on 96c. grey..	.. 10/6	7/	3/	2/3

HONG KONG.—Continued.	Un- used mint	Un- used average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1890-1896. Same wmk. and perf.				
4c. grey ..	.. 1/2		1/1	
10c. brown on red ..	.. 1/4		1/1	
30c. dull green ..	.. 1/		1/3	
Provisionals.				
²⁰ CENTS on 30c. dull green ..	.. 2/6	2/	2/6	1/9
⁵⁰ CENTS on 48c. violet ..	.. 5/	3/9	3/6	2/6
¹ DOLLAR on 96c. brown on red ..	.. 8/	6/	6/	4/
With Chinese characters added.				
20c. on 30c. dull green ..	.. 1/	1/9	1/2	1/1
30c. on 48c. violet ..	.. 2/6	1/9	1/6	1/3
1 dollar on 96c. brown on red ..	.. 4/6	3/	1/	1/8
1891.				
2c. rose surcharged ¹⁸⁴¹ Hong Kong JUBILEE ¹⁸⁹¹ ..	.. 1/6	1/	1/6	1/
1891.				
7c. on 10c. green ..	.. 1/3	1/	1/8	1/5
14c. on 30c. mauve ..	.. 2/3	1/9	2/3	1/9
1d. (with Chinese characters) on 96c. black ..	.. 2/9		1/3	1/9
1d. (without Chinese characters) on 96c. black. ..	.. 4/		4/	3/
1898.				
¹⁰ CENTS on 30c. green..	.. 3/6		3/	
do., do., but with small Chinese characters added ..	.. 1/9		1/9	
do., do., but with larger Chinese characters ..	.. 3/6		3/	
1874-97. Fiscals available for postage; perf. 14.				
2c. lilac (small rectangular) ..	.. 3/6	2/6	1/9	1/3
2 dollars blue-green (large rectangular) ..	.. 5/	4/	2/6	1/9
Ditto, perf. 15 1/2 x 15, Large Rectangular.				
2d. sage-green ..	.. 10/	7/	2/	1/3
3d. lilac ..	.. 7/6	5/	2/6	1/9
10d. rose ..	.. 32/6	25/	32/6	25/
1882.				
¹² CENTS on 10d. rose ..	.. 15/	10/6	15/	10/6
1890.				
⁵ DOLLARS on 10d. brown on red ..	.. 12/6	10/	12/6	10/
1897. With Chinese Characters.				
1d. on 2d. (perf. 15 1/2 x 15) ..	.. 6/		2/6	
1d. on 2d. (perf. 14) ..	.. 4/		2/	
The same but without Chinese Characters.				
1d. on 2d. (perf. 15 1/2 x 15) ..	.. 35/		35/	
1d. on 2d. (perf. 14) ..	.. 8/6		8/6	

REVISED RATES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY."

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The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MARCH 2, 1901.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays. Henceforth the journal will be published (on behalf of the proprietors) by Messrs. Plumridge & Co., at their Offices, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, London.

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Private Advertisements are inserted at the rate of one halfpenny per word. The scale for trade announcements will be furnished on application.

Address all business letters: The Manager, "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY," 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, London; and all Editorial communications to the Editor, at the same address.



We guarantee to *everyone* entering our Prize Competition a prize proportionate to the work done. All Prizes; No Blanks. But we have no doubt whatever that many readers will go into this thing quite regardless of the reward awaiting them, and simply to help the *Fortnightly* and Philately. For that is what it amounts to: to help the "S.C.F." will be to help Philately, and to help forward one's own hobby is indirectly to help one's self and one's fellow-philatelists.

Whatever the results may be, great or small, the prizes offered will be awarded. It may be that the £10 prize will go to a person who procures us only six subscriptions. We shall face the music in any case. Apathy and lack of leisure militate strongly against the success of many philatelic prize competitions. In our War Fund Competition of last year there were so few competitors that we were hard put to it to find recipients for all the prizes offered!

We think there is good reason to hope, however, that the competition fully detailed and described in this number of the *Fortnightly* will attract a record entry of competitors. We should like every reader distinctly to grasp these facts:—There is a prize for every reader, and—"there is plenty of room at the top."

* * *

PHILATELISTS who have not yet given practical shape to their sympathy with the aims and objects of the Stamp Trade Protection Association are, Bravo S.T.P.A. ! to speak bluntly, not doing their duty towards Philately, or themselves. Self-interest, to take no higher ground, should move every collector and every dealer in the country to send his guinea and his references to the Secretary of the Stamp Trade Protection Association, at 331, Strand, W.C.

Just now, more than ever before, the S.T.P.A. needs and deserves the sympathy and the support of every philatelist in the three kingdoms. In more than one direction, at this moment of writing, the Association is fighting hard in the good fight for honest Philately. Such a body cannot proclaim its doings from the housetops, but philatelists will be able to read between the lines of recent sensational news sufficiently clearly to know that the S.T.P.A. is "up and doing," and has already more than justified its existence.

No dealer can afford not to be a member of the S.T.P.A. Apart from the protection conferred, membership in the Association is of very real value as a reference. Those members of the trade who have not yet joined should lose

no time in doing so; but we may add that persons whose records will not bear strict investigation may save their trouble and their postage. The S.T.P.A. is properly jealous of its own honour.

* * *

The next "Fortnightly" is the first of a new volume—our seventh! Three-and-threepence from expiring subscribers—we mean subscribers whose subscriptions are expiring, will be much appreciated.

Something must be radically wrong with "Senf's Catalogue." We give some further interesting opinions as to its prices in this number of the *Fortnightly*.

Our little Competition as to the colour of the new 10c. Uruguay has evoked the following letters from Messrs. B. W. Warhurst and C. J. Patman respectively:—

The 10 cent Uruguay is printed in a black ink—not real black, but what some would call a purple black, or a dull violet black; but the effect of the broken shading lines, and the crossed or network pattern of frame, is to make the whole look lighter in colour, and give what some have called a "lilac-grey" effect.—B.W.W.

The colour is grey-lilac with a purplish tinge—something betwixt the grey-lilac 16 cent Argentine, 1892 issue, and the 10 cent U.S. Omaha stamps.—C.J.P.

Who shall decide when colourists disagree?

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.

Australian Commonwealth.—Mr. Charles J. Biggar, of Uplands, Swanwick, Southampton, has received a letter from an official source in Australia, reading as follows:—

New issues of stamps will be made when the Postal Departments are taken over by the Federal Government, which is not likely to be for some little while yet. It is probable also that in the meantime a new issue of Victorian postage stamps will be made on account of the separation of Postage from Duty Stamps.

Canada.—According to a news despatch from Ottawa, the Canadian P.M.G. has ordered a new set of stamps with head of King Edward VII.

Hungary.—The new values of the current set already referred to in this column are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. These are 20 and 35 filler and the 2 and 5 korona.

New Zealand.—We reluctantly score up a surcharge against New Zealand. It is New Zealand's first offence. The 1½d. letter card has been surcharged ONE PENNY in tall block capitals. The overprint is in two lines across the stamp in red. We are indebted to Mr. A. Rosenberg, of Woodville, New Zealand, for a specimen of the surcharged stamp. Obviously New Zealand's penny postage policy is the immediate cause of the make-shift.

Norway.—The 60 öre blue has now appeared with the name "Norge" in Roman capitals, harmonising with the remainder of the set. Our thanks are due to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., for a specimen of the revised stamps.

Servia.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the current 20 paras surcharged, in thin black capitals, 10 Paras, the overprint being, of course, in Servian characters.

Western Australia.—At the moment of going to press the new 2½d. blue of Western Australia is to hand, from Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle, of Hunter Street, Sydney.

Curious Pricing by "Senf."

AN OFFER BY MR. WESTHORN—SOME FURTHER EXAMPLES BY "A PHILATELIST" TO FOLLOW.

ON the subject of "A Philatelist's" recent tilt at Senf's Catalogue, Mr. John Westhorn writes us as follows:—

Just turn up the following items in the "Purple" Senf—the edition before the last, I believe, but the latest I am possessed of:

All unused.

South Australia, 1/- olive yellow, No. 8a	150/-
" " 10d. perf. x roull., 21a	25/-
" " 10d., perf., blue surch., 21b	30/-
Victoria, 2/-, imperf., No. 15	150/-
New Zealand, 2d. blue, perf., 9a.	40/-
" " 6d. brown, perf., 10b	40/-

In round figures, £21 15s.

For these six stamps, I am prepared to pay the sum of £217 10s., or ten times the amount quoted by Messrs. Senf!

ANOTHER LIST FROM "A PHILATELIST."

We have received many other letters on the subject of Messrs. Senf's prices, and among them a further list of underpriced stamps from "A Philatelist," the writer of the original letter on this subject in the *Fortnightly*. This list we have no space to deal with in the present number, but we fancy that its publication in our next issue will cause something of a sensation.

"A DIFFICULT BOOK TO BUY FROM."

A well known philatelist, who does not wish his name used in this connection, writes us that he has more than once sent orders for stamps to Messrs. Senf Brothers on the basis of their catalogue—in vain. We should be glad to hear from others who have had similar experiences. From the facts that have been placed before us, this matter of the manipulations of catalogue prices, seems to be one worthy of serious consideration.

"BUT A SPLENDID BOOK TO BUY ON."

On the other hand another philatelist writes us, somewhat indignantly, to protest that Senf's is a beautiful catalogue, and one that leaves absolutely nothing to be desired. "Why," he declares, "I recently bought nearly all the gems out of a big collection at 10% under Senf's prices. On the basis of any other catalogue the stamps would have cost me twice or thrice as much. I can't understand all the fuss you're making; I suppose there's jealousy of some sort at the bottom of it. Anyway, I'm quite satisfied."

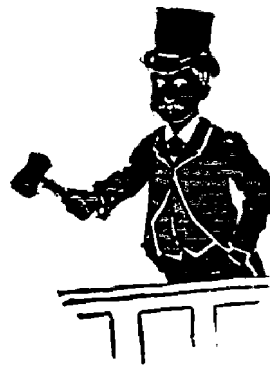
BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY'S SALE, at the Great Western Hotel, Birmingham, on Thursday and Friday, Feb. 14th and 15th, 1901.

	£	s.	d.
Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. blue	1	9	0
Ceylon, 8d. imperf., damaged	3	5	0
Do. 1857, 10d. orange vermilion, imperf.*	2	17	6
Do. 1861, wmk. star, 8d. yellow brown, perfs. clipped*	9	10	0
Gt. Britain, 1847, embossed, 10d. brown, plate 4*	5	2	6
Do. 1862, 1/- green, plate 3, with hair lines, imperf.*	4	15	0
Do. 1870, pair, 4d. rose-red, plate 1, imperf.*	2	0	0
Do. 10/- grey-green, wmk. Maltese Cross	1	0	0
Do. £1 brown-lilac, do.	1	14	0
Do. £1, wmk. Anchor	2	12	6
Newfoundland, complete sheet of 100 13c. yellow	10	0	0
New Zealand, 1/- green, imperf., wmk. N.Z.*	1	9	0
Do. 1873, 5/-, strip of 3*	2	8	0
St Helena, wmk. C. and CC., 5/- orange, perf. 12½, block of 4*	1	4	0
Virgin Islands, complete sheet of 25 6d. rose, perf. 12, toned paper, including error large V*	15	0	0

THE Birmingham Society's second auction sale of this season was extremely well attended. The majority of the lots were of a mediocre character, but everything high class fetched a very satisfactory price. Mr. Peck, in a brief, well-received speech explained that the sales were being held as a means of interesting philatelists, and especially Birmingham philatelists, in the Birmingham Philatelic Society. Mr. H. W. Plumridge, a member, officiated as Honorary Auctioneer.

From the Auction Rooms.

OUR last auction report broke off in the middle of Messrs. Ventom, Bull and Cooper's sale of the "Norman" collection. We now conclude our record of that sale, and give also a copious selection of prices realised at Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's big auction on February 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th.



	£	s.	d.
India, 1st issue, 4 annas red and blue*, showing blue dividing lines on three sides and two rosettes	11	0	0
Do. 1856-64, 2a. green, postally used, but defective	2	12	0
Do. 2a. green, a vertical pair with trial obliteration	4	12	6
India, Service stamps, 1866, 2a. purple with black surch.*	3	3	0
Do. do. long rect., 2a. purple and green	2	10	0
Do. do. 4a. purple and green	3	12	6
Do. do. 8a. do., perfs. cut	5	5	0
Do. 1867-73, 6a. 8p. slate*	3	12	6
Lubeck, 1st issue, the error 2½sch. brown, in a horizontal pair*	2	4	0
Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. vermilion on yellowish, early impression, but cracked	4	4	0
Do. do. 1d. vermilion on bluish, early impression on entire	6	0	0
Mauritius Post Paid, 2d. blue, early impression	5	0	0
Do. do. 2d. blue, error Penoe	4	10	0
Do. large fillet, 2d. blue, used on entire, with Britannia, 6d. blue	13	10	0
Do. Greek border, 1d. red	2	12	0
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 1864, 4¼ sch., red (dotted ground) rouletted	4	0	0
Mecklenburg-Strelitz, ½ sgr., orange-red	1	14	0
Do. do. ½ sgr., green	1	14	0
Do. do. 1 sch., mauve	1	14	0
Modena, 1852, 1 lira, black on white	1	14	0
Do. 1853, large B.G., 9c on grey-pink	1	6	0
Do. 1859, 80c. buff*	4	0	0
Monaca, 1st issue, 5 francs*	2	12	0
Naples, 1858, 50 grana lake	1	14	0
" 1860, ½t. blue " Arms"	9	10	0
Natal, 1st issue, 6d. green	1	12	0
Oldenburg, 2nd issue, ½gr., black on green*	2	16	0
Do. do 2gr. black on rose	1	11	0
Do. 3rd issue, ½gr. moss-green*	2	12	6
Oil Rivers, 1d. on half, 2d.	1	9	0
" ½d. in violet fancy caps, on 2d.*	1	10	0
" ½d. in blue " " 2½d.*	1	12	0
" ½d. in vermilion fancy caps on 2½d.*	1	8	0
" ½d. in green fancy caps on 2½d.*	1	10	0
" ½d. in green slanting caps on 2½d.*	1	2	0
The Levant, 1865, 2kr. brown and blue	5	10	0
" " 20k blue and red	5	0	0
Reunion, 1st issue, 15c. black or bluish	14	10	0
Roumania, Moldavia, 54 paras, blue on green	13	0	0
Russia, 1st issue, 10 kopeks, imperf.*	1	18	0
" wmk. 3, 30 kopeks*	2	17	6
Saxony, 3 pf. red, defective in corner	2	2	0
Spain, 1851, 2 reales red*	13	0	0
Do. Madrid, 3 cuartos bronze	10	0	0
Do. 1854, 1 real light blue	7	10	0
Do. 1855, error, 2 reales blue	13	0	0
Do. 1865, 12 cuartos rose and blue, imperf., with frame inverted	4	10	0
Do. do. 12 cuartos rose and blue, perforated, with frame inverted, defective	4	5	0
Do. do. 19 cts., perforated	1	18	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ rappen	2	12	6
Do. Geneva, the double stamp, rubbed in corner	7	17	6
Do. Envelope stamp used as adhesive, 5c. yellow-green	6	10	0
Do. Vaud, 4c. black and red	14	0	0
Do. Zurich, 4 rappen black, horizontal lines, type II.	8	10	0
Do. do. another copy with vertical lines, type III.	9	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Switzerland, Zurich, 6 rappen, horizontal lines ..	1	4	0
Do. 1850, Poste Locale, 2½ rappen, central cross, without black border ..	4	0	0
Tuscany, 2 soldi brick-red ..	4	12	6
Do. 60 crazie brick-red ..	7	10	0
Do. 1860, 3 lire yellow ..	36	0	0
Transvaal, 1877, V.R. Transvaal in red, 3d. mauve ..	3	0	0
Do. 1878, 1d. red on blue, fine roulette*	1	5	0
Wurtemberg, 1873, 70 kr. red-lilac*	2	10	0

Messrs. PUTTIK & SIMPSON'S SALE,

Feb. 5th 6th 7th & 8th.

The notable auction sale held by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, on the dates above-mentioned attracted a great attendance of philatelists, amateur and professional. References to the sale in the newspaper press have been many and amusing. The "Evening News" figured out the realisations at so much per square inch of gummed paper. Mensuration is a refreshing novelty in the computation of philatelic values! The "Daily Express" told us that H.R.H. the Duke of Cornwall and York was a large buyer, and in all the daily newspapers, big and little, there was some reference to the sale. The prices we quote below are for well known and "representative" stamps only, as a full report of all the prices worth reporting would occupy far more space than is available. Doubtless many readers will have secured the fully priced catalogue which Messrs. Puttick and Simpson are offering at 5s. a copy. It is a volume well worth a place on the philatelist's bookshelf.

Contrary to our usual custom, the prices given below are classified by continents, etc., following the order of the catalogue.

EUROPE.

Austria, Newspaper stamp, 1851-56, Head of Mercury, 6kr. yellow ..	6	5	0
Do. 6kr. red*, part gum, slightly defective ..	43	0	0
Do. 3okr. rose ..	10	0	0
Bergedorf, 1861, ½ sch. black on blue ..	3	2	6
Do. 1 sch. black on white, 2 copies ..	5	10	0
Do. 1½ sch. black on yellow ..	4	10	0
Do. 3 sch. black on rose*, thinned ..	9	0	0
Bremen, 1855-61, 7 grote black on yellow ..	2	10	0
Brunswick, 1853-56, 3 sgr. black on rose* ..	6	6	0
Bulgaria, 1884-85, 5 in black on 30 stotinki, blue & brown ..	7	0	0
France, 1849-50, 1 franc orange-brown, defective ..	2	4	0
France, 1872-75, the error, 15c. bistre on rose with 10c. se tenant* no gum ..	11	5	0
Great Britain, 1840, 1d. black V.R.* no gum ..	7	15	0
Do. 1848, 10d. brown, octagonal, die 4, a pair* ..	9	0	0
Do. 1876, 8d. brown* ..	4	10	0
Do. 1878, 10/- grey, wmk. anchor on white ..	2	0	0
Do. 1880, 2/- red-brown,* no gum ..	4	12	6
Do. 1884, £1 purple-brown, wmk. crowns, a vertical block of 3 ..	1	16	0
Do. do. £1 purple-brown, wmk. orbs., a similar block ..	2	6	0
Do. do. £5 orange on white ..	1	18	0
Hamburg, 1859, 4 sch., green ..	3	15	0
Do. 1864, imperf., 1½ sch., blue ..	1	18	0
Hanover, 1850, 1 sgr. black on blue* only part gum ..	4	15	0
Do. 1859-65, 10 gros. green* no gum ..	2	2	0
Do. do. another on entire ..	3	10	0
Helligoland, 1875, perf. 14½, 2pf. a pair, and three singles, used with 20pf. of the rare shade on a topf. envelope, entire ..	12	7	6
Mecklenburgh Schwerin, 1864, rouletted, ¼sch. red, dotted ground ..	5	5	0
Mecklenburgh Strelitz, 1864, 1sch. violet* ..	6	0	0
Modena, 1852, 1 lire black on white on entire ..	16	0	0
Do. small collection ..	4	10	0
Naples, 1860, ½ tornese blue, "Arms" ..	14	0	0
Do. do. ½ tornese blue, Cross ..	3	15	0
Norway, a collection, including the 1856, 1863 and 1867 issues* ..	6	10	0
Oldenburg, 1852, ½th. black on rose*, no gum ..	7	10	0
Do. do. ½th. black on yellow*, part gum, defective ..	4	5	0
Do. 1859, ½gr. black on green*, no gum, cut close ..	3	10	0
Do. do. 2 gross, black on rose* good margins ..	8	10	0
Do. do. 3 gross, black on yellow* ..	6	12	6
Do. 1861, 3 gross, yellow*, no gum ..	3	0	0
Prussia, 1857, 28gr. dark blue* good margins..	14	10	0

	£	s.	d.
Roumania, Moldavia, 1854, 27 paras, black on rose ..	36	0	0
Do. do. 54 paras, blue on green, fine margins ..	15	10	0
Do. do. 81 paras, blue on blue ..	143	0	0
Do. do. 108 paras, blue on pink, little defective in margin ..	18	10	0
Do. a collection, mostly unused ..	26	0	0
Russia, 1858, imperf., 10 kopecs, blue and brown* no gum ..	3	0	0
Do. 1865, 2 kopecs, blue and brown, slightly thinned ..	5	10	0
Do. do. 20 kopecs, blue and red, slightly thinned ..	5	0	0
Saxony, 1850, 3pf. red* no gum ..	6	5	0
Do. do. another used on entire ..	5	15	0
Do. 1851, ½ ngr. black on pale blue, error* ..	55	0	0
Servia, 1866, 2 para green on lilac-rose, error* ..	6	10	0
Spain, 2 reales red ..	17	10	0
Do. 3c. bronze on entire ..	12	10	0
Do. 1 real light blue, defective ..	6	15	0
Do. 2 reales red, used with a block of 5, 6 reales blue and a 12c. lilac ..	14	0	0
Do. 1853, 2 reales scarlet ..	4	5	0
Do. 1865, imperf., 12 cuartos rose and blue, error with inverted centre, used with 2 of ordinary variety ..	7	0	0
Do. do. perf. 12 cuartos rose and blue, error with inverted centre on entire ..	14	15	0
Sweden, 1872, 20 ore vermilion, the error "Tretio" * ..	14	0	0
Switzerland, Basle, 1845, 2½ rappen red and blue on entire ..	4	15	0
Do. Geneva, 1843, 5x5 yellow-green ..	20	5	0
Do. 5c. yellow-green, the left half of the double stamp, on original ..	3	15	0
Do. 1850, 5c. yellow-green envelope stamp used as adhesive, on entire ..	6	15	0
Do. Winterthur, 1850, 2½ rappen*, part gum ..	8	15	0
Do. Vaud, 1849, 4c. black and red on entire ..	18	0	0
Do. Zurich, 1843, 4 rappen, with vertical lines, type IV, on entire ..	10	10	0
Do. do. another copy, with horizontal lines, type III, defective ..	6	0	0
Turkey, a collection, including the 25 piastres of 1867, and many others, mostly unused ..	25	10	0
Tuscany, 1851-52, 2 soldi, red on blue ..	5	10	0
Do. do. 60 crazie red on blue ..	10	5	0
Do. do. 3 lire yellow, cut close ..	42	0	0
Wurtemberg, 1851-52, 9kr., rose* ..	21	0	0
Do. 1857, 18kr. blue* ..	3	12	6
Do. 1858-60, 9kr. carmine* ..	7	10	0
Do. do. 18kr. blue* ..	3	15	0
Do. 1862, 9kr. lilac-rose* no gum ..	2	5	0
Do. 1873, 70kr. purple ..	2	10	0
ASIA.			
Ceylon, 1857-79, imperf., 4d. rose, repaired in corner ..	12	0	0
Do. do. 8d. brown ..	19	0	0
Do. do. 9d. lilac-brown ..	4	0	0
Do. 1872-80, wmk. CC., 2 rupees, 50c. lilac-rose* no gum ..	4	15	0
India, 1854, ½a. red, error (9½ arches)* ..	6	12	6
Do. Service, 8a. purple and green, creased ..	7	0	0
Labuan, 1880, 6 in red on 16c. blue ..	6	5	0
Philippine Islands, 1854, 5c. orange ..	3	0	0
Do. 1869-74, surcharged "Habilitado" "per la Nacion," 1 real blue of 1854, cut into* ..	9	0	0
Do. Collection ..	12	5	0
Portuguese India, collection of mostly unused, including many provisionals ..	29	0	0
Shanghai, collection, all unused ..	19	0	0
AFRICA.			
Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. blue, error ..	42	10	0
Do. do. 4d. red, error, thinned ..	31	10	0
Guinea, 1881, 10 reis orange-yellow, heavy postmark ..	3	0	0
Do. do. 25 reis rose, perf. missing ..	4	5	0
Do. do. 50 reis green ..	4	7	6
Do. do. 40 reis blue, the error on Mozambique stamp, damaged and repaired ..	5	2	6
Lagos, 1874, wmk. CC., perf. 12½, 1/- orange, value 16½mm., no gum ..	2	8	0
Do. 1885-87, wmk. CA., 2/6 black* ..	3	15	0
Do. do. 5/- blue* ..	6	5	0
Do. do. 10/- purple-brown ..	12	10	0
Mauritius, 1848, Post Paid, 1d. orange on white, early impression ..	7	0	0
Do. do. 1d. orange on bluish, medium impression ..	6	15	0
Do. do. 2d. blue on white early impression ..	8	0	0
Do. do. 2d. blue on bluish medium impression ..	7	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Mauritius, 1859, large fillet, 2d. blue, cut close, thinned ..	6	15	0
Natal, 1857-58, 9d. blue, 28 x 31 m.m. damaged ..	4	10	0
Do. do. 1/- buff, 24 x 28 m.m. ..	8	5	0
Reunion, 1852, 15c. black on bluish, damaged and repaired ..	17	10	0
Do. do. 30c. black on bluish, damaged on entire ..	22	10	0
Sierra Leone, 1861, imperf., 6d. violet* without gum ..	6	10	0
Transvaal, 1877, V.R., Transvaal in red, imperf., 3d. mauve, no gum ..	8	10	0
Do. do. 1/- green, damaged ..	4	0	0
Do. do. Roulette, 1d. red ..	1	6	0
Do. do. 3d. mauve*, no gum ..	3	0	0
Do. do. 1/- green ..	2	18	0
Zululand, 1888-92, 5/- carmine ..	2	2	0

NORTH AMERICA.

British Columbia, 1865, imperf., 10c. blue* ..	3	7	6
Do. 1867-69, perf. 12½, 10c. lake*, no gum ..	2	18	0
Do. do. 1 dollar green* ..	2	17	6
Canada, 1851, laid paper, 12d. black, torn slightly ..	57	0	0
Do. 1852-57, 7½d. green* no gum ..	4	17	6
Do. 1857, 6d. purple-brown* no gum ..	9	10	0
New Brunswick, 1851, 1/- mauve, good margins ..	17	0	0
Do. 1860-63, 5 cents brown, portrait of Postmaster Connell, perfs. clipped on left side ..	14	10	0
Newfoundland, 1857, 6½d. scarlet* no gum ..	8	0	0
Do. do. 4d. orange,* torn ..	1	18	0
Do. do. 1/- orange, small tear in margin, otherwise fine copy ..	14	10	0
Nova Scotia, 1851-57, 1/- purple* slightly thinned ..	24	10	0
United States, carrier stamp, 1842, 3c. black on blue wove on entire ..	4	0	0
Do. Brattleboro, 1846, 5c. black on buff, thinned and hole in centre skilfully repaired ..	40	0	0
Do. St. Louis, 1847, 5c. black on bluish grey, thin paper, cut into ..	12	0	0
Do. 10c. black on bluish grey, thin paper ..	14	10	0
Do. 1851, 5c. brown*, no gum ..	4	0	0
Do. 1856, 90c. blue*, no gum ..	3	0	0
Do. 1868, 90c. blue*, creased ..	4	7	6
Do. 1869, 15c. brown and blue, error, with inverted centre, torn at top ..	19	0	0
Do. Do. 24c. green and purple, error, with inverted centre ..	24	0	0
Do. 30c. carmine and blue, error, with inverted flags, thinned, poor copy ..	54	0	0
Do. Executive, 1 to 10c., complete*, no gum ..	6	0	0
Do. Justice, 90c. ..	5	15	0
Do. State, 92 ..	3	0	0
Do. do. 95, defective ..	5	0	0
Do. do. 910*, no gum ..	8	10	0
Do. do. 920*, no gum ..	10	0	0
Do. 1875-79, 1c. to 960. complete twenty being unused, including the 9 high values ..	16	10	0

BRITISH WEST INDIES.

Barbados, 1870, wmk. large star, rough perfs., 4d. orange-red*, no gum ..	2	10	0
Do. do. 4d. dull rose*, no gum ..	3	15	0
Do. do. 6d. orange*, no gum ..	2	10	0
Do. do. 1/- black*, no gum ..	3	10	0
Do. 1873, 5/- rose*, no gum ..	3	15	0
Barbados, 1873, 1d. on left half of 5/- rose* no gum ..	13	0	0
Nevis, 1861, 4d. rose* ..	2	12	6
Do. do. 6d. grey-lilac* no gum ..	2	10	0
Do. do. 1/- green* no gum ..	2	10	0
Do. 1879-80, wmk., C.C., 2½d. brown* ..	1	7	0
Do. 1883, wmk., C.A., 6d. green* no gum ..	4	15	0
St. Christopher, 1882, 4d. blue* ..	3	17	6
St. Lucia, 1883-84, wmk., C.A., 1/- black and orange* no gum ..	3	3	0
Do. 1885-86, wmk., C.A., 6d. violet* ..	2	4	0
Do. 1885-86, 1/- orange-brown* ..	4	0	0
St. Vincent, 1861-69, 4d. orange,* no gum ..	2	12	6
Do. 1871-77, perf. 11½ x 12½ x 14—15, 1/- vermilion*, no gum ..	5	10	0
Do. 1880, wmk. star, 1d. in red on left half of 6d. blue-green* ..	6	10	0
St. Vincent, 1880, 6d. yellow-green*, no gum ..	2	2	0
Do. do. 5/- rose-red*, no gum ..	11	0	0
Do. 1881, 4d. on 1/- vermilion ..	12	0	0
Do. 1883-85, perf. 14, 4d. blue*, no gum ..	2	10	0
Tobago, 1882-84, wmk. C.A., 6d. bistre*, no gum ..	6	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Trinidad, 1852-60, Lithographed, 1d. blue, early impression ..	3	15	0
Do. do. 1d. deep blue, worn impression ..	4	0	0
Do. 1852-60, 1d. deep blue, worn impression ..	4	0	0
Do. do. 1d. red, worn impression ..	3	0	0
Do. 1859-61, 6d. green*, no gum ..	5	0	0
Turks Islands, 1873-79, wmk. Star, 1/- lilac, perfs. missing at top ..	13	10	0
Do. 1881, Provisional, 4 on 1/- lilac, type 17, perfs. missing at top* ..	5	15	0
Virgin Islands, 1867-68, 6d. rose, heavily cancelled ..	3	5	0
Do. do. 1/- carmine*, no gum ..	3	0	0

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA.

Antioquia, 1869, 2½c. blue, slightly thinned ..	7	0	0
Antigua, 1868, 5c. green ..	8	10	0
Do. 10c. lilac ..	11	0	0
Argentine, Collection of ..	9	10	0
Bolivia, 1867, Nine Stars, 500c. black ..	2	10	0
Do. 1871, Eleven Stars, 500c. black*, no gum ..	3	15	0
Brazil, 1843, 30, 60, and 90 reis black*, no gum ..	3	3	0
Do. 1844, 300 reis black ..	3	3	0
Do. do. 600 reis black ..	5	5	0
British Guiana, 1850, 4c. yellow, pelure paper, cut round and mounted ..	48	0	0
Do. do. 8c. green, cut round ..	17	0	0
Do. do. 12c. blue, cut square ..	24	0	0
Do. 1856, 4c. blue, defective corners, on entire ..	58	0	0
Do. 1862, provisional, 1c. rose (No. 4 on plate), torn ..	3	3	0
Do. do. 2c. yellow (No. 14) ..	2	17	6
Do. do. do (No. 21) ..	6	6	0
Do. do. 4c. blue (No. 7) ..	4	10	0
Do. do. 4c. blue (No. 11), showing roulettes on 3 sides ..	13	13	0
Do. do. do. (No. 18), full roulettes ..	12	12	0
Do. do. do. (No. 19), slightly thinned ..	6	0	0
Do. Official, 1875, 12c. lilac*, no gum, perfs. missing at bottom ..	4	0	0
Do. do. 1877, 6c. brown ..	3	12	6
British Honduras, 1882-87, wmk. C.A., 6d. yellow*, no gum ..	2	15	0
Do. do. 1/- grey* ..	2	17	6
Do. 1888, wmk. C.A., 50 cents on 1/- grey* ..	3	12	6
Buenos Ayres, 1858, Cuato Pesos, scarlet* ..	13	15	0
Do. do. Cuico Pesos, orange*, slightly thinned ..	13	15	0
Columbian Republic, 1863, 50c. red, error ..	16	15	0
Dominican Republic, 1 real black on green*, no gum ..	6	0	0
Guatemala, 1881, 5c. red and green, error, with inverted centre, slightly defective ..	4	0	0
Do. do. 20c. yellow and green, error, with inverted centre ..	7	15	0
Mexico, Guadalajara, 1867-68, a collection, including some perforated varieties ..	23	0	0
Do. another collection ..	9	10	0
Peru, 1858, Medio Peso rose error, used with a 1 peseta rose on entire ..	14	10	0
Do. A collection containing some scarce provisionals ..	16	0	0
Uruguay, 1856, 60c. blue* ..	2	6	0
Do. 1857, 120c. blue*, no gum ..	2	17	6

AUSTRALASIA.

Fiji, 1874-75, Fancy V.R., 2d. in black on 6c. on 3d. green ..	4	5	0
Do. 2d. in black on 6c. on 3d. green, holed by postmark ..	4	10	0
Do. 2d. in black on 12c. on 6d. rose ditto ..	3	7	6
Hawaii, 1851, 5c. blue, outer line slightly torn into and heavy postmark ..	72	0	0
Do. do. 13c. blue (1st type), damaged, and heavy red postmark ..	46	0	0
Do. a collection ..	14	10	0
New South Wales, Sydney View, 1850-51, 2d. blue, plate 1 ..	4	5	0
Do. 1851, Laureated, 8d. orange ..	5	6	0
Do. 1888, wmk. 5/-, 5/- purple* ..	1	16	0
Do. do. 20/- blue* ..	2	4	0
Queensland, 1860, 2d. blue ..	5	15	0
Do. do. 6d. green ..	1	18	0
Do. 1868-74, wmk. Truncated Star, 1/., olive-brown* ..	16	5	0
Do. do. 1/- red-violet* ..	8	10	0
Victoria, 1850, 2d. lilac with back ground ..	3	7	6
Do. 1862, 6d. orange, beaded oval off centre ..	3	15	0
Do. 1868, 5/- blue and yellow, torn ..	3	3	0
Do. Registered 1/- rose and blue, rouletted ..	8	0	0
Western Australia, 1854-57, 2d. brown on red, roulettes on 3 sides ..	9	0	0
Do. 6d. black-bronze showing roulettes nearly all round ..	6	5	0
Do. 1879, 2d. mauve, error ..	15	0	0

Our Review of Reviews.

A Precocious Publication from Canada.

The "Philatelic Record," which hails from Montreal, Canada, is in some respects a phenomenal publication. In No. 1, Vol. I, the Editor returns thanks for help given by friends. Lucky journal! thrice lucky Editor! to have friends before No. 1 is published. Again we are told that the "Philatelic Record" has "taken over" another journal, the "Philatelic Spectator"—of the existence of which we, in our ignorance, were not cognisant—and "will fill out the unexpired subscriptions." Why "fill out," by the way? Is the American tongue to become the language of Canada?

Which "reminds us"!

Down in the city at the time of writing—in Queen Victoria Street, to be exact—there is a small shop given over almost entirely to the sale of pictorial cards. The proprietor, mindful of the universality of the pictorial card craze has intimated upon his shop window that French, German and Spanish are spoken there—each intimation being, of course, in the language of the country concerned—and below these notices, and in equally large letters, appears the legend:

U.S. SPOKEN HERE.

are the words placed there in all innocence, we wonder? Or is it a studied "dig"?

German "Fortnightlies" and others.

Mr. Theodor Haas, in the "Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal," is tracing the history of the Balloon Post of Paris, largely by means of extracts from the French and German journals of the period concerned. His articles are a monument to the thoroughness and attention to detail of this valued philatelic essayist and Editor. A feature of recent numbers of the well known "I.B.J." is the attention given to German Colonials and the varieties thereof.

Landgerichtsdirektor C. Lindenberg reviews the philatelic happenings of 1900 for "Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung," a journal whose "New Issue Chronicle," now that "Le Timbre Poste" is a thing of the past, may be said to be second to none. Another valuable feature of Herr Hugo Krotzsch's journal are the classified news-notes, giving the latest news as to interesting varieties, forgeries, discoveries, and general philatelic intelligence.

Than "Die Post," of Leipzig, few papers show greater enterprise in the way of gathering together the cream of the world's philatelic literature. Articles translated from English, American, French and other journals are a speciality of Herr Paul Lietzow's magazine. There is a department for Postmark Collectors—apparently a popular feature. The members of the Kiel Stamp Collectors' Club, with their good ladies, are shown in a reduced reproduction of what must have been originally a very fine photograph. The gentleman in the white waistcoat, who is reclining upon the floor after the manner of Hamlet in the stage scene, lends piquancy to the picture. But he must have been horribly uncomfortable.

Herr A. E. Glasewald's journal, the "Mitteldeutsche Philatelisten Zeitung," has always made a special feature of its illustrated exposures of dangerous forgeries. In the February number there is shown a forgery of the 1 candarin of China, first issue. Also illustrations of genuine and forged British "I.R. Official" surcharges.

Arguments Against Fiscal Collecting.

The Editor of the "Montreal Philatelist" has been summing up the pros and cons of Fiscal Collecting. He takes a strong attitude against Fiscalism.

We can only define a Fiscal (he writes) as a receipt for the payment of a tax; many kinds are not even sold to the public, but like the Canadian Weights and Measures, Gas Inspection, etc., are affixed to documents on payment of fees, by the officials who receive payment, and are intended only to serve as a check on the remit-

tances made to the Government by those officials. They might be termed part of a system of Government book-keeping made easy. Who first invented this system, or how long it has been in use, are questions lost in the early history of civilized Government. Therefore a fiscal collection can have no starting point.

A very large number of fiscal stamps are impressed on documents, which remain in public records or archives, and are unattainable by a private collector hence there can be no attempt at completeness even of known specimens. Many others cannot legally be removed without destruction, such as beer and tobacco labels, and the English medicine stamps, thus forming another large class of unattainables. The writer of an article in the "Canadian Philatelic Magazine" attempts to surmount this difficulty by the advice to "collect only adhesive fiscals." Well beer and tobacco labels are so adhesive that they can only be removed when torn. Besides if philately be a science it must be consistent with common sense, and if impressed fiscals are to be rejected, and adhesives only collected, the whole matter becomes ridiculous, being reduced to the childish distinction of gummed and ungummed specimens as the standard of what is collectible and what is not.

Here our contemporary mercifully breaks off, but there is an intimation that in a future article the follies of the private Proprietary stamp craze (so prevalent in the United States) will be exposed.

Gems from the American Weeklies.

The rumour of a new U.S. issue even at a date far in the distance will draw the attention of the average collector to the aching void in the space of the five-dollar stamp in his unused set.—"Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News."

Are the people all dead who designed such stamps as the early New Zealands, Ceylons, Costa Ricas, Nicaraguas, &c. We are getting too panoramic, or rather, too phantasmagoric!—"J.B.T." in the "Weekly Philatelic Era."

The condition of the stamp market here is very well shown by the remark of a Washington auction buyer a few days ago. He said that a year ago he was getting from twenty to fifty lots at each sale; now he sends in an equal number of bids and gets practically nothing—occasionally three or four small lots.—"Metropolitan Philatelist."

Philately in Scandinavia.

"Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift"—call it "S.F.T." if you are in a hurry—is the only exponent of Scandinavian Philately. It is a paper we have often wanted to read. Perhaps one day the good editor will print it in English or French—or American—so as to give us a chance. It looks such a nice paper, and it seems a great shame that an exchange which visits us once a month with exemplary punctuality should be practically a sealed book to everyone in this office.

The January issue of our Swedish contemporary contains a portrait of Mr. John Wulff. That's one comfort: pictures are just the same in all languages.

Some Sound Sense about Perforations.

Collectors are frequently at a loss to understand the discrepancies between the perforations in their albums as compared with those listed in the catalogues. The "Australian Philatelist" prints some well-said words on the subject.

No perforation gauging more than 11 holes in the usual space of 2 centimetres, our contemporary asserts, can be depended upon when a gauge such as 11½ or 11¼ is catalogued. There are two things not often taken into consideration: the quality of the paper, and the state of the sheet when being perforated. In the latter case the correct gauge can't be depended upon if the sheets are in the least damp. We have proof of this. Some papers, even when perfectly dry, when punctured are subject to atmospheric influences, and although the contraction or expansion of the paper may not be much, yet if a small gauge, such as 15 or 16 holes is used, the contraction or expansion will be noticeable when the gauge is put on the stamp. We do not know whether any efforts have been made by philatelic societies to get a uniform gauge used by the authorities. It would save the collector a large amount of worry, whilst the interest of Philately would not suffer one iota, for even to-day there are thousands of collectors who do not collect varieties of perforation.

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CASH PRIZES OFFERED.

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Prizes Nos. 4 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9 of 10s. each	£3	,,
Total of Cash Prizes	£20	

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Numerous other Prizes of Stamps, etc., and a Prize for Every Reader no matter how small the result he shows!

WHAT THE COMPETITOR MUST DO.

Briefly, THE OBJECT OF THE COMPETITION is to increase the Postal Subscription List of the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," and the PRIZES will be awarded to those who procure and send to the offices of the "Fortnightly" the greatest number of prepaid yearly subscriptions at 3s. 3d. each.

The first prize will go to the competitor securing the largest number of subscriptions, and so on with the other cash prizes set forth above; but every competitor, even though he secure only ONE subscription (and even though that subscription be his own), will be given a prize in Colonial or other stamps, calculated at the rate of 6d. for every subscription sent in.

In the case of a competitor sending in only his own subscription, however, we shall expect him to send us also the name and address of some philatelic friend who would be likely to appreciate a smart and newsy stamp journal.

Our plans as to the stamp prizes are not yet completed, but we can already state that every competitor sending in six paid-up yearly subscriptions will receive as a prize a set of the obsolete Gambias (embossed head issue) from ½d. to 1.-

GENERAL NOTES ON THE COMPETITION.

The Competition begins forthwith and remains open until June 30th, 1901. That is to say June 30th, 1901, is the latest date at which letters received at the offices of the *Fortnightly*.

Competitors need not, however, wait until June before sending in. It will be better not to wait at all, but to begin sending in at once as the subscriptions are received. All subscriptions as they come to hand will be carefully credited to their senders. No competitor need fear that his sendings will be overlooked or mislaid.

Envelopes containing subscriptions should be clearly marked "Competition" and addressed :-

THE MANAGER,
STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY,
63/64, CHANCERY LANE,
LONDON, W.C.

Whatever the results of the Competition may be the Cash Prizes will be awarded in accordance with the terms of the contest. Should the highest number of subscriptions sent in by any competitor be only six, or even less than that, the first prize of £10 cash would be awarded to the sender thereof.

In the event of a tie for the first, or for any other prize, the Editor will either halve the prize or adopt such other course as may seem to him most desirable. In his own protection the Editor of the *Fortnightly*, as representing the Proprietors of the journal, reserves to himself the final decision of the Competition, and every competitor entering the contest will be deemed to have assented to this essential condition.

Finally, all readers of the *Fortnightly* are cordially invited to compete. Whatever their measure of success, **every competitor will secure a prize.**

It is hoped that the result of the competition will be arrived at, and the prizes despatched, not later than July 15th, 1901.

LAST DAY FOR RECEIVING SUBSCRIPTIONS : JUNE 30th, 1901!

Letters of Enquiry cannot be answered through the post, but all additional information desired will be given through the Columns of the "S.C.F."

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2000 " " " " " "	3	0	0
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The I.P.U. Exhibition.

A COMPLETE SUCCESS.

FROM 2.30 until after 6 o'clock on Saturday last, February 23, the London Philatelic Society's rooms, at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, were crowded—at times literally "packed"—with stamp collectors of all sorts and conditions, gathered there for the Private Competitive Exhibition of the International Philatelic Union.

It was a show in every way worthy of the attention it received, and worthy the old established association under whose auspices it was given. Mr. T. H. Hinton's capabilities as a Secretary and organiser are so well known; and especially to members of the I.P.U., that it may be "taken as read" that the highest praise is his due for the hard work done in promoting this pleasant little Exhibition. The daily newspapers have noticed the function generously, and so satisfactory has been the result all round that one may hope for further I.P.U. shows in the future.

The Judges of the Exhibition were Messrs. M. P. Castle, W. Schwabacher, H. R. Oldfield, and W. Dorning Beckton; while the donors to the Prize Fund and the Exhibition Expenses Fund were Messrs. W. Dorning Beckton, L. W. Fulcher, W. Hadlow, W. G. Hawkins, H. L. Hayman, T. H. Hinton, W. S. King, W. B. Kirkpatrick, Dr. E. F. Marx, Messrs. H. R. Oldfield, P. L. Pemberton, Vernon Roberts and H. Thompson.

The Exhibits (each limited to 50 stamps) were divided into five classes, and the awards were made as follows:

Grand Prize of the Exhibition: Mr. Vernon Roberts, for a superb show of triangular Capes.

Special Prize for Philatelic Knowledge: Mr. R. Dalton (Victoria: Issue of 1850). Other Prizes in Class I. (British Empire): 1st, Mr. L. L. R. Hansbury (New South Wales, "Sydney Views," &c.); 2nd, Mr. B. W. Neave (Canada); 3rd, Mr. M. H. Lombard (Gambia); Consolation, Mr. J. E. Joselin (Gambia).

Class II. (other Countries): 1st, Mr. R. Frentzal (a superb display of the Mexican Locals); 2nd, Mr. L. W. Fulcher (Austrian Italy); 3rd, Mr. M. H. Lombard (French Colonies); Consolation, Mr. F. Reichenheim (German African Colonies).

Class III. (Fiscals): Mr. L. W. Fulcher (Japan); Consolation Prize, Mr. H. Thompson.

Class IV. (Envelopes and Post Cards): Mr. B. W. Warhurst; Consolation Prize, Mr. S. C. Skipton.

Class V. (Stamps of any Country not specified in Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue): Mr. L. L. R. Hansburg.

Exhibitors of stamps "not for competition" included two of the judges (Mr. Oldfield and Mr. Dorning Beckton) and Mr. T. H. Hinton, who, by the way,

also had a fine showing of Sydney Views in Class I.

Among well known philatelists visiting the Exhibition we noticed Mr. E. D. Bacon, Major Evans, Mr. R. Ehrenbach, Mr. C. J. Phillips, Mr. M. P. Castle, Mr. Peckitt, Mr. W. Schwabacher, and many others. On the whole a very notable triumph for the International Philatelic Union!

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting held in the Patent Room of the Leeds Public Library on February 5th, Mr. Oliver Firth, ex-President, gave a most interesting address on collecting. As a general thing Mr. Firth advocated individuality in philately, rather than a blind adherence to set standards, and urged that it was hardly necessary to acquire complete sets when a judicious selection of types afforded more scope for intelligent study. He showed many interesting things as illustrating his remarks; and at the close of his address a hearty vote of thanks was passed, on the initiative of the President (Mr. H. M. Hepworth), and Mr. John H. Thackrah. The bereavement which the society's senior secretary and exchange manager has lately sustained was referred to, and the sympathy of the members was voiced by Mr. Firth and the President.

BRISTOL AND CLIFTON SOCIETY.

THE third meeting of the season was held at the Club room, 4, Cotham Hill, on Thursday, February 7th, when Mr. R. Dalton exhibited his fine collection of unused and used British, the display being greatly appreciated by the large number of members present.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting held at the Grand Hotel, on January 18th (Mr. W. Dorning Beckton presiding), Mr. G. B. Duerst read an interesting and informing paper on Official Postage Stamps, dividing these into two classes, as follows: Official stamps specially printed, and stamps specially surcharged for official use.

CARDIFF PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President: MR. WALTER SCOTT.

THE usual monthly meeting was held on the 12th inst., at the Society's Room in the Y.M.C.A. Institute, when there were present Mr. E. W. Shackell (Vice-President) in the chair, Mrs. Groves, Mrs. Marshall, and Messrs. H. G. Blair, W. G. Bowden, T. Edwards, J. L. Everett, W. A. Jutsum (Hon. Sec. and Treas.), B. W. King, G. E. Petty, B. Rowland and two visitors.

The evening was spent in the study of the stamps of the U.S. of America, Alderman Trounce reading a paper dealing with the general issues of the postal adhesives and displaying his collection.

Several of the members also displayed their collections of that country, and so made the meeting a very interesting one.

Next month, Mr. E. W. Shackell has promised to introduce the stamps of Greece and the Ionian Isles.

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ORANGE FREE STATE V.R.I.'s, unused. First Printing 2d., 6d.; 4d., 2/6; 6d., 2/6; 1s., 2/6; also errors. approval — TAYLOR, 16, Dacre Park, Blackheath.

LAST CHANCE! Cook Islands, 1892, first issue. 1d., 1 1/2d., 2 1/2d., 10d., mint, 4/8 — CHAS. PURDOM, Neptune Street, South Lambeth, London, S.W.

WANTED, pairs, well centred, red penny British stamps, plates 100, 105, 180, 225; also V.R.I., 6d. rose, Orange River Colony, pair, and 2 1/2d. ditto. — MR. W. H. EARL, Newcastle, Staff.

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BRITISH Central African Surcharged Stamps "One Penny" on 3s. unused, mint condition, 1/6 each. One Penny "Provisionals" for "Internal Postage" used, or original pieces of envelopes, 3/- each. Cash with order. — KNOWLES, Stationer, Padiham Road, Burnley.

BOOK containing mostly old Colonial stamps, price £6 10s. Also a few other good lots Approval. — CLEMENT CORDREY, Vicarage Drive, Eastbourne.

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The above is in uniform design and colour to the covers of the five preceding volumes, copies of which by the way are still in stock, and may be had for £1 0s. 9d. (postage paid) the set of five volumes.

* VOL. VI. *



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