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STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY,

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PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

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SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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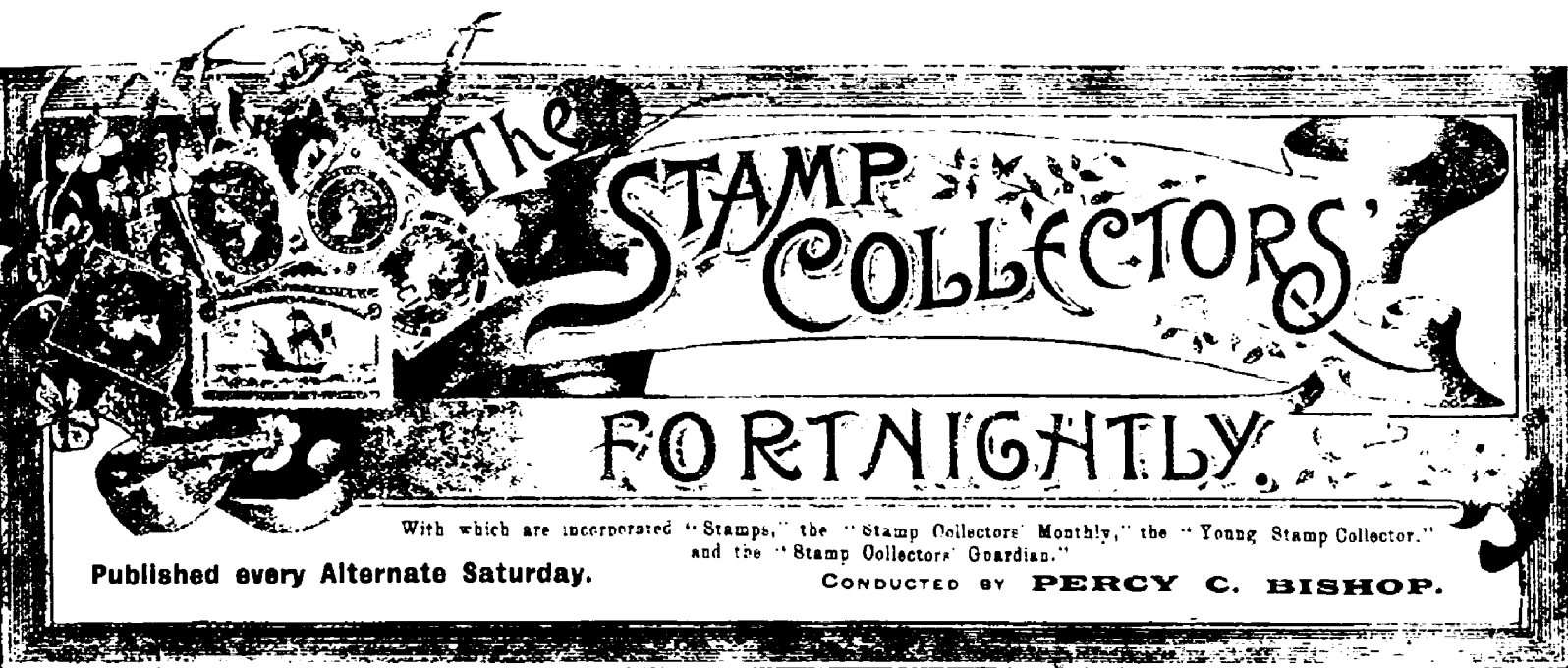
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No. 209.—Vol. IX

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad

Another Find of P.O. Mauritius.

INTEREST interest has been aroused by the news of the discovery of two more "Post Office" Mauritius stamps—this time acquired by Mons. Th. Lemaire, of Paris. The "find" takes the form of an envelope bearing the incomparable pair, the 1d. and 2d., used side by side. In this condition the stamps are unique, the nearest approach to such a thing being the pair of "pennies" on original cover, the property of Mr. Vernon Roberts.

The "London Philatelist" (to which journal news of the discovery is sent by Mr. E. D. Bacon) understands that the specimens are remarkably fine and that the price paid was over £1500.

The total number of "Post Office" Mauritius stamps known to exist now stands at twenty-two.

The Tapling Collection.

THE Editor of the "London Philatelist" is in doubt whether "the great advantages that will be open to collectors and dealers in the permanent exhibition of this superb collection are as yet fully grasped."

It will probably be a year or two (he writes) before the average Philatelist will have realised the great fact that in the issues of every country he will always have at command a means of comparison and verification for his own stamps. The system of arrangement is so perfect that it will admit of the placing of any stamp that requires examination quite close to those exhibited, and will allow with ease their comparison, whether as to type, colour, or genuineness. In the case of the great rarities which are beyond the ken of the ordinary collector this will be an inestimable advan-

tage. The old lady who has a blue Guinea (of 1876 or 1882) will at once be able to see that she is not justified in asking £100 for it! The schoolboy will be able to feast his eyes upon Hawaiians, Guianas, and "Post Office" Mauritius, and the steady collector will find in the splendid collection—so superbly arranged by Mr. Bacon—a continual source of philatelic education.

The altruistic bequest of Mr. Tapling will have been given the ample scope and recognition that it deserved, and his name will deservedly be handed down to philatelic posterity as the greatest benefactor to stamp collectors that the world has seen.

All philatelists will echo our contemporary's hope that the question of the continuation of the National Collection will not be missed from view. Having regard to the importance of the bequest—assuredly not less than £100,000—the Government should at least keep the collection up-to-date.

How it is being Arranged.

Mr. E. D. Bacon writes in the same issue of the London Society's organ:—

It is now over two years ago since I outlined in the "London Philatelist" of November, 1900, the scheme that the Trustees of the British Museum had decided to adopt for the permanent exhibition of the adhesive stamps in the Tapling Collection.

It will be remembered that the plan I described as the one finally adopted by the Trustees takes the form of cabinets, with rows of narrow, vertical slides or frames, each of which holds four sheets of stamps beneath glass; the four sheets being placed back to back, and each side of the slide displaying two of these sheets side by side. The slides are, further, so fixed as only to pull out a sufficient distance to allow of an examination of the contents.

There will be three cabinets in all, and each of these will have two rows of slides, one above the other, at the front and back. One of the cabinets has actually been delivered at the Museum, and the makers are under contract to supply the other two before the end of March.

The three cabinets will stand in the centre of the King's Library, and each slide will probably bear the name of the country, and some indication of the issue of stamps it contains. The countries will be arranged in strictly alphabetical sequence, and cross-references will be added where necessary. Jets for electric light, with reflectors, will in all likelihood be fixed on the top of the cabinets, and these will be available for use by anyone inspecting the stamps whenever there is a deficiency of natural light.

Exhibition of Danish West Indies.

AN interesting show of the stamps of the Danish West Indies has recently been held by the members of the Bridgeport Philatelic Club of Bridgeport, Connecticut. The "Philatelic World," America's newest Stamp Weekly, gives us some interesting particulars.

Dr. W. C. Bowers was awarded first place, his collection totaling 350 stamps, including 72 single stamps unused, 74 single stamps used, 76 pairs used, 75 pairs unused and several blocks of 4, showing the many errors, differences in paper, perforation and printing. According to Bartel's list, only five stamps are missing in unused state.

Mr. W. F. Gregory, of New York, was second, he having all the stamps, according to Bartel's list, and many blocks of four and six showing the errors. One block of six contained four errors.

Mr. A. D. Lewis exhibited all stamps according to list. Mr. W. S. Wilmot's collection was lacking only a few to be complete. Mr. R. B. Field's exhibit consisted of stamps on original covers.

A Big Remainder of Bavarians.

THE Continental Philatelic Journals have recently published the news concerning the sale to certain well known dealers of a remainder of Bavarian stamps of all issues, from 1849 to 1888. It is now possible to publish particulars of the stamps included in the "find" or "remainder," or whatever it may be called, with the exact number of stamps of each variety:—

Issued.		Stamps.	
1849-58.	1 kr., rose	120 =	2 sheets.
	3 .. blue	120 ..	2 ..
	6 .. brown	120 ..	2 ..
	9 .. green	120 ..	2 ..
	12 .. red	120 ..	2 ..
	18 .. yellow	120 ..	2 ..
1862.	1 .. yellow	480 ..	8 ..
	3 .. red	480 ..	8 ..
	6 .. blue	480 ..	8 ..
	9 .. brown	480 ..	8 ..
	12 .. green	480 ..	8 ..
	18 .. red	480 ..	8 ..
1867-68.	6 .. blue	480 ..	8 ..
	9 .. brown	480 ..	8 ..
	12 .. violet	20 ..	..
	18 .. red	480 ..	8 ..
1868.	6 .. brown	240 ..	4 ..
1870.	3 .. red	480 ..	8 ..
	6 .. brown	480 ..	8 ..
	7 .. blue	180 ..	3 ..
	12 .. violet	480 ..	8 ..
1873.	9 .. red-brown	480 ..	8 ..
	10 .. yellow	180 ..	3 ..
1874.	1 mark, imperf.	50 ..	1 ..
1875.	1 kr., green	600 ..	10 ..
	3 .. red	600 ..	10 ..
	7 .. blue	600 ..	10 ..
	10 .. yellow	600 ..	10 ..
	18 .. red	600 ..	10 ..
1876.	5 pfg., blue green	600 ..	10 ..
	50 .. vermilion	600 ..	10 ..
	2 mark, orange	500 ..	10 ..
1881.	3 pfg., green	1000 ..	16 ..40 st.
	10 .. red	1000 ..	16 ..
	20 .. blue	1000 ..	16 ..
1888.	3 .. green	500 ..	5 ..
	5 .. lilac	1000 ..	10 ..
	25 .. pale brown	1000 ..	10 ..
	50 .. dark brown	1000 ..	10 ..
UNPAID LETTER STAMPS.			
1862.	3 kr., black	600 ..	6 ..60 st.
1870.	1	1000 ..	16 ..40 ..
	3	1000 ..	16 ..40 ..

Much indignation is felt among German philatelists over this transaction, and some have gone so far as to denounce the stamps of the earlier issues as out-and-out reprints. Further news as to this side of the story will be awaited with interest.

Stamps for Real Estate.

THE "New York Philatelist" tells us that an odd transaction in stamps took place recently through the medium of a New York newspaper. A gentleman owning two houses and "lots" in Yonkers, who was also an enthusiastic stamp collector, offered, through an advertisement, to exchange them for a stamp collection. Mr. Charles W. Eberle, a well known Yonkers philatelist, saw the advertisement, and know-

ing the value of the property, entered into negotiation for it; finally trading for this real estate his stamp collection of about 9500 varieties, valued at £480.

"Stamps" (adds the "New York Philatelist") "are undoubtedly as marketable nowadays as almost any ordinary mercantile commodity."

"An Esquire of Philately."

THE Mr. Malcolm Campbell, whom we recently referred to under the above headline in the *Fortnightly*, has now been arrested in Dublin, while an alleged confederate of his, Alex. Buchan Jones by name, has been taken in Glasgow. We shall probably have further news to communicate in our next number.

Among the City Dealers.

IN his shop in Crooked Lane, King William Street, Mr. Bluett is just now exhibiting an Italian stamp which is declared to be unique and very valuable. A variety of the same stamp (one of which many specimens are known to exist), recently sold for nearly £100. Within Mr. Bluett's cosy shop one finds a large range of stamps, British, Colonial and Foreign.

Mr. W. Jacoby, who has so long been established as a dealer in the City of London that it would not seem quite the same city without him, has some wonderfully fine selections of scarce European stamps to show. He is a great believer in the older continental stamps in fine condition, but goes in for British Colonials and all other lines as well.

To Messrs. H. Ross-Shiels and Co., of Coptall Avenue, belongs the distinction of having brought up all the "competition" stamps in connection with the Harmsworth periodicals for three years in succession. It was a matter of many millions of stamps, out of which Messrs. Ross Shiels and Co. secured a few "finds" that made the deal an eminently satisfactory one. The firm have bargains to offer in Africans and Australians.



[NOTE.—When this feature of the *Fortnightly* fell into abeyance in 1899 there were three questions remaining unanswered. These queries we repeat and invite answers from our readers.]

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED.

14.—Was there any special reason for the creation of two types of what is known as the De La Rue Colonial type?

21.—How may one distinguish between the Cape Triangulars of 1855-58 and those of 1863-64?

22.—To what extent does relative scarcity regulate the values of stamps? Supposing there are, say, ten thousand of one kind issued or in existence, what should be the market price of a single specimen?

In our next number we hope to be able to publish some replies and also to propound further questions.

Readers of the *Fortnightly* are asked to regard this particular corner of the paper as their own special domain, open and free to all for an interchange of facts, opinions and ideas.

PRIZES FOR ANSWERS.

A prize of 2s. in stamps will be given for every answer to a question deemed sufficiently interesting to be published in the *Fortnightly*.

Address all letters for this column, whether containing questions or replies, to the Editor of the *S.C.F.*, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., not later than the Monday preceding publication of the paper.

Fiscal Notes and Chronicle.

CONTRIBUTED BY A. PRESTON PEARCE.

THE event of the month in fiscal circles was Mr. Schwabacher's paper and display at the last meeting of the London Philatelic Society.

I am glad to hear that the attendance was above the average, despite the unavoidable absence of some of the most regular members, and I have heard from more than one source that the innovation was quite a success.

Thanks to the courtesy of the Editor and Proprietor of "Morley's Philatelic Journal," who had pegged out the first claim, I am enabled to present the paper herewith, and I only regret that I cannot afford each reader a view of the display that accompanied it, for I am sure that it would prove a great revelation to the majority. However, it may be confidently anticipated that other Associations will follow the lead of the premier Society, and, by the inclusion of fiscal evenings in their next programmes, afford their members a pleasant and instructive change of subject.

I must only allow myself a further couple of lines to report that the vote of thanks to Mr. Schwabacher was proposed by Mr. L. W. Fulcher, B.Sc., in a speech of considerable length, in the course of which he very ably supplemented the paper by his elucidatory remarks on some of the points raised.

MR. SCHWABACHER'S PAPER.

I consider it my first and pleasant duty to tender thanks for the hospitality shown to fiscalism, and I feel quite proud of its admission to this Temple of Philately. I readily admit that its admission is greatly due to your broadmindedness, but it is not less due to the rapid progress made in the last two years by this new branch of Philately.

When the present year has finished its course, I shall have had the honour and pleasure of having seen one evening devoted by each of the three leading Societies in England—our Society, the International Philatelic Union, and the Herts Philatelic Society—to the reading of a paper on fiscals accompanied by a display.

Another proof of the progress made is to be found in the fact that the Fiscal Philatelic Society, founded just a year ago, has a list of more than 60 members, amongst whom figure such well known names as His Honour Judge Philbrick, K.C., Dr. Legrand, J. B. Moens, E. D. Bacon, A. E. Lawrence of New York, M. Langlois of Paris, and other philatelists of renown. I might add that the membership list would be still larger if, in common with other Societies, the Fiscal P.S. had not experienced that intending and even actual members were asking impossibilities, forgetting that the aim of such Societies is study only, and the promotion of the general and not the individual interest.

Although what I am now going to say may sound somewhat paradoxical when taken in connection with the remarks I shall presently make on the attraction of being able to build up a fine fiscal collection at a relatively very small expense, I must record the fact that during the last twelve months a well-known German collection acquired last year by a dealer was resold by him, retail, fetching well nigh £1000, this very same price having been offered to me for my own without inducing me to part with this trusted companion of my leisure hours.

One English collector sold the other day his albums of England and Colonies for the sum of £250, and, finally, I must add that the stock of the late M. Roussin, of Paris, was disposed of in less than a fortnight after his decease for £1,600. All this shows conclusively that there is a present and a future for this branch of collecting.

Why have many of us who were ardent postalists laid by postage stamps for fiscals (I intentionally do not use the word "abandoned")? I am of opinion that it is greatly a matter of purse, many having an instinctive objection to even "limited" specialism, and a general collector of postage stamps being soon stopped by the question of money. Whatever the sum may be that he is prepared to devote to his hobby, I consider that the object and pleasure of the

collector is not to acquire his stamps and knowledge by weight of coin, but by ferretting out, and by studying, &c., and I am of opinion that many of us deserted the ranks of Postalism when they found they could not move a step further. Joining at first timidly those of Fiscalism, they soon found its fascination grow upon them. Many indeed are the inducements for a beginner, for example:

The low price of most fiscals, with regard to which I might say that there are scarcely any medium stamps—either they are common, pretty common, or rare. This enables one to build up a large and fine collection at a moderate expense, with the extra enjoyment of being able to revel in shades, perforations, secret marks, and watermarks, at heart's content at the same low rates.

Again the quasi total absence of forgeries, only four being known so far, and three of these being collectible as they were made to defraud various Treasuries, not those of collectors, and were genuinely used.

I need not dwell on the beauty of most fiscal stamps, which appeals to the artistic instinct of most of us.

Our great hindrance has been the lack of a complete priced catalogue, but I can refer you to the magnificent pioneer work done by M. Moens of Brussels, and the late M. Roussin of Paris, and more recently by Mr. Walter Morley of London. There are already sufficient catalogues to guide the collector through many countries, and to my own knowledge much useful work is actually being done in preparing catalogues for Great Britain, its Colonies, South America, India, etc., and in all probability it will not be long before these reach the publishing stage. I for one must confess that I find this pioneer work a very great attraction, and I shall regret the day when all obtainable knowledge will be embodied, cut and dried, and priced, in the usual red, white and blue small books.

I will not tire you much longer with my bad English, for I prefer giving the larger share to the display, which I am certain will interest you more than these notes, but to conclude. I will repeat that Fiscalism offers a large field for study, much enjoyment for the eye, the possibility of having a really fine collection without spending a fortune, and to every collector ample scope for the development of his propensities either in the form of general or specialized collecting, or the study of papers, perforations, shades, &c.

* * *

The remainder of Mr. Schwabacher's paper which refers to the display must be held over until next month, as his notes on the stamps shown are too valuable to be curtailed, and, besides, I want to find room for a communication from him relative to the Franco-Prussian War issues in Alsace-Lorraine about which I wrote last time.

My kind critic informs me that the French *Dimension* stamps were not the only ones to suffer the indignity of a foreign overprint, and in corroboration he has shown me four specimens of the 1864 issue of Bill stamps—Head of Napoleon III, 5^{fr.}—each of which bears a portion of one of the characteristic German inscribed circles. The values submitted are 5c., 10c., 15c., and 50c., but doubtless most if not all of the other values were similarly treated, though all must be of the greatest rarity.

In slight correction of another point, Mr. Schwabacher has shown me one of the Saargemund overprints struck full on the face of the stamp, and tells me that he has another similar specimen from a different district.

Finally, he submits an entirely new type which has just been discovered, and which consists of a copy of the 50c. *Dimension* stamp bearing a fourth of a bold overprint in blue, which appears to consist of the Prussian eagle, and the inscription in large capitals CIVIL-COMMISSION.

Communications in respect of this department should be sent direct to Mr. A. PRESTON PEARCE, 12, Edgcombe Street, Stonehouse, Plymouth; but he will be away from home from Mar. 19th to Apr. 10th, and letters will not be forwarded.

In America the latest thing in Stamp Societies is the League of Philatelic Literaturists.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MARCH 14, 1903.

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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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.



The Shady Side of Stamp Collecting.

As a result of the prompt measures adopted by Mr. Stevens, of Redruth, and other public spirited philatelists, that "Esquire of Philately" (as the *Fortnightly* dubbed him), Mr. Malcolm Campbell, late of Mexborough, has been arrested for alleged extensive frauds on Stamp Collectors. It would be unjust in any way to prejudge the case against him, but one may be permitted an expression of satisfaction that at least some explanation or settlement of the claims and charges brought against Malcolm Campbell, *Esquire*, will now be forthcoming.

We have received interesting letters on this subject from Mr. H. M. Campbell, Hastings; Mr. Stevens, Redruth; Mr. Bertram W. H. Poole, Stamford; and Mr. A. H. Dingwall, Weston Super-Mare—all going to prove the widespread nature of Malcolm Campbell's alleged frauds. It seems that there are others upon whom the police are keeping a watchful eye, and that there is a woman in the case!

In the meantime Mr. Stevens, Stanley House, Redruth, will be materially assisted in the steps he is taking if all philatelists who have had dealings with Malcolm Campbell will send him particulars forthwith.

In this number of the "Fortnightly" we revive an old and popular feature—the "Asked and Answered" column, which we hope will prove both interesting and helpful.

How do our Subscribers first get in touch with the S.C.F.? Probably in many strange ways if the truth were known. We recently received a letter from Hokitika, New Zealand, reading:—

"I found a number of your *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* on our Post office floor, and I now enclose a Money Order for 3s. 3d. as I wish to become a subscriber to that paper."

There is a use for everything, you see—even for a Post Office floor!

The "Northern Nigerian Puzzle" referred to in the last *Fortnightly* elicits the following interesting note from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

We think Mr. Earl is mistaken about the Northern Nigeria Queen's Head stamps, as we have been in communication with that Colony by almost every mail since it issued stamps, and are not aware that at any time the stamps of Southern Nigeria were used there. When the new King's Head stamps were received in the Colony there was to our knowledge a large stock on hand of the Queen's Head stamps, and these were at once withdrawn and destroyed without any previous notice being given, and the King's Head stamps simultaneously placed on sale. This is the true reason why the Queen's Head stamps of this Colony are so scarce. Our own stock was almost completely exhausted before we heard of the destruction.

Who Invented the Postcard?

By B.W.W.

THE claim of a Mr. Lundy that his father invented the postcard, as quoted by you, may have been good enough for the readers of "Tit-Bits some years ago," but should not satisfy philatelists of to-day. In fact, the writer of that letter answers himself in his own words, that various persons were "not the inventors because they once posted a card with a penny stamp on." Yet all he can say is that his father did this in his business between 1860 and 1870, and somebody complimented him on the accomplishment of the scheme of ½d. postcards in 1870. We have read something like this as to a Mr. Chalmers "inventing" the postage stamp.

But I can go one better. In 1856 to 1859 I was in a warehouse in my native Manchester, where we received such advice cards of goods sent—"invoice to follow," and as I had to send on most days to Liverpool shippers similar advices of cases and bales for forwarding, I suggested these forms on cards as the simplest method.

All this, however, has nothing to do with the question. Postcards as now understood were suggested in 1867, and were first issued by Austria in 1869 as a cheaper form of postal communication than the ordinary letter, while the title first given and still used there indicates the intention of the real inventor—"Correspondenz-Karte"—which is more expressive than our words Post Card. A special 25-year Jubilee card was issued there with the portrait and autograph of "Dr. Emanuel Hermann, Erfinder der Correspondenz-Karte," dated "26 Januar, 1894," and on the frame in front are given the names and dates of countries adopting the card, in which curiously we find "England 1874"—quite enough to raise the ire of a patriotic and philatelic Briton: but the explanation is, that we did not print these for international use until the end of that year.

Some day somebody will be claiming to be the "inventor" of the picture postcard, so I will begin by stating that on my holiday tour in 1871, I sent views of places visited to a friend by the new ½d. post, to indicate where I was, beginning with Shrewsbury, on through N. Wales to Chester for return journey. I still have some of these unused cards, as also others bought from 1856 to 1865, copies of which were similarly used by penny post with a few words and address, thus again beating Mr. Lundy's record. According to this writer, it is as "the inventor and cause of the institution of halfpenny stamps," that he claims for his father in 1870, yet Austria had then been using them—value two-fifths of a penny—for a year previous.

An Evening with the "Juniors."

It would be a good thing if more philatelists attended the meetings of the Junior Philatelic Society, where new faces, if they be those of philatelists, are heartily welcome, for not only would the visitors spend an enjoyable evening, but they would see what real good work the young blood of Philately is accomplishing.

Mr. Herbert Johnson, the very able Secretary of the Junior Philatelic Society, points out to us that next Saturday's meeting (March 21st), at Clapham Hall, Old Town, Clapham, will be a particularly interesting one. A paper written by Mr. B. W. Warhurst, "Entirely about Entirets," will be read by an old friend of the writer, then there will be a display of Entirets, and after that a debate on the question which so long exercised the minds of *Fortnightly* readers, "the Pricing of Stamps in Exchange Packets."

Philatelists, whether members of the Junior Society or not, are cordially invited to attend.

For a half-penny stamp a circular may be sent to any part of the United States which would need a 2 cent stamp if posted in any American city, being over the weight admissible under a 1 cent stamp. Accordingly circulars may be shipped in bulk to Liverpool as freight and there mailed back at considerable saving—and many American firms are taking advantage of the fact.

Nor and Against Surcharged Stamps.

"R.P.J.'s" REPLY TO MR. LOUIS QUACKENBUSH.

In a recent number of the *Fortnightly* we reprinted from "Mekeel's Stamp Collector" a very readable and remarkable article by Mr. Louis Quackenbush, vigorously inveighing against the surcharged stamp. To that article an interesting reply is made by "R.P.J." in the columns of "The Bazaar," and the same is here reprinted.—Ed., S.C.F.]

MY readers, on seeing the anti-surcharge question raised once more, may well rub their eyes. It is now nearly fourteen years since the anti-surcharge ghost was finally laid, and we have ever since included the surcharge in our collections without question. The crusade against provisional issues was waged with might and main. An Anti-Surcharge Association was formed; pious resolutions were passed; but the Association proved a fiasco, and to-day the surcharge is sought after on all sides. Why, then, the sudden dragging forth into daylight of this skeleton of the past? The reason is that Mr. L. G. Quackenbush, one of the editors of "Mekeel's Stamp Collector," threatens us with a re-opening of the whole controversy. He calls his excursion a "Venture into Heresy," and heresy, we venture to predict, it will remain.

It is suggested that "catalogues have almost doubled in thickness" since the last crusade; therefore surcharges should be banned—a curious reason, and a still more curious manner of overcoming the difficulty. One might just as well suggest the exclusion of Australia from the catalogues: the result would be a much greater thinning of the pages! Then we are invited to ban the surcharge because it is the child of specialism, which seems to be no reason at all. Next follows the suggestion that three-fourths of the world's speculative stamps are provisionals. "The surcharge question and the speculative question are inextricably interwoven."

I join issue with Mr. Quackenbush on his figures, but let that pass. As to the speculative status of these stamps, the readers of "The Bazaar" are in a better position to judge than most. I have had the privilege of contributing to these columns, during the last two or three years, a list of "Surcharges" which I have tried to make as complete as possible. It may, perhaps, have struck my readers from time to time, when reading those articles, how few of the stamps, comparatively speaking, could be branded as speculative with any degree of truth. Where is the complete and extensive maze of which Mr. Quackenbush writes? No, no! we must have more solid grounds than these for excluding such an interesting body of stamps. What else is there to offer?

To exclude them, we are assured, "cannot appreciably affect the intrinsic interest of any general collection. . . . Artistically they add nothing to a stamp." Quite what is meant by "intrinsic interest" may be open to doubt. As to intrinsic value, it may be noted that the Editor of "Mekeel's" writes elsewhere, in the same article, that "an enormous number of surcharged varieties belong in the rarity column." After all, is not interest in the eye of a non-collector mainly confined to values? As to the artistic merit of the surcharge, it is no worse than many of the hideous unsurcharged stamps which abound in collections and out of them; and the overprints are, many of them, of historic interest.

Mr. Quackenbush's final point is for the general collector. He asserts that the overprint is not an alteration of design, and, accordingly, the general collector should not collect surcharges. How, then, would he deal with the Barbados first one farthing label? However, it is suggested that the abandonment of surcharges is solely a matter of expediency for the general collector! "Can he afford to spend time and money in collecting that which at best only represents the existence of occasional irregularity and miscalculation in postal supplies?" The reply to all of which is, that he does.

Finally, Mr. Quackenbush well-nigh stultifies himself, at the close of his remarkable article, by stating that "surcharges undoubtedly have a place in specialism, and one of

no small importance." Then, having hastily dubbed provisionals as "space-fillers," he leaves us by urging the simplification of our *task* (the italics are my own) "by placing surcharges on the ineligible list." To call provisionals "space-fillers," strikes me at least as inconsistent with his previous remarks. Nor is there a single argument adduced—outside the question as to whether the author's facts and figures are correct—which will stand investigation. And the suggestions made—at the best they are but suggestions—hardly strike one as convincing.

So far as one can see, no good and sufficient reason is shown for ruling out what I have already described as a most interesting lot of stamps, and I believe that the collectors' verdict will be in favour of the surcharge.

New Issues and Varieties.

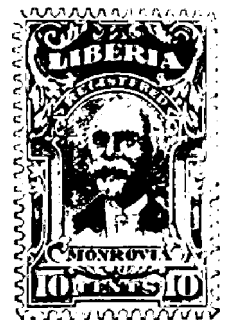
Cyprus.—An illustration is given of the 30 paras King Edward stamp for this Island.



Hong Hong.—We now illustrate the new 1 cent stamp, chronicled in the last *Fortnightly*.

Iceland.—A long list of novelties in the shape of official stamps must be held over until our next number.

Liberia.—From Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. we have received, in addition to the 3 cents "Inland Postage" mentioned in the last *Fortnightly*, the same stamp printed in green with a red script surcharge "O.S." also five varieties of the large Registration stamps for the five principal centres of population of the Liberian Republic—viz.: Buchanan, Grenville, Harper, Monrovia, and Robertsport.



- Inland Postage.* 3c. black.
- Official Stamp.* 3c. green, red "O.S." surcharge.
- Registration Stamps.*
 - 10c. black and blue (Buchanan)
 - 10c. black and orange (Grenville)
 - 10c. black and green (Harper)
 - 10c. black and violet (Monrovia)
 - 10c. black and lake (Robertsport)

Servia.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the 25 paras blue and 50 paras olive-yellow of the new series.

United States.—Mr. Gordon Ireland of Cambridge, Mass, writes as follows on the subject of the watermark of U.S.A. stamps of the "Series of 1902":—

I notice that on page 297 of the December number of the "London Philatelist," received by me this morning, some doubt or difficulty is expressed as to the watermark of the new 13c. stamp of this country. It is in reality U S P S, spaced approximately one letter to each stamp but frequently misplaced or inverted, as on all the rest of the values of the current issue, and supposed to stand for "United States Postage Stamp." This is the only watermark on any portion of the paper used for printing the current adhesives, and I am at a loss to account for the "D" which you have seen (as part of the word "postage"?) unless it be a mutilated portion of some one of these letters. The extreme carelessness with which the sheets are fed to the printing press, and the fact that the space between each two letters, both vertically and horizontally, is a trifle too large to allow one letter to strike wholly on each stamp, have made varieties of watermark so numerous that collectors on this side have practically ceased to notice the position of the mark in any of the current issue.

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3s. slate-blue, wmk. Crown. 5s., plate 3, wmk. Anchor.

FISCAL POSTAL.—3d. lilac, wmk. Anchor, 18 mm, used or unused.

I.R. OFFICIALS.—5s. rose and 10/- blue. £1 marone (Specimen).

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Several Collections of Great Britain
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.. 2c. 1869, no grill used	0	10	0	
.. 1893, 1, 2, 3, 5 dollar, used	2	0	0	
SOUTH AUSTRALIA , 1902, wmk. S.A., the rare shade, 1s. rose-red-brown, <i>mint</i> , 7.6.	pair	0	15	
S.A. , 40 different including some rare O.S.	.. .. .	0	6	6
AUSTRALIANS , 50 different, 1/0	doz. packets	0	7	6

CHAS. NISSEN & Co.,
77/78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

IMPERIAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE next meeting will be held on the 18th inst., at the Headquarters (The Oriental Cafe, Mosely Street, Manchester) and members are earnestly requested to attend as the business to be discussed is of an important nature.

W. S. HUGHES, *Hon. Sec.*, 10, Victoria Road, Sale.

THE PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

THE March packet was put in circulation on the 6th inst., and carries a very good assortment of stamps—total value, £252 os. 3d. The packet goes to 63 members. The December packets have just returned, and have been made up into one packet, and despatched to 25 new members. The sales up to the present average nearly 25% of the value circulated.

Rules and all information can be obtained from the *Secretary*, R. T. MORGAN, 14, High Street, Selhurst, S.E.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

AT the Meeting held at the Grand Hotel on Friday, February 20th, Mr. J. C. North read an interesting paper on the stamps of the Morocco Agencies, illustrated by his large collection of entire sheets and blocks of the various printings, many of which Mr. North obtained during recent visits to Gibraltar and Morocco.

"STAMPS" EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

MEMBERS are aware possibly by this time that I am reluctantly compelled to give up the Secretaryship of the above Exchange as I am unable any longer to find the necessary time to devote to it. In my successor, however (Mr. Thos. B. Widdowson, of Leicester), members will find a very efficient substitute, and I trust they will all unite in giving him their hearty support, thus helping to keep the Exchange well in the front rank.

Since the last report appeared the following packets have been despatched:—

		£	s.	d.
December.	Colonial and European ..	524	15	11
	General	196	0	1
January.	Colonial	435	2	11
	General	247	8	11
February.	Colonial and European ..	364	0	5½
	General	186	13	4½

The August packets have been returned, all credits paid out and all sheets returned to their respective owners.

Sales were as follows:—

		£	s.	d.
August.	Colonial and European ..	45	13	5
	General	10	7	7

The September and October packets are now also all returned and are being dealt with by Mr. Widdowson.

Sales as follows:—

		£	s.	d.
September.	Colonial and European ..	47	19	1
	General	16	13	3
October.	Colonial	73	18	1
	European	7	6	7
	General	30	3	4

There are one or two accounts still outstanding from members previous to the September packets, these should be paid to Mr. Widdowson.

All future packets will be despatched by Mr. Widdowson. Sheets must be sent and all accounts paid to him.

Communications regarding the Exchange must in future be addressed to Mr. T. B. Widdowson, 22, Lincoln Street, Leicester.

Signed, F. L. Heygate, Rushden, Northants.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE Meeting held on Feb. 3rd was devoted to a display of stamps of the United States, and took the form of an "At Home" at New Leeds, with the Rev. C. H. Spurrell, who most hospitably entertained the members. The collections included in the display were Mr. Spurrell's own, and those of Mr. J. H. Thackrah and Mr. E. Egly; while Mr. W. Denison Roebuck showed a set of obliterations, mostly of the "Flag" type, one for each State in the Union; and Mr. T. K. Skipwith showed a United States postal currency note and various private stamps.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND STAMP EXCHANGE.

DECEMBER packet returned to Secretary, March 4th, and all debit accounts were posted on the 6th inst. The Secretary hopes most of the credit accounts will be paid by the time this appears in print.

March packet started on the 5th inst., containing 42 sheets, value £101 9s. nett.

A report for the past year with list of members is in preparation and will be sent to all members shortly. There are a few vacancies for reliable purchasing members. Rules for ½d. stamp from the

Secretary, MISS FLORENCE E. SMITH, Winfrith, The Crescent, Bedford.

THE BEGINNERS' STAMP EXCHANGE.

DECEMBER packet returned on February 25th, and all credit accounts were sent out on the 27th inst. All accounts will probably be settled by the time this appears in print.

The March packet contained 29 sheets, value £42 10s. nett.

A short report of this Society with list of members is in preparation and will be sent to each member. There are two vacancies (for purchasing members only). Rules for ½d. stamp from the

Secretary, MISS FLORENCE E. SMITH, S.E.P.S., Winfrith, The Crescent, Bedford

"UNUSED" STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

THE January packet has returned and sheets have been sent back to their respective owners, less 270 stamps, value £10 12s. 8d. gross, which have been annexed by various buyers. Messrs. Willgoos, Berridge and Greatnax, have joined the Exchange. Still there is room for a few earnest Philatelists who are interested in "Unused" stamps

Secretary, H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, Brixton, S.W.

TRAVELLERS' STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

THE December Packet returned on the 4th inst., 41 members having seen it. The sales were £86 17s. 4d. The March Packet commenced its round on the 2nd inst., containing 30 sheets value £547 10s. 11d. This Packet is rich in the early issues of British Colonials, many being in mint condition and priced to catalogue.

The *S. C. Fortnightly* is the official organ of this Exchange.

Hon. Sec., LEICESTER A. B. PAINE, Longsdon, Nr. Stoke upon-Trent.

CALEDONIA STAMP EXCHANGE.

THE November Packet has returned from circuit, and all sheets and cash balances due to members returned. The gross value of the Packet was £176 16s. 5d. and the sales were £16. The February Packets were sent off on the 10th. Value of Colonial section, £122 8s. 5d.; value of General packet, £161 16s. 1d.

The Club membership is now 60, but one or two good members would be welcomed for either Section.

Club Rules and any other information can be had of the *Secretary*, JOHN JOHNSON, Moss Side, New Deer, Aberdeenshire.

NOW READY.

THE FOURTH EDITION OF THE UNIVERSAL STANDARD CATALOGUE

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6 insertions for the price of 5.
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TRANSVAAL, Orange River Colony, Swaziland, Zululand, &c., &c.—To responsible collectors and after receipt of Want List, I offer fine copies from my South African collection at reasonable prices. Have also large stock of entire of all countries.—J. DINVEN, Ramstree 15 Urecht, Holland.

GREATEST Rarities, rare and medium British Colonials, unused or used, priced under half Gibbons. Send approval against serious references.—BERNARDINA GARCIA, Barriograsiense, Barcelona, Spain.

TO GENUINE COLLECTORS.—I am breaking up a large collection of stamps and shall be pleased to send selections on approval at 50 per cent. off Gibbons' catalogue. Good references are required.—N. HILLIER, Horsmonden.

POST MARK SOCIETY.—Members invited. Subscriptions, 2/.—Secretary, THOMAS WHITWORTH, Waterloo, Liverpool.

ENGLISH stamped envelopes, used and unused, penny and higher values. Scarce postcards and wrappers; selections on approval, low prices, large variety.—WEBB, Walpole, Halesworth.

ABOUT 10,000 Various Stamps, assorted values, collected from Merchants Offices during past eight years.—Bargain—4/ the lot.—N. HILLIER, Horsmonden.

REPORT FOR 1902 OF THE OTTERDALE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB now ready and post free on application. Gross sales last year £1,323 18s. 9d. Advanced philatelists (not dealers) with good duplicates invited to join.—G. HERRERT DANMATT Secretary and Founder, (Member, Stamp Exchange Protection Society), Lyndale, Blackheath, London, S.E.

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MY Approval Sheets are well known for cheapness and quality. I make them up, as far as possible, to suit each customer's individual requirements, and my prices are, in nearly all cases, half Gibbons or less.—J. S. ROE, Halesworth, Suffolk.

BRITISH COLONIALS, Old Europeans, etc., fine specimens, medium and rare, mostly half-price. Discount extra.—H. EDGAK WESTON, 3, Gresham Road, Brixton, London.

"BRITISH EMPIRE" EXCHANGE. Two Packets monthly. References, Prompt settlements monthly. Reports in this Paper.—Secretary, H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

ADVERTISER has divided a very large Collection of British Colonials, each country into separate books. Specimens priced singly at half Gibbons. Nearly all the old and rarest issues complete. Many mint. Also small approval books of mixed Colonials at one-third to two-fifth Gibbons. All fine copies. Any book on Approval. References.—Box 134, c/o Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

TO ADVERTISE MORE WIDELY our remarkably cheap Approval Sheets, 50 per cent discount, we will give gratis to all purchasers of 1/- and upwards, a magnificent set of 10 Canadian.—W. & A. PRINCE, 79, Edward Street, West Bromwich.

FISCALS.—Those wishing to sell, purchase, or exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London.

75 FOREIGN STAMPS, all different, no rubbish but containing the following—set of 5 Peru (4 surcharged), 4 Portuguese Indies, 4 Mexico, magnificent set 7 Costa Rica, 5 Italian, 4 Bolivia, 5 Portuguese, 2 Jamaica, Trinidad, 4 New South Wales, Victoria, New Zealand, India, Roumania, Ceylon 5c., Nyassa (Giraffe), &c. Post free 7d. only.—W. & A. PRINCE, Stamp Importers, 79, Edward Street, West Bromwich.

USED Gibraltar Stamps, Queen's Heads.—Sample hundred assorted issues low values, including Morocco Agencies, 1/9 Post free. Cash with order. Fifteen Shillings per thousand. Spain set used 2c. to 1pt., price 8d.—Address: C. B. BEANLAND, Gibraltar.

WANT to buy every quantity of the English 1d. stamp 1858-64 red (Sens No. 16, Stanley Gibbons' No. 42-44). Offers at cheap rates will receive attention.—FREDERICK SCHILBACH, Greiz i/V., Germany, Carolinenstr. 49.

COLLECTOR specializing has a nice lot of medium Colonials for Sale, especially African, West Indies and Australian. Selections on approval. References required. Wanted Barbados.—FRANK H. MADDISON, St. Neots, Hunts.

PERFECT mint obsolete Russian and Finland, singles, pairs, blocks, at half Gibbons and less. Approval against best references.—WITBY, No. 1, Novotscherkaskaya, Ochtz, St. Petersburg.

ARM Y OFFICIALS.—1d. lilac, 2/-; 100 3d. vermilion, 2/6, or exchange.—A. WELLSLEY LOBB, 45, Victoria Terrace, St. Budeaux, Devon.

A. FRANCIS, 12, City Chambers, Birmingham, offers obsolete British Colonial stamps, cash or exchange. Foreign correspondence particularly desired.

BREAKING COLLECTION.—English, Foreign, and Colonial. Suit all collectors, from rare to common.—WRIGHT, Ivy Cot, St. Neots.

USED Southern and Northern Nigerian, Falkland, Grenada, Seychelles, latest surcharges and earlier issues for disposal. All fine copies.—H., 48, Ivy Road, Cricklewood, N.W.

COLLECTION.—British Colonials, rare and medium, many mint, books of separate countries sent to genuine collectors.—COLLECTOR, St. Philip's Vicarage, Southport.

SEND for my Bargain Packet, 50 Stamps, good value, 1/- post free.—J. WRIGHT, Ivy Cot, St. Neots.

NEWSPAPER TAX STAMPS on original Papers. "Sun," 1800, 33d. stamp, 1/- each; "Age," 1828-30, 3d. stamp, 9d. each; "London News," 1843, 1853, complete volumes, 10/6 each; 1862, bound, black stamp, 15/-.—EDWARDS, 40, Charles Street, Cardiff.

JUNIOR STAMP CLUB.—No Subscription or Fines. Rules free.—SECRETARY, 49, Keatrel Avenue, Herne Hill.

GREAT BRITAIN.—A few unused perfect specimens of the 1d. red-brown on cream, 1841 issue, catalogued 45/-, price 15/- each. Send stamp for old English penny stamps on approval.—JENKINS, 11, Winchester Street, Pimlico, London.

ALL MINT.—3d. green, Transvaal, E.R.I., twopence halfpenny; 3d. green, Transvaal, E.R.I., one penny; 1d. V.R.I. and E.R.I., twopence; postage extra. Blocks, panes, same price.—PARRIDGE, Broadway, Sheerness.

THE COPYRIGHT for Sale of a very useful and interesting Stamp Publication which has gained the appreciation of all that have seen it.—For full particulars with price, etc., apply: Box 17, Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE. Bought, Sold, Exchanged.—Fortnightly. Volumes 1 to 7; "Stamps," Volumes 2 to 5, 2/3 each; "Gibbons' Monthly Journal," Volumes 4, 5, 6, 9 to 12, 3/- each. All post free.—R. H. APPLBY, 8, Co-operative Terrace, Sunderland.

FOREIGN and Colonial Stamps sold half to one-third Gibbons, starting on the 16th March, for one week. All packets half-price.—Call at 31, Queen's Road, Lavender Hill, Clapham.

GOLD COAST, 1900, Queen's Head, obsolete, 1/-, 2/-, 3/- and 10/-, very fine copies, 11/6 the set; Gold Coast, 1d. on 2 1/2d. and 1d. on 6d., the two, 1/9.—ETHERINGTON, Lark Terrace, Rochdale.

UNUSED obsolete Queen's Head Sets. All mint. Gambia, 1d.-1/-, 3/6; Straits Settlements, 1-50c., 4/3; Canada, maple, 1-10 cents, 2/-; Grenada, 3d.-1/-, 3/10; Natal, 3d.-1/-, 3/5; India, 1-12 annas, 3/8; Falkland Islands, 3d.-1/-, 3/10; Bechuanaland Protectorate on Great Britain, 3d.-6d., 2/-; British East Africa, 1-8 annas, 4/2; Ditto, 1, 2, 3 rupees, large, 9/8; Ditto, 4, 5 rupees, small, 14/8; Ditto, 3 rupees, small, 5/10; Bahamas, 1d.-1/-, 2/8; New South Wales, 4d.-1/- (set of 13), 7/-; Victoria, 3d.-1/-, 4/8; New Zealand, pictorial, 3d.-1/-, 5/8; Ditto, 2/- at 2/6. All guaranteed in mint condition.—LINDSAY, 44, Duddingston Park, Porto Cello, Nr. Edinburgh.

"UNUSED" STAMP EXCHANGE. No subscription or fines Commission 2 1/2 per cent on members sales who purchase 5/- value.—Secretary, H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, London.

OLD BRITISH COLONIALS

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Old Mint British Colonials Wanted.

B., Uplands, Swanwick, Hampshire.**50 STAMPS Bargain Packet, Grand 6 1/2d. Value, Post Free.**

Comprising B. Honduras, Transvaal, Soudan, (camel), Java, Deccan, China, Tasmania, (view), Venezuela, Straits, Peru, Great Britain I.R. Official (King's Head), etc., etc. Purchasers of above packet applying for an Approval Sheet will receive Gratis a set of 3 Tunis. Collections and useful lots of Old B. Colonials bought. Approval Books and Sheets at 3d. & 6d. in 1/- Discount. Mention Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

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BRITISH HONDURAS, Newfoundland, scarce Suriname, Canada, Philippines on U.S., Guam, U.S., etc. I want to exchange with honest collectors all over the world. I have a desirable stock of the above and other good stamps in fine condition to exchange for other countries, especially British Colonies. I take medium and better class of stamps and rarities at eighty to ninety per cent. of Gibbons, Scott or Sens Catalogue value and charge full catalogue for my stamps. Please do not send approval selections under 21 shillings in value. I do not care for stamps catalogued at less than threepence. Good references. Satisfaction guaranteed. Give me a trial.

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STAMPS YOU MIGHT WANT.

Gt. Britain, 1840, 1d. black, very fine ..	6d.
" do. do. black postmark ..	8d.
" 1d. lilac, O.W. Official, very fine ..	9d.
" 3d. vermilion,	1/3
" 1d., King,	1/-
" 1/- Govt. Parcels, grn. & carmine ..	2/6
Brazil, 1843, 60 reis, very fine	3/6
" " 90 "	15/-
B.E. Africa, 1896, 1 rupee blue, used ..	4/-
B. Colombia, 3d. blue, used, superb ..	4/-
Gold Coast, 1d. on 6d., mint	9d.
Mauritius, 1900, 4c. on 16c., mint ..	1/-
S. Nigeria, 3d., 1d., 2d., 4d. and 6d. used, superb set	1/3

Cash with order. Postage extra.
A very fine collection of Argentine and Uruguay to send on approval. References required.

CUTBERTSON & CO., 14, Exchange St. East, Liverpool.

From the Auction Rooms.



THE "Edwards" sale at Puttick's on February 24th and 25th, attracted a good attendance of buyers, and much interest was shown in the many fine lots of British and Colonial stamps in brilliant mint condition. The prices realised for the many superb blocks of unused British stamps were a tribute to the high estimation in which such lots are held. The total realisation of the two days' sale was £1700.

The fine collection formed by the late Judge Masterman came under the hammer at Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's sale on March 5th and 6th, when a goodly company of philatelists assembled at the Hotel Cecil. The collection included a fine series of the early British Guianas for which many high prices were recorded. The total realized for the entire sale exceeded £1400.

The Birmingham Philatelic Society held their second and final sale of the season on Thursday and Friday, Feb. 26th and 27th, when Mr. J. H. Telfer (of Messrs. Plumridge & Co.) officiated as auctioneer. There was spirited bidding for the 480 or so lots and good all-round prices were realized.

In Edinburgh, a sale of stamps, "the property of a South African gentleman," has been held at the rooms of Messrs. Lyon and Turnbull. From the "Scotsman" we reprint a short list of interesting realisations:

* Signifies Unused.

	£	s.	d.
British Bechuanaland, 1887, 4d. and 6d., lilac, used; 2/-, 2/6, 5/-, and 10/-, green (6)*	1	0	0
British East Africa Company, 1890-91, ½ anna to 5 rupees, green (15)*	1	1	0
British East Africa Protectorate, 1896, complete set, ½ anna to 5 rupees and an extra 1 rupee, used and * (16)	1	6	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1861, 1d. red, triangular (wood block), used (1)	2	16	0
Do. do. 4d. blue, triangular (wood block), used (1)	1	6	0
Mafeking Siege stamps, 6d. on 3d. claret, used (1)	1	12	0
Do. 1/- on 4d. pale green, used (1)	1	7	0
Do. 6d. on 3d. brown on yellow, used (1)	1	2	0
Do. 3d. blue on blue (Baden-Powell), used (1)	18	0	0
Do. 3d. blue on blue (Baden-Powell), large, used (1)	1	4	0
Transvaal, 1887-90, 1/- green, surcharged 2½d., error, used (1)	1	2	0
United States of America, 1869, 90c. carmine and black, used (1)	1	4	0
Zululand, 1894-96, £5 purple and black on red, used	1	2	0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER'S Sale.
February 19th and 20th, 1903.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1d red, plate No. 225, mint	1	10	0
Do. 2/- brown	2	2	0
Bergedorf, 1½ sch. black on yellow	1	18	0
Jhind State, on Indian, 1st issue, 8 annas and 1 rupee*	3	12	6
Nabha State, on Indian, 1st issue, 8 annas*	1	9	0
Japan, 1872, 20 sen. & 30 sen., Gibbons' Nos. 49 and 50*	1	4	0
Do. 30 sen. grey on thick wove paper, Gibbons' No. 51*	1	0	0
Do. 1874, 6 sen purple-brown on thin native laid paper, plate 6	1	10	0
North Borneo, 1886-89, perf. 12, ½c magenta*	1	9	0
Do. 1c. orange, mint	1	12	0
Portuguese Indies, 1872, 100 reis emerald-green, and Laid Paper, 200 reis yellow*	1	8	0
Straits Settlements, 1879-82 Provisional, 5c. on 4c rose, a pair*	2	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Straits Settlements, 1883 Provisional, vertical surch, 2c. on 32c.* and the wide E variety, used	1	6	0
Natal, wmk. Star, 3d. blue, imperf., fine, pair*	2	0	0
Antigua, C. and CA., 2½d. red-brown, horizontal strip of 3*	1	3	0
Uruguay, first issue, 80c. green, mint*	1	7	0
Peru, first issue, Pacific Steam Navigation Co.'s stamps, 2rls. brown-red, with lima postmark	16	10	0
Do. 1858, ½ peso orange-yellow, a fine horizontal strip of 10	16	0	0
Do. 1882-83, Chilean occupation, fiscals postally used, 1c., 2c. and 5c.	2	8	0
Queensland, 1882-83, perf. 9 x 12, 1d. pale red*	1	0	0
Victoria, 1885, surcharged Stamp Duty at sides, 1/- blue, mint*	0	18	0

Messrs. PUTTIOK & SIMPSON'S Sale,
Feb. 24th and 25th, 1903.

(All stamps * except when otherwise stated). All stamps in this Sale unused unless stated to be the contrary.

	£	s.	d.
Gibraltar, 1889 (Nov.), 10c. carmine, the error with figure of value omitted	10	0	0
Great Britain, 1840, 2d. deep blue, a superb block of 10	32	0	0
Do. 1847-54, 1d. red-brown, Archer roulette, very fine and scarce	4	10	0
Do. do. Octagonals, 6d. purple, a block of 6	17	0	0
Do. do. 6d. dark violet, a pair	9	0	0
Do. do. 10d. brown, die 3, a superb block of 4, creased	15	0	0
Do. do. a single copy without die No.	9	0	0
Do. 1854-57, small Crown, 2d. blue	3	5	0
Do. do. wmk. large Crown, perf. 16, 2d. blue	9	5	0
Do. do. wmk. large Crown, perf. 16, 1d rose-red on white, a superb pair	8	0	0
Do. 1855-57, wmk. small garter, 4d. carmine, a pair	12	0	0
Do. do. wmk. medium garter, 4d. carmine on blue	12	0	0

(To be continued).

MARTIN, RAY & Co., Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents,

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PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

Our Review of Reviews.

How Shall We Fix the Date of an Issue?

AN interesting question, "How should the Date of an Issue of Stamps be Fixed?" underlies an article by "An Old Collector" in "The Bazaar."

There seems to be a growing desire amongst philatelists (writes this "Old Collector") to make what in post-office language is termed the "day of issue," of a particular stamp, to depend on *the day when it was sent out*, and not on the day that it became available for the payment of postage. It has been constantly the case that, when an issue (and especially a first issue) of stamps has taken place, they have been supplied to the various post-offices some few days previously to that fixed for their use, to enable the public to furnish themselves with what quantity they may require: the tickets for the entertainment might be had in advance. But if the date at which the stamps might be purchased in advance is to be made the date of issue, it will alter the date of the first issue of the stamps of half the countries in the world. Before examining what occurred with those of Great Britain in 1840, I will give two or three instances of other countries in Europe, as the ministerial orders are more familiar to us than are those in other portions of the world.

It has been accepted by every philatelist that we have heard that the date of issue of the first Belgian stamps was 1st July, 1849; yet the ministerial order of June, 1849, states that "the stamps will be put on sale on and after 25th current, but cannot be made any use of before 1st July, the date fixed for the postal reform to come into effect." In Wurtemberg, the first use of postage stamps dates from 15th October, 1851; yet a post office notice informed the public that "they would be on sale at all the post offices, either singly or in sheets, on the 12th Oct." In Saxony, the use of the first postage stamp dates from 1st July, 1850, and the order of the post office states that "the sale by all the post offices would commence on the 29th June, though their use for prepayment was not permitted till 1st July." I could adduce many other instances, but these will suffice to show that the day when the stamps were put on sale and the date when they were available for the prepayment of postage, which has hitherto been regarded as the "date of issue," were not synchronous.

Now let us refer to the stamps of Great Britain. On 29th April, 1840, the General Post Office sent a circular to the various post offices, enclosing specimens of the One Penny label, and the Mulready cover and envelopes of 1d. and 2d., and on the same day a notice was issued by the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes that stamps might be used on and after 6th May for payment of postage, and that on and after 1st May such stamps could be purchased either at their office or at the Sea Policy Office in Threadneedle Street, at the prices therein given, which were for quantities of not less than half-ream of 1d. covers or envelopes, quarter-ream of 2d. covers or envelopes, and a sheet of 240 adhesive stamps of 1d. or 2d.; the latter, however, were not ready. On 30th

April a notice was issued by the Post Office, which commenced as follows:—"The Lords of the Treasury having fixed the 6th May next for the issue of postage stamps, on and after that day all letters written on stamped paper or enclosed in stamped covers, or having stamps affixed to them . . . will pass free of postage, in whatever part of the United Kingdom they may be posted." From this it is clear that the Post Office regarded the 6th May (*i.e.*, the first day of use) as the "day of issue," and we cannot understand why any philatelist wants to prove that the Post Office was wrong, and that the day of issue was the day when a sort of wholesale sale was commenced at the two stamp offices in London.

In 1840, London was not divided into postal districts, and there were no district post offices, only Receiving Houses, which were generally stationers' shops. These could have obtained supplies from the two wholesale offices; but only a few did so, and it was some days before they obtained direct supplies and were able to retail them to the public. It is true that Sir Rowland wrote that the issue was made on 1st May, the same as he wrote that the embossed stamp of 1s. was made on Saturday, 11th Sept., 1847; but when we speak of stamps, it seems to us that we ought to use the words as they are employed by the Post Office, for though the language of this office is not always the most intelligible, yet it is precise enough on some points. Sir R. Hill wrote as to when the stamps were sent out of the office of the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes; the Post Office dated from the day they were available for use. We see no use whatever in endeavouring to antedate the date of issue; but we see a great deal of harm in it, as it would affect the date of issue of so many other stamps, and not only make every catalogue wrong, but in many cases the date could not be fixed—as, for instance, in the French stamps, that came into use 1st Jan., 1849, but which commenced to be sent out to the various post offices on 20th Dec., 1848.

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" " " 1862, 6d. slate, perf.	1	0
Orange Free State, V.R.I., 5/-, mint	5	6
" " " 1/- on 5/., used	1	6
" " " 4d. in red on 6d., mint	0	6
" " " E.R.I. 6d. blue, used	0	5
Transvaal, E.R.I., 4d. green, mint	0	3
" " " 3d., used	0	4
Straits Settlements, King, 30c., mint	0	8
" " " 50c. "	1	0
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September 29 and 30; October 13 and 14, 27 and 28; November 10 and 11, 24 and 25; December 8 and 9.**

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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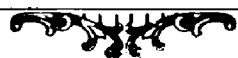
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We have much pleasure in announcing that we have again received the

HIGHEST POSSIBLE AWARD

(Silver Medal) for our Albums; this time at the recent Hague Exhibition. This, following our previous success at last year's Philatelic Exhibition in Paris, when we also gained the First Prize (Silver Medal), makes only the second occasion we have shown these Albums.

We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 210.—Vol IX.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

MESSRS. GLENDINING & Co.,

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The next Sale of POSTAGE STAMPS will be held on WEDNESDAY, 8th APRIL 1903, at 4.30 p.m.; and will consist of a FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION broken up into lots, many rare stamps. Catalogues ready shortly and will be posted free on application.

WHY NOT ASK FOR ONE?

Following Stamp Sale, April 24th & 25th, 1903.

Fine Art, Miniature, Plate, Jewellery, etc.

7th April, 1903.

COINS AND MEDALS.

On APRIL 21st, 22nd, 23rd & 24th, 1903, a Collection of Scotch and English Coins, War Medals and Decorations, including rare gold Peninsular, Naval General Service, and Indian Medals.

LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

Periodical Sales by Auction of RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

At the **BLenheim ROOM, HOTEL CECIL, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.**

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their Dates of Sales for the Season will be as under :—
1903.—APRIL 2nd and 3rd, 23rd and 24th; MAY 7th and 8th, 21st and 22nd; JUNE 11th and 12th.

APRIL 2nd and 3rd—Messrs. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER have received instructions to Sell on the above dates the fine Collection of . . .

AUSTRALIAN and ASIATIC STAMPS, The property of G. NORMAN, Esq., and other properties, including the following rarities:—

GREAT BRITAIN. 9d., straw, with small letters in the corners, a mint pane of 20 with full margins; ditto, a part panes of 12 and 8 in the bistre shade, also with margins; 1/., green, same date, mint corner block of 6; and other mint blocks.

JAPAN. A fine lot, practically complete.

NORTH BORNEO. Scarce errors, etc.

PHILIPPINES. A very fine lot, including first issues complete, surcharged "Habilitado," etc., on first issue; 1 real, blue, on 1863; 1 and 2 reales, etc.

STRAITS and NATIVE STATES. A fine lot, many scarce.

TRANSVAAL. Red surcharge on 3d., lilac.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1862 provl.; 2c., black on yellow, very fine.

FIJI ISLANDS. "Times Express," first issue, 1d., 3d., and 1/-; second issue complete.

NEW SOUTH WALES. Fine Sydney Views, Laureateds, etc.

NEW ZEALAND. A very fine lot, including the rare 1d., brown, wmk. N.Z.; scarce pelures; thick paper stamps, rouletted, etc.

QUEENSLAND. First issue complete: 1882, 1d., compound perf., unused, etc.

SAMOA. First issue complete, used.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA. A very fine lot of the early issues, including unused 9d., with impressions at back, etc.

TASMANIA. 1d., blue, and other scarce stamps.

VICTORIA. First issue, 1d., 2d., and 3d., unused; 2d., fine background and scarce shades; 1863, 1d., green, wmk. double-lined 4; 5/., blue on yellow, etc.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA. First issue, 2d.; the two shades, 6d., with full bronze; scarce roulettes, etc.

... And many others. . . .

These Sales are attended by all the principal 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.

REVISED TERMS ON APPLICATION.

CATALOGUES of all Sales can be obtained from

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

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Hold AUCTION SALES every FORTNIGHT between SEPTEMBER and JULY.

NEXT SALES will be held

On TUESDAY, March 31st, and WEDNESDAY, April 1st, in the Arbitration Room, 64, Chancery Lane,

These SALES will comprise a Fine General Selection of Colonials, and other Stamps, including Rarities and a number of Collections and mixed Lots. Catalogues (free). Now ready.

FUTURE DATES—1903.—April 16 and 17; 28 and 29. May 12 and 13; 26 and 27. June 16 and 17.

Clients wishing to include Lots should make arrangements IN GOOD TIME.

Commission 10%. Minimum average charge 2/- per Lot.

SETTLEMENTS usually in TEN DAYS. AT LATEST within 14 days after Sale.

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The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

Published every Alternate Saturday.

With which are incorporated "Stamps," 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 Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club, and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange.

No 210.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad

More Stolen Stamps.

We are asked to call the attention of our readers to a robbery of valuable British Colonial and United States stamps in Glasgow.

The person accused of the theft was residing at Charing Cross Mansions up to February last. He has since left Glasgow and up to the present his whereabouts are unknown to the police.

As a considerable proportion of the stolen stamps were marked on the plain side with a small shamrock in some instances, and the letter "R" in violet in old English type in others, any philatelist receiving stamps from strangers thus marked would render a service to the cause of justice by at once communicating with us.

An Exhibition of Australians.

We learn from Mr. Albert Perrin, Secretary of the New York Collectors' Club, that a special Exhibition of Australian Stamps is to be held on the evening of April 13th. The prizes, consisting of two silver cups and a clock and side ornaments, are presented by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited.

The scheme of the exhibition is one that should commend it to all collectors. Each competing exhibitor is requested to show 100 Australian stamps—no more, no less—and the specimens may be used, unused, or both.

These small competitive stamp shows have become quite a settled feature of the Collectors' Club, the N.Y. Philatelic Society, the Chicago Philatelic Society, and other stamp organisations across the pond. We need more of them in our own country.

"As a Member of the B.P.S."

Mr. G. JOHNSON, Hon. Secretary of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, writes us as follows:

A person giving the name and address of Dr. E. W. Kemps, Emsholt Street, Camdens Gardens, London, N.W., and sometimes adding "Directeur du Medical Controle" is writing to many dealers asking for selections and saying that he is a member of the B.P.S. He is not a member and never has been. I immediately put the matter into the hands of the police and they inform me that as usual it is a small barber's shop where letters are left, and that several registered and other letters were then awaiting him. They were doing the same. I hope that long ere this they have met.

The Way of the "New Collector."

IN a paper recently read before the London Philatelic Society, Mr. C. F. Dendy Marshall returns to the subject of his scheme for a New Collection, a plan first outlined in the issue of the "London Philatelist" for March, 1898. Mr. Dendy Marshall now felicitates himself on the fact that the principles he advocates are being extensively adopted.

Those principles, briefly, are twofold. The first, which affects collectors of unused stamps only, is to take, wherever possible, corner stamps or blocks with the marginal paper attached.

The second principle or rule interests those who collect used stamps. "These must be taken," says Mr. Dendy Marshall "on a piece of the original cover, cut out so as to show the whole postmark."

Some Sydney "Views."

AS always welcome Colonial correspondent, Mr. A. H. Pettifer, Vice-President of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club, writes us as follows:

"Australian stamps just at present here are on the upward tendency, and the dealers lament is that no good Australians are offering. The supply is the only thing that is worrying them.

"The new Queensland 9d. stamp has not made its appearance yet, although the die has been approved of. Our N.S.W. 7½ and 12½ are now both obsolete and selling at a good premium on face, unused. Our 9d. is supposed to be also soon out of use in its present design. But so far the new 9d. and 2/6 have not materialised. The writer bought two good stamps the other day, viz., Tasmanian 1d. full face, wmk. 2 and Victoria Laureated 1d., wmk. double line 4 and paid good prices for both, of course good copies.

"The talk in the Philatelic press about a Federal 4d. news paper stamp which was to have appeared last November is without foundation.

"It is said we are to have no more surcharged stamps on the expiry of our 9d., which I believe is the last in Australia."

"Malcolm Campbell, Esq."

CHARGED WITH FRAUD AND COMMITTED TO TAKE HIS TRIAL
AT THE QUARTER SESSIONS.

AN INTERESTING CASE.

We append a full report of the hearing of a charge of fraud against the philatelist (?) from Mexborough, Malcolm Campbell by name, whose weakness for the use of the word "Esquire" after his own name was referred to in the *Fortnightly* some time ago. The case was heard before the Kendal magistrates, with the Mayor (Alderman Monkhouse) presiding.

Malcolm Campbell, 24, described as a clerk, of no fixed abode, was charged with obtaining by false pretences, on January 22nd and other dates, stamps to the value of £38 4s. 7d., from Mr. Herbert W. Baron, manufacturer, of Birchfield, Kendal, who carries on a stamp selling and exchanging business under the name of the Westmorland Philatelic Company.

The Chief Constable (Mr. A. M. Berry) related the circumstances of the case, and said that unfortunately the landlady with whom the prisoner had lodged at Ardrossan was too ill to attend, but Inspector Allen, of Ardrossan, would speak to seeing the prisoner there.

Mr. Herbert Wm. Baron stated that during the year 1902 he advertised stamps for sale or exchange in various weekly journals. On January 9th he received a postcard which said, "Please let me have a selection of good stamps, English unused especially desired, of value from 1887 to 1897. Reference, A. H. Pollard, stamp importer, Accrington." He wrote to Mr. Pollard, and received a satisfactory reply, stating that he had had some dealings with Campbell, who lived at Mexborough. He had destroyed Mr. Pollard's letter. He then wrote to Campbell at Ardrossan, asking him for an explanation, and he replied by postcard, styling himself as Campbell, shipping agent, of Mexborough. He asked for English stamps, used and unused, and good Colonials, and said that business might result, and that the addresses both in Mexborough and Ardrossan were permanent. This postcard did not come by post, but by rail in a large envelope. Enclosed in the envelope was another addressed to Campbell at Ardrossan. On the representation of the permanency of the addresses he sent stamps on to the value of £18 7s. He was of opinion that Campbell was a shipping agent, with a permanent address at Mexborough, and an office at Ardrossan, which was a port. He assumed him to be a man of good business standing. He sent the stamps to Ardrossan, and by the same post advised him at his Mexborough address, as requested on the postcard. The enclosed envelope was addressed so as to be sent by passenger train to Ardrossan, but witness preferred to send the stamps by registered post. On January 18th he received another postcard from Campbell, in which he stated that he had sold 10s. and a £1 worth of the stamps to his friend that day, and would write early the next week if he kept any of the others. His friend desired certain other stamps, of which particulars were given, and he would be pleased to receive the same per return, so that he could send his friend's cheque for them. The letter also asked if witness would allow him an overriding commission of 2½ per cent. In reply witness sent on the 18th, stamps to the value of £17 15s. 4d. They were enclosed in a book with his name in it, and the prices were marked; but he could not remember whether he wrote with the stamps. On January 19th he received another postcard, which stated that he had disposed of certain stamps, and could dispose of another three pairs of each. The others were of no use. If witness was not desirous of having them back he would endeavour to sell them, and would himself purchase with 2½ per cent. commission. In consequence of this communication on January 20th he sent stamps to the value of 4s. 4d., and on January 22nd stamps to the value of £1 17s. The total value of the stamps sent was £38 4s. 7d., and the stamps sent out were in book form on approval. Seven days was the time allowed for the return of the stamps, or cash for same, and a note was in the books stating this. The gross price shown in the book was 33 to 50 per cent. higher than the net price. The gross price of the first lot of stamps was marked at £36 15s. 10d., less 30 per cent., which equalled £18 7s. 11d. net. The other lots were priced to Campbell at net prices. If the prisoner had been desirous of selling the stamps in the ordinary way of business he could have made 10 or 15 per cent. profit. The gross price of the stamps in the first book he sent to Campbell varied from 10s. to £5 10s each. It was on the representation that both the addresses given by prisoner were permanent that he forwarded the stamps. After the limit of time had expired for purchase on the first transaction, he wrote to the defendant both at Mexborough and at Ardrossan asking for the return of the stamps or cash. The letter he sent to Mexborough was returned through the Dead Letter Office. His two

letters to Ardrossan on January 27th and 28th, the former asking for the return of the stamps or cash, were also returned in a like manner. On receiving the Mexborough letter back on January 27th he wired to Ardrossan asking for the immediate return of the stamps. He received a reply wire from Belfast on the 28th saying that he was leaving for Scotland, and would reply immediately on arrival. On receipt of that telegram he wrote to Campbell at Ardrossan on the 28th, that he hoped to receive cash or stamps as promised. He waited three days, till Saturday, the 31st, and again wired to Campbell at Ardrossan. He received a notice of non-delivery from the Kendal Post Office, which stated that the prisoner had left for Belfast. He had not then received the letters back from Ardrossan, and since he had received the wire from the prisoner at Belfast he had heard nothing of him. He subsequently gave information to the police. The nineteen stamps produced were his property, and part of the stamps sent to the prisoner. He identified them by the tickets on the stamps and the impressions of the tickets, which were rather larger than usual. Two of the stamps had his handwriting on the back.

Cross-examined by the prisoner, witness said he agreed that the prison was the person referred to by Mr. Pollard. He had agreed to allow prisoner 52½ per cent. commission on stamps he sold.

The prisoner produced an advertisement which stated Malcolm Campbell to be a shipping agent at Mexborough of a certain line, and this witness admitted would have satisfied him he was a shipping agent, if taken in conjunction with other agencies. He did not admit that the prisoner was the trustee of his stamps. In consideration that the prisoner either took or sold some of the valuable stamps he allowed him the extra 2½ per cent. commission. The prisoner did not inform him that he had an office at Ardrossan, but a permanent address. He did not assume that both addresses were permanent, but had it in black and white. He had advertised his stamps for eighteen months prior to July, 1902, and not since. He had no copies of any letters written to the prisoner. He could not say whether the book he sent the prisoner had his own name or the Westmorland Philatelic Company on it. It was not a recognised plan among dealers in stamps to inflate their prices so as to allow a large discount. The stamps he sent to the prisoner were priced at the actual commercial value according to Gibbons' catalogue, with two exceptions. He had sent stamps to people in lodgings, once to "H. Walker, London," and they walked. (Laughter). He would not consider Mr. Pollard's letter sufficient reference for a person in lodgings without making further inquiries. He did not admit there was any contract between the prisoner and himself as to the stamps, and he did not consider the allowance of a commission to the prisoner implied that there was a contract between them. He had inflated the value of two stamps beyond that marked in Gibbons' catalogue because they were stamps that realised three-quarters of their catalogue value by public auction, and would not therefore allow of the 50 per cent. commission. He consented to the prisoner disposing of the stamps, but not as his agent. He was not under the impression that the prisoner was a middleman. It was true that the prisoner had said on a postcard that he was selling some of the stamps to a third party. He sent the stamps on approval.

The prisoner raised the point of law as to whether Kendal was the proper place for him to be tried, arguing that he should be tried where his letters asking for stamps were despatched.

The Mayor pointed out that he should be rightly tried in the town where the cause of action arose, which was in Kendal, where the stamps were despatched.—By the Chief Constable, witness said he treated with the prisoner as a purchaser only, and not as an agent. The nineteen stamps produced were picked out by him from amongst about forty.

Robert Davis, a miner, living at Penistone, Yorkshire, said that up till a short time ago he lived at Mexborough, and there the prisoner and his wife lodged with him from October 9th to December 24th. During that time, being out of work, he was at home to a great extent. Scores of parcels, letters, and postcards came for Campbell by every post, and the prisoner did no other work than write letters, that he was aware of. He stayed indoors most of the time, but went out at nights. On December 24th he went to the station with Campbell and his wife, who went away to Scotland. The prisoner said they had taken four days' tickets, and asked him to keep their dog at his house, and he would pay him for its keep. A day or two after Christmas he received a number of stamped and addressed envelopes from the prisoner who wrote asking him to forward to him at Ardrossan any letters or postcards that came for him. This he continued to do until he left Mexborough for Penistone the third week in January. He might say he sent the prisoner hundreds of letters in this way. A week before he left Mexborough he received another letter from the prisoner, who said he was not coming at present, and sent three stamped envelopes to forward letters to Belfast. He sent directed labels to be attached to his belongings left with witness, some of which were sent to Ardrossan, and the others to Saltcoats. The prisoner had not paid him anything for the

keep of the dog. He had posted a number of letters and postcards sent to him by the prisoner after he left Mexborough.

In the course of cross-examination by the prisoner, witness asked him a question, whereupon he replied to the amusement of the court, "I am afraid your Honours (meaning the magistrates) won't allow the witness to cross-examine me?" Up to December 24th the prisoner's wife had paid regularly for the lodgings. He admitted that he knew the prisoner was correspondent to a local paper. He was not aware that the prisoner had been employed at one of the local pits.—Frederick Watson, Inspector of the West Riding Constabulary, stationed at Mexborough, said that prisoner to his knowledge had resided at Mexborough for two years, and with the exception of a certain period he had had him under observation, and the prisoner had not to his knowledge been engaged in any business since last July. The house where prisoner had lived was an ordinary four-roomed miner's cottage.

David Henry Allen, Inspector of the Ayrshire Constabulary, stationed at Ardrossan, spoke to having seen the prisoner in Ardrossan, and being constantly in and out of the Post Office at Ardrossan. As far as he knew prisoner was not a householder, and did not follow any employment.

Arthur James Hudson, a stamp dealer, of Philatelic House, Brierfield, in Lancashire, said he advertised stamps for sale and exchange in the weekly journals. On December 3rd, 1902, he received a postcard from "Mr. M. Campbell, shipping and insurance agent," asking for stamps to be sent. He thought that the sender was a trustworthy man, and sent him a book of stamps, valued at £4 7s. 3d. Certain correspondence passed between them, but he never received any money, nor were the stamps returned. The prisoner handed in two documents showing that he was a shipping and insurance agent, and witness said that had he seen these he should have considered the prisoner a man of standing.

John William Spowart, a stamp dealer, of Southport, gave evidence of receiving a postcard from Campbell on November 27th, 1902, and in reply he sent him stamps to the value of £1 7s. 7d., less fifty per cent. He had never received any money in payment for the stamps, or their return.

The Chief Constable deposed to going to Dublin on the 6th inst. in consequence of information received, and on the 7th he arrested the prisoner there. He read the warrant for his arrest over to him and cautioned him, and he replied, "When I got them I did not intend to defraud." He conveyed the prisoner and his belongings the same day to Kendal police station. Before he could bring him back he had to release out of pawn for 5s. 3d. the coat which the prisoner was now wearing. A considerable number of other pawn tickets were found upon him, and were for various articles, including a Freemason's gown and apron. On looking through the prisoner's belongings at Kendal he found the stamps which Mr. Baron had identified as his property, and a book, which was a history of famous Scottish families. On Sunday, the 8th inst., the prisoner asked to see him, and he took him out of his cell into the charge office. Inspector Smith was present. Prisoner said, "I wish to assist you in the matter all I can." He cautioned him, and the prisoner then read out four addresses of persons to whom he had sold stamps, and said he had never received more than 25s. for any parcel of stamps he had sold.

The magistrates retired, and on their return the prisoner pleaded "Not Guilty," and asked to be dealt with summarily. The Chairman of the Bench said that even if the prisoner had pleaded guilty the Magistrates could not have dealt with the case summarily, as they considered it was too serious a charge to be so dealt with.

The prisoner said that his answer to the charge was that, contrary to what had been alleged, no false pretence of any kind induced Mr. Baron to enter into business relations with him. The prisoner quoted a quantity of law as to the meaning of misrepresentation. Not only was there not misrepresentation, but not larceny, and prisoner said that the case was one that ought never to have been brought before their Honours, and that a proper and just remedy ought to have been applied for in a civil court. He argued that Mr. Baron had consented to his disposing of the stamps, and had therefore made him his trustee in the matter. The false pretences he alleged as to his being a shipping and insurance agent could be easily disproved by a number of documents which the Crown Prosecutor (meaning the Chief Constable) held. These showed that prisoner was the agent for a large number of firms, and was a shipping and insurance agent. Prisoner quoted the case of *Moss v. Street* in the King's Bench, in which he said it was declared that goods on sale or return when sold and not paid for, the owner could only recover for in a civil court. After more law upon the case, the prisoner said there was a great doubt in it, and their Honours ought to give him the benefit of it.

Prisoner was committed for trial at the Quarter Sessions, and having applied for a copy of the evidence in the case, the magistrates granted his request.

On Postal Cards and Covers.

BY A SPECIALIST.

ROUMANIA (CONTINUED).

(From Fry's Catalogue, 1886.)

1875 (Jan.) Stamp as before, in right upper corner. Arms (18 mm) in left upper corner. CARTA DE POSTA in open capitals in upper centre, followed by an ornamental dash, without rays. No other inscription at head, and the rest of the card as in last issue. Stamp in colour, rest in black on buff card.

5 bani, blue.

A.—par. 1, vendu, par. 2, decut, par. 3, cut, par. 4, plateste.
20 a. Large D par. 5, scrisorile for scissorile.

Note. If it were not for this variation this card would be perfect.

21 b. Large D par. 2, ocrrespondenta for correspondentia.

.. 3, posibil for posibil.

.. 5, scrisorile for scissorile.

22 c. Large D, par. 2, no cedilla under t of cartii.

.. 3, posibil for posibil.

.. 5, scrisorile for scissorile.

23 d. Small D, par. 1, de for pe.

.. 3, posibil for posibil.

.. 5, scrisorile for scissorile.

24 e. Large D, par. 3, posibil for posibil.

.. 5, no accent over a of posta; scrisorile for scissorile, and the sixth and seventh letters of this word badly formed.

B.—par. 1, vendu, par. 2, decat, par. 3, cat, par. 4, plateste.

25 a. Small D, par. 1, Cartile & Posta without accent over a's.

.. 4, Plateste, without accent over the a.

.. 5, c of recomanda badly formed.

26 b. Small D, par. 4, plateste, without accent over a.

.. 5, platinduse a.

27 c. Small D, par. 2, correspondenta a.

.. 4, plateste a.

.. 4, aducatorului,2nd a.

28 a. Small D, par. 2, correspondenta a.

.. 3, urmează for urmeazu a.

.. 5, second r in *regisrtare* in Roman type.

C.—par. 1, vendu, par. 2, decat, par. 3, cut, par. 4, plateste.

29 b. Large D, par. 3, scriusa for scriusa.

.. 3, posibil for posibil.

.. 5, scrisorili for scissorili.

1876 (*End of*) Same as issue of Jan. 1875, but with the following differences.

A.—par. 1, vendu, par. 2, decat, par. 3, cut, par. 4, plateste.

30 a. Large D, par. 3, 2nd s in adresa upside down.

31 b. Small D .. 3, 2nd s

.. 4, aducatorulor for aducatorului.

32 c. Large D, par. 5, scrisorile for scissorile.

33 d. Small D .. 2, no comma after adresa.

34 e. Large D .. 1, nominala for nominala.

35 f. Small D .. 1, byrourile for biurourile.

36 g. Small D .. 4, nimie for nimieu.

37 h. Large D .. 2, no i in permis.

.. 2, 2nd s in adresa upside down.

38 i. Large D .. 4, nimie for nimieu.

.. 5, pot for potu.

39 j. Large D .. 3, posibil for posibil.

B.—par. 1, vendu, par. 2, decat, par. 3, cut, par. 4, plateste.

40 i. Large D, par. 4, plateste without accent over the a.

C.—par. 1, vendu, par. 2, decat, par. 3, cat, par. 4, plateste.

41 a. Large D, par. 1, no hyphen between telegraph and postal.

.. 2, period instead of hyphen in the word correspondentia.

.. 4, plateste without accent over a.

.. 5, scrisorile for scissorile.

.. 5, platinduse without accent over a.

42 b. Small D, same as last card but small D, and par. 4 plateste has accent over a.

43 c. Large D, par. 1, valorea for valoarea.

(To be continued).

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MARCH 28, 1903.

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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The Trustful Stamp Man.

Reference to another portion of this issue of the *Fortnightly* will show that "Malcolm Campbell, Esq.," of Mexborough and Ardrossan, arrested in Dublin a few weeks ago, has now been committed for trial on the charge of obtaining stamps by false pretences. Warrants were issued for Malcolm Campbell's arrest at the instance of various persons, who charged him with fraudulent trading, but no further action against him is contemplated pending the decision of the present proceedings. Obviously at the present time it would be both unfair and improper to comment upon the case. It is a primary principle of English law—the finest and fairest law in all the world—that every man shall be deemed innocent until he has been proven guilty; and it yet remains for a judge and jury to decide whether Malcolm Campbell is innocent or guilty.

We may, however, be permitted a few remarks on the broad question of the frequent complaints of unfair and fraudulent dealings by so-called philatelists.

It is a strong thing to say—indeed, we feel quite sure that we shall be criticised and blamed for saying it—but we do say most positively that in nine cases out of ten where stamp dealers, or let us say stamp sellers are swindled, the fault is entirely on the side of the careless, over-trustful vendor. Stamp dealers, or a great many of them, show a great lack of caution in their business dealings. Approval selections are sent out broadcast, sometimes quite unsolicited, and when they are solicited, little or no trouble is taken by the average seller of stamps to ascertain whether the would-be purchaser is a responsible and reputable person. If references are demanded it is quite on the cards that the applicant will have the sublime impudence to give a name of the highest repute in philately. Then what happens? Off go the stamps by return of post! The mention of a big name is quite sufficient for the average philatelist. "Oh, that looks all right," he tells himself; "I can't bother to write an enquiry about him, and address an envelope for the reply." So, because he is too lazy or too confiding to observe the ordinary precautions of business, he entrusts what is perhaps a very valuable consignment of stamps to an utter stranger living, or supposed to be living, in some distant town or city.

It is not business. It is not even common-sense. And to what must we attribute this strange willingness to send valuable books of stamps to unknown persons? In our opinion it is all a result of the general eagerness to secure business. Well, one cannot quarrel with a business man for that. Still, we put it to the Business Man of Philately that it is better, far better, to restrict one's trade to deals that are absolutely safe than to snap up every bit of business that presents itself and take with it a gambler's risk as to whether the money will be forthcoming.

We speak now primarily to dealers, but our words are applicable also to many amateur philatelists, secretaries of Exchange Clubs and others, who enter into business relations with persons of whose antecedents they know nothing and apparently care less.

It is not business. It is tomfoolery!

The occidentalisation of the Ameer proceeds apace. Quite recently we were told that the ruler of all the Afghans had resolved to allow himself in future only four wives, and, *inter alia*, only four mothers-in-law; now the newspapers tell us that:—

The stock of postage stamps in Afghanistan having been exhausted the Ameer proposes to introduce a new issue which will be prepared on the lines of the stamps used in Europe. In default of the stamps a postal seal is now being placed on letters.

"On the lines of the stamps used in Europe" is ominous reading. Coming on top of the Ameer's decision to reduce his household on the spindle side it rather looks like a fit of financial retrenchment on the part of the Afghan ruler. In that case we may have to put up with frequent issues of gumpaps, including Postage Due stamps, registration labels, "A.R.'s" and things, "on the lines of the stamps used in"—shall we say Salvador?

The Frivolous Side of Philately.

(By ALFRED JINGLE.)

The readers of the *Fortnightly* will allow me to congratulate them, one and all, on the unanimity with which they held themselves back from the little prize competition introduced into my last column of frivolities. Such determination not to add to the gaiety of an already over-giddy world speaks volumes for them as a serious and studious body of men.

But stay!—What is this? The postman brings me two letters—to be exact, one letter and a post-card—and I find that the readers of the *S.C.F.* have not been quite so negatively unanimous as I at first supposed.

"P.L." contributes the following as his medley of stamp dealers' names:—

The *Kings Somerset Butlers* had *Moore Ginn* than other *Fellows* to *Puck* away ere they could *Bolton* to the *Uplands*.

But "F.W.P." goes a great deal better than this with the following weird and wonderful production:

The *King* told the *Young Prince* to go for a *Roach* on the *Pool* belonging to the *Dean and Monks of Lincoln*. He did *Rideout* at a *Gallop* across the *West Field White* with *Frost* because the *Brown Moore* was *Hillier*. He saw a *Calf* which *Had loved* to the *Bull* his *Leader* that a *Leech* was biting him, and a *Gray Wolff* was behind. A *Goose*, a *Jay*, a *Martin* and a *Cochran* with *Peckitt*, and it was shot by a *Hardy English Archer* in a *Pink Cloke*, *Nunn* helping him. Being a clever *Fisher* with a *Reed* with a *Winch* on it he caught a *Fish* with soft *Roe* in a *Webb*. He was offered for it first a *Shilling* then a *Bright Louis*, but he preferred a *Ponnev* as it was heavier, which he paid to a *Smith* to make his axe *Sharp* as it *Wood Notcut* or *Chipp Stones*, who being a *Scott* gave it to his *Welch Butler James Jones* to pay the *Taylor, Turner, Cooper, Sadler, Barber, Mason* and *Painter* which made them *Skip* with joy and they *Bluett* in *Ginn*.

I think I asked only for a *sentence*, so "F.W.P." has not adhered to the rules. However, I don't wish to raise a merely technical objection. In fact, to show what a generous man I am—in disposing of other people's property—I am going to award a prize of a free subscription to the *Fortnightly* both to "P.L." and "F.W.P." The former is Mr. P. Langton, Angel Lane, Hayes, Middlesex, but "F.W.P.," suffering perhaps from the modesty of genius, sendeth neither his name nor his whereabouts. If each of these gentlemen will write the Manager of the *S.C.F.* on the subject, mentioning whether the subscription is to be booked to himself or to a friend, the matter will be attended to without delay.

"The space devoted to personal quarrels in some of our contemporaries could be well devoted to matters of interest to the stamp collecting public," says the "Virginia Philatelist."

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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.

Afghanistan.—The announcement is made by newspaper correspondents that an entirely new issue of Afghan stamps, "on European lines," will make its appearance at an early date. In this connection the "Philatelic Journal of India" gives currency to the statement that the new stamps are to appear on the first day of the Mahomedan year, March 30th, 1903.

Argentine Republic.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, explain the use of the stamps of high values perforated with large letters. The postage on newspapers is paid in cash, and reckoned upon the total weight of the papers sent. Stamps to the amount of the postage are then delivered to the senders, as a receipt, cancelled by perforating them with the word "INUTILIZADO," in large capitals.

Cape of Good Hope.—We give illustrations of the two latest additions to the list of "King's Head" stamps from



this colony—the 4d. and 5s.

King's Heads. 4d. sage green.
5s. orange brown.

Cyprus.—In addition to the ½ piastre stamp, specimen copies of four further values of the King's Head set have been seen, though not yet formally issued. The full list to date reads as follows:—

King's Heads.—30 paras, green and purple.
½ piastre, green and carmine.
1 " blue and carmine.
4 " purple and olive-green.
6 " pale green and brownish-green.
12 " black and brown

Colombia.—The various provisional stamps created in various cities and provinces of this Republic, are scathingly criticised by Dr. G. Michelsen in an article contributed to the "Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung." The "Philatelic Record" thus translates Dr. Michelsen's opinions of the various issues:—

"*Cartagena.*—These stamps, when a buyer presented himself at the post office, were always sold out, but the current stamps of Colombia were always in stock, and could be supplied. . . . The postal officials could, however, always oblige buyers with provisionals at double and treble face value!"

"*Cucuta.*— . . . As the governmental troops surrounded the town, which could not in consequence have any postal connection with other parts, stamps were a superfluous luxury." But these stamps did, we believe, reach New York and other places on letters, and must be acknowledged to have paid postage.

"*Tumaco.*—This town also in turn was beleaguered by the governmental troops or the revolutionists and cut off from the world. Yet a postal official managed to issue stamps and get a few letters franked with them to Europe. The latest report is that the inventive official has been suspended for issuing these stamps.

"*Rio Hacha.*—The same remarks are made as to the provisionals of this place.

"*Garzon.*—The authorities were absolutely unaware that any provisionals had been issued at this place. An inquiry set on foot concerning the postmaster elicited the fact that he had not issued the stamps, only obliterated a few to oblige a friend. He keeps company now with his brother of Tumaco.

Honda.—Some genius bought several sheets of the current 2c. stamps and surcharged them vertically 'Habilitado vale \$0.01.

Honda. He used them for franking printed matter costing 1 centavo. As the full face value (2c.) had been paid for the stamps, and the postage for printed matter was only 1c., the officials let them pass until the general postal administration at Bogata heard of it and confiscated all stamps still in possession of the speculator."

Eritrea.—On the 1st of April, it is said, this Italian Colony will be furnished with new stamps, made by surcharging in black 'Colonia Eritrea' on the current stamps of Italy. The full set of stamps from 1 centesimo up to 5 lire will be so overprinted.

Hong Kong.—We have already illustrated and chronicled the 1 cent. stamp of the King's Head series. In addition to this, the following values are reported to have been seen in the form of specimen copies. The head of the King is in the second colour in each case:—

King's Heads: 2 cents light green.
4 " brown on salmon.
5 " orange and light green.
8 " violet and black.
10 " ultramarine & mauve, on light blue paper.
12 " brown and green on yellow.
20 " brown and black.

French Foreign Offices.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. provide us with a few additions to the list of French "Externals" of the new type:—

Port Said: 20 centimes, lilac.
25 " blue.
30 " mauve.
Alexandria: 10 " carmine.
20 " lilac.
30 " mauve.

Portuguese Colonies.—Just as we go to press with this number Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us particulars of an avalanche of new stamps for the various portions of the Portuguese Empire, including stamps for Inhambane, which we think is quite a new addition to the philatelist's list. A full list description of these new Portuguese goods must be given in our next number.

Seychelles.—An interesting double surcharge is shown us by Mr. John Harms. This is the 15c. on 16c. with a very duplication of the numeral portion of the surcharge, but only a very faint indication of any "doubling" of the word "cents."

Sierra Leone.—"E.W.S.N." chronicles the following King Edward Stationery.

Postcards. ½d. green on buff.
½ + ½ " "
1d. carmine "
1 + 1d. " "
Envelopes. 1d. carmine on white laid. 140 + 78mm.
2½d. blue " "

United States.—The new stamps are being severely criticised, and the authorities at Washington have already taken the strong step of retiring the 2 cents value. The 1 cent green, of which we now give an illustration, has also incurred the public displeasure, together with the 3 cents. In fact, an issue of stamps which was confidently expected to find general favour in the eyes of the public, is being generally denounced as cramped and inartistic. On the subject of the condemned 2 cents value "The Optimist," the Washington correspondent of the "Metropolitan Philatelist," writes as follows:—



Just what changes will be made in the new design cannot be forecasted accurately, or even approximately, for that matter. I understand it is the purpose of the Department to simply change the present die in several respects, retaining the general features as at present. This programme may not be followed out, however. If it does not seem practicable to make over the present die, then an entirely new one will be made.

In America the 8 cents value (Martha Washington) appears to be the most popular in the "Series of 1902."

Uruguay.—A Newspaper and Registration Envelope is chronicled by several contemporaries.

Wrapper. 5 milesimos blue.
Reg. Envelope.

YOU

collect stamps and of course you want the best value for your money, probably there are many spaces in your collection which you would be only too pleased to fill if you knew that you could do so at a reasonable figure, now is the opportunity to do so, which may never occur again. We

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GOLD MEDAL,
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SILVER MEDAL,
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Philatelic Societies' Reports.

JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

A MEETING of the Society was held on Saturday last, at Clapham Hall, when a paper by Mr. B. W. Warhurst, entitled "Entirely about Entirets," was read by Mr. W. A. Bois. In the paper, which was highly interesting, Mr. Warhurst pointed out one of the great reasons why entirets should be more generally collected, is that they can be bought as cheaply. The paper was illustrated by some very fine specimens, and at the close every one present was presented with a selection of entirets as the foundation for a collection.

The next Meeting of the Society will be held on Saturday, April 4th, when a Sale and Exchange will be conducted and the twelfth part of Mr. E. Heginbottom's Collection of Great Britain will be displayed. A paper will also be read by Mr. C. J. Patman, entitled "How to make Stamp Exchanges more Popular."

Hon. Sec., H. F. Johnson, 9, Lorne Terrace, South Lambeth Road, S.W.

UNUSED STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

MARCH packet sent out on the 16th containing 16 sheets gross value £135 18s. 3d.

Secretary: H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

BRITISH EMPIRE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

JANUARY Packets returned. Results as follows: -

Colonial. 341 stamps sold, value £15 14s. 2½d. Nett.
General. 438 " " £12 16s. 6½d. Gross.

The Colonial Packet's total value was £65 11s. 2½d., the sales effected are therefore nearly ¾th the value of the packet; which I submit is a very satisfactory result from the much debated question of Nett versus Gross prices.

Secretary, H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

THE April packet of the above Society will be despatched on or about the 6th inst., and members are requested to send to the Secretary at once good selections for inclusion. The Society has several good buyers, and some first-class stamps can be disposed of. Special wants: Ceylon, Africans, English. The Secretary will be pleased to hear from any reader of the S.C.F. desiring membership.

Applications should be addressed R. T. MORGAN, Secretary, 14, High Street, Selhurst, S.E.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE members met at the Wharnccliffe Hotel, on Wednesday, March 19th, when a paper was read by Mr. R. Sneath on the "Orange River Colony Surcharges." He also exhibited a very fine collection of O.F.S. and Orange River Stamps, and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

"STAMPS" EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

SINCE the last report was written the September and October Sheets have all been returned to owners and credit balances paid. The March packets have also started on their journeys with £388 and £343 respectively. New members admitted: Messrs. Wm. Brown, Salisbury; A. F. Pickford, London, and E. A. Clarke, New York.

Hon. Sec., THOS. B. WINDOWSON, 22, Lincoln Street, Leicester.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

FEBRUARY 5th. Mrs. A. H. Bridson, Messrs. T. A. McIntyre, J. G. W. Boulton, T. W. Morris and C. Giacomini were unanimously elected members.

Messrs. G. W. Martin, W. Schwarte, G. L. Edwards, C. J. Byrne were thanked for contributions to the Library, and Messrs. W. F. Wadams, F. W. Ayre and W. G. Walton for donations to the Permanent Collection.

Mr. J. A. Margoschis then gave by means of the aphengscope, which shows the stamps on the screen in their natural colours, a very interesting and instructive lantern display of over 100 varieties and remarks on each.

FEBRUARY 27th and 28th. A very successful auction was held on these evenings. Mr. J. H. Telfer (of the firm of Messrs. Plumridge and Co.) very kindly conducted the sale of over 480 lots which belonged to members only. At the close Mr. Telfer was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks. Messrs. W. H. Lythall, C. P. Rogers, J. Bouchard, F. Gerhartz and A. F. Pickford were unanimously elected members.

MARCH 5th. Mr. A. Graham was unanimously elected a member. Messrs. T. W. Peck, A. P. Walker and G. Johnson then showed collections of various countries and gave notes on them.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

THE FISCAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MEETING held on March 5th, 1903. Present, Mr. Schwabacher (chair), Messrs. Crofton, Fulcher, Marsh, Morley, Thompson, Thomson, South and Kay.

Mr. Tomás Remoli (Barcelona) was elected a member.

A copy of C. A. Needham's catalogue and album for North American fiscals was received for the library, with thanks. W. Corfield sent notes of two newly found Ceylon fiscals (ONE on 20R., and TEN on 1000R.), and A. E. Lawrence several interesting stamps including the new Porto Rico revenues. L. S. Wells' fine collection of St. Vincent was exhibited, and W. Morley showed some unchronicled Samoa fiscals.

The revenues of Queensland, S. Christopher, S. Lucia, S. Vincent, Sarawak and Seychelles were then discussed and catalogued.

Next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 2nd, at 6.30 p.m., at 65, Bishop-gate Street, Without, London, E.C., when Sierra Leone, South Australia and Straits Settlements will be taken.

Accounts for the first quarter of the exchange section have been made up, and show very satisfactory results. In the Continental section, home members contributed sheets amounting to 4000 francs nett, and the sales amounted to 566 francs. The February home packet has been returned, £20 odd being taken from the total value of £158.

All interested in the study of fiscal stamps should apply for rules and information to the Hon. Secretary: A. B. KAY, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London W.

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC UNION.

AN interesting lantern display was given by the I.P.U. on Thursday evening, March 12th, when an enjoyable evening was spent. Amongst those present were Major J. de C. Laffan, R.E. (who ably occupied the chair in the unavoidable absence of the President), Mr. and Mrs. Schwabacher, Mr. and Mrs. Schwarte, Miss Cassels, Messrs. J. C. Sidebotham, P. L. Pemberton, W. S. King, H. Thompson, A. B. Kay, L. W. Fulcher, J. E. Juelin, W. Selk, H. Atherley, E. P. Airlie Dry, E. J. Bridger, Philip P. Brown, G. S. Godden, Mr. and Mrs. Stiley, and many other friends and visitors. An interesting programme was gone through, including King Edward's Stamps, W. Pemberton; Interesting Marks on Stamps and Fogus Stamps, Messrs. A. B. Kay and L. W. Fulcher; Fiscal Stamps, W. Schwabacher; and Historical and Zoological Stamps, Mrs. T. H. Hinton. On the conclusion of the display, a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and exhibitors was proposed by Mr. Joslin, and carried unanimously. In his reply the Chairman briefly referred to the prize essay competition, and reminded members that all essays should reach the Hon. Secretary by April 13th next.

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on Approval. *References required.*

WILLY JACOBY,

145, Fenchurch Street, LONDON, E.C.

TRANSVAAL, Orange River Colony, Swaziland,
Zululand, &c., &c.—To responsible collectors
and after receipt of Want List, I offer fine copies from
my South African collection at reasonable prices.
Have also large stock of entire of all countries.—J.
DINVEN, Ramstreeet 15 Utrecht, Holland.

GREATEST Rarities, rare and medium British
Colonials, unused or used, priced under half
Gibbons. Send approval against serious references.—
BERNARDINA GARCIA, Barriograciense, Barcelona, Spain.

TO GENUINE COLLECTORS.—I am breaking up
a large collection of stamps and shall be pleased
to send selections on approval at 50 per cent. off Gibbons'
catalogue. Good references are required.—N. HILLIER,
Horsmonden.

POST MARK SOCIETY.—Members invited. Sub-
scriptions, 2/.—Secretary, THOMAS WHITWORTH,
Waterloo, Liverpool.

ENGLISH stamped envelopes, used and unused,
penny and higher values. Scarce postcards and
wrappers; selections on approval, low prices, large
variety.—WEBB, Walpole, Halesworth.

ABOUT 10,000 Various Stamps, assorted values, col-
lected from Merchants Offices during past eight
years—Bargain—4/ the lot.—N. HILLIER, Horsmonden.

REPORT FOR 1902 OF THE OTTERDALE
STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB now ready and
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DANNATT Secretary and Founder, (Member, Stamp
Exchange Protection Society), Lyndale, Blackheath,
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"BRITISH EMPIRE" EXCHANGE. Two
Packets monthly. References, Prompt settle-
ments monthly. Reports in this Paper.—Secretary,
H. BRAN, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

ADVERTISER has divided a very large Collection
of British Colonials, each country into separate
books. Specimens priced singly at half Gibbons.
Nearly all the old and rarest issues complete. Many
mint. Also small approval books of mixed Colonials
at one-third to two-fifth Gibbons. All fine copies.
Any book on Approval. References.—Box 134, c/o
Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

FISCALS.—Those wishing to sell, purchase, or
exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate
with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Haarlem Mansions,
West Kensington, London.

USED Gibraltar Stamps, Queen's Heads.—Sample
hundred assorted issues low values, including
Morocco Agencies, 1/9 Post free. Cash with order
Fifteen Shillings per thousand. Spain set used 2c. to
1pta., price 8d.—Address C. B. BEANLAND, Gibraltar.

COLLECTOR specializing has a nice lot of medium
Colonials for Sale, especially African, West Indies
and Australian. Selections on approval. References
required. Wanted Barbados—FRANK H. MADDISON,
St. Neots, Hunte.

TRANSVAAL, 1896 7. 1 sheet of 60 Stamps, 1/-
ochre; 2 sheets of 60 each, 6d. lilac, unused. What
offers.—G. WEBBER, 12, King Street, Plymouth.

WANTED.—Gibbons' Imperial Album, 8th Edition,
in good b'nding, with or without stamps in.—
A. DRESSER, Bexleyheath, Kent.

WANTED.—Specimen Stamps and Proofs of all
countries, British Colonials preferred, for cash or
exchange.—DRESSEN, Bexleyheath, Kent.

1000 English, 1854 to 1903, well mixed, 6d. post
free.—F. SMITH, 177, Fairsfield Road, Wands-
worth, London.

GREATEST Rarities, rare and medium British
Colonials, unused or used, priced under half
Gibbons. Send approval against serious references.—
BERNARDINA GARCIA, Barriograciense, Barcelona,
Spain.

RED Penny Plates.—Wanted Mint Pairs, 74 88, 105,
133, 210, 225.—MR. EARL NEWCASTLE, Staff.

RARE Gold Coast.—1894 20/-, 2/4; 1900 5/-, 3/-.
Fine picked copies.—TAYLOR BROS., 19, Sweeting Street
Liverpool.

CYPRUS, 1d. Plate 208 mint 3/6. West Indian,
African, etc., 30 for 7d. Approval Sheets, bargains.
H. WHITWELL, 22, Sea Road, Bexhill.

GOLD COAST, 1900.—Few Sets, 1/-, 2/-, 5/-, 10/-,
the four, 9/-.—HEAVES, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

HAVE 24 reversed surcharged 40 paras on 4d. Great
Britain, dated 25th Feb. 1893, for sale, which be-
longed to the British Postmaster at Constantinople.—
Any offers to C. C. O PLUMRIDGE & Co., 63 1/4, Chancery
Lane, London.

205 "S.C.F."—Wanted several copies of this No.—
MANAGER, "S.C.F." 63/64, Chancery Lane, W.C.

GENUINE Bargains—1000 British Colonials, etc.,
1/1; 13 Nyassa, 1901, Giraffe complete, 2/6 set; 50
Spain, 1/1. Retail price list post free. Stamps bought
offers requested.—WILLIAM STAMP Co., 120, Leadenhall
Street, London.

"UNUSED" STAMP EXCHANGE. No subscrip-
tion or fines. Commission 2 1/2 per cent on
members sales who purchase 5/- value.—Secretary, H.
BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, London.

WANT to buy every quantity of the English 1d.
stamp 1858-64 red (Senf No. 16, Stanley Gibbons'
No. 42-44). Offers at cheap rates will receive attention.—
FREDERICK SCHILBACH, Greiz i.V., Germany.
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PERFECT mint obsolete Russian and Finland
singles, pairs, blocks, at half Gibbons and less.
Approval against best references.—WITIV, No. 1,
Novotchetkaskaya, Ochts, St. Petersburg.

ARMY OFFICIALS.—1d. lilac, 2/-; 100 3d. vermilion,
2/6, or exchange.—A. WELLBLEY LOBB, 45,
Victoria Terrace, St. Budeaux, Devon.

A. FRANCIS, 12, City Chambers, Birmingham,
offers obsolete British Colonial stamps, cash or
exchange. Foreign correspondence particularly desired.

COLLECTION.—British Colonials, rare and medium,
many mint, books of separate countries sent to
genuine collectors.—COLLECTOR, St. Philip's Vicarage,
Southport.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE. Bought, Sold, Ex-
changed.—Fortnightly, Volumes 1 to 7; "Stamps,"
Volumes 2 to 5, 2/3 each; "Gibbons' Monthly Journal,"
Volumes 4, 5, 6, 9 to 12, 3/- each. All post free.—
R. H. APPELBY, 8, Co-operative Terrace, Sunderland.

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New Address is
EDENFIELD, MULGRAVE, SUTTON,
Where he will be pleased to hear from old friends.
Correspondence only. Specialities:
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In the not improbable event of the annexation of Hayti by
the U.S. its stamps will be in demand and will fetch high
prices. These are stamps to collect while you can. We
have obtained a stock at very low rates, and are offering
the 1887 (Head) issue, 1, 2, 3, & 5c. values, unused—cat
25 6d.—for 15, 6d. P.O.D., post free. Some other issues
at very reduced prices also.

MANNING & KING,
30, Vicarage Road, Tottenham, London.

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OFFERS WANTED FOR ABOUT
5000 Kashmir Stamps
Mostly "Service," 1880.
All guaranteed genuine. Used and Unused.
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G. GORDON LEE,
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References: Messrs. Plumridge & Co.

STAMPS YOU MAY WANT.

Gr. Britain, 3d. rose, plate 2c, mint	63
.. 3d. on 3d. lilac, do	29
.. 6d. on 6d. lilac, do	29
.. 2d. rose, mint	20
.. 3d. green, King, OW, superb, used	20
.. set of 2d. blue plate Nos.	13
B.S. Africa, 1890, 1s blue, used but defective	150
Canada, 1859, 17c. blue, used, very fine	26
.. 1901, 20c. olive-green	4d.
.. 10c. Special Delivery	7d.
Cape Triangular, 1d. rose, superb pair	7.6
.. .. 6d. mauve, pair	25.0
.. .. 1d. carmine, superb pair	22.0
.. .. 1d. .. single	10.0
.. 1893, 1d. on 2d., no stop, mint	10.0
Hawaii, 1865, 1c. black on white laid, mint	40.0
Jamaica, 5/- CC. used and superb	12.6

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CUTHBERTSON & CO., 14, Exchange St. East,
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At all times we offer the Highest Prices for fine
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MANNING & KING,
30, Vicarage Road, Tottenham, London.

BRITISH HONDURAS, Newfoundland, scarce
Suriname, Canada, Philippines on U.S. Guam,
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all over the world. I have a desirable stock of the
above and other good stamps in fine condition to
exchange for other countries, especially British
Colonies. I take medium and better class of stamps
and rarities at eighty to ninety per cent. of Gibbons,
Scott or Senf Catalogue value and charge full
catalogue for my stamps. Please do not send
approval selections under 21 shillings in value. I
do not care for stamps catalogued at less than
threepence. Good references. Satisfaction guaran-
teed. Give me a trial.

GEO. L. PACK,
Lakewood, New Jersey, U.S.A.

From the Auction Rooms.

* Signifies Unused.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sale,
Feb. 24th and 25th, 1903.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1855-57, 4d. rose-carmine on white	6	5	0
Do. do. wmk. emblems. 6d. lilac, from corner of sheet, with side margins and control No.	2	0	0
Do. 1867-78, wmk. Maltese Cross, 10/- grey	12	12	0
Do. do. £1 lilac-brown	17	0	0
Do. 1873-80, wmk. Spray, 3d. rose, plate II., an entire pane of 20	4	0	0
Do. 1877-80, wmk. Garter, 8d. brown, a superb pair	5	15	0
Do. 1882-83, wmk. Anchor, 5/- rose on bluish, plate 4, very fine and scarce	7	10	0
Do. do. 10/- grey on bluish, superb	48	0	0
Do. 1888, wmk. Orbs, £1 brown-lilac	10	10	0
British Bechuanaland, 1886, wmk. CC., 3d. black, with overprint in red and black	2	10	0
Do. 1888, in red, 2d. lilac, the scarce variety with small curly footed '2d.'	1	16	0
Do. 1888, overprinted 'Protectorate,' 3d. vermilion with double overprint	1	13	0
Do. 2 - green, very fine and scarce	3	15	0
Do. 2/- green, the rare variety with "o" omitted in overprint, thus "Protectorate"	8	0	0
Do. 2 6 green	3	7	6
Do. 5 - green	6	5	0
Do. 10/- green	9	15	0
British Central Africa, 1895, 1d. on 2d green, with double surcharge, the trial type printed in Blantyre	4	0	0
Do. 1895, no wmk., £1 orange	2	10	0
Do. 1895, wmk., £1 blue	3	0	0
British South Africa, 1896, 3d. on 4 - orange-yellow	2	4	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1855-58, 6d. lilac	1	9	0
Do. Do. 1 - dark green, a superb block of 4	13	0	0
Do. 1863-64, 6d. bright mauve, a superb block of 4	5	7	6
Do. 1/- emerald, a superb block of 4, from corner of sheet	18	0	0
Gold Coast, 1891-94, 20/- green and carmine	5	12	6
Lagos, 1874, wmk. CC., perf. 12½	3	0	0
Do. 1/- orange, value 15½mm.	3	0	0
Do. 1/- orange, value 16½mm., a very fine pair	5	5	0
Do. 1876, wmk. CC., perf. 14, 1/- orange	5	7	6
Do. 1884-86, wmk. C.A., 2/6 olive-black	3	10	0
Do. do. do. 5/- blue	6	6	0
Do. do. do. 10/- lilac-brown	11	11	0
St Helena, 1864-74, wmk. CC., perf. 14, 6d. milky-blue, a very fine pair	3	15	0
Do. 1884-95, wmk. C.A., 3d. emerald with double surcharge, very fine	4	15	0
Sierra Leone, 1883, wmk. C.A., 4d. blue	9	0	0
Do. 1894, Provisionals, wmk. CC., Halfpenny on 1½d. lilac	3	15	0
Do. 1897, Provisionals, 2½d. on 2/- lilac, types a (square stop) and c <i>se tenant</i>	7	0	0
Do. do. 2½d. on 2/- lilac, types a, b and d <i>se tenant</i>	36	0	0
Bahamas, 1863-75, wmk. CC., 1/- green, superb	5	0	0
Montserrat, 1884-85, wmk. C.A., 4d. blue	5	5	0
Nevis, 1867, perf. 15, 1/- yellow-green, without gum	9	5	0
St. Christopher, 1885-88, Provisionals, One Penny on 2½d. blue, the very rare small surcharge	19	0	0
St. Lucia, 1864, wmk. c.c., 1/- orange, fine pair	3	5	9
Do. 1883-4, wmk. c.a., 1/- pale orange	2	15	0
Do. Do. 1 - orange-brown	3	17	6
St. Vincent, 1861, no wmk., clean cut perfs 14-6, 6d. yellow-green	4	15	0
Do. 1869, no wmk., 1/- indigo	3	17	6
Do. 1871-8, wmk. star, perf. 11 x 12½, 4d. dark blue	4	0	0
Do. do. 18/- rose-red	4	10	0
Do. do. 1 - claret	3	0	0
Do. do. perf., 11-12½ x 15, 1/- vermilion	5	12	6

	£	s.	d.
St. Vincent, 1880, wmk. star, perf. 11 x 12½, 1/- vermilion	6	17	6
Do. do. 5/- rose	8	15	0
Do. 1880-81, Provisionals, 3d. in red on half of 6d. yellow-green, a very fine pair	2	15	0
Do. 1d. in red on half of 6d. blue-green, a superb pair	12	0	0
Do. 4d. on 1/- vermilion	13	0	0
St. Vincent, 1881, wmk. Star, perf. 11-12½, 4d. ultramarine	3	3	0
Do. 1883-4, wmk. C.A., perf. 14, 4d. bright blue	3	0	0
Do. do. perf. 12, 4d. ultramarine	3	10	0
Do. do. 4d. dull blue	7	15	0
Do. 1885, wmk. C.A., 4d. red-brown	4	6	0
Tobago, 1879, wmk. CC., £1 mauve	10	0	0
Trinidad, 1859, pin perf. 14, 1d. rose-red, a superb pair	2	0	0
Do. do. 4d. brown-lilac, a ditto	3	10	0
Do. do. 6d. yellow-green, a ditto	3	12	6
Do. 1860, clean-cut perf., 1d. rose-red, a superb pair	3	10	0
Do. do. 4d. brown-lilac, a ditto	3	15	0
Do. do. 6d. yellow-green, a ditto	4	0	0
Turks Island, 1881, Provisionals, 2½ on 1/- lilac, type 6, no fraction bar	4	0	0
Do. do. 2½d. on 1/- dull blue, type 10	10	0	0
Virgin Islands, 1899, 4d. brown, the error "Pence"	6	6	0
British Guiana, 1853, 4c. blue, with white line	5	0	0
Do. 1860, perf. 12, thin paper, 1c. brown	3	15	0
Do. 1862, Provisionals, 1c. black on rose, No. 17 on plate, full roulettes	22	10	0
Do. 1875, perf. 15, 6c. ultramarine	3	0	0
Do. do. 12c. lilac, ditto	1	0	0
Do. 1882, 2c. black on yellow, without the word "specimen," without gum, very fine and scarce	2	10	0
Do. 1888-89, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 dollars black and green	6	12	6
Do. 1888, perf. 14, 2 cents on 1d. rose, with inverted surcharge	6	0	0

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co.'s Sale,
February 27th, 1903.

Ceylon, 5c. on 8c. orange-yellow, Gibbons' 144A, inverted surcharge	1	10	0
Do. 5c. on 16c., inverted surcharge, Gibbons' 145	1	16	0
Do. 5c. on 24c., green, inverted surcharge, Gibbons' 127	4	7	6
Perak, the 5c. blue Service Stamp, Gibbons' 210	4	14	0
Swaziland, 2d. ochre, surcharge without final "d"	1	15	0
Do. 10 - mint	4	10	0
Transvaal, 1/- deep green, Gibbons' 16*	3	5	0
Do. 1/- green, red surcharge	4	0	0
Do. 6d. bright blue, Gibbons' 12A, a mint pair	5	5	0
Do. 1d. bright red, Gibbons' 44	2	10	0
Do. 1 - green, Gibbons' 77, inverted surcharge	1	4	0
Do. 1d. on 6d., Gibbons' 161*	2	18	0
Do. 1d. in red on 6d. Gibbons' 167*	2	10	0
Do. 2½d. on 1/-, error of surcharge, Gibbons' 230, mint	2	10	0
Do. £5 deep green, mint	5	12	6
New Brunswick, 1 - violet, very fine copy	9	5	0
St. Lucia, 3d. on 3d. lilac, die 1, Gibbons' 53, mint	1	2	0
New South Wales, 5 - with red surcharge O.S.	1	15	0
Queensland, 1860-61, wmk. small star, clean cut perfs., 6d. deep green, nice copy, with gum*	4	12	6

Messrs. PLUMBIDGE & CO'S Sale,
March 3rd and 4th, 1903.

Bahamas, 1861, rough perfs. no wmk., 4d. rose, very fine* (part gum), (1)	1	11	0
British East Africa, 1897, 1r., 2r., 3r., 4r., 5r. and 10 rupees, all fine	2	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1855, 6d., a superb mint pair	5	5	0
Do. 1882-3, ca. 5/- orange, very fine	1	5	0
Do. 9d. lilac-brown	2	11	0
Do. 1/9 yellow-green, very fine	2	15	0
Do. 1863-4, c.c. perf. 11½, 1d. blue, rare*, fine	3	3	0
Cyprus, 1st issue, 4d., 6d. and 1s., all mint	1	14	0
Great Britain, 1857, large Crown 16, 1d. rose-red, white paper, a superb mint horizontal pair	6	10	0
Do. do. large Crown, 14, 1d. rose-red, a mint block of 72	3	3	0
Do. 1858-64, 2d. blue, plate 8, a mint block of 4	1	18	0

Our Review of Reviews.

The Literature of Stamps.

Mr. Victor Marsh has our sincere good wishes for the success of his projected "Directory of Philatelic Literature." Mr. Castle and many others have drawn attention to the "unwise neglect" of the literature of our hobby. Mr. Marsh's scheme, as we understand it, is to provide a directory of philatelic periodicals and a guide book to stamp literature generally. The names and addresses of collectors, he informs us, will be inserted free.

On this same subject of philatelic literature we must pay tribute to the enterprise of Mr. S. F. Bickers, of Cork, who is publishing, at intervals, an interesting little sheet known as the "City Philatelist," which is devoted largely to the subject of philatelic literature. We have no doubt that Mr. Bickers will send a copy free to any *Fortnightly* reader who applies for it. What is especially calculated to make the "C.P." a welcome addition to philatelic bibliography is the serial publication of an alphabetical list of all known British philatelic newspapers and magazines, past and present. This is being specially compiled by Messrs. H. Clark and R. H. Appleby, who, as dealers in literature should know their subject well.

Concerning Australian Stamps Perforated "O.S."

Mr. A. F. Basset Hull contributes a few interesting notes to the "Australian Journal of Philately," modestly entitling them "Casual Remarks."

With regard to the decision of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons not to stock any Australian stamps perforated with the letters O.S. or any other letters, Mr. Basset Hull writes:—"I cordially agree with their decision. Apart from the fact that the perforation disfigures the stamps, they cannot be considered in the light of separate issues for official correspondence, such as the overprinted O.S. stamps prior to 1901 undoubtedly were, since all Australian postage stamps are now, and have been ever since the 1st March, 1901. Commonwealth issues, and the various States using them on their official correspondence have to purchase them from the Federal Government on a cash basis. It is only for the convenience of bookkeeping that each State is supplied with separate types; the stamps are sold by the Commonwealth; that Government is charged with the cost of production, and it is only after all expenses of administration have been paid that the Commonwealth returns the small remaining balance (in fact there is no balance in some States) to the State Governments. The O.S. perforated stamps, therefore, are exactly on the same level as the perforated stamps used by a private firm."

Queen's Heads and King's Heads.

MR. CRAWFORD CAPEN chats pleasantly on "The Market" in the February issue of the "American Journal of Philately."

A very natural question (he writes) is "Will the Queen's head stamps of all the British Colonies become scarce?" and this, in a general way, is probably the fact, for the issues were so numerous, and speculators have so often been caught and lost money when they have attempted to lay aside large numbers of stamps that it is probable that they will not now attempt anything of the sort at any rate to any very great extent. Some collectors have been desirous of securing the stamps of the Queen's head type of Sierra Leone inasmuch as the King's head stamps have been prepared. The post-master of the colony, however, states that he does not propose to issue King's head stamps until the Queen's head values have been sold out. Inasmuch as he has on hand large numbers of Queen's head stamps and his postal requirements are exceedingly small, it is likely to be some time before the high values at least are issued, and it is probable that the Queen's head stamps will, most of them, go into the hands of collectors and dealers so that they will not become scarce.

It is a difficult thing to understand why we continue to have what may be called "post mortems" that is Queen's head stamps actually prepared and issued since King Edward ascended the throne. Why have stamps of this kind been made for South and West Australia? Why does a seven cent stamp appear in Canada? We might understand this if the heads of the great in England were placed upon stamps only after their death, but the understanding being that the place is for the living ruler we are puzzled by these Colonial issues. While we are on the subject of Queen's Head stamps it may be well to mention that those for the Native States

of India, bearing different surcharges for each State, are stamps which are likely to increase in scarcity and value. They have never been easily obtainable and the supply of some of them is exceedingly limited.

WHY VENEZUELAS HAVE DROPPED IN PRICE.

"Collectors," writes Mr. Crawford Capen in another portion of his article on "The Market." "will have noticed a considerable drop in the prices of the stamps of Venezuela. This results from the large number of remainders which have just now come on the market. The great advance made at the same time in the stamps of the French offices in Canton and Hoi Hao, particularly the latter, has come about from the knowledge of the extremely small numbers which have been issued of some of these varieties. There were only six hundred copies each of the one franc and five francs of Hoi Hao."

A Complete Collection of Australians.

A correspondent of the "Australian Journal of Philately" having asked how many stamps were comprised in a complete collection of Australians, the Editor with great enterprise and diligence has counted up all the stamps of the six Australian Colonies and New Zealand listed in Gibbons' Catalogue. The results are as follows:—

	Types.	Postage.	Dues.	O.S.	Postal Fiscals.	Total.
New South Wales	29	431	25	97	—	553
Queensland	15	196	12	—	35	243
South Australia	13	295	12	162	—	469
Tasmania	15	208	12	—	36	256
Victoria	47	286	31	—	39	356
West Australia	16	125	12	—	19	156
	135	1541	104	259	120	2033
New Zealand	37	259	18	—	100	377
	172	1800	122	259	229	2410

South Australia departmentals, West Australian officials (punched holes), N.Z. Officials (8), Railway Newspaper (16), and Insurance (14), are not included in the above table. All varieties of shade, watermark and perforation have been included.

MARTIN, RAY & Co., Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents,

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CHANCERY LANE, W.C.,

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Formed by a well-known Collector, being principally unused Colonials and including a fine lot of Scarce Stamps.
Catalogues Ready April 1st.

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 The Fine Collection of Africans formed by Lord Grantley.

OTHER SALES FOR THE SEASON: 1903 May 5 and 6, 19 and 20; June 9 and 10. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sales for the Season 1903-1904, have been fixed as follows: 1903—September 29 and 30; October 13 and 14, 27 and 28; November 10 and 11, 24 and 25; December 8 and 9. 1904—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27; May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8.

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 past seasons.

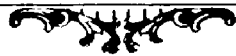
The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign Buyers who send bids may rely upon the condition &c. of the various lots being accurately described.

LIBERAL ADVANCES MADE PENDING REALIZATION IF DESIRED.

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1903 PRICE LIST POST FREE.

A Fine Assortment of Stamps always on View RANGING FROM NEW ISSUES TO THE GREATEST RARITIES.

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Stamp Dealers and PHILATELIC PUBLISHERS,

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Telephone: No. 5596 AVENUE.

Messrs. G. HAMILTON-SMITH & Co., beg to inform Advanced Collectors and Specialists that they make a speciality of the purchase and Sale of SPECIALIZED COLLECTIONS, and are prepared to negotiate for the purchase or sale PRIVATELY of Collections of any class or magnitude, upon the most favourable terms, alike to buyer or seller.

They have on hand several magnificently specialized collections of various countries, particulars of which would be sent on application to any bona-fide Collectors.

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WE hold a very fine Stock of USED and UNUSED STAMPS (20,000 Varieties) arranged in nearly 200 large APPROVAL BOOKS.

The condition of the Stamps is exceptionally fine, and the Prices Reasonable. Selections of any Country will be gladly sent on approval to responsible applicants.

"Interchangeable Philatelic Albums."

We have much pleasure in announcing that we have again received the

HIGHEST POSSIBLE AWARD

(Silver Medal) for our Albums; this time at the recent Hague Exhibition. This, following our previous success at last year's Philatelic Exhibition in Paris, when we also gained the First Prize (Silver Medal), makes only the second occasion we have shown these Albums.

We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 211.—Vol IX

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

MESSRS. GLENDINING & Co.,

Fine Art, Numismatic & Philatelic Auctioneers,

THE ARGYLL GALLERY,

7, ARGYLL ST., REGENT ST., W.

(Adjoining Oxford Circus Station.)

Telegraphic Address : "NULLIFIED," LONDON.

Telephone No., 4424, CERRARD.

The next Sale of POSTAGE STAMPS will be held on THURSDAY, 30th APRIL & 1st MAY, 1903, at 4.30 p.m. ; and will consist of a FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION broken up into lots, many rare stamps. Catalogues ready shortly and will be posted free on application.

WHY NOT ASK FOR ONE ?

Following Stamp Sale, May 14th & 15th, 1903.

Fine Art, Miniature, Plate, Jewellery, etc.

7th MAY, 1903.

COINS AND MEDALS.

On APRIL 21st, 22nd, 27th, 28th & 29th, 1903, a Collection of Scotch and English Coins, War Medals and Decorations, including rare gold Peninsular, Naval General Service, and Indian Medals.

LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

ii. 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 **BLenheim ROOM, HOTEL CECIL, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.**

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their Dates of Sales for the Season will be as under:—
1903.—APRIL 23rd and 24th; MAY 7th and 8th, 21st and 22nd; JUNE 11th and 12th.

APRIL 23rd and 24th—Messrs. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER have received instructions to Sell on the above dates

A VERY FINE COLLECTION Including Many Scarce Varieties.

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.

REVISED TERMS ON APPLICATION.

CATALOGUES of all Sales can be obtained from

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

Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM," LONDON. Telephone Number, 3392 Central. ESTABLISHED 1761.

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.

(Partners: H. W. PLUMRIDGE & J. H. TELFER)

Stamp Auctioneers

AND COMMISSION AGENTS,

64, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON, W.C.

Hold AUCTION SALES every FORTNIGHT between SEPTEMBER and JULY.

NEXT SALES will be held

On THURSDAY, April 16th, and FRIDAY, April 17th, in the
Arbitration Room, 64, Chancery Lane,

These SALES will comprise a Fine General Selection of Colonials, and other Stamps, including Rarities and a number of Collections and mixed Lots. Catalogues (free). Now ready.

FUTURE DATES—1903.—April 28 and 29. May 12 and 13; 26 and 27. June 16 and 17.

Clients wishing to include Lots should make arrangements IN GOOD TIME.

Commission 10%. Minimum average charge 2/- per Lot.

SETTLEMENTS usually in TEN DAYS. AT LATEST within 14 days after Sale.

IMMEDIATE AND LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES.

Commissions executed for Clients unable to attend the Sales WITHOUT charge and as much BELOW LIMITS as possible.

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THE STAMP COLLECTORS

FORTNIGHTLY

With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

Published every Alternate Saturday.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club, and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Stamp Exchange.

No. 211.—Vol. IX

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1903

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad

"H.R.H." and Ourselves.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES has sent us a very gracious acceptance of a copy of the Special Spring Number of the *Fortnightly*.

A Stamp Mystery Cleared Up.

IN August, 1902, a shop in Chancery Lane, Christchurch, N.Z., occupied by Messrs. C. G. Fryer & Co., as Stamp Dealers, was entered and stamps to the value of about £200 taken. Until lately the police were unable to obtain sufficiently conclusive evidence as to who was the thief, but in December last a man named Walter E. Rose, occupying adjacent premises to Fryer's, was arrested. The trial, before Mr. Justice Denniston, came off on 10th February, 1903, and after a long trial lasting over four days, the accused was found guilty, and sentenced to 12 months imprisonment. Mr. Fryer was in the witness box for over 14 hours, and amongst other witnesses for the prosecution were Messrs. W. L. Hooper, H. W. Mackisack, and S. F. Mirams, all of Dunedin, and Messrs. H. B. Oakey and K. S. Williams of Christchurch. Judge Denniston in sentencing accused commented severely on the fact that he had always been on most friendly terms with Fryer, and had then taken advantage of this confidence to rob the shop.

One witness having said that if there was an error in a sheet of stamps, that stamp would be worth more than all the

rest of the stamps on the sheet together, the Judge seemed rather amused, and remarked that apparently if the printers were a little more careless, the wealth of the country would be greatly increased.

We have to thank the New Zealand Stamp Co., Dunedin, for a report of this curious case.

For and Against Specialism.

"Does specialising pay?" asks Mr. Percy Newman, in an interesting letter to the *Fortnightly*, and then goes on to offer the following advice to collectors who may be in doubt upon the subject:—

There is of course much to be said on either side of this question. If you have a fairly representative collection of all countries—then by all means specialize. But you must have capital to do so!

Many bargains are to be picked up, even in this age of competition. I think that the most interesting stamps to specialize in are Australian and New Zealanders. These give such ample scope, even for the advanced collector, and the various shades, perforations and printings form a splendid study.

I personally go in for mint blocks of four and six specimens; also good pairs, and I occasionally get a pane complete of some surcharged issue to put away for the future.

In the town of Poole, in Dorsetshire, I know there are many old Newfoundland stamps hoarded up as curiosities by the children of the fishermen of days gone by, when Poole was the trading port of England for sealskins. I, myself, have bought many good stamps for a mere nothing from these old fisher folk.

I should be glad to see the opinions of other stamp collectors as to specialism expressed in the *S.C.F.*

A Story of a Forgery Factory.

LONG acquaintance with newspaper methods has robbed us of the childlike belief we once reposed in everything that we saw in print. The recently published story of a police raid on a Belgian forgery factory may be true or it may not. The newspaper despatch, dated Brussels, March 31st, reads as follows:—

"The Brussels police raided the premises to-day of a manufacturer of spurious postage stamps intended to be sold to collectors. Three hundred forged five-franc Belgian stamps, which were beautiful imitations, were seized and confiscated."

It seems a pity that such a story should be published in the London morning papers on such an unfortunate day as the first of April. Still, as we say, it may be true.

Concerning the Coming Stamps.

"It is no secret," remarks the "Connoisseur," in confirmation of recent remarks in the S.C.F., "that the present portrait of the King on our English postage stamps, sharp featured and close cropped, has few friends, if any. Nor is it much of a secret that it is very much disliked in high quarters. But so far nothing has leaked out as to the nature of the new portrait which is said to be in course of preparation."

Now Being Resuscitated !

The "Bristol Echo" heads an article on the Tapling Collection, "Buried Treasure." Well, it won't be buried much longer, we are glad to say.

An Example to be Followed.

SOME things are managed better abroad. For instance, the Boston (U.S.A.) Philatelic Society have presented a large number of philatelic journals and works on Philately to the Public Library of the City of Boston, and, adding enterprise to generosity, have published a very attractive and complete catalogue of all the "Books on Philately" in that institution, so that all may know where sound philatelic reading is to be had. The catalogue reflects the highest credit on the Committee of the Boston Society.

Stamps of the Victorian Era.

"It was a happy notion on the part of Messrs. C. Nissen & Co. to issue a complete price list of all the British stamps of the Victorian Era — including postals (entires as well as adhesives), fiscals, telegraphs, and the special newspaper stamps used by the "Times," "Illustrated London News," and "Stamford Mercury." It is a most exhaustive list, for from mulready envelopes down to marginal control letters and vaccination certificates we can think of no single item interesting to philatelists that is not included in its pages. The list is supplied gratis.

Subscribe to the S.T.P.A.

PROTECTION against stamp swindlers is apparently a thing much needed at the present time, and there should be many accessions to the membership of that now firmly established society, the Stamp Trade Protection Association, Limited. The directors of the "S.T.P.A." at the present time are Mr. W. Hadlow (Chairman) and Messrs. E. P. Airlie Dry, A. Boucard, G. C. Ginn, F. H. Oliver, C. J. Phillips, and J. H. Telfer. The Secretary, Mr. William Ewing, may be addressed at 76, Sussex Road, Holloway, London, N.

A Dangerous Iceland Forgery.

WE learn from Mr. W. T. Wilson that the surcharge of the Iceland provisional, 1897, has been imitated by lithography — we refer to the "pvir" in black over "3" in red on saur. green, perf. 14 × 13½. The shape of the Icelandic "p" is wrong and there is a dot over the "i" instead of an accent.

The Approval Sheet System.

A CORRESPONDENT of an American contemporary raises a protest against the extent to which the system of sending out unsolicited selections of stamps on approval is carried by the stamp dealers on the other side of "The Pond."

"As a practical illustration (he writes) I have recently been away three weeks. Upon my return I found awaiting me no less than thirty-nine enclosures from dealers and dealers and dealers. . . . I have sent out a card to each advising that such and such a package had been received and would be returned, unopened, upon the receipt of —cts for postage."

That certainly seems a drastic and effectual means of discouraging further approval sendings.

Is Stamp Specialising Over-Done ?

"Is stamp specialising over-done?" is a question "R.P.J." attempts to answer in the course of an article contributed to "The Bazaar" :—

It has so long been accepted as a self-evident truth that a general collection is nowadays impossible, that we have strayed all unconsciously to extremes in the opposite direction. A correspondent of one of the philatelic papers gives as an example the plating of railway stamps, where one label is distinguished by having a small white dot at the top of the figure 2. The hair-splitting minutiae of the catalogues have caused much weariness, and we hear, every now and again, the cry for a Collectors' Catalogue, for a National Catalogue, or their outcry arises against the bloating which specialism brings in its train.

The original two schools of collecting have long since merged into one, but that one has advanced so far that its parents would not know it.

Let me give an example of the state in which we are. Here is a list of so-called "varieties" of the 6 pence blue of 1859, hailing from South Australia; blue, slate-blue, dull violet, greenish-blue, Prussian blue, chalky-blue, and ultramarine. Seven varieties in colour of the rouletted stamp. Afterwards, we have numerous attempts to fix the perforations, and then the watermarks!

Irrespective of the resultant hoarding, and consequent raising of prices, is not all this extremely likely to cause a feeling of disgust in many collectors arriving at that critical stage when they are ready to throw off the schoolboy *modus operandi*, and are preparing to blossom into philatelists? Can it be honestly claimed that minute differences in perforation, in thickness or kind of paper, or in shades of colour, which may or may not be accidental, make for really scientific collecting?

There is, indeed, abundant room for the "limited specialism" proposal advanced by certain leaders. It is high time philatelists ceased making themselves ridiculous by their whoops of satisfaction at such epoch-making discoveries as a misplaced comma or a raised full-stop!

It has been suggested that the fault lies in a slavish adherence to the catalogue, collecting what it notes, and leaving alone what it omits. But, presumably, if there were no sale for the stamps listed, the dealers would cease to list them; besides, it appears impossible to issue a Collectors' Catalogue cheap enough to compete with the present dealers' lists and yet to show a profit to its publishers.

There is little hope of any sudden change in the specialism fever. Public opinion must be educated in the required direction until such time as the matter cures itself. In the meantime, it is well to give the warning that the present state of ultra specialism must result in a weakening of interest on the part of the moderately-pursed section of collectors, and will drive away a solid body of earnest and painstaking philatelists.

Specialism, in its way, is all very well, but, in the words of Ben Johnson, "All extremes I would have barred."

REVISED RATES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY."

Pages of Two Columns.

	For 1 insertion.	6 insertions.	12 insertions.	26 insertions
Whole Page ..	£4 0 0	£3 10 0	£3 0 0	£2 10 0
Half Page ..	2 2 0	1 15 0	1 12 6	1 10 0
Quarter Page ..	1 2 6	1 1 0	0 17 6	0 15 0
One-Eighth Page ..	0 12 6	0 11 0	0 10 0	0 8 0

Pages of Three Columns.

	For 1 insertion.	6 insertions.	12 insertions.	26 insertions
Whole Column ..	£1 10 0	£1 5 0	£1 2 6	£0 18 0
Half Column ..	0 17 6	0 15 0	0 12 6	0 10 6
Quarter Column ..	0 10 0	0 8 6	0 7 6	0 6 6

Special Inch Spaces (matter unalterable).

12 insertions ..	..	..	..	£1 0 0 for net cash in advance
26 ..	..	..	..	1 17 6 ..

Insets, £1 per thousand.

Fiscal Notes and Chronicle.

CONTRIBUTED BY A. PRESTON PEARCE.

IN the issue for March 14th I was enabled to reproduce the first portion of Mr. Schwabacher's paper read at one of the regular meetings of the London Society. The concluding portion, which is a running commentary on the cleverly devised display, contains a number of remarks that should prove of special value to collectors whose connection with the hobby is not so lengthy as that of our experienced President, and all will doubtless be glad to have some account of the selection made for the special purpose in view.

CONCLUSION OF PAPER.

I should have liked to have given the first place to a representative display of the fiscals of Great Britain and Ireland, but the large number of issues in the types of the unappropriated dies tends to monotony, and, besides, one evening would not have been sufficient. Some of the early English are unobtainable, and are only known from an inspection of the Somerset House records. I have, therefore, restricted myself to showing some cards which Mr. A. Preston Pearce, of Plymouth, exhibited in Paris at the great show of 1900, which were not designed to exhibit rarities, but merely to give a good general impression of the fiscals of England, Ireland, Scotland, and the Isle of Man.

Next will be seen a set from British Somaliland issued some time ago—I believe at the time of an expedition dispatched some two years before the present one. The issue was a small one, and these stamps were brought home by one of the Officers concerned, probably they are the only ones that reached here, and, certainly, they are rarities. With them are some recent discoveries of Basutoland stamps issued under the authority of the English Special Commissioner. These two countries have not printed any postage stamps yet—the first benefit of imported civilization is taxation!

Stamps of the New Republic before its annexation—very few are known, and these have only recently turned up.

Tati Concessions. In use one year only, 1896-7.

Transvaal. I am showing Mr. Walter Morley's splendid collection of the revenues of this country, and would direct attention to a few special points.

The Manuscript Adhesives, only discovered and chronicled during the past year; but two values are known, the 6d. and 9d.—1877, overprint V.R. TRANSVAAL. The 10s., black on green, with surcharge in red. This stamp is a recent discovery and is the only copy known to collectors, though a specimen of the £1 with overprints in both black and red has been known for some years. It is surmised that there may have been a printing in red of this overprint.—A rare lot of *inverted* surcharges. The surcharges appear to be fairly uniform, but a close student might find a field for research here—1878, 1s., black on blue, red overprint of V.R. TRANSVAAL. There are, apparently, more minor varieties of this type, and a copy is known without surcharge—1884, £5. Type of first issue, perf. 12. This is the only value of this type known perforated, and is probably a reissue from the old plates like the postage stamps of this period—1876, embossed 1d., value. A curious type, adopted by both Boer and British up to 1890—Rustenburg and Geerust. Very rare; apparently only the 1d., value was required, and running out was surcharged on the 6d., 1s., and 2s., values, the last being very rare indeed.—Provisional surcharges on Cape of Good Hope fiscals during the recent British military occupation, also likely to become scarce.

Philippine Islands. A sheet of Bill stamps arranged to show the course of events in the Philippines since 1896. I., Spanish Possession. Specimens of the 1896 and 1897 issues. II., U.S. Invasion. Specimens of the 1897 issue initialled and issued by U.S. officers, various initials, all used on bills. III., U.S. Occupation. Two copies each of the 1899, 1900, and 1901 issues, lithographed in Manila. Two of the stamps show a similar error in the upper labels. IV., U.S. Possession. 1903 issue, prepared in the United States. Believed to be

the first stamps produced by the half-tone photographic process.

Mauritius. I am glad to be able to show the rare first issue complete, including all the varieties known on this paper. These stamps were only in use for six months, and with the exception of the four lowest values are extremely difficult to find; according to my experience the 8s. 4d. is the rarest value. This country is shown practically complete. I do not think there are more than ten stamps not represented.

Mexico. There is here a specially fine collection, most of the greatest rarities being shown in very fair state. This country is particularly attractive, the stamps being of most artistic execution the colours tastefully chosen, the issues frequent but always diversified in shape and shade.

In the Custom House (Aduanas) issues all the 500 and 1000 pesos are rare stamps, the same remark applying to the 5 and 10 pesos of the Documentos series. The reason will be obvious when I mention that Mexico issues new stamps every year, those of the recently expired one being exchangeable at the Treasury, if not used, for those current. I believe that very few of the high values are printed, and when issued they are sure to be used or to come back to the Treasury, as no one would run the risk of losing the amount of stamps worth pounds face value.

Remainders of importance I have not yet seen; when Mexico had a sale some two years ago only a few rubbishy fiscals were in the lot.

You will notice three cards exhibiting the Documentos issue of 1881 bearing overprints of different towns and districts, 87 in number.

In conclusion, I must not forget to mention that I am indebted to Mr. Preston Pearce and Mr. Walter Morley for assisting me to make an attractive display by lending the stamps and mounted cards, thereby enabling me to make a more complete display of the countries selected.

Communications in respect of this department should be sent direct to MR. A. PRESTON PEARCE, 12, Edgcombe Street, Stonehouse, Plymouth; but he will be away from home from Mar. 19th to Apr. 16th, and letters will not be forwarded.

How a Substituter was Trapped.

"PHILOLOGOS," of the "Monthly Journal," that industrious collector of newsy philatelic bits from Continental journals, tells us that Herr ———, a member of the Kiel Stamp Society, was suspected of exchanging the stamps in the little books sent round by the Society. A trap was laid for him by the committee, and he fell into it. He was prosecuted in the Sheriff's Court at Rendsburg, and condemned to pay a fine of £7 10s. and the costs of his trial. Herr ———, of Berlin, belonging to the Germania King, was less fortunate in paying the penalty for having changed stamps. He was sentenced to ten days' imprisonment, for taking stamps to the value of ten marks!

Our Childlike Post Office.

If we were asked where *not* to go for information regarding British postal issues, we should say, without a moment's hesitation, "Go to a Post Office." For the average Post Office officials know less about British stamps than the average twelve-year-old schoolboy.

One of our London dealers not long ago went into an important district post office intent on obtaining, if possible, a packet or more of the 1d. "size C" King's Head envelopes, recently declared obsolete. These have had a very short "life," and it is fair to assume that they will rank as moderate varieties in the near future. What was the dealer's astonishment when the official calmly informed him that such a thing as a "size C" King Edward envelope did not exist!—had never existed! And this just after he had purchased a packet of the self-same envelope at a smaller office.

It is generally conceded that many of our post office attendants stand in need of a greater share of politeness, but what they more conspicuously lack is an elementary knowledge of the stamps and stamped stationery, that it is their daily business to handle!

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, APRIL 11, 1903.

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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Protection for all Collectors.

Here is an interesting paragraph from the evening edition of the "Standard":—

There is talk of a Collectors' Protection Society, to examine purchases and pronounce whether they are what they profess to be or no. It is an excellent idea, if carried out in practical fashion and the public takes it up. Those who have to do with collectors are aware that no small proportion of them do not willingly submit their treasures to the critical scrutiny of an expert. They will not run the risk of an adverse judgment, preferring to dwell in a "fool's paradise" rather than admit that they have been deceived. But there are persons who think they understand the subject; at the present time multitudes of people buy works of art or antiquity without any pretence of critical knowledge. . . . Such collectors, if men of common sense, would welcome a disinterested referee, who for a reasonable sum would give a certificate of recognised value.

Much that is said here applies to philatelists, but of course the "collectors" referred to by the paragraphist are those who go in for *objets d'art* and also the large and increasing section of the public that cultivates a taste for the quaint and the antique in furniture, in china, in book-bindings, and in the miscellanea that go to the making of the House Beautiful.

But in this matter of protection against fakes and swindles, all collectors from the accumulator of soldiers' buttons to the lover of Chippendale chairs (and who is not a lover of Chippendale chairs nowadays?)—all collectors, we say, have a community of interest, and we should heartily welcome the formation of a general Protection Association for all persons engaged in what we may term the collecting hobbies. The Amateurs' Protection Association, as it might be called, would of course be divided into numerous Sub-Associations, each devoting special attention to some particular hobby.

We have little doubt that such an Association, influentially backed, and conducted in such a manner as to make it of value to high and low, to rich and poor, would be of incalculable benefit to a very large section of the public.

One recalls in this connection the old "Punch" jokes of the amateur antiquary who enquired for a suit of ancient armour at an old curiosity shop, and was met with the smiling answer, "Sorry we've none in the place just at present, sir—it's now being rusted! We expect to have a supply in a day or two!" Whether the antiquary returned, "in a day or two," to purchase a suit of armour that had been subjected to a scientific process of mildewing and rusting, deponent knoweth not; but it is probable that he, in common with many other collectors of antiquities and other objects would welcome the coming of a general body to whom any collector could appeal in a moment of perplexity.

Quite certain it is that no collecting interest to-day is free from fakery. "Old oak" furniture, choice makes of china, Grandfather clocks, armour and weapons, coins, and as we need scarcely tell the readers of the *Fortnightly*, stamps are skilfully faked or forged by those whose natures incline them to roguery rather than to honest work.

What do philatelists think of the broad idea thus mooted?

"The Trustful Stamp Man."

It is apparent that the editorial article under this headline in the last *Fortnightly* has been read with interest by dealers and collectors alike. We spoke out vigorously in that article, not with the smallest intention of being offensive, or of "rubbing it in"—with apologies to Mr. Justice Jeune for the use of that expression—but simply and solely with a sincere desire to serve philatelists. That our view of the evil is shared by many shrewd philatelists is proved by the applauding and approving letters we have received.

One of our leading firms of dealers, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., echo our sentiments completely, and tells us that it is their invariably rule to enquire closely into the bona fides of persons applying for consignments of stamps on approval.

An Exchange Secretary, Mr. H. Beam, declares that our advice is good and should be acted upon by philatelists generally. "I beg to state, he adds, "that the references of all persons applying for membership in the "British Empire" or the "Unused" Clubs must be of a first class character, and are enquired into in every case. Further more, no collector under the age of 21 is admitted without an adult guarantee."

The Untruthful Referee.

A most serious factor in this question of dishonest dealing is the disingenuousness many people display in replying to letters of enquiry. For instance, A is referred by a would-be customer B, to a third party C. What happens when A writes to C? In too many cases C returns an untruthful answer. From a mistaken sense of generosity he gives a good report as to the person enquired about, albeit his letter may be productive of grievous harm. An example is furnished in the letter from Mr. H. Bean, already referred to above. Mr. Bean had an application for membership from a person recently exposed in the *Fortnightly*. Two references were given. Mr. Bean wrote to both. In one case the letter was returned marked "Gone away," while the other referee wrote: "He is thoroughly respectable, responsible and trustworthy, position good, and likely to influence business." Now one would call that a very satisfactory report, but in the light of later events Mr. Bean has every reason to be glad that he did not accept it as true. The grave question arises: was that report given in good faith by one of the easy-going persons referred to, or was it an intentionally dishonest statement? In either case, here is a grave peril confronting both the amateur and the professional philatelist. The untruthful referee is the bugbear of the straightforward men of business, and even though one knows that the untruthful report is given with the kindest motives, that is no consolation whatever to the person who is defrauded.

It cannot be too widely known that replies to letters of enquiry regarding a person's financial standing are *privileged* communications, providing they be transmitted in a private and confidential manner. Generosity and kindness are excellent sentiments, but they are wrongly and wickedly employed in bolstering up the reputation of persons of fraudulent intentions.

If, when you are asked for your opinion of any person in a strictly commercial connection, say just what you know. "Nothing extenuate; nor naught set down in malice." If you know the man to be unreliable, say so; if you know him to be a person who cannot be trusted, say so—always taking every possible precautions to preserve the secrecy of such communications. Do that and the law will hold you blameless. On the other hand, allow a flabby sentimentality to guide your pen and you will be making yourself, morally, an accessory to a fraud.

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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.—We are informed of the issue, or impending issue, of a farthing stamp of the new "Dockyard" type.



Danish West Indies.—We have the following interesting note from the Rev. C. H. Lowe:

My brother sent me a paper in an enclosed envelope from St. Thomas Island, Danish West Indies. On the envelope was the half of a 4 cent. stamp, cut diagonally across (Stanley Gibbons' No. 30a). In explanation of this he writes that they have been so short of stamps there of late that the Post Office people have been obliged to cut their stamps in half to make them last out till a fresh lot arrives from Europe.

From other sources also we have confirmation of the issue of this addition to the list of the "split provisionals." In the "Metropolitan Philatelist" of recent date we find a note by the "Optimist," of Washington, stating that the split 4 cents used as a 2 cents stamp is arriving there by the regular letter mail, proving the bona-fides of this emergency issue.

Fiji.—From Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. we have received various additions to the list of the "King's Head" series. The set at present stands as follows:—

King's Head Issue.

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| ½d. green. | 5d. lilac and green. |
| 1d. lilac on red. | 6d. lilac and red. |
| 2d. lilac and red. | 1s. lilac and carmine. |
| 2½d. lilac and blue on blue. | 5s. green and black. |
| 3d. lilac and mauve. | £1 grey and blue. |
| 4d. lilac and black. | |

Great Britain (Railway Stamps).—Mr. W. H. Earl sends us the following note:—

There seems to be some doubt as to the date of issue of the 6th printing of these stamps. I have made careful enquiries and with the exception of the first three printings find the dates of issue were as follows:—4th, August, 1898; 5th, November 30th, 1898; 6th, December 19th, 1898; 7th, November 17th, 1899; 8th, September, 1902. The various printings were of 50,000 and all were in sheets of 20 except the 4th and those were in sheets of eight, two rows of four. The only difference I can detect between the 7th and 8th is in the design, the 8th having a dash across the circle enclosing the inscription "Fee for etc." over the space between the final E of FEE and the F of FOR. The various printings are perforated as follows:—1st and 2nd, 12; 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th, 11; and the 8th, 10.

Malta.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a first instalment of the "King's Head" stamps of Malta as follows:

- Kings Head series.*—½d. green.
2d. grey, purple centre.



New Zealand.—The New Zealand Stamp Co., Dunedin, have forwarded us a copy of the Special Delivery Stamp just issued. This stamp, which is apparently of local design,

is similar in size and shape to the 1½d. stamp, and is water-marked single-lined N.Z. and Star. The inscription consists of the words "N.Z. Post Office Express Delivery 6d. Secures immediate delivery at a Special Delivery Office"; and the label is printed in mauve on white, the figure of value being printed in red. The design consists of Maori carving and New Zealand Ferns.

Mr. A. Rosenberg, of Woodville, N.Z., also kindly sends us a specimen of the "Express Delivery" stamp, and at the same time sends us specimens of the 4d. stamp on water-marked paper, perf. 14 and perf. 11.

Paraguay.—The first four stamps of a new set are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. The stamps are large, and in point of design they are distinctly Paraguayan, there being the usual lion, cap of liberty on pole, etc., etc. Great prominence is given at the top of the stamp to the letters, "U.P.U." Paraguay being evidently proud of the fact that its stamps are good for postage to all the ends of the earth. Values and colours so far received.

- 1 centavo, grey.
- 2 centavos, green.
- 5 " blue.
- 30 " ultramarine

There are also 10c., 20c., and 60c. values, but of these our correspondents have not yet received specimens.

Spain.—The somewhat startling information is conveyed by a reader of the *Fortnightly* that not only was the 20c. orange, Baby King, of Spain never issued, but it was never prepared for issue! Our informant writes as follows:—

It may be of interest to readers of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* to know that the 20 cent. orange (head of Baby King) of Spain, 1899 (catalogued by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons) does not exist. It was stated by the Press that such a stamp was to be issued, but the Press was in error. It was never even printed.

Transvaal.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. notify us of the issue of two new values:

- King Head series.*—3d. sage green and black.
4d. chocolate and black.

The 1s. and 2s. stamps, furthermore have been received in new colours:—

- Colours changed.*—1s. red-brown and black
2s. yellow and black.

United States.—The much debated "Garfield" stamp is to hand, a specimen being kindly sent us by Mr. E. P. Reynolds, Junr., of Wymore, Nebraska. The stamp has had so many "puffs preliminary" that we need not further describe it.

"Series of 1902." 6c. red-brown (Garfield).



We now give illustrations of the 3c., 4c., and 10c. stamps of the "Series of 1902."

A Forger of 10 Pfennig Germans.

CONTINENTAL journals report the arrest at Hainichen, Saxony, of a man named Anguste Schulz, for selling forged German stamps of 10 pf. Schulz is a printer from Chemnitz, and it appears that the printing plates were produced by a wood engraver, Mehlstein, also of Chemnitz. Forgeries were struck off to the number of some 15,000 stamps in sheets of five specimens each. The stamps, which were first mentioned in the *Fortnightly* some time ago, are marvellously like the genuine article.

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collect stamps and of course you want the best value for your money, probably there are many spaces in your collection which you would be only too pleased to fill if you knew that you could do so at a reasonable figure, now is the opportunity to do so, which may never occur again. We

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STAMPS

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GOLD MEDAL,
PARIS, 1900.

SILVER MEDAL,
THE HAGUE, 1901.

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We allow 5% commission on unused new issue Colonials up to £5 in value. Exchange with Dealers desired.

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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.

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

THE 91st meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the Club on Monday, March 9th. The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance in bank of \$432.93, exclusive of reserve fund, was approved as read. The report of the House Committee was read and received. The Committee appointed to judge the entries in the competitive exhibition recently held, reported that, for the U.S. Revenues, Documentary and Proprietary no entries were received.

For the competition of the stamps of Russia, Finland and Poland only one collection was entered for competition, but that one was found to be so excellent that the Committee recommended that the prize be awarded to its owner, Mr. W. H. Sussdorff.

The report of the death of Mr. J. B. Brevoort was received with regret.

ALBERT PERRIN, *Secretary*, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York City.

LADIES' STAMP EXCHANGE.

THE January packet contained 31 sheets, value about £110, of which nearly £30 worth were sold.

Among the best stamps were Sydney View, Afghans, fine Barbadoes, and Trinidad, early issues. Fine collection of British postmarks and a collection of the 1d. red English perforated with firms' names and initials.

There is now one remaining vacancy in the Club for either lady or gentleman.

Secretary, MISS HAYNES, Westwood House, Wood Lane, Shepherds Bush.

THE IMPERIAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE Society held its last meeting at the Oriental Café, Mosley Street, Manchester, on the 18th inst, under the chairmanship of Mr. Fairer, and a very enjoyable evening was spent some good exchanging being effected.

The next meeting will take place at headquarters on the 15th April when further propositions as to the development of the Society will be brought forward. Gentlemen wishing to join may obtain full particulars from

W. T. HUGHES, 10, Victoria Road, Sale, Manchester.

THE FISCAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MEETING held on April 2nd, 1903. Present—Mr. Schwabacher (chair), Messrs. Croiton, Fulcher, Marsh, Mosley, South, Thompson, Thomson and Kay.

Messrs. Wilcox Smith (Dunedin) and A. Sabadell (Barcelona) were elected members.

The Librarian acknowledges with thanks the receipt of Nos. 29-31 of "El Filatelico Espanol" (T. Remoli) and a Catalogue of Philatelic Works in the Boston Public Library (Boston Philatelic Society). Further donations will be welcomed.

Among many interesting stamps shown by those present were Gold Coast "Jubilee," by O. Marsh; new surcharged Ecuador, by B. Thomson; and a double-printed St. Lucia, uncatalogued Orange Free State and Queensland Beer Duty, by H. Thompson.

The revenues of Sierra Leone, South Australia, Straits Settlements and Swaziland were then discussed and catalogued.

Next Meeting will be held on May 7th, 1903, at 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C., at 6.30 p.m., when India and States will be taken. Members will oblige by sending notes of any stamps they may have.

The Marsh Home Packet totalled to £115, and the contribution from home members to the Continental Section to 1916 francs nett.

All interested in fiscal stamps should apply for rules and information to the Hon. Sec., A. B. KAY, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London, W.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND SOUTH EASTERN COUNTIES' PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Tunbridge Wells and South Eastern Counties' Philatelic Society is a new organization formed at Tunbridge Wells. It will be both a Philatelic Society in the usual sense of the words, and also a Stamp Exchange Club open to all. In its first use, lectures, exhibitions, and periodical meetings will be arranged for, while as an Exchange Club it will invite anyone to become a member to contribute to its monthly packet. For the full benefit of the Society, a subscription of 5s. per annum will be charged, and it is hoped all those who can attend the meetings will become full members. Those who desire to be corresponding members only, to participate in the stamp Exchange a subscription of 2/6 will only be charged. The entrance fee will be 1/- in each case. Further particulars may be obtained from the secretary.

FREDERICK KENSHOLE WICKS, 74, St. James's Road, Tunbridge Wells.

THE PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

THE April packet of the above Society left on the 7th inst. and carries 69 sheets, totalling to a value of £314 2s. 4½d. Some very fine stamps are on this circuit and prices are most reasonable. Advanced collectors will be welcomed. Application should be made to the *Secretary*, R. T. MORGAN, 14, High Street, Selhurst, S.E.

THE JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE next meeting of the Society will be held on Saturday next April 18th, at Clapham Hall, when a Paper and Display of the Stamps of France will be given by the Vice-President, Mr. W. Darwen. *Hon. Sec.*, H. F. JOHNSON, 9, Lorne Terrace, South Lambeth Road, S.W.

Worthless Locals of Madagascar.

WE regret to have to hold over to our next issue certain interesting revelations regarding the "placing" of the "remainders"—if one may dignify them with such a name—of certain rubbishy local issues of Madagascar.

That ridiculous issue of stamps known as the "British Inland Mail" of Madagascar, was exposed in the *Fortnightly* as long ago as 1895—the year when the "stamps" made their appearance. Largely on account of the S.C.F.'s exposure, the labels were condemned by the S.S.S.S., whose headquarters were at 301, Strand, W.C.—also the headquarters of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited.

It seems almost unbelievable that Messrs. Gibbons, in face of that condemnatory circular of 1895, issued from their own premises in the Strand, should now list all this rubbish in their Catalogue—and in their "British Empire" Catalogue, too! We have yet to learn that any part of Madagascar ever belonged to the British Empire.

We shall have a few terse and telling remarks on this subject in the next number of the *Fortnightly*.

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GREATEST Rarities, rare and medium British
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Gibbons. Send approval against serious references.—
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TO GENUINE COLLECTORS.—I am breaking up
a large collection of stamps and shall be pleased
to send selections on approval at 50 per cent. off Gibbons'
catalogue. Good references are required.—N. HILLIER,
Horsmonden.

POST MARK SOCIETY.—Members invited. Sub-
scriptions, 2/-.—Secretary, THOMAS WHITWORTH,
Waterloo, Liverpool.

ENGLISH stamped envelopes, used and unused,
penny and higher values. Scarce postcards and
wrappers: selections on approval, low prices, large
variety.—WEBB, Walpole, Halesworth.

ABOUT 1000 Various Stamps, assorted values, col-
lected from Merchants Offices during past eight
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REPORT FOR 1902 OF THE OTTERDALE
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Exchange Protection Society), Lyndale, Blackheath,
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in trade.—MONTGOMERIE & CO., Highdown
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Packets monthly. References, Prompt settle-
ments monthly. Reports in this Paper.—Secretary,
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Nearly all the old and rarest issues complete. Many
mint. Also small approval books of mixed Colonials
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Any book on Approval. References.—Box 134. c/o
Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

FISCALS.—Those wishing to sell, purchase, or
exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate
with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Haarlem Mansions,
West Kensington, London.

USED Gibraltar Stamps, Queen's Heads.—Sample
hundred assorted issues low values, including
Morocco Agencies, 1/9 Post free. Cash with order.
Fifteen Shillings per thousand. Spain set used 2c. to
1pt., price 3d.—Address: C. B. BRANLAND, Gibraltar.

COLLECTOR specializing has a nice lot of medium
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WANTED.—Specimen Stamps and Proofs of all
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RED Pennv Plates.—Wanted Mint Pairs, 74 88, 105,
133, 210, 225.—MR. EARL NEWCASTLE, Staff.

RARE Gold Coast.—1891 20/-, 2/4; 1900 5/-, 3/-.
Fine picked copies.—TAYLOR BROS., 19, Sweeting Street
Liverpool.

205 "S.C.F."—Wanted several copies of this No.—
MANAGER, "S.C.F." 63/64, Chancery Lane, W.C.

GENUINE Bargains—1000 British Colonials, etc.,
1/1; 13 Nyassa, 1901. Giraffe complete, 2/6 set; 50
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offers requested.—WILLIAM STAMP CO., 120, Leadenhall
Street, London.

"UNUSED" STAMP EXCHANGE, No subscrip-
tion or fines. Commission 2½ per cent on
members sales who purchase 5/- value.—Secretary, H.
BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, London.

WANT to buy every quantity of the English 1d.
stamp 1855-61 red (Sent No. 16, Stanley Gibbons'
No. 42-44). Offers at cheap rates will receive attention.
—FREDERICK SCHILBACH, Greiz i/V., Germany.
Carolinenstr. 49.

ARM Y OFFICIALS.—1d. lilac, 2/-; 100 3d. vermilion,
2/6, or exchange.—A. WELLSLEY LOBB, 45,
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A. FRANCIS, 12, City Chambers, Birmingham,
offers obsolete British Colonial stamps, cash or
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"Kopyquick" Duplicator. Price 3/- Carriage
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dealers. No commissions. Members see monthly
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admitted.—Secretary, MISS HAYNAS, Westwood House,
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CANADA, Jubilee ½ cent black, E.K.I. on Transvaal
3d. (three-pence), both mint, unused, price, 1/- the
two; Great Britain, I.R. Official (Queen) 6d. and 1/6
fine, used, price, 1/- the two; postage extra.—HENRY
E. ENGLISH, 8, St. Mark's Street, Peterborough

GOLD COAST, 1900 3d., 6d., 1/-, 2/-, 5/-, 10/-, the
six 9/-.—HEWES, Charlton cum Hardy.

THE NEW ZEALAND STAMP CO., Post Office
Box 108, Dunedin, N.Z., will be pleased to hear
from dealers with quotations and wholesale approval
selections. New Zealand stamps supplied for cash or
exchange at lowest current rates. Collectors want lists
solicited, but unknown correspondents should send
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Particulars from SECRETARY, 7, Coobycoote Avenue,
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GOLD COAST, 1891, 20/-, and 1900 5/-, obsolete, fine
copies, 5/- the two.—ETHERINGTON, Lark Terrace,
Rochdale.

2d. blue, no lines (cut close), 7/- doz.; 10d. red-brown,
10/- doz.; also £1 Orbs and Crowns, 10/- Cross and
Anchor, 5/- Cross and Anchor, 2/- brown and other
British for sale. Approval against references. Stamped
envelope for particulars.—REV. VOKES, Ryde

An Ideal Album.
To the advanced collector the "Premier" Album is
invaluable. Twenty pages faintly quadrate ruled—LINEN
BOUND and interchangeable—neat art colour manila
cover. Holds upwards of 600 Stamps. Untitled—you
make your own arrangement. You add fresh pages—it
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Large size, holding upwards of 725 Stamps, post free 15. 3d

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OFFERS WANTED FOR ABOUT
5000 Kashmir Stamps
Mostly "Service," 1880.
All guaranteed genuine. Used and Unused.
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COMMISSIONS
To purchase at all
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Faithfully Executed.
Terms very moderate. Particulars on application
G. GORDON LEE,
29B, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.
References: Messrs. Plumridge & Co.

Stamps You may Want.

Gr. Britain, 4d. rose, plate Nos. complete, v. fine	5/6
B.C.A. on B.S.A. 4/- used and superb	7/6
Ceylon, 6d. claret, imperf. on white, used, superb	10/0
Gold Coast, 1900, 5/- used and very fine	2/9
Hamburg, 7sch. perf. used on piece, superb	8/6
Mauritius, 1879, 2r. 50c. used very fine	3/6
Montserrat, 6d. green, mint	5/-
Niger Coast, 6d. brown, CA, used, very fine	10d.
" " 1/- black do. do. scarce	1/9
N.F. Land Cabot, 30c. used, very fine	1/3
" " 60cts. do. do.	2/6
Transvaal, V.R.I., 10/- mint	11/6
" " 5/- do rare	12/6
Turks' Island, 6d. C.C., olive black, used, superb	8/-
" " 4d. grey, CA, ditto	2/-
" " 1d. orange brown, CA, do.	4/-
Victoria, 1854, 6d. orange, rouletted (cat. 50/-)	10/-

Cash with order. Postage free.
Fine collection of British Colonials in three Vols
ready for approval. References required.

CUTHBERTSON & CO., 14, Exchange St. East,
Liverpool.

SALE BY AUCTION
WITHIN
SMITH'S AUCTION ROOMS,
79, George Street, EDINBURGH,
ON
Saturday, 25th April, 1903, at 12 noon.

A Fine Collection of Postage Stamps of Great Britain
(over 60 lots including large quantity of 1d. blacks, high
values and recent official issues), also fine Barbados,
Ceylon, Gold Coast, Lagos, Mauritius, St. Lucia, Trini-
dad, United States and Australian Colonies,
Catalogues free on application to Auctioneer.

From the Auction Rooms.



YET another phase of the eternal auction question is opened up by the letter of one "J.M.T.," who speaks darkly of a sinister suspicion that haunts him day by day and keeps him awake o' nights. "I believe," says "J.M.T.," "that certain people, largely interested in certain kinds of stamps, make it their business to 'protect' such stamps whenever they appear in the sales, and that is why we get such consistent prices about certain fashionable sorts. Don't you think so?"

Frankly, we don't think so. On the other hand, we fear that our correspondent has been caught in the toils of a too fertile imagination. The philatelic silly season, however, will soon be upon us, and then ———!

* Signifies Unused.

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & CO'S Sale. March 3rd and 4th, 1903.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1855-7, 6d., no letters, on blued paper, very rare	3	10	0
Do. do. 2/- brown, mint	4	10	0
Do. 1867, cross, 5/- rose, plate 1, mint	1	10	0
Do. 1873, 2½d. rose, plate 3, wmk. Orb., a block of 6, one stamp has slight ink spot and there are two slight creases, otherwise mint	8	0	0
Do. do. O.W. Official, 1902, ½d. a fine pair, on piece	1	5	0
Do. do. 10d. purple and scarlet, very fine and rare	6	15	0
India, Jhind, 1885, black surcharge, 8a. dull mauve, mint	1	18	0
Newfoundland, 1861-2, 5d. brown, an original sheet of 40	6	0	0
Queensland, 1860-61, clean cut perf., 1/- dull violet, fine, but no gum*	4	10	0
South Australia, 1859, Colonial print, 2d. dull red, with fine margins on three sides, rare*	3	12	6
Do. do. 10d. in black on 9d. yellow, perf. 11½, mint, a rarity	4	15	0
Tonga, 1887-92, perf. 12½, 1d. rose-carmine, two fine, very rare	4	12	6
Transvaal, 1878, fine roulette, 6d. blue on green, mint	2	0	0
Do. do. imperf., 6d. blue on green with surcharge inverted, damaged, rare*	3	0	0
Do. 1895, Halve-penny on 1/- green with double surcharge, mint (S.G. 154 b)	1	0	0
Do. do. wide roulette, 3d. mauve on green, fine copy, rare	4	7	6
Do. 1900, V.R.I., inverted, 2½d., fine, on piece	1	11	0
Do. do. 3d., very fine and rare	4	4	0
Do. do. 6d., a fine vertical pair on piece	2	10	0
Trinidad, perf. 13, 1/- bright mauve, very fine	1	10	0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER'S Sale, March 5th and 6th, 1903.

Great Britain, 1847-54, octagonal issue, 6d. violet*	4	4	0
Ionian Islands, 2d. carmine	2	0	0
Hungary, 1st issue, 25kr. deep lilac	1	10	0
Oldenburg, 2nd issue, 1/3 gr. black on green*	1	14	0
Do. 1861, 3gr. deep yellow*	2	13	0
Wurtemberg, 1st issue, 18kr. violet	1	6	0
Tuscany, 1st issue, 60 craze brick-red on azure	10	15	0
Spain, 1851, 2 reales red*	18	10	0
Do. 10 reales green	1	4	0
Switzerland, VAUD, 5c. black and red	1	2	0
Ceylon, 1st issue, 9d. lilac-brown	3	0	0
India, 1856-64, 1 anna brown on blued paper	1	1	0
Labuan, 1st issue, wmk. sideways, 2c. blue-green*	4	5	0
Do. 1893, provl., "SIX CENTS" on 16c. grey, surcharge inverted	0	17	0

	£	s.	d.
British Bechuanaland, 1888 ½d. vermilion with "Protectorate," twice surcharge	1	1	0
British East Africa, Provisional, value surcharge in violet with a handstamp, "½ anna" A.D. on 2 annas vermilion	5	10	0
Congo, 1899-92, provl., 3f. 50c. in black on 5 francs lilac, surcharge inverted*	1	10	0
Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. red-brown on bluish, late state of plate*	3	15	0
Do. Britannia issue, 4c. black and green	2	2	0
Natal, 1875, surcharged "POSTAGE" inverted, 6d. violet	1	0	0
Transvaal, 1883, 1/- green, a fine horizontal tete-beche pair	1	10	0
Canada, 10d. blue on thin paper	1	6	0
Confederate States, Mobile, 5c.	1	7	0
Barbados, 1870, watermark Large Star, rough perf., 6d. orange-vermilion*	1	16	0
Do. do. 1/- black*	2	14	0
British Guiana, 1852, 1c. black on magenta	7	10	0
Do. do. 4c. black on deep blue	7	10	0
Do. 1853, 1c. vermilion	2	8	0
Do. do. with small letter o to one, 1c. red-brown, strip of 4 on entire	14	5	0
British Guiana, 1893, 4c. blue with white line, a fine horizontal pair	1	12	0
Do. 1856, 4c. black on blue	92	0	0
Do. 1878-79, on 8c. rose, Gibbons' No. 107	2	2	0
Do. do. with one horizontal and one vertical bar on 4c. blue, Gibbons' No. 108	2	14	0
Do. do. on 8c. rose* Gibbons' No. 109	2	0	0
Do. do. 2 on 12c. lilac, the rare type* Gibbons' No. 116	1	2	0
Do. do. 2 on 24c. green, the rare type* Gibbons' No. 118	1	6	0
Do. 1888 8q. 1 dollar green, mint	2	18	0
Do. Official stamps, 1875, 8c., rose, Gibbons' No. 503	1	12	0
Danish West Indies, 1873-79, 14c. green and lilac*	0	15	0
Nevis, 1st issue, ½d. rose*	1	6	0
Do. 1867, 1/- yellow-green, apparently	6	0	0
Porto Rico, 1877, 10c. brown, error of colour	2	8	0
New South Wales, Laureated, fine background, 6d. brown, a vertical pair, one fine, and a fine single specimen in the scarce black-brown shade	3	5	0
Do. Registration stamps, imperforate, the vermilion and indigo, and the orange-red and blue	1	12	0
New Zealand, 1856, 1/- green on blue paper	1	6	0
Victoria, The "Too Late"	2	0	0
Western Australia, 1860, 2d. orange, with compound roulette	1	5	0

Messrs. PUTTIOK & SIMPSON'S Sale, March 10th and 11th, 1903.

Great Britain, 1878-83, wmk. Cross, 10/- grey	1	6	0
Do. do. £1 purple-brown	2	2	0
Do. do. wmk. Anchor, 10/- grey on bluish	1	8	0
Do. O.W. Official, 5d. lilac and blue	3	0	0
Do. 10d. purple and carmine	7	0	0
Ceylon, imperf., 4d. rose	13	5	0
Dutch Indies, 1887, 12½c. grey, the scarce variety with broken C in "Cent," mint	1	14	0
Straits Settlements, Johor, 1891, 2c. green, the rare error "Cent," in mint*	4	4	0
Niger Coast, 1893-94, Half Penny in blue on 2d.	2	18	0
Transvaal, 1870-76, 6d. blue and 6d. pale blue (pair), fine roulette, mint	3	0	0
Zanzibar, 1895, ½a. green, the error "Zanzidar"	2	0	0
New Brunswick, 1/- mauve	10	10	0
New Zealand, wmk. N.Z., imperf., 1/- green	1	12	0
Western Australia, 1857, 6d. gold-bronze	5	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1855-64, 1/- dark green, mint pair	5	10	0
Do. 1899, Vryburg, Cape stamps surcharged "Z.A.R.," ½d., 1d., 2½d. and 6d., latter with wide spacing	3	10	0
Do. 1900, do., Transvaal stamps surcharged "V.R. Special Post," ½d. and 1d.	4	0	0
Lagos, Wmk. C.A., 2/6 olive-black	3	0	0
Do. do. 5/- blue	4	17	6

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co.'s Sale,
March 13th, 1903.

	£	s.	d.
Azores, 1882-85, 150r. blue	2	10	0
British Central Africa, 3/- sea-green, mint	1	0	0
Madeira, 1879-80, 150r. yellow, perf. 13½	1	11	0

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.'s Sale,
March 17th and 18th, 1903.

British East Africa, 1895, on Company's stamp 2a. red, a horizontal pair, mint and scarce	3	10	0
Do. do. a horizontal pair of the same variety, mint	2	10	0
Great Britain, 1d. black, a re-constructed plate practically being all picked specimens	5	7	6
Do. 2d. blue, with lines, a reconstructed plate, practically being very fine specimens	1	18	0
Modena, 1852, 1 lira-black, used on piece, scarce	2	12	0
Do. 1859, 5c. brown, the rare error, fine*	1	6	0
Nevis, litho, 6d. grey, very fine*	4	10	0
Queensland, 1860, imperf., 2d. blue, very fine	4	0	0
St. Vincent, 5/- rose, a superb specimen with gum*	10	0	0
Do. 1d. on half of 6d. blue-green, very fine*	3	10	0
Tasmania, 1870, 4d. blue, used, scarce	1	14	0
Trinidad, 1851, 1d. brown-red, a mint block of 8	2	17	0
Do. 1860, clean cut 14 to 16, 1d. rose-red, mint	1	2	0
United States, Executive, the set all mint except the 1 cent which has part gum	4	4	0
Do. State, the set complete, all mint except the 15c.	3	12	0
Zanzibar, 1895, 2½a. green, error Zanzidar, rare, used	4	0	0
Zululand, 5/- carmine, a mint horizontal pair	7	0	0
Do. 1894, £1 red, mint	2	6	0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & OOPER'S Sale,
March 19th and 20th, 1903.

Great Britain, Postal Fiscals, 1853-54, embossed stamp, surcharged Inland Revenue in green, 3d. pink. imperforate*	0	18	0
Japan, 1874, 6 sen, purple-brown, plate No. 15	1	0	0
North Borneo, 1886, 1c. orange	1	12	0
Philippines, 1st issue, 1r1. blue, a very fine horizontal pair*	6	0	0
Natal, 1874-78, perf. 12½, 4d. brown*	2	6	0
Orange River Colony, 1877, prolv., "4" on 6d. rose-carmine, types c and d*	1	8	0
Do. 1882, provisionals, 3d. on 4d. ultramarine, the complete set of 5 types, mint	4	4	0
Swazieland, ½d. red surcharge, ¼d. black surcharge, 1d., 2d., 1/- and 5/-, all with inverted surcharges, defective*	6	6	0
Do. 5/- slate blue, error, "Swazielan" in a mint horizontal, corner pair	4	0	0
Transvaal, surcharged V.R.I., £5 green, mint	5	0	0
Transvaal, surcharged V.R.I., 3d. reddish-purple, block of 4, mint surcharges at back	3	0	0
Do. A horizontal mint, one surcharged V.I. (close together) and the other without surcharge	1	11	0
Do. Another pair, but surcharged with V. only	1	0	0
Do. A similar pair, but with additional surcharges at back	1	12	0
Lydenburg, 1d. carmine, and 3d. on 1d. carmine, the latter the variety with long-tailed R, both mint	1	10	0
British Guiana, 1888-89, 1 dollar green, mint	3	0	0
Grenada, 1883, Provisional, surcharged "POSTAGE" diagonally on half 1d. orange, an unsevered pair	2	0	0
Hawaiian Islands, Interisland Postage, 1864, 1c. black on white wove paper*	1	12	0
Do. 2c. black on white wove paper*	1	6	0
New South Wales, 1890-98, perf. 11, 20/- ultramarine, mint	1	7	0
Victoria, 1873-76, wmk. V. and Crown, 9d. brown-pink on rose*	1	6	0

Messrs. PUTTIK & SIMPSON'S Sale,
March 24th and 25th, 1903.

Great Britain, 1840, 1d. black, "V.R.", mint	7	7	6
Do. 1841, 1d. red-brown, on Dickinson paper, a very fine pair*	1	3	0
Ceylon, Imperf., 1d. blue on bleuté*	1	10	0
Do. Perf., wmk. Star, 1/- blue-lilac, pair, mint	1	2	0

	£	s.	d.
British Bechuanaland, 1888, Protectorate, ¼d. vermilion, pair, with double overprint, mint	2	18	0
British Central Africa, 1891, £2 rose-red, mint	4	0	0
British East Africa, 1895 (July), 2a. red, mint	2	2	0
Griqualand, 1874, MS. surcharge, 1d. in red on 4d. blue, mint	1	5	0
Niger Coast, 1893, ½ in red on half 1d. pale blue	1	14	0
Newfoundland, 1857, 4d. scarlet	4	17	6
Montserrat, wmk. CA., 4d. blue*	3	5	0
St. Lucia, Wmk. C.A., perf. 14, Fourpence black and yellow, mint	1	1	0
Do. 1/- orange-brown, mint	2	2	0
Trinidad, imperf., on bleuté, 1d. brown, a pair, mint	1	0	0
British Guiana, 1850, 12c. blue, on entire original	11	0	0
New South Wales, Sydney Views, 2d. dark blue, plate 1	2	10	0
South Australia, imperf., 1d. dark green, a pair, repaired*	4	0	0
Do. O.S., 1900, 2/6 lilac and 5/- rose	2	2	0
Tasmania, 1853, 1d. blue	2	2	0
Victoria, 1864, 8d. orange*	1	15	0
Mauritius, 184½, Post Paid, 2d. blue, medium early impression, the error "Penoe"	10	10	0

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co.'s Sale,
March 27th, 1903.

	£	s.	d.
Hong Kong, 1882, wmk. CA., 10 cents blue-green*	1	12	0
Puttialla, 1892-9, 3 annas orange, fine unused copy, with a Λ for A, an uncatalogued variety	1	1	0
Cape of Good Hope, ¼d. on 3d. claret, wmk. CC	1	12	0
Swazieland, 5/- slate, perf. 12½, a mint copy, rare perf.	1	0	0
Transvaal, Gibbons' 15, a mint block of 4	3	16	0
Do. 1d. red, Gibbons' 11*	1	1	0
Do. 1d. dull red, pelure paper, wide roulette, Gibbons' 39	3	3	0
Do. 1/- green, fine roulette, Gibbons' 71	1	0	0
Do. 1d on 6d. black surcharge, Gibbons' 158, pair	2	0	0
Do. 10/- brown, Gibbons' 250, mint pair	1	16	0
Zanzibar, 1a. plum, with blue surcharge, Gibbons' 2	2	0	0
Turks Island, 2½d. on 1/- lilac, Gibbons' 29, mint	4	12	6
New Zealand, 1862, 2d. pale blue, rouletted, Gibbons' 56*	1	5	0
Tasmania, 1871-9, 1d. vermilion, Gibbons' 113	1	14	0

MARTIN, RAY & Co.,
Stamp Auctioneers and
Commission Agents,
LONSDALE CHAMBERS,
CHANCERY LANE, W.C.,
— HOLD —
STAMP AUCTION SALES
- FORTNIGHTLY. -

MONDAYS—April 20th,
May 4th and 18th.

Stamps to be included should reach our Offices
14 days prior.

Commission 10%. Minimum Charge 1/6 per lot.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**
 Literaru, 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 21st & 22nd**, and will consist of **A FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION**, formed by a well-known Collector,

And includes the following:—**Great Britain**, 4d., medium Garter on white, unused with gum, and O.W. Official, 10d., very fine. **Norway**, an exceedingly fine collection of unused containing many blocks and sheets of the early issues. **Sweden**, the rare "Tretio" error, and other scarce stamps. **Ceylon**, imperf. 9d. and 2/-, perf. 8d. yellow brown, very fine, &c., &c. **Cape of Good Hope**, 1/- dark green and 1/- emerald, a superb mint pair of each, 4d. dark blue, woodblock, &c. **Lagos, CA.**, 2/6 and 5/-, &c. **Mauritius**, Post Paid, 1d. and 2d., latter unused. **New Brunswick**, 1/- mauve, very fine. **Newfoundland**, 4d. orange and 6d. scarlet, unused. **Nevis**, 4d. and 6d. lithograph unused, two of each; 6d. green, CA., &c., &c. **St. Vincent**, a very fine lot including 4 on 1/- superb, and many of the scarce 4d. and 1/- values unused. **West Indies**, a fine lot of most of the islands. **New South Wales**, some rare unused Laureateds. **Victoria**, many fine unused early issues. Nearly all the Stamps in this Collection are in very fine condition and the majority of the "Remainders" are unusually good. Catalogue Ready.

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson have received instructions to sell on May 5th and 6th the fine Collection of Africans formed by Lord Grantley.
Catalogue Ready Shortly.

OTHER SALES FOR THE SEASON: 1903—May 5 and 6, 19 and 20; June 9 and 10. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sales for the Season 1903-1904, have been fixed as follows: 1903—September 29 and 30; October 13 and 14, 27 and 28; November 10 and 11, 24 and 25; December 8 and 9. 1904—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27; May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8.

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 past seasons.

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:
 TELEPHONE No. 1561, GERRARD.
 ESTABLISHED 1794.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,
47, Leicester Square, London, W.C.

W. H. PECKITT,
Dealer in Rare Stamps,

47, STRAND, W.C. (Nearly Opposite Old Address.)

APPROVAL BOOKS OF MEDIUM STAMPS

A New Series of these just made up containing a Fine Range of the lower priced Stamps at very moderate prices.

WILL BE SENT ON APPROVAL ON APPLICATION.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "PECKITT, LONDON." TELEPHONE: 3204 GERRARD. SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL.

1903 PRICE LIST POST FREE

A Fine Assortment of Stamps always on View RANGING FROM NEW ISSUES TO THE GREATEST RARITIES.

THE RAREST POSTAGE STAMP IN THE WORLD

Is now on View at

BLUETT & Co.'s PREMISES IN THE CITY.

IT IS A STAMP WHICH IS NOT TO BE FOUND IN THE MOST CELEBRATED COLLECTIONS, AND IS THE ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND KNOWN TO EXIST.

BLUETT & Co. have just purchased a fine Collection of 12,000 distinct varieties WHICH THEY ARE SELLING AT VERY MODERATE PRICES.

BLUETT & Co., Crooked Lane, (Corner of Cannon St.) London Bridge,

(THE OLDEST CITY STAMP DEALERS.

ESTABLISHED 16 YEARS IN THE CITY.)

E.C.

RARE & MEDIUM STAMPS

In Finest Condition much below ordinary Prices. Old English and Colonials a speciality. Approval selections sent against good references. A large variety always on view; inspection invited.

HYAM & CO., 158, BROMPTON ROAD, SOUTH KENSINGTON.

IMPORTANT SALE OF STAMPS.

A well known dealer having retired (owing to ill-health) I am now disposing of his stock consisting of rare Colonials, U.S.A., European, &c., as well as good useful medium stamps. Many bargains. Liberal discounts. Send for approval book; references required.

A. D. OUBRIDGE,
69, St. George's Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NOTICE.

Special Sale in Stamp Albums

STAMPS BOUGHT AND SOLD.

AVENUE STAMP COMPANY,
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Well arranged and in good condition at Lowest Prices. Fine Series of Books of most countries, containing shades, perforations, etc.

We do not stock New Issues, and consequently can supply the older stamps at reasonable rates.

Large Stock of Entires at one-third of Gibbons' Prices.

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TELEPHONE 2136 CENTRAL

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The only "worth-having" high grade Packet Collection. Sold in 16 Parts.

At 4/- each or £3 complete

Booklet Free.

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The Cheapest Stamp Shop in the City:

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200 Genuine Stamps, all different, post free, 1/-

Stamps of good Medium Stamps at Low Prices, sent on Approval on receipt of satisfactory Reference

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Specialist collections of the following countries, each in separate books.

Barbados.	Newfoundland.
Cape of Good Hope	New South Wales.
Ceylon.	Tasmania.
Crenada.	Trinidad.
Hong Kong.	Victoria.
Natal.	India

And others.

These countries have been compiled with as many shades, varieties, etc., as possible, and contains most of the rarities. They are now offered, the average prices for single stamps being under half catalogue.

APPROVAL TO RESPONSIBLE COLLECTORS

Box 134. c/o Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

OLD BRITISH COLONIALS

in Mint and perfect used condition, from 3d. to 5/- each, in small Approval Books, each containing about 200 Stamps. Nearly all priced at 60 per cent. to 75 per cent. under Gibbons' catalogue. Will send one on receipt of good reference.

Old Mint British Colonials Wanted.

"B," Uplands, Swanwick, Hampshire.

50 STAMPS Bargain Packet, Grand Value, Post Free. 6 1/2 d

Comprising B. Honduras, Transvaal, Soudan, (camel), Java, Deccan, China, Tasmania, (view), Venezuela Straits, Peru, Great Britain I.R. Official (King's Head), etc., etc. Purchasers of above packet applying for an Approval Sheet will receive gratis a set of 3 Tunis. Collections and useful lots of Old B. Colonials bought. Approval Books and Sheets at 3d. & 6d. in 1 - Discount. Mention Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

PEARCE & STAMFORD,

7, Katharine St., Croydon.

BARGAINS.

POSTAGE EXTRA.

Great Britain, "Army Official," 2d. Queen, mint	9d.
" " " " 6d. " "	3 0
" " " " 1d. King " "	1d.
" " " " 1d. " "	2d.

B.S. Africa, £1 black and red-brown, one postally used copy
 20 0 |

Johore, 3c. on 5c., mint (cat. 3/6)
 1 6 |

" " " " 3c. " " (cat. 2/6)
 1 0 |

Trinidad, 1896, 5d. mint (cat. 4/6)
 2 3 |

British Guiana, 1c. on 4c. mint (cat. 8d.)
 4d. |

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" " " " Foreign Countries
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Naples, 50s. lake	13	70/-	35/-
Buenos Ayres 3p. green	4	£8	70/-
Spain, Madrid 1d	48	60/-	30/-
" 19c. brown	109	35/-	14/-
*Greece, 50 x 25 on 40	227	17/6	7/6
* pair showing broad and narrow	0227	35/-	16/-
* 5 on #1 double arch	229	10/-	4/-
Congo, 10 francs, very fine	114	8/6	4/-
Straits Settlements, \$5, surch specimen			5/-
British Honduras, soc., \$1. \$2. \$5 do.			13/-
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We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 212—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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The next Sale of POSTAGE STAMPS will be held on THURSDAY, 30th APRIL & 1st MAY, 1903, at 4.30 p.m.; and will consist of a FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION broken up into lots, many rare stamps. Catalogues ready shortly and will be posted free on application.

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13th MAY, 1903.

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PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

ii. Always mention the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY in answering Advertisements.

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(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

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Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their Dates of Sales for the Season will be as under :—
1903.—MAY 7th and 8th, 21st and 22nd; JUNE 11th and 12th.

MAY 7th and 8th.—By order of the Executors of Col. Morrell, deceased.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell on the above dates

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FORMED BY THE LATE COL. MORRELL.

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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REVISED TERMS ON APPLICATION.

CATALOGUES of all Sales can be obtained from

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Stamp Auctioneers

AND COMMISSION AGENTS,

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NEXT SALES will be held

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FOR T N I G H T L Y.

With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

Published every Alternate Saturday.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatello Society, the Junior London Philatello Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatello Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatello Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club, and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Stamp Exchange.

No. 212.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad

Forgeries of "Zulu on British."

A WARNING is issued by the Stamp Trade Protection Association against forged stamps of Zululand—surcharged on English. These have been made in quantities on the continent and are finding their way across the channel.

Fiscalism to the Fore.

THERE is a rumour, apparently well founded, that a prominent firm of stamp dealers, are about to extend the scope of their business in a most unexpected direction. In a word, it is believed that Fiscals are to become a part of the firm's stock-in-trade. If it prove to be true, this should be a distinct leg-up for the Fiscalists.

Depressed Stamps, and Others.

MR. J. H. TELLER, of Messrs. Plumridge & Co., has recently been interviewed by a representative of "Sale Prices."

Asked as to the present state of the stamp market, Mr. Teller expressed the opinion that at present the market is certainly depressed, and though auction prices are steady they are not so good as they were last year. Europeans are distinctly dull, and the same remark applies to Americans, but the boom caused by the late war in Transvaal and South Africans still continues, and is likely to do so for some time to come. The latter—in fact all Colonials, are the best

stamps to collect at present, and collectors are advised to give particular attention to the now obsolete issues of Victoria and other Australians, which will undoubtedly increase in value.

A Stamp Society for North London.

MR. A. C. CONSTANTINIDES of Hardwick Villa, Highgate, N., suggests the formation of a Society for the many North Londoners who are interested in stamps.

"Although there are many excellent Philatelic Societies in existence," writes Mr. Constantinides, "the North of London is not represented among the number and philatelists residing in that part of the metropolis must surely feel the want of one. I do not mean simply a Stamp Exchange, but a Society where members could meet together and compare notes, &c. (an exchange branch could of course be included).

"Should any of the readers of the S.C.F. who reside in the neighbourhood care to join with me and try to form such a Society I should be most pleased to enter into communication with him or her with that end in view; and I have no doubt that, considering there is no other club of the kind within a considerable radius, it would prove a great boon to those of us who wish to talk stamps and cannot because of the distance we should have to travel every time we wished to do so."

Does Specialism Pay?

IN reply to the remarks from Mr. Percy Newman in the last *Fortnightly*, Mr. J. B. Neyrond offers a few pointed and perhaps somewhat pessimistic remarks on the subject of specialism in stamp collecting.

My opinion (writes Mr. Neyrond) is that specialising pays if only perfect specimens (used or unused) of the older issues of certain countries are collected. Specialists of new issues (especially in blocks and sheets) will be disagreeably surprised in years to come, when they wish to dispose of their accumulations, as there will be no demand for many varieties of which millions have been printed. It is, of course, to the interest of certain dealers to hoard these new issues (which can be supplied to order in any quantity), but it is the collector who will eventually be the loser. My advice (based on 30 years' experience) to all collectors, advanced or otherwise, is (1) to collect only perfect specimens (used or unused), (2) to avoid blank albums, which only lead to blotting, and (3) to mount their stamps in one of the leading printed albums, such as Gibbons' Imperial (4th edition) in which sufficient spaces are provided for shades, watermarks, perforations, plate numbers, pairs, &c. A collection formed on these lines will at any time find a ready purchaser.

The Sentence on Malcolm Campbell.

PRISONER MAKES A SANCTIMONIOUS APPEAL FOR MERCY—
SENTENCE, TWELVE MONTHS AS A SECOND-CLASS
MISDEAMANT.

THE Westmoreland Easter Quarter Sessions, opened at the Town Hall, Kendal, on Thursday, April 9th, possessed a special interest for philatelists, because of the inclusion in the charge list of the name of Malcolm Campbell, late of Mexborough, against whom serious frauds on stamp collectors and dealers have been alleged. We extract the essential points of the trial from the report given by the "Kendal Mercury and Times."

Malcolm Campbell, 24, Surveyor, was charged with obtaining by false pretences postage stamps to the value of £18 7s. 11d., £17 15s. 4d., 4s. 4d., and £1 17s., together of the value of £38 14s. 7d., the property of Herbert W. Baron, Kendal, between the 16th and 22nd days of January last.

Mr. Cavanagh, for the prosecution, applied for permission to add certain counts against the prisoner for obtaining credit under false pretences, and also by fraud other than by false pretences, the application being granted.

The prisoner pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Cavanagh addressed the jury, pointing out the distinction between obtaining by false pretences and obtaining credit by other means.

Herbert William Baron said he lived at Birchfield, Kendal, was a manufacturer, and carried on the business of a Stamp Exchange, in the name of the Westmorland Philatelic Company. He remembered advertising the sale of stamps in 1902. On the 9th of January he received a post card, dated from Montgomery Street, Ardrrossan, which he now identified, asking him to send a selection of good stamps—English unused special y desired—of value from 1887 to 1897. Reference to A. H. Pollard, Stamp Importer, Accrington, was given. He wrote to Mr. Pollard, and in consequence of the answer received from him he wrote to prisoner at Ardrrossan, asking how it was that that gentleman referred to him as Campbell, of Mexborough, and how he accounted for two addresses. He then got another post card from prisoner, styling himself a Shipping Agent of Mexborough, asking for English stamps used and unused, saying that as a collector was about to call upon him (prisoner) business might result, and adding that both his addresses were permanent. On receipt of that postcard he sent stamps by registered post to the net value of £18 7s. 11d., on the 16th of January.

Prisoner here drew attention to a clause in the Debtors Act, 1869, and argued that it did not apply to Scotland.

The Chairman said they were not in Scotland. They were in England. It was a matter of procedure. Prisoner was being tried by a Westmorland Court, and what Scotland had to do with it he did not know.

Mr. Baron, continuing his evidence, described further transactions, four consignments of stamps being made to the prisoner, the total value being £38 14s. 7d. He had not known anything of the prisoner except through the communications between them. If he had known that he was living in lodgings he would not have supplied him with stamps without knowing something more about him.

Witnesses were next called to testify as to the places where at Malcolm Campbell had lodged.

Robert Davis, Miner, of Penistone, Yorkshire, deposed to having lived at Mexborough. His wife took in lodgers, and on the 9th of October last the prisoner and his wife came to lodge with them, staying until December 24th. Post cards, registered letters, and parcels came by the three deliveries daily, and prisoner was always writing, staying in during the day and going out at night. When prisoner went away he (witness) forwarded to Belfast letters that arrived for him.

Catherine Macmilan gave evidence of prisoner and his wife coming to lodge with her on the 25th of December. He received numbers of letters and postcards each day, and was writing every time she saw him, and seemed to be working among stamps. When he left, she forwarded letters, etc., to him at Belfast.

Chief Constable Berry, Kendal, said that when he received the prisoner in custody, he stated that when he got the stamps he did not intend to defraud. Witness conveyed him and his belongings to Kendal, having to release prisoner's coat out of pawn before he could bring him back. Among prisoner's effects was a great quantity of correspondence, and numerous pawn tickets. One of these was for a suit of clothing; another, at Doncaster, for a skirt; another, at London, for a cloak and sash; at Sheffield for a Freemason's apron; at Mexborough, curtains. He also found forty-nine stamps, nineteen

of which Mr. Baron had identified as his, and there were several envelopes containing letters in which prisoner wrote under a fictitious name that he would be glad to purchase articles that had been advertised for sale.

The prisoner made an ingenious statement in his defence, declaring that the charge against him was contrary to the facts, there having been no false pretences of any kind to induce Mr. Baron to enter into business relations with him. He showed at some length in what false pretences actually consisted, and said that misrepresentation might be summed up as the non-disclosure of facts known to one party and not to another. In his dealings with Mr. Baron there had been no misrepresentation, and the case ought never to have been brought into this court at all. Mr. Baron had obtained from him a bona fide reference, and it was only after doing so that he sent the stamps and allowed him commission, and if Mr. Baron thought he had a grievance the remedy ought to be applied for in a civil court, since, referring to the Statute of Frauds, no criminal action could be brought against anyone when there had been consent. He insisted that there was great doubt in this case, and as the prosecution admitted that they had not produced all the documents the jury ought not to have the slightest hesitation in giving him the benefit of the doubt. A late Lord Chief Justice had said that the law was carried out to better advantage in leniency than in severity, and it had been laid down that there should be very great care in sentencing young men, and that it should not only be considered what was right and best for their souls, but any doubt in a case should be carefully weighed, and the benefit of it given to a defendant. In a case at Lanark it had been held that misrepresentation could not be said to have proved if a defendant declared that he believed what he stated to have been true.

The Chairman remarked that that might be good Scottish law or not, but it could not be quoted as applicable because it differed from English law.

Prisoner went on to say that as the prosecution had not shown that any misrepresentation was made by him he claimed an acquittal, and pathetically added that as they were standing on the eve of the anniversary of the greatest jury trial the world had ever known, when the innocent was condemned and vengeance fell upon the unjust judges, might he not be permitted at such a season to appeal to the gentlemen of the jury for a merciful verdict. Mercy blessed the giver more than the receiver, it blessed him that gave and him that received. Their duty was to weigh most carefully the evidence before entering upon any line of conduct, and he strongly warned them against any suspicion that he who wished to be an ambassador of justice must aid it by bringing in a verdict of guilty. Rather let them remember that justice was mercy, and mercy was righteousness. He most earnestly counselled them, if they had the slightest tendency to prejudice against him, to check that disposition. Let them think of the issues dependent on their verdict. It might be that there would follow guilt, shame, disgrace, agony, broken hearts, the bringing down of grey hairs with sorrow to the grave, on the one hand; on the other, innocence, happiness, the living of a new life—it might be a life of honour, as the result and product of mercy; and any favour they might be empowered to confer, let them bestow it with mercy. The strength of mercy was undoubted. The jury had been empanelled in the interests of justice, and they wished to be just. To err was human, but for error on the side of mercy there was forgiveness, while for error on the side of injustice they would have to answer hereafter. In conclusion, he said—As it seemeth good to you to do unto me, so do; remembering that with what measure ye mete it shall be measured to you again.

The chairman the summed up the case, and the jury retired, returning shortly afterwards into court with a verdict of guilty on the original counts. Previous conviction for felony were admitted by the prisoner, who said there was also a charge against him in Cornwall.

Mr. Cavanagh said he felt it to be his duty to state that there was an enormous number of complaints against this man. Up to the beginning of this year there were 72 complaints in Yorkshire alone, all, with about one exception for obtaining stamps. From the beginning of the year to the present time the number had increased to 118, and complaints lodged with the Chief Constable at Kendal covered property of the value of £259.

The sentence of the Court was that Campbell be kept in prison as a second-class misdemeanant for twelve months.

United States postage, departmental and revenue stamps have been declining in price for about seven years. It is now generally conceded that they have reached bottom, and are a safe investment at the ruling prices of to-day. The cause of the decline (writes Mr. Leon Cass in the "Canada Stamp Sheet") is found in the fact that they were boomed and prices raised above their true value.

On Postal Cards and Covers.

By A SPECIALIST.

ROUMANIA (CONTINUED).

(From Fry's Catalogue, 1886.)

1877 (*Sept.*) Stamp as before, in right upper corner. Arms in left upper corner. Inscription in upper centre CARTA DE POSTA in open capitals, with ornamental dash underneath. Three ruled lines for address, preceded by *D*, the third by *la*. The lower part of the card separated from the upper by a ruled line has five paragraphs of instructions, in two columns. All within a single lined frame, $4\frac{1}{2} + 3\frac{1}{4}$ ns., 115 + 78mm. Stamp in colour, remainder in black.

a. Yellowish white card $3\frac{1}{2} + 3\frac{1}{2}$, 121 + 82 mm., dotted lines the cards in the sheet.

44. 5 bani, red-brown.

b. Card as last, but perforated along the dotted line.

45. 5 bani, red-brown.

1877 (*Oct.*) Same as issue 1877 (*Sept.*) but on white paper $5\frac{1}{2} + 3\frac{1}{2}$ in., 135 + 95mm.

46. 5 bani, red-brown.

Variety.

47. Without period after 5, in par. 5.

1878 (*March.*) Stamp and arms as before. Inscription in upper centre CARTA POSTALA with dash under. Four dotted lines for address, the first preceded by *D*, the third by *la*. Thick ruled line separating the card in two parts, the lower having the five paragraphs of instructions. In right lower corner is "Tiraju—1878." The cards are separated in the sheet by perforations. Stamp in colour, remainder in black on rose coloured card, $6 + 3\frac{1}{2}$ in., 155 + 100mm. (These sizes vary).

48. 5 bani, blue.

Variety.

"Tiraju"—without date.

49. 5 bani, blue.

NOTES AND NOVELTIES.

Angola.—The German papers chronicle two new cards. Buff card 142 × 91 mm.

10 reis green, and dark green, stamp in centre.

25 reis carmine, and dark carmine, stamp at left.

Argentine Republic.—There appears to be a little confusion in the various accounts of the recent issues of postal stationery, but so far as I can gather the list I gave recently is substantially correct. In addition there appears to be a 2c. wrapper.

W. 2c. slate on buff, 115 × 280 mm.

Cape Verde.—Two new cards, like those for Angola, are chronicled buff card 142 × 91 mm.

10 reis green, and dark green, stamp in middle.

20 reis carmine, and dark carmine, stamp at left.

Ceylon.—A King's Head Registration envelope is reported.

Great Britain.—The "E.W.S.N." list of die numbers (King's Head) on the envelopes now stands as follows:—

$\frac{1}{4}$ d., Dies 7 to 25, except 13; 43, 44.

1d., Dies 7 to 29, except 19; 43, 44.

$1\frac{1}{4}$ d., 2d., 3d., 4d. Die 1.

$2\frac{1}{4}$ d. Die 3.

6d. Dies 1, 2, 3, 4.

3d. Registration. Dies 1, 2, 3.

Also a Die 60 of the $\frac{1}{4}$ d. green Queen's Head has been seen. Hitherto Die 59 was the highest number known.

Iceland.—The surcharged cards and a new issue are described thus by the "W. P. Era." "Mr. Lohmeyer reports having received the new cards from this northern land. Of the former issue 8a., 10a., and 10 × 10a. cards have been surcharged over the stamp in black "1 GILDT 02 03" (valid during 1902 and 1903) in two lines. The new issue is identical in all respects with the former, except that the new stamp with Head of King Christian IX. of Denmark has been substituted for the familiar Iceland stamp with figure of value in centre."

Provisional Issue (with surcharge).

8a. violet and black on white, 140 × 89mm.

10a. carmine " " " " "

10 + 10a. " " " " "

New Regular Issue.

3a. orange and grey on white, 143 × 90mm.

3 + 3 " " " " " "

5a. green " " " " " "

5 + 5a. " " " " " "

8a. violet on white 140 × 90mm.

8 - 8a. " " " " " "

10a. carmine " " " " "

10 + 10a. " " " " " "

Mexico.—"E.W.S.N." announces that the colour of the 1c. wrapper has been changed.

W. 1c. lilac on chamois.

The Stamp Room at North Bersted.

A SUSSEX VILLAGE INN WITH A PHILATELIC ROOM.

AT North Bersted, near Bognor, there is or was a remarkable room entirely "papered" with stamps. The place was thus described some time ago by Mr. W. H. Oakley, in an illustrated contribution to the "Golden Penny":—

The little Sussex village of North Bersted, near Bognor, boasts the possession of a remarkable room, every inch of which, except the floor, is covered with old postage stamps.

Such a curiosity could not of course be missed by any self-respecting sightseer, and a fine afternoon found me walking North Berstedwards with my camera. The road from Bognor, led past fields of golden corn ripe for the sickle, and quaint old thatched and timbered houses, and a walk of about twenty minutes brought me to my destination. The place turned out to be a wayside house of refreshment.

Mr. Sharpe, the proprietor, has been a stamp collector for many years, though when he started his hobby he had not the remotest idea of putting his superfluous specimens to such a curious use. That he has taken a keen eye for a valuable stamp was evidenced by the album which he showed me, and for which he has refused an offer of considerably over £200.

Some four or five years before the Jubilee of 1887, Mr. Sharpe conceived the idea of celebrating that event in a way which was certainly unique. He decided to paper the walls of one of his rooms throughout with stamps of all nations. The task was a long and trying one, but it was completed at last. A personal visit is necessary to thoroughly appreciate the remarkable effect produced. From the ceiling hang long festoons of stamps, each string of them containing many thousands, and similar ropes hang round the walls. There are also great bundles of stamps suspended from the ceiling and hanging against the walls. One bundle, which was removed for me because it blocked the view, contained no less than 60,000.

As stated above, every inch of the walls and ceiling is covered by the tiny squares, and the chairs—seats, backs, and legs—are similarly decorated. When it is stated that in the principal room every stamp was stuck on separately, some idea may be formed of the time taken and the patience required for the accomplishment of the self-imposed task. Nor was Mr. Sharpe content with simply sticking the stamps on in rows. Before they were used they were carefully assorted, and by means of different coloured stamps some special designs have been cleverly executed.

In the centre of the ceiling is an immense star; on the screen in front of the fireplace are worked the Bognor Arms; the tablecloth is adorned with a representation of the Eiffel Tower; the words "Jubilee Stamp Room" appear on the north wall in old English red stamps; the Prince of Wales's feathers and the Crown, both designed in stamps, hang in frames on the walls. All the walls, after receiving their unique papering, have been varnished. The exact number of stamps used in the decoration of the rooms and summer house is not known, but it is stated to be about 1,000,000, while the bundles and festoons contain nearly another million.

The original face value of these stamps must have been very great. Taking them at a penny each, two millions would cost between £5,000 and £9,000. But a great number of them are twopenny, sixpenny, and shilling stamps.

The fame of this remarkable room has attracted an enormous number of people, and at the time of my visit I found that over 92,000 persons had signed the visitors' books, which are placed in the summer-house. On one day alone no fewer than 624 excursionists visited the room and signed their names.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, APRIL 25, 1903.

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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The Case of Malcolm Campbell.

That now famous "Esquire of Philately," Malcolm Campbell, late of Mexborough, Ardrossan, Dublin and elsewhere, and now a visitor to one of His Majesty's penal establishments, is evidently one of two things—he is either an injured innocent or a remarkably astute swindler. Campbell himself would have us believe him a victim of a miscarriage of justice, but that is not the view taken by the many *Fortnightly* readers who have become interested—very vitally interested—in his affairs. Nor, unhappily for Campbell, was it the view taken by the Judge and jury at the Westmeath Quarter Sessions, who, as reported elsewhere, have sent Campbell to serve out twelve months imprisonment.

To many philatelists and notably to Mr. T. T. Stevens, of Redruth, we are indebted for interesting letters and valuable information regarding the man Campbell, his *modus operandi*, and the proceedings in connection with his arrest and prosecution. If we have only printed a moiety of the matter received in this way our correspondents may rest assured that it is not from any want of appreciation of their efforts to keep us *au fait* with the trend of events. It is rather the—shall we say *heated* nature of their comments? that has precluded publication. For such a curious thing is our British libel law, and so tender a care has it for the feelings of the meanest of men, that even when a man has been tried, convicted and sentenced for fraud there is little that one may publicly say of him beyond a mere comment upon the particular issue which came before the Judge and jury. True, there are many who brave the law in this respect. "Truth," week after week, dares to call a spade a spade and a thief a thief; but we have no intention of crossing the border line of fair comment in the case of such a person as Malcolm Campbell Esquire.

The man is caught now, and sentenced. Well and good! His power for evil, if only Philatelists will exercise the rudimentary business precautions so repeatedly advised in the *Fortnightly*, is gone for ever. Better far for stamp men to set their business methods in order once and for all than to cry over the milk that is spilt.

One word more, even at the risk of giving counsel that may not be palatable to all. This man Campbell is said to have been remarkably clever in his methods. Well, one may easily be wise after the event, but we fail to see where Malcolm Campbell's cleverness came in. It needed only a little cold business caution to defeat his ends. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.—to mention only one firm; we cordially hope there are many others—were approached by Campbell, but took the ordinary business precaution of enquiring into the applicant's antecedents, and—not a single centime's worth of stamps did the Mexborough Esquire receive from Ipswich!

An Exchange Club's Narrow Escape.

AN INTERESTING STORY FROM DUBLIN.

MR. F. C. SCARR, Hon. Secretary of the Irish Philatelic Club, gives us interesting details of the narrow escape of a valuable exchange packet from the hands of an individual who has since been the subject of pressing attention on the part of the police. For obvious reasons we suppress certain names of persons and places in giving publicity to Mr. Scarr's story:—

About a month ago a collector in the South of Ireland wrote to me asking me for some information as to Mrs. —, who gave her address at No. — street, Dublin, and who had written to him for stamps. He sent me the letter. I replied that the name did not appear in the lists of Irish collectors in my possession, that the lady was not a member of the Irish Philatelic Club, and was unknown to us, and that the Dublin Directory gave the name of a different person as the occupier of the house. Further, the lady spelled the name of the street *wrong*. Under these circumstances I advised caution. I had a reply from my correspondent thanking me for the information, and stating that "the writing has a striking resemblance to that of a gentleman who is very much wanted in England." The sequel shows how correct my correspondent was in his surmise.

A few days afterwards a lady member of the Irish Philatelic Club showed me a letter of application to see stamps from this very same person, the letter being in identical terms with the first one I saw. I informed her of the previous knowledge I had gained of the case, and the letter, therefore, failed to draw.

I had lost sight of the matter until Thursday last, when I received a letter from the secretary of a prominent stamp exchange club in England informing me that a packet had been sent on to the name and address referred to above on the 11th March, and although he had written several times he had not received any reply, nor had the packet been sent on to the next on list. He asked me to make inquiries about it.

On Friday morning I proceeded forth to beard the lion (or rather lioness) in his den. In response to my knock, the girl who opened the door told me that Mrs. — did not live there. I rather firmly told her that was the address I was supplied with, when she replied, "Oh, she left some time ago." I asked, "When did she leave?" "About a month ago," was the reply. "Well," I said, "Where is the registered parcel that was delivered at this house, addressed to Mrs. —, on the 12th March last?" She said she would call up the master. The master was produced, and his first query was to know if I was from the detective office? I replied that I was not, and told him who I was, and my business.

Meantime he had despatched the girl downstairs, and she returned in a few moments, and handed him—the packet!

He then related his experience. Mr. and Mrs. — came to lodge at his house a short time ago, and appeared to be very respectable people. A quantity of parcels and other things arrived during their occupancy of the rooms. He represented himself to be a road surveyor, and in every way appeared satisfactory. The disillusion came, when one day the detectives called, and arrested the eminently respectable Mr. — on a warrant. The poor man (the landlord), seemed greatly worried over the whole matter, and told me that the detectives were inquiring about the packet too. When it arrived (after the lodger's arrest) he either took it or sent it to Mrs. —, but when the detectives again called on Thursday last, he went to her, and got the packet back, "and here it is for you, sir, and you had better examine it and see its all right." I replied that as the detectives were inquiring for it I had better leave it for them, but if he liked I would take it and give him a receipt for it, and call at the detective office. I was anxious to secure the packet. He told me to take it and give him a receipt, as he wanted to get the worry off his mind. I certainly think great credit is due to him for what he did in connection with this matter.

Having secured the packet I called at the detective office, where it was detained, but only for an hour, as they found that the man had been returned for trial in England, and, therefore they were too late to make a new charge against him in reference to this packet.

The detectives re-delivered the packet to me. I examined it, and found it practically intact, and sent it on to the next in turn on the list. When I tell you that the way-bill showed the packet to contain 38 sheets, value over £365, you will realise what a narrow escape the members had.

A young man, George Bright by name, has been before the Leeds Stipendiary magistrate on a charge of obtaining credit for foreign stamps by fraudulent pretences.

New Issues and Varieties.

Canada. — Mr. E. J. Nankivell writes in "The Connoisseur":—

I have recently been shown by the engravers a proof of the much talked of proposed new Canadian King's Head series of postage stamps. The general design is very much the same as the current series—severely simple. The oval band containing the words "Canada Postage" and the words of value is retained. The figures of value also appear, as before, in the lower corners, but in a slightly more elaborate setting. The portrait, which is the real item of import in the design, is a very pleasant presentation of the King, with shoulders draped in Coronation robes. The view of the face is very much the same as that of the late Queen on the current Canadians. The portrait is effective and true, and at once recognisable. It is clearly engraved in simple line. There is a studious avoidance of elaboration. Something more ornate might perhaps be more generally acceptable, but for simplicity and faithfulness of portraiture the King's Head cannot fail to give general satisfaction. Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., of Fleet Street, E.C., have engraved the die, but they are not to be the printers, for the Canadian Government has a contract with the American Bank Note Co. of New York. That Company designed the double portrait jubilee issue for Canada, and to secure the printing of the stamps agreed to erect an equip a stamp printing factory in Canada; and they have ever since 1897 been the specially appointed printers of Canadian stamps.

Denmark.—The idea of issuing an entirely new set of Danish stamps is, Mr. Bertel informs us, abandoned for the present. *Fortnightly* readers will recollect that an exhibition of designs was held last year in Copenhagen; but it appears that the artists' attempts there displayed were of the poorest, and not even the best of them was thought worthy of adoption by the postal authorities. For the present therefore the existing Danish stamps will remain in force, and probably a good many philatelists will think with us that Denmark might "go farther and fare worse."

France. — Mr. F. C. Cartwright, so long identified with Bristol's philatelic affairs, and now settled in London, is the first to send us a specimen of the new 15 centimes stamp bearing Loty's design of "The Sower."

From a cutting from "Le Matin," also sent us by Mr. Cartwright, we gather that the 15c. stamp was first placed on sale at the post offices of the Luxembourg and the Palais Bourbon, on April 2nd, and that the 10c. and 25c. stamps were then promised for a later date in the current month.

"The colour of these 15 centimes stamps," says "Le Matin," "has been modified. It is bronze-green."

Is it? Green it certainly is, but we have looked vainly for the bronze. Perhaps it is only the stamp that is green, while the bronze is represented by the 15 centimes that Jean Grapand pays for it. Anyhow we shall risk an accusation of colour blindness by chronicling this stamp as green.

"Sower" type, 15 centimes green.

Much has been written already on the subject of these new French stamps of the "Sower" type, but it may be well to recall the fact that Mons. Gustave Roty has given the free use of his striking design to the French Government. The names of both designer and engraver appear at the foot of the stamp—Roty, the artist, on the left; Mouchon, the engraver, on the right.

French Foreign Offices.—We give a further batch of illustrations of the new types for Alexandria, Cavalle, Crete, Dedeagh, the Levant, and Morocco.



Alexandria, Crete, and the Levant.



Cavalle.



Dedeagh.



Morocco.

Presumably all these stamps will be superseded in the near future by a complete new outfit of "The Sower" type! The hideous sameness of these French external issues must begin to pall upon the tired philatelist, and for our own part, if we attempted a general collection of the world's stamps, we should be strongly inclined to take only one solitary specimen of each type as representing the issues of the French Empire.

Gibraltar.—Mrs. Mansell, one of the *Fortnightly's* many readers at "the Rock," expresses curiosity as to why Messrs. Stanley Gibbons have omitted all mention of the Gibraltar 20 centimos olive-green of the 1895 series in their two last catalogues.

Great Britain.—We have to thank Mr. F. Michell for a specimen of the newest official stamp—the 1d. with black overprint in two lines, "Admiralty Official."

India (Gwalior).— "In the new Gwalior King's Head $\frac{1}{4}$ and 1 anna stamps," writes Mr. T. C. Cartwright, "there is a broken 'I,' though I cannot give its position in the sheet." From our correspondent's letter we gather that the inquiry to the "I" consists in the loss of its right foot.

"There is nothing like a fad to keep a man from growing stale," writes Mr. George Horton. "Postage stamps are better than dry-rot and coins have saved many a soul from utter weariness."

The following good story from a Parisian post office is vouched for as absolutely accurate. A gentleman asks for some stamps, and throws six big sou pieces on the counter. Post Office Clerk: "Pardon me, sir; but here is a foreign coin among the sous, which I am not allowed to accept." "Very well, give me change for a franc." "Here it is." "But you have given me an Italian sou." "Oh, yes, our rules are that we are not to 'accept' foreign money. Nothing is said in the rules about not giving it to customers."

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6d. bright mauve	7 6
Very fine do.	10 0

Orange River Colony.

V.R.L., 1st printing, 2½d. blue	6 0
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Hong Kong.

1862. <i>No. wmk., perf. 14.</i>	s. d.	Unused.
2c. pale brown	1 6	
8c. dull yellow	5 9	
12c. pale-blue	6 0	
1863-71. <i>Wmk. Crown CC., perf. 14.</i>		
2c. pale brown	0 7	
4c. slate	0 9	
8c. dull orange	3 0	
8c. bright ..	2 9	
12c. pale blue	3 0	
24c. yellow-green	3 9	
30c. vermilion	7 9	
30c. mauve	3 9	
48c. rose	7 6	
96c. grey-brown	7 6	
1880. <i>Wmk. Crown CC., perf. 14.</i>		
2c. dull rose	0 4	
5c. ultramarine	4 6	
10c. mauve	5 0	
48c. brown	13 0	
1882. <i>Wmk. Crown CA., perf. 14.</i>		
2c. dull rose	6 0	
2c. bright rose	0 1½	
5c. ultramarine	0 9	
10c. green	1 9	

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Philatelic Societies' Reports.

LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE Liverpool Philatelic Society held their usual Fortnightly Meeting, on Monday, April 6th, 1903, at the Alexandra Hotel, Dale Street, Liverpool.

As a result of the invitation extended to members to exhibit some of the "Gems" of their collections (including stamps rare, curious, or otherwise of interest), a superb display was given during the evening. Amongst the stamps of special interest and value were those exhibited by the President (Mr. Milner)—Great Britain, V.R., 1d. black, used; 10/- Maltese Cross; £1 Maltese Cross current 5/-, 10/- and £1; St. Vincent, 6d. green, Star watermark, perf. 14 x 16, mint, and other fine St. Vincents; also Western Australia, 1/- sage-green, CC., perf. 12½, mint.

Messrs. Hughes.—Barbados, 5/- star; New Zealand, 6d. black-brown, Star, rouletted; United States, 1855, 90c., very fine, used; Gambia, 1/- green, very fine, used; and Canada, 6½d. green, very fine, used.

McQuie Green.—Gambia, 4d. imperf., very fine, used; Gold Coast, 4d., CC., perf. 14, mint; United States, fine pair, 12c. imperf. mint, and 1869, 15 and 30c., mint.

Broad.—Newfoundland, 8d. scarlet-vermilion, good margin; Lagos, 2/6 very fine; Oil River, 1/- on 2d.

Cuthbertson.—British Central Africa, 3/- on 4/-, used; New Zealand, 6d. brown, Star, imperf., unused; Gambia, 4d., imperf., unused, no watermark, and watermarked CC.; Natal, 4d., CC., 12½, mint; Mauritius, 5/-, CC., mint pair; and Perak Service, 5c. blue, mint.

Gill.—Great Britain 2/- brown, Orange Free State errors, Canada, Jubilee complete, and United States Columbus complete.

Savage.—Sydney Views, Spain several 19 Cuartos, and errors Guadeloupe.

Moffatt.—Gibraltar almost complete, fine West Indian and West African.

Whitworth.—United States, 5c. 1851, imperf. fine, and 90c. 1869, fine used.

Halfpenny.—New South Wales, block imperf. 2d. 1888, Victoria "Registered," and "Too Late," pair used very fine. 2d. lilac single line, 2 watermark, pair mint.

Dagg.—Very old entires, dating from 1810.

There were also many other stamps of great interest exhibited, the meeting concluded by a hearty vote of thanks to those gentlemen who had kindly exhibited.

Official Address, 28, Dacy Road, Liverpool.

THE TRAVELLER'S STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

THE January Packet of this Amateur Exchange returned last week, 45 members having seen it. The Sales, especially in British Colonials, were excellent, many rare stamps having changed hands. The April Packet started its round on the 1st, containing 35 sheets value £711. This Packet is rich in the early issues of British Colonials, many being in mint condition and priced below catalogue. During this month Messrs. Earl, Adams, Maquee, and Miss Ellis Morgan have been elected members.

Hon. Sec., Leicester, A. B. Paine, Longsdon, near Stoke-on-Trent.

UNUSED STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

FEBRUARY Packet returned. From the gross amount sent in of £90 4s. 6d. members have taken one of the other to value of £12 4s. April Packet was duly despatched on the 15th with 16 sheets value £94 19s.

H. BEAN, Secretary.

JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

A MEETING of this Society was held on Saturday, 18th April, at Clapham Hall, Old Town, Clapham, S.W., when Mr. W. Darwen gave a paper and display of the stamps of France. There was a good attendance and Mr. Darwen's fine collection of French was much appreciated.

The next Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 2nd, at 7.30 p.m., when a Sale and Exchange will be held and the concluding part of Mr. Heginbottom's Collection of Great Britain will be displayed.

HERBERT F. JOHNSON, Hon. Secretary, 9, Lorne Terrace, South Lambeth Road, S.W.

THE PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

THE May packets will be despatched on or about the 5th and the Secretary will be glad if all members, intending to include selections in this packet, will send some as early as possible. Few vacancies for advanced collectors only.

Secretary, R. T. MORGAN, 14, High Street, Selhurst.

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FISCALS.—Those wishing to sell, purchase, or exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London.

USED Gibraltar Stamps, Queen's Heads.—Sample hundred assorted issues low values, including Morocco Agencies. 1/9 Post free. Cash with order. Fifteen Shillings per thousand. Spain set used 2c. to 1p1a., price 8d.—Address: C. B. BEANLAND, Gibraltar.

COLLECTOR specializing has a nice lot of medium Colonials for Sale, especially African, West Indies and Australian. Selections on approval. References required. Wanted Barbados.—FRANK H. MADDISON, St. Neuts, Hunts.

WANTED.—Gibbons' Imperial Album, 8th Edition, in good binding, with or without stamps in.—A. DRESSER, Bexleyheath, Kent.

WANTED.—Specimen Stamps and Proofs of all countries. British Colonials preferred, for cash or exchange.—DRESSER, Bexleyheath, Kent.

RED Penny Plates.—Wanted Mint Pairs 74, 88, 105, 133, 210, 225.—MR. EARL NEWCASTLE, Staff.

RARE Gold Coast.—1864 20/-, 2/4; 1900 5/-, 3/- Fine picked copies.—TAYLOR BROS., 19, Sweeting Street Liverpool.

205 "S.C.F."—Wanted several copies of this No.—MANAGER, "S.C.F." 63/64, Chancery Lane, W.C.

GENUINE Bargains—1000 British Colonials, etc., 1/1; 13 Nyassa, 1901, Giraffe complete, 2/6 set; 50 Spain, 1/1. Retail price list post free. Stamps bought offers requested.—WILLIAM STAMP CO., 120, Leadenhall Street, London.

"UNUSED" STAMP EXCHANGE. No subscription or fines Commission 2 1/2 per cent on members sales who purchase 5/- value.—Secretary, H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, London.

WANT to buy every quantity of the English 1d stamp 185-6; red (Serf No. 6, Stanley Gibbons' No. 42-4). Offers at cheap rates will receive attention.—FREDERICK SCHILBACH, Greiz i/V, Germany, Carolinestr. 49

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SET of 2d. blue plate numbers, price 1/4 post free. Book of very fine English now on sale.—KEER and LANHAM, Chichester Rents, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

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THE NEW ZEALAND STAMP CO., Post Office Box 108, Dunedin, N.Z., will be pleased to hear from dealers with quotations and wholesale approval selections. New Zealand stamps supplied for cash or exchange at lowest current rates. Collectors want lists solicited, but unknown correspondents should send remittance on account.

THE Premier Stamp Exchange. Members required. Particulars from SECRETARY, 7, Cosbycote Avenue, Herne Hill, S.E.

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B.C. Africa, 3/- yellow, CC., mint	5/6
B. Columbia, 25cts., perf. 14, mint	5/0
Cyprus, 1/- green, mint (cat. 55/-)	30 0
Dominica, 3d. olive, CA., mint	1/6
" 24d. brown, CA., mint	10/6
Hong Kong, 2cts., Jubilee, mint	1 0
New Brunswick, 3d. red, very fine, used	10 0
Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown on blue, very fine	25 0
St. Christopher, 1d. on 6d., No. 25, mint	2 6
St. Helena, 5/- orange, mint	6 0
Tobago, 1854, 1/- yellow-ochre, mint	3 6
Trinidad, 1860 2d. rose, clean cut, superb	16 0
" 1861 1d., rough perf., do.	2 9
" 1863 1d., perf. 13, do.	2 6

Cash with order. Postage free.
Specialist's Collection of Siamese Stamps ready for Approval. References required.

COTTEBERTSON & CO., 14, Exchange St. East, Liverpool.

Worthless Locals of Madagascar.

TWO INTERESTING LETTERS WHICH MEAN VERY LITTLE—
IF ANYONE CAN FIND A SANE ARGUMENT IN FAVOUR
OF THESE STAMPS WILL HE KINDLY DO SO?

THE preliminary paragraph on this subject in the last *Fortnightly* has brought us two interesting letters from London stamp dealers, which we publish *verb. et lit.*—

Ewen's Colonial Stamp Market, Limited,
32, Palace Square, Norwood, S.E.

13th April, 1903.

Dear Sir,

I notice in your issue of last Saturday, an article headed "Worthless Locals of Madagascar," and think that before you condemn these stamps you should hear both sides of the matter.

I can't to-day go into the matter, but I may say that I have never heard of a specimen prepaying an inland or local letter. Every letter which has come under my notice has been franked at the rate of 4d. per half ounce, the rate to Europe.

I have both bought and sold a considerable number of these stamps and should certainly not have done so, had I not been well satisfied of their bona-fides, and that the S.S.S.S. were utterly in the wrong when they condemned them (not the only mistake this short-lived Society made). Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., are to be commended for doing the right thing and reinstating them in their catalogue.

Yours faithfully,

H. L. EWEN.

59, Finsbury Pavement, London, E.C.

April 21, 1903.

Dear Sir,

With reference to the remarks on Madagascar stamps in your last issue, which presumably refer to the lithographed series issued in March, 1895, I happened to know some of the facts connected with this issue and can therefore assert that these stamps were a perfectly legitimate issue.

I may quote from a letter lately received by me from the British Vice-Consul, in which he writes as follows regarding these stamps:—

I was at Antananarivo when these stamps were issued. They were intended to replace the emergency stamps printed on the spot for use by the Consular Mail, but as far as I remember not many were used, although I had two or three of them on envelopes (originals) obliterated by the Consular Mail stamps and bearing the Natal 2½d. also. I sold these to a dealer at a good price.

I know that these stamps were printed in London and sent to Madagascar, and those that were not used were subsequently returned. If these stamps were condemned by the S.S.S.S. as you say, the facts were probably not known to that Society at the time, and no doubt Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, satisfied themselves as to their standing and genuineness before including them in their catalogue.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN WALLACE.

Now the most interesting point about these two letters is that they contradict one another. Mr. Ewen asserts, or implies, that the stamps were capable of franking letters to all parts of the world—else, why use the expression "4d. the half-ounce, the rate to Europe." In Mr. John Wallace's letter, on the other hand, we find the statement (given on the authority of the British Vice-Consul) that the specimens he saw on entire envelopes were accompanied by 2½d. Natal stamps—obviously placed there to pay the postage for which the local labels issued by the British Inland Mail would, we take it, be utterly ineligible.

If it could be shown, by means of a number of entire original envelopes (*one* would not be sufficient) that the British Inland Mail stamps had franked mail matter to countries over sea, without the assistance of the stamps of

Natal or of some other British, French, or Portuguese dependency, then that would be a strong argument in favour of the inclusion of these stamps in our albums and catalogues. But can it be shown? We invite Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen, who thinks these stamps should not be classed as locals, to show on what grounds we should concede them a higher status.

Our other correspondent, Mr. John Wallace, appears to set great store by the opinions of the British Vice-Consul. But, if we examine them closely, what do those opinions amount to? The stamps, this official states—in reference to the lithographed issue of March, 1895—"were intended to replace the emergency stamps printed on the spot for use by the Consular Mail."

But what, in the name of all that is funny, is—or was—this Consular Mail? Was it a concern endowed with full governmental powers, and authorised to issue stamps which would be recognised by the Powers as "good for postage" all over the world? The British Vice-Consul knows very well that it was not, but the sooner this glib but meaningless chatter of Consular Mails is stopped, the better for the cause of sane argument.

We reiterate our opinion—an opinion which is supported by the whole history of the issues—that these locals of Madagascar are worthless. We are, however, quite open to conviction if any logical argument can be brought forward in their defence, and we shall suspend further reference to the matter until our next issue.

Mr. Ewen's gibe at the S.S.S.S., by the way, would be more effective if he were able to bring solid evidence in support of his assertion that that Society erred in black-listing the "British Inland Mail" labels of Madagascar.

A CORRECTION.

In our earlier reference to this subject our pen slipped in connection with a, perhaps, minor detail. We stated that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, had included these stamps (?) in their British Empire Catalogue for the first time this year. That was incorrect. The stamps have now appeared in the last two editions of the firm's catalogue—a fact which only emphasises the absurdity of the whole thing. What earthly claim have any of the *local issues* of Madagascar to be included in a catalogue dealing solely with the British Empire?

The Latest "Dodge."

I have had brought to my notice (writes "Phoenix" in the "Stamp Collector") a new dodge practiced by some enterprising individual who inserts an advertisement in several papers somewhat as follows:—

GENTLEMAN, wishing to form a collection of stamps, would be glad to purchase a complete album for a few pounds. Send on approval.

Any collection sent in reply to this advertisement is most carefully examined, all varieties of value removed, and the collection returned with a note to the effect that there were only a few stamps in the collection that the writer had not got, these he had taken out, and had pleasure in enclosing a postal order for 1-6, being the amount he considered the stamps to be worth.

We are pleased to hear that Messrs. G. Hamilton Smith and Co. have been awarded a medal at the Philatelic Exhibition, held at Mülhausen (Alsace), for the popular Albums of which they have so long made a speciality. Thus adding one more to the large number of their well deserved successes.

One of the American stamp journals remarks that "no better plan to add to the ranks of *bonified* Philatelists can be formulated, than a gigantic exhibit at St. Louis in 1904." Commenting on this, the Editor of "Poole's Monthly Philatelist" drily observes that he has never before heard Philately recommended as an "anti-fat" remedy. "Bonified" is beautiful.

From the Auction Rooms.

* Signifies Unused.

Messrs. PLUMBRIDGE & Co's Sale.

	£	s.	d.
Cape of Good Hope, 4d. blue, a very fine pair* ..	1	12	0
Do. 1863, De la Rue Print, 1d. blood-red, a mint pair ..	1	16	0
Ceylon, 1857, imperf., 1/9 yellow-green, very fine ..	2	12	6
Do. 1882, no wmk., 1d. blue, fine* ..	2	0	0
Niger Coast, 1894, 1/2d. on 2 1/2d., fine, together with a 2d. 1893 on piece ..	1	10	0
Orange River Colony, V.R.. 6d. carmine, a mint pair ..	1	4	0
Seychelles, 1893, 15c. on 16c., surcharge inverted, mint ..	1	15	0
Trinidad, 1851, blued paper, 1d. brown-red, a mint block of 8 ..	2	0	0
Do. 1d. blue, a mint block of 8 ..	1	16	0
Do. 1859, pin perf. 14, 1d. rose-carmine, a mint pair ..	2	0	0
Do. do. 4d. brown-lilac, a mint pair ..	2	16	0
Do. do. 6d. yellow-green, mint ..	1	14	0
Do. 1860, clean cut perfs., 1d. rose-red, mint ..	1	12	0
Do. do. 4d. brown-lilac, mint ..	1	16	0
Do. do. 6d. green, mint ..	2	4	0
Do. 1894, O.S., 1/2d., 1d., 4d., 6d., 1/- and 5/-, all mint ..	3	14	0
United States, Agriculture, the mint set ..	2	6	0
Do. 90c. fine* ..	4	4	0

Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, March 26th and 27th, 1903.

British Central Africa on B.S.A., 1d. on 2d., block of 4, the two lower stamps being double surcharge ..	4	10	0
British East Africa, 1st issue, complete set in mint pairs ..	9	5	0
Gambia, wmk. CC., 1/- deep green, mint ..	1	14	0
Griqualand, 1st issue, G.W. in black on 1d. Cape, with double surcharge ..	1	10	0
Nova Scotia, 6d. blue-green* ..	5	12	6
Natal, Gibbons' No. 85, 1/-, with double surcharge ..	2	10	0
O.F.S., 3d. on 4d., type E, mint ..	1	8	0
St. Vincent, 1/- vermilion, compound perf.* ..	2	5	0
Do. 1/- claret, perf. 11 to 12 1/2, mint ..	3	12	6
Seychelles, 3c. on 4c., with inverted surcharge, a mint pair ..	1	18	0
Tobago, 1d. in M.S. on half 6d., right half ..	2	16	0
Transvaal, Gibbons' No. 51 ..	5	10	0
Do. Gibbons' No. 76 ..	6	0	0
Do. Gibbons' No. 115* ..	4	10	0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER'S Sale, April 2nd and 3rd, 1903.

Great Britain, 1862, small letters in corners, 9d. bistre, a pane of 20, mint* ..	24	0	0
Do. do. 9d. straw, a mint block of 8* ..	9	10	0
Do. do. 1/- green, a corner block of 6, mint* ..	7	10	0
Do. 1865-75, 4d. vermilion, a corner block of 15, mint* ..	7	10	0
Do. 1867, 1/- green, wmk. spray, plate 4, a part pane of 16, mint* ..	7	5	0
Do. 1881, 1d. purple, error, printed both sides, mint* ..	4	17	6
Oldenburg, 1861, 1/3 gr. green, the error "Drittd." ..	3	0	0
Ceylon, 1st issue, 9d. lilac-brown* ..	15	0	0
Do. 1886-87, 25c. buff, with value in yellow, a block of 4, mint* ..	3	17	6
North Borneo, 1891-92, provisionals, 6c. on 8c. green, a strip of 3, the centre stamp having the error "cents." ..	3	0	0
Do. Another, strip of 3, the centre stamp having the error "c" of cents inverted* ..	2	18	0
Philippines, 1st issue, 5c. orange-red, variety, head on ground of coarse lines ..	2	17	6
Do. do. 10c. carmine* ..	2	2	0
Do. do. 2ris. green* ..	1	8	0
Do. 1855, 5c. red* ..	5	15	0
Do. 1869-74, surcharged "HABILITADO POR LA NACION," on 1st issue, 1 real blue* ..	4	15	0
Do. do. on 1863, 1 real reddish violet ..	3	0	0
Straits Settlements, 1879-82, Provisionals, 5c. on 4c. rose* ..	1	12	0
Do. do. Provisionals, Gibbons' No. 39B* ..	3	3	0
Do. 1883, provisional, vertical surcharge, "TWO CENTS" on 5c. blue, twice surcharged ..	4	4	0

	£	s.	d.
Sungei Ujong, 10c. slate, Gibbons' No. 33* ..	2	14	0
British East Africa, 1891, Provisional, surcharged in manuscript, 1/2 anna A.B. on 2 annas vermilion ..	4	8	0
British South Africa, 1896, provisional issued in Buluwayo, "One Penny" on 4/- grey-black and vermilion, the error, letter "y" inverted ..	7	0	0
Natal, 1870, 1/- green, with curved surcharge in black ..	6	17	6
St. Helena, 1864-74, perf. 14 x 12 1/2, 1/- deep green* ..	1	3	0
Transvaal, surcharged "V.R. TRANSVAAL" in red, 3d. mauve ..	4	7	6
Zululand, on Natal, 1/2d. green, with surcharge inverted ..	3	17	6
Confederate States, Charleston, 5c. blue ..	1	0	0
" Nashville, 5c. brown ..	1	12	0
Fiji Islands, 1874-75, surcharged with plain V.R., 2d. in red on 3d. green, mint ..	3	7	6
Hawaiian Islands, Inter island Postage, 1864, 1c. black on white wove paper, and 2c. black on white laid paper* ..	2	2	0
New South Wales, Sydney Views, 1d. red, plate I., a pair ..	3	0	0
Do. do. 1d. red, plate I., on bluish ..	1	14	0
New Zealand, 1855, London Print, 1d. dull carmine ..	2	12	6
Do. 1856, no wmk., rouletted, 1d. orange ..	3	12	6
Do. 1/- green, showing roulettes all round ..	3	3	0
Do. Wmk. N.Z., rouletted, 1d. carmine-vermilion a horizontal pair and 2d. blue, fine ..	10	0	0
Do. 1872, wmk. N.Z., 1d. brown ..	17	0	0
Do. 2d. vermilion* ..	3	15	0
Queensland, wmk. truncated star, perf. 12, 1d., 2d., 6d. and 1/-, a scarce set ..	3	5	0
South Australia, 1st issue, 1d. deep green imperf., a fine horizontal pair ..	2	0	0
Do. 1872, 9d. violet, printed on both sides ..	3	10	0
Tasmania, 1857-70, serrated perf. 4d. blue ..	1	12	0
Victoria, 1st issue, 1d. orange-vermilion, a strip of 4 ..	4	0	0
Do. 2d. lilac, fine background ..	4	10	0
Do. 1858-61, 2/- green, rouletted ..	2	17	6
Western Australia, 1st issue, 2d. brown-black on red ..	5	5	0
Do. 6d. bronze with full lustre ..	4	12	0

Messrs. GLENDING & Co's Sale, April 8th, 1903.

Gibraltar, 1st issue, 1/2d. to 1/-, mint ..	5	5	0
Holland, 1852, 10c. rose, a mint block of 6 ..	1	16	0
Do. 1867-8, perf. 10 x 10 1/2, 20c. deep green ..	1	2	0
Spain, 1850, 12c. lilac and 5 reales red, mint ..	2	4	0
Do. do. 6 reales deep blue, mint ..	1	10	0
Ceylon, 1862, no wmk., 9d. ..	1	4	0
Turks Island, 2 1/2d. on 1/- lilac, Gibbons' type 7, mint ..	2	2	0
New Brunswick, 1c. red-purple, a mint block of 4, imperf. between ..	1	14	0
Uruguay, 1866, 10c. on 8c. green, a tête bêche pair, Gibbons' 72* ..	1	1	0
Queensland, 1860-1, wmk. Large Star, 6d. green* ..	2	0	0

The Twelve Pence Canada on Wove.

BY ROBERT REID, JUNR.

THE *Fortnightly*, dated November 8th, was published whilst I was en route for Australia, so I ask indulgence in writing so long afterwards on the above subject.

I desire to add my little protest to that of Mr. F. Ransom, and would go further and say that I firmly believe the 12d. Canada on wove paper was issued.

I have been assured that the stamp exists used on original, and there is more than one copy of both used and unused in the large North American collection advertised in April, 1902, in the "London Philatelist," for sale at £12,000. If this stamp paid postage for letters it is quite possible a few were issued by the authorities, and therefore it should find a place in collections, used or unused, as a representative stamp of Canada, to which distinction it is far more entitled than some of the provisionals in other British Colonies.

Some years ago I purchased at a high figure an unused copy of this stamp in mint condition, and I do not buy proofs—nor are proofs usually gummed! At that time the stamp was thoroughly believed in by many experts, and may be still. I had heard of undoubtedly used copies, and some years ago was informed that the doubt lay (excuse the pun) with the *laid* issue of the twelve pence Canada, and not with the *wove*!

Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**
 Literaru, 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 May 5th and 6th, and will include **TWO PRIVATE COLLECTIONS**, one being the Fine Collection of Africans formed by **LORD GRANTLEY**. Amongst the best stamps may be mentioned:—

Tuscany, 60 crazie. **Labuan**, 1880, 8 on 12c., the two scarce varieties with inverted figures 8 and 1883, 1 dollar in MS. on 16c. **Cape**, 1/- dark green, pair and single and 1/- emerald mint. **Mauritius**, Post Paid, 1d. (3, one early, superb), 2d. (two early, including the error 'Penoe'), Large Fillet, 2d. (2). &c. &c. **Orange River Colony**, a fine lot, including the very rare 6d. carmine, V.R.I., with figure omitted, on entire original. **Transvaal**, a very fine lot, including several wide roulettes, inverted surcharges, &c., &c. **Uganda**, a fine collection, including 1st issue, 5, 20 (3), 30 & 50 cowries, violet, and 10, 40 and 60 cowries, black, and 2nd issue, 20 (2), and 100 cowries, violet, &c., &c. **New Brunswick**, 1/- mauve. **St. Vincent**, 5/- star, unused. **Buenos Ayres**, 4 pesos, scarlet. **New South Wales**, Sydney Views, 1d., 2d. (2), and 3d., unused, Laureated, the rare 3d. with error of wmk. "2." &c., &c. Catalogues ready.

Following Sale on May 19th & 20th will consist of a Large and Fine Old Collection containing many Rare Stamps. Catalogues ready shortly.

← Last Sale of the Season, JUNE 9th and 10th. →

Messrs. **Puttick & Simpson's** Sales for the Season 1903-1904, have been fixed as follows: 1903—September 29 and 30; October 13 and 14, 27 and 28; November 10 and 11, 24 and 25; December 8 and 9. 1904—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27; May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8.

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 past seasons.

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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A Fine Assortment of Stamps always on View RANGING FROM NEW ISSUES TO THE GREATEST RARITIES.

The Young Stamp Collector.

Chili for the Young Specialist!

BY CHARLES H. JAMES.

MANY claims have frequently been made as to the advantages of specialising in this or that country, that it may not be out of place to put forward the claim of Chili for a share of the public favour.

The new series of stamps having recently made their appearance, all the first four issues are now obsolete, so that collectors would do well to turn their attention to this easily collected and interesting country, all the stamps of which are steadily rising in value.

One point in Chili's favour is that there has not been any unnecessary or speculative issues, furthermore, no issue contains more than eight varieties and there is not the distressing question of perforation to contend with as only one issue has been perforated. Of the remainder two have been rouletted and the other issued imperforated.

There is, too, an almost entire absence of surcharging, there having only been one instance of the surcharge having been reverted to, viz:—the 5c. on 30c. rose 1900, of which but a limited number were so treated. This, by the way, should be a scarce stamp in the near future.

I think I am correct in affirming that Chilians have a very bright future before them, in witness whereof I may say that many prominent philatelists have recently taken them up and anyone who is thinking of beginning as a specialist, in a thoroughly interesting country would do well to consider the advantages of Chili before (as the wily advertiser says) "going elsewhere," and rushing headlong into the collection of some very difficult country, a representative collection of which in many cases one can never hope to amass.

Especially commendable is this country to the beginner or the collector of limited purse. The most difficult stamp of the whole country to obtain would be the 5 cents brown 1861 unused, on blue paper, and this would probably cost anything from £1 to 30/-, although it is catalogued much less, but I doubt if any of the first issue can be supplied at the catalogue prices in an unused state, as they are really more difficult to obtain than is generally supposed. Some of the unpaid stamps too run into money, but this is usual in most countries and they can of course be omitted, except in a used state. Of the remainder there is little to be said, as they are in the majority of cases exceptionally cheap at present prices, ranging from one penny to five shillings each.

STAMPS AND WATER.

Mr. C. W. Rankin, in "Mekeel's Stamp Collector," offers some sound and sensible suggestions on the subject of soaking.

At best (he writes), soaking stamps from their envelopes is an unpleasant, messy job and nobody loves it; but simple as the task seems, some ways of accomplishing it seem better than others. Our own stamps and those of France, Italy and many other countries yield readily to plain cold water. Others need coaxing, and are in themselves a comprehensive definition of the word "adhesive." Of all stamps, none cling with more maddening obstinacy than do those of Austria—can it be that the Austrians use them to mend their broken dishes? The Hungarians, too, seem unnecessarily lavish with glue. Possibly they make up for the thinness of their paper by the strength of their murrage. Americans do not realize what cause they have for thanking— they don't have to lick Austria's horrible, undetachable, gummed stamps.

Warm water with a little soap dissolved in it is far more effectual in removing stamps than is cold water. Far from injuring the stamp, the addition of soap often brightens the color. When stamps are soiled, as specimens obtained from cheap packets sometimes are, a soapy bath is distinctly beneficial. Of course, there are stamps, and stamps. Some stamps should never be soaked at all, and others only with great caution. All red stamps are liable to run, though some of

them may be safely soaked. In any case, it is never wise to soak red stamps and those of other colors in the same dish. It sometimes happens that the paper to which the stamp is attached is highly colored. A square inch of such paper is capable of injuring many dollars worth of good stamps.

Our own postage due stamps shed crimson tears at sight of water and simply bleed to death if soaked. They not only spoil their own appearance but ruin that of their fellow bathers. The bi-colored stamps for Russia and the Russian-Levant, the early stamps for Finland and some of the Bulgarian stamps are printed in water colors—which means that they are *not* water-proof. It is appalling to see their designs take flight under careless handling. The best way to soak these is not to soak them at all.

If one wants the best results, it is a mistake to soak stamps in too small a dish. It is a greater one, however, to soak them in the bathtub—if there are small children around to pull out the plug. A vegetable dish is none too large for the purpose. When the stamps give evidence of being sufficiently soaked, one should carefully pour off the sticky, often really dirty, water, and refill the dish with fresh, clean water. This makes a surprising difference in the appearance of the stamps, and moreover, it frees them from the paper, doing away the necessity of handling them.

To dry stamps, place them face downward upon large sheets of blotting paper. If properly rinsed they will not curl; and often the first stamp is dry by the time one has fished the last one from the water.

The novice may be inclined to sneer at the perforation gauge and all such scientific articles. But when he finds among his duplicates two or three score new varieties, thanks to his perforation gauge, its long odds he will leave off sneering!

The question was recently asked, whether the Carlist stamps were ever recognised by the Spanish Government. Emphatically no! If the authorities had done so they would have acknowledged the rights of the "Pretender to the throne," and have raised his supporters from the position of rebels to that of recognised belligerents.

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Wholesale Terms on Application.

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A. D. OUBRIDGE,

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NOTICE.

Special Sale in

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Natal.	India.

And others.

These countries have been compiled with as many shades, varieties, etc., as possible, and contains most of the rarities. They are now offered, the average prices for single stamps being under half catalogue.

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in Mint and perfect used condition, from 3d. to 8/- each, in small Approval Books, each containing about 200 Stamps. Nearly all priced at 60 per cent. to 75 per cent. under Gibbons' catalogue. Will send one on receipt of good reference.

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Great Britain, "Army Official," 2½d. Queen, mint	8d.
" " " " " " " " " "	3 0
" " " " " " " " " "	1d.
" " " " " " " " " "	2d.
B.S. Africa, £1 black and red-brown, fine postally used copy	20/0
Johore, 3c. on 5c., mint (cat. 3½)	1 6
" " " " " " " " " "	1/6
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British Guiana, 1c. on 8d. mint (cat. 8d.)	4d.
Stanley Gibbons' 1903. Cat. of G. Britain & Colonies	2/0
" " " " " " " " " " "	2 0

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Dealers.—See my Monthly Bargain List.

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the Prices Reasonable. Selections of any Country will be gladly
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We have much pleasure in announcing that we have again
received the

HIGHEST POSSIBLE AWARD

(Silver Medal) for our Albums; this time at the recent Hague Exhibition. This, following our previous success at last year's Philatelic Exhibition in Paris, when we also gained the First Prize (Silver Medal), makes only the second occasion we have shown these Albums.

We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 213.—VOL. IX.

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

MESSRS. GLENDINING & Co.,

Fine Art, Numismatic & Philatelic Auctioneers,

THE ARGYLL GALLERY,

7, ARGYLL ST., REGENT ST., W.

(Adjoining Oxford Circus Station).

Telegraphic Address: "NULLIFIED," LONDON.

Telephone No., 4424, GERRARD.

The next Sale of POSTAGE STAMPS will be held on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, 14th & 15th MAY, 1903, at 4.30 p.m.; and will consist of a FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION broken up into lots, many rare stamps. Catalogues ready shortly and will be posted free on application.

WHY NOT ASK FOR ONE?

Following Stamp Sale, May 28th & 29th, 1903.

Fine Art, Miniature, Plate, Jewellery, etc.

13th MAY, 1903.

COINS AND MEDALS.

On MAY 25th, 26th & 27th, 1903, a Collection of Scotch and English Coins, War Medals and Decorations, including Peninsular, Naval General Service, and Indian Medals.

LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

ii. 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 BLENHEIM ROOM, HOTEL CECIL, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their Dates of Sales for the Season will be as under :—
1903.—MAY 21st and 22nd; JUNE 11th and 12th.

MAY 21st and 22nd,

A FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION

Containing Fine SYDNEY VIEWS and other SCARCE AUSTRALIANS, 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.

REVISED TERMS ON APPLICATION.

CATALOGUES of all Sales can be obtained from

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

Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM," LONDON. Telephone Number, 3392 Central. ESTABLISHED 1761.

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(Partners: H. W. PLUMRIDGE & J. H. TELFER)

Stamp Auctioneers

AND COMMISSION AGENTS,

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Hold AUCTION SALES every FORTNIGHT between SEPTEMBER and JULY.

NEXT SALES will be held

On TUESDAY, MAY 12th, and WEDNESDAY, MAY 13th, in the
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These SALES will comprise a Fine General Selection of Colonials, and other Stamps, including Rarities, number of
Collections and mixed Lots. Catalogues (free). Now ready.

FUTURE DATES—1903.—May 26 and 27. June 16 and 17. Sept. 22, 23. Oct. 6 and 7; 20 and 21.

Nov. 3 and 4; 17 and 18. Dec. 1 and 2; 75 and 16.

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Commission 10%. Minimum average charge 2/- per Lot.

SETTLEMENTS usually in TEN DAYS. AT LATEST within 14 days after Sale.

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With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

Published every Alternate Saturday.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club, and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange.

No 213—Vol IX

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1903

ONE PENNY

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Philately at Home and Abroad

Possible Stamp Show at Bristol.

Our friends of the Bristol and Clifton Society, as will be read elsewhere under the heading "Philatelic Societies' Reports," are contemplating the holding of a Stamp Show in the western city. Should they decide to act, the warmest wishes for their success will everywhere be felt.

Three Prizes—Two Competitors.

But in the face of recent news the pessimist may well ask: are philatelic exhibitions appreciated? In America, apparently, they are not. We refer our readers to a report given elsewhere of the last meeting of that excellent transatlantic society, the New York Collectors' Club. Under the Club's auspices a competitive exhibition of Australian stamps was held; Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, offered three handsome prizes; and—what was the result? only two collections were submitted for competition, and it was consequently impossible to award more than two out of the three prizes. Ridiculous!

A Good Job, Too!

"OLD Colonist," writing to the "Daily Mail," from Demerara, British Guiana, bewails the fact that the Centenary of the British Occupation of Demerara and Essequibo, in September, 1803, seems like to go uncommemorated. He goes on:

Among other memorials which have been suggested are a centenary series of stamps, an illuminated address to the King, and a gold dollar made from ore mined in the Colony; but the Governor refuses to take any steps in their promotion unless the initiative is taken by private subscribers.

We are thus likely to lose a golden opportunity of bringing the Colony into prominent notice, as past experience has proved that it would be useless to expect any effective celebration of the centenary unless public money is voted for the purpose.

The "golden opportunity"—so far as the stamps are concerned—is one that philatelists will see "lost" without a tear.

For Manchester Philatelists.

Stamp men in Manchester have not exactly supported the Imperial Philatelic Society in overwhelming numbers. Yet it is quite apparent that the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. S. Hughes, is straining every nerve to make this a useful and helpful Society. We advise *Fortnightly* readers up there to apply for terms and particulars to Mr. Hughes as aforesaid, at 10, Victoria Road, Sale, and help to make the "Imperial" a going (and at the same time a *staying*) concern.

Mr. Padgett, the "Philatelescope," and U.S.A. Locals.

EXCEPTIONAL interest attached to a meeting of the Leeds Philatelic Society held on April 21st, for, in addition to Mr. E. A. Padgett's paper on the Local Stamps of the United States, members were attracted to the meeting by the promise of an exposition of the "Philatelescope," Mr. Padgett's own invention. By means of this new appliance Mr. Padgett (an ex-president of the Leeds Society, by the way) projected on a screen illustrations of many of the most interesting U.S.A. locals in his collection.

In introducing his subject, Mr. Padgett gave a historical review of these stamps, which were issued by private persons, firms, or companies in the years 1842-5, when either no Government posts existed or the rates charged by the Government for forwarding letters were considered exorbitant.

The term "local" is scarcely an appropriate one, since the so-called local post offices created by the enterprise of private individuals or firms carried correspondence not merely within the cities or district where they were issued, but delivered letters in any part of the United States, and even abroad, by means of special carriers, pony expresses, railways, or steamboat lines.

The idea of private postal services first originated in 1843 with a Mr. Hayle, of the firm of Hayle and Co., of Boston, Mass., one of the largest private postal concerns, with 110 offices. The total number of these private posts was 511, the names given to them being in some instances general terms, such as "The American Mail Co." or "Letter Express," but oftener it was that of the company issuing the stamps, such as "Harper Mail," "Overton and Co.," &c.

The stamps or labels issued by these private companies were generally of poor artistic appearance, mostly lithographed, some typeset, but a laudable exception is that of the Pomeroy Company, who issued engraved labels with a charming portrait of Miss Pomeroy as the central feature.

Gradually, as the Government posts became more efficient and more popular by reason of lowered rates of postage, the private posts dwindled down, ceased to exist, or were bought up by the more powerful private companies, the most important of these being the well-known Wells, Fargo & Co., with its agencies in every seaport of the world.

The lecturer showed on the screen a large number of these stamps, and also handed round for inspection a considerable number of entire envelopes franked by them. Some of these also bore the 3 cent U.S. official stamp, having been posted in places where there was no official post office, the private stamp in these cases denoting postage from the private post-office to the nearest official post-office, the U.S. stamp being necessary for its further conveyance.

In 1880 all private post-offices were abolished, the U.S. Government taking up the monopoly of all postal arrangements from that date.

Gibbons' Decline and Fall.

"WILL you please," writes "A.W.," a reader of the *Fortnightly*, "comment on the following delightful inconsistency?"—

Gibbons, 1900. Johor (page 216).	Gibbons, 1903. Johor (page 212).
Kemahkotaan.	Kemahkotaan.
No.	No.
On the accession of the new Sultan in 1866, Nos. 27 to 29 were surcharged with the above in black. This was a purely speculative issue, and therefore not been stocked by us.	
	34 1c. purple and mauve 0 1
	35 2c. " " yellow 0 3
	36 3c. " " carmine 0 2 0 4
	37 4c. " " black 0 3
	38 5c. " " green 0 4
	39 6c. " " blue 0 4
	40 \$1 green and carmine 5 0

But why comment on it? It seems to us that comment would be superfluous.

The Best "Middle" for Obtaining Stamps.

HERE is an extraordinary example of "English as She is Wrote"—in Belgium. It is a letter from a worthy Belgian philatelist to a Postmaster in the Transvaal, kindly sent us for the entertainment of *Fortnightly* readers by Mr. T. C. Cartwright:—

Sir Postmaster,

I do not know much English, but I dare hope, Sir Postmaster, that you shall understand me.

I am collector of used post stamps and arrive not, Sir Postmaster, me to procure post stamps of Transvaal.

The best middle for to obtain of these post stamps is then me address at elevated functionary.

Although I the honour to have you to know personally. I dare permit me, Sir Postmaster, you to beg from so good, aimiable and generous to be me any post stamps of Transvaal to will offer in exchange post stamps enclosed. You would me do, Sir Postmaster General, excessively great pleasure me to render the lucky possessor of any post stamps.

I beg you very very much me to will do, if you please, Sir Postmaster, the very great pleasure if you are no you self collector of post stamps from to be enough aimiable and good me to will put in relation with a collector of post stamps.

Will to accept, Sir Postmaster, me anticipate thanks and tooo excuses you derange to have.

I am, Sir Postmaster,
Very respectfully, _____

Poor "Sir Postmaster!" How his head must have ached.

Mr. R. H. Murray's publication, the "British Empire Stamp Exchange Medium," already described in the *Fortnightly*, has been transferred to Mr. S. F. Bickers, of Cork, the British agency remaining in Mr. Murray's hands. We are informed, by the way, that the price of the publication is 1s., not 1s. 6d.

One of the Pioneers of Philately.

MR. HENRY STAFFORD SMITH, in his later years, had so far severed himself from the rush and scurry of active stamp dealing, that the unwelcome news of his death had not for some time after the sad event become known to any but his own personal friends.

His death, we regret to announce, took place on February 23rd last at the Brighton residence that Mr. Stafford Smith had for so many years made his home.

From "Alfred Smith and Son's Monthly Circular" we extract the following biographical sketch of Stafford Smith's career by his old friend and associate, Mr. Overy Taylor, than whom none could more fitly have been called upon to write on such a subject:—

If Stafford Smith—to give him the name by which he was best known to collectors—did not give to stamp collecting a name, I am inclined to believe he was practically the first to give it a "local habitation" in England. There had been for some years previously gatherings of stamp collectors in Birchin Lane and its alleys for the exchange of specimens; advertisements in the ordinary newspapers, offering stamps for sale, had been numerous, and descriptive catalogues had been published; but I think Stafford Smith was the first to open an office solely for the sale of foreign stamps. Well I remember it. It was in George Street, Bath—his native city and mine—and was started in 1862, immediately after he had left the bookseller on the other side of the street, to whom he had been apprenticed—a small shop, the windows filled with sheets of stamps, and the young proprietor busy with his correspondence and in executing the orders which flowed in from all parts.

To the novel business on which he had embarked he brought those orderly methodical habits which always distinguished him, coupled with a quiet courtesy and tact, and above all with that firm integrity in all things, great or small, which soon led to the spread of his fame as a reliable dealer. Added to this, he gave himself up to the careful study of stamps, of which he almost from the start gained a wonderfully complete and accurate knowledge. Very rarely, if ever, was he deceived by a forgery, however slight its points of difference from the genuine might be. Moreover, he was in communication with the few recognised authorities of the day on collecting, notably with Mount Brown, of whose catalogue he received a large paper copy from the author, which he regarded as one of the most prized books in his Philatelic Library.

In less than a twelvemonth from the date of the opening of his office the business grew to be too extensive for one person to manage, and he took his brother, the late Mr. Alfred Smith, into partnership with him, the firm then becoming "Stafford Smith & Smith," and immediately signalling itself by the issue on the 1st January, 1863, of the first number of the "Stamp Collector's Magazine"—the earliest publication devoted to the advancement of the new pursuit ("Le Timbre-Post" did not appear until the 15th of the same month). The "S.C.M.," under the experienced editorship of Dr. C. W. Viner—happily still with us—was an immediate success. It was brightly written and teemed with useful information. Dr. Gray, of the British Museum, and Mount Brown were among the contributors to the first number, which was, moreover, illustrated with very good engravings, and it long continued to be the leading organ of the stamp collecting world.

Such was the beginning of the career of my deceased friend. Its subsequent progress is well known. In 1866 Stafford Smith removed to Brighton, leaving his brother to carry on the Bath business, and himself founding a fresh one, which has ever since been in the first rank. He at the same issued the "Philatelist," which ran for twelve years, and he made a speciality of the publication of useful stamp albums, which have run through many editions. His influence in the earlier years of stamp collecting was great; he helped to establish it on a solid and sensible basis, and to the last he retained his interest in it. He was brought into frequent contact with all the leading philatelists, and his sound judgment and large experience were always at the service of those who appealed to him for guidance. Probably there is hardly a rare stamp among the older and more valuable which at one time or another has not passed through his hands, and he has seen the price of many of them in recent years multiplied tenfold—yea, even in some instances fiftyfold. As a pioneer in stamp collecting, as one of the most efficient organizers of the pursuit, his name will long be remembered.

May I add a few words as to Stafford Smith—the man—in private life? I have known him ever since 1856, when he and I were boys. Personally I have experienced in the days long gone by the greatest kindness, and received the greatest help from him; and I am one of the many who could say as much. His gentle affectionate nature, his quiet, dry, unwounding humour, his forethought for everyone about him, his abnegation, all helped to form one of the most beautiful characters it is possible to conceive, and, together with his family and his friends, I mourn their loss.

Fiscal Notes and Chronicle.

CONTRIBUTED BY A. PRESTON PEARCE.

THE last mammoth issue of "Mekeel's Weekly" should have contained an illustrated article on the State Revenues of California from the pen of Mr. E. W. Smith, and I was much disappointed at not finding it therein. However, it has appeared in a subsequent number, and I am still somewhat disappointed, for it is very evident that the author (unlike some recent writers on these stamps) possesses a real knowledge of his subject, and might very usefully have occupied more time and space in dealing with it.

The lack of knowledge concerning the fiscal issues of the five States that adopted this method of collecting revenue is so marked in the country of origin, that a considerable display of ignorance on the part of foreigners must be held excusable; and certain it is that we have for many years been groping our way but slowly towards a better understanding of the series now under consideration.

The English traveller's guide to these regions is contained in the "Fiscal Philatelist," published in 1892, which has the merit of being a few years later than the better-known compilation of E. B. Sterling, but it possesses the serious defect of including a very large number of supposititious varieties, and it is quite time that we had a revised version. Pending this, however, it will be well to get together all the fresh information obtainable on the subject, and by way of a start I extract from Mr. Smith's paper the salient points needed to correct or to extend the information contained in Mr. Lundy's lists above mentioned.

Before getting to work, I must, for the sake of its general interest, annex a not very relevant item from the paper, which tells us that, in marked contrast to the condition of the political world around us, where candidates for a seat in Parliament are content to spend hundreds of pounds in the contest for an honorary position, it was almost impossible to secure candidates for the first State Legislature of California, although the pay was over £3 a day, with a travelling allowance of nearly four shillings a mile.

Possibly, though, this information is given to show up the scale of expenditure, which, in 1857, brought about a condition approaching bankruptcy, and led to the passing of an Act on April 29th of that year "To Provide Revenue from a Tax on Inland and Foreign Bills, etc." Under its provisions the first State fiscals should have come into use on July 1st, 1857, but the stamps were not ready (how familiar this sounds), and our precise informant places it on record that they were first issued at 10 a.m., on July 3rd.

I expect that most collectors, like myself, have wondered at times why the Bill of Lading and one of the Insurance designs differ considerably in size from the four others, but the explanation now comes contained in the statement that these two were of later date, an amendment, introduced twelve months after the passing of the Act, subjecting every Bill of Lading covering shipment of gold or silver coin, bullion or dust, to be shipped to a point outside the State, to a tax of 30 cents for sums under \$100, and one-fifth of one per cent., on all sums above \$100, U.S. and State shipments of treasure excepted; and altering the Insurance rates so that short term Policies paid duty in proportion to their duration. It is important to notice that Bills of Lading dealing with ordinary merchandise were not affected; and Mr. Davis adds the useful note that this tax was repealed on May 9th, 1861, after an existence of three years. From the rate above quoted it is evident that the scale given in the "Fiscal Philatelist" (page 10) is incorrect, and that this is so is further evidenced by the illustration on the previous page. The list as now given reads:—

BILL OF LADING.	
30 cents, tax on	100 dollars or less.
40 "	200 "
1 dollar	500 "
2 dollars	1,000 "
4 "	2,000 "
10 "	5,000 "

20 cents, tax on		10,000 dollars or less.	
40 "	"	20,000	"
100 "	"	50,000	"
200 "	"	100,000	"
300 "	"	150,000	"
400 "	"	200,000	"

The rate for Bills of Exchange given in the "Fiscal Philatelist" (pp. 15 and 27) also needs a slight amendment, the figures listed being per thousand cents and not dollars.

The Controller of the State on receiving sheets from the Commissioners of Stamp Duties was required "to cause each stamp to be countersigned with his initials before issuing same to County Treasurers," and it may be noticed that Mr. Lundy fails to give the name and term of office of the last Controller whose initials are known to us; the missing particulars are:—James J. Green, December 2nd, 1871, to December 4th, 1875.

Two Passenger Ticket stamps are catalogued—Steerage \$2, and Second Class \$4—to these must be added the First Class \$6. These three, and the \$10 Attorney at Law, are, as yet, only known printed in carmine, but it is stated that there can be but little doubt that, like the Exchange and Insurance stamps, they were first printed in blue.

The rates on the smaller sized Insurance labels are exactly half of those on the Bills of Exchange, and are correctly given on page 78 of the "F.P.", but there may be six higher values—the 15, 19, 28, 45, 87½ and 100 dollars—and a photo reproduction of the second of these is amongst the cuts embellishing the article under notice.

The short-term Insurance stamps appear to have been intended chiefly for Marine Policies, and not for Fire risks as stated by Mr. Lundy.

An old correspondent in Canada has sent me some interesting particulars about the two Licenses stamps of Quebec, one of which he says is so rare that it has not yet figured in any of the numerous 'Standard' Catalogues. It appears that all Publicans have to take out an annual License, their application for which must bear one of the brown \$2 stamps now fairly common; if, however, during the year a Transfer be desired, the application for same must bear a stamp of similar design, but printed in red, and costing \$25. Should the request be granted, the form disappears into the maw of the Inland Revenue Office, but if refused it is handed back to the applicant (with stamp duly cancelled I presume), and the fiscal can then be got hold of. My correspondent points out that, thanks to the high preliminary fee, every precaution is taken beforehand to ensure the success of the application, and he states that during the last four years there have only been seven refusals in the Province.

By the way, judging by the marked increase in the number and extent of the advertisements offering them, it may fairly be assumed that the collection of Canadian revenues is steadily growing in favour in the United States, and I am constrained to add that there is nothing to be surprised at in that.

There was a printer's error in my last Notes, which when corrected would permit one of Mr. Schwabacher's remarks on the occasion of his recent display to read thus: "I am glad to be able to show the rare first issue (of Mauritius) complete, including all the varieties known on thin paper."

Thus far, only the 2d., 4d., 1/3 and 1/8 values are known on the thin paper, and as these have not long been recognized, and, with the exception of the 4d., are quite rare, it is possible that still others may be found.

It is curious that although there are twenty-two years between the issues of the postage and first fiscal stamps of this Island, both are amongst the most desirable of their kinds, and if the number of collectors who can show the two stamps comprising the first postal issue of Mauritius is but very small, there are almost certainly still fewer possessors of the complete sets of Bill and Insurance stamps issued in March, 1869.

Communications in respect of this department should be sent direct to Mr. A. PRESTON PEARCE, 12, Edgcombe Street, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MAY 9, 1903.

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

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.

Between Ourselves

We must felicitate Mons. A. La Fare, of Paris, on the general scheme of his projected Catalogue of Comparative Values. The idea is to give not only the catalogue values of all leading varieties, as shown in the leading handbooks of England, France, Germany, America, Belgium, but also to record the "last transaction" in regard to each item, by quoting actual dealings "as reported by sellers and purchasers." As an attempt to solve, or partly solve, the great catalogue problem, we shall watch the experiment with interest.

"Worthless Locals of Madagascar."

Is there no one, then, who will champion the cause of these wretched gum labels known as the "stamps" of the British Inland Mail of Madagascar? We have been waiting for somebody to advance some sort of argument in favor of the recognition of these stamps; but all in silence.

Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen has asserted in the most positive manner that these stamps were wrongly condemned by the S.S.S.S. But were they? We should like something a little more satisfying than Mr. Ewen's bare assertion. The same gentleman declares that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, are to be "commended" for including these local stamps of Madagascar in a catalogue devoted to the postage stamps of the British Empire. We are as ready as anyone to give commendation where commendation is due, but Mr. Ewen must excuse us if, in the circumstances, we take the view that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' action is one that calls for something very different from praise!

Our second correspondent, Mr. Wallace, of Finsbury Pavement, is as silent as Mr. Ewen. It is, we believe, Mr. Wallace, who stands most heavily committed over this Madagascar "deal." If that be so, we are sincerely sorry to hear it. This question, from the S.C.F.'s standpoint, is quite an impersonal one, and is taken up only in the best interests of Philately.

Of the many letters we have received from those who agree with our attitude on this subject, we shall print only one, and that, for obvious reasons, a dealer's letter. It comes from the Defiance Stamp Company, of Ilford, and runs as follows:—

Over £1 worth of the Madagascar Locals were offered us to-day for two shillings the lot. More or less *pro rata*. They were offered not by a private speculator but by the representative of a well-known firm. One of our regular customers was in our shop at the time and can corroborate our statement.

Is this sufficient to prove their absolute worthlessness? We think it is!

Well, the whole story shall be told in full in the next number of the *Fortnightly*. Meanwhile, those who have anything to say on the subject have another week in which to say it. Remember the *Fortnightly's* motto: "Hear all Sides"! Every communication we receive will be carefully read and considered.

Notes on Philately in Australia.

[BY ROBERT REID, JUNR.]

DURING a business visit of four-and-a-half months to Australia, I travelled over 25,000 miles; and a few notes made during my visit in reference to philatelic matters may be of interest to readers of the S.C.F.

Leaving here on November 7th and reaching Melbourne a few days before Christmas, my business caused me to travel 2500 miles in Australia before I again sailed from Adelaide, on February 19th, reaching London at the end of March. My stay in Australia did not give me as much time to devote to our "hobby" as I could have wished, but I met a few new friends as well as many old ones, and my experience after seeing several very fine collections bears out Mr. M. P. Castle's prediction in the "London Philatelist" last year that the future would see the best Australian collections at this side of the world. At any rate, I was personally assured by the dealers best able to give me the information when I enquired for great rarities in the "unused" state, that many were unobtainable, and that when any did come on the market they invariably were sent to London.

As to "used" old Australians, I saw some very fine early issues including rouletted Victorians, serpentine perfs., etc., in Mr. D. Abraham's collection (the late Secretary of the Victorian Philatelic Society), while a magnificent collection made by Councillor J. Marks gave proof of great labour and many years of study.

There are many collectors there who still prefer to collect their own countries and I regretted that time did not permit of my seeing Mr. D. Hill's collection of Victorians, made since he disposed of his very fine collection some years back to a well-known collector in this country.

I spent a pleasant evening with Mr. Whelan, whose general collection is well worth seeing. That gentleman is employed with a firm of merchants whose business dates back to the fifties and the early history of Victoria. They used to import sugar from Mauritius and some years ago he was permitted to clear up their old correspondence, prior to its consignment to the dust-heap. He found a wonderful lot of early Mauritius (but no Post Office issue) and with these he makes a fine show in his collection, and told me the duplicates enabled him to exchange to great advantage with other collectors, much to the benefit of his own collection. How would some of us at the present day appreciate such an opportunity?

I also saw the few specimens of early unused Victorians presented by the Post Office, Melbourne, to the Public Library, but the colour of the 1862 3d. and 4d. had been seriously injured by exposure to the sun. This frame was exhibited at the Philatelic Exhibition in Melbourne some two years ago and regret must then have been felt that twenty years before the authorities had allowed the sun to shine on the glass and spoil a most interesting record with regard to the two values mentioned.

There is no definite settlement come to yet by the Federal Postmaster as to the general issue for all the Australian colonies, and each colony is likely to continue its own issues for some time because of the financial records being required for each State's postal administration.

Coming Events in Philately.

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, May 14th and 15th Messrs. Glendining & Co.'s Auction Sale, at the Argyll Gallery, Argyll Street, Regent Street, W.

Monday, May 18th. Messrs. Martin Ray & Co.'s Auction Sale Tuesday and Wednesday, May 19th and 20th. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Auction Sale at 47, Leicester Square.

Thursday and Friday, May 21st and 22nd. Messrs. Venton Bull & Cooper's Sale at the Blenheim Room, Hotel Cecil.

Tuesday and Wednesday, May 26th and 27th. Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Auction Sale at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C.

The Editor of the "Fortnightly" invites the co-operation of all philatelists in making these features of the Journal as complete as possible.

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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.

Crete.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. the new types of stamps for both *French* and *Austrian* Crete. By what line of reasoning France arrived at her present policy of creating special issues for all her foreign offices which in nearly every case require the addition of a special overprint to make them efficient, goodness only knows. Here, for instance, is a 25 centimes stamp specially issued for Crete, and bearing the name "Crete" as part of its design. Yet that stamp is of no use in the distressful island of the Mediterranean until it has received a special overprint in black, "1 piastre." Ridiculous!

The Austrian stamps for use in Crete are simply the current stamps of Franz Josef's Empire, with "Heller" barred out and "Centimes" overprinted in black. This at least is an intelligible arrangement.

Cuba.—When further supplies of stamps are needed in this new fledged Republic it is believed that the dies supplied by the U.S.A. authorities will be used again. President Palma, according to the American newspapers, has set his patriotic soul upon economy and has declared that for the present, Cuba will not go to the expense of new stamp designs.

"This," declares the Washington correspondent of the "Metropolitan Philatelist," "will necessitate the printing of the stamps at the U.S.A. Bureau, as the plates would not be loaned."

Danish West Indies.—The following decree is extracted by the "American Journal of Philately" from one of the newspapers of St. Croix, D.W.I.

"Notice to the Public.—For the time being, the Post Offices in St. Croix will admit the use of 4 cents postage stamps cut in half diagonally for the prepayment of postage, say in those cases where the amount of postage is covered by the payment of two cents or less.

The correspondence thus prepaid should be handed over the counter, and not dropped in a letter box.

The use of postage stamps thus cut will be disallowed, as soon as 2 cents stamps have been received, about which publication will be issued.

Government, St. Croix, the 10th Feb., 1903.—P.G.V.—LIMPRICHT."

Eritrea.—The entire set of the current Italian stamps from 1 centesimo brown up to the 5 lire blue and rose is receiving the black overprint "Colonia Eritrea." Specimens are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Fiji.—The 2½d. of the King's Head set is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

King's Head. 2½d. purple and blue on blue.

French Foreign Offices.—We can attempt no sequential list of the many novelties that come to us in an almost increasing stream. We have already referred to these issues under the heading of *Crete*, and it remains only to chronicle the following latest receipts from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. :—

Crete. 10, 15, and 20 centimes.
1 piastre on 25c. blue.
2 piastres on 50c. brown.
Levant. 10, 15, 20 and 30 centimes.
Morocco. 1 peseta and 1 franc.
Zanzibar. ½ anna on 5c. green.
1 anna on 10c. carmine.
2½ annas on 25c. blue.

Hong Kong.—A few additions to the King's Head list have to be made. Specimens received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. :—

8c. lilac and black.
12c. green and brown on yellow.

Malta.—The latest additions to the list are the 3d. and 1s., sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. :—

King's Head Series : 3d. grey and claret.
1s. grey and purple.

New Zealand.—From Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. we have received the current 3d. and 8d. stamps with the watermark single N.Z.

3d. light brown, wmk. single N.Z.
8d. blue " "

Niue Island.—Specimens of the new stamps of 3d., 6d. and 1s. values have been received by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. :—

Surcharged on New Zealand.

3d. on 3d. light brown.
6d. on 6d. carmine.
1s. on 1s. red-brown.

Each surcharge is in black and in two lines of type, the value being expressed in words in the native patois.

Paraguay.—To the list of new stamps of Paraguay, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. enable us to make the following additions :

10 centavos brown.
20 " carmine.
60 " violet.

The full set, we learn has been surcharged "Official" in thin italic type, reading diagonally upwards; but, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. significantly add, "these are unobtainable in an uncancelled condition." As evidence thereof our friends at Ipswich send us a full set of postmarked specimens, gum and all! In fact there is a great deal more gum on these *used* official stamps than one can find on the unused postals!

Penrhyn Island.—Threepenny, sixpenny and shilling stamps have been created for Penrhyn Island as already noted above for Niue Island, by surcharging the current stamps of New Zealand :—

Surcharged on New Zealand—

3d. on 3d. light brown.
6d. on 6d. carmine.
1s. on 1s. red-brown.

Portuguese Colonies.—From Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. we have received a few samples of the new avalanche of stamps for the Portuguese Empire, together with this portentous list of novelties :—

Angola, Cape Verde, Lourenco Marques, Mozambique, Portuguese Congo, Portuguese Guinea, S. Thome and Principe, Zanzibar.—15 reis green, 25 reis rose, 50 reis chocolate, 65 reis blue, 75 reis mauve, 115 reis salmon on flesh, 130 reis brown on cream, 400 reis blue on cream.

Inhambane.—2½ reis grey, 5 reis orange, 10 reis yellow-green, 15 reis green, 20 reis lilac, 25 reis rose, 50 reis chocolate, 65 reis blue, 75 reis mauve, 100 reis blue on blue, 115 reis salmon on flesh, 130 reis brown on cream, 200 reis mauve on flesh, 400 reis blue on cream, 500 reis black on blue, 700 reis slate on cream.

Macau.—2 avos green, 3 avos lilac, 4 avos rose, 5 avos yellow-brown, 6 avos purple-brown, 8 avos brown, 10 avos blue, 12 avos mauve, 13 avos lilac, 16 avos blue on blue, 18 avos salmon on flesh, 20 avos brown on cream, 31 avos mauve on flesh, 47 avos blue on cream, 78 avos black on blue.

Timor.—3 avos green, 5 avos rose, 6 avos yellow-brown, 9 avos purple-brown, 10 avos brown, 12 avos blue, 13 avos mauve, 15 avos lilac, 22 avos salmon on flesh, 31 avos brown on cream, 47 avos mauve on flesh, 78 avos blue on cream.

Portuguese India.—1 real grey, 1½ reis slate, 2 reis orange, 2½ reis yellow-brown, 3 reis blue, 6 reis green, 9 reis lilac, 1 tanga rose, 2 tangas purple-brown, 2½ tangas blue, 5 tangas brown on cream, 8 tangas mauve on flesh, 12 tangas green on flesh, 1 rupee blue on cream, 2 rupees slate on cream.

St. Lucia.—Two further King's Heads to add to our list :

King's Head Series : 2½d. lilac and blue.
3d. lilac and yellow.

Servia.—Additions must be made to the list of the current series :—

5 para pale green.
15 para violet-rose.
20 para orange.

Southern Nigeria.—The full set of King's Heads for this territory may now be chronicled as issued.

- King's Head Series:* ½d. green and black.
 1d. carmine ..
 2d. red-brown ..
 4d. green ..
 6d. violet ..
 1s. black and green.
 2s. 6d. brown and black.
 5s. orange ..
 10s. carmine and black on yellow.
 £1 violet and green.

United States.—There appears to be great opposition at Washington to the project for a Commemorative issue in connection with the St. Louis Exposition.

Meantime, the stamps of the "series of 1902" come in for continued criticism—appreciative and the other sort. For instance, the "Metropolitan Philatelist" denounces the portrait of Washington on the 2 cents stamps as "that of a beery old gentleman with no particular character to maintain or sustain." "It is not," adds the same journal, "the Washington who is treasured in the hearts of his people."

On the other hand, the dollar values, which we have not yet seen on this side, are enthusiastically praised by the "Metropolitan Philatelist's" Washington correspondent, "The Optimist." The one dollar he pronounces a "beaut.," but what he gains in time or expressiveness by omitting the final "y" we altogether fail to perceive. "The higher values," he adds, "will not be sent out upon requisition until such time as the old stock is worked off."

Western Australia.—We have omitted to chronicle the 2d. yellow with watermark "V and Crown," to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.:—

Swan type: 2d. yellow, wmk. V and Crown.

We do not pretend to understand the extraordinary policy now being adopted in connection with new issues of stamps for Western Australia. Certain of the dies of Victoria are being faked and altered to serve for Westralia, the time-



honoured swan being apparently abandoned. We reserve our chronicle of these extraordinary makeshifts until we know the full extent of the trouble.

Since the above was in type the mail has brought us, strangely enough, three novelties in the swan type, kindly sent by Messrs. Hamilton Macrae, Limited, of Perth, W.A. The swan, apparently, is by no means dead, and we are more than ever at a loss to account for the hotch-potch issues illustrated above.

The stamps now to hand are watermarked with the "V" and crown. Values and colours:—

- 8d. pale green
 9d. orange.
 10d. brick red.

Wurtemberg.—The agreement as to the abandonment, for a time, at any rate, of the separate postal issues for the Kingdom of Wurtemberg, has not affected the official issue. To this set two new values have been added, for used specimens of which we are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Official stamps.—30 pfennig black and orange.
 .. 40 .. black and carmine.

GREAT BRITAIN,

All Unused with O.G.

6d. mauve	60/0	3d. wmk. Spray, Telegraph	3/0
1d. red, imperf., worn plate	3/6	9d. bistre, wmk. Spray, specmn.	3/6
2½d. lilac-rose, pl. 12 ..	6/0	1/- brown	5/6
2½d. blue, pl. 23	2/0	5/- rose	7/0
3d. wmk. Emblems, pl. 4	8/6	5/- rose, 1883	3/6
3d. on 3d. lilac, 1880 ..	3/0	10/- ultramarine ..	5/6
6d. on 6d.	3/6	10/- cobalt-blue (rare)	30/0
1d. lilac, 14 dots	2/6	£1 brown (3 Crowns)	15/0
1d. deep lilac, 14 dots ..	2/6	£1 green	10/6
½d. slate, block of 4 ..	1/0	1/- brn., Govt. Parcels	8/0
½d. slate	3d.	6d. grey, I.R. Official	3/6
1½d. lilac	2/0	10/- blue	42/6
3d. lilac	2/0	1d. brown, Telegraph	1/0
2d. rose	2/0	3d. rose	2/6
½d. red, O.W. Official ..	25/0	6d. grey	1/9
1d. lilac, O.W. Official ..	25/0	1/- green	4/6
3d. wmk. Crown, Telegraph	7/0	3/- slate	2/0

For Sale, Superb COLLECTION OF ENTIRES, used and unused, including a number of rarities, errors, &c., OF GREAT BRITAIN. Price £100.

Also for Sale, COLLECTION OF GREAT BRITAIN REVENUE STAMPS. Price £150.

CHAS. NISSEN & Co.,

77/78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

Owing to the Expiration of our Lease at 104, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W., on June 24th, 1903, we are selling all our stock of Stamps at 25% discount off our usual prices, and we shall offer in each issue of the "S.C.F." up to that date special bargains at sale prices. MAKE A NOTE of what we offer and apply at once, as in most cases we only have one or two in stock.

Notice.—A few of the Stamps advertised in the last No. of the S.C.F. are still unsold. Application should be made at once.

ANTIGUA. 1862. No wmk. Rough perf. 14-16. Unused. Used s. d. s. d.	NEW SOUTH WALES. <i>Laureated Heads, wmk. numerals.</i> Unused. Used s. d. s. d.		
6d. blue-green	12 9	1d. orange	1 3
Block of 12	170 0	2d. blue	1 3
BARBADOS. 1852. Blued paper, no wmk., imperf. (1d.) yellow-green	10 10	3d. green	13 6
(½d.) dark green	16 10	1854-56. Imperf.	
6d. rose-red	7 6	1d. scarlet	3 0
1/- black	3 9	2d. blue	6 0
1874. Wmk. large Star, perf. 14.		3d. green	12 0
1d. dark blue	3 9	1855. Imperf.	
1875-78. Wmk. Crown and C.C., perf. 14.		6d. grey	3 9
4d. crimson-lake	60 0	6d. grey-green	2 6
1/- purple	5 6	6d. lilac-brown	2 3
DOMINICA. 1874. Wmk. Crown C.C., perf. 12½.		1/- brick-red	7 0
6d. green	13 0	Unique block of 11 1/- dull red	75 0
1877-79. Perf. 14.		<i>Varieties.</i>	
6d. green	15 0	6d. grey, wmk. 8 ..	6 3
Surcharged "Half-penny" in black.		1/- dull red, wmk. 8 ..	22 6
½d. on half 1d. lilac, 12 on piece of original ..	60 0	1860. Perf.	
FIJI ISLANDS. <i>Times Express. On laid batonné paper, rouletted.</i>		6d. purple, wmk. 12 ..	3 0
3d. black on rose	13 6	Perf. 10.	
6d.	30 0	5/- mauve	30 0
GAMBIA. 1880. Wmk. Crown C.C., perf. 14.		5/- mauve, perf. 10x12, block of 4 for ..	67 6
6d. blue	9 0	1888. 5/- dull mauve, a fine block of 4	45 0
		Registration Stamps, no wmk., perf. 12	
		6d. orange-red and blue ..	10 6
		Wmk. 6.	
		6d. rosy red and blue ..	2 9

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Philatelic Societies' Reports.

BRISTOL AND CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING of the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society was held on Thursday, April 23rd, at 36, Woodstock Road, Mr. R. Dalton in the chair.

The subject of a Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Bristol in the autumn was discussed, and it was resolved to bring up the matter at the next meeting.

A good display of English stamps was shown by Mr. R. Dalton. H. ALSOP, *Hon. Sec.*, 2, Archfield Road, Cotham Park, Bristol.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND SOUTH EASTERN COUNTIES' PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

BARON ANTHONY DE WORMS was asked to become the first President of this Society, but has written regretting his inability to accept the office on account of the fact that he has changed his residence and could not take any active interest in the Society, not having the opportunity to attend its meetings. Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, who hopes to be resident in Tunbridge Wells in September next, has now been asked if he would kindly consent to become President, and Mr. Alfred Paget Hedges has consented to become a Vice-President, and has forwarded a guinea towards the funds, together with a very nice letter in which he expresses pleasure in becoming connected with the Society.

All stamp collectors resident in Tunbridge Wells and the immediate neighbourhood would oblige by writing to the Secretary, when it is hoped that a preliminary general meeting may be called immediately for the purpose of putting the Society on a firm basis. The Exchange section is open to anyone furnishing satisfactory references, and the subscription to this section is 2/6 per annum with 1/- entrance fee.

Hon. Sec.: FREDERICK WICKS, 74, St. James's Road, Tunbridge Wells.

PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

THE December packet of the above Society finally returned on May 5th. All members were settled within 12 hours of the return of this packet. The total sales amounted to £31 3s. 6d. The May packet started on circuit May 6th and carries a total of £317 12s. 1d. Some very desirable stamps are in the packet. The January packet returned from first circuit on April 24th and was again sent out to

new members. Sales amounted to over £34 up to this time. Vacancies only occur for good buyers with good stamps.

Application to be sent to the *Secretary*, R. T. MORGAN, 14, High Street, Selhurst, S.E.

BRITISH EMPIRE EXCHANGE.

APRIL Packets have started, Colonial with 34 sheets, nett value £136 15s. 3d.; and the General Packet with 36 sheets, gross value £212 8s. 11d. February Packets are returned and being checked.

The February Colonial packet went out containing 28 sheets nett value £81 19s. 0d. After 11 weeks and among 32 members the amount of nett value £21 8s. 8d was paid for 419 stamps. This shows over 25% on the value of the packet, and for a small Exchange Club will compare very favourably against the larger Exchanges (whether 50% discount or no).

February General Packet, sales 498 stamps £13 12s. 8d. gross value.

H. BEAN, *Secretary*. (See advt. in this paper).

"SOUTH OF ENGLAND" AND "BEGINNERS'" CLUBS.

A BRIEF report of the South of England and the Beginners' Clubs has been issued for the year ending March 31st, 1903. A copy of the same, with rules of the Clubs, &c., will be sent to anyone applying for same.

During the year, twelve packets have been circulated in the "South of England" Club, and ten in the "Beginners'."

The report gives a list showing the net value of each packet with the total amount of sales; also, as nearly as possible, the dates upon which packets have returned, debit accounts sent out, and final credit payments made to members residing in Great Britain. The length of time elapsing between the two last dates is due to the fact that members sometimes forget that promptness in settling accounts should be the rule.

Secretary, MISS FLORENCE E. SMITH, "Winfrith," The Crescent, Bedford.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

AT the meeting held on Wednesday, April 22nd, Mr. J. F. Peace read a paper on the Stamps of Belgium before a good attendance of members. He estimated that a fine collection of about 200 varieties could be made for about £6. Mr. Peace showed his collection of about 300 stamps, including many fine specimens, and a collection containing varieties of shades was shown by Mr. J. H. Chapman. A hearty vote of thanks was given to the lecturer.

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COLONIALS, old and new. No. 1, 25, 6d.; scarcer values, 20, 6d. No. 2, 25, 1/-; scarcer values, 20, 1/-; all different. Returnable.—A. KEIGHLEY, 6, Barden Grove, Armley, Leeds.

BRITISH Stamps for Sale, all issues, values, plate numbers, 20/- Crown, Orbs; 5/-, 10/-, 20/- Cross and Anchor; £5 Officials, Post Office Telegraphs, rare shades, postmarks, pairs, &c. Perfect Specimens. Approval. References—SPECIALIST, 5, Little Trinity Lane, E.C.

BRITISH African Club circulates Colonial stamps from all parts of the world. Established 1877.—CHAS. J. ENDLER, Secretary, Kingsburgh, Boscombe, Bournemouth.

300 WELL MIXED British Colonials, 2/-.—I.A.M.B. ("Wallaby"), Laurel Lodge, Marshborough, Woodnesborough, Dover.

12 Different New Zealand Pictorial, fine used, including 2½d., 3d., 5d., 6d. and 1/-, catalogued 4/1. price 1/8. Zanzibar on India, 12 annas on envelope, superb, 7/6. Sold out—I.R. Official.—HENRY F. ENGLISH, 8, St. Marks Street, Peterborough.

CONTINENTALS. Good Mixtures, suit small dealers, 10,000 for 1/9, post free. Cash with order. IMPERIAL STAMP EXCHANGE, LTD., 56, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

JUNIOR Stamp Club, no subscription or fines. Rules free.—SECRETARY, 49, Kestrel Avenue, Herne Hill.

BARGAIN.—100 different Foreign and Colonial stamps, including Malay, Mauritius, Nicaragua, Nyassa, 5 Mexico, Seychelles, 10 New Japan, etc., 7d. post free.—WADDINGTON, 7, Queen's Road, Bradford.

COOK ISLANDS.—Rare provisional 3d. on 1d., catalogued 5s/6, few mint copies for sale 1/6 each; 3/- pair, postage extra.—ROSEVEAR, 635a Fulham Road, S.W.

JAMES BENNETT, Stoke Bishop, near Bristol, still has left about £8,000 worth of his old stock of stamps, which he wishes to clear out shortly; and after 45 years dealing, retire. He begs to refer Dealers and Members of Clubs to his advertisement in these columns of last October, November, and December, and to say that he still allows excessive discounts, and puts 10/-, £1, £3, &c. Packets cheaper than ever.

WHOLESALE Price List of Indian, Foreign stamps sent post free.—R. J. HANSMAN, 51, Samuel Street, Bombay, India.

PIEDMONT EXCHANGE CLUB.—Few members wanted. Good stamps.—103, Piedmont Road, Plumstead.

ANY single Stamp at wholesale price. Selections, priced low, sent on approval. Discount and handsome present to purchasers.—LEVY, 38, Gracechurch Street, London.

WANTED to buy a few general Collections or specialised Countries of fine Stamps. Highest prices.—MANNING & KING, 30, Vicarage Road, Tottenham, London.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE, Bought, Sold, Exchanged.—Fortnightly, Volumes 1 to 7; "Stamps," Volumes 2 to 5, 2/3 each; "Gibbons' Monthly Journal," Volumes 4, 5, 6, 9 to 12, 3/- each. All post free.—R. H. APPLERY, 8, Co-operative Terrace, Sunderland.

SET of 2d. blue plate numbers, price 1/4 post free. Book of very fine English now on sale.—KERR AND LANHAM, Chichester Rents, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

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THE Premier Stamp Exchange. Members required. Particulars from SECRETARY, 7, Cosbycote Avenue, Herne Hill, S.E.

GREATEST Rarities, rare and medium British Colonials, unused or used, priced under half Gibbons. Send approval against serious references.—BERNARDINA GARCIA, Barriograciense, Barcelona, Spain.

TO GENUINE COLLECTORS.—I am breaking up a large collection of stamps and shall be pleased to send selections on approval at 50 per cent. off Gibbons' catalogue. Good references are required.—N. HILLIER, Horsmonden.

ABOUT 10,000 Various Stamps, assorted values, collected from Merchants Offices during past eight years—Bargain—4/- the lot.—N. HILLIER, Horsmonden.

REPORT FOR 1902 OF THE OTTERDALE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB now ready and post free on application. Gross sales last year £1,323 18s. 9d. Advanced philatelists (not dealers) with good duplicates invited to join.—G. HERRFERT DANNATT Secretary and Founder, (Member, Stamp Exchange Protection Society), Lyndale, Blackheath, London, S.E.

"BRITISH EMPIRE" EXCHANGE. Two Packets monthly. References, Prompt settlements monthly. Reports in this Paper.—Secretary, H. BRAN, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

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FISCALS.—Those wishing to sell, purchase, or exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London.

COLLECTOR specializing has a nice lot of medium Colonials for Sale, especially African, West Indies and Australian. Selections on approval. References required. Wanted Barbados.—FRANK H. MADISON, St. Neots, Hunts.

WANTED.—Gibbons' Imperial Album, 8th Edition, in good binding, with or without stamps in.—A. DRESSER, Bexleyheath, Kent.

WANTED.—Specimen Stamps and Proofs of all countries, British Colonials preferred, for cash or exchange.—DRESSER, Bexleyheath, Kent.

RED Penny Plates.—Wanted Mint Pairs, 74, 88, 105, 133, 210, 225.—MR. EARL, NEWCASTLE, Staff.

RARE Gold Coast.—1894 20/-, 2/4; 1900 5/-, 3/-. Fine picked copies.—TAYLOR BROS., 19, Sweeting Street Liverpool.

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GENUINE Bargains—1000 British Colonials, etc., 1/1; 13 Nyassa, 1901, Giraffe complete, 2/6 set; 50 Spain, 1/1. Retail price list post free. Stamps bought offers requested.—WILLIAM STAMP CO., 120, Leadenhall Street, London.

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" " " " 4d. olive	3d.
" " " " 6d. mauve	4d.
" " " " 1/- ochre	6d.
Canada, 1897, 50 cent blue (cat. 1/-)	6d.
" Jubilee, 2 dollars violet	3/0
Cape of Good Hope, 1894, 1/- (cat. 8d.)	2d.
" 1896, 5/-	9d.
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Gold Coast, 1894, 20/- superb, used pair	6/6
" 1898, 5/- used, very fine	2/6
B. Colombia, 25 cts. perf. 14, mint	5/0
Mafeking, 1d. on 3d. green, Cape on piece	5/0
Mauritius, 1863, 5/- purple mint	25/0
St. Vincent, 6d. yellow green, star 14 to 15, used, very fine	9/6
B. Australia, 10d. on 9d. orange, rouletted, superb	7/6
Transvaal, Gibbons' No. 63, mint	4/0
" " 88, " " "	3/0
" " 129, " " "	11/6
Victoria, 1888, 1/6 blue, mint	13/6

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The Philatelic Exhibition at Mulhausen.

MANY FINE DISPLAYS OF RARITIES AND CHOICE SPECIALISED COLLECTIONS — A COSMOPOLITAN FUNCTION.

THE Eastertide Philatelic Exhibition at Mulhausen, Alsace-Lorraine, proved a distinct success, not only in the fine exhibits of stamps it brought together, but also in the notable company of philatelists it attracted.

From reports published in the "Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung" and other Continental journals, and from an excellent article on the subject in the April "Philatelic Record," we are able to compile what we trust will prove a readable summary of the proceedings.

The fine museum, the Ausstellungs-Gebäude, was the venue chosen for the exhibition, and the stamps were shown in two large galleries excellently lighted from above.

Paul Kohl (Chemnitz), Hugo Krotzsch (Leipzig), Pierre Mahé (Paris), Baron de Reuterskiold (Lausanne), and Carl Willadt (Pforzheim), were the gentlemen chosen to act on the jury. Mons. Pierre Mahé being, unfortunately, too unwell to attend, his place was taken by Mons. T. H. Lemairé.

It may be said at the outset that the Exhibition was notable for a fine showing of rarities and for many choice specialised collections. Prominent among these latter were the German States, Roumanian, and Swiss of Mr. George Koch, the famous Hawaiians and Japanese of Mr. H. J. Crocker, the Greek stamps shown by Mr. Mertzanoff, and the Alsace-Lorraine stamps of Messrs. Joseph Hupfeld and G. Maréchal.

By the way, it had been supposed, at first, that the Mulhausen Exhibition would be confined to the issues of Alsace-Lorraine, but it must be said that the widening of the scope of the exhibition was attended with the happiest results.

Now to give a brief classified review of the Exhibition:—

STAMPS OF ALSACE-LORRAINE.

Here the honours were carried off by Joseph Hupfeld (gold medal and diploma of honour); G. Marechal (gold medal and diploma), and Joseph Viénot (gold medal and diploma).

GERMANY AND GERMAN STATES.

The fine show of Germans by Mr. George Koch, for which he was awarded a gold medal and diploma of honour, evoked much admiration. A little list may be given of the gems in Mr. Koch's collection:—

- ALSACE. Full set unused with inverted net.
 BERGEDORF. Used 3, ½sch., 2, 1, 1½, 3, sch., 2, 4sch.
 " " 3 + 4 on entire letter.
 " " 1 + 1 " "
 " " ½ + ½ - ¼ - ½ on entire letter.
 BRUNSWICK. Diagonal half of 2sgr., 1863, on entire.
 " Pair ½gr. green percé.
 BREMEN. Pair 1ogr., rouletted, used.
 " Four 1ogr. " " on entire.
 " 7gr., perf., 1ogr. (four) on entires.
 HAMBURG. 4s., imperf., superb double print, unused.
 " Imperf., 3 used, 4s., also 3 + 4 on piece.
 " " 9s., used (two).
 " Perf., pair 9s., used, with town pmk.
 " " 9s., " " bar "
 LUBECK. Error 2½, used.
 " " 2½, unused, two vertical pairs containing one error in each. Very good shades.
 SAXONY. Three singles and pair 3pfg. red-red. also two singles on entires.
 " ½gr. error blue, unused.
 BADEN. Landpost, ¼ and a half 1kr. on letter
 " " half of 1kr. " "
 " " 9kr. green, error of colour, used, superb.
 BAVARIA. Block of 12 1kr. black, with one tête bêche, unused.
 " " 15 1mk., imperf., unused.
 " Unpaid, pair of 3kr., 1852, one being Empfangs.
 MECKLENBURG SCHWERIN. Scott No. 4, used loose and on letter.
 " STRELITZ. The two shades of ½sg., used.
 " " Pair one-third and strip of three ditto on letters, used.
 " " 1sch. violet on letter.

- OLDENBURG. Mostly used and superb, single and strip of three ½ 1852/55.
 " Strip of three ½ 1858 on letter
 SCHLESWIG. Used 1st issue pair of two on piece, also 1 + 2sch. on letter.

Other fine displays in this section were made by Mr. Ernst Paulus (silver medal and diploma) and Mr. Joseph Hupfeld.

FRANCE AND COLONIES.

A large and fine exhibit of Comte Paul Durrien, of Paris, stands out pre-eminent here. Mr. Ad. Becker carried off a silver medal, and Mr. G. A. Schoen a bronze.

SWITZERLAND.

The Swiss Philatelic Society contributed an interesting series of essays and stamps of Basle. A silver medal for Swiss Fiscals was awarded to Charles E. Hoffmann.

This brings us to another fine exhibit by Mr. George Koch, including the following Swiss rarities:—

- Double GENEVA loose used and on letter
 1845-47. 5c. dark green large eagle, unused, top row of 10 with full margins and inscriptions.
 BALE. 2½r., 1845. 3 used singles, 6 used on one letter.
 VAUD. 4c., used, 2 ditto on one letter.
 ZURICH. 4c and 6c. with vertical and horizontal lines used.
 " 4c. on letter.
 " Single, pair and block of 4 Scott's No. 14, used. Very fine lot.

A FINE SHOW OF MOLDAVIANS.

Mr. Koch also displayed a few Moldavians that would be worth—well, we wonder how many times their weight in gold?

- MOLDAVIA. 27, 54, 81, 108 paras, used, cut square. All superb.
 " 27, 54 and 108, on letters " " "
 " 1858. 5p. black on blue, unused (? right). "
 " " 80p. on blue, used (three).
 " 1862. Hand struck and plate printed not divided, but some nice shades, unused and used.
 " 1869. 15b. rose-red, laid, unused.
 " 1871. 10b. yellow " "
 " 1876. Error 5b. blue, used, on piece with two 10c. Very fine.

HAWAII, JAPAN, AND SOME OTHERS.

Mr. H. J. Crocker's Hawaii stamps are world-famous. To praise them is to paint the lily. The "Philatelic Record" probably does not exaggerate when it declares Mr. Crocker's Sandwich Islands stamps "the finest exhibit in the show." Their owner was awarded a gold medal and diploma of honour.

Among other countries Mr. M. Z. Booleman carried off a silver medal and diploma for his stamps of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony. Mr. Gelber received a like award for a specialised collection of U.S.A.; Mr. André Markl, a bronze medal and diploma for British Zanzibar, and Mr. F. H. Kahle a similar award for a specialised collection of Mexico.

SOME SPECIALISED COLLECTIONS OF EUROPEANS.

This was a section that attracted several pretty exhibits, highest honours being carried off by Mr. E. J. Mertzanoff (gold medal and diploma), with his stamps of Greece and the Ionian Islands. Next in merit came the Saxony of Mr. Carl Gunther (gold medal).

AWARDS FOR BRITISH EXHIBITORS.

As already noted in the last *Fortnightly*, Messrs. G. Hamilton-Smith & Co. annexed yet another honour for the fine permanent albums they have now brought to such perfection.

This, however, was not the only trophy of the Mulhausen Exhibition brought to England. Mr. David Field secured a bronze medal and diploma, while Mrs. Edith Field, for her triangular Capes, and unused Gambias, Gold Coasts and Gibralgars, received a silver medal and diploma.

The Mulhausen Exhibition is one that will long be remembered as a truly cosmopolitan show of desirable stamps.

Our Review of Reviews.

The Twenty-third "Post Office" Mauritius.

Artful Monsieur T. H. Lemaire! All the time the world's philatelic journals are carefully adding up the world's total of specimens of the "Post Office" stamps of Mauritius, as affected by the recent find of a pair of the 1d. and 2d., *prest!* Our friend of the Avenue de l'Opera has another "twopenny" up his sleeve. He produces it at the Mulhausen Exhibition just by way of producing an effect and driving all the other dealers green with envy. All the same it is too bad of Monsieur Lemaire, for this means another addition to the growing "census" of the "Post Office" issue. There are now, if you please, twenty-three known specimens.

In his curiously-named periodical publication, "La Cote Réelle," Mons. Lemaire tells us all about it. This 23rd "Post Office" Mauritius, it appears, he purchased at the same time, and from the same firm of Bordeaux Wine Merchants, as the last pair discovered. This, he tells us, in conclusion is the *sixth* "Post Office" Mauritius that has passed through his hands. A remarkable record, indeed!

Mons. Lemaire adds a tit-bit of news. The purchaser of the recently discovered pair of "Post Office" stamps, the 1d. and 2d. used side by side on original envelope, will show them at the next exhibition in London or Paris.

The "Burlington" and the "Connoisseur."

Under the scathing headline, "Pin Pricks by an Ignoramus," the "Philatelic Record" draws attention to the anti-philatelic sneers of a person who, apparently, has some rooted antipathy to our hobby.

"The 'Connoisseur' (remarks the Editor of the 'Record'), which was started at the end of 1901 to minister to the pleasure of Collectors of all kinds, has not had long to wait for the inevitable rival. The 'Burlington Magazine' has just come to hand. With their rivalry we are not concerned. But it is a curious fact that both started with the same editor. The first editorial in the 'Connoisseur' was disfigured with a sneer at Stamp Collecting. The writer thereof did not long occupy that editorial chair. Now he sits in the editorial chair of the new magazine, and once more the poor man vents his little spite on Stamp Collecting. Why, we know not, unless it be that in his case Stamp Collecting plays the same part in his little life that King Charles's head played in the life of another afflicted one.

"We are told that 'the desire to collect in the abstract—the mere collecting for the sake of collecting—is one of the crudest of instincts inherited from the less reasonable of our animal ancestors.' Apparently the present editor of the 'Burlington' will have to re-write Natural History. And then he goes on to say that 'the man who collects old masters as another collects railway tickets or postage stamps displays his affinities.' Ah, well. There are affinities and affinities, editorial and otherwise, and we fear the new magazine is not to be congratulated upon the peculiar affinities of its present editor.

"The 'Connoisseur' learnt to its cost that it does not do to collect editors of the sneering type. At best they are an expensive luxury, especially if they happen to be descended from 'the less reasonable of our animal ancestors.'"

Is there a Standard of Stamp Values?

Mr. Crawford Capen says that we stamp collectors are in the very happy position of having priced catalogues, which we can regard as fixing a standard of value. But are we? Can we?

"The collecting of stamps (says Mr. Capen) proceeds in a different manner from that of nearly every other form of collecting. It has in the catalogue that which other kinds of collecting do not have—a standard whereby can be measured the value of that which the collector buys."

So far Mr. Capen is intelligent and straight forward. His statement, whether it be true or not, is at any rate definite and understandable. But when he gets on the subject how

the catalogue standard is to be arrived he has nothing to offer us but verbosity.

The Catalogue, in order to be standard in its prices must (he declares) be made on the world's available stock of stamps. The nearer the catalogue makers approach to the understanding of what is the floating stock—that is the stock which is in the market for sale—the nearer will they be able to come to values and the better standard will the book be. The difficulty of exact pricing, even with a knowledge of what the stock in existence is, is shown by cases which arise from time to time. Confusion, for instance, was the result of a recent sale of stamps of the British West Indies. This lot was part of the total known available stock, but no one expected that it would come upon the market suddenly at a low price. It has depreciated for the moment the value of these stamps, and they are publicly offered at large discounts from catalogue prices. The lot, however, will soon be absorbed, and, since it is not very large, we see no reason why it should affect materially the values of these stamps. There are other cases in which a stamp issued in considerable quantities is "cornered." Such, for instance, is the case of the 1c. on 3c. Cuba, of which there were 150,000 printed, and most of them were bought by speculators within a few days. Attempts have been made to market the lot at high prices, but, since the dealers have refused to touch it, the stamp is now offered at a comparatively reasonable price. If the makers of catalogues had priced this stamp on the number in their own stocks, within a few months of the date on which it was issued, it might have been called a stamp worth a dollar instead of twelve cents.

The method of handling the stamps of Mauritius and the Seychelles Islands, has always been speculative, and some values have been invariably bought up as soon as they were issued and held for a rise. The pricing of these stamps on the stock which any dealer held of them would certainly be an absurdity. This is the fact in regard to many issues and the only reasonable way in which to make prices is upon the world's stock in first hands, that is the original speculators or the dealers who hold them for sale. If it were the invariable practice of the catalogue makers, as it has been that of the large dealers, to price on the basis of the world's stock, instead of what they may themselves have on hand, the speculative attempts to control the market in relation to the issues of certain countries would be even less successful than they have been in the past. The issues of remainders from time to time, and special distributions of large quantities of stamps made by the Governments which have issued them, have a distinct effect in changing the prices of the catalogues. New knowledge, also, as to the numbers in existence is continually coming to the catalogue makers, but their effort always should be and always will be, so far as possible, to make the prices correspond with the values at the date of issue, that the work may be as accurate a standard as possible for the use of collectors.

In plain English then we must wait for our ideal standard catalogue (which, in Mr. Crawford Capen's imagination, already exists) until that happy day when all the stamp dealers of the world meet together and lay bare to each other the innermost secrets of their counting houses! We expect more plausible stuff than this from a man so shrewd as the head of the American Philatelic Trust.

Among the "Latest Wills" is that of the Rev. W. Bell, of Kilmeen, County Cork, the well-known philatelist, the gross value of whose estate is sworn at £2,172 2s. 0d.

REVISED RATES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY."

Pages of Two Columns.

	For 1 insertion.	6 insertions.	12 insertions.	26 insertions.
Whole Page ..	£4 0 0	£3 10 0	£3 0 0	£2 10 0
Half Page ..	2 2 0	1 15 0	1 12 6	1 10 0
Quarter Page ..	1 2 6	1 1 0	0 17 6	0 15 0
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Pages of Three Columns.

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Insets, £1 per thousand.

Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**
 Literari, 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
MAY 19th and 20th, and will consist of a

Large and Fine Old Collection
Containing MANY RARE STAMPS.

CATALOGUES READY.

Last Sale of the Season, June 9th and 10th.

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sales for the Season 1903-1904, have been fixed as follows: 1903—September 29 and 30; October 13 and 14, 27 and 28; November 10 and 11, 24 and 25; December 8 and 9. 1904—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27; May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8.

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 past seasons.

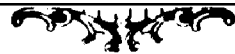
The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign Buyers who send bids may rely upon the condition &c. of the various lots being accurately described.

LIBERAL ADVANCES MADE PENDING REALIZATION IF DESIRED.

FOR TERMS AND FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS:
 TELEPHONE No. 1561. GERRARD.
 ESTABLISHED 1794.

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

W. H. PECKITT,
Dealer in Rare Stamps,



47, STRAND, W.C. (Nearly Opposite
 Old Address).

*** RECENT PURCHASE ***

A Magnificent Collection of 20,000 VARIETIES as all the stamps are in the finest condition and all priced separately, this affords an exceptional opportunity for filling lists of Wants, etc., which will receive very careful attention.

WILL BE SENT FOR INSPECTION IF DESIRED.



TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "PECKITT, LONDON." TELEPHONE: 3204 GERRARD. SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL.

1903 PRICE LIST POST FREE.

A Fine Assortment of Stamps always on View RANGING FROM NEW ISSUES TO THE GREATEST RARITIES.

From the Auction Rooms.

MR. HOLBROOK BULL desires us to state that he has retired from the firm of John Edwards & Co., philatelic auctioneers. At the same time we are notified by Mr. Edward J. A. Bull will continue the business of John Edwards & Co. exactly as heretofore, and from the same address, Mansion House Chambers, 20, Bucklersbury, E.C.

* Signifies Unused.

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co's Sale.

April 17th and 18th, 1903.

	£	s.	d.
British Bechuanaland, Protectorate, 1889, overprinted in green, ½d., a mint pair, doubly surcharged	2	15	0
British Central Africa, 1895, no wmk., 2/6, 3/- and 5/- mint	1	16	0
British East Africa, 1895, on India, 1r. grey, 2r., 3r. and 5 rupees, mint	2	10	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1863, De la Rue, 6d. mauve, mint	1	14	0
Do. 1880, C.C., 3d. lilac-rose*	1	8	0
Do. 1/- on 4d. brown (S.G. 11), mint	2	2	0
Vryburg provisional, "V.R. Special Post" on ½d. green Transvaal	1	12	0
Great Britain, Telegraphs, 5/- rose, plate 2, perf. 15	1	10	0
Nevis, 1867, 4d.	1	14	0
Do. 1878, 1/- green, 2 copies	1	14	0
Orange River Colony, V.R.L., 1st print, 6d. blue with figure 6 omitted, mint	1	9	0
Do. 6d. blue, a mint pane of 60, one stamp being the variety without 6	3	10	0
Straits Settlements, Perak, 1890, Service "P.G.S." 12c. purple, mint	1	3	0
Gold Coast, 1898, 2/- green and red	1	2	0
Do. 20/- black on red	1	7	0
Do. 5/- green and mauve	1	5	0

Messrs. PUTTIK & SIMPSON'S Sale,

April 21st and 22nd, 1903.

Great Britain, 1841, 1d. red-brown, a block of 48, plate No. 30, mint	5	5	0
Do. O.W. Official, 1892, 10d. purple and scarlet	8	0	0
Sweden, 1855, 3skb. blue-green*	1	18	0
Do. 1872, 20 ore vermilion, the rare error "Tretio"	12	10	0
British Central Africa, 1892-93, Three Shillings on 4/- grey, mint	1	14	0
British East Africa, 1891, M.S. provisional, "½ anna A.B." on 2a. vermilion	1	0	0
Mafeking Besieged on British Bechuanaland, 2/- on 1/-, mint	4	5	0
Lagos, wmk. C.C., perf. 12½, 1/- orange, value 16½mm, a pair, mint	1	17	6
Do. wmk. C.A., 2/6 olive-black, mint	3	5	0
Do. do. 5/- blue	4	10	0
Zululand, 1888, 5/- carmine, mint	2	15	0
New Brunswick, 1851, 1/- mauve	10	0	0
Newfoundland, 1860, 4d. orange*	4	0	0
Jamaica, wmk. pineapple, 6d. deep purple, mint	1	6	0
Nevis, perf. 15, lithographed, 4d. orange, mint	3	12	6
Do. wmk. C.A., 6d. green, mint	3	15	0
St. Vincent, no wmk., large perf., 4d. yellow, mint	2	2	0
Do. small perf., 1/- slate	1	12	0
Do. wmk. star, large perf., 4d. dark blue, mint	3	17	6
Do. 4d. in black on 1/- vermilion	9	0	0
Trinidad, clean-cut perf., 6d. green, mint	2	0	0
New South Wales, 3d. emerald-green, a pair*	8	5	0
Victoria, 1864, 8d. orange, wmk. "8," mint*	1	12	0
Do. 1865, 10d. slate, wmk. "10," mint*	2	2	0
Do. 1868-81, 5/- blue and red, mint*	1	12	0
Do. 1873-76, 8d. in blue on 9d. brown on rose, ditto..	1	16	0
Do. 1873-83, 1d. green on drab and 1d. green on yellow mint*	1	7	0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER'S Sale,

April 23rd and 24th, 1903.

Great Britain, 2½d. lilac-rose, plate 2, error of lettering, L H F L for L H—H L	3	3	0
Do. "O W OFFICIAL," 1902, ½d. green mint	1	1	0
Do. "R H OFFICIAL," ½d. green and 1d. scarlet, both mint	1	1	0

	£	s.	d.
North Borneo, 1891-92, 6c. on 10c blue, error, surcharge inverted and nearly the whole of the word cents missing, mint	1	4	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1855-58, 1/- yellow-green*	2	10	0
New Brunswick, 6d. yellow*	4	10	0
United States, 1869, 90c. carmine and black*	2	2	0
Montserrat, 1883, C. & C.C., 2½d. red-brown and 4d. blue*	1	5	0
Do. 1884-85, C. & C.A., 4d. blue*	2	14	0
Argentina, 1891, 20 pesos green, a horizontal pair, on piece	3	5	0
New Zealand, 1856, no wmk., blue paper, 1d., 2d. and 1/-	3	5	0

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & CO'S Sale,

April 28th and 29th, 1903.

British Guiana, 1876, 96c. drab, a superb mint block of 4 with side margins	10	10	0
Canada, 1852-7, imperf., 10d. blue, very fine specimen*	4	4	0
Ceylon, 1857, 10d. red	1	3	0
Do. 1861, 8d. yellow-brown, perf.	3	7	6
Dominica, 1886-88, C.A., 1/- lilac-rose, mint	1	18	0
Great Britain, 1840, 1d. intense black, block of 4, superb, mint but slight crease	4	8	0
Do. 1841, 1d. red on Dickinson Paper, a very fine horizontal pair*	4	10	0
Do. 1867-80, 2/- brown	2	2	0
Do. 1867-82, Maltese Cross, 10/- grey-green, superb, used postally	1	3	0
Do. do. £1 brown-lilac, very fine	1	6	0
Do. do. ditto, £5 orange, with registered postmark, superb	1	15	0
Do. I.R. Official, £1 green, slightly stained	1	13	0
Do. O.W. Official, 1902, Queen, ½d. green, a pair on piece	1	2	0
Grenada, 1871, 1/- mauve, the Shillings error, fine	1	3	0
Do. do. 4d. blue, fine..	1	1	0
Nevis, 1867, 1/- blue-green, fine*	2	10	0
New South Wales, Sydney view, plate 11., retouched 2d. slate-blue (S.G. 22)	2	0	0
Do. 1862, surfaced paper, 2d., a mint pair	3	0	0
St. Lucia, 1881, the "Shilding" error*	5	7	6
St. Vincent, 1871, perf. 11 to 12, 1/- rose-red*	2	12	0
Do. 1880, perf. 11 to 12, 1/- vermilion*	1	16	0
Do. 1881, 1d. on 6d. yellow-green	2	2	0

MARTIN, RAY & Co., Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents,

LONSDALE CHAMBERS,

CHANGERY LANE, W.C.,

— HOLD —

STAMP AUCTION SALES

- FORTNIGHTLY. -

MONDAY—May 18th, 1903.

Stamps to be included should reach our Offices
14 days prior.

Commission 10%. Minimum Charge 1/6 per lot.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

THE RAREST POSTAGE STAMP IN THE WORLD

Is now on View at

BLUETT & Co.'s PREMISES IN THE CITY.

IT IS A STAMP WHICH IS NOT TO BE FOUND IN THE MOST CELEBRATED COLLECTIONS, AND IS THE ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND KNOWN TO EXIST.

BLUETT & Co. have just purchased a fine Collection of 12,000 distinct varieties WHICH THEY ARE SELLING AT VERY MODERATE PRICES.

BLUETT & Co., Crooked Lane, (Corner of Cannon St.) London Bridge,

(THE OLDEST CITY STAMP DEALERS.

ESTABLISHED 16 YEARS IN THE CITY.)

E.C.

SCOTT'S 1903 Catalogue.

Price, 2/1 from all Dealers,
or 2/5 post-free. **W. T. Wilson**
192, Birchfield Road, BIRMINGHAM.
Sole Wholesale Agent for United Kingdom.
Wholesale Terms on Application.

IMPORTANT SALE OF STAMPS.

A well known dealer having retired (owing to ill-health) I am now disposing of his stock consisting of rare Colonials, U.S.A., European, &c., as well as good useful medium stamps. Many bargains. Liberal discounts. Send for approval book; references required.

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NOTICE.

Special Sale in
Stamp Albums

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AVENUE STAMP COMPANY,
24, Philipot Lane, E.C.

APPROVAL SELECTIONS OF STAMPS,

Well arranged and in good condition at Lowest Prices. Fine Series of Books of most countries, containing shades, perforations, etc. We do not stock New Issues, and consequently can supply the older stamps at reasonable rates. Large Stock of Entire at one-third of Gibbons' Prices.
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TELEPHONE 2136 CENTRAL.

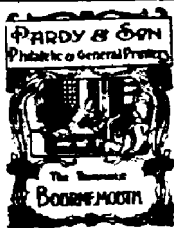
THE 'ROWLAND HILL' SERIES

The only "worth-having" high grade Packet Collection. Sold in 16 Parts.

At 4/- each or £3 complete

Booklet Free.

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BRITISH COLONIALS.

Specialist collections of the following countries, each in separate books.

Barbados.	Newfoundland.
Cape of Good Hope.	New South Wales.
Ceylon.	Tasmania.
Grenada.	Trinidad.
Hong Kong.	Victoria.
Natal.	India.

And others.

These countries have been compiled with as many shades, varieties, etc., as possible, and contains most of the rarities. They are now offered, the average prices for single stamps being under half catalogue.

APPROVAL to RESPONSIBLE COLLECTORS

Box 134, c/o Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

OLD BRITISH COLONIALS

in Mint and perfect used condition, from 3d. to 5/- each, in small Approval Books, each containing about 200 Stamps. Nearly all priced at 60 per cent. to 75 per cent. under Gibbons' catalogue. Will send one on receipt of good reference.

Old Mint British Colonialists Wanted.

"B," Uplands, Swanwick, Hampshire.

50 STAMPS Bargain Packet, Grand Value, Post Free. 6 1/2 d.

Comprising B. Honduras, Transvaal, Soudan, (camel), Java, Deccan, China, Tasmania, (view), Venezuela, Straits, Peru, Great Britain I.R. Official (King's Head), etc., etc. Purchasers of above packet applying for an Approval Sheet will receive Gratis—a set of 3 Tunis. Collections and useful lots of Old B. Colonialists bought. Approval Books and Sheets at 3d. & 6d. in 1/- Discount. Mention Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

PEARCE & STAMFORD,
7, Katharine St., Croydon.

BARGAINS.

POSTAGE EXTRA.

Great Britain, "Army Official," 2 1/2d. Queen, mint	9d.
" " " " 6d. " " "	2/0
" " " " 3d. King " " "	1d.
" " " " 1d. " " "	2d.
S.S. Africa, [1 black and red-brown, fine postally used copy	20/0
Johore, 3c. on 5c., mint (cat. 3/6)	1/8
" " " " 6c., (cat. 2/6)	1/8
Trinidad, 1896, 5d. mint (cat. 4/6)	3/3
British Guiana, 1c. on 2c. mint (cat. 9d.)	4d.
Stanley Gibbons' 1903, Cat. of G. Britain & Colonies	2/0
" " " " Foreign Countries	2/0

Selections Sent on Approval to responsible Collectors.
Wanted:—Loose Lots and Collections for Cash.

W. LACEY, Wholesale & Retail Stamp Dealer,
34, HYTHE ROAD, BRIGHTON, ENGLAND.

Dealers.—See my Monthly Bargain List.

A TIP!

THE CITY STAMP MARKET,
Cophall Avenue, London Wall, E.C.

Four Bargain Shops in 50 yards walk.

The Bargain Hunter's Paradise.
Crowded by Dealers and Collectors picking up bargains. Each Shop can boast of 14,000 varieties. The place to sell, the place to buy. Visit once Cophall Avenue and you will never go west. competition has made it your Market.

BRITISH COLONIALS wanted in exchange, basis Gibbons for Baden, Bavaria, N. German Confederation, Empire, German Colonies, Prussia, Thurn and Taxis, Wurtemberg, &c., and Heligoland Originals.

S. FRENDENSTEIN,
Frankfort-on-Main.

Collector and Member of the Associations Dresden, Gotha, and Frankfort-on-Main.

AN UNIQUE OFFER! 25 British African V.R.I., O.F.S., Transvaal, etc., 50 Foreign, and Duplicate Pocket Book, 1/1.

Argentine, 1892, Columbus, ac.	7d.
Gr. Britain, 5c., King	7d.
S.S. Africa, 2 1/2d.	3d.
Canada, 7c.	4d.
Gold Coast, King, 3/4d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d.	8d.
Hong Kong, 12 and 20c., C.A.	1/3
South Australia, 6d. long	5d.
Transvaal, 1d. commemorative, used	3d.
4 Transvaal, F.R.I., 3/4d. gm., 1d., 3d. & 4d.	10d.
6 Transvaal, King, 3/4d., 1d., 2d., 2 1/2d., 3d. & 6d.	9d.

CITY STAMP CO., 32, Poultry, LONDON, E.C.

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Vol. III. (Nos. 53 to 78) ..	4 9
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Vol. VI. (Nos. 131 to 156) ..	4 9

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"Stamp Collector's Fortnightly,"

63 and 64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

G. HAMILTON-SMITH & CO.,

Stamp Dealers and PHILATELIC PUBLISHERS,

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

Telegraphic Address: "PHILATELIC, LONDON."

Telephone: No. 5596 AVENUE.

SPECIAL OFFERS

		£	s.	d.
GREAT BRITAIN, "O.W. Official," ½d. vermilion, mint	...	1	5	0
" " " " ½d. blue-green, mint	...	2	10	0
" " " " (Kings) 1d. scarlet, mint	...	1	2	6
TRANSVAAL, 1869, 6d., imperf., S.G. No. 2.	...	3	10	0
" 3d. lilac, with red surcharge on pelure paper, a very fine used copy	...	7	10	0
" 6d. on pelure paper, wide roulette	...	2	5	0
" 6d. blue, S.G. No. 66a., a fine unused copy	...	3	10	0
" 3d. lilac on buff, with wide roulette, S.G. No. 106, a very fine used copy	...	4	15	0
" (Lydenburg), ½d. green, unused	...	1	12	0
" " " " 1d. rose, unused	...	1	12	0
O.R.C., 3d. on 4d., S.G. No. 39, mint	...	0	12	0
" " " " 4 ^o , " " " " " " " " " "	...	0	16	0
" halve penny on 3d., mint, block of 4 showing the error "peuny "	...	1	0	0
SEYCHELLES, 3c. on 4c., inverted, mint	...	1	1	0

APPROVAL

WE hold a very fine Stock of USED and UNUSED STAMPS (20,000 Varieties) arranged in nearly 200 large APPROVAL BOOKS.

BOOKS.

The condition of the Stamps is exceptionally fine, and the Prices Reasonable. Selections of any Country will be gladly sent on approval to responsible applicants.

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We have much pleasure in announcing that we have received

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We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 214.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

MESSRS. GLENDINING & Co.,

Fine Art, Numismatic & Philatelic Auctioneers,

THE ARGYLL GALLERY,

7, ARGYLL ST., REGENT ST., W.

(Adjoining Oxford Circus Station).

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Telephone No., 4424, GERRARD.

The next Sale of POSTAGE STAMPS will be held on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, 28th & 29th MAY, 1903, at 4.30 p.m.; and will consist of a FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION broken up into lots, many rare stamps. Catalogues ready shortly and will be posted free on application.

WHY NOT ASK FOR ONE?

Following Stamp Sale, June 11th & 12th, 1903,

Will consist of a SUPERB COLLECTION OF AUSTRALIANS.

Fine Art, Miniature, Plate, Jewellery, etc.

10th JUNE, 1903.

COINS AND MEDALS.

On MAY 26th & 27th, 1903, a Collection of Scotch and English Coins, War Medals and Decorations, including Peninsular, Naval General Service, and Indian Medals; June 16th & 17th, a Collection of *rare* Greek and Roman and Saxon Coins.

LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

ii. Always mention the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY in answering Advertisements.

W. H. PECKITT,

Dealer in Rare Stamps,

47, STRAND, W.C. (Nearly Opposite
Old Address).

RECENT PURCHASE

A Magnificent Collection of 20,000 VARIETIES as all the stamps are in the finest condition and all priced separately, this affords an exceptional opportunity for filling lists of Wants, etc., which will receive very careful attention.

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1903 PRICE LIST POST FREE.

A Fine Assortment of Stamps always on View RANGING FROM NEW ISSUES TO THE
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The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

Published every Alternate Saturday.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club, and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange.

No. 214—Vol. IX

SATURDAY, MAY 23 1903

ONE PENNY

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Philately at Home and Abroad

Symptoms of Summer.

WE are threatened with a real summer this year. Many people feared that this was an institution that had permanently deserted us, but at the moment of writing the sun is shining and there is a summerlike warmth in the air. Many good people, suspiciously minded, have already betaken themselves to the country or the coast, fearful lest a few days may mark the full extent of the summer of 1903. Philatelists are only mortal, and thus first glad burst of sunshine has wretched them from their albums and their stock-books. Thus there is a temporary dullness in things philatelic—a state of affairs that has led to a somewhat attenuated issue of the *Fortnightly*. But if it is smaller than usual, we think the number of the *S.C.F.* the reader now holds in his hands will be found to contain much interesting and important matter.

A Possible Mourning Stamp.

The "mourning stamp" scheme, in this country, has long been looked upon as a thing that sentimental persons might from time to time write to the papers about without the smallest danger of the suggestion ever being adopted by the government. Why any sane person should wish to still further depress this very doleful world by means of a special mourning postage stamp passes our comprehension. Respect for the departed is all very well, but this mourning stamp idea moves the average man to mirth. It reminds him of the old satire concerning the child who went to a grocer's shop for a half pound of tea, and when asked whether she would take black tea or green, replied, hesitatingly, "They didn't say which, but I'd better take black, as its for a funeral!"

In our view, the person who thinks it a fair proposal that he should be supplied with black postage stamps as an outward and visible sign of his grief, might just as reasonably expect black trams and black railway coaches to be put on for his especial benefit.

In America, strange to say, the proposal is taken much more seriously than here. "The Optimist," who supplies the "Metropolitan Philatelist" with all the postal and philatelic chatter of Washington, assures us that prominent officials of the Postal Department are disposed to grant any reasonable request that would be calculated to benefit a considerable number of patrons of the post office, and therefore would be glad to produce a mourning stamp if it seemed a practical suggestion.

Well, well! It may come to this, then—that the leading nations of the earth will produce special mourning stamps of a sombre black. Nicaragua, San Marino, and a few other countries we could mention will doubtless welcome the suggestion. It may be that in 1910 we shall read that "Mr. — the well-known specialist in mourning stamps displayed his fine collection at the last meeting of the — Philatelic Society." And, really, when one comes to think of it, there are quite a quantity of philatelists, even in our little London, whose forlorn physiognomies would seem to mark them out as devotees of this new and cheerful development of our hobby.

The Dick Turpin Style of Journalism.

A new way of getting subscribers for a philatelic journal commends itself to a lady living at Allahabad, India. Mrs. F., the lady in question, has produced a new paper—"tis a poor thing, but her own." The new venture consists of seven pages of advertisements and one page of philatelic reading matter of dubious value: and Mrs. F.'s method of obtaining subscribers is to write to philatelists all over the world as follows: "I have registered you as a subscriber to my paper, at 1s. 4d. yearly, post free. Please remit the above amount to me by return mail and oblige." A London reader of the *Fortnightly*, to whom such a demand was addressed, sends us both the letter and the journal (?) accompanying it, remarking that "it might be well to point out in the *S.C.F.* that there is no onus on anyone receiving such a notification to subscribe." That is obviously so. The whole thing is a cheap "stand-and-deliver" sort of bluff, which one is sorry to see practised by a lady philatelist. It is Dick Turpin with a fountain pen in place of a horse-pistol.

The "British Inland Mail" of Madagascar.

AN AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT BY A BRITISH CONSUL—HOW THE STAMPS WERE PLACED ON THE MARKET—THE FULL STORY OF A SERIES OF WORTHLESS ISSUES.

WE have accumulated such a mass of information relating to these rubbishy local issues of Madagascar that the difficulty is to know what to publish and what to leave untold. We have to acknowledge in the first place, the kindness of Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. in placing at our disposal much interesting correspondence dating back to the time when it was first sought to place these stamps on the philatelic market.

Readers of the *Fortnightly*, if they will turn back to the issues of this journal for 1895, will find many facts relating to these Malagasy gumpaps, which it will not be necessary to recapitulate. There was some correspondence with a firm of publishers and advertising agents, Messrs. John Haddon & Co., who as agents for persons associated with the "British Inland Mail," attempted to sell parcels of these labels to the London and provincial stamp trade. That attempt, largely on account of the *Fortnightly's* condemnation, failed. Messrs. Haddon & Co. could give no satisfactory answers put to them as to the *bona fides* of the issue, and in course of time, as we have already stated, the stamps of the "British Inland Mail" were formally condemned by the Society for the suppression of Speculative Stamps in a public circular, issued from 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Let us say at once that we make no reflections upon Messrs. John Haddon & Co. These people are not stamp dealers; probably they are quite ignorant of all matters relating to stamp collecting. Throughout, they acted solely as agents for other persons, we feel sure they were quite innocent of any intent to deceive or defraud the stamp-collecting community. Now for a brief review of the facts relating to the issue of the stamps of the "British Inland Mail."

First Issue (January, 1895). These are the type-set stamps listed as Nos. 69 to 76 in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' British Empire Catalogue. The stamps of this issue were an entirely private speculation. One cannot even allow them the flimsy excuse that they were brought out under the auspices of the British Consulate. Here is an interesting letter addressed to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. by Mons. Anatole Sauzier, British Consul at Tamatave, under date May 18th, 1895—some four months after the "issue" of the stamps under notice. The letter is a reply to a communication from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. requesting the British Consul to purchase for them a quantity of the British Inland Mail stamps of the January, 1895, issue, *if he deemed the postal service a legitimate and properly authorised one.*

British Consulate, Tamatave, 18th May, 1895.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich, England.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th ulto. with cheque enclosed. In reply I beg to inform you that the British Inland Mail now running between Antananarivo and Vatomantry, a port on the South East Coast of this Island, is not an official postal service at all, but a private speculation undertaken by a syndicate of gentlemen residing at Antananarivo who, in order to facilitate matters, have arranged this Mail Service, and issued the stamps to which your letter refers.

I may also inform you that the Malagasy Government has no postal service at all, and since the departure of the French from the capital there has not been any communication to and from the coast save by special courier or the private mail in question.

Under the circumstances I have not ventured to make the purchase you required. I have, however, kept the cheque in case you should still want the stamps, but I must state that communications between this and Vatomantry or any part of Madagascar is only by sea, and many days and even weeks sometimes elapse before a safe opportunity offers. By the time your reply reaches me I am afraid the French will be very near Antananarivo and the British Inland Mail will be a thing of the past.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

(Signed) ANATOLE SAUZIER.

Now if any one, in face of that letter, still contends that the "British inland Mail" stamps of January 1895 are a *bona fide*, collectable issue of postage stamps in the general acceptation of the words, we can only earnestly advise such a person to consult his medical man forthwith.

At the same time we do not deny them—we never have denied them—the status of a genuine local issue, interesting to collectors of Local Stamps.

Second Issue (March? 1895). If the stamps of the January 1895, emission are worthless the lithographed issue ascribed to March of the same year, (Nos. 78 to 83 in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' British Empire Catalogue) are worse than worthless. We say ascribed to March because it is ridiculous to contend that there was any legitimate "issue" of these stamps at that time—if ever.

From correspondence in our possession it is clear that while the London agents were offering these "stamps" to the trade in the summer months of 1895 they had not been "issued" in Madagascar at all! Some extracts from a letter addressed by a firm of dealers to Messrs. John Haddon & Co. on October 11th, 1895 (after the French troops had occupied Antananarivo!) may be of interest:—

As for the last issue [March, 1895], there is yet no proof that they have been in actual use. . . . The mere fact of your offering the stamps to dealers before any had even been sent out to Madagascar was itself a proof that the stamps were of a speculative nature. If we had unhesitatingly accepted them at first, and then it should have been afterwards proved that they had never been in use, we should have suffered considerably in reputation and in pocket as well.

As the French occupied Antananarivo as long ago as September 13th, the British Inland Mail has doubtless ceased to exist?

Meanwhile, extraordinary efforts had been made by interested parties to give these stamps an appearance of being a genuine issue, worthy the attention of philatelists. Samples of the stamps were placed on envelopes (usually addressed to a Missionary) and after being duly obliterated the entire envelopes were sold for anything they would fetch, but this ingenious *modus op. randi* proved altogether insufficient to make a market for the labels and they were treated with a contumely that apparently was well deserved. In fact there is good reason to believe these stamps were never genuinely issued in Madagascar at all!

In this connection Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. assert that up to October, 1895, the stamps of the so-called "March" issue had not been in actual use for postage, "and," adds our correspondents, "as the French occupied Antananarivo on September 13th of that year, the post would certainly not have existed after that date. Since our correspondence on the subject in 1895 we have heard nothing further concerning these stamps, *nor have we ever seen a bona fide used specimen.* In our opinion none of them were ever sent out to Madagascar."

"Consular Mail" and other Locals. As showing the purely local character of even the most reputable of the "British" Madagascar stamps it may be worth while to quote the following note, which prefaces the list of the stamps of the British Consular Mail given in that world-famous work of reference, the "Catalogue for Advanced Collectors" by Messrs. Collin & Calman.

These stamps prepaid mail matter only to Port Louis (Mauritius) or Reunion where they were replaced by stamps of Mauritius or of the French Colonies, and the Madagascar stamps returned to Antananarivo as vouchers.

Some curious facts regarding the issue of the British Consular Mail stamps, beloved by Major Evans, have come into our possession. It appears that the issue was, from first to last, the private speculation of a British Consular official at Antananarivo, whose name we can, if necessary, publish. It is a fairly open secret, we believe, that this little venture

embroiled the official in question with the heads of the Foreign Office. It was not that he showed too much enterprise, what was objected to was the fact that *all the profits on the sale of the Consular Mail labels* went into the pockets of the one Consular official who planned, promoted and managed the whole business! The £ s. d. question is a very prominent factor in all these issues of local stamps.

OUR CHALLENGE TO MESSRS. GIBBONS.

We think we have said enough to show that these local issues of Madagascar are absolutely worthless. We refer now specially to the sets dated January, 1895, and March, 1895. The British Consular stamps of 1884-86 are perhaps equally open to objection, but they have enjoyed the respect of philatelists for many years and no harm is done by allowing them to retain their place in the catalogue.

The stamps of the "British Inland Mail" are quite another story. A large remainder of this rubbish has been placed on the market—largely on the strength of their being listed in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue. We think it can scarcely be the desire of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, to assist in "playing the game" of those who are seeking to foist these utterly worthless stamps on the philatelic public. Already much mischief has been done—for which, we regret to say, Messrs. Gibbons are to be held mainly responsible.

We now call upon that firm, for the good of Philately—which is a cause they are believed to have at heart—to at once, and publicly, disclaim these issues of Madagascar as stamps entitled to philatelic recognition and respect, and to give an undertaking that they shall not again appear in the "British Empire" section of their catalogue, or indeed in any section other than a volume devoted to Local stamps.

A LAUGH AT THE END.

We may have to refer to this matter again, but in the meantime let us thank Heaven for man's greatest gift, a sense of humour. It tickles us greatly to think that while these miserable bits of gummed paper from Madagascar enjoy all the dignity of a place in Messrs. Gibbons' "British Empire" Catalogue, that fine old local stamp of Trinidad, the famous "Lady McLeod," is relegated to Volume III., "The Local Stamps of the World."

IMPERIAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MEMBERS of this Club are hereby informed that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, the 27th inst., at the Headquarters (Oriental Café, Morley Street, Manchester), at 7 p.m., and as important business is to be transacted it is hoped that a good number of the members will turn up.

W. J. HUGHES, *Hon. Secretary.*

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

March 19th. Discussion — N.S.W., 1884-1903. Mr. H. M. Campbell was unanimously elected a member. Mr. J. H. Smyth was thanked for a contribution to the Permanent Collection and for some interesting particulars which he had obtained for the Society in reference to the printing and perforation of N.S.W. stamps. The ordinary unsurfaced of the 1897 issue and the two different varieties of chalk-surfaced paper has caused us some confusion and it was to clear up this difficulty that the investigations were made.

April 2nd. Paper — New Zealand — Mr. T. W. Peck. Mr. A. Richter was unanimously elected a member. Messrs. L. E. Bradbury, G. Fowler and the Boston Philatelic Societies were thanked for donations to the Library and Mr. C. Wells for some stamps given to the collection.

Mr. Peck then gave an interesting paper on the early issues of N.Z., illustrating his remarks by means of his own collection of superb used and unused, including many mint blocks of the early imperf. and perf.

May 7th. Discussion — Resumé of N.S.W. Messrs. J. N. Marsden, G. Samarakoon, C. G. Fryer, T. W. Peck, J. A. Margoschis, W. Johannidis and H. Grindall were thanked for donations to the Permanent collection. The gifts were specially interesting and will materially assist the Society in making a sufficiently pleasing and instructive collection to help to popularise many countries that members do not now collect. It was encouraging to hear several members present express their determination to take up other countries ready for next session. Among the donations were mint copies of N.S.W. 9d. surcharged in blue and in black, N.Z. 1d. no wmk. imperf. horizontally.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

On Postal Cards and Covers.

BY A SPECIALIST.

Angola.—In addition to the single cards mentioned in my last list, there are replies of both values. Stamp in centre.
10 + 10 reis green.
25 + 25 reis carmine.

Bulgaria.—Mr. Lohmeyer points out in the "Era" that the postal administration of this country appear to be experimenting with tints of paper for the inland card, or using up an accumulation of various tints. When the new type (Prince Ferdinand) was first issued in December, 1901, the Inland card as well as the International was printed on cream coloured card. In July, 1902, about 30,000 was printed on yellow-buff, reverse white, and in August, about the same quantity in grey, reverse white, both being the stock used for the letter cards of 15 and 5 stotinki. The latest arrival received April 3rd, is printed on a semi-transparent blue-grey paper, too thin to be classed as cardboard.

Cape Verde.—Two reply cards have been issued similar to the single cards mentioned last month.
10 + 10 reis green.
25 + 25 reis carmine

France.—The Pneumatic Service has a new letter card printed in carmine on pale blue.

Hong Kong.—There has been a batch of new stationery issued here recently, with the King's Head.
P.C. 1c. dark brown on white.
2c. green on white.
Env. 2c. green on white.
4c. carmine on white.
5c. pale lilac on white.
10c. blue on white.

New Zealand.—I hear there is a new Letter Card of very elaborate design, now in use. The face of the card presents a Coast Scene, with a tall palm in the foreground. There is a King's Head stamp, and an ornamental border, whilst on the reverse is a group of views, also surrounded by a border.
L.C. 1d. violet-brown on greenish.

Portuguese Colonies.—The new issue of cards for the Colonies of Portugal has embraced the whole series, making about sixty new pieces for the collections of those who take them! To save space in listing them, the values may be stated as follows:—

For Angola, Cape Verde, Congo, Guinea, Lourenço Marques, St. Thomas, Mozambique and Zambesia: 10, 10 + 10, 25, 25 + 25 reis.
For Mozambique, additional: 20, 20 + 20 reis.
For Portuguese India: 3, 3 + 3, 5, 5 + 5, 10, 10 + 10, 19 reis, 1, 1 + 1 tanga.
For Macao: 1, 1 + 1, 1½, 1½ + 1½, 4, 4 + 4 avos
For Timor: 1, 1 + 1, 2, 2 + 2, 5, 5 + 5 avos.

There have been also issued three Letter Cards for each colony, 25, 50 and 65 reis for the first series, and 3, 5 and 12 avos for Timor. For India, 6 reis, and 1, 2 and 2½ tanga. For Macao 2, 4, 5 and 10 avos.

Southern Nigeria.—A.G. size of Registration Envelope King's Head, is reported here, but probably only "specimen" copies have yet been seen.

Salvador.—"E.W.S.N." reports a quantity of new stationery which presumably they have seen. The list is as follows:—

P.C.	1c. green, buff card.	140 x 90mm.
	2c. red "	"
	3c. orange "	"
Env.	1c. dark green, buff paper, 159 x 88mm.	
	2c. carmine rose "	"
	3c. orange "	"
	5c. dark blue "	"
	13c. dark brown "	"

United States.—Two new envelopes have recently been issued, the design of which however has provoked much unfavourable comment. The values are 1c. and 2c. and I hope to be able to give a description of them in my next notes. Up to now I have not received copies.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MAY 23, 1903.

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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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.



Wanted, a "White List."

If we have "Black Lists" for the black sheep of the flock, is it not a reasonable proposition that there should also be a "White List" for those whose ways are straight, and whose intentions, in business matters, are honourable and above board?

We have often thought that some scheme similar to the excellent "Reference Book" of our contemporary, the "Bazaar," might with great advantage to all of us be adapted to the philatelic community as a whole, and we are glad to find from recent letters that the idea has also commended itself to several readers of the *S.C.F.* Everyone will admit that some sort of recognised guarantee of a philatelist's reliability and integrity would come as a great boon, not only to each individual philatelist who supported the system, but to Philately as a whole. "It is all this petty swindling more than anything else that drives so many stamp collectors out of the hobby," says one of our correspondents, and we feel that there is a great deal of truth in his declaration.

Will not the readers of the *Fortnightly* please help us to devise some workable scheme?

Several articles are unavoidably held over from this number, as well as our usual Auction Reports, and, we regret to add, one or two Philatelic Societies' Reports. The list of Roumanian Entires, which our "Entires" Editor has been reproducing from Fry's Catalogue of 1886, will be concluded in No. 216 of the *Fortnightly*, dated June 20th.

Blowing its Own Trumpet is not the *Fortnightly's* besetting sin, but we cannot refrain from publishing a remark made by a dealer in the City of London during the past week. "The *S.C.F.*," he declared, "is the paper which gives me the most substantial results from my advertising. I prefer it to all other philatelic journals."

An extraordinary instance of the lengths to which rogues will go is brought to our notice by a prominent provincial philatelist. This gentleman was approached with a view to business by an individual who described himself as "a member of the I.P.U." Our correspondent, having the business acumen that so many philatelists appear to lack, took the precaution of addressing an enquiry to Mr. Hinton, the Hon. Secretary of the I.P.U. Back came Mr. Hinton's answer: "Mr. _____ is not a member of the I.P.U., nor has he ever been! I know nothing of him." Further enquiries were then made, and the address whence the individual wrote was found to be a newsagent's shop where letters are received for a fee of a penny each. Need we point the moral? We think not.

A Bogus Banker's Reference.

AN AMAZING STORY.

WE are able to place before our readers the facts regarding one of the most audacious efforts of perverted genius we have ever encountered. On May 7th, Messrs. W. Somerset & Co., Stamp Dealers, 104, Shaftesbury Avenue, received a letter from one Ruben Hillier, 50, Milton Street, Nottingham, asking for a selection of stamps on approval, the stamps desired being Confederate States, early issues of South and Central Americans, etc.

"I enclose my banker's reference," said Ruben Hillier in concluding his letter.

The "banker's reference" referred to was a written testimonial on a sheet of paper with a printed heading. We reprint the precious thing in full:

THE NOTTINGHAM & MIDLAND BANKING Co., LTD.,
9, Cambridge Street,

Nottingham, May 4th, 1903.

Mr. R. Hillier has been a client of ours for more than seven years: he has upwards of £250 to his credit with us at the present time, and is known to me personally as a man of integrity and honour.

S. L. ARMSTRONG, Manager.

That looks like a glowing testimonial. Coming from such a conservative source as a bank manager it perhaps looks a little too glowing to be true. So, possibly, thought Messrs. W. Somerset & Co., for before sending Mr. Hillier any stamps they wrote a line to the Manager of the Nottingham and Midland Banking Company, asking whether the reference was authentic.

For all reply they received their letter back through the Dead Letter Office, marked "Not to be Found." Absolutely the bank which is supposed to have had Mr. R. Hillier as a valued client for over seven years does not exist—except in Ruben Hillier's fervid imagination. Whether it ever did exist we know not; but one thing is certain—Mr. Ruben Hillier is still without his Confederates and his early issues of South and Central America.

What motive may have actuated Mr. Ruben Hillier we cannot say. Perhaps he comes of an eccentric stock. Perhaps he is merely a practical joke. But this we can, and do, emphatically say—that a man who sends as a reference a glowing eulogium from the manager of a bank that doesn't exist is a man with whom one should do business on the cash-with-order principle only.

A man who can create a bank and a banker's reference is surely wasting his time in such a restricted field as Philately!

Philately in the West Country.

It appears that Bath, a place rich in philatelic traditions, has no Philatelic Society. This is an oversight which Mr. Charles J. Preater and others are seeking to remedy by establishing the "Bath and West of England Philatelic Society"—a sufficiently comprehensive title, by the way!

It is intended that the new Society shall embrace everything in the stamp line—postals, fiscals, entires, telegraphs, and even picture-postcards. Also there will be three classes for beginners, medium and advanced. Any *Fortnightly* reader who is interested in the scheme should write Mr. C. J. Preater, at Monmouth Place, Upper Bristol Road, Bath.

Paltry Philatelic Pilfering.

The substituter and the petty thief are the vermin of Philately, and are held in detestation by all "straight" collectors.

Captain Warry, of Bath, has brought to our notice a despicable case of petty pilfering from a sheet of stamps sent by him on approval to an individual living at Weymouth. The case is a trivial one so far as the mere money question is concerned, but a serious principal is involved. It is the bounden duty of every philatelist to bring these things to light, and in the present case, if a prosecution cannot be undertaken, we shall at least hope that Captain Warry will lay the whole facts of the matter before the Stamp Trade Protection Association.

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations in the postal issues of the world. We shall welcome any information that readers at home or abroad can send us, and (unless a request to the contrary be expressed) the fullest acknowledgment will be given.

Cape of Good Hope.—The 6d. value of the King's Head series is illustrated hereunder:—



Ceylon.—The 3 cents value must be added to our chronicle of the King's Head series. An illustration is given above.

Eritrea.—The "Segnatasse" stamps of Italy are being surcharged "Colonia Eritrea" in the same way as the ordinary adhesives. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have kindly sent us specimens.

France.—The 25 centimes of the new series is now to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

"Sower" type: 25c. blue.



Germany.—The new official stamps, of which copious advance descriptions have been printed, are now available. We have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for the following values:—

- 5 pfennig green.
- 10 " carmine.
- 20 " blue.
- 25 " red on yellow.
- 40 " black and crimson

Gibraltar.—From Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich, and from Mr. C. B. Beanland, of "Gib.," we have received specimens of the following novelties:—

- King's Head series.*
- ½d. green.
 - 1d. brown on red.
 - 2d. green and carmine.
 - 2½d. blue.
 - 6d. mauve.
 - 1/- black and carmine.
 - 2/- green.
 - 4/- lilac and green.
 - 8/- lilac and black on blue.
 - 20/- lilac and black on red.

The stamps of 2/- and upwards are of much greater size. All are inscribed "Postage and Revenue," and the separate issue of revenue stamps hitherto in use will now become obsolete.

As regards the 2½d. stamp of the King's Head series a correspondent on the spot, "Gibraltarian Philatelist," writes us as follows:—

There has been a big run on this value as the inscription reading 2½ "penny" instead of 2½ "pence" is popularly believed to be a mistake, instances being brought forward in the shape of the stamps of Cape of Good Hope, St. Vincent both surcharged and subsequent value issued, and Heligoland value 2½d. in which the inscription reads "2½ pence," though on the other hand there are many Colonies such as Barbados, Turks Islands, Sierra Leone, &c., in which it reads "2½ penny." Both ways can hardly be correct, and indeed it would be rather an interesting question to thrash out.

Hyderabad Deccan.—An addition to the existing list is sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.
½ anna, blue.

India.—Illustrations are now given of three more of the King's Head stamps, the 2½, 4 and 8 annas.



New South Wales.—We have to thank Mr. A. J. Paxton, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., and a correspondent who writes over the pen-name "Laertes," for specimens of the new 2/6 stamp.

New Zealand.—The 4d. now comes to hand with the watermark single N.Z.

Nicaragua.—The new stamps for this Central American Republic are for reason dated July 11th, 1893. What event of special importance to Nicaragua occurred on that day we shall doubtless learn in good time.



Nyassa.—The gorgeous giraffe and dromedary stamps of the 1901 set are being subjected to the indignity of surcharging. Here are five provisionals just to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., and doubtless there will be others.

- 15 reis black and brown, surcharged "Provisorio."
- 25 " " " " " " 65 "reis."
- 80 " " mauve " " " 115 "reis."
- 150 " " brown " " " 130 "reis."
- 300 " " green " " " " " " " " " " "

San Marino.—This petty Italian Republic has worsted its previous worst in the postage stamp line by the issue of a set of the sorriest daubs it has ever been our melancholy duty to chronicle. The stamps range from 2 centesimi up to 5 lire, the colours and values being:—

- 2 centesimi, mauve. 40c. deep orange.
- 5 " green. 45c. yellow.
- 10 " lake. 65c. brown.
- 20 " orange. 1 lire sage green.
- 25 " blue. 2 " violet.
- 30 " dull rose. 5 " slate blue

The stamps are watermarked with a crown. A quaint device, truly, for a Republic. A ballot box would be far more in keeping. The crown seem to be very irregularly spaced, and one gets nearly two of them to each stamp.

While the 2 centesimi stamp has for its chief feature a large numeral of value, all the others from the 5 centesimi upwards are adorned with a sample of the scenery of San Marino. If only the stamps were of a larger size there would almost be room to illustrate the whole republic.

Tasmania.—The 9d. blue (type of 1870) with watermark "V and Crown" is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

9d. blue, wmk. V and Crown.

Coming Events in Philately.

Tuesday and Wednesday, May 26th and 27th, Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Auction Sale at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C.

Thursday and Friday, May 28th and 29th, Messrs. Glendinning & Co.'s Auction Sale, at the Argyll Gallery, 7, Argyll Street, Regent Street, W.

Tuesday and Wednesday, June 9th and 10th, Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's last Stamp Sale of the Season, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C.

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the last meeting Mr. G. Lionel Campbell was appointed Hon. Librarian of the Society in place of Mr. North. Mr. Campbell's address is 37, Duke Street, Southport.

"STAMPS" EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

THE May packets started on their journey last week as follows:—
 Colonial and European £618 3s. 7d.
 General £186 13s. 9½d.

They contain a splendid assortment of all countries (except the European) priced very moderately.

The December packets are expected to return from their long travels in a few days, the sales being very good. Further details later.

Six members not yet having paid their September accounts must not expect to see any more packets until all arrears are settled; in future, if members will comply with Rule 18, all accounts will be paid within a fortnight of a packet's return.

There are now 118 members on the books, but, as they do not all contribute regularly, philatelists wishing to exchange good stamps will be welcomed. First-class references only.

Hon. Secretary, T. B. WINDOWSON, 22, Lincoln St., Leicester. (Member, S.E.P.S.).

THE COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

THE 92nd Meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the club house on Monday evening, April 15th. Present: Messrs. Andreini, Dewing, Luff, Rich, Scott and Perrin.

The report of the judges on the exhibition of the stamps of Russia, Finland and Poland was approved.

The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance in bank of \$417.91 exclusive of reserve fund, was approved as read.

The judges on the special exhibition of 100 Australian stamps reported as follows:—

"Gentlemen: Your committee appointed to examine 100 Australian stamps in competition for prizes offered by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., beg to report that three collections were entered for competition, but that just previous to your committee's examination of the collections one was withdrawn. Of the two collections examined, the one marked "W.H.H.," the property of Mr. W. H. Hendrickson, has been found by us to be the most valuable and we have therefore awarded to that collection the first prize.

"The second prize we have awarded to the collection of Mr. John N. Luff.

"There being no third collection in competition, we cannot, of course, make any award for the third prize. We are, yours truly,
 J. M. Andreini, Jos. S. Rich."

The above report was accepted.

Moved, seconded and carried that the President appoint a committee, of which he shall be president, to devise rules for the governing of future competitive exhibitions.

The committee appointed is as follows: Messrs. J. M. Andreini, John N. Luff, Albert Perrin, Jos. S. Rich, John W. Scott.

ALBERT PERRIN, Secretary, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

THE FISCAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING was held on May 7th. Present: Mr. Schwabacher (chair), Messrs. Crofton, Fulcher, Marsh, Morley, South, Thompson, Thomson, Wetherell and Kay.

Messrs. W. Hadlow (London) and G. T. Richardson (London) were duly elected members.

Among the scarce stamps shown were: Mr. Langlois, several unchronicled Indian; W. Morley, Great Britain 2/- Hat Tax on original lining and Queensland 1880, no wmk., thick paper, 1/- green (not a proof); W. Schwabacher, San Sebastian Notarial 5 peso, provisional; H. N. Terrett, Bolivar 1865, 500 peso, provisional; E. W. Wetherell, sheets of Mysore Stamps.

An interesting paper of "Notes on Indian Fiscals" was read by C. S. F. Crofton and an unanimous vote of thanks for the same was passed.

The revenues of India and States were then discussed and catalogued.

Next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 28th, at 6.30, at 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, when Tasmania, Tobago, Transvaal, Trinidad, &c., will be taken.

Members will oblige by sending additions or corrections to the published lists, so as to make the catalogue as complete as possible before issue.

All interested in fiscal stamps should apply for Rules and information to the Hon. Sec., A. B. KAY, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London, W.

"BRITISH-AFRICAN" STAMP EXCHANGE.

WE are requested to state that the Secretary, MR. CHARLES J. ENDLE, is now to be addressed at "Kingsburgh," Donoughmore Road, Boscombe, Hants.

Philatelists interested in Colonials are invited to join the "British-African" Club. The Monthly Packets contain a good variety of medium and cheap stamps at low prices, including many scarce issues and novelties. Membership is open to both ladies and gentlemen.

JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE Fourth Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, 16th May, at Clapham Hall.

The Hon. Secretary's report, which showed a very successful season, was adopted. The financial statement showed a satisfactory balance. The membership numbers 79. There have been held 15 ordinary meetings and a Conversation and Dance, the average attendance being 17. During the season the collection of English stamps formed by Mr. Ernest Heginbottom, B.A., of Rochdale, has been displayed in parts, and the kindness of that gentleman has been highly appreciated by the members.

The Exchange Branch has made excellent progress during the year. The total value of packets circulated was £324 18s. 0d. The sales amounted to £62 7s. 4d. The net system of pricing is adopted by this Society and it has proved entirely satisfactory.

The Dulwich Branch of the Society has started a local Exchange Packet and a programme of at least six meetings is being arranged for next season. Collectors residing in and about Dulwich and desiring further particulars should communicate with the General Secretary.

The following is a list of the officers elected for the ensuing year.

President: Mr. Fred J. Melville.

Vice-Presidents: Mr. W. Darwen and Mr. B. W. H. Poole.

Committee: Messrs. Jas. Feeney, C. J. Patman, C. B. James, W. A. Bois, R. Halliday, F. Clayden, A. McCallum and Crosby Blumsum.

Hon. Librarian: Mr. W. Fahy, 18, Brayburne Avenue, Clapham, S.W.

Hon. Solicitor: Mr. R. Ralph, 14, South Grove, Grays Inn, W.C.

Hon. Counterfeit Detector: Mr. Charles Nissen, 77-78, High Holborn, W.C.

Hon. General Secretary and Exchange Superintendent: Mr. Herbert F. Johnson, 9, Lorne Terrace, South Lambeth Road, S.W.

It has been decided to commence a Forgery Collection, donations for which will be thankfully received.

MARTIN, RAY & Co., Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents,

LONSDALE CHAMBERS,

CHANCERY LANE, W.C.,

— HOLD —

STAMP AUCTION SALES - FORTNIGHTLY. -

Monday ..	May 25th
Monday ..	June 8th
Monday ..	June 22nd
Monday ..	July 6th

Stamps to be included should reach our Offices
14 days prior.

Commission 10%. Minimum Charge 1/6 per lot.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**
 Literari; 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 (the last of the Season), will take place on
JUNE 9th and 10th, and will consist of a

Fine Selection of all Countries.

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sales for the Season 1903-1904, have been fixed as follows: 1903—September 29 and 30; October 13 and 14, 27 and 28; November 10 and 11, 24 and 25; December 8 and 9. 1904—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27; May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8.

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 past seasons.
 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:
 TELEPHONE No. 1561, GERRARD.
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The Collectors' Vade-Mecum.

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- "On Collecting" and "On Collectors."
- "The U.P.U. and Postcards."
- "Storage and Display."
- "Commemoratives."
- "Hints to Collectors," &c., &c.

READY IN JUNE.

Published by

SCOTT & WILSON, Reginald Mount, Leeds.

Owing to the Expiration of our Lease at 104, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W., on June 24th, 1903, we are selling all our stock of Stamps at 25% discount off our usual prices, and we shall offer in each issue of the "S.C.F." up to that date special bargains at sale prices. MAKE A NOTE of what we offer and apply at once, as in most cases we only have one or two in stock.

Notice.—A few of the Stamps advertised in the last No. of the S.C.F. are still unsold. Application should be made at once.

CEYLON—		Unused.		Used		VICTORIA—		Unused.		Used	
		S.	d.	S.	d.			S.	d.	S.	d.
1857-59, white paper, wmk. Star, imperf.							Type B.				
3d. green		6	9			1d. bright red				15	0
1863-67, wmk. Crown C.C., perf. 12½.						1d. brown-rose				3	6
1d. bistre-brown		15	0			1d. dull brick red				5	0
3d. rose		7	6			1d. rose		11	3	2	0
1872-80, wmk. Crown C.C., perf. 14.						Envelope with 2 strips of gum on it				17	6
3d. slate		13	0			Type A.					
3d. blue		12	0			3d. blue				7	6
6d. drab		9	6			3d. deep blue				4	0
1881-84, wmk. Crown C.C., perf. 14.						Type B.					
10c. lilac		15	0			3d. pale blue				2	3
<i>Surcharged in Black.</i>						3d. deep				2	3
1894, wmk. Crown C.C., perf. 14.						3d. indigo				2	0
5c. on 3c. slate		0	6			GREAT BRITAIN					
5c. .. 3c. blue		0	5			<i>Post Office Telegraphs.</i>					
5c. .. 18c. carmine		7	6			1880, 3d. vermilion		1	6	1	0
5c. .. 6d. red-brown		0	6			Block of 12		30	0		
5c. .. 6c. drab (perf. with Firm's initials)		0	0			1876, 1d. red-brown		2	0	0	0
<i>Surcharge inverted.</i>						Block of 18		75	0		
3c. on 3c. blue		7	6			1876, 3d. carmine, spray		3	9	3	0
Wmk. Crown C.C., perf. 14.						1881 crown		17	6	9	0
5c. on 4c. rose		0	3			1877, 4d. sage-green		9	0	2	8
5c. .. 8c. orange-yellow		0	3			1877, 6d. grey, spray		6	0	2	3
5c. .. 16c. lilac		0	10			1876, 1½ green		7	6	2	3
1895-88, wmk. Crown C.C., perf. 14.						1880, 1½ salmon, spray		15	0		
5c. on 8c. lilac		0	1			1881 crown		15	0	6	0
UT. BRITAIN—ARMY OFFICIAL.						1877, 3 slate-blue, spray		37	6	2	8
6d. King's Head		1	6			1876, 5c. rose, cross		45	0	2	3
1d. Ditto Queen		1	0			1877, 10c. grey-green				5	8
VICTORIA—1859, Gibbons' Type A.						1877, £1 brown-lilac				11	3
1d. brown-red		13	6			1877, £5 orange				52	6
1d. orange-vermilion		11	3								

Send for our Sale Price List.

SELECTIONS OF STAMPS sent on Approval on receipt of cash only, except to our regular Customers or Applicants giving satisfactory references.

W. SOMERSET & Co.,
 104, SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, LONDON, W.,
 AND 179, MOUNT VIEW ROAD, PINSBURY PARK, LONDON, N.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

Rate: 3 Words a Penny.

6 insertions for the price of 5.
12 insertions for the price of 9.
26 ins. (whole year) for the price of 18.

WANTED FOR CASH.—Northern Nigeria, Queen, 4d. to 10/-; Transvaal, 2/- brown and black. Various rupee values, Seychelles, British East Africa, Uganda. Also other African and British Colonial stamps. F. J. DURRANT, East House, Romford, Essex.

COLLECTOR desires exchange and wants a good collection for cash. 1,000 well mixed stamps 6d., post free.—SIDNEY, 32, Norbury Court Road, Streatham, S.W.

NIGER COAST 1d. on half of 2d., 25/-; British East Africa, Stanley Gibbons' 51, 25/-; 94, 15/-; 98, 12,6; Antigua 24d., C.C., 27/-, all unused. Other rarities.—COLLECTOR, St. Philip's Vicarage, Southport.

EBOR STAMP EXCHANGE.—No subscription entrance fee or fines, nett prices, medium stamps. New edition rules now in press. SECRETARY, 15, Clifton Street, Leeds.

J.D. GREEN QUEEN'S HEAD L.R. Official 3-2 doz.; 3 pies Patiala, cat. 6d., 1/6 doz.—HINE, Grosvenor Road, Headingley, Leeds.

SCANDINAVIANS, mint unused, Specialist's Collection for sale, all the great rarities included. Condition exceptional. Correspondence solicited.—WITBY, No. 1 Novotsherkaskaya, St. Petersburg (Member, Dresden).

INVERTED V.R.I. on Transvaal, 4d. and 1d. at 12/6 each; 24d., 6d. and 1/- at 3/- each. Mint or used.—J. S. ROE, Halesworth, Suffolk.

VIEW POST CARDS, artistically got up, packet twenty different, 7d. post free; separately, 1/6.—HUDSON & Co., 4, Hanover Grove, Leeds.

OUR Defiance Parcel contains Stamp Albums, packet each European, Asiatic, American, Colonials and Mounts, 6d. post free.—HUDSON & Co., Hanover Grove, Leeds.

BATH AND WEST OF ENGLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.—Members wanted. Rules from Sec., C. J. PREATER, Monmouth Place, Bath.

BRITISH Pictorial Post Cards in colours, grand lot, 28 different, 7d.; 130 assorted, 1/6 post free; abroad extra.—LEWTHWAITE, Printer, Egremont, Cumberland.

JOIN the Junior Stamp Club at once. No fees during June.—Rules, SECRETARY, 49 Kestrel Avenue, Herne Hill.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Error, 14d., lettered OP., PC., a nice copy, a bargain at 35/-.—Below.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Wanted for cash, every description of overprinted Postage Stamps, large or small quantities. Quotations invited.—KERR, 81, Comely Bank Avenue, Edinburgh.

EXCHANGE wanted with medium collectors, Britain and Colonials only, on basis of Gibbons' catalogue.—R. FITCH, Box 330, Christchurch, New Zealand.

BRITISH Stamps for Sale, all issues, values, plate numbers, 20/- Crowns, Oibs; 5/-, 10/-, 20/- Cross and Anchor; 5/- Officials, Post Office Telegraphs, rare shades, postmarks, pairs, &c. Perfect Specimens. Approval. References.—SPECIALIST, 5, Little Trinity Lane, E.C.

BRITISH African Club circulates Colonial stamps from all parts of the world. Established 1877.—CHAS. J. ENGLE, Secretary, Kingsburgh, Boscombe, Bournemouth.

CONTINENTALS, Good Mixtures, suit small dealers, 10,000 for 1/9, post free, Cash with order. IMPERIAL STAMP EXCHANGE, LTD., 56, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

JAMES BENNETT, Stoke Bishop, near Bristol, still has left about £8,000 worth of his old stock of stamps, which he wishes to clear out shortly; and after 45 years dealing retire. He begs to refer Dealers and Members of Clubs to his advertisement in these columns of last October, November, and December, and to say that he still allows excessive discounts, and puts 10/-, 1s., 1/3, &c. packets cheaper than ever.

WHOLESALE Price List of Indian Foreign stamps sent post free.—R. J. HASSAM, 51, Samuel Street, Bombay, India.

PIEDMONT EXCHANGE CLUB.—Few members wanted. Good stamps.—103, Piedmont Road, Plumstead.

ANY single Stamp at wholesale price. Selections, priced low, sent on approval. Discount and handsome present to purchasers.—LEY, 38, Gracechurch Street, London.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE. Bought, Sold, Exchanged.—*Fortnightly*, Volumes 1 to 7; "Stamps," Volumes 2 to 5, 2/3 each; "Gibbons' Monthly Journal," Volumes 4, 5, 6, 9 to 12, 3/- each. All post free.—R. H. APPELEY, 8, Co-operative Terrace, Sunderland.

SET of 2d. blue plate numbers, price 1/4 post free. Book of very fine English now on sale.—KERR AND LANHAM, Chichester Rents, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

GOLD COAST, 10 s. 3d., 6d., 1/-, 2/-, 5/-, 10/-, the six 9/-.—HEWES, Cholton-cum-Hardy.

THE Premier Stamp Exchange. Members required. Particulars from SECRETARY, 7, Cosbycote Avenue, Herne Hill, S.E.

GREATEST Rarities, rare and medium British Colonials, unused or used, priced under half Gibbons. Send approval against serious references.—BERNARDINA GARCIA, Barriograciense, Barcelona, Spain.

REPORT FOR 1902 OF THE OTTERDALE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB now ready and post free on application. Gross sales last year £1,323 18s. 9d. Advanced philatelists (not dealers) with good duplicates invited to join.—G. HERBERT DANNATT Secretary and Founder, (Member, Stamp Exchange Protection Society), Lyndale, Blackheath, London, S.E.

"BRITISH EMPIRE" EXCHANGE. Two Packets monthly. References, Prompt settlements monthly. Reports in this Paper.—Secretary, H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

ADVERTISER has divided a very large Collection of British Colonials, each country into separate books. Specimens priced singly at half Gibbons. Nearly all the old and rarest issues complete. Many mint. Also small approval books of mixed Colonials at one-third to two-fifth Gibbons. All fine copies. Any book on Approval. References.—Box 134, c/o Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

FISCALS.—Those wishing to sell, purchase, or exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London.

COLLECTOR specializing has a nice lot of medium Colonials for Sale, especially African, West Indies and Australian. Selections on approval. References required. Wanted Barbados.—FRANK H. MADISON, St. Neots, Hunts.

WANTED.—Gibbons' Imperial Album, 8th Edition, in good binding, with or without stamps in.—A. DRESSER, Bexleyheath, Kent.

RED Penny Plates.—Wanted Mint Pairs, 74 88, 105, 133, 210, 225.—MR. EARL NEWCASTLE, Staff.

RARE Gold Coast.—1804 20/-, 2/4; 1900 5/-, 3/-. Fine picked copies.—TAYLOR BROS., 19, Sweeting Street Liverpool.

GENUINE Bargains—1000 British Colonials, etc., 1/1; 13 Nyassa, 1901, Giraffe complete, 2/6 set; 50 Spain, 1/1. Retail price list post free. Stamps bought offers requested.—WILLIAM STAMP CO., 120, Leadenhall Street, London.

"UNUSED" STAMP EXCHANGE. No subscription or fines. Commission 2½ per cent on members sales who purchase 5/- value.—Secretary, H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, London.

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How useful you would find an Album with movable leaves, to which you can add pages which grow with your collection. The "Premier" is this and more. It has best quality paper, lino-jointed leaves, neat cover and is handy size. Regular half-crown value. 2vo. size, 110, 4to. size, 150. Post free.—MANNING & KING, 30, Victoria Road, Tottenham, London.

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BARGAINS.

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British South Africa, 1901, 2d. brown	2d.
" " " " " " " " " " " "	2½d.
" " " " " " " " " " " "	3d.
" " " " " " " " " " " "	4d.
" " " " " " " " " " " "	6d.
Canada, 1875, 50 cent blue (cat. 1-)	6d.
" " Jubilee, 2 dollars value	3 0
Cape of Good Hope, 1864, 1/- (cat. 8d.)	2d.
" " " " " " " " " " " "	9d.
Gold Coast, 2/- green and carmine	1 8
" " " " " " " " " " " "	3 0
" " 20/- lilac and black on red	2 6

All the above are fine postally used specimens.

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All used, in good condition.

3d. green	2 0 per dozen.
4d. salmon	2 6 " "
6d. green	3 0 " "
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8 various Bulgaria, 1901 .. .	2/6 per 12 sets.
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80pf. " " " " .. .	2 6 " "

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Ceylon, 5d. perf. 13, no wmk., used, very fine ..	17 6
" " 6d.	10 -
B. Bechuanaland, 1887, 2 - mint	2 7
" " " " " " " " " " " "	12 -
" " " " " " " " " " " "	15 -
Canada, 1868, 1c. orange, mint	9 -
" " " " " " " " " " " "	20 -
Crete, 2 drachma, black surcharge, mint ..	3 -
" " " " " " " " " " " "	6 3
" " " " " " " " " " " "	5 -
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" " " " " " " " " " " "	9d.
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" " " " " " " " " " " "	3 -
Newfoundland, Cabot, 30cts., mint	1 9
" " " " " " " " " " " "	2 -

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IMPORTANT SALE OF STAMPS.

A well known dealer having retired (owing to ill-health) I am now disposing of his stock consisting of rare Colonials, U.S.A., European, &c., as well as good useful medium stamps. Many bargains. Liberal discounts. Send for approval book; references required.

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THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 215.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1903

ONE PENNY.

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FORTNIGHTLY.

With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

Published every Alternate Saturday.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club, and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange.

No 215 -- Vol IX

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1903

ONE PENNY

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Philately at Home and Abroad

A Complaint against a Captain.

FROM Mr. C. Soobrahmonee Iyer, of Attungal, in the State of Travancore, we have received a letter of complaint, alleging curious behaviour on the part of a Captain in the Indian Army. The Captain, whose name we shall not at present publish, invited Mr. Iyer to send him sheets of stamps on approval. This was done, but the rest is silence. Mr. Iyer can get no answer of any sort to the numerous "reminders" he has sent, and a letter of inquiry directed to the Secretary of the Philatelic Society of India, has brought the not very comforting information that the Captain's name was removed from the Society's list of members many months ago. It is to be hoped that this very easy-going Army Officer, both for his own good and in the interests of Philately, will awaken to a sense of his responsibilities before further action becomes necessary.

The Need for Protection.

It must be patent to every constant reader of the *Fortnightly* that philatelists, both amateur and professional, have to contend against a rapacious horde of swindlers and wastrels, who make a special mark of the too-confiding stamp men. The need for an organised protective system becomes more pressing every day, and therefore it must be a matter of grave concern that the Society to which we have so often drawn attention in these columns, the Stamp Trade Protection Association, Limited, is in danger of dying from sheer lack of support. The notorious apathy of philatelists towards projects started to foster their best interests was

never more strikingly exemplified than in connection with the S.T.P.A. If the work of this excellent Society is lost to us through the narrow-mindedness or the parsimony of the stamp-dealing and stamp-collecting public, then we can only say it will be a crying scandal, to say nothing of the gross ingratitude towards the directors and the secretary, who have laboured so devotedly for the good of Philately.

Philatelists, as a class, wax mightily indignant over the Malcolm Campbells and the Ruben Hilliers of Philately, but what steps do they take to check the depredations of these gentry? Absolutely none! For the most part they neglect the elementary precautions of business life. Either they do not, or they will not, see that a Philatelic Protection Society strongly and generally supported would make the operations of such men impossible. It is deplorable. Who can help those who decline to be helped?

Fiscals to the Fore.

Some time ago the *Fortnightly* gave currency to a rumour that one of our leading stamp-dealing firms would shortly embark in the Fiscal business. It seemed unbelievable—almost fantastically so; but the information was given us from such a quarter that we knew it was communicated in perfect good faith, whether authentic or not.

Since that time, we have had many enquiries, mainly, of course, from fiscalists, as to the identity of the firm that contemplated such a plunge. For the present, however, we are able to add nothing to what has been already published in the *S.C.F.*, our informant having stipulated that no names should at present be given.

A Man of Many Names.

Our Birmingham contemporary, the "Philatelic Chronicle," alleges that a certain philatelist of Bucharest, one A. Antonescu, trades under some thirteen different descriptions from as many different addresses. The "Chronicle" imputes no fraudulent intent, but simply comments on the singularity of Mons. Antonescu's mode of procedure. Yet even in England such protean phenomena are not unknown! Aye, even in Birmingham—where the "Philatelic Chronicle" is published—there are interesting instances of the same kind of thing. How often does "the thing that is nearest" escape our observation, while we are straining our eyes to see what those horrid foreigners are up to!

The "British Inland Mail" of Madagascar.

MR. H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN AND MR. H. W. BARON TAKE UP THE DEFENCE OF THESE MUCH MALIGNED LABELS.—THE SILENCE OF MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS.

WE have received the following letters from Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen and Mr. Herbert W. Baron, respectively. We publish them practically without comment:

DEAR SIR,—

I am glad to see you have at last stated your case against the British Inland Mail stamps of Madagascar, and I am therefore now able to reply for the defence.

You charge them with being "worthless issues" and "rubbishy locals," but your evidence seems to me to prove the very reverse. Take, for instance, the two following quotations from your article:

Page 42, par. iv.—"The stamps of this issue [1st] were an entirely private speculation; one cannot even allow the flimsy excuse that they were brought out under the auspices of the British Consulate."

Page 42, par. vii.—"We do not deny them [1st issue]—we never have denied them—the status of a genuine local issue, interesting to collectors of local stamps."

How do you reconcile these statements? I can only explain them on the hypothesis that you had no clear conception of your own indictment. Surely the terms "private speculation," "rubbishy locals" and "genuine local issue" are not synonymous.

Secondly, I take the following remarks relating to the large stamps issued from 1884 to 1886.

Page 42, par. xv.—"It appears that the issue was, from first to last, the private speculation of a British Consular official at Antananarivo."

Page 43, par. ii.—"The British Consular stamps of 1884-86 are perhaps equally open to objection, but they have enjoyed the respect of philatelists for many years and no harm is done by allowing them to retain their place in the catalogue."

If anyone grants that you believed the first paragraph when you wrote it, he must also question very strongly the judicial acumen displayed in the second. A comparison of these two paragraphs suggests that your real reason for condemning the British Inland Mail stamps is the fact that a considerable number of the two 1895 series have recently come on the market at about face value and consequently very much under catalogue prices. Were it not known that the *S.C.F.* has a reputation for fair play and is not published in the interests of any one particular dealer, I should have gone so far as to suggest that the attack was due to jealousy of those who secured the stock. I do not however propose to make "sour grapes" the key-note of this defence. *A wise decision!* [Ed. *S.C.F.*]

Thirdly, I ask you to compare the two extracts from your article:—

Page 42, par. ii.—"There was some correspondence with a firm of publishers and advertising agents, Messrs. John Haddon & Co., who, as agents for persons associated with the "British Inland Mail," attempted to sell parcels of these labels to the London and provincial stamp trade. That attempt, largely on account of the *Fortnightly's* condemnation, failed. Messrs. Haddon & Co. could give no satisfactory answers put to them as to the *bona-fides* of the issue."

Page 42, par. iii.—"Let us say at once that we make no reflections upon Messrs. John Haddon & Co. These people are not stamp dealers; probably they are quite ignorant of all matters relating to stamp collecting. Throughout, they acted solely as agents for other persons."

May I suggest that the second paragraph explains the first, and that it would be fairer to substitute for "Messrs. Haddon & Co. could give no satisfactory answers" the less misleading expression "had no information on the subject." That is to say, if their answer was not satisfactory, it was also not unsatisfactory or you would have quoted it in your indictment. If the truth were known, this firm was probably the one who contracted to supply the stamps and I fail to see any reason why they should not have received authority to sell them to dealers. The early Transvaal stamps were printed in Germany and the printer had authority to supply in this way. Whether or no the sale to collectors was conducted irregularly is however a side issue and does not affect the question of the status of the stamps.

On this point I quote the letter addressed by M. Anatole Sauzier, British Consul at Tamatave, to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., which they allowed you to reproduce.

Page 42, par. v.—"I may also inform you that the Malagasy Government has no postal service at all, and since the departure of

the French from the capital there has not been any communication to and from the coast save by special courier or by the private mail in question."

This is almost equivalent to saying that the "British Inland Mail" furnished the only mail service. It is also evident that it took the place of the French mail, and was in turn superseded by it when the French again entered Antananarivo in September, 1895. The British Inland Mail stamps therefore succeeded the French Colonial series ("Commerce" type) and were in turn followed by them, or the series "Madagascar and Dependencies." M. Sauzier's letter may therefore be considered to prove that the mail service was a genuine one, established for the bona-fide purpose of carrying letters between Antananarivo and the coast, and no one can doubt that the stamps were employed in a bona-fide manner for the prepayment of such correspondence.

If the stamps were employed in connection with a genuine mail and that mail the only one by which over-sea letters could be forwarded, surely they are a bona-fide issue fully entitled to their place in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue.

Unless the Post Office of a country becomes a member of the Universal Postal Union or, alternatively, enters into separate agreements with the Post Offices of other countries, its stamps are not recognised outside its own territory. For instance, in the old days before the establishment of the Postal Union, British stamps were at first only available for use in the United Kingdom. The 1d. black was never during its life-time recognised anywhere beyond the confines of the United Kingdom.

In 1847 a special agreement was made with the United States to accept letters prepaid with stamps and the "1/- Octagonal" was issued principally for this purpose, the single letter rate being 1/-. Similar agreements continued to be made with other countries until the Postal Union did away with the necessity for them. In countries where such agreements do not exist, stamps are available for local use only, but collectors have never based their definition of a local stamp on this fact. I should myself define the conception "local post" as a "subsidiary post which delivers as well as collects its own letters." Most "subsidiary" posts are in private hands, hence "local post" and "private post" are sometimes looked upon as synonyms, but this is inaccurate. The various Cantonal stamps of Switzerland were local in one sense but are saved by the distinction "subsidiary." They preceded the federal issue. The local 1sk. of 1856 for Stockholm is rightly included in Gibbons' catalogue, part II., because no other stamp could have been used instead; the regular set commenced at 3sk. The various issues of the Colombian departments are also in one sense local, but they can hardly be defined as subsidiary. It is part of the postal system of Colombia to separate its revenues from internal and external correspondence and both are of equal importance; neither is subsidiary to the other.

M. Sauzier's letter establishes the fact that the British Inland Mail was most certainly not a subsidiary post, and as it did not deliver its own correspondence (it carried letters between Antananarivo and the Coast—I never heard of it carrying any but sea-going letters), it cannot be considered as local even to the extent of collecting and delivering its own letters.

I maintain also that the British Inland Mail was not a private post entirely without official authority, but as you do not support this allegation with any evidence, I do not feel called upon to discuss the matter.

Yours faithfully,

H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN.

Mr. Ewen apparently proves to his own satisfaction—though emphatically not to ours—that the stamps of the "British Inland Mail" are issues deserving the countenance and respect of all philatelists. He is entitled to his opinion (which we daresay he honestly holds) but we have some confidence in leaving the matter to the individual judgment of the reader. Meantime, Mr. Herbert W. Baron writes as follows:—

DEAR SIR,—

I have read your comments from time to time on the stamps of Madagascar, with much interest, but as I hold probably a larger stock of these in all issues than any one else in the country, I have refrained from taking part in the controversy. But as some of the statements in your issue are incorrect, I think perhaps I had better

say a few words on their behalf, even at the risk of being styled "an interested party."

Locals they possibly are, but so far as I can learn Locals with a franking power from Antananarivo to Durban, a fairly wide "locality" surely, but why call them "rubbishy"? Their life was certainly short, owing to the French entering Antananarivo within a few months of their issue; otherwise like the poor, they might have been still with us. My remarks apply to both the January and March issues of 1895, but whereas I have only a single genuinely used copy of the former issue, I have several of the latter.

You state that Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. are of opinion "that the so-called March issue had not been issued for postage up to October, 1895," and "that none of them had ever been sent out to Madagascar, nor had they ever seen a used copy." The first two statements I think I can disprove, and with reference to the latter I enclose you for inspection a *genuinely used copy*. I have an uncle (Rev. R. Baron) who has lived in Antananarivo for the past 30 years. He is a geologist and a botanist, but not a philatelist, and therefore not the slightest degree interested in stamps. When his letters came to hand in the early part of 1895, I found first of all the January issue at the bottom left-hand corner of the envelope, and then the March issue, so wrote him immediately to secure me some, and before the end of 1895 was the possessor of several sheets in all values: these were sent by him *direct from the Capital*, a fact which absolutely contraverts W. K. & Co.'s statement that same had never been sent out there.

If the present remainders had been put on the market by some firms that we know of, little or nothing would have been heard of the matter, but perhaps the "source of origin" in the present instance may account for the "fly in the amber."

Yours faithfully,

HERBERT W. BARON.

The "genuinely used copy" of the Madagascar stamp sent us by Mr. Baron we shall refer to, and fully describe in the next issue of the *Fortnightly*.

AN INVITATION TO MR. BARON.

In the meantime, the closing clause of Mr. Baron's letter is one that we cannot allow to pass without a word of comment. Mr. Baron, if we read his words aright, insinuates that the *Fortnightly* is actuated in this matter by interested and cowardly motives. If that is his meaning—if he really imagines that the S.C.F., or any person associated with the S.C.F., approaches this matter from any other standpoint than that of the good of Philately—then let Mr. Baron have the manliness to say so in straightforward and unambiguous language.

It is bad enough to have our facts and arguments distorted; if also our motives are misrepresented, we shall insist on the matter being thoroughly sifted.

WHAT HAVE MESSRS. GIBBONS TO SAY?

So far we have heard nothing from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, the firm against whom our articles have been chiefly directed. It is mainly owing to their inclusion in Messrs. Gibbons' "British Empire" Catalogue that these "stamps" have been unloaded on the stamp trade, and it is mainly owing to the same cause that here and there an occasional philatelist is induced to buy the things. Unbacked by a quotation in "Gibbons" who would look at them?

We await a communication from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, with interest. That firm will surely never dare to contend that the stamps of the "British Inland Mail" of Madagascar are entitled to a place among the issues of the British Empire!

Coming Events in Philately.

Monday, June 8th.—Messrs. Martin Ray & Co.'s Auction Sale at Lonsdale Chambers, Chancery Lane, W.C.

Tuesday and Wednesday, June 9th and 10th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Auction (their last stamp sale of the season) at 47, Leicester Square, W.C.

Thursday and Friday, June 11th and 12th.—Messrs. Glendining & Co.'s Auction Sale at the Argyll Galleries, Argyll Street, W.

Tuesday and Wednesday, June 16th and 17th.—Messrs. Plumridge and Co.'s Auction Sale at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C.

Saturday, June 20th.—The Annual Outing and Cycle Ride of the Junior Philatelic Society.

Fiscal Notes and Chronicle.

CONTRIBUTED BY A. PRESTON PEARCE.

IN the valuable monograph dealing with the earlier fiscals of Grenada contributed by Mr. E. D. Bacon to the first volume of "Morley's Philatelic Journal," the author expressed an opinion that the stamps of the first issue, usually listed under date of 1876, were put into use immediately after their arrival in the Island, and suggested July 1st., 1875, as the probable date of issue. The earliest dated copy seen by him was a specimen of the 1½d., obliterated 10.8.75, but this was speedily bettered by Dr. E. Diena, who exhibited three earlier cancellations, the first again being on a 1½d., and the date 26.7.75. Looking through a recent purchase of Grenada fiscals, I have come across a specimen of the 1d., value cancelled 7.7.75, which is within a week of the suggested date.

This same lot has yielded one fresh variety in the shape of a 6d., with the "1" from a larger fount, the abnormal letter being in fact of precisely the same size as the well known large "O" and "P" found on some of the penny stamps of 1882. It has also demolished a little theory I was beginning to entertain with respect to these last mentioned varieties, for having noticed that these stamps with larger initial letters are fairly plentiful, and two or three *pairs* of them having turned up, I was inclined to think that all the stamps on some few sheets might have been overprinted in this way, in fact, that these varieties denoted a re-setting of the type. However, I have now found a vertical pair, the lower stamp showing the normal type, and thus dispelling the new idea.

The only countries I can think of at the moment of writing that still issue special stamps for collecting a tax on advertisements are Belgium, France, and Turkey (I believe that the Austrian and Hungarian special issues for this purpose are obsolete), but this easy method of raising revenue is not neglected in some other regions, and the most rigorous infliction of the duty that has come under my notice takes place in Italy, where the Marca da Bollo stamp of 5 centesimi is used, and, occasionally, the postage stamp of similar value. During a recent visit to this country I formed the idea—and if wrong I look for correction from some Italian reader—that a fixed duty of 5c. is enforced there on all notices and advertisements publicly displayed, irrespective of size, and the sight of so many stamped labels of the most ordinary kind attached to goods in the windows and doorways of shops gave me the impression that the authorities drive their weapon in to the hilt.

On going to make some small souvenir purchases of unused revenue stamps at one of the depôts, I was brought acquainted with a curious condition of affairs for which I should much like to receive a proper explanation. Stamps of 5c., and 10c., were handed me without comment in exchange for their equivalents in cash, but, naturally, I became mildly suspicious and very inquisitive on finding that I could not buy the ordinary 50c. Marca da Bollo stamps for less than 60c., apiece. I remembered that most of the Italian fiscal issues current in 1871 received a diamond shaped overprint to denote an augmentation of the taxes by one-fifth, but in this case there was no overprint, and nothing to show that the price was other than the declared face value, and yet I found that I must either pay 60c., per copy or go without. It would be interesting to know if the price of this stamp has been 60c., ever since 1871. If not, when and why did it go up again, and why are the labels issued without surcharge? All the stamps seen are those of the last reign, so presumably, there has not yet been a fiscal issue with portrait of the present King.

Secretaries of Philatelic Societies, in search of interesting and out of the ordinary material for next season's meetings, might well follow the lead of the London, the I.P.U., and the Herts Societies, and arrange for a fiscal evening. The Secretary of the Fiscal Philatelic Society would doubtless be willing to assist in the drawing up of such a programme, should his services be desired.

Communications in respect of this department should be sent direct to Mr. A. PRESTON PEARCE, 12, Edgcombe Street, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JUNE 6, 1903.

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Six Months (12 numbers)	...	1	6

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.



The proposed "White List" of those whose ways are straight and honorable is evidently an idea that commands itself to philatelists. Witness the correspondence printed elsewhere in this number. There are many small difficulties in the way, but we are hopeful that something workable and beneficial may result. In a matter of this sort it may be well to "hasten slowly" and we want to weigh every consideration most carefully before committing ourselves to any definite plan. Further correspondence is invited.

Our newest contemporary among journals appealing to connoisseurs and collectors generally, the "Collectors' Circular" by name, remarks that the passion for collecting has spread to a remarkable extent during the last few years. "Everything old is now collected," says the Editor of this new journal, "from a military button or badge, to a piece of Chippendale furniture or a valuable engraving; and it is probable that at least five per cent. of the cultured public are collectors of something or other." The "Circular's" estimate seems to us to be a very moderate one. For "five per cent" we should be inclined to substitute "twenty."

In the "Daily Express" of Thursday, June 4th, appears a delightful article from the pen of Mr. B. Fletcher Robinson. It is devoted to "The China Collector," but many of its references are applied by the author (though we do not admit the applicability) to collectors of everything from tram-tickets up to "old masters." Here is a taste of Mr. Fletcher Robinson's quality:—

Collectors should not be the subject of unthinking derision. They are only obeying the instincts of the natural man.

Observe that uncivilised ruffian, the small boy. Never has there been—never will there be—a more earnest collector than he. Whether it be stamps, or birds' eggs, moths, coins, butterflies, or marbles, he will display a power of bargaining that would do credit to a Jew pedlar, and will seize and secrete the desired objects with the cunning of a jackdaw and the courage of a highwayman.

In him the natural depravity that fills every collector's soul is laid bare.

Farther on in his article the same writer assumes the analytical manner, and tells us the elements that go to the making up of "the collector's mania."

It [the "mania" aforesaid] is compounded thus: One tablespoonful of the collecting instinct, which is also common to savages, boys, jackdaws, and some monkeys; one tablespoonful of the desire to over-reach the ignorant, and boast of the bargain afterwards; one teaspoonful of conceit in possessing rare objects, eagerly sought after by others: one drop of the artistic sense.

Rubin Hillier's Imagination.

THE MAN WHO "IMAGINED" A NON-EXISTENT BANK WILL NOW EXPERIENCE THE STERN ACTUALITIES OF PRISON LIFE.

RUBIN HILLIER, whose extraordinary business methods and marvellous feats of imagination, were referred to in the last *Fortnightly*, has since been before the Nottingham magistrates on a charge of obtaining stamps by fraud, and is now undergoing a sentence of six weeks imprisonment.

We are indebted to Mr. C. Egbert Ashby, Mr. A. H. Dingwall, Mr. A. E. Moore, and Mr. A. Gisborne for newspaper clippings and other information relating to this case. The formal report of the prosecution as given in the Nottingham evening newspapers of May 27th, is reprinted hereunder:—

At the Guildhall, Nottingham, this morning, Mr. E. W. Enfield and Mr. I. Smith investigated a case of considerable interest to philatelists, in which a young man named William Medley, *alias* Rubin Hillier, described as a Jeweller of Alfreton, was charged with obtaining by false pretences from Arthur Dimsdale Owbridge, of 69, St. George's Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne, two books of foreign postage stamps, value £15, with intent to cheat and defraud.

Mr. D. Whittingham appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Owbridge stated that on the 6th inst. he received an envelope containing a banker's reference, and on the following day he forwarded two books of postage stamps value £15 2s. 2d., and registered them. The reference mentioned by the witness purported to come from the Nottingham and Midland Banking Company, Limited, 9, Cambridge Street, Nottingham, and was couched in the following terms:—"Mr. R. Hillier has been a client of ours for seven years. He has upwards of £250 to his credit with us at the present time, and personally I believe him to be a man of integrity and honour. S. L. Armstrong, manager." The reference was written on a printed memorandum book.

Frances Mary Palmer, West Hoathley, Sussex, wife of Joseph William Palmer, foreign stamp merchant, deposed to having received a letter with a banker's reference enclosed. On the 12th inst. she forwarded three sheets of foreign stamps, value 22s., by post, addressed to "Rubin Hillier, Esq." Witness believed the banker's reference was genuine.

Lizzie Sherrer, of 50, Milton-street, the proprietress of a restaurant-said defendant came to her on the 5th inst. and represented that he lived at Loughborough, and asked permission to have letters addressed to her establishment. She acquiesced, and witness subsequently handed a number of letters to defendant, some of which were registered, and bore the address mentioned by the last witness.

Detective-Inspector Parpham stated that prisoner was brought to the Guildhall on the 13th inst., and he subsequently charged him with the false pretences. He replied, "I know I've done wrong," and added that he wrote the references himself, and had the heads printed at a shop in Matlock. Witness had ascertained that there was no such place as the Nottingham and Midland Banking Company, Limited, at 9, Cambridge Street. He had found that defendant's real name was William Medley, and that he lived at Alfreton, Derbyshire. In reply to Mr. Whittingham, witness said his character, as far as he knew, was a good one, and the prosecutor would recover his property.

Mr. Whittingham addressed the magistrates on behalf of the defendant, who pleaded guilty, and urged that he should be dealt with under the First Offenders Act. The Rev. H. S. Arkwright, vicar of Alfreton; John Medley, of Belper, and other witnesses testified to his previous irreproachable character.

The magistrates, after retiring for a consultation, said they had given the case very anxious consideration. It was in many ways a very sad case, but there were features which rendered it a very serious one, and had it not been for his previous good character, the Bench would probably have adopted a severer course. They were prepared to deal with him as leniently as they could, but felt they would not be doing their duty unless defendant was committed to prison for six weeks.

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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.

Barbados.—Mr. Bertram Poole informs us that the colour of the current 2/6 stamp have been changed to violet with the value in bright green.

Chamba.—The 3 pies, ½ anna, and 1 anna Indian stamps of the King's Head series have been overprinted in black. "Chamba State." Specimens are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

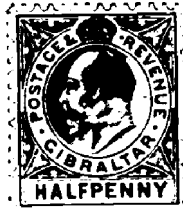
Crete (French).—The 30 centimes of the new series is sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Eritrea.—We illustrate the overprint, "Colonia Eritrea."



as applied to the postal adhesives and "Segnatasse" stamps of Italy.

Gibraltar.—Both low-value and high-value types of the King's Head series are now illustrated. The higher values are quite flamboyant affairs, beating, in point of superficial area, even the current "chest plasters" of South Australia.



Lagos.—The type of the halfpenny "King's Head" stamp for this Colony can now be shown, although the actual stamp has not yet materialised in the office of the S.C.F.

Johore.—Messrs. Piow and Mahmood, of Singapore send us two provisional surcharges just created, as follows.

Provisionals. 3 cents on 4 cents yellow and brown.
10 cents on 4c. green and carmine.

It is a departure from the ordinary course of things for a stamp to be raised in value by surcharge, and there must have been a serious lack of 10 cents stamps to induce the postal administrators of Johore to issue the second stamp enumerated above.

Nicaragua.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., write us under date, May 23rd:—

With reference to the Nicaragua stamp which you illustrate on page 45 of your issue of this day, our correspondent in Nicaragua

informs us that the date July 11th, 1893, is that of the victorious Revolutionary movement which put the Liberals into power. The portrait is that of President Zelaya. There was only a small quantity of these stamps issued, and they were on sale for a very short time, the series of 1901 being again in circulation.



Paraguay.—An illustration is now given of the new stamps bearing date 1903, and already full described in the *Fortnightly*.

Roumania.—As a means of properly celebrating the inauguration of a brand new General Post Office, the Roumanian Government has seen fit to send out an issue of "gumpaps" ranging from 1 bani up to 5 lei. We illustrate



the two distinct types of the stamps, which are divided as follows:—

<i>Oblong Type:</i>	1 bani brown.	<i>Upright Type:</i>	15 bani black.
	3 .. violet-brown.		25 .. blue.
	5 .. green.		40 .. grey-green.
	10 .. rose.		50 .. orange.
			1 leu brown.
			2 lei red.
			5 .. violet.

Servia.—The new 10 paras. pale carmine, is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

South Australia.—The latest addition to the list of the ultra-large labels of the present series is the 10s. green, which is among the latest batch of New Issues received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.



Somali Coast (French).—To the illustrations we have already given of the current low-value stamps of French Somaliland we now add the larger design adopted for the franc values.

United States (Louisiana Commemorative Issue).—Regarding this projected series of commemorative stamps the Washington Correspondent of the "Metropolitan Philatelist" writes:—"I hear some talk to the effect that a scheme is on foot to depict the four denominations of the Louisiana Purchase stamps, the portraits of four characters who took a hand in the negotiations in connection with the sale and purchase of the great tract of land, and also in the arrangements for the World's Fair to commemorate the purchase. It is suggested that Jefferson, Napoleon, McKinley, and possibly Louis XVI., the French potentate (after whom Louisiana was named) constitute the quartet on the series."

❧ **GREAT BRITAIN.** ❧

OFFICIAL STAMPS. Queen's Head.		POSTAL. FISCAL.		Wmk. Cable Anchor.		
				Unused.	Used Postally.	Can. by Pen & Ink.
				s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Overprinted I.R. Official 1882-5	Overprinted Govt. Parcels.	1d. brown, Draft	1/6	5 0	7 0	0 2
1/2d. deep green	4 1/2d. green and scarlet ..	1d. blue, Receipt, Type I. . .	2d.	2 0	3 0	0 1
1/2d. green	6d. purple on red	1d. " " " II.	3d.	2 0	3 0	0 1
1/2d. slate	9d. purple and blue	1d. " " thick glazed paper ..	5d.	8 6	5 6	0 3
1d. pale lilac	1/- green	Draft or Receipt, same Wmk.				
2 1/2d. lilac	1/- green and scarlet	1d. dark lilac, glazed azure paper..	1/0	5 0	6 6	0 4
6d. grey		1d. lilac, blue paper	5/6	1 0	2 0	0 1
1888 to 1894.	Overprinted O.W. Official.	1d. " white "		1 0	2 0	0 1
1/2d. vermilion, <i>thin type</i> ..	1/2d. vermilion	1d. " thin " on blue or white ..	2/6	2 0	2 6	0 1
1/2d. " <i>thick</i> "	1d. lilac	On more or less blue paper.				
1d. lilac, <i>thin</i> "	1d. lilac	1d. lilac, Inland Revenue in red ..	1/0	10 0	10 0	0 9
1d. " <i>thick</i> "	1/2d. green	Inland Revenue, wmk. Cable Anchor.				
2 1/2d. purple on blue	17/6	1d. lilac	6d.	0 10	1 0	0 1
1/- green	Overprinted Army Official.	3d. lilac	1d.		70 0	4 6
20/- "	1/2d. vermilion	6d. "	6d.	4 6	8 6	0 3
1901-2.	1d. lilac, <i>very thin type</i> ..	Wmk. Anchor, 16 mm., perf. 15 x 15 1/2.				
1/2d. green	1d. "	1d. lilac	1/6	0 9	1 0	0 1
6d. purple on red	2 1/2d. purple on blue	3d. "	1d.	8 6	15 0	0 2
1/- green and scarlet	1/2d. green	6d. "	6d.	3 6	7 6	0 3
	6d. purple on red	Wmk. Anchor, 18 mm., perf. 15 x 15 1/2.				
Overprinted Govt. Parcels.	Error Official for Official.	1d. lilac	10/0	1 0	3 0	1 0
1 1/2d. lilac	1/2d. vermilion	3d. "	7/6	15 0	20 0	0 3
6d. green	1d. lilac	6d. "		15 0	20 0	0 3
9d. "	Short L in Official.	3d. "	3/6	50 0	100 0	10 0
1/- brown	1/2d. vermilion	6d. "	3/9	10 0	15 0	1 6
1d. lilac	1d. lilac	3d. " Anchor 18mm., perf. 14 ..	3/9	20 0		3 6
1 1/2d. purple and green	Overprinted Board of Education	6d. "	20 0	5 0	15 0	0 6
2d. green and vermilion	5d. purple and blue	3d. "				
		6d. "				

Admiralty Official, King's Head, 2/6 per Dozen.

CHAS. NISSEN & Co., 77/78, High Holborn, LONDON, W.C.

WRITE ONE WORD IN EACH SPACE.

4d.					
6d.					
8d.					
10d.					
1s.					

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.

From the Auction Rooms.



AUCTIONEERS will have noted that the short interval "between seasons" is now almost upon us. Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper have held their last stamp auction for the season 1902-1903; the closing sale at "Putticks" is fixed for Tuesday and Wednesday next; Messrs. Glendining and Messrs. Plumridge's "last sales of the season" are also imminent; and Messrs. Martin Ray & Co.'s last Monday auction of 1902-1903 appears to be July 6th. But it's not for long!

By the middle of September all our knights of the hammer will be getting to work again.

* Signifies Unused.

Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, March 26th and 27th, 1903.

	£	s.	d.
Sierra Leone, 1872, no wmk. on white, perf. 12½, 6d. dull lilac, fine*	2	15	0
Spain, 1853, 2 reales red	4	0	0
Tasmania, 1853, 1d. blue	2	4	0
Do. 1864, straight cut roulette, 6d. grey-lilac	2	0	0
Tobago, 1896, ½d. on 4d. lilac, a block of 12 showing the three varieties of spacing, mint	1	14	0
Trinidad, 1851, blued paper, 1d. brown-red, a mint pair	1	1	0

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co.'s Sale, April 30th and May 1st, 1903.

British South Africa, 1890, £2 rose-red	1	18	0
Cape of Good Hope, 4d. deep blue, woodblock	6	0	0
Gambia, 1869, 4d. brown, no wmk.*	1	0	0
Do. 1874, wmk. C.C., 4d. brown, mint	1	9	0
Transvaal, 6d. blue, Gibbons' 38	2	10	0
Do. 6d. blue, Gibbons' 26	1	0	0
Do. 6d. blue, wide roulette, Gibbons' 108	2	10	0
Do. 1d. on 6d. in red, Gibbons' 165	1	12	0
Zanzibar, surcharged on Indian, 5 rupees with double surcharge, one inverted, mint	6	6	0
Do. 2a. blue double	2	6	0
Do. 1r. carmine and green, with vertical surcharges, mint	1	6	0
British Guiana, 1888-9, 1 dollar green, mint	3	0	0
St. Vincent, 1866, 4d. blue, no wmk.*	1	4	0
Do. 6d. pale yellow-green, wmk. small star, mint, Gibbons' 21	3	3	0
Do. 1886-9, 6d. lavender, mint pair	1	14	0
New South Wales, July, 1851, 2d. blue*	1	10	0
Do. 1854-6, 2d. blue, wmk. 5, Gibbons' 97*	3	15	0
New Zealand, 1855, London print, 1d. dull carmine	1	14	0
Tasmania, 1867, 4d. blue, serrated perf.	1	16	0
Do. 1871-79, 1d. vermilion, Gibbons' 113..	1	7	0
Victoria, 1854, 2d. litho, error T.V.O., Gibbons' 28	2	2	0

Messrs. PUTTIOK & SIMPSON'S Sale, May 5th and 6th, 1903.

Great Britain I.R. Official, 1888, £1 green, "Accounts," cancellation	1	12	0
Afghanistan, 1876-77, ½ rupee black*	1	16	0
Do. do. 1 rupee black*	1	16	0
India, Chamba, Service, 1886-98, ½a. green, the error "Chmaba," mint	1	8	0
Do. do. 1a. plum, the error "Chmaba," mint	4	0	0
Do. do. Ditto, 2a. blue, the error "Chmaba"	5	15	0
Do. Gwalior, 1885-99, ½a. green, the error "Gwalior"	1	2	0
Do. do. do. 1 rupee carmine and green, the error "Gwalior"	3	10	0
Labuan, 1880, 8 on 12c. carmine with value pen-cancelled in red, and inverted figure "g," mint	2	18	0
Do. do. 8 on 12c. carmine with value cancelled by numeral, also with inverted figure "g," mint	3	3	0
Do. 1883, 1 dollar in MS. on 16c. blue*	5	2	6
Straits Settlements, Sungei Ujong, 1878, 2c. brown*	3	0	0

	£	s.	d.
British Bechuanaland, 1886, ½d. black, with double overprint in red and in black, mint	3	3	0
Do. do. ½d. black, the error with "B" of British omitted, ditto	3	5	0
Do. 1888, Aug., Surcharged Protectorate, ½d. vermilion, with small overprint inverted	1	1	0
Do. 1889, ½d. green and black with double overprint, mint..	1	9	0
Do. 1897-98, Half of 4d. green and brown, used as 2d. on piece of original, and initialled by Postmaster	2	0	0
British Central Africa, 1891, £2 rose-red, mint	4	2	6
British East Africa, 1895, Nov., 1 rupee green and carmine, with double surcharge, one sideways, mint	2	0	0
Griqualand, 1877, 6d. violet, type 6, a mint pair	1	14	0
Mauritius, 1891, Two Cents on 38 Cents on 9d. violet, with surcharge inverted, mint	2	14	0
Do. do. same stamp with double surcharge, one inverted, ditto	2	18	0
Natal, 1862, no wmk., imperf., 1d. rose*	2	0	0
Niger Coast, 1892, 1d. lilac, with overprint "Oil Rivers" over "British Protectorate," mint	2	17	6
Orange Free State, 1877, 4d. on 6d. rose-carmine, type c, inverted	2	12	6
Do. 1896, ½d. on 3d. blue, with triple surcharge, mint	1	1	0
Do. do. Halvepenny on 3d. blue, with double surcharge, 1 inverted, ditto	1	10	0
Do. 1900, V.R.I., 6d. carmine, the error with figure of value omitted, used on entire original, with the normal type <i>se tenant</i>	2	1	0
Swaziland, ½d. grey, with double red surcharge, mint*	1	6	0
Transvaal, 1871-76, thick paper, 6d. blue, wide roulette	1	15	0
Do. 1887, July, red surcharge, 1/- green	2	4	0
Do. do. 6d. blue, with inverted surcharge	4	17	6
Do. 1877, August, 6d. blue on rose, fine roulette, the variety with broken corner	1	12	0
Do. 1878, 3d. mauve on buff, wide roulette	3	7	6
Do. 6d. blue on blue, wide roulette	2	4	0
Do. 1900, V.R.I., 4d. sage-green, with inverted surcharge, a pair, mint*	5	15	0
Wolmaranstad, 1900, 3d. purple, used and very fine on entire original, "Opened under Martial law"	1	10	0
Uganda, 1895, 30 cowries violet	3	0	0
Do. do. 50 cowries violet*	3	10	0
Do. do. 10 cowries black	1	12	0
Do. do. 40 cowries black, postmarked "Kampala, 1898"	4	0	0
Do. do. 60 cowries black, ditto	5	0	0
Do. 1896 (June), 20 cowries violet	1	14	0
Do. do. 100 cowries violet, postmarked "Kampala, 1898"	16	0	0
Zanzibar, 1895, 1a. plum with blue overprint	2	0	0
Zululand, 1888-92, ½d. green, with double overprint	1	15	0
United States, 1851, 24c. grey-lilac*	6	0	0
British Guiana, 1853, 1c. vermilion*	7	0	0
New South Wales, Sydney Views, 2d. lilac-blue, plate 3*	5	0	0
Do. Laureated, no wmk., 2d. blue, re-engraved*	4	4	0
Do. 3d. green, the rare error with wmk. "2"	7	10	0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER'S Sale, May 7th and 8th, 1903.

Great Britain, 1870, 1½d. rose-red, error of lettering, OP PC for CP PC	1	16	0
Do. do. wmk. Anchor, 10 grey-green on white paper	1	8	0
Do. 1887, ½d. vermilion, printed on gummed side of paper*	0	12	0
Do. 1881, 1d. lilac, ditto, ditto	0	10	0
Do. do. Half a 1d. lilac, used on piece of original as ½d. scarce	0	9	0
Ceylon, 1883-84, wmk. C. & C.A., 16c. lilac	1	1	0
Do. 1885, provls., 5c. on 24c. green	2	6	0
Do. do. 10c. on 16c. lilac, fine	1	5	0
Shanghai, 1877, provl., 1 cand. on 9 cand. blue-grey	2	0	0
Straits Settlements, 1879-82, provl., 5c. on 8c. orange, the scarce type 11*	1	4	0

	£	s.	d.
British East Africa, 1891-95 provisionals, 1 anna A.B. on 4 annas brown ..	2	0	0
Do. do. value surcharged in dull violet with a handstamp, ½ anna A.D. on 2 annas vermilion	4	0	0
Lagos, 1884-86, 5/- blue ..	4	10	0
Niger Coast, 1893-94, provl., ½d. in violet caps, on 2d., used on piece and fine ..	1	2	0
Do. 1894 provl., ½d. on 2½d. blue ..	1	5	0
Orange River Colony, 1897-1900, surcharged V.R.I., first printing, 1d. purple, mint, the scarce variety with the "1d." of the surcharge over the "V.R.I." instead of under ..	1	1	0
Do. 1d. purple, error, letter I of V.R.I. omitted, mint ..	2	6	0
Transvaal, 1877, red surcharge, 6d. blue ..	4	6	0
Do. 1900, surcharged V.R.I., 1/- ochre, pair, twice surcharged, once diagonally* ..	1	12	0
Do. do. 2½d. blue, a mint pair, with inverted surcharges ..	2	8	0
Zanzibar, on Indian, blue surcharge, 1 anna plum, variety with small second Z ..	1	17	0
New Brunswick, the Connell, 5c. brown* ..	14	0	0
Nova Scotia, 6d. yellow-green* ..	2	4	0
Dominica, 1886, provisional, "One Penny" on 6d. green, on piece of original ..	42	0	0
Do. 1888, wmk. C & CA., 1/- lilac-rose ..	3	5	0
Nevis, 1890, 1/- lilac, on piece of original ..	4	0	0
St. Vincent, 1877, wmk. Star, 4d. dark blue ..	1	6	0
Virgin Islands, 1899, 4d. brown, error, "Fourpence" ..	5	0	0
Queensland, 1860-61, wmk. Small Star, 6d. green, error imperforate ..	1	18	0
Tasmania, 1867, rough irregular pin-perforation, 1d. carmine, a pair ..	2	6	0
Tonga, 1st issue, perf. 12½, 1d. rose-carmine, mint ..	2	0	0
Western Australia, 1861, rough perforation, 4d. vermilion*	2	15	0

Messrs. PLUMBRIDGE & Co.'s Sale,

May 12th and 13th, 1903.

Barbados, 1873, large star, clean cut, ½d. blue-green*	2	2	0
Do. do. 5/- rose, mint ..	2	12	6
British Central Africa, 1897, £10 orange ..	2	4	0
British South Africa, 1896, One penny on 3d., mint ..	2	12	6
Do. do. One penny on 4½, mint ..	3	3	0
Ceylon, 19 yellow-green* ..	4	0	0
Great Britain, 1840, no lines, 2d. blue, pair* ..	6	0	0
Do. O.W., Official Queen, 1902, ½d. green, mint	1	2	0
Do. Do. Do. 5d., mint ..	4	0	0
Do. Do. Do. 10d. ..	6	0	0
Victoria, 1862, 3d. marone, mint ..	1	4	0

Mr. J. J. DARLOW'S Sale, at Manchester,

May 13th and 14th, 1903.

Greece, 1876, Athens print, 60 lepta dark green on buff, mint	1	17	0
Great Britain, Board of Education, Queen, 5d. ..	0	18	0
Do. O.W. Official. ½d. red, pair* ..	1	10	0
Do. do. ½d. green, do. ..	3	2	6
Do. do. 1d. lilac, do. ..	1	10	0
Do. do. 5d. Queen, do. ..	3	15	0
Do. do. 10d. Queen, do. ..	6	5	0
Do. do. 1883, 2d. lilac, a mint block of 6	1	0	0
Roumania (Moldavia) 1854, 27 paras black on rose*	34	0	0
British East Africa, May, 1890, ½, 1 and 4 annas on British, all mint ..	4	11	0
Mauritius, 1848, 2d. blue, post paid, medium state of plate*	9	0	0
Newfoundland, 1/- lake, a complete mint sheet of 20 ..	2	10	0

"If you see it in the 'Sun'"—very often it is not so. The 'Sun' gravely states that Queen Wilhelmina of Holland collects stamps. But she doesn't. There is probably about as much truth in the 'Sun's' further statements that Princess Clementine of Belgium, King Alexander of Servia and Pope Leo XIII. are keen philatelists.

Stamp Collecting as an Investment.

By CHAS. J. PHILLIPS.

An important and long Article under the above heading appears in the MAY NUMBER of

"STANLEY GIBBONS' MONTHLY JOURNAL."

The Subscription to the "MONTHLY JOURNAL" is only 2/- per annum, post free, and the New Volume commences from July next.

Subscribers who commence now will receive the above important Article gratis.

In this Article Mr. Phillips gives a fund of well considered advice on **HOW TO INVEST** money in Stamps with the likelihood of considerable profit.

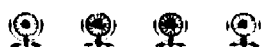
Also a number of suggestions on **WHAT TO AVOID** when buying Stamps **AS AN INVESTMENT**, and lastly, a list of countries of which the Stamps are likely to show the largest profits in the next few years.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited,

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Philatelists' 'White List'

SOME LETTERS APPLAUDING THE SCHEME—SUGGESTIONS FROM "FORTNIGHTLY" READERS.

"If we have 'Black Lists' for the black sheep of the flock, is it not a reasonable proposition that there should also be a 'White List' for those whose ways are straight, and whose intentions, in business matters, are honourable and above board? We have often thought that some scheme similar to the excellent 'Reference Book' of our contemporary—the 'Bazaar,' might with great advantage to all of us be adapted to the philatelic community as a whole."

So we wrote in our Editorial column in the last *Fortnightly*, and readers in all quarters have applauded the idea. The three letters printed below are selected from the many we have received on account of their practical tone and the more or less feasible suggestions they contain.

"Ascot" (a pen-name concealing the identity of a Scottish reader of the *S.C.F.*) writes us as follows:—

I have read with deep interest your remarks regarding a proposed "White List," and I hope that your efforts in this direction will meet with the whole hearted support and co-operation of the general philatelic public.

There is a real need for such a list, and I am convinced that if started on thorough-going lines it would prove to be a valuable adjunct to correspondence and exchanges between collectors. The "Bazaar, Exchange and Mart," presides over interests of a multifarious nature: its Reference Book including the names of vendors and purchasers of almost every description of property, and it seems to me that the interests of stamp collectors can be better served by a list operated by parties whose daily occupation brings them into close personal relations with a very large body of philatelists.

The working of such a list might very well be something similar to the Bazaar system. Its value to collectors will depend upon the nature of the guarantee which it can give, and its efficient working. With regard to the first of these considerations it will be granted that a most thorough investigation should be made into the character and antecedents of every applicant for enrolment. To this end I suggest that the number of references should be at least three, and one of these should be from any Philatelic Society or Exchange with which the applicant may be connected. Further, it seems to me most desirable that the names and addresses of applicants should be published—say in the *S.C.F.* so that parties having an interest to object might have an opportunity of doing so. The cost of advertising the lists of applicants would be small, and should be covered by an entrance fee. Objections, with conclusive proofs of the same, should be lodged within, say, 14 days. That means some delay in obtaining admission to the list, but in view of the greatly enhanced value of the reference through this publication, I should say that philatelists of the class who should alone be found in such a list will wait with patience.

I venture to express the hope that no place would be found on this list for persons proved guilty of any of the numerous forms of petty meannesses which afflict collectors frequently in good positions.

For example: a party in London after giving excellent references, which were duly confirmed, received a quantity of stamps on four days approval, but it was only after a lapse of several weeks, during which he had received reminders, and finally a telegram hinting at summary measures, that this person could be made to disgorge the stamps, receipt of which he had never acknowledged; and when they

were returned it was without a single word, either of apology, explanation or anything else. Conduct of this sort is exasperating, but it represents only one form of the various pests with which collectors having duplicates to dispose of have to contend.

Now is the time for united defensive action.

I suggest that soon as may be convenient there be published in the *S.C.F.* and other philatelic prints, a draft of regulations for the working of a "White List," and collectors might then be invited to express, within a fixed period, their views thereon, in order that the conditions laid down may be such as will meet the views of the philatelic public.

Every good wish for the continued success of the *S.C.F.*, which I have regularly purchased since its commencement!

Another correspondent, Mr. A. P. Thompson, of Sevenoaks, writes:—

I consider your suggested "White List" a splendid idea.

My suggestion for a scheme of this sort is that all well-known dealers and private collectors that send out approval sheets, be asked if they will send a list of the names of persons they have sent stamps to, and whom they have found honourable and business-like, not being very particular about references, so long as they have got the money for all stamps taken off sheets. Of course, a man may send money six times, and when the seventh time comes he may disappear, but I should say a person who has sent correct money for six times, to any dealer, ought to be included in the List.

It would be a lot of trouble to you, but I should think most dealers would be only too pleased to answer. I shall be glad to know that you have got a workable scheme, and hope to see the notice of it before long in the *S.C.F.*

I am only a very moderate collector, but like to see fair play. I am one of your many subscribers and should be only too pleased to help in any way, but do not see how!

Our third letter is from Mr. A. E. Moore, of Nottingham, who writes as follows:—

Re the suggested "White List." How would it be to publish in the *S.C.F.* a list of names of those dealers and collectors who furnish the Editor with three or four *satisfactory* references?—such list to be restricted to advertisers in or subscribers to the *S.C.F.*

Further, how would it be to get together a list of reliable dealers or collectors, one in each large town or city, who for a nominal fee of 6d. or 1s. for each enquiry, would give any reasonable information respecting doubtful parties in their own neighbourhood? This would, I think, at least make it more difficult for swindlers to find easy victims.

With regard to Mr. Moore's first suggestion we may say at once that it would be no part of any scheme we might personally take in hand to bar out any person who was neither an advertiser in nor a subscriber to the *Fortnightly*. Failure to appreciate the value of our journal would not necessarily brand a man as being unworthy of the trust and respect of his fellow philatelists. The *Fortnightly*, however, is now so widely known throughout the United Kingdom that we think there can be very few active philatelists who do not regularly read it.

As to the scheme generally we must take time to consider the details, and in the meantime we shall appreciate any further comments and suggestions that our readers have to make. Lest it be not available at the moment, let us add that the *Fortnightly's* editorial address is 63 & 64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

FISCAL STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

THE May packet just sent out is a good one for the time of the year, consisting of 24 sheets amounting to £313. The sales from the February packet were £35 odd from a total of £162.

Packets will be circulated as usual during the summer months, but members will oblige by notifying absence from home so as to save delays.

Messrs. W. Hadlow, G. T. Richardson and W. K. Skipwith have lately joined.

Fiscals can be sold through the agency of the Club at a small commission, and anyone interested should apply for information and rules to the

Secretary, A. B. KAY, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London, W.

LADIES' STAMP EXCHANGE.

THE March packet contained 26 sheets, value just over £112, 0 which £28 14s. worth was sold. Among the better things were some first issue Italians, used, early Western Australians, unused, fine early New Zealand, Ceylon, Nova Scotias and Queenslands.

Only one vacancy now for either a lady or a gentleman. No dealers.

MISS HAYNES, *Hon. Secretary*, Westwood House, Wood Lane, Shepherd's Bush, W.

THE PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

MEMBERS are requested to send in at the earliest possible date good sheets of Colonials for inclusion in the next packet. A few vacancies occur for really first-class members with good stamps

THE June packet will start on circulation to-day. The total sales from the January packets were £38 15s. od. I trust the February will beat this amount. Members are being paid for the January as quickly as possible, and will all be settled in a day or two from this date. Vacancies occur for good buyers. Our prices are exceptionally cheap, and duplicates are good.

Rules and information from the *Secretary*. No fees. R. T. MORGAN, 14, High Street, Selhurst.

THE COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

THE 93rd meeting of the Board of Governors was held on Monday, May 11th.

The Treasurer's report and the report of the House Committee were read and approved. A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Chas. Gregory for his kind donation to the Club of two New York Stock Exchange medals (one of silver and one of bronze) suitably framed.

ALBERT PERRIN, *Secretary*, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

THE FISCAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MEETING held May 28th, 1903. Present—Mr. Schwabacher (chair), Messrs. Cooper, Fitcher, Köhles, Marsh, Morley, South, Thompson, Thomson and Kay.

M. H. Douchet (France) was duly elected a member.

Received for library:—No. 100, Feb., 1903, "Revista de la Sociedad Filatelica Argentina" (M. Rosaner).

Among the scarce stamps shown were France Dimension, 10c. lilac, surcharged 5c. EN SŪS, with U inverted (by G. W. Pepper); types of lately issued 4c. Seychelles, and Cape, 12/-, on azure laid paper (by O. Marsh).

The fiscals of Tasmania, Tobago, Transvaal and Trinidad were discussed and catalogued.

Next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 2nd, at 6.30 p.m., at 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C., when Victoria, Western Australia, Zanzibar and Zululand will be taken.

A Continental member is desirous of privately exchanging German States fiscals for those of Great Britain and Colonies.

All interested in fiscal stamps should apply for rules, &c., to the Hon. Sec., A. B. KAY, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London, W.

The Junior Philatelists' Summer Jaunt.

WE are able to state on good authority that there will be no "Stamp Exchange Walk" to Brighton this year. There, will however, be the usual annual outing and cycle ride under the auspices of the Junior Philatelic Society, which will be held on Saturday, June 20th. The ride will this year be much shorter than on former occasions, the probable destination being Keston, a very charming rural spot, well centred in Kent. A special party is being arranged for those ladies and gentlemen who do not cycle. All philatelists and their friends who care to join the party will be heartily welcome and should intimate their desire to be present to the Secretary, Mr. H. F. Johnson, 9, Lorne Terrace, South Lambeth Road, London, S.W. Full particulars of the times of starting, destination, tea, etc., will be forwarded on application.

If the present fine weather continues, there is every prospect of a large gathering. The President will conduct the non-cycling party, assisted by Mr. Bertram Poole, Vice-President, and Mr. Johnson, the Hon Secretary. The cyclists will be led by Mr. W. Darwen, Vice-President, assisted by Mr. Crosby Blumsum and Mr. Sydney Westbury. It is hoped that special arrangements may be made for a party of members of the Dulwich Branch of the Society to meet the other parties on the route.

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Monday	..	July 6th

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Commission 10%. Minimum Charge 1/6 per lot.

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 Literary Fine Art, **Philatelic Auctioneers,**
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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 their next Sale (the last of the Season), will take place on **JUNE 9th and 10th,** and will consist of a

Fine Selection of all Countries.

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sales for the Season 1903-1904, have been fixed as follows: 1903—September 29 and 30; October 13 and 14, 27 and 28; November 10 and 11, 24 and 25; December 8 and 9. 1904—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27; May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8.

Clients wishing to include Collections in any of the above Sales are requested to make early arrangements with regard to their disposal, as some of the earlier dates are already allotted.

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 past seasons.

The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign Buyers who send bids may rely upon the condition &c. of the various lots being accurately described.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Owing to the Expiration of the Lease of our Premises at 104, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W., on June 24th, 1903, and our Managing Partner going abroad, we shall on and after that date Continue our Business, by Correspondence only, from 179, Mount View Road, Finsbury Park, London, N. The Fixtures of the above Shop are for Sale, and include Two Outside Show Cases, One Inside Well-made Dust proof Show Case, 7ft. by 3ft., etc., etc. Price on application.

We are at present Selling all our Stock of Stamps at 25% discount off our usual prices.

Thousands of Bargains. Call or Write.

Send for our Sale Price List.

SALE POSITIVELY ENDS JUNE 20th, 1903.

A few Stamps at Sale Prices:

O. R. COLONY—	200 Stamps, all different ..	9d.
5/- V.R.I. ..	Best Quality Mounts. 4d.	
6d. blue, E.R.I. ..	per 1000 ..	4000 for 1
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£1 green, Queen ..	5/- on 1/- green, cancelled	
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ARMY OFFICIAL—	SOUTH AUSTRALIA—	
6d., Queen, v. fine ..	4d., surcharged P.S.	15/-
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I.R. OFFICIAL	2d. deep org. red, unused	9/-
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BATH AND WEST OF ENGLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.—Members wanted. Rules from Sec., C. J. PREATER, Monmouth Place, Bath.

BRITISH Pictorial Post Cards in colours, grand lot, 28 different, 7d.; 130 assorted, 1/6 post free; abroad extra.—LEATHWAITE, Printer, Egremont, Cumberland.

BRITISH Stamps for Sale, all issues, values, plate numbers, 20/- Crowns, Orbs; 5/-, 10/-, 20/- Cross and Anchor; 45 Officials, Post Office Telegraphs, rare shades, postmarks, pairs, &c. Perfect Specimens. Approval. References.—SPECIALIST, 5, Little Trinity Lane, E.C.

BRITISH African Club circulates Colonial stamps from all parts of the world. Established 1877.—CHAS. J. ENGLE, Secretary, Kingsburgh, Boscombe, Bournemouth.

CONTINENTALS. Good Mixtures, suit small dealers, 10,000 for 1/9, post free, Cash with order. IMPERIAL STAMP EXCHANGE, LTD., 56, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

GREAT BRITAIN. King's Head, R.R. Official, 3d. 2d.; 1d., 4d.; 2 1/2d., 1/-; 1/-, 2/6. O.W. Official, 4d., 2d.; 1d., 1/-; 2d., 6/-; Board of Education, 4d., 1/-; 1d., 9d.; 2 1/2d., 7/6. Govt. Parcels, 1d., 4d.; 2d., 6d.; 6d., 8d.; 9d., 1/6; 1/-, 3/6. Army Official, 4d., 4d.; 1d., 4d.; 6d., 1/6. Complete set of above for 30/-. Queen's Head, R.R. Official, 4d. vermilion, 4d.; 4d. green, 4d.; 1d. lilac, 4d.; 2 1/2d. blue, 6d.; 6d. grey, 6d.; 6d. red, 1/6; 1/- green, 1/6; 1/- red and green, 1/6. Set for 17/6. O.W. Official, 4d. vermilion, 2/-; 1d. lilac, 2/6; 4d. blue-green, fine, 17/6. Set for 21/-. Govt. Parcels, 1d., 3d.; 1 1/2d., 1d.; 2d., 3d.; 4 1/2d., 2/6; 6d., 3d.; 1d., 6d.; 1/- green, 1/3; 1/- green and red, 7/6. Set for 11/-. Army Official, 4d. vermilion, 4d.; 4d. green, 1d.; 1d. lilac, 4d.; 6d. red, 2/-. Set for 2/11. All nice copies. Unsatisfactory specimens readily exchanged.—BOWER, 26, First Avenue, Queen's Park, London, W.

JUBILEE ROUMANIA'S, 1901.—These stamps were in use one day only and were practically unobtainable, the rush for them being so great. I can supply them, while still in stock, at the following prices, which, however, may have to be raised shortly:—I. set, 1, 3, 5, 10, 15, 25 bani, frs. 2.25; II. set, 1, 3, 5, 10, 15, 25, 40 and 50, frs. 1.60; III. set, 15, 25, 40, 50, and 1fr., frs. 10.00; IV. set, 15, 25, 40, 50, 1fr. and 2frs., frs. 15.00. The 5 franc stamp is now unobtainable even at 30 francs! Cash in advance or 1st. class references. Postage extra.—S. DANIEL, announce expedition, Jassy, Roumania.

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USED ENGLISH (Queen's and King's), from 1d. to 1/-. all good specimens. Very cheap by 100. Lady has quantities sent her every month.—MISS PEARSON, 1, Westwood House, Wood Lane, Shepherds Bush.

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WANTED FOR CASH.—Northern Nigeria stamps, all values, Queen's Transvaal, 2/- brown and black; all rupee values British East Africa, Ceylon, Mauritius, Seychelles, Zanzibar. Also West Indian and African, especially higher values and other Colonies.—E. J. DURRANI, East House, Romford, Essex.

WANTED.—Members for Waverley Stamp Exchange. Nett prices. Only charge 10 per cent. on sales. References required. C. H. PICKARD, 15, Grange Terrace, Leeds.

COLLECTOR has duplicates for sale or exchange. Prices low. References.—DRIVER, Grassbrook Street, Waltham Cross.

JAMES BENNETT, Stoke Bishop, near Bristol, still has left about £8,000 worth of his old stock of stamps, which he wishes to clear out shortly, and after 45 years dealing, retires. He begs to refer Dealers and Members of Clubs to his advertisement in these columns of last October, November, and December, and to say that he still allows excessive discounts, and puts 10/-, 1/-, 1/3, &c. packets cheaper than ever.

WHOLESALE Price List of Indian Foreign stamps sent post free.—R. J. HASSUM, 51, Samuel Street, Bombay, India.

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ANY single Stamp at wholesale price. Selections, priced low, sent on approval. Discount and handsome present to purchasers.—LBY, 38, Gracechurch Street, London.

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SET of 2d. blue plate numbers, price 1/4 post free. Book of very fine English now on sale.—KERR AND LANHAM, Chichester Rents, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

GOLD COAST, 1901. 3d., 6d., 1/-, 2/-, 5/-, 10/-, the six 9/-.—HEWES, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

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GREATEST rarities, rare and medium British Colonials, unused or used, priced under half Gibbons. Send approval against serious references.—BERNARDINA GARCIA, Barriograciense, Barcelona, Spain.

REPORT FOR 1902 OF THE OTTERDALE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB now ready and post free on application. Gross sales last year £1,323 18s. 9d. Advanced philatelists (not dealers) with good duplicates invited to join.—G. HERBERT DANNAIT Secretary and Founder, (Member, Stamp Exchange Protection Society), Lyndale, Blackheath, London, S.E.

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ADVERTISER has divided a very large Collection of British Colonials, each country into separate books. Specimens priced singly at half Gibbons. Nearly all the old and rarest issues complete. Many mint. Also small approval books of mixed Colonials at one-third to two-fifth Gibbons. All fine copies. Any book on Approval. References.—Box 154, c/o Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

FISCALS. Those wishing to sell, purchase, or exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London.

COLLECTOR specializing has a nice lot of medium Colonials for Sale, especially African, West Indies and Australian. Selections on approval. References required. Wanted Barbados.—FRANK H. MADISON, St. Neots, Hunts.

WANTED. Gibbons' Imperial Album, 8th Edition, in good binding, with or without stamps in.—A. DRESSER, Bexleyheath, Kent.

RED Penny Plates.—Wanted Mint Pairs, 71, 88, 105, 133, 210, 225.—MR. EARL, Newcastle, Staff.

RARE Gold Coast.—1891 20/-, 2/- 1900 5/-, 3/-. Fine picked copies. TAYLOR BROS., 10, Sweeting Street Liverpool.

GENUINE Bargains—1000 British Colonials, etc., 1/1; 1/3 Nyassa, 1001, Giraffe complete, 2/6 set; 50 Spain, 1/1. Retail price list post free. Stamps bought offers requested.—WILLIAM STAMP CO., 120, Leadenhall Street, London.

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All the above are fine postally used specimens.
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Wanted:—Loose Lots and Collections for Cash.
W. LACEY, Wholesale & Retail Stamp Dealer,
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STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 216.—Vol IX.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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The STAMP COLLECTORS

FORTNIGHTLY.

With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

Published every Alternate Saturday.

CONDUCTED BY **PERCY C. BISHOP.**

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club, and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange.

No. 216—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 1903

ONE PENNY

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Philately at Home and Abroad

Somerset House in Hot Water.

We understand that there have been excursions and alarms at Somerset House in connection with the illicit traffic in unused Government stamps. Just what primitive measures have been, or may yet be, adopted cannot be precisely stated at this moment; but it is to be hoped that those who are punished will be the real offenders and not a few scapegoats of the thirty-shillings-a-week division.

Sound Advice on Stamp-Buying.

The Philatelist seeking guidance as to "the best stamps to buy for a rise" might derive much profit from a perusal of Mr. Charles J. Phillips' able article, "Stamp Collecting as an Investment" in the current number of the "Monthly Journal." There is never anything pessimistic about Mr. Phillips' contributions to the literature of our hobby. But he knows, none better, that all stamps are not good stamps, and his principal object in the article under notice is to warn stamp collectors against the snares that are spread for them, and to help them to make such a choice of countries as will put them on the right side of the hedge, in a strictly financial sense.

The Illicit Traffic in Government Stamps.

THE CHARGE AGAINST MR. A. B. CREEKE AND OTHERS.

BOW STREET POLICE COURT, on Tuesday, June 9th, and again on Monday last, June 15th, presented the appearance of a Congress of Philatelists, both amateur and professional. Many of the best known "heads" in London stampdom were there, and on Monday next, when Sir Albert De Rutzen will hold a further seance, there will be a still larger gathering of philatelists. The cause of all this is the charge brought against Mr. A. B. Creeke and others, of illicit dealings in unused Government stamps. Formal reports of the proceedings to date are appended:

Alfred Walterhouse, a clerk, living at Great Percy-street, King's cross; Henry John Richards, cycle maker, Russian-road, Nightingale-lane, Wandsworth-common; and Anthony Buck Creeke, solicitor, Wray-crescent, Tollington-park, were charged with being concerned in stealing and receiving a number of stamps.

Mr. R. D. Muir (instructed by Mr. Highmore, of the Inland Revenue) prosecuted. The learned counsel said the prisoner Richards was brother of a man named Percy Richards, who was recently charged with forging a bill of exchange. At the time of his arrest Percy Richards had in his possession a cheque for £10, from Stanley Gibbons, Limited, the well-known stamp dealers. Inquiries were made, and it was found that Percy Richards had sold to Stanley Gibbons, Limited, a number of old Office of Works stamps.

These stamps were not issued to the public, and could only be obtained by committing a larceny. Notwithstanding this it was known that many of them were on the market. The fact that they could not be honestly obtained seemed to have increased their value to an extraordinary degree. In fact some of these stamps, of the face value of a few pence, had been sold for as much as £61. Most of the stamps must have been obtained at Somerset House, where they were issued for the use of the departments.

The prisoner Henry Richards carried on the business of a cycle maker at Wandsworth in the name of Paxton. On the 30th of January last he sold some Office of Works stamps to a dealer named Field, of the Royal Arcade, Bond Street, for £20, although their face value was very small. On the 14th of February he offered Mr. David Field some specimens of old Board of Works stamps.

Mr. Field asked him where he got them from. He replied that he was a motor car manufacturer, and got the stamps from Somerset House officials, whom he was in the habit of driving. Mr. Field (who, said counsel, had acted very properly in this matter) declined to have anything more to do with Richards, although he offered to sell him for £8 stamps for which he had originally asked £20. At the same time Richards volunteered the information that he could obtain any kind of stamps from the Somerset House officials of his acquaintance.

The second prisoner, Creeke, was a solicitor, and for many years had had an extensive knowledge of stamps. Many years ago he was admitted to the archives of Somerset House in order that he might have official sources of information for the purpose of writing a book upon the stamps of the British Islands. Although the book was long since written and completed, he was practically allowed to go in and out as he liked.

There could be no question that he made the acquaintance at Somerset House of officials who had access to stamps which outside were worth hundreds, and even a thousand per cent. more than their face value. As a philatelist, and a member of the Philatelic Society, he was acquainted with the rules which prohibited the sale of this particular class of stamps.

Some time ago he wrote from his office in Leadenhall Street to the authorities, asking them to allow him to see certain stamps, and said he knew their sale was prohibited. The letter was not answered. In February of this year Creeke was in communication with another philatelist named Bigold, and asked him to sell for him a set of Office of Works stamps. Bigold asked him if they were "all right" and Creeke said they were. After this Bigold wrote a letter to Stanley Gibbons, Limited at Creeke's dictation, and eventually sold them for £64, stamps of the face value of about 5s.

A PHILATELIST'S CURIOSITY.

This seemed to have excited Bigold's curiosity, and he again asked Creeke if the stamps were all right. Creeke said they were very difficult to get, but he got them through a friend. He was asked by Stanley Gibbons' representative the same question, and said they were all right.

Detective-Sergeant Ward afterwards asked Creeke where he got the stamps in which he had been dealing, but although he was a solicitor, and knew that it was his duty to assist the police, he declined to give the officer any information except the statement that they were not procured from an official. When he was arrested he was actually in the possession of stamps he must know were stolen. When Detective-Sergeant Ward told him he would be arrested, he said he only had in his possession some Office of Works stamps, but that was untrue.

It would be proved that Creeke had sold stolen stamps to a dealer named Ginn. He offered some to a dealer named Pickett, but the latter refused to have anything to do with them, on the ground that they were not honestly obtained.

The third man (Waterhouse) was arrested by Sergeant Ward without a warrant. He was a clerk in the works department at the Admiralty. A quantity of Government parcel stamps had been stolen from the room in which Waterhouse worked, and some of those which had been traced to the other prisoner had probably been got from that source. Mr. Muir added that the case was obviously incomplete at present, and he must ask for a remand.

Detective-Sergeant Ward gave evidence as to arresting Creeke outside the Law Courts. When told he would be charged with receiving stolen stamps, Creeke said, "You mean the Office of Works stamps?" The witness said, "Yes, but there will probably be a further charge of receiving other stamps." Creeke said, "I have never had any others but the Office of Works, except some I got many years ago from a Mr. Purcell."

STAMPS FOUND ON ONE OF THE PRISONERS.

In Creeke's possession witness found eight I.R. (Inland Revenue) penny stamps; one £5 stamp marked "specimen," one gd. Government parcel stamp, two halfpenny mis-perforated stamps, and some old stamps. On the 25th of May witness told Creeke he knew he had sold several sets of Office of Works stamps, and would like to know where he got them from. He said, "Am I bound to tell?" The witness said, "I want to know." Creeke then said, "I don't feel disposed to tell you. I did not get them from an official. I suppose that is what you want to know."

When Richards was arrested he said the stamps he was charged with receiving were bought and paid for. The witness afterwards went to the Admiralty Office with Mr. Moore, a dealer in stamps, and saw the prisoner Waterhouse. The witness told him that Mr. Moore informed him that he had purchased from him a large number of Government parcel stamps. Waterhouse replied, "Ridiculous!" Witness told him he would be charged with stealing stamps, and he said "Absurd!"

THE SECOND HEARING.

The prisoners were then remanded, and at the second hearing on Monday last a third prisoner, Percy Tidd Richards, made his appearance in the dock.

Mr. Lincoln Reed appeared for Creeke and Henry John Richards. In reply to Mr. Reed it was stated that the prisoners he represented were only charged with receiving.

Detective-Sergeant Palfrey, of Scotland Yard, gave formal evidence as to arresting Percy Tidd Richards on the other charge

referred to. He then had in his possession a cheque for £10 from Stanley Gibbons, Limited, and said he had received it for the remainder of his collection of stamps.

William Henry Hiscox, shop manager to Stanley Gibbons, Limited, stated that on the 5th of May Percy Tidd Richards called there and produced some unused Office of Works stamps which he wanted to dispose of. There were about 90 of them altogether, and they all bore the head of the late Queen Victoria. The total price Richards asked for the stamps was £17.

In reply to Mr. Lincoln Reed, the witness said it was an unusual thing to purchase unused Official stamps. The Official stamps now issued were Army Official, Admiralty Official (quite recently), and Board of Education. The Inland Revenue Official and Official Parcels stamps were first issued about 30 years ago. The other Official stamps were not issued until about 10 years since. He was frequently asked to buy Army Official stamps. He had been in the employment of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, about 15 years.

Mr. Lincoln Reed.—And it has never occurred to you that the gentlemen who brought these stamps to you had stolen them? Certainly not. The witness went on to say that he did not know that quite recently the sale of 120 unused Army Official stamps was publicly advertised. The number of unused Official stamps on the market could only be accounted for by the supposition that when they were served out to be used ordinary stamps of the same face value were substituted.

Mr. Reed.—A fictitious value is created by this philatelic ruse?

A QUESTION OF SUBSTITUTION.

The witness answered in the affirmative. He proceeded to say that he had not dealt in higher Official and Government Parcel stamps for some time, as his firm had been requested not to do so by the Inland Revenue.

Mr. Muir (re-examining).—Do you regard the substitution of Official stamps for ordinary stamps as legitimate?

The Witness. Certainly, to a certain extent.

Mr. Muir.—If the exchange is legitimate, why are halfpenny stamps worth £3? The Witness.—Because the number would be small.

Mr. Muir.—No, the number would not be small if all the messengers brought halfpenny stamps to you and got £3 for each of them.

The Witness.—If they all did it the price would soon go down.

Further evidence was given by stamp dealers as to considerable purchases of Government official stamps from Percy Richards, Hy. Richards, and Waterhouse, and as to their making statements to the effect that inquiries were being instituted in Government departments as to the sale of these stamps, that there was a likelihood of the sales being stopped, and that inquiries might possibly be made from dealers as to them by the Scotland-yard authorities.

TOO MANY IN IT.

On one occasion the name of Detective-Sergeant Ward was mentioned, when Henry Richards replied, "He'll never get to the bottom of this business. There are too many in it."

Waterhouse explained he got the stamps from a friend who was in a Government department, and who substituted ordinary stamps for parcel stamps on the packages he was given to post. Sixpenny, penny, and twopenny unused parcel stamps were sold in sheets. They bore the heads of the late Queen and of the King. Waterhouse also told a dealer who had bought extensively from him that there had been a bother about stamps that had been missed.

Mr. Lincoln Reed (to Mr. Frank Moore, stamp dealer, of Villiers Street). Did you think it extraordinary that stamps should be brought to you in this way?

The Witness.—No; I thought I was rather lucky. When he purchased stamps from Henry Richards in March and April he did not think he had been criminally guilty with respect to previous transactions.

Mr. Lincoln Reed.—I suppose you would not have purchased these stamps from Richards if you thought that to obtain them he had to do something criminally or even morally wrong.

The Witness.—I won't say morally, but I am certain I would have had nothing to do with him if I had thought there was anything criminally wrong.

Mr. Lincoln Reed.—I see, you are prepared to do something immoral, but not criminal.—(Loud laughter).

The Witness.—No; but, like every other stamp dealer in London, I am prepared to make a good bargain.

By Mr. Wilson.—Although he had such large transactions with Waterhouse he did not ask his name or address. He was quite sure that Waterhouse was the man from whom he purchased the stamps, although he was not then wearing glasses. The witness had been to the Inland Revenue and Admiralty with regard to this matter.

The prisoners were remanded.

On the application of Mr. Wilson for the bail in the case of Waterhouse was reduced to two sureties in £50 each.

On Postal Cards and Covers.

By a SPECIALIST.

A question that has often vexed me, was again brought before me a few days ago, as it no doubt has often been brought before my readers. I was called upon to decide whether I would, or would not, purchase, arrange and collect the very numerous issues which Portugal has again seen fit to provide for her Colonies. Some sixty to seventy new cards, almost all alike, were to be added to an already bulky accumulation of similar and equally uninteresting nature, or else I was for ever to relinquish all idea even of comparative completeness for my collection.

* * *

Stamp collectors went over all this ground, I remember, some ten or a dozen years ago, when speculation and unnecessary issues from all the unknown corners of the earth flooded the markets, and the line that in those days I took with regard to the collection of stamps I was then making. I have taken recently for my policy with regard to entires, I have resolved that as there must, alas! be many pieces which I can never possess, I will not encumber myself with a whole line of seventy cards that have no interest for me, and very little connection with postal utility.

* * *

There was a very interesting article in the "Weekly Philatelic Era" recently, analysing the Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers of the United States. The full list of all issues and sizes current January 1st, 1903, is set forth, and after the detailed list we have the following recapitulation:—

	1c.	2c.	4c.	5c.	Total.
Envelopes.	15	33	6	4	58
Wrappers.	1	1	1	0	3

Thus we have a definite total of 58 varieties of sizes, shapes and values of envelopes, as per official lists, and without counting "philatelic" varieties of current issues. Just imagine thirty-three different kinds of 2c. envelopes being on sale at one time!

But Uncle Sam is a great consumer of stamped envelopes, as the following comparison, from this same article, will prove. For the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1902, there was issued by

	United States.	Canada.
1 cent. Envelopes	74,839,000	117,751
2 " "	737,927,750	795,176
1 " Wrappers	36,913,250	439,370
Total	849,680,000	1,352,297

Unfortunately there are no figures for Great Britain to compare with these. There are, roughly speaking, three times as many people in the United States as in Canada, but it seems they use 800 times as many envelopes.

Of course there is a reason for this, and the writer of this informing article at once puts his finger upon it when he refers to the relative cost of the envelopes in addition to postal duty. He gives a very clever tabular statement which I am sorry I have not space for, but which shows that 1c. and 2c. envelopes are sold at \$1.12 and \$2.12 respectively in the U.S., this being merely a margin of 6d. per 100 for the envelopes. Our A. envelopes are 10d. per 100, and C. size are 8½d. But in the case of 5 cent and 2½d. envelopes the comparison is more marked as our postal people charge us 1/3 and 1/8 for the two sizes we have. In the U.S. the prices are 6d. and 7d. per 100.

ROUMANIA (CONCLUDED).

(From Fry's Catalogue, 1886).

1879 (July.) Stamp as before, arms larger. Inscription and heading of lines as before, but in different type without instructions at foot. All in black on rose coloured card. 6+3½in., 155+100mm. (These sizes vary).

50. 5 bani, black.

Variety.

The lines for address closer up to the inscription and card considerably narrower.

51. 5 bani, black.

1879 (Nov.) Stamps and arms as before. Inscription in three lines in upper centre, 1st, UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE underlined, 2nd ROUMANIE, 3rd CARTA POSTALA, four dotted lines for address as before. All in colour on rose coloured card. Sizes as before.

52. 10 bani, deep rose (shades).

53. 10 bani " on glazed card.

1883 (Jan.) Same as 1879 (Nov.) but address side is buff and the reverse side greyish white.

54. 10 bani, rose.

1883 (May). Similar to card of 1879 (Nov.) but CARTA POSTALA is more spaced and measures 2½in., 64mm. Deep pink card, reverse white, black impression.

55. 5 bani, black.

REPLY CARDS.

Note.—The reply cards up to and including the issue of 1879 (July) are simply two ordinary single cards of each issue, which, when so employed are surcharged at the Post Office with R.P. (i.e., Respons platit) in a circle in blue ink.

1873. The following varieties have been found together.

5+5 bani, blue on white.

100. var. 1 and var. 2.

101. " 1 " 3.

102. " 2 " 3.

103. " 4 " 4.

104. " 4 " 5.

105. " 5 " 6.

1873 (July) 5+5 bani, blue on dark brown.

106. var. 8 and var. 8.

107. " 8 " 9.

1873 (Oct.) 5+5 bani blue on buff.

108. var. 10 and var. 13.

109. " 10 " 15.

110. " 14 " 9.

111. " 16 " 12.

1875 (Jan.) 5+5 bani blue on buff.

112. var. 21 and var. 25.

113. " 24 " 28.

114. " 25 " ?

115. " 29 " 27.

1876 (End of). 5+5 bani blue on buff.

116. var. 32 and var. 36.

1877 (Sept.)

117. 5+5b. red-brown on white card.

118. 5+5b. brown " "

1877 (Oct.)

119. 5+5b. red-brown on white paper.

120. 5+5b. " " " without.

Period after 5 in par. 5.

1878 (March).

121. 5+5b. blue on rose.

122. 5+5b. " " " without date after " Tiraju."

1879 (July).

123. 5+5b. black on rose.

124. 5+5b. " " " lines for address nearer inscription.

1879 (Nov.) Similar to the single cards of this date. The first half has in left lower corner *Ce côté est réservé à l'adresse. La carte ci jointa est destinée à la réponse*; and in the right lower corner *acesta fata este rezervata pentru adresa. Ulaturata carta este destinata pentru respons*. The reply half has *Response* below third line of inscription and in left lower corner *Ce côté, etc.*, and in right lower corner *Acesta fata, etc.* Hinged at bottom, perf. 12.

125. 10+10b. deep rose (shades) on rose.

1883 (March). Similar to single cards of 1883 (Jan.) with the additional inscriptions as above. Hinged at bottom, not perf. 10+10 rose on buff.

126. RESPONSE with large accent.

127. " " small "

1883 (May). Similar to the single card of this date with the additional inscriptions as above.

128. 10+10b. black on rose.

Variety:—

129. 10+10b. ?

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JUNE 20, 1903.

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Between Ourselves

From Mr. Herbert W. Baron comes the following half-hearted apology to the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*:—

As you take exception to the last clause in my previous letter, I must withdraw same, as perhaps more can be read into it than I had intended. Mr. Ewen covers the ground in the paragraph commencing "were it not known that the S.C.F. has a reputation for fair play" thus leaving me nothing further to add meantime.

This reads rather like an attempt to apologise for an innuendo and then repeat the insinuation under cover of another man's name. However, the remark is withdrawn and that is all we can fairly demand. The subject of the Madagascar stamps generally will be referred to again (and we hope finally) in our next issue.

The *Australian Mail* brings us a sheaf of press cuttings kindly despatched by Messrs. Hamilton, Macrae and Co., of Perth, W.A. These clippings from Colonial newspapers disclose many gross and crying scandals in the administration of the Westralian postal service. We shall endeavour to refer to the matter at greater length anon.

A Shock of Surprise is suffered by stamp men of all sorts and conditions, not only in the United Kingdom, but all over the world, at the sudden and most drastic action taken by the Treasury authorities in connection with certain alleged illicit dealings in unused Government stamps. Mr. A. B. Creeke arrested, and with him three other persons. The specific charge against Mr. Creeke is one of "receiving," and though we are precluded at this stage from commenting on the merits of the case, one cannot repress an expression of great and sincere regret that a man who has rendered Philately such signal service as the literary partner of the late Hastings Wright should be placed in such a position. It is no exaggeration to say that this is a prosecution which will be followed with interest, not to say anxiety, by philatelists in all quarters of the world.

What is a Dealer to do when offered supplies of unused stamps which neither he nor the person who offers them for sale is "supposed" to have in his possession? The question is one that has long pressed for a settlement, and it is high time that Somerset House should in some way regularise a system which certainly constitutes a grave source of temptation. All philatelists, collectors and dealers alike, are anxious to know how they stand in this matter. Mr. C. J. Phillips, in the "Monthly Journal" suggests two remedial courses, either of which, adopted by the Government, would entirely stop the evil:—

1. Sell all overprinted *Official* stamps at Somerset House at the actual nominal value. An account could most easily be kept of those sold over the counter, and deducting this from the total of each kind

used, the actual amount used for postage in each department could be easily ascertained.

2. What I consider would be a better plan would be to do away with *all* overprinting, and instead to *perforate* the initials of each department through the stamp *before* issuing to the department. This is done at the Board of Trade. Stamps used there are perforated in large letters "B.T." No collectors want such things. We do not intend to catalogue them, and such a method would once and for all do away with the speculation that is no doubt going on at the present time, and is sure to go on under the present system.

Two-penny-Halfpenny Business Methods.

To the Editor of the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly."

DEAR SIR,

Now that summer is here (at last!) and our albums have been placed to the back spaces in our bookcases, we find time to ventilate some of our little grievances.

As a rule I don't grumble much, but a par in a recent *Fortnightly* regarding "Cheek in adding people's names to a subscriber's list, and then writing them for their subscription," is just about as good as a case that personally interests me at present. The details are these, and for the sake of other collectors who may be similarly placed, I would be glad to have your opinion on the matter. Had it not happened to myself, I could not have believed it possible that any firm could have employed such methods. But to my story:—

Some time ago, a London stamp firm sent me, *unsolicited*, a set of stamps on approval, including the new famous (or infamous) Madagascar labels. None of the stamps were of use to me, and I am pleased to-day that I had nothing to do with the worthless locals, which your paper has so ably condemned. I returned the stamps with thanks, but judge of my surprise when two or three days later these stamps were returned to me, with a curt note informing me that *my returns had been rejected owing to insufficient excuse, etc.!*

Now, to buy stamps as a hobby is one thing; to get them practically forced on you, against your will, is another: so with a firm reply I again returned the goods. But it did not end here. Per return I got an open account with a ½d. stamp affixed, advising me I was indebted to Messrs. ——— in the sum of 2½d., which you will observe is the cost of the postage. That was a few months ago. The last account rendered has reached the total of 8½d., for each one has had a penny or two added to the preceding one. By Christmas I expect it will be about 2/-, and some years hence that 2½d. which I don't owe, will probably have grown into such proportions that it will form quite a formidable item.

The firm is evidently convinced that I intend to fly the country, for in their note of yesterday they advise me that if the account is not paid by the 10th inst., legal proceedings will be taken. Heaven help me! And all thro' stamps that I wouldn't accept! Oh, who would be a philatelist?

Now sir, did you ever hear of a case similar? Talk about cheek! I consider the instance you gave in your valuable paper a piece of positive humility compared to this, and I feel confident that I am only one of many who must be getting pestered with this questionable business. Please understand I never asked to see these stamps; they were sent *unsolicited*. I was never on the list to whom this "Co." sent new issues, for I could not see my way to deposit 5/- on what is at best a doubtful advantage. It will be a bad day for our hobby when dealers can send you anything they like and refuse to take them back unless you can give them a good excuse for rejecting them, and rather than pay that 2½d.—or rather 8½d. now—I would gladly spend £5. It is not the money I grumble at; it is the principle involved. Trusting to hear from you or thro' your paper anon this, I am, yours respectfully,

DAVID LOGAN.

Tollcross, 4th June, 1903.

We withhold the name pending the receipt of an explanation from the firm complained of. EDITOR.

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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.

Barbados.—The 2s. 6d. in new colours, violet and green, is now to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Cuba—The same firm send us a revised version, as just issued, of the 10 centavos special delivery stamp of Cuba. The design is as heretofore, but the spelling of the word "Inmediata" is now corrected "Inmediata."

Hong Kong.—Further King's Heads are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. The colours are most artistically chosen, but one finds them the reverse of easy to classify.

King's Head Series. 30c. green and black.
50c. green and red-purple.
1 dollar purple and olive-yellow.
2 dollars grey, black, and vermilion.

The first-named colour in each case is that of the head of monarch.

Morocco (Spanish).—The 5c., 10c. and 25c. Spanish stamps of the current series have been overprinted, diagonally in two lines, "Correo Espanol; Marruecos." Specimens kindly sent by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

New Zealand.—The new 2s. 6d. stamp is illustrated hereunder:—



Niue and Penrhyn Islands.—Illustrations are now given of the new stamps supplied for these outlying fragments of "Mr. Seddon's Empire." These we have described and chronicled in the *Fortnightly*. The "Monthly Journal," by the way, has the following interesting paragraph about Niue Islands:—

We hear that a terrible mistake was made in overprinting the shilling stamps for this island; instead of the surcharge reading "Taha e," meaning *one*, it reads "Tahaē," which means *thief*. The authorities are said to be greatly distressed about it, and to be trying to get back all that have been sold; but as these stamps are all going into the hands of those who will value them all the more on account of any little eccentricity, it surely cannot matter; besides, the interpretation seems eminently appropriate, as the sole object of these surcharges is the robbery of stamp collectors!

St. Kitts and Nevis.—A new stamp just received by Messrs. A. Myerscough & Co. makes it clear that the close association of the sister islands, St. Kitts and Nevis, has at last led to the issue of a penny postage stamp for their joint use. The new cover is in black and carmine and bears the inscription "St. Kitts—Nevis—Postage—Revenue—One Penny." The central design is a picture in the classic style which may or may not have some special meaning as applied to St. Kitts and Nevis.

1d. carmine, black centre.

San Marino.—Here are pictures of the new stamps of this tiny Republic, already listed and described in our columns. We think, by the way, we have omitted to note the issue of a stamp for Express Letter Service. This is an oblong affair.



Express Letter Stamp.—25 centesimi, red-brown.

We must at the same time acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of specimens of the new stamps from Mr. Charles de Grave Sells.

Transvaal.—A £1 stamp must be added to the King's Head list.

King's Head series.—£1 violet and green.

The Trade in Official Stamps.

A SUGGESTED AGREEMENT BETWEEN DEALERS, COLLECTORS AND AUCTIONEERS.

To the Editor of the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly."

SIR,—

Re Unused British Officials: It is about time that the status of these stamps was decided once and for ever, and failing an authoritative pronouncement from the London Philatelic Society and other premier Societies, it has become almost a necessity that every dealer, auctioneer and collector, should be in agreement as to whether it is legitimate to offer for sale or to purchase official stamps which have never been intended to fall into the possession of any but departmental employees.

As matters stand, most dealers freely offer these stamps to their customers, though (as the enclosed police report from yesterday's "Daily News" will show) not without some danger of becoming entangled within the meshes of the law. The keystone of the entire question lies in the fact that probably nine-tenths of the supply is originally pilfered from Government offices.

There is, possibly, nothing very flagitiously immoral in the act of substituting an ordinary postage stamp in exchange for an overprinted official (as is presumably most often the method of procurement) and it is quite patent that the risk of detection coupled with a spice of dishonesty in the proceeding, is not sufficient to outbalance the certainty of large profits.

I would therefore humbly suggest that the leading Philatelic Societies and Dealers should at once unite in expressing their views very clearly to the Controller of Stamps at Somerset House, for as long as there is a leakage of these official stamps, so long will they continue to command a limited market at artificial and greatly enhanced prices, and there will ever be a vast number of collectors willing to pay heavily for the "forbidden fruit."

Presumably the object of overprinting is to prevent rather than to put a premium on pilfering and dishonesty.

The best way out of the difficulty has already been suggested by Mr. C. J. Phillips, namely, that the authorities should be induced to *perforate* the stamps with the initials of each department, instead of overprinting. Stamps so treated would, of course, possess no interest to philatelists, or, failing this, Mr. Phillips suggests that all official stamps should be on sale to the public at Somerset House. Probably, however, these suggestions are too rational for the serious consideration of red tape officialism.

My contention is simply that we philatelists are entitled to know how we stand and whether or not it is lawful to buy and sell the unused official stamps of our own country.

Yours, etc.,

G. HERBERT DANNATT.

"Lyndale," Blackheath, S.E., June 12th, 1903.

Some "Specimen" New Zealands.

(AND OTHER ITEMS OF STAMP NEWS).

BY A. HAMILTON, DUNEDIN.

WHEN in Sydney some months ago I was fortunate enough to obtain from one of the leading Sydney dealers a very interesting set of the New Zealand issue of 1874.

They were overprinted with the word "Specimen" in thin block letter. They were, however, not "Specimen" stamps as usually understood, but were really "Colour Proofs," as with the exception of the 1/- value all are different in colour from those actually used. The penny is red-brown, the twopence blue, the threepence violet, the fourpence rose-carmine, the sixpence bistre-brown, the one shilling green, and all are perforated 12, with the watermark N.Z. and Star.

I am not aware of any other set in any New Zealand collection. Several of the colours look very well and in some cases are an improvement on those eventually selected.

Speaking of this issue of 1874 I see by a wholesale catalogue recently issued in England that a dealer offers the 6d. and 4d. at 1½d. and 2d. each. Judging by the current catalogues and the rarity of the stamps in New Zealand 1s. or 1s. 6d. would be cheap for the 6d. and 4s. or 5s. for good copies of the 4d.

In another catalogue or list I see the recently issued 4d. on single line Star and N.Z. paper, perforated 11, offered at 4½d. each. I expect to see that same stamp touch 4s., as it already is in demand at 2s. 6d. to 3s. English dealers and collectors do not understand how limited the supply is of some of the pictorial values above 1d. and have hardly yet discovered the result of the introduction of our 1d. postage rate. Values above 1d. are much less used than formerly and the higher values of the Colonially printed series on unwatermarked paper will eventually be scarcer than those of the London prints.

The separate issues of the overprinted stamp for New Zealand's outlying tropical Islands will comprise the full series. It is said that the necessity for distinguishing the stamps of the various islands is to keep the revenue accounts separate.

Several stamp dealers have suggested that the Postal Authorities of N.Z. are making the frequent issues of stamps for revenue purposes, but you may be assured that nothing of the kind is happening or likely to happen. Every change or addition has been made for some good reason.

Every weekly describes some specimens of stamps surcharged diagonally O.P.S.O. These are surcharged by the Officials of the General Post Office, Wellington, and are used only for matter mailed out of New Zealand by the General Post Office. All values as required are liable to be so surcharged. The lower values are surcharged in sheets. They are not often seen and cannot be procured at any Office. They have been used since 1891.

IMPERIAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE last meeting of this Society was held at the headquarters, The Oriental Cafe, Morley Street, Manchester, on Wednesday evening, the 21st inst., and the President, Mr. Clitherow, presided over a fair muster of members, who during the evening indulged in a very enjoyable conversation in philately, and at the same time did a fair exchange. The next meeting will take place on the 11th July, to which members are requested to attend and at which any new members will be cordially welcomed.

W. T. HUGHES, *Hon. Sec.*

THE PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

THE June packet started punctually and carries a total value of £285 18s. 9d. This packet contains some good stamps. The February packets have returned from first circuit and have been sent to the new members. The sales from the February packets will show a record, exceeding £60. They will be broken up immediately upon their return. Good members are invited to join us. No fees of any kind.

R. T. MORGAN, *Secretary*, 14, High Street, Selhurst, S.E.

Stamp Collecting as an Investment.

By CHAS. J. PHILLIPS.

An important and long Article under the above heading appears in the MAY NUMBER of

"STANLEY GIBBONS' MONTHLY JOURNAL."

The Subscription to the "MONTHLY JOURNAL" is only 2/- per annum, post free, and the New Volume commences from July next.

Subscribers who commence now will receive the above important Article gratis.

In this Article Mr. Phillips gives a fund of well considered advice on **HOW TO INVEST** money in Stamps with the likelihood of considerable profit.

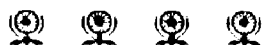
Also a number of suggestions on **WHAT TO AVOID** when buying Stamps **AS AN INVESTMENT**, and lastly, a list of countries of which the Stamps are likely to show the largest profits in the next few years.

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Two Interesting New Zealand.

THE HALF-PENNY "PICTORIAL" AND PENNY "UNIVERSAL" ISSUES OF 1900-1902.

(By C. A. GILLES, in the "Australian Philatelist.")

FROM time to time articles bearing upon the above subject have appeared in most of the journal devoted to philately, but they have been so scattered and spread through so many numbers that collectors seem to find some difficulty in distinguishing these interesting varieties, and it is my purpose, accordingly to endeavour by explaining the details and differences of and between the various emissions to help the average collector avoid the pitfalls into which he is likely to stumble.

The matter hereof is, of necessity, not altogether original, but I am able, through the courtesy of the Secretary of the New Zealand G.P.O., to add some fresh particulars, which help to throw more light upon the subject.

In the first instance, I would point out that the many papers which were brought into use in so short a space of time came to be so used—not, as it would appear many are under the impression, owing to the indifference of the authorities—but in reality because the Government was endeavouring to obtain a paper which would better come up to the standard which they considered requisite.

The paper supplied by Waterlow & Sons not being deemed satisfactory, a supply was obtained from the Basted Mills, but this in turn (why, I have been unable to ascertain) gave way to that manufactured by Messrs. Cowan & Co., the cause of the first supplies of this latter consignment coming on unwatermarked paper being that the Government printer was pressed for material and could not wait until the "bits" for impressing the watermark could be prepared and set up.

I must not omit some reference to the so called "ribbed" paper. As a matter of fact this "ribbing," if I may term it such for want of a more suitable expression, is unintentional, and undoubtedly arises owing to the wires of the frame upon which the pulp is stretched during the course of impressing the watermark leaving their impression upon any sheets which have been placed thereon in an unusually damp state. When the gum is subsequently applied to the stamps all traces of this "ribbing" disappear.

Before dismissing the subject of the various papers used I will endeavour to explain how they may be extinguished.

The paper first used was that known as "Waterlow," and although the watermark is, whilst generally indistinct, similar to that on the subsequent "Basted" paper—i.e., double-lined—still this variety when unused can easily be picked out, inasmuch as it is a good deal thicker and softer than the "Basted" or any of the other succeeding papers. Moreover the gum is either dull or gritty—often flaky—in appearance, and the paper decidedly opaque.

Next came that from the Basted Mills. This, whilst thinner in texture, is a tough semi-transparent paper, and rough to the touch. The gum is also clearer and whiter, and if the stamp be held up to the light face outwards the colour shows through much more brightly than in the case of the former variety.

I have seen it stated elsewhere that these two papers are easily distinguishable, inasmuch as the watermark in the former (Waterlow) is *NZ* over a star, whilst in the latter (Basted) the *N.Z.* is under the star. This test is, however, unreliable, as I have the latter with the watermark either way.

Following upon this came the first lot of paper supplied by Cowan & Co., and which was unwatermarked. This paper is also thin and tough, but more opaque than the Basted variety.

Finally—at least—let us hope so—came the Cowan watermarked paper, differing from the previous "Waterlow" and "Basted," more especially in that the watermark is a single lined one and stands out very distinctly. The marginal letters, NEW ZEALAND POSTAGE, in all three varieties of paper, are, however, double lined, and in that respect the watermarks are similar.

With regard to the seeming complexity in the varieties of perforation, the real explanation is that the Government printer as a matter of urgency, used the two machines, gauging respectively 11 and 14, simultaneously, in order to expedite the supply.

The varieties of double compound perms. which are to be found, may, perhaps, be accounted for by the suggestion that many sheets which were found—whilst experimenting with the new machine gauging 14—to be badly centred, were re-perforated by means of the machine gauging 11, this machine, owing to its smaller size, being more easily handled.

This system of re-perforation, is also most probably the reason of certain varieties which, as referred to at a later part of my paper, I have termed errors. In reality they are freaks, or "accidents of perforation," as their existence apparently depends solely upon the circumstances that a few odd sheets escaped perforation either on one or all sides, and being subsequently discovered, the missing perforations were supplied by the 11 machine. In support of this argument I think it will be generally admitted that the Government Printer would hardly be likely to go to the trouble of specially perforating one sheet of any particular variety "just for the fun of the thing."

As a matter of exactitude, there are really three machines in the Government Printing Office at Wellington, two gauging 11 and (the new) one gauging 14.]

It may not be considered out of place for me to draw attention here to the fact that the ½d. and 2d. Queen's Head re-issue of 1900 were printed upon Waterlow paper.

In order to avoid any possible confusion, I propose to deal with the two denominations separately, starting with the ½d. value, and which I have subdivided into the following groups:—

I.—THE ½d. GREEN ("PICTORIAL.")

A.—Perf. 11; paper, "Waterlow"; gum, bright (thick) to dull (thin); wmk., double lined *N.Z.* over star; date of issue, 10th March, 1900.

This stamp, the shades of which vary from apple green to yellow and deep green, succeeded the London printed ½d. pictorial. The plate was prepared in London by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, who also struck off the first printing in purple there. All the subsequent printings in green were the work of the Government printer at Wellington, to whom Messrs. Waterlow & Sons forwarded the plates of all the "Pictorial" series.

B.—Perf. 14, 14×11, 11×14; paper, "Waterlow"; gum, yellowish to white and gritty; wmk., as before; date of issue, November, 1901.

This, with the 1d. Waterlow, was the first time the new machine gauging 14 was brought into use.

These varieties were also the first of the "compound," and are by far the commoner.

C.—Perf. 14, 14×11, 11×14, 11; paper, "Basted"; gum, bright to clear; wmk., as before (or inverted); date of issue, December, 1901.

Of this attention must be drawn to the variety, perf. 11, which must be quite the scarcest of all the recent ½d. and 1d. varieties, as only one sheet appears to have been so perforated. I regard this, however, as an error of perforation.

D.—Perf. 14, 11; paper, "Cowan" (1); gum, white to dull; wmk., none; date of issue, January, 1902.

As the paper from which this variety was printed was only used as a stop gap this stamp will probably become as scarce as the previous compound varieties. The second variety of perf. on this paper is again an error.

E.—Perf. 14, 14×11, 11×14; paper, "Cowan" (2); gum, white and shiny; wmk., single-line *N.Z.* over star; date of issue, May, 1902.

The two latter varieties of perf. may also, I think, come under the heading of errors, as I gather that at the most there were only a couple of sheets of each so perforated.

II.—THE 1d. CARMINE ("UNIVERSAL.")

A.—Perf. 12½—16 (London print); paper, "Waterlow"; gum, white; wmk., none; date of issue, 1st January, 1901.

This stamp was engraved by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, who printed a supply of two millions, which they forwarded to the Colony together with the plates. There is little difficulty in distinguishing this printing from any of the local (perf. 14) for not only are the perforations clean cut, but the colour is in a deeper shade, somewhat approaching lake.

B.—Perf. 11; paper, "Waterlow"; gum, bright (thick) to dull (thin); wmk., double-lined N.Z. over a star; date of issue, 10th March, 1900.

This was the first stamp locally printed, and varies greatly in shade—from pink, scarlet, rose and carmine to dull red-brown.

The dull gum was applied to the last printings only of the ½d. and 1d.

C.—Perf. 14; paper, "Waterlow"; gum, yellowish to white and gritty; wmk., as before; date of issue, November, 1901.

Although the ½d. Waterlow exists in the two compound perfs. it is to be noted that the 1d. Waterlow does not.

D.—Perf. 14, 14×11, 11×14, 11; paper, "Basted"; wmk., as before; gum, bright to clear; date of issue, December, 1901.

These are the only compounds of the 1d. to be found (other than the errors elsewhere chronicled). Of the variety perf. 11 I believe there were only one or two sheets, and this I also list amongst the errors.

E.—Perf. 14, 14×11; paper, "Cowan" (1); wmk., none; gum, white to dull; date of issue, January, 1902.

The second variety here is again an error. So far as I know, only one sheet was ever found.

F.—Perf. 14, 14×11, 11×14; paper, "Cowan" (2); wmk., single-lined N.Z. over a star; gum, white and shiny; date of issue, May, 1902.

Here, again, we may put down the above compound varieties as errors. Probably two or three sheets of each exist (*to date hercof.*)

SYNOPSIS.

For convenience of reference I append a summary of above papers and perforations, adding to the latter such of the minor varieties known to exist as I consider worthy of mention.

The papers may be divided into four groups, viz.:—

"WATERLOW."—Thick, soft and opaque paper. Watermark double-lined N.Z. over star: generally indistinct.

"BASTED MILLS."—Thin semi-transparent paper. Watermark double-lined N.Z. over star: sometimes indistinct or inverted.

"COWAN" (1).—Thin tough paper, slightly opaque. Unwatermarked.

"COWAN" (2).—Thin roughish paper. Watermark single-lined N.Z. over star, and generally very distinct.

Of these the perforations are as follows:—

WATERLOW.—½d. Perf. 11, 14, 14×11, 11×14. 1d. Perf. 14×16 (London), 14, 11, 14. Variety (a) Perf. 11×Imperf.

BASTED.—½d. Perf. 14, 14×11, 11×14, 11 (error). 1d. Perf. 14, 14×11, 11×14, 11 (error). Variety (a) Vertically Imperf. 14×0.

COWAN (1).—½d. Perf. 14, 11 (error). 1d. Perf. 14, 1d. Perf. 14×11 (error).

COWAN (2)—current.—½d. Perf. 14, 14×11 (error), 11×14 (error). 1d. Perf. 14, 14×11 (error), 11×14 (error). Variety 1d. horizontally Imperf. ×14.

HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

FIFTY-ONE members and visitors, under the chairmanship of Mr Herbert R. Oldfield, the Hon. Vice-President, were present at the fifth annual dinner of the Society at Anderton's Hotel, on Tuesday, May 19th, 1903. The toast of the evening, "The Herts Philatelic Society," enabled the Chairman to dwell favourably on the prosperity of the Society, both as regards its enlarged scope of work and its increased number of members. He looked forward with confidence to the time when first among its contemporaries it would inaugurate the Ideal Philatelic Exhibition, and when every individual member would blossom into a limited specialist. Mr. C. R. Sutherland proposed the health of "The Visitors," and Mr. E. Wetherell, of the Philatelic Society of India, in responding, gave some amusing details as to the minute salaries of the native Indian officials and the vagaries of the correspondence entrusted to their charge. Baron Percy de Worms introduced the toast of "The Officers" in flattering terms, to which the Hon. Librarian made reply, and intimated that he proposed to invite members to a river party on June 13th. A special toast to the Hon. Secretary was given with musical honours, with an extra round to the Hon. Treasurer. A varied and excellent musical programme had been arranged, which greatly enhanced the evening's enjoyment. Mr. Geo. Gaffe, F.C.O., kindly consented to act as accompanist. Songs were most ably rendered by Messrs. W. A. Bois, Airlie Dry, Howard Goodman, Hollick Nash, and Hargrave Harvey; recitations by John K. Boddy and Walter Moir; and a violin solo by Mr. W. J. Barron. The health of "The Chairman," proposed by Mr. J. C. Sidebotham, and enthusiastically received by the members, properly brought the evening to a successful termination.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer*, Ingleside, St. Albans.

WE hold a very fine Stock of . .

Hawaiian Stamps,

From 1871 to date. Oddities, Double Sur-charges, etc., of the Provisional Government Issue, also Blocks of nearly every Stamp. We have the Rare Errors, Stanley Gibbons, 80a. and 99a. A beautiful lot of Proofs on hand. Will be pleased to quote prices or send on approval to responsible parties.

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Our Mr. J. N. MAKINS is a Member of the I.P.U. of Berlin.

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THE WHITE LIST.

The following Stamps are all ABOVE SUSPICION!

All are well centred, perfect, and mint or lightly postmarked, and CHEAP.

MINT UNUSED.

O.F.S., 6d. carmine, V.R.I. . .	13 9	Trinidad, 1851, 1d. blue . .	5 9
Fiji, 2d. on 3d., catalogued 2/-	9d.	Lagos, 6d. olive	1 6
Gibraltar, 25c. on 2d., cat. 2/-	10d.	St. Christopher, 1d. carmine,	
Dominica, 6d. orange.	7/11	per doz.	1 6
O.F.S., 6d. carmine	1 11	Seychelles, 12 on 16c.	7d.
Montserrat, ½, 1, 2½, 4d., set of 4	3 6	O.F.S., 2½ on 3d., cat. 2/6 . .	1/2
Gambia, embossed, 6d.	11d.		
" 15. violet	1 5	VERY FINE USED.	
B.S.A., 4d., thick paper, perf.		New Zealand, scarce set of 6 diff-	
12½, cat. 2-6	9d.	erent perfs. of 5d. black, in-	
Virgin Islands, 6d. violet	3 11	cluding 1 cat. 2 6, the 6 . .	4 9
Transvaal, 1d. on 2½d.	2d.	Queensland, 2d. blue, perf. 9	
" square stop	3d.	by 12, cat. 25.	8 6
Labuan, engraved, set of 6	1 11	Six New Zealand 5d. blk., p. 10,	
Antigua, ½, 1, 2½, 4, 6, set of 5	3 6	with 6 diff. advts. on back, the set	1 2
Transvaal, 1890. ½d. to 1/-	6 9	W. Australia, 6d. CA 12, cat. 10/-	13 9
cat. 17.3		O.W. Official, ½d. green, Queen	11 9
		W. Australia, CC 12½, 6d. violet	1 6
		Gold Coast, 20	2 6

Fine Selections sent on Approval, including many great bargains. In superb condition. Cheap Wholesale Lots for Club Members.

A. E. MOORE,
7, Maples Street, Nottingham.

The "White List."

SOME FURTHER SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

WHAT THE "FORTNIGHTLY" WILL DO.

OUR scheme for a "White List" of philatelists of integrity and good standing has been so favorably received on every hand, and the thing is so palpably a "consummation to be wished," that we have decided to take the matter up and to formulate a plan which we hope will commend itself to all those who have the best interests of Philately at heart.

Meanwhile the following further suggestions and opinions from readers of the *Fortnightly* will well repay perusal.

Mr. H. M. Campbell, Hastings.

Re the White List proposed in the *S.C.F.*, may I make the following suggestions:—

(1) That the List be issued as a Monthly Supplement to the *S.C.F.*

(2) That subscribers to the *S.C.F.*, Members of Exchange Clubs and Societies, and all collectors whose references are thoroughly *bona-fide*, pay, say 1s., to have their names entered in the list.

(3) That all other parties, whose references have to be enquired into, pay 1s. 6d. or 2s. to cover expense incurred in making the necessary enquiries, as to *bona fides* of reference.

I sincerely hope that the publication of "The White List" will become an accomplished fact, as at present there seems to be so many fraudulent schemers about, that unless one knows the parties one is dealing with intimately, it seems dangerous to buy, sell, or exchange stamps at all!

I think that those wishing to subscribe and have their names entered in the "White List," should send in a form something after this style:

Name and Address.	Member of	Other Refs.	Subscriber to
Campbell, Mr. H. M. 2 High Wickham, Hastings.	Birmingham Philatelic Society.	;	"S.C.F., A. Smith's "Monthly Circular" & "The Stamp Collector."

SIGNED: H. M. CAMPBELL.

Mr. H. Bean, Loughborough Park, London.

I have read the correspondence and suggest a "Reference Register." The subscriptions to Stamp Exchange and Stamp Trade Protection Societies are somewhat heavy and I should propose that for a fee of 1s. 6d. as Annual Subscription to a Register of Philatelists, for which sum the member's references—two or more—would be inquired into and a list sent out about every three months to all subscribing subscribers.

Mr. T. B. Widdowson, Leicester.

I have read with much pleasure in the last two numbers the various suggestions of a "White List" and would suggest that such a list be started and published by the *S.C.F.* at stated intervals. It should first be submitted to the Committees of the S.T.P.A. and S.E.P.S., and all names published in at least two numbers of the paper before being admitted, it would then give a chance to outsiders to send confidential information lest any Malcolm Campbell or Ruben Hilliers should appear; it would also greatly strengthen the hands of the two Societies, which should be in touch with every society and dealer in the country.

Mr. C. Egbert Ashby, Mapperley, Notts.

Re the "references" mentioned by "ASCOT," I do not think it would be advisable to make it a rule that "one of these should be from any Philatelic Society or Exchange." I venture to say that a good number, if not the majority, of philatelists do *not* belong to such institutions. This rule would debar all such from the benefit of the "White List."

The idea of publishing a list of names and addresses I think very good. Why not follow up the "Bazaar" reference book and have vouchers?

Mr. D. J. Gadsby, Hove, Sussex.

I have been much interested in this suggestion, which I think is excellent. It appears to me, however, that it would be a mistake to publish a list, either in the *S.C.F.* or separately. The list should be kept, say at your office, and any dealer or collector wishing to enquire whether any particular person were on the list, could obtain the information by writing and enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, or possibly a small fee.

My objection to the list being published is that those on the list would be perpetually pestered by unsolicited lots of stamps on approval, or by letters from dealers asking permission to send selections. I do not know where dealers get my address from now, but I am frequently troubled with this sort of thing, and if one's name and address were published in a "White List" (and it would obviously be useless publishing names without addresses), I am afraid it would become a regular nuisance to the collector.

The names and address of all applicants for the List ought to be published in the *S.C.F.* as suggested by "Ascot"; and there should be a registration fee of say 1s. to cover postage, &c. All references should be to Secretaries of Exchange Clubs or well-known dealers, and should be thoroughly enquired into.

Mr. W. A. Bois, East Dulwich, London.

A good idea, indeed! and one that should be well supported!

I am a member of a good many clubs and have suffered much from the stamp changer.

A firm of London, *W.C.*, Stamp Dealers, kept stamps of mine, six weeks, in spite of cards, and it was only when I wrote and raised prices that the stamps came back intact.

I have just sent an order for stamps to an advertiser in the "P.C. & A." with P.O. and stamps to balance. He was sold out, but takes a 1d. for his reply to me, so I have to pay postage both ways, obviously unfair.

All these people should be excluded from the white list.

Mr. A. E. Moore, Nottingham.

I note your remarks on my suggestion in last *S.C.F.*, and would like to point out that, *whatever* the conditions of inclusion in the list might be, the absence of any name from such list "would not necessarily brand a man," &c., for such a list could never be considered complete, any more than a "black list." My idea in suggesting the restriction was to somewhat limit the length of the list, which might otherwise grow to alarming proportions. Besides, the names of subscribers, &c., to *S.C.F.*, would be *more* useful to the other subscribers, than the names of outsiders.

By the end of June, it is confidently expected, the stamps in the British Museum will be on view. And high time, too!

Philatelists will sympathize with Mr. T. H. Nicolle, of Sydney, N.S.W., in the loss he has sustained through the sudden death of his wife.

If the Australian Colonies adopted both Imperial Penny Postage and the Penny Inland Letter Rate, the total loss in postal revenue would amount to £316,500.

Mr. A. F. Basset Hull has been promoted to the charge of the legal branch of the New South Wales Mines Department. This well-known philatelist is a duly qualified barrister-at-law.

The philatelic case now engaging Sir Albert De Rutzen's attention ought to prove of exceptional interest to that distinguished Magistrate. He himself is a keen and well-informed collector.

Another well-known Australian philatelist, Mr. R. Mauey Lake, is visiting Europe, having sailed from Sydney by the R.M.S. "Moravian" on April 8th. Prior to his departure, members of the Sydney Philatelic Club gave Mr. Mauey Lake a send-off dinner and drank him good luck and God-speed.

Our Review of Reviews.

How to Find a Watermark by Photography.

Mr. R. Stewart, of Invercargill, New Zealand, describes a simple process whereby watermarks may be easily distinguished. Photographic material is brought into use, but a camera is dispensed with. All that is required is the usual photographic printing paper, a printing frame and a bright sun. Place the stamp (preferably face downwards) on the paper in a frame, expose it to the sun, and that portion bearing the watermark, being thinner, allows the rays of light to penetrate more rapidly through to the sensitized surface, and a distinct photograph is the result. This may be "fixed" in the usual manner known to photographers—and who is not a photographer now-a-days?

So far as we are aware (says the "Australian Journal of Philately," in commenting on the idea) this information is new to the philatelic world. We have not yet had time to test this discovery by actual experiment, but some of our photographic friends say the theory is right. Mr. Stewart has kindly sent us a specimen of an N.Z. stamp, showing the large star watermark more distinctly than the stamp itself.

Two Rehabilitated British Columbians.

"When we have made a mistake and found it out, the first necessary thing is to acknowledge it," write Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, in their "Monthly Journal." That is a frank and honest beginning, and we doubt not Messrs. Gibbons will be ready and willing to acknowledge the error of judgment they have made in the matter of the Madagascar Locals. This, however, is by the way, their present confession refers to the 10c. and 1 dollar, perf. 14, of British Columbia.

In the 1900 edition of our Priced Catalogue of Great Britain and Colonies we struck out from British Columbia the 10c. and 1 dollar, perf. 14, which we had every reason to believe had been made by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., but never sent out to the Colony, or at any rate had never been issued; as in every collection to which we had access no used copy of either of these stamps could be met with, and we had no recollection of ever having seen one. Lately, to our great surprise, a client in San Francisco, in sending some stamps for our examination, included a *used* copy of the 10c., perf. 14. The cancellation was in the dull blue colour which is common on the stamps of that period, and the postmark consisted of the figures "35" surrounded by bars, as usual. A careful examination of this stamp and of the postmark, both by ourselves and by two members of the Expert Committee of the London Philatelic Society, has convinced us that the stamp and postmark are perfectly genuine. Under these conditions we think it right to at once publish the fact that, as we have been satisfied that the 10c. at any rate was issued, that stamp will be included in the next edition of our Catalogue.

Concerning Dr. Kalckhoff.

The "Record's" latest illustrated biographical sketch deals with Dr. Kalckhoff, the famous German philatelist who has written so many authoritative works and essays on difficult phases of our hobby. Dr. Kalckhoff is forty-three years of age, a Berliner by birth, and a high official in the Patent Office of the Fatherland.

Dr. Kalckhoff's philatelic career began in his early school days, as he was first induced to collect by the present of a stamp album at Christmas, 1868.

Since 1890 he has specialised telegraph stamps, of which he has now a very nice collection of over 2,000.

Coming to literature, Dr. Kalckhoff's first notes on philatelic matters appeared in 1879 in the *Wiener Illustrierte Briefmarken Zeitung* and in the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal*. In 1892 he published his first book on Reprints, which was translated into English by Mr. H. Hilckes.

During his stay in England (1899-1890), in Huddersfield, Dr. Kalckhoff became a member of the Philatelic Society, London. The Berlin Philatelic Society has counted him amongst its members since 1888, and elected him successively Librarian, Hon. Secretary, Vice-President, and, last year, President, when the Club's first president, Herr Lindenberg, left Berlin.

Good Stamps Go A-Begging.

Philatelists, as a rule, are prone to spinning "tall" yarns of the good things they have missed, but the "Australian Philatelist" can vouch for the truth of the following from an intimate acquaintance with the collector who supplied the information:—

In the course of business a firm in Launceston, New Zealand, recently received two £1 postage stamps (1892-99 issue of that State) from their London branch as being of no use there. A clerk, the son of the philatelist who tells the story, was instructed to get low-value stamps in exchange. His first mission was to the post office, but the officials declined the exchange. Several solicitors were next tried, with the same result. The two stamps were eventually sent to the General Post Office, Hobart, and were accepted, and after deducting the usual 10 per cent., the balance in low-value stamps was remitted to the firm. The youth, who knew his father had one of the finest collections in Tasmania, told him of the trouble experienced in getting an exchange of low-value stamps for the two £1 ones. The rage of the parent can be better imagined than described.

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Whole Page ..	£4 0 0	£3 10 0	£3 0 0	£2 10 0
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Clients wishing to include Collections in any of the above Sales are requested to make early arrangements with regard to their disposal, as some of the earlier dates are already allotted.

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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 past seasons.

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1d. black, early impression ..	8d.
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1d. deep red-brown, blue paper	2d.
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1d. red-brown ..	1d.
1d. " deep blue paper	2d.
1d. " white paper ..	3 6

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HAVE YOU SEEN a copy of "Poole's Monthly Philatelist" yet? A copy will gladly be sent you, free, on receipt of postcard. - BERTRAM POOLE, Stamford.

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POSTAGE EXTRA.

Table listing stamp bargains including British South Africa, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, and Gold Coast stamps with prices in pence and shillings.

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New Issue of South Australia

Table listing South Australia stamps: 3d. green, 4d. salmon, 6d. green, 8d. blue, 9d. red-lilac, 10d. yellow-brown, 1/- brown with prices.

BARGAINS.

Table listing Bulgaria, Greece, and German stamps: 8 various Bulgaria, 1901, 2/6 per 12 sets; 11 Greece, 1901, 6/0; 1 mk. German, 1900, obsolete, 3/0 per 100; 8upf., 2/6.

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SUMMER BARGAINS!!

Table listing summer bargains: Canada Jubilee, 5 dollars, used, 6/-; Gt. Britain, Govt. Parcels, green & red, used, 2/-; Gold Coast, 10/- green and brown, used, very fine, 4/6; Mafeking, 3d. on 1d. Gibbons' No. 7, on piece, 10/-; Nova Scotia, 1851, 1d. on blue, very fine, 25/-; S. Australia, 1d. green, Gibbons' No. 115, v. fine, 4/6; S. Nigeria, 2d. King, used, very fine, 3d.; 6d., do., do., 8d.; 1/-, do., do., do., 11/-; 1/-, 6d., 2d., & 1d., used on piece, v. fine, 2/1; Transvaal, 1878, 1d. red, mint, perf. all round, 8/-; Trinidad, 1860, 5d. lilac and mauve, very fine, 2/3. Cash with order. Postage free.

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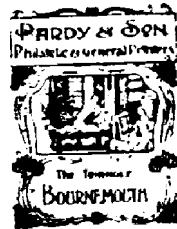
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8d.

10d.

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We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.



THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 271.—VOL IX

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1903

ONE PENNY.

MESSRS. GLENDINING & Co.,

Fine Art, Numismatic & Philatelic Auctioneers,

THE ARGYLL GALLERY,

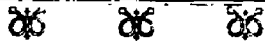
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Varieties of 1894 surcharges.
½d. in violet on 1½d. and 7½d., etc., etc.

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In the Arbitration Room, 64, CHANCERY LANE.

NEXT SEASON'S DATES—1903 Oct. 6 & 7; 20 & 21. Nov. 3 & 4; 17 and 18. Dec. 1 and 2; 15 & 16.

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The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

Published every Alternate Saturday.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club, and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange.

No. 217.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, JULY 4 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad

A "Reluctant" Prosecution.

THERE was a new development in the Official Stamp Prosecution on Saturday, June 20th—the day the last *Fortnightly* appeared. On that date the police arrested John Walter Richards (father of the two young men of the same name already in custody) whom they believe to have been a prime mover in these alleged illicit dealings in Government stamps. After being formally brought before the magistrate at Bow Street this fifth prisoner was remanded till Monday, June 22nd, when all five defendants made their appearance before Sir Albert de Rutzen. Appended is a report of the day's proceedings:

Alfred Waterhouse, a clerk at the Admiralty; Anthony Buck Creeke, a solicitor; Henry John Richards a cycle maker; Percy Tidd Richards (his brother), and Walter John Richards (their father), were charged, on remand, before Sir Albert de Rutzen, with stealing and receiving official stamps.

Mr. R. D. Muir (instructed by Mr. Highmore, of the Inland Revenue) prosecuted; Mr. Lincoln Reed defended Creeke; Mr. E. W. Pheasant appeared for Henry John and Walter John Richards; and Mr. Harry Wilson for Waterhouse.

Mr. Muir said that Walter John Richards was not arrested until Saturday last, and it was necessary to explain the position he was in. He was, until recently, a principal clerk at Somerset House. In the course of inquiries made as to the source from which official stamps sold to dealers really came, it was ascertained the great bulk came from Walter John Richards in circumstances which compelled the Board of Inland Revenue although with the greatest possible

reluctance and regret to include him in the charge with the other prisoners.

As a principal clerk at Somerset House, he had together with a Mr. Dewey the actual custody and control of vast quantities of postage and official stamps. He had one key of the safe in which they were kept, and Mr. Dewey had the other.

Without the concurrent use of the two keys the stamps could not be taken from the safe in which they were kept. Walter Richards, possibly with the concurrence of Mr. Dewey was the person who had to decide what stamps should be taken out.

On the 23rd of January last he decided that four sheets of stamps should be taken out for cancellation—namely, two sheets of halfpenny stamps (one red and one green), one sheet of fivepenny stamps, and one sheet of tenpenny stamps. These were the stamps which were sold, among others, to Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Company Limited, who gave the enormous price of £61 for three sets.

These stamps should have been included in a cancellation warrant made out at Somerset House on January the 30th, but in point of fact they were not so included. What took place was this—Walter Richards and Mr. Dewey kept the stamps referred to.

He (Mr. Muir) would not say anything about Mr. Dewey at present except that none of the stamps which came into his possession were ever put upon the market, and he never made a single penny out of them.

A TRUSTED "I.R. OFFICIAL."

With regard to Walter Richards the facts were very different, continued Mr. Muir. As early as the 28th January some of the stamps which should have been included in the warrant of the 30th of January were offered by Henry Richards (Walter Richards' son) to Mr. Moore, a dealer, and on the very day the warrant was signed a quantity were sold to a Mr. Field, a dealer.

On the same day, Mr. Healey, a stamp merchant, had some of these Official stamps offered to him. Mr. Healey knew that the regulations prevented the sale of these stamps in quantities. Therefore he, like an honest man, wrote to Somerset House to know if he might purchase any. The letter was handed to a trusted servant—Walter Richards—to deal with. He at once showed it to the prisoner Creeke.

Creeke was in the possession of Office of Works stamps stolen by his friend and associate Walter Richards, and although knowing, as he said he knew, that Somerset House absolutely prohibited their sale, he took them to Mr. Healey and asked him to purchase them.

He had no introduction to Mr. Healey, but he knew from the confidential letter sent to Somerset House that he was willing to purchase stamps if he could do so honestly. To his credit be it said, Mr. Healey absolutely declined to deal with Creeke.

Early in February, Walter Richards, as a trusted Official of the Inland Revenue, was sent to Mr. Healey for the purpose of

ascertaining where the stamps offered to him came from. Instead of acting straightforwardly he continued the course of treachery he had pursued towards his employers. He went to Mr. Healey, accompanied by Mr. Stonestreet, another official.

CHARGES OF THEFT AND TREACHERY.

Mr. Healey complained indignantly—as he was entitled to do—that a private and confidential letter, written by him to the heads of the Inland Revenue, should have been shown to Creeke. That happened on a Saturday, and as soon as the interview with Mr. Healey was over, Walter Richards tried to persuade Mr. Stonestreet, his colleague, not to report what Mr. Healey had said about his letter and Mr. Creeke.

Mr. Stonestreet declined to do anything of the kind; but nothing was done until the Monday. Mr. Stonestreet then told Walter Richards that he intended to disclose what had taken place at the interview on Saturday. On that day, however, Walter Richards had gone to Somerset House armed with a letter from Creeke stating that he (Richards) had not betrayed anything to him.

In other directions Walter Richards pursued his treacherous conduct. His son, Henry Richards, told Mr. Moore, a stamp dealer, that inquiries were being made at Somerset House as to the sale of Official stamps. He told Mr. Moore that he would that day have a visit from the police. That proved to be true. Of course, he had got his information from his father, who was supposed to be assisting in the inquiries.

Mr. Moore gave Detective-Sergeant Ward a description of Henry Richards. Within 12 hours, Henry Richards knew (through his father) that that information had been given. It was perfectly obvious that Walter Richards not only stole stamps, but betrayed the trust reposed in him by playing into the hands of the thieves and receivers acting in concert with him. The authorities, therefore, thought it was their duty to the public to include him in the charge.

A WELL-KNOWN SPECIALIST'S EVIDENCE.

On the next appearance of the five prisoners—namely, on Saturday last, June 27th—there was a new and most interesting witness, Mr. Harold J. White, so widely known as a specialist and exhibitor of British stamps.

Harold J. White, a solicitor, practising at 8, Whitehall Place, gave evidence as to having purchased six Inland Revenue Official stamps from Creeke on February 12th last, for £42. The stamps were for 5/-, 10/- and £1—two of each kind. In reply to Mr. Reed, the witness said he had known Creeke for many years as a stamp collector. He understood that Creeke himself told the Inland Revenue authorities that he had sold these particular stamps to him. The witness had bought Official stamps on many occasions from dealers and at auctions, but he did not know how they got on the market.

BRITISH "OFFICIALS" FORGED IN FRANCE.

Some time since, continued Mr. White, he bought a 10d. King's head Office of Works stamp at Ipswich for £5, and since then he had been told that those particular stamps were not issued until a month ago. Detective-Sergeant Ward had told him that it might prove to be a forgery.

Mr. Reed.—Sergeant Ward appears to have a very fertile mind.

Mr. Muir (speaking with an air of authority.—You may take it from me that the stamp is a forgery.)

MR. STONESTREET'S STORY.

Mr. Stonestreet, a clerk in the office of the Controller of Stamps, Somerset House, said that Walter Richards was a principal clerk in that department. Early in February he accompanied the witness to the shop of Mr. Healey, a stamp dealer, in the city, who had written to Somerset House to know if he was at liberty to purchase certain stamps which had been offered to him. Mr. Healey was very indignant because his private letter to Somerset House had been shown to the prisoner Creeke. He said that soon after the letter was written Mr. Creeke called upon him and wanted to sell him some official stamps, but he did not like to buy any, and did not like the look of the man (laughter, in which Creeke joined). When Mr. Healey complained that his private letter had been shown to an outsider, Walter Richards said, "Creeke is frequently at Somerset House; he must have seen your letter on my table while my back was turned." On leaving Mr. Healey's shop, Walter Richards asked witness not to say anything to the Controller as to the complaint that had been made about Creeke seeing the letter. He said Creeke had been very useful to him, and had given him information about stamps which he could not have obtained as an official. As senior clerk, Walter Richards reported the interview to the Controller. He said nothing about Mr. Healey's complaint, but reported that Creeke had offered to sell official stamps to him. The witness told Richards that he ought to have reported the whole of the facts, and he replied that he would first get something from Creeke in writing.

On the following day Richards reported the complaint to the Controller, and showed him a letter he had received from Creeke to the

effect that he had not told Mr. Healey that he had seen the letter he had sent to Somerset House. On another occasion Walter Richards told the witness that his son Henry knew where the Government parcels stamps came from, but he "would not give the game away." About a week after this conversation Walter Richards said to the Controller, "When I was coming from Charing-cross Station the other day, I noticed for the first time the name of Healey on a stamp dealer's shop. It struck me that this place was connected with Mr. Healey's business. I therefore sent my son Henry to the shop to see if he could find out anything about Government parcel stamps, but he obtained no information." The Controller told him he had no right to do that, and Richards replied, "I am very sorry if I have done wrong. Of course, it is amateur detective's business. I was anxious to find out as much as possible."

Another remand was ordered, and in the next *Fortnightly* we shall further report the progress of this extraordinary case

Additions to the Expert Committee.

Two new names are added to the list of the Philatelic Society's Expert Committee—those of Mr. Robert Ehrenbach and Mr. L. L. R. Hansburg. The Committee, by the way, is now making holiday, and will not meet again until October 23rd.

The Prince Imperial Essay.

Some time ago the "Philatelic Record" published an illustrated article by Mr. Grunewald upon the Prince Imperial Essay, and it was stated that a few copies only were printed in black, and only one existed in blue.

Some weeks ago the editor of our contemporary was surprised to see a set of these essays printed in nine different colours, namely, olive-green, red-brown, pale green, bistre, dark blue, brown, orange, carmine, and lilac, and represented as being the suggested colours for the contemplated new series in 1870, in the order of value 1c., 2c., 5c., 10c., 20c., 30c., 40c., 80c., and 5fr. Since then *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* has had an interesting article on the subject, in which it speaks of the Constitutional difficulties in 1869, of the ill health of the Emperor Napoleon III., and his contemplated early abdication in favour of his son with the Regency, and that the idea of issuing stamps bearing the Prince Imperial profile was one means of adding stability or preparing the populace for the new order of things. M. Joubert, who was at the time in the employ of Messrs. De la Rue & Co., produced the matrix, and it is said the order to do so was kept a secret in Paris at the time to prevent complications before the whole scheme, of which this new issue was to form a part, matured; hence the reason of the work not being entrusted to the workmen at the Paris Mint. The matrix, however, must have been sent to Paris, as, after the death of M. Hulot, it was found amongst his effects, together with a number of the essays which are now upon the market. The number has not transpired, but it must be considerable.

Death of a Birmingham Philatelist.

In Birmingham commercial circles (says the "Philatelic Chronicle") few men were better known and more widely respected than Mr. Henry Buckley, and very widespread regret will be evoked by the news of his death, which occurred with painful suddenness at the Hotel Victoria, London, where he was staying a few days on business. Mr. Buckley was the son of the late Mr. Samuel Buckley, who was Chairman of the Board of Directors of the London, City and Midland Bank, and founder of the business of Messrs. Samuel Buckley and Company, Merchants, who formerly carried on business in Great Charles Street, and afterwards in Great Alfred's Place until removing to London. Mr. Henry Buckley was associated with the Birmingham Assay Office in the capacity of guardian.

Sixteen or seventeen years ago he was an ardent philatelist and president of the old Birmingham Philatelic Society. As guardian of the Assay Office, he procured an appointment at that institution for Mr. C. J. Phillips, then honorary secretary of the Birmingham Society, which that gentleman held until such time as he removed to London to take charge of the business of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. To the new Birmingham Philatelic Society, Mr. Buckley's name as a philatelist is unknown, but local philatelists of the older organization will hear of his demise with a real regret.

From the Auction Rooms.

* Signifies Unused.

MR. TILLEARD ON "UNDECLARED RESERVES."



IN his annual report to the members of the Philatelic Society, Mr. J. A. Tilleard writes:—

The change which appears to have come over the auction sales is worthy of notice. Although these are more numerous than ever, and are apparently well supported, collectors cannot fail to have observed that sales by auction are no longer so reliable a means either of acquiring or disposing of good stamps as heretofore. Rightly or wrongly, an impression is abroad that most of the lots offered for sale in this way are protected by undeclared reserves, owing to

a large proportion of the stamps included in the sales being the property of dealers, and if confidence is to be restored some authoritative statement on the subject should be forthcoming by the auctioneers engaged in the trade.

In the same issue of the "London Philatelist" in which this is published appears an editorial article on the subject, concluding as follows:—

The only suggestion we can make is the publication of reserves in all cases where such exist. Needless to say, we are making these remarks in no spirit of antagonism to the auctioneers; we recognise unreservedly that they have been of incalculable value in building up the stability of stamp collecting. It is rather on this ground, and because we believe they are so essential to the future of Philately, that we would see them purged of any feature that militates against their holding the entire confidence of the world of stamp collectors.

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co.'s Sale, May 14th and 15th, 1903.

	£	s.	d.
Cape of Good Hope, 1861, 1d. scarlet, woodblock	5	5	0
Do. do. 1861, 4d. blue, woodblock	2	18	0
Niger Coast, 1894, no wmk., ½d. on 2½d. Gibbons' 53, mint	1	15	0
Sierra Leone, 1894, ½d. on 1½d. lilac, wmk. CC., mint	2	12	0
Grenada, 4d. on 2/-, the variety with upright D, mint	4	10	0
New Zealand, 2d. vermilion, wmk. N.Z., imperf., an un-catalogued variety	1	10	0
Tasmania, 1853, 1d. blue	2	2	0
Victoria, 1863-4, 1d. green, wmk. double-lined 4	4	17	6

Messrs. PUTTIOK & SIMPSON'S Sale, May 19th and 20th, 1903.

Great Britain, 1840, 2d. pale blue*	3	15	0
Gwalior, 1885, short inscription, 8a. mauve, mint	2	10	0
Do. 1 rupee grey, do.	2	12	0
British Bechuanaland, 1888, overprinted "Protectorate," 4d. lilac, fine	1	7	0
Do. do. 1/- green, the scarce variety with error of overprint, "Protectorate," mint	1	6	0
British Central Africa, 1895, £10 vermilion*	10	0	0
Do. do. £25 blue-green*	24	0	0
Niger Coast, 1893-94, One Shilling in vermilion on 2d., mint	3	3	0
Transvaal, 1878, V.R. Transvaal, 1d. red on blue, with inverted surcharge	5	10	0
Do. 1882, Een Penny on 4d. green, with inverted surcharge, mint	2	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1851-53, 1d. red-brown	1	13	0
Do. do. half of 6d. yellow-green, used as 3d. on entire original	2	12	6
Jamaica, Wmk. CA., Two Pence Half-Penny on 4d. brown-red, with double surcharge, mint	1	3	0
St. Vincent, wmk. star, 4d. in black, on 1/- vermilion	9	9	0
Trinidad, wmk. CA., 10/- green and blue, mint	1	10	0
Hawaii, 1893, 15c. brown, with double surcharge, mint*	1	17	0
New Zealand, imperf., half of 1/- green, used as 6d. on entire original	4	5	0

Victoria, 1850, 3d. blue, type B, a pair, mint*	5	5	0
Do. 1857-63, wmk. star, imperf., 4d. vermilion*	2	10	0
Do. 1863-4, wmk. double-lined numerals, 2d. lilac, wmk. 1*	1	2	0
Do. 1868-81, 5/- blue and red, well centred, mint*	2	0	0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & OOPER'S Sale, May 22nd and 23rd, 1903.

Great Britain, Prince Albert Essay, 1d. dark blue, perforated, mint*	1	0	0
Ceylon, wmk. star, rough perf., 2/- blue, mint*	1	14	0
Do. wmk. C. and CC., 1/- mauve, a mint strip of 4	1	7	0
Do. do. 2/- blue, a mint pair	0	19	0
Do. do. 2/- dark blue, mint*	0	15	0
India, 1856-64, no watermark, 2 annas yellow-green	2	12	0
British East Africa, 1891-95, provisionals, MS surcharge, 1 anna A.B. on 4a. brown	1	7	0
Do. do. surcharged with a handstamp, ½ anna A.D. on 2a. vermilion	3	10	0
Do. do. 1 anna A.B. on 4 annas brown	5	5	0
Natal, 1875, "POSTAGE" on 1/- green, twice surcharged	2	4	0
Zanzibar on British East Africa, 1 anna carmine-rose, twice surcharged*	1	17	0
Bahamas, 1861, no wmk., 1d. lake, perf. 13*	1	16	0
British Guiana, 1878-79, 1 horizontal bar and 1 vertical (2c.) on 8c. rose*	1	2	0
New South Wales, Sydney Views, 1d. red, plate I, on entire	2	12	6
Do. 1d. red, plate I, a pair with dated postmarks	3	5	0
Do. 1d. carmine, plate I, a pair with Butterfly postmarks	3	10	0
Do. 1d. red, plate II, a pair on laid paper	3	5	0
Do. Laureated issue, 1851, 2d. blue, stars in corners, the error "WAEES"	2	8	0
Do. 6d. brown, the error "WALLS"	2	0	0
Do. 1860, perf. 12, 8d. orange	1	17	0

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.'s Sale, May 26th and 27th, 1903.

British Colombia, 1867, 1 dollar, mint	2	2	0
British Guiana, 1852, 1c. black on magenta	6	15	0
Do. do. 4c. black on blue	5	15	0
Do. 1853, 1c. vermilion	2	4	0
Do. 1853, 1c. red-brown*	3	0	0
Canada, 1852, wmk. 7½d. green*	4	7	6
Do. 1857, perf., ½d. rose*	1	6	0
Ceylon, 1857, imperf., 9d. lilac-brown	3	5	0
Gambia, 1869, 4d. pale-brown, a mint pair	3	5	0
Do. 1874, CC., 4d. pale brown, a mint pair	4	0	0
Do. do. 4d. pale brown, a mint strip of three	4	7	6
Do. do. 6d. deep blue, a mint pair	3	5	0
Do. 1880, 1/- deep green, mint	2	0	0
Gibraltar, 1st issue, 1/- brown	1	16	0
Do. 3rd issue, 25c. on 2d., a pane of 60 showing errors, broken N and short I, mint	3	15	0
Do. a block of 18 with broken N and vertical strip of 20 with short I, mint	2	15	0
Gold Coast, 1875, CC. 12½, 4d. mauve and 6d. orange, mint	2	12	6
Great Britain, 1840, 1d. intense black, a block of 4*	3	3	0
Do. 2d. deep blue*	3	0	0
Do. 1867, 2/- brown	2	0	0
Nevis, 1878, lithographed, 6d., mint	4	12	6
Do. do. 1/- pale green, a mint strip of 3	2	12	6
New Brunswick, 3d. red*	2	6	0
Newfoundland, 1860, 2d. orange-vermilion*	1	10	0

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co.'s Sale, May 28th and 29th, 1903.

Faridkot, surcharged on Indian ½a. green, a mint pair, one stamp having reversed surcharge	1	2	0
Cape of Good Hope, 4d. blue woodblock	2	0	0
Orange Free State, 1882, 3d. on 4d. ultra Gibbons' 42, mint	1	8	0
St. Helena, 1864-74, 1/-, perf. 12½, mint, Gibbons' 28	1	1	0
Transvaal, 1879, 3d. mauve on blue, fine roulette, Gibbons' 135	1	17	0
Do. 1877, 1d. red, imperf. on pelure paper, Gibbons' 62A	1	5	0
Monaco, 5 francs, first issue, mint	1	15	0
Transvaal, 1900, V.R.I., ½d, with inverted surcharge	1	1	0
Do. do. 1d. " " " "	1	7	0
Do. do. 6d. " " " "	1	5	0
Do. do. 1/- " " " "	1	4	0

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JULY 4, 1903.

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

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.



There are now Five Prisoners in the Official Stamp Prosecution. Those who peruse the reports published in this number of the *Fortnightly*, under the heading "Philately at Home and Abroad" may perhaps credit us with a certain amount of prescience in connection with the paragraph in our last issue headed "Somerset House in Hot Water." However, we lay claim to nothing of the kind. We simply publish the news we receive—endeavouring always to exercise a wise discretion as to what should or should not be published—and more than that no Editor can do. The law in general is a *Hass*, but there is one more or less unwritten law which we all respect and obey—namely, that which enjoins us to make no comment whatever upon a case which is *sub judice*. The "London Philatelist," taking a somewhat exaggerated view of this time-honoured practice, gives only a ten-line paragraph to the subject of the prosecution, and mentions no names whatever! We are sorely afraid that the names will have to be divulged, some day, even in the decorous pages that Mr. M. P. Castle controls with such an able hand.

It is a Lamentable Business throughout, this trafficking in stamps which are known to be dishonorably obtained. Whatever be the result of the prosecution now pending, one thing is certain—that the Government will have to devise some new scheme for controlling its departmental issues. Some people there are who have sound ideas on a subject such as this, but can yet be very innocent when answering questions from the witness-box. The Government, possibly, will resort to a Special Commission as a means of solving the difficulty, and by that time Sir Albert de Rutzen, our only philatelic magistrate, should be so well primed with knowledge on the subject, that he would make an ideal chairman.

Regarding the Madagascar Locals we must claim our readers' indulgence until the next number of the *Fortnightly*. On this subject, by the way, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write us as follows:—

"We have no desire to enter into the controversy respecting the status of the British Inland Mail 'stamps' of Madagascar, but we observe that both Mr. Ewen and Mr. Baron insinuate in their letters that we are jealous of those who secured the stock. So far from this being the case, the stamps were offered first to us by Messrs. John Haddon & Co., in 1835, but we refused to touch them. Again, on March 12th of this year, the unsold stock was brought to our office personally by a London agent, but we refused even to look at them, remarking that we would not buy them at the price of waste paper, knowing what we do of their history.

"We feel compelled to make this explanation in order to show that your correspondents' innuendos are wholly unfounded, as we had the first offer of the labels on both occasions."

Fiscal Notes and Chronicle.

CONTRIBUTED BY A. PRESTON PEARCE.

THE current number of the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" contains the paper read before the I.P.C. by Mr. Schwabacher, the title and sub-title of which are set forth in the shape of scare head lines, after the fashion of the most modern journalism. Probably the printer was carried away by the swing of them, and used the most befitting type, but however, that may be, the effect is certainly fine. "Travelling through the Great Unknown—Fascinations of Virgin Ground, on Fiscal Stamp Collecting" looks like the heading of an article from "The Wide World Magazine," on the sub-title of an old pantomime, but is merely the writer's picturesque way of summing up the contents of his paper in two or three lines. Evidently Mr. Schwabacher was not inclined to make use of any of the material prepared for the London Society's Fiscal evening, for I find that his exhibits on this occasion were quite different. A specialized collection of U.S., a few rare British and Buenos Ayres, Austria with its multitudinous varieties of perforation, Peru with its provincial overprints, and a selection of Russians formed the display, which must have presented a remarkable array of beautiful designs and harmonious colouring. I reproduce the concluding remarks of the paper, because the statements contained therein cannot be brought before the notice of non-collectors too frequently.

"In concluding this paper I beg to express my sincere opinion that anyone taking up the hobby will find that it will afford him the enjoyment he was looking for, on account of his being able to build up a large collection at a moderate expense, with the pleasure of making constant discoveries and of having a large field open to his study, besides having a collection much more artistic and pleasing to the eye than a postalist's."

The Spanish Catalogue compiled by Mr. L. W. Fulcher, B.Sc., for Mr. Morley, which was recently noticed at length in these pages, has not been allowed to hold the field long, for a four page supplement containing the first instalment of a similar work appears in the current number of "El Filatélico Español." It may reasonably be assumed that Spanish collectors will be able to give a better account of the emissions of their own country than any outsiders, and it will be interesting to see to what extent they can improve on our work. It does not appear by whom the catalogue is being compiled and priced, but presumably the task has been undertaken by the Sociedad de Coleccionistas de Sellos Fiscales below mentioned.

The grouping together of collectors of revenue stamps into assemblies for mutual aid is one of the most promising signs of the times, and I have pleasure in drawing attention to the desire of the Spanish Society of Fiscal Stamp Collectors that all interested, should become members. The annual subscription of 5 francs may be sent to Senor T. Remoli, Muntaner 31, Barcelona, and in return each member should receive the official organ, containing the instalments of the Spanish catalogue, and Spanish revenues to the value of the subscription paid.

Until some reliable information be forthcoming with respect to certain alleged provisionals of Zanzibar that are now being offered, it would, I think, be advisable to regard them somewhat questioningly. The stamps referred to belong to the Indian *Special Papers* set overprinted "ZANZIBAR," and have the original values altered to others in a very crude fashion. Those seen by me are the 8as., altered to 4as., by means of a figure in black ink written on the original value, the 2r., changed to 1r., by a pen-stroke through the figure "2," and the 20r., supposed to be reduced to 2r., by the presence of a little red cross penmarked on each "0." Seeing that a 20r. has been made into a 2r., and a 2r., into a 1r., and that two of the copies examined appear to have been altered *after* they had been cancelled, it seems to be that these facts, taken in conjunction with the facility of manufacture at any time, call for special precautions on the part of buyers before purchasing.

Communications in respect of this department should be sent direct to Mr. A. PRESTON PEARCE, 12, Edgcombe Street, Stonchouse, Plymouth.

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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.

Aitutaki.—Concerning this island, which is being provided with 1d. stamps overprinted "Aitutaki," the "Philatelic Record" has collected a few interesting geographical facts.

The island is situated about (roughly) 700 miles East of Niue, 700 miles South of Penrhyn, and 700 miles West of Tahiti (these distances are only approximately estimated by us), and is just North of the Cook and Hervey Islands. The principal of the Cook Islands are generally given as Rarotonga, Mangaia, Aitutaki, Atiu, Mitiaro, Mauke and Takuatea, whilst the Hervey group, which is a little to the North, consists of two coral atolls, one very small, known as Manu e and Te-auotu. As Aitutaki is still further North, it seems to be hardly correctly grouped with the Cook Islands. It is described in Stanford's London Atlas as a "volcanic island and atoll."

British Somaliland.—The "Philatelic Record" publishes this pertinent paragraph: "Just as we are going to press we hear that the above stamps have been issued, or, to be more correct, that they are to be purchased from the trade in London. We presume some at all events have reached the country of origin, and wonder what are the feelings of those who are said a short time ago to have paid as much as £10 a set."

Guatemala.—The following news as to a little lot of new surcharges is extracted from the "Metropolitan Philatelist" of June 13th:—

Guatemala, being in need of a 25c. stamp, it was decided to surcharge the remainders of the 1886 and 1900 issues with the needed value, and so the following stamps have come out:

25c. on 1c. dark blue.	1900 issue.
.. 2c. carmine	.. ..
.. 6c. light green	.. ..
.. 10c. bistre-brown	.. ..
.. 75c. carmine-rose.	1886 ..
.. \$1.50 dark blue	.. ..
.. \$2 orange-yellow	.. ..

These stamps came out about two weeks before this was written and at the present time none of the last four values are obtainable at the post office, as very few were issued (only 5,700 of the \$2), and those were immediately bought by private individuals. Three errors in the surcharge of the 6c. have been printed—one with the surcharge inverted, up to now only one or two sheets have been found and these are in the possession of the postmaster, who may cause them to be destroyed. Another has the "centavos" wanting, *i.e.*, only "1903," and, under, "25"; the other has the "centavos" on the top instead of under the "25," *viz.*, "centavos," then "1903," and under that "25." These last two errors came out on account of a sheet being creased on going to press. Of that sheet only a very few were errors, the greater part being regular. As to more of these, we are unable to say how many came out, for this is the only sheet we have seen of its kind. The 1902 Pictorial Issue stamps are being sold very rapidly and as the post office receives only a limited amount from England, every month or so, at times it is very difficult to obtain them in quantities; for example, the 5c. and other values are only sold at present not over 100 at a time, also as to the sale of each of the other values they have fixed a limit. As yet no inverts are known to have been printed.

MONACO.—Dealers have lately been offering unused stamps of this principality bearing an overprint of the letters "O.L." in a dotted circle. The history of the overprint, the "Philatelic Record" tells us, is as follows:—

The history of this overprint is as follows: On the frontier of France and Monaco, called "Monte-Carlo Superieur," there is a letter-box on French territory. Letters franked with either French or Monaco stamps can be posted here, and, although on French territory, letters franked with Monaco stamps are not surcharged as being unpaid. The nearest French post-office is at "La Turbie," about 1½ hours from the letter-box, whilst it is only five minutes to the post-office at Monte Carlo. In consequence of an arrangement with the French authorities at La Turbie, this letter-box is cleared

from the post-office at Monte Carlo owing to its being the nearest. Every letter found in this letter-box and franked with Monaco stamps receives the O.L. impress, which is said to mean "Origine Locale." At first this impress was put on the stamps, and they were afterwards regularly obliterated; but now the overprint is not put on the stamps themselves, but on the envelopes.

Our contemporary comes to the conclusion that the Monaco stamps overprinted "O.L." are "the work of some obliging official," and that, whether used or unused, they do not merit the serious attention of philatelists.

Niue and Penrhyn Islands.—Apropos the recent issues of 3d., 6d. and 1s. stamps, already described, the Victoria Stamp Market, of Collins Street, Melbourne, inform us of the receipt of the 1s. stamp for Penrhyn Island in two very distinct shades—red and brown-red. The reference, of course, is to the colour of the original New Zealand stamp, and not to the overprint, which is in blue in every case.

San Marino.—On the authority of notices in various of our contemporaries we chronicled a 25 centesimi Express Letter stamp of San Marino. Judge of our surprise on learning from Mr. Charles de Grave Sells that "the Director of the Post of San Marino, declares there is no such stamp!" The Post-Director referred to is, presumably, a person who should know, and therefore (with no great reluctance) we expunge the Express Letter stamp of San Marino from our list.

Zanzibar.—In the "Metropolitan Philatelist" for June 20th one finds a most interesting letter as to postal probabilities under the new Sultan:—

The 4½ anna, orange of the late Sultan, Hamoud Bin Mohamed, who began to reign on August 27th, 1896, and died this year, will soon be out. There are only 350 more left, and I have laid in a supply for myself. No more of these will be printed, and they, in my opinion, should well repay investment now. I bought a number for a gentleman in South Africa a few days ago and sent them to him in block form, some postmarked, others unused. The Regent, Mr. A. S. Rogers, is in England, and I was asking him before he left, what he intended to do about the New Sultan's stamps, and he told me it was one of the first things he intended doing after his arrival, having the new issues got out. In further conversation I also learnt that the reason of the hurry is that there was only three months' supply in stock, and the new ones will be required. I also elicited from him that if the supply gave out before the arrival of the new issue, that he had arranged for a surcharged issue of other stamps pending their arrival.

There will be no more of the late Sultan's stamps printed, and the die will be destroyed. Although these arrangements are not generally known, I, on subsequent enquiry at the Post Office, found them to be correct although even there they didn't know about the proposed surcharged temporary issue."

No doubt when the Regent arrived in England, he would find his plans somewhat upset. The King Edward series of Gibraltar, for instance, was ordered in 1901, and only sent out to the Colony in March, 1903, so there is not much prospect of an entire new series for Zanzibar being obtained at three months notice. As no sign of any provisionals has come to hand, we should think a fresh supply of the old design has been printed and sent out. The late Sultan commenced his reign in 1896, but did not get his set of stamps till 1899, while his predecessor succeeded to the throne in 1893 and had to wait till 1896, so the present Sultan will probably have to wait till 1905.

A New Yorker calls attention to the great similarity between the new 2c. U.S.A. stamp and the One Penny King's Head of Great Britain. And there is, at first glance, an undeniable resemblance. In proof of this the New York "Sun" mentions that several British penny stamps have been passed through the post in American cities.

The fine collection of British North America formed by Mr. H. L. Hart, of Halifax, N.S., is for sale, the "Canada Stamp Sheet" tells us. Failing a sale entire, it will be broken up. Mr. H. L. Hart, it will be remembered, had the honour of an interview and a stamp chat with H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, during our future King's "Empire Tour."

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

THE Annual Report for 1902-1903 of the London Philatelic Society is published in the current "London Philatelist." Mr. J. A. Tilleard, invaluable Hon. Secretary that he is, contrives always to make his Report of the Society's work an interesting resumé of the Philately of the year.

We give some interesting extracts from the Report:—

"I regret to report that during the past year three of our members have died, viz., Miss Feyl de Pfeil, Mr. J. Wray Mercer, and the Rev. W. Bell. The last named had been a member for many years, and the tragic circumstances under which he met his death were such as to enlist the greatest sympathy of his fellow members with his widow and family.

"In the same period there have been fifteen resignations, the retiring members being Messrs. G. Alston, R. H. Beamish, T. H. R. Crowle, E. P. Airley Dry, G. L. Edwards, E. A. Foster, A. G. Griffith, J. H. Hallett, W. Harrison, G. B. Petrie, G. D. Wheeler, Dr. A. Boswell, Dr. S. G. Stein, Lieutenant A. R. Raby, and Lieutenant-Colonel Chichester.

"On the other hand, eleven new members have been elected, viz., Captain G. S. F. Napier, Baron R. Lehmann, the Rev. F. J. Williams, the Rev. Dr. C. Atkinson, Colonel T. C. P. Calley, and Messrs. H. Bennett, H. R. Watkins, J. C. Sidebotham, W. A. R. Jex-Long, W. Martello Gray, and W. V. Morten.

"A special Publication Committee, consisting of Messrs. M. P. Castle, E. D. Bacon, L. L. R. Hausburg and Gordon Smith, has been appointed for dealing with the work by Mr. Basset Hull on the stamps of the Australian Commonwealth, now in preparation for publication by the Society."

The subject of finance appears to trouble the controllers of our premier society. Mr. Tilleard says:—

"In considering whether there are any items of expenditure which can be reduced, attention has naturally been called to the heavy office expenses incurred by the Society. One of the chief reasons for taking the rooms which we occupy was the encouragement of what has been called "the social side of Philately." The expectations entertained in this respect have never been fulfilled. The rooms are practically unused by members, except on the few occasions of our fortnightly meetings during each season, so that, after making a reasonable allowance for expense of an office, each meeting actually costs the Society between £5 and £6. It is felt that this is an unnecessary extravagance, and that arrangements could easily be made for effecting a very substantial saving in this item alone. Suggestions have also been made for a further reduction in expenses in other minor respects, and the whole matter is being fully inquired into, and will be the subject of a report to the new Council at an early date, after which the views of the Society can be taken at a general meeting to be called for the purpose."

Following is a list of the Officers and Council of the Society for 1903-4:—

President, H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.; Vice-President, The Earl of Crawford, K.T.; Hon. Secretary, J. A. Tilleard; Hon. Treasurer, C. N. Biggs; Hon. Assistant Secretary, H. R. Oldfield; Hon. Librarian, L. W. Fulcher; Members of Council, E. D. Bacon, R. Ehrenbach, C. E. McNaughtan, M. P. Castle, J.P. (Hon. Vice-President), T. W. Hall, F. Reichenheim, C. J. Daun, L. L. R. Hausburg, Gordon Smith.

HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

As a fitting winding-up of the season 1902-3 the Hon. Librarian (Mr. George Haynes) issued invitations for a river party for Saturday, June 13th. Through his liberality a spacious steam launch, well provided with creature comforts, was engaged to start from Molesey Lock for an afternoon's cruise on the bosom of Father Thames. Nothing but fine weather was needed to insure a pleasant outing, but June was in a wayward mood and frowned on the H. P. S. On arrival at Hampton Court Station Jupiter Pluvius was found to be in full possession of the stage, from which he never made his exit. Between twenty and thirty moist but cheerful members had assembled, and in spite of the inclement weather a very

enjoyable time was spent. Mr. Reichenheim, in the course of the only speech of the day, voiced the opinion of the members when he stated how much he regretted that the kindly efforts of the host had been handicapped by circumstances over which he had no control. He thanked him very heartily, on behalf of the members, for his hospitality, and wished him better luck if he were bold enough to tempt Fortune next year for the third time. This Mr. Haynes promised to do, after which his health was drunk with the usual honours.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer*, Ingleside, St. Albans.

THE PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

MEMBERS are requested to send in by Monday, July 6th, any sheets they may desire to be enclosed in the July Packet which will start on circuit on the 7th. Vacancies occur for good members. Rules free; no fees.

R. T. MORGAN, *Secretary*, 14, High Street, Selhurst, S.E.

"BRITISH EMPIRE" STAMP EXCHANGE.

THE following packets have returned; the sheets received and accounts paid, viz.:—

March Colonial, Sales ..	£13 5s. 4d. nett.
April " " ..	£13 13s. 8d. nett.
March General, " ..	£13 2s. 2d. gross.

May and June packets were sent off on circuit on time.

May Colonial Packets, containing 30 sheets,	£ 80 1s. 10d. nett.
June " " " 33 " "	£ 80 10s. 6d. nett.
May General Packets, " 31 " "	£209 13s. 0d. gross.
June " " " 33 " "	£185 8s. 1d. gross.

H. BEAN, *Secretary*, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

"UNUSED" STAMP EXCHANGE.

THE following packets have returned and accounts rendered with return of members sheets, viz.:—

March packet. Sales, £20 15s. 4d.,	Gross Value.
April " " " £14 10s. 8d.	" "

May and June packets are in circulation, containing:—

May packet. 18 sheets,	£114 19s. 2d.,	Gross Value.
June " 13 " "	£64 5s. 2d.	" "

H. BEAN, *Secretary*, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

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The "Issues of Great Britain."
"On Collecting" and "On Collectors."
"The U.P.U. and Postcards."
"Storage and Display."
"Commemoratives."
"Hints to Collectors," &c., &c.

READY IN JULY.

Published by

SCOTT & WILSON, Reginald Mount, Leeds.

Fls Laureated
Reprints of New South Wales.

BY M. P. CASTLE.

IN the June "London Philatelist," Mr. M. P. Castle replies to an article on this subject, contributed to the "Monthly Journal" by that old-time Sydney dealer, Mr. Dawson Vindin. It is obvious that Mr. Vindin's article has nettled the ex-Vice-President of the London Society, and a remarkable, if somewhat verbose reply is the result.

Mr. Castle writes:—

The affair of the reprinted Laureates of New South Wales took place as far back as 1887, and it is perhaps unsavoury work to disinter a body so long dead and buried. It appears, however, that Mr. Dawson A. Vindin, who was so prominently associated with the venture, has recently appeared in London, and has published in the "Monthly Journal," under the title of "A Philatelic Mystery," an account of his connection with these reprints. I think I will therefore borrow from the "Monthly Journal" some paragraphs of Mr. Vindin's "narrative," especially as it purports to give an account of the destruction of the plates (not the first destruction I have heard of as regards these!). Mr. Vindin further mentions my name, and as he was good enough at one time to "impute" to me "other than pure motives," I think I am entitled to show that he was hardly the guileless person in this series of nefarious transactions that he seems now to make out.

After describing the nature of the stamps and stating that "the extremely modest price of £200" was demanded for each set of three sheets (there being hundreds of sheets and the plates in reserve!) he goes on to say:—

"When I offered the stamps for sale I was under the firm impression that they were *originals*. As to their undoubted genuineness there has never been a doubt. I was led to believe that the stamps had been discovered between the covers of an old account book in the Colonial Secretary's Office in Sydney. I knew the principal officials in the Colonial Secretary's, the Colonial Treasurer's, Government Printing Office, and the General Post Office (Sydney), and was quite satisfied that no official knowledge of the existence of any of these stamps could be ascertained. Moreover, official records and receipts stated that the plates of the 'Sydney Views' and 'Laureated' had first been defaced and then broken up in the presence of 'So-and-so.' In the face of after knowledge, I now mistrust even official documents; but I was certainly not justified in doubting the strict authenticity of the stamps at the time I arranged to purchase them and afterwards offered them for sale."

After a vivid description of Mr. Albert Van Dyck's personality and habits, Mr. Vindin states that after one of the former's quiet trips to Europe he began to unburden his loaded bosom on the Laureate question to his friend, and after various copious libations of "Heidsieck," '84 (*sic*) Mr. Vindin's scruples utterly vanished, and he was prepared to absolutely accept the Van Dyck doctrine of originality even down to the gum. This, by the way, was a luxury that was denied to us poor collectors at home, as all our sheets had no gum, original or otherwise. Mr. Vindin, however, swallowed all his suspicions, and agreeing as he says "to go halves," launched out on the joint enterprise that had such sad results. He then goes on as follows:—

"There were, I think (anyway there were not more), eight sheets of each value, that is, four hundred each of the 2d., 'stars in corners,' and 8d., yellow, and two hundred of the 6d., brown. They all looked nice and clean. Van Dyck told me that the sheets were stuck together; so he had washed the gum off the stamps, and 'ironed' them out in mint condition. I thought he had done a silly thing. As may be imagined, I was much excited over this transaction, which I regarded as one of the greatest value in every way. It was agreed to fix the price low in order to get a quick return, and so the minimum was placed at £200 the one hundred and twenty-five stamps. As I agreed to personally guarantee the stamps, I did not expect to have any trouble in selling the lot, and so clearing £550 as my share. I sent away four sets of sheets on approval to Europe. One of these sets I sent to Mr. M. P. Castle, at that time the leading collector of Australians. The stamps created some excitement, particularly when exhibited at the meeting of the London Philatelic Society. There was a distinct feeling of distrust and suspicion created, and although the critics could not say positively what was wrong, they did not like the look of the things, and so placed them on the doubtful list, and deferred judgment.

"The result of this was the return of the four sets to me, to my great disappointment and loss financially. I was, at the time, very wroth with Mr. M. P. Castle, whom I blamed for having spoiled my sales, and to whom I imputed any other than pure motives. I believe

Mr. Castle *did* spoil the sale, but I have oftentimes since called a sincere blessing on his head for saving me *unknowingly* from ruin."

Finally I would like to quote here Vindin's dramatic account of the "final" destruction of these plates. It reads very like Sherlock Holmes's "final" watery grave, but I fancy that acute gentleman somehow escaped his apparent fate.

"Van Dyck's story to me was that on calling on a dealer in second-hand furniture and rubbish generally he was told that something very fine in his line had turned up. To Van Dyck's intense surprise the dealer produced for his inspection the original copper plates of the 2d., 'Star,' 6d. and 8d., 'Laureated,' and of several unadopted designs for New South Wales stamps. These, the dealer said, were found in an old desk he had bought at a sale. The dealer had no idea what the things were, and so sold them to Van Dyck for a few shillings. He then commenced to evolve a scheme to make money rapidly, and in that scheme I was destined to take a part.

"Van Dyck proceeded to Europe with the plates, had the paper especially made, and a number of the stamps printed off. He then returned to Sydney and made his 'great find,' as previously explained. If I had sold my lot he would then have placed another lot in Europe, and I should have been ruined by making good the money under the terms of my guarantee.

"After listening to this yarn, I asked Van Dyck if he had the plates in his possession. On his replying in the affirmative, I advised him to bring them to my office that night, which he did. In the presence of a leading Sydney collector and myself the plates were completely destroyed with chisels, files, and a small plane. The remains were dropped over South Head, Sydney, into the Pacific Ocean, after which Van Dyck and I had a nice supper and *another* bottle of Heidsieck. I can safely affirm that my action in this matter effectually prevents there being any second edition of New South Wales 'Laureated Reprints,' and so I have done *something* to earn the gratitude of Philatelists."

I have no wish to re-exhume all the voluminous correspondence from all sources I possess with regard to these Reprints, but I think it may be of interest if I quote certain portions of some of Mr. Vindin's letters, which will assuredly show, at least, that if he was innocent, he was a remarkably willing dupe, and that he hesitated at nothing in the way of statements in order to induce the sale of Van Dyck's rubbish to European collectors. As long as there was a chance of selling them he hesitated at nothing, and his latter day repentance is, as usual in such cases, simply a facing of the inevitable. The excerpts following are all from letters written to me personally by Mr. Vindin at the time:—

"24th November, 1887

"We have on hand three complete plates of unused original 1851-5 issue 2d., star in corners, 6d., brown, and 8d., orange, for which we require the sum of £200 cash (100 stamps). These stamps have been in the hands of a Government official for many years, and as the plates are not in existence (as you can ascertain by making enquiries), they are well worth the price we ask. They are under offer to several collectors in pairs, so should you care for them you might cable to 'Vindin, Sydney,' the one word 'accepted,' and we will reserve them for you."

"7th December, 1887.

"Enclosed I beg to hand you on approval three entire sheets of the following New South Wales stamps of the issue 1851-5 warranted original:

1 of 50, 2d., blue with stars.
1 of 25, 6d., brown.
1 of 50, 8d., orange.

125 stamps in all - price £200, *nett cash*, the set. These are part of a lot of eight sets of sheets (twenty-four in all) recently discovered in an office here where they have been since the date of issue. They are unique and exceedingly cheap. Three sets have been disposed of in Sydney for cash down, and I am to-day sending away three sets on approval to yourself, E. Shorthouse, and Dorsan Astruc—all at the same price. If you care to keep them, please remit the amount by bank draft on Sydney by return of mail. Should you have no use for them at the price, you would greatly oblige by returning them at once as I feel sure of selling them in Australia, should they come back."

"29th February, 1888.

"As previously stated, there are (with the exception of a proof sheet of 8d. blue, *all sold*) only eight sets of sheets known by me to be in existence. Of these you now have four (4), one (1) set of sheets I have cut up, and of the other three two (2) are in the possession of Messrs. Van Dyck and Dr. Houston, of Sydney, and the remaining set I have sold to Mrs. Rodd, of Sydney, acting for Mr. B. Plashett Rodd, of Hamburg (Germany).

"At the time of the purchase of these stamps I fully ascertained the fact that they were genuine originals, and that the original

holder had not another copy in his possession. I may tell you that they were offered to me *first* some years ago, but I had not the cash to purchase them."

"6th March, 1858.

"The only plates of New South Wales stamps existing are in the Government Printing Office, Sydney. They consist of the 'Crown' series, the 'Registered' stamps, and the die of the 1838 envelope: *not one* of the 'View' or 'Laureated' plates exist, they having been years ago destroyed, *not by fire*, but with *chisels and planes*. You may depend that I inquired fully into the matter before paying for the stamps.

"I assert *positively* that the sheets sold by me are *originals* purchased *years since* from the Post Office, and that there is *no difference whatever* either in *colour or paper* from *used copies* to be found in *any large collection*. The *gum* having been carefully removed would slightly alter the *feel* (only) of the paper. You are aware of the extraordinary variety in shade, etc., to be found in the 'View' and 'Laureated' issues, and one must handle *thousands of copies* before becoming thoroughly accustomed to the various varieties—the knowledge of both Shorthouse and Astruc is mostly *second-hand and superficial*. Mr. Shorthouse or anyone else can place away gummed stamps for thirty or forty years, provided they are between other papers, and when brought to light, *steamed and ironed* carefully, will be found quite as clean and fresh as my copies."

"2nd April, 1888.

"Regarding the stamps, I have had to sacrifice property of mine in order to repay Mr. Van Dyck the amount kindly lent me in order to purchase these things, and therefore I am now prepared to *keep them*, and unless I can obtain the full price of £200 each set I will not sell, but pass them on to my family. The stamps *are originals, are not reprints, and will never be reprinted*—this I repeat, despite the resolution of the Philatelic Society of London. The paper is *not different*, the plates *were* destroyed directly after the stamps were withdrawn from circulation, and I have never had more than eight sets—twenty-four sheets—and I am *quite confident* that these are the only *unused, unsevered* copies existent."

(1) It will be seen from the foregoing letters that Mr. Vindin, on the 24th November, 1887, offered "three complete plates," and asked me to wire (which I did on January 3rd, 1888, accepting them at £200), on the ground that "they were on offer to several collectors in Paris." It is clear that this was a false statement to induce a quick sale, and that Mr. Vindin knew there were more than one set of sheets.

(2) Without waiting my reply, and within a fortnight from the date of his first letter, on December 7th, he sends three sheets on approval, and then says "they are part of a lot of eight sheets (twenty-four in all)," which he proceeds to account for. It is equally clear that this was also false, as I had by then received letters, which I still possess, showing that numerous offers had been made of these stamps beyond the eight sets of sheets. We had full cognisance as to where all these eight sets had been sent or offered, and the knowledge that other sheets were being cut up and offered in detail was the final death-blow to the fraud.

(3) On February 29th, 1888, he again says there are "only eight sheets in existence," and on April 2nd he further says "the stamps *are originals, are not reprinted, and will never be reprinted*." From the foregoing it is equally clear that Mr. Vindin must have been stating what he knew to be false in asserting the originality of the stamps.

I have no wish to be vindictive to Mr. Vindin, with whom personally I always got on very well, and indeed had many transactions with him, but it is absurd for him nowadays to pose as an innocent victim. No doubt Van Dyck was the prime mover in the affair; but Mr. Vindin, as he himself states, was fully aware of "the nature of the animal," and, no doubt tempted by the chance of making a large sum of money, wilfully shut his eyes to all the inherent probabilities of fraud, and plunged blindly into the venture by "going halves" with the astute Van Dyck. Once having taken the fateful step, he was, as is invariably the case, compelled to stoop to further deceptions and misrepresentations, as it is so well written—

"Oh, what a tangled web we weave,
When once we venture others to deceive!"

In my humble judgment Mr. Vindin would have been better advised to leave "well" alone; he got out of the scrape "on all-fours," and his partner had disappeared. The whole thing had far better have been consigned into the limbo of oblivion. The French, moreover, have it that "it is the absent who are always wrong," a saying that contains a remarkably large percentage of human nature, and in this present case, as Van Dyck is not absent further than Paris he might descend into the arena and retaliate on Mr. Vindin with some nasty knocks.

I should not personally have raised this ghost of a departed fraud in this journal had not Mr. Vindin mentioned my name in a somewhat prominent manner, and I therefore thought it right that the unvarnished truth should be placed on record. I was certainly to blame at the outset for believing in these reprints, but I erred in very good company. We had been brought up in the philatelic faith of the long-ago destruction of these plates, and though we all clearly recognised the differences between these "reprints" and the originals, many of us believed that they were a later printing that had never been issued. I will remember that I had all but sent the draft for four complete sets (twelve sheets), having drawn the money from the bank, but by a kindly interposition of Providence I was fortunately saved from making the worst philatelic bargain of my life!

The article we have quoted cannot fail to interest many of our readers, but Mr. Castle perhaps would have done better to adopt an attitude of philosophic restraint. As Mr. Tilleard remarks (his words being printed in another part of the same issue of the "London Philatelist") the disclosures made by Mr. Vindin merely add to the unsavoury character of a subject which would be better buried in oblivion.

Including the President, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Philatelic Society now has a roll of 226 members.

Pforzheim will this year be the venue of the German "Philatelists Day." The re-union will extend from the 27th to the 31st of August.

"The difficulty of obtaining lightly marked specimens of Australian stamps is daily increasing," remarks the "Australian Journal of Philately."

Says the "Metropolitan Philatelist":—"The United States is the greatest country in the world, and its postage and revenue stamps are the best articles to collect." So there!

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AN APPRECIATION OF MR. W. GRUNEWALD, A LEADING SPECIALIST OF FRENCH STAMPS.

THE "Philatelic Record's" latest personal article deals with Mr. W. Grunewald, of the Manchester Philatelic Society.

When M. Lémaire offered a gold medal at the Paris Exhibition of 1900 for the best collection of French stamps shown by an exhibitor living outside France, little did he think that the successful competitor would likewise carry off the gold medal offered by the Exhibition Committee. Such, however, was the case (says the "Record") and the particular collector who achieved this signal success was none other than the subject of our interview this month.

Commencing collecting in 1879, Mr. W. Grunewald did very little until 1890, when he joined the Manchester Philatelic Society, from which time he became an enthusiastic collector, and after a few years' labour on general lines, an education so necessary to achieve success as a specialist, Mr. Grunewald, in 1897, determined that the time was ripe to confine his attention to a single country, with a view to attaining approximate completeness. France, a very difficult, wherewithal one of the most popular, countries in Europe, was his choice, and the result has been certainly remarkable. Mr. Grunewald possessing probably the finest specialised collection of this country in Great Britain. With it he obtained the gold medal at the Manchester Exhibition in 1899, and two gold medals at Paris in 1900. Since then the collection has not been shown, but it has been materially added to, and is a fine example of a specialised collection.

Having obtained comparative completeness in France, Mr. Grunewald is now nibbling at two other smaller European States.

He was elected Vice-President of the above Society in 1899, in the place of the late Mr. Petri, a position which he still occupies.

Notable philatelists are not content simply to amass quantities of stamps, they take an intelligent interest in the pursuit, and having its welfare at heart become active workers in some form or another for the benefit of philately in general. With some this takes the shape of imparting through the medium of the philatelic journals the result of their researches. Others devote their energies to maintaining and increasing the usefulness of philatelic societies. Mr. Grunewald, although an occasional contributor to our columns, devotes his energies rather to the latter sphere of influence.

The Secretary of the Manchester Society informs us that it is as Comptroller of the exchange packets that he has in the past rendered services of the greatest importance to that Society. Under his management this particular branch, which is carried on with a view to assisting the less advanced members, has considerably prospered. May he long be persuaded to occupy a position in which he is rendering such useful services to his brother members.

Bavarian "Reprints" Accepted as Remainders.

The matter of the Bavarian reprints, mentioned some time ago in the *Fortnightly*, has now been fully considered, and the Munich Philatelic Society has abandoned its contention and accepted these stamps as originals. At the meeting of the Berlin Philatelic Club on March 16th, Mr. O. Wassermann made an interesting explanation of the whole affair, a digest of which the "London Philatelist" is enabled to give through the courtesy of the President, Dr. F. Kalckhoff.

(1) The 1kr., black, on paper with silk threads, is considered probably to be an error caused by the use of sheets of the paper intended primarily for the 3 and 6 kreuzers. These values were all issued at the same time, and, as freely admitted by the Postal Administration, such a mistake might well have occurred. It is, however, possible that these were trial sheets. (2) The third issue, consisting of the five values, 1, 3, 6 (brown), 7, and 12 kreuzers, were reprinted for the Vienna Exhibition of 1873, but have no silk thread, although an appearance similar thereto is created by a vertical line of red ink on the reverse of the stamp. These reprints were only printed to a limited extent and are now scarce. (3) In 1896 a second reprint of the 1 and 7 kreuzers of the foregoing was made by the Postal Administration. (4) A set of all the fore-named varieties perforated was also printed for the Vienna Exhibition of 1873 in exceptionally sharp and clear relief. This series, which is well known to collectors, stands out quite distinct from the normal issues, as does a proof from an ordinary engraved stamp. It includes the 12kr. in a bright lilac shade, but as this value had been withdrawn from circulation in December, 1872, and this set was only printed in 1873, this stamp, though still available for franking purposes, must be regarded as a reprint. (5) The 25pf. light brown (1875), and the 50pf. dark brown (1879) on paper with wavy lines, were reprinted by the Administration in 1896 for the exhibition at Nuremberg.

"It would appear from the minutes (adds the London Philatelist) that the remarks we made as to the acceptance of these stamps by the Berlin Philatelic Club were a little premature, although nearly all the leading members of that body already held that view. In any case the discovery of such a quantity of remainders is a disturbing element, and it had been much better for Philately, and especially for the collecting of the issues of the German States, had the whole lot been consigned to an official fiery fate. The stamps of Bavaria form a very beautiful and interesting series; they are voluminous without being wearisome, and in used condition embrace but very few rarities. They are hence within the scope of almost every collector, and it is therefore regrettable that a feeling of instability should have been engendered by the sudden appearance of quantities of the old issues that had hitherto been regarded as amongst the most valued stamps of the country."

A Counterfeit of the 200 Reis (1900) Brazil.

The "American Journal of Philately" describes a counterfeit of the 200 reis of Brazil, issue of 1900. This was a forgery intended to defraud, not the philatelic community, but the Brazilian Government.

The impression (says our contemporary) is clearer and sharper. This is particularly noticeable in the ruled lines which form the background of various parts of the stamp which are usually blurred in the originals. The lines behind the words "REIS" are especially distinct, while on the originals these words often appear as though on a solid panel. In the spandrels above "REIS" the counterfeits have crossed vertical and horizontal lines, while the genuine stamps have only horizontal lines, the lower ones being broken and irregular.

The white face of the numerals "200" is ornamented with dots and dashes. These have nearly disappeared in most originals, but are very distinct in the counterfeits, making the figures appear bluer.

The shading lines of the face are heavier, more regular and less broken to represent lights and shadows. The central oval is surrounded by a thin, sharp line in the counterfeit and a broad, heavy one in the genuine stamps.

The leaves of the laurel wreath have each a strong, dark outline and the one at the right forms a straight line with the stem.

The letters of "UNIDOS DO BRAZIL" are 1½mm high, instead of 1¼mm.

The color is a dark blue, which does not differ materially from that of the genuine stamps.

The perforation, like that of the counterfeits described in 1901, gauges 11½.

MR. NANKIVELL AMONG THE PROPHETS.

There is one feature of this same "A.J. of P." that the great majority of philatelists read with avidity. We, ourselves, scan it with a watchful eye, and with scissors and paste ready to our hand. We refer to the "London Letter" contributed by Mr. E. J. Nankivell. Perhaps there is a tendency to recklessness in Mr. Nankivell's writings, and now and then a spice of journalistic Billingsgate; but this, at least, we may say for him, that he never bores us, and that his facts are generally right. His facts—yes! but what shall we say of his prophecies? In this same number of the "A.J. of P." which reaches us at a time when the Official stamp prosecution is engaging public attention, we find Mr. Nankivell writing, as follows (under date, May 9th), on the subject of the British Official issues:—

Not a few specialists have taken hard and fast to these Officials, for they know they are above suspicion, and the extraordinary precautions taken to prevent any copies passing into the hands of collectors in the unused form, only add zest to the game. . . . And what is more, not even Kitchener himself could stop the leakage that must ensue to meet the demand, for when a specialist goes for what he needs he is going to get it all hazards, even if he stands a chance of being hung, drawn and quartered in the attempt.

Hanging, drawing and quartering is now as dead as the dods, for if the powers that be declined to hang, draw and quarter "Colonel" Lynch, it is quite obvious that they would extend the same meed of mercy even to a desperate dare-devil of a philatelic specialist.

The singular thing is that, exactly a month after these paragraphs had been written, three persons (since increased to five) were arrested on charges of stealing and receiving unused official stamps. Did Mr. Nankivell "know anything," or are we to count him among the prophets?

TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

IN further discussion of the proposal to form a "White List" of philatelists of good standing, Mr. Frank

A. Simpson, of Lowestoft, writes us as follows:—

I have read with some amount of misgiving the correspondence in your valuable paper upon the subject of a "White List."

Much as I appreciate your efforts to forward the interests of Philately and the good work the *S.C.F.* has already done, I cannot help thinking that the publication of this new departure would rather defeat its own ends than benefit the cause in the way intended.

I think that Mr. D. J. Gadsby is right in his objections to the publication of such a list. The result would inevitably be the inundation of a Philatelist, advertised as an honest and reliable purchaser, with lists and selections of stamps from all classes of dealers, literally cutting one another's throats in their endeavours to obtain his custom, a state of things which would produce a slump in the prices of stamps all round, which could not be welcome to the trade, nor could it be of much advantage to the collector, as it would reduce the value of the collection he has already made and would not tend to increase the interest in his hobby. Mr. A. E. Moore writes, "the absence of any name from such a list would not necessarily brand a man, &c." But would not one looking-up names in this catalogue be apt to mark the absentee "doubtful"? Then on the other hand, would it be possible to keep all the black sheep out of the fold? We know, to our cost, that in spite of the precautions taken by most Club Secretaries to keep out all undesirables from their Clubs, yet the exchanger and other objectionable persons manage to creep in with apparently excellent references.

I believe that the compilation of the "White List" would be of great benefit to philately if strictly kept by the Editor of *S.C.F.* and the "*S.T.P.A.*" and "*S.E.P.S.*," from whom those interested might obtain information on payment of a small fee; but it seems to me that its publication would do an immense amount of harm, though the names and addresses of persons wishing to be placed on the list should be published in the *S.C.F.*, so that any of your numerous readers might communicate with you if they knew any reason for their exclusion. I write from the standpoint of an advanced collector, who is neither a Dealer nor Club Secretary, but is intimately acquainted with the difficulties of both.

The *Fortnightly's* "White List" scheme is not yet ready for presentation before our readers, but we may say, here and now, for the reassurance of Mr. Simpson and others, that it has never been a part of our plan to publish any list of names, for the simple reason that we could not long pursue such a policy as that without laying ourselves open to many actions for libel—in many cases groundless actions, perhaps, but none the less vexatious and galling. By choosing the expression "White List," as implying the exact antithesis of a "Black List," we ourselves have been in some part to blame for our readers' assumption that lists of reliable persons would be published periodically in the *Fortnightly*. Such a scheme, apart from the possibilities of libel actions, would be impracticable, for we are proud and happy to think that, though there be many black sheep within the fold, yet the white ones are so numerous that the pages of the *S.C.F.* would never be large enough to hold them all. And this "White List" is a thing which, if it be done at all, must be done thoroughly.

While on the subject of the "White List" we have been reminded that for two years (1901 and 1902) Messrs. C. J. Endle & Co. published the "Philatelists' Register," which was an attempt to solve the problem now confronting us. This "Register," however, does not appear to have gone far enough. It simply gave a list of the members of some seventeen British Philatelic Societies and Exchange Clubs.

But, unfortunately for Messrs. Endle's idea of a "White List," it does not necessarily follow that a philatelist who belongs to a Philatelic Society—even if it be a British Society of good standing—is honest and straightforward in his business dealings. And we may tell Messrs. Endle that there are at least four persons named in their 1902 "Register" with whom we should prefer to have no dealings that involved the giving of credit—and this after only a casual glance through the columns of names. Still, the "Philatelists' Register" was obviously an honest and sincere attempt to facilitate straightforward philatelic intercourse, and we regret to hear from Messrs. C. J. Endle & Co. that the publication has been discontinued through lack of support.

That we cannot all think alike, is proved by a further letter on the subject of the "White List," from the pen of "Ascot." This correspondent writes:—

As pointed out in my former letter, the value of this White List will depend upon (1) the standard of guarantee it gives, and (2) its efficient working. Mr. Gadsby's objection to publication strikes at what I think the vast majority will consider to be the most essential, as well as the most attractive feature of this new venture. It would be difficult to devise a more satisfactory reference than the proposed publication would ensure.

We are sorry not to be able to give "Ascot's" letter in full. Other interesting communications, crowded out of this number, have come to us from "C.J.E.," "Spedex," and Mr. C. Egbert Ashby.

We have to thank Mr. W. Alder Ridley for a cutting from "Tit-Bits," of June 13th last, purporting to give the true story of the finding of the latest pair of penny and twopenny "Post Office" Mauritius stamps.

A schoolboy, going over some old correspondence, found an envelope with a couple of strange-looking stamps, and took it to his father, who was not well up in stamps, but who fortunately had a friend in Paris who was a collector. The envelope was sent to Paris, with instructions to sell it at the best price, and it was sold to a dealer for £1,600. The precious envelope has since been sold to a well-known collector for £2,600.

Whether the tale is true or not is a matter of opinion" comments Mr. Alder Ridley, "as usually the non-philatelic papers manage to get hold of the wrong end of the stick." Just so. The story, very probably, belongs to the class once described by a humorous critic as "entertainingly untrue."

"I wonder," writes Mr. F. F. Lamb, "whether any of your readers know (I don't!) how the numerous small provincial dealers and philatelic parsons obtain their stock of stamps with which to trade?"

We wonder, too! It may be that the persons and parsons referred to may hold that this is their own business and nobody else's; still, it shall never be said that the *Fortnightly* placed a check on the free dissemination of interesting information—especially at this news-less season of the year! So those who have facts to shed may prepare to shed them now!

Mr. Lamb, who is an old and valued reader of, and contributor to the *Fortnightly*, goes on to declare that "every 'sky-pilot' one meets now-a-days can sell one a stamp 'cheap.'"

We hope this is not to be taken to mean that philatelic worshippers in rural parts are driven by trade depression to deposit their duplicates in the offertory bag, in lieu of the usual threepenny piece! Or is there, perchance, a sinister hint that the "sky-pilot," by a diligent exercise of the innocent blandishments of the tea-and-muffin collation, extorts stamps from the susceptible spinsters of his flock at bargain rates, and so contrives to undersell the regular philatelic practitioner? Perish the thought!

For our own part, we confess that we are not greatly interested in the subject. The bargains that other men drive leave us cold and unmoved. It takes us all our spare time to hunt around for "snaps" on our own account.

A selfish world, this!

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1862. Wmk. Emblems, 4d. Garter Wmk.

Small White Letters in Corners.

3d. carmine rose	3/3
3d. pale rose	2/6
4d. vermilion	3d.
4d. pale vermilion	3d.
6d. deep lilac	4d.
6d. lilac	4d.
9d. bistre	5/0
9d. straw	4/0
1/- deep green	1/6
1/- green	1/0

With Hair Lines across the Corners.

4d. vermilion	3d.
6d. lilac	10d.

1865. Wmk as before.

Large White Letters in Corners.

3d. rose	1/0
4d. vermilion, Garter of 1857	2d.
4d. of 1867, pl. 8	2/6
4d. of 1872	3d.
4d. pale of 1872	4d.
6d. lilac	3d.
6d. deep lilac	4d.
9d. straw	4 to 12/6

1865 - continued. Used.

1 - deep green	9d.
1 - green	6d.

1867. same letters, Wmk. Spray.

3d. rose	2d.
6d. lilac	6d.
6d. violet	6d.
6d. deep violet	1/0
6d. mauve, no hyphen	3d.
9d. straw	3/0
9d. pale straw	3/0
10d. deep red-brown	1/0
10d. pale red-brown	3/6
1/- deep green	6d.
1 - pale green	6d.
1 - yellow-green	9d.
1 - green	4d.
2 - deep blue	2/0
2 - pale blue	2/3
2 - blue	1/9
2 - brown	40 to 60/0

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6d. deep chestnut	1/3
6d. chestnut	1/0
6d. buff	1/0
6d. light buff	1/3
6d. grey	9d.

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STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 218.—VOL IX.

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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FORTNIGHTLY

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Published every Alternate Saturday.

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No. 218.—Vol. IX

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1903

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad

British Stamps Overprinted "O.U.S."

"R. R. P.," a Barrow-in-Furness reader, has found a penny red English, 1857, overprinted in double red lines with the letter O.U.S. between two double wavy lines. This of course is the overprint formerly in use by the Oxford Union Society.

What is this "Norwegian Mission"?

Has every cataloguer his own pet weakness in Madagascar? Messrs. Bright & Son make no mention of the "British Inland Mail" in the "A.B.C. Catalogue," but instead there is a list of labels issued by a certain "Norwegian Mission." We should be pleased to have any particulars of these labels that Messrs. Bright & Son, or *Fortnightly* readers can supply.

"On H.M.S.": A Glorified Penmark.

That most diligent philatelist and philatelic writer, Mr. E. W. Wetherell, declares that the overprint "On H.M.S." on Indian stamps in India being cancelled by the senders of letters to prevent their being taken off by native servants and sold. It appears that officers of certain grades can buy these overprinted stamps at the same rate as the ordinary, but when using them must write their names and official designation on the envelope. In fact, these are "official" stamps only in the imagination of philatelists!

A "B.I.M." Madagascar Envelope.

We have before us the Madagascar envelope sent us by Mr. H. W. Baron, of Kendal, and which we promised to describe in the *Fortnightly*. The envelope bears in the top right-hand corner a 2½d. blue Natal stamp duly obliterated, while in the *bottom left-hand corner* we find one of the lithographed "British Inland Mail" labels of the face value of 4d. This is cancelled by the private cancelling stamp of the "British Inland Mail"—a rubber-stamp of circular form, bearing the inscription "British Mail—9 Jul., 95—Antananarivo." Note, by the way, the omission of the word "Inland."

Now this envelope is greatly prized by Mr. H. W. Baron as an evidence of the legitimate character of the postal service known as the "British Inland Mail" of Madagascar. It happens to be addressed to a relative of Mr. Baron at Kendal, England, and that being so we accept it as in every respect a genuine envelope. We are prepared, that is to say to believe that the letter this envelope contained was brought to England from Natal by means of a 2½d. stamp of Natal. The part played by the 4d. "B.I.M." stamp, if it played any part at all, was simply to carry the letter, probably by private trading steamer, to Natal, where the full over-sea postage to England was affixed in the shape of a 2½d. stamp of Natal. Then that 2½d. stamp of Natal did the rest! If that is sufficient to satisfy Mr. Baron that the stamps of the "British Inland Mail" are an issue worth the attention of philatelists, then we must congratulate him on being a person who is very easily pleased.

Seriously, to attempt to base any defence of these stamps on such an envelope is—Mr. Baron must pardon the word—ridiculous. A thousand such envelopes would make no difference to our reiterated indictment of these labels as a trashy local issue, which should never have been admitted to the pages of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' "British Empire" Catalogue.

Still More Madagascar.

On the same subject Mr. F. Ransom writes:—
I have in my possession the following used specimens on entire original envelopes. In each case Natal stamps are also attached and they evidently paid the postage as far as this Colony on their way to England. January, 1895, issue 1d., 3d., 8d., 1/-; March, 1895, issue 2d., 3d., 6d., 1/- . I obtained all the specimens from the addressees, who were not philatelists, but who received them in the ordinary course of correspondence.

We have no doubt that Mr. Ransom's envelopes answer to the same general description as that received from Mr. Baron. If the gentlemen owning these various Malagasy-cum-Natal envelopes regard them as of philatelic interest and value, all well and good. Our aim is simply to have expunged from the pages of our leading catalogue an issue of stamps which is ludicrously out of place in any list of the postage stamps of the British Empire.

The "Inland Mail" Remainders.

MR. H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN writes us again on this subject, under date July 4th:—

I notice in your issue of to-day a letter from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., suggesting that in my last letter to you on the subject of Madagascar British Inland Mail, I insinuated that they were "jealous of those who had secured the stock." Anyone who will read my letter will see that I did nothing of the sort.

They also make the utterly inaccurate statement that they had "the first offer of the labels on both occasions," and put this forward as proof that they had no reason to be jealous. In their own words:

"The stamps were first offered to us by Messrs. John Hadden & Co. in 1885, but we refused to touch them. Again, on March 12th of this year, the unsold stock was brought to our office personally by a London agent. . . . We make this explanation in order to show that your correspondent's innuendos are wholly unfounded, as we had the first offer of the labels on both occasions."

I would like to inform your readers that I bought *all that remained* of the type-set (first) issue and paid for them on *January 7th*, over two months before Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s date. I feel fairly certain none of this issue were offered to them at all.

If their letter refers only to the 2nd issue, they should have said so and not led people to believe what is not true. As a matter of fact, the 2nd issue was offered in a good many places almost simultaneously, one large parcel being brought to me within a week of the date mentioned by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., and I not only bought the entire lot, but a second and even larger parcel a fortnight later, and at the present moment have orders on hand which I am unable to execute, the large demand having quite cleared me out of several values.

We regret that in this instance we cannot see our way to felicitate Mr. Ewen on the rush of business he is enjoying.

Mr. Ewen's Postmarked Madagascars.

MEANTIME Mr. Ewen himself, or rather, the firm over which he presides, presents us with quite a new sensation in connection with the question of the British Inland Mail remainders. We gather from "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" that Mr. Bache Mc E. Whitlock, of New York City, ordered a set of *used* Madagascars from "Ewen's Colonial Stamp Market." The stamps were sent, and at once returned by Mr. Whitlock on the ground that they were postmarked to order. Thereupon Messrs. Ewen, Limited, again returned the stamps, accompanied by this extraordinary letter:—

Dear Sir,—Enclosed set is not "postmarked to order" but is one of a series presented to the British Vice-Consul at Antananarivo, and *postmarked to prevent their being used*.—Yours respectfully, &c.

The italics are ours. Mr. B. Mc E. Whitlock is naturally astonished. So are we. It seems there are now three kinds of used stamps:

- 1.—Postmarked when actually used to frank letters.
- 2.—Postmarked to order, and
- 3.—Postmarked "to prevent their being used"!

Why they should be so postmarked is a point we need not dwell on. Philatelists will have no trouble in pointing the moral for themselves. Mr. Whitlock comments somewhat scathingly on the matter in "Mekeel's Weekly," and asks the pertinent question: "Why were so many series of them postmarked that Mr. Ewen's firm is able to offer them, eight years later, at 6s. 6d. per set and also in *tete-beche* pairs and in blocks of four and six?"

Still they Come, these Frauds!

EVIDENCE of the need of greater protection for philatelists in business affairs is being steadily piled up. From a philatelist at Stirling comes a complaint of an Eastbourne

individual who asked for a selection of stamps and shortly afterwards left for London, asking his landlady to forward his letters to the Mark Lane Post Office. Major Teale, chief constable of Eastbourne, has been making enquiries into this case.

Another complaint just to hand is from a Londoner, Mr. D. Campbell, who in reply to his advertisement in the "Bazaar," received an application from a person giving an address in Great St. Helen's, asking that "a selection of rare stamps at half Gibbons' prices" be sent to him. Two references were given, but Mr. D. Campbell was wise enough to make enquiries and found that in each case the address given was that of an "accommodation letter bureau."

More Newspaper Philately.

MR. C. EGBERT ASHBY draws our attention to the following paragraph appearing in the "Nottingham Daily Guardian," of April 28th last:—

Some of the postage stamps shown at an International Stamp Exhibition at Muehlhausen, Alsace, are priced at £5,000 each.

Amazing!

Federal Stamps for Australia.

THE PROBLEM BEFORE SENATOR DRAKE.

WE are indebted to the Victorian Stamp Market, Melbourne, for the following interesting cutting from the "Argus," the leading daily paper in Victoria. If the "Argus" be correctly informed, an issue of Federal stamps is one of the probabilities of the very near future.

For some reason, not yet explained, the Postmaster-General intends to shortly issue complete sets of Federal stamps in all the states. It was suggested that this should be done last year, but the central postal authorities explained that the idea was impracticable in view of the book-keeping provisions of the Constitution Act. At the present time each state postal department is carried on as a separate institution so far as its revenue and expenditure are concerned. If a Federal stamp, exchangeable throughout the Commonwealth, was sold in Melbourne and used in Sydney, Victoria would gain the revenue, and New South Wales would have to perform the service of transmission and delivery. This would not be in consonance with the book-keeping sections, and consequently the suggestion made over twelve months ago was not entertained.

Since then some of the State Premiers, fearing that the central administration might be tempted to introduce uniform stamps, have protested against the idea, and pointed how their interests might suffer by such a departure. Senator Drake, however, sees his way not to interfere with State rights and yet to introduce what he describes as "Australian stamps." Designs have not been called for publicly, nor for that matter departmentally, but a design has been received by the Postmaster-General, and it will probably be accepted. "It is the work of an Australian," he remarked on Saturday. "We might get finer draughtsmanship by going abroad, say to the United States, but I prefer to have the stamp designed, engraved and printed in Australia, so that it may be in every sense Australian."

It is understood that the King's head which at present figures on all state stamps, will not appear on the Federal stamps, but that something symbolical of the Commonwealth will be substituted. Beneath this symbol the name of the State within which the stamp will have currency and its value will be printed. By this device of issuing sets for each State separately, the Federal stamps will not be interchangeable, and therefore the constitution will be observed. The stamps now sold in the various states will not be withdrawn, but no more will be printed, and as the sheets are exhausted Federal stamps will be sold instead.

On Postal Cards and Covers.

BY A SPECIALIST.

A PRETTY quarrel has been going on recently between the Scott Stamp and Coin Co., of New York, and Mr. C. F. Rothfuchs, on the colour of an envelope stamp. The circumstances are as follows:—The United States envelope, 1899 issue, 2c. *dark lake*, die B, on white, which is No. 1508 in the 1901 Standard Catalogue, has been omitted from the current issue of the Catalogue, and they recently explained this omission as follows:—

"Two or three years ago we purchased several of these envelopes and accidentally left them for a few days where they were exposed to light, though not to the direct rays of the sun. To our surprise the colour changed to light red. Our conclusion was that a colour which was so easily bleached might have been as easily darkened by other atmospheric conditions."

Now it appears that, being an interested party, Mr. Rothfuchs sent one of these envelopes to the authorities and asked the cause of the colour, and in reply the Third Assistant Postmaster-General (that inevitable *Third*) stated that it had been discovered that a few such envelopes, not more than a hundred or so, had been printed in a false colour owing to the rollers having been imperfectly cleaned after use with a green ink. In addition to this testimony Mr. Rothfuchs experimented with these envelopes by applying peroxide of hydrogen, which bleached the dark lake to orange-red, and not to carmine or the regular colour. He also exposed one to the light for eight days, without any particular change in colour. He therefore insists on the variety and challenged the Scott Co. on the matter.

* * *

The reply of the Scott Stamp and Coin Company while granting that the particular error of the printer, of which the third assistant speaks, may have brought about the lake colours still contends that the multiplication of shades of this issue has become wearisome, and mentions that another friend of theirs has been trying to establish a claim for a definite orange variety on the strength of half-a-dozen pale impressions that he has. It is necessary to draw a line in such matters, but as they point out, in the case of these particular envelopes, it would be difficult to arrive at what was the regular or normal colour. On the whole, therefore, nothing is really established by the controversy, but it serves to show the difficult position of the cataloguer with reference to shades. It is not only U.S. envelopes either that are troublesome. I can personally remember many terrible struggles with early Queensland and Victoria shades, and other Colonial cards as well as envelopes.

* * *

Towards the end of 1902 the stock of single 2 centavos postcards of Mexico became exhausted and a new stock not being immediately available the post office sold separate halves of reply cards to meet the demand. In the "Era" of May 30th Mr. Lohmeyer publishes a copy of the Official Decree authorising the sale of these separated halves, and a translation of the same. The following is the translation.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, MEXICO. Mexico, Oct. 27, 1902.

Stamp Division. Circular No. 455.

Postal Cards of 2 centavos with paid reply. —
Authorising the sale of each part as single cards.

The stock of single Postal Cards of 2 centavos having become exhausted, the General Post Office decrees that, pending the arrival of new stock, the Postal Cards of 2 centavos with paid reply shall be separated, and the parts sold as single cards.

Which is herewith promulgated to Post Offices, in order that the above decree may be carried out and the public apprised of it by means of placards displayed in conspicuous places in post offices.

Signed—MANUEL DE ZAMACONA E INCEAN.

We therefore have two authorised varieties to add to our lists and collections—or at all events those of us who take used as well as unused specimens.

NOTES AND NOVELTIES.

Argentine Republic.—Mr. Lohmeyer reports to the "Era" another Jubilee 5 centavos card for this Republic, valid for inland use only. It is to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the convening of the first Congress of the Republic, May 1st, 1853. It is printed in red-brown on fine cream coloured card, the stamp measuring 38×75mm, occupying, on the left side, nearly one-fourth of the card. The central design represents the female figure, Liberty, placing with her right hand a large laurel wreath on a book (probably the Constitution) lying open on an altar, while her left hand rests on the shield of the Republic. Behind the altar, forming a background, is a rock on the side of which appears the inscription: CONGRESO—CONSTITUYENTE SANTA —FE 1853-1903, in four lines. The other inscriptions are REPUBLICA ARGENTINA above and CENTAVOS 5 below the central design. In the upper centre, in two lines, TARJETA POSTAL 1. De Mayo De 1903, and in the lower, the customary directions to write the address on this side. It has four dotted lines, two long and two shorter. The reverse sides are adorned with portraits of Congressional Delegates, 26 in all, giving their names and the States which they each represented. These portraits are printed in black and occupy the upper left corner.

I gather from the above, therefore, that there are 26 varieties—if one is to have *all* the portraits.

Commemorative Issue. 1.5-03.

P.C. 5c. red brown on cream. 100×150mm.

Bermuda.—A new wrapper has appeared here.

½d. green on buff.

The new 2d. Registration Envelope has appeared, size F.

Registration Envelope. 2d. blue, 135×83mm.

Costa Rica.—M. Maury's paper states that the "Official Gazette" of April 14th contains a notice to this effect that in consequence of the postcards of 2c. becoming exhausted, and the non-arrival of those of 3c., it has been decreed that 20,000 cards of 3c. shall be surcharged INTERIOR—2—CENTIMOS and another 20,000 with EXTERIOR 4 CENTIMOS. We have not, however, heard of any copies being seen.

Great Britain.—The list of die numbers of the ½d. and 1d. envelope stamps compiled by "E.W.S.N." now stands as follows:—

½d. Dies 7 to 25, except 13; 43, 44.

1d. Dies 7 to 29, except 19; 43, 44, 46, 50.

Of the Registration Envelope dies, 3d. value, our contemporary has seen 1, 2, 3, 4.

Italy.—Mr. Chas. de Grave Sells has kindly sent us the 10c. card of this year's issue, also the 7½×7½c. In each case the date is '03. Last year it was '92 but they have now discarded the 9 in order we suppose to economise ink!

P.C. 10c. brown-red on buff, date '03.

7½×7½ pink .. '03.

Eritrea.—Mr. Sells also sends us the two same issues surcharged COLONIA ERITREA.

P.C. 10c. brown-red on buff, date '03.

7½×7½ pink .. '03.

Mexico.—The 2 centavo cards with paid reply of current issue have been sold singly to meet a temporary break in the supply, as per decree published above.

New Zealand.—Messrs. Wilcox Smith & Co., of Dunedin, have kindly sent us a copy of the 2d. envelope with the surcharge ONE PENNY in red.

Env. 1d. on 2d. violet, sur. in red.

Norway.—The much talked of automatic stamping machines are now in use in this country, and envelopes submitted to the machine receive an impression on placing a coin into the slot.

United States.—We have to thank Mr. H. Martin Vail for a pretty official souvenir postal card of the Omaha Exposition, showing the handsome building used as the Auditorium.

The Traffic in British Official Stamps.

FURTHER HEARINGS AT BOW STREET TAKES A NEW TURN.—CROSS-EXAMINATION OF MR. EDWIN HEALEY.—
MR. DOUET'S STORY.

WE have two further hearings to report of the official stamp prosecution at Bow-street.

On Monday, July 6th, at Bow Street Police Court, Alfred Waterhouse, a clerk at the Admiralty; Anthony Buck Creeke, solicitor. Henry J. Richards, cycle maker; Percy Tidd Richards (his brother), and Walter John Richards (their father) were charged, on remand, before Sir Albert de Rutzen, with stealing and receiving official stamps.

Mr. R. D. Muir prosecuted for the Inland Revenue; Mr. Lincoln Reed appeared for Creeke; Mr. Llewellyn Williams for Walter Richards; Mr. Frampton for Waterhouse; and Mr. Pheasant for Henry Richards; and Detective-Sergeant Ward represented the police.

Tasker Brown, a clerk at the Works Department of the Admiralty, Northumberland Avenue, said Waterhouse was employed in the same room as himself. The stamps required for official use were kept about four yards from where Waterhouse worked. At the end of January last Waterhouse, a Mr. Stansfield, and witness had luncheon together in Villiers Street. After the meal Waterhouse said he had a stock of stamps—chiefly Brazilians—which he intended to sell in Villiers Street. When Waterhouse returned to the office about half an hour afterwards he said he had sold his stamps for 1s. 6d.

John Moore Mallet, the registrar of the Works Department of the Admiralty, proved that Waterhouse had been employed there since December, 1901. Fifteen clerks were engaged in the same room. Witness was supplied with a stock of parcels stamps for official use only. No one was allowed to use the stamps for any other purpose. He kept them in a locked drawer in his desk. At night the key of the drawer was put in a box at the back of his table. The place was supposed to be known only to witness and a Mr. Birch, who acted for him when he was away. It was possible, however, for clerks to see him take the key from the box when he rived in the morning. When stamps were required witness issued them to a despatching clerk. Waterhouse had nothing to do with stamps. On February 10th witness went to his drawer for some stamps, and found they had all disappeared. He ought to have had there 404 penny, 357 twopenny, and 67 sixpenny Government parcels stamps. He had never discovered what had become of the lost stamps.

At the request of Mr. Muir, the chief clerk read the evidence given by Mr. Moore, stamp dealer, Villiers Street, as to having purchased from Waterhouse a large number of unused Government official parcel stamps. On one of his visits to the shop Mr. Moore asked Waterhouse if he had any shilling parcel stamps, and the latter replied that they were out of them at present, but were expecting some shortly, and he would do his best to get some.

Mr. Mallet said it was quite true that about that time he was out of shilling stamps.

In another part of Mr. Moore's evidence it was stated that Waterhouse said the heads of the department had remarked that the stamps were of little value, and in all probability, therefore, had not been stolen. They were therefore written off the books.

With regard to this Mr. Mallet said the chief clerk in the Accountant General's Department said the stamps were of no value, and could not have been stolen. The stamps were marked in the quarterly returns as having been stolen, and for all practical purposes they were written off.

In another part of Mr. Moore's evidence it was stated that Waterhouse said his conscience was perfectly clear with regard to the stamps, as he was so miserably paid.

THE USES OF GOVERNMENT STAMPS.

Mr. Mallet said that in January last Waterhouse received 4s. 6d. a day. On April 1st his pay was increased to 5s. 6d. a day. He knew from something that had happened that Waterhouse was very hard up.

Mr. Frampton cross-examined the witness with the object of showing that Waterhouse was not necessarily the thief, other clerks in the department having an equal chance of stealing the stamps if they wished to do so. Witness had never given official stamps to anyone in his department. On one occasion an official in the

Coastguard Department sent a messenger to witness saying he had had to purchase some ordinary stamps for parcels. Witness told the messenger he could not give him money, and added that he only had official stamps, which would be of no use to the gentleman who had sent him. Witness had no idea that official stamps were of any value except for the purpose for which they were intended.

In answer to Mr. Lincoln Reed, witness said he knew of no regulation prohibiting the use of official stamps for private correspondence. Neither was he aware of any regulation prohibiting the substitution of ordinary stamps for official ones.

Mr. Reed.—It is within your knowledge that officials at Somerset House had authorized dealers and others to purchase unused parcels stamps?

Witness.—No. I know nothing about Somerset House. I am not a collector of stamps, and only look after them when they are stolen.

Mr. Reed.—If you had wanted to send a private letter in a hurry would you have thought it wrong to use an official stamp and replace it with an ordinary postal stamp when you had got one?

Witness.—Certainly it would have been wrong.

Why?—Because the stamps were not mine to deal with.

If you had substituted an official stamp for an ordinary one of equal value do you think it would have been criminal?—I do not know that it would have been a criminal offence, but it would have been wrong.

Re-examined, the witness said he would not use, or allow anyone else to use, official stamps for anything but official purposes. When the stamps were stolen from his drawer they were in a large envelope, which was left behind.

Francis Albert Shute, a mechanical engineer, living at Claygate, gave evidence as to purchasing £10 10s. worth of official stamps from Mr. Moore, of Villiers Street, in February last. When he made the purchase Henry Richards was in the shop.

Replying to Mr. Reed, witness said he had collected stamps since 1878. With the exception of the 10s. I.R. official he had a complete set of the official stamps of Great Britain issued up to the death of the late Queen. A small proportion of them were unused. He had a complete set of Army official stamps.

Mr. Muir said there was no charge in respect to Army stamps.

FOUR HOURS IN THE WITNESS BOX.

MR. EDWIN HEALEY'S EVIDENCE.

Then Mr. Edwin Healey was re-called and underwent a lengthy cross-examination by Mr. Lincoln Reed:—

Edwin Healey, a stamp dealer, of 14, Wormwood Street, City, whose evidence in chief was taken on a previous occasion was now recalled for cross-examination, by Mr. Lincoln Reed, who appeared for Creeke.

How long have you been a dealer in stamps?—Almost from boyhood; from school days.

How long have you been in business in the City?—I should think from 1887. That is the first year I took an office in the City.

Was that in Wormwood Street?—No; 57, New Broad Street.

Since then has dealing in stamps been your regular occupation?—Well, absolutely yes, beyond getting goods for foreign clients. When a foreign customer writes over and sends stamps he sometimes says instead of sending me money send me goods.

Substantially your business has been dealing in stamps?—Yes.

I suppose you have become acquainted with the various issues of official stamps as they have appeared?—Yes.

Have you from time to time in the ordinary course of business had dealings in official stamps?—Not in an unused condition. In a used condition I have. I don't remember ever buying any unused unless they have been in collections.

Do you pledge your oath that you have never purchased unused official stamps separately?—Well, I might have bought a small lot; two or three stamps, but nothing beyond that.

Haven't you bought them?—I may have done. I really have no recollection.

You might have done a variety of things. You might have stolen stamps yourself. I don't want to suggest such a thing. Can you say whether or not you have bought official stamps?—I believe once I bought a little lot of four or five I.R. Official stamps, halfpenny or penny, with other stamps. Something of that. I don't know what it was.

Of small value?—Of small face value.

How long ago was that?—I have no idea. I believe I did buy from someone in Croydon.

I am not asking you whom you got them from. When? Oh, within the last ten years.

As long ago as ten years ago, or one year ago?—Oh, some years ago. Since I have been at Wormwood Street.

How long is that?—I have been there since 1888.

Do you pledge your oath that that is the only transaction you have ever had in unused official stamps?—To the best of my belief it is. I have examined my books, and my cheque books right away through, and I cannot trace ever having done business in them at all. I have refused them.

You have refused to buy them?—Yes.

Have you never bought any army officials?—Oh yes.

That is what I am speaking of.—I thought you were speaking about "Government Parcels" and "I.R. Officials."

I did not particularise any kind of stamps.—I have probably bought a few penny and a few halfpenny Army Officials.

Have you never bought any Office of Works?—None, beyond the lot that was mentioned on the depositions.

Those are the ones you got from Mr. Moore?—No; those are the ones I bought from some one who came to my office. The small lot which I purchased for 10s.

Mr. Muir: And those you bought from Mr. Moore?—I did not buy any Government Officials from Mr. Moore.

Cross-examination continued: Whom did you buy them from?—Some one who came into the shop. A young fellow came in between 12 and 2 o'clock in the daytime.

Do you know his name?—I do not know his name.

Have you ever seen him before?—No.

Or since?—No. I don't think I could recognise him either.

And the date. When was it?—I think it was about the 11th or 12th January.

In this year?—Yes. I bought them in front of other people in the shop.

What were their denominations?—I think there were six half-penny ones and two penny ones.

King's Head?—No Queen's Head.

Used?—Unused.

You paid 10/- for them?—Yes.

These were rare stamps were they not?—Well, they are fairly scarce both in a used and an unused condition.

Have you sold any of them?—I have them by me now, I had them here on the last occasion.

Yes, but have you sold them?—No, I have them at the office.

Have you agreed to sell them?—Yes.

Whom have you agreed to sell them to?—I have agreed to sell them to a friend of mine after this case is over. I don't know that I could mention his name. He is a private gentleman. Am I bound to mention my client's name?

Mr. Muir: Is he bound, Sir Albert, to answer the question? He has agreed to sell them and he is able to produce them.

Mr. Reed: Tell me this: At what price have you agreed to sell them? If I can get an answer to that I shall not press the other question.—I don't think there is any price mentioned.

You said you had agreed to sell them at the end of this case. Has the price been discussed?—I should certainly put a good price on them.

Has the price been discussed?—I cannot tell you. I should think as near as possible about catalogue value.

Tell me what the price is. I don't know what the catalogue value is?—For the pair of half-penny green I should think about £5 a pair. £5 or £6.

And the remainder of the stamps you bought for 10/- you know?—Yes, there were four other half-penny ones.

Were they green?—No. I think they were red ones.

What price have you put upon those to the prospective purchaser?—Well, I should say —

You know.—I am trying to give you a correct answer. I should think about £6 or £7—£10 for those as they existed.

The others?—There has been no price mentioned.

What value do you put upon the twopenny ones?—I should think certainly they were worth, according to catalogue value, 30/- or £2 each.

You say £4 for those two?—Yes, if I am lucky enough to get it.

What you hoped to get for those eight stamps you bought for 10/- was something like £18?—If I could get it.

These stamps you purchased, were they from a young person, boy, or man?—I believe to the best of my recollection, a young fellow.

You purchased them from a fellow whose name you did not know. Did you make any enquiries of your vendor as to who he was; where he came from; where he got them from?—I looked upon —

Did you make any enquiries?—None whatever. I bought them quite openly.

Did you write to the Officials at Somerset House, or send a messenger there to enquire if you might purchase stamps?—Next day I sent.

Whom did you send?—I sent my manager.

To ask whether you might purchase Office of Works stamps?—What I enquired was —

Whether you might purchase these stamps for which you paid 10/-?—The —

Now, Mr. Healey, did you or did you not make any enquiry before you purchased these stamps?—That was on the same day that I had the others offered to me. I made the same enquiry do for all the stamps.

Before you purchased them for 10/- did you make any enquiry at Somerset House?—No; none whatever.

Did you know the value or the possible value of these stamps you bought for 10/-?—This is the first I have ever seen of them.

Did you or not?—I knew they were a little more than the ordinary philatelic value, being unused.

Did you know them to be of considerable value? Did you think you had got a good bargain?—I considered I had got a fair little deal.

Did it occur to you that the person who was offering them for 10/- had come by them honestly?—I shouldn't think he had come by them dishonestly. If he had come by them dishonestly I should certainly have made enquiries before I bought them.

It did occur to you that he had come by them honestly?—Perfectly.

What did you think then; he was a fool and did not know the value of them?—I certainly thought he knew nothing about the value of them whatever.

As a dealer, did you ever receive any notice from the authorities at Somerset House that they did not allow dealings in Office of Works stamps?—No.

Have you ever heard of a regulation of that kind?—None whatever.

Now Government Parcels stamps are not so valuable as these Office of Works, are they?—I think some of the Government Parcels are very rare.

Well, the Government Parcels which were offered to you?—You mean the penny ones, by Mr. Moore?

Were they anything like the same value?—Well, they might be worth anything from 2s. 6d. and £1 each.

What you told us was that the Government Parcels stamps which were offered to you by Mr. Moore were not of the same value to you, as a dealer, as Office of Works stamps.—I should think they were not of so much value.

Did you or did you not expect to make, as a dealer, out of the purchase of Government Parcels as much as you would make out of the Office of Works?—Yes; I should have made a very good profit out of them.

Which one did you expect to make the larger profit on: Government Parcels or O.W. Officials?—Proportionately the O.W. Officials.

Did you know of any regulation made with regard to Government parcels stamps?—The regulations as regards —

You told me you knew of no regulations with regard to the Office of Works.—Government parcels have always been under a cloud in the stamp trade. There has always been some doubt about buying them.

Do you know of any regulations about the sale of Government Parcels stamps?—I have not heard of any.

Or seen any?—No.

They are doubtful to purchase? Dealers look upon them with suspicion in buying Government Parcels stamps.

Why did you look upon the Government parcels with more suspicion than the O.W. Officials?—Only entirely so if you come to have a whole sheet offered to you.

A single one I am talking about.—Oh, a single one I should have no suspicion about whatever.

With a sheet you know you would have been suspicious. Was there anything about a block of eight which would make you suspicious?—They were the ones I wrote about.

What did you pay for the block of eight? £5.

Now you see it comes to this, Mr. Healey does it not, that when you were buying official stamps, out of which you could make a large profit at a low figure, you bought them without making enquiries; when you bought official stamps for which you paid a

(The Report is continued on page 79 of this number.)

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JULY 18, 1903.

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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We think no apology is needed for the large share of our space given up to the report of the official stamp prosecution. In its succeeding stages the case gathers new phases of interest, and we have no doubt that the report in this issue—a great deal of which is verbatim matter specially supplied to the *Fortnightly*—will be read with great interest by philatelists at home and abroad.

The "Fortnightly's" Scheme for a "White List" of reputable philatelists is crowded out of this issue, but will appear in our next number, when we shall at once invite the support and assistance of all stamp collectors and dealers, big and little, advanced and otherwise!

The "Premier" Collecting Albums published by Messrs. Bright & Son already enjoy so high a reputation and so wide a vogue that it is now almost a work of supererogation to draw attention to their merits. Messrs. Bright, however, have lengthened their list of these books and have introduced many acceptable improvements and modifications since the idea was first developed. The No. 10 "Premier," retailing at 4s. 6d. per book, or 48s. the dozen, may be specially mentioned as a handy quarto book, with movable leaves and many other excellent features.

Some cunning counterfeits of Oil Rivers stamps are photographed and described in a leaflet just published by an enterprising dealer of Amsterdam, Mr. M. Z. Booleman. The forgeries, consisting of spurious Oil Rivers surcharged on British stamps, are executed in an unusual way, the surcharge being painted or drawn on the stamp by hand; and in the enlarged photographs before us the discrepancies between the forged and the genuine stamp are readily detected. Mr. Booleman has gone to the trouble of printing the letterpress of his exposure in four different languages—Dutch, French, English and German. For which enterprise he certainly deserves well of the philatelic public. We have no doubt that any reader of the *Fortnightly* may obtain one of the leaflets mentioned by applying to Mr. M. Z. Booleman, at Warmoesstraat 193, Amsterdam.

Concerning the "White List."

BY ROBERT KERR.

I HAVE carefully read every word the *Fortnightly* has printed on this subject, and I cannot but think that if the names and addresses of persons applying for membership are not published the 'White List' may possess just about the same merit as other Reference Registers already in existence. My reliance on one of these Register cost me about £100, and since that event their working has engaged

my attention and study. It has for some years been my opinion that a system of publication, as has been proposed, is the only reliable means of really investigating the standing of applicants. You may get a score of references from an applicant and each may send a satisfactory reply, but the applicant may be a scoundrel all the same. If, however, he has been guilty of any act which is statable against him, publication is most likely to bring it out.

Apart from the possibility of libel actions, the S.C.F. mentions *no ground* for considering publication impracticable. The more pages of the journal which can be filled with names of applicants for admission, the better for its success, moreover it is *not likely* that all "White Sheep" will seek admission to the fold, and the cost could easily be met by a small charge per applicant.

Mr. Simpson, Mr. Gadsby and others seem quite to miss the point of publication, which refers of course to *applicants for admission*. In such publication there would be no advertisement that these parties were honest or reliable, because the sole reason of publication is to ascertain whether they are entitled to be regarded as such.

The fear of being inundated with unsolicited stamps on approval is, I am convinced, groundless. But to save the situation it could be notified at the top of each list of applicants that stamps are not to be sent on approval without the *express permission* of the parties.

With reference to the fear of libels I really see no difficulty. All that is necessary is simply to "contract out" of any liability on that score. The rules may be framed to provide that ultimate determination of who shall be admitted as members rests with the officials in charge of the list, who may if they are satisfied refuse to enrol, and who shall not on that account become liable for any damages by reason of such refusal, nor shall any libel suit or other legal process be competent. It would then be provided that application for membership shall imply agreement to the whole rules, and the above rule could be specially referred to, or incorporated in application form.

I confess I cannot reconcile the *Fortnightly's* present attitude with its statement in the last issue that "this 'White List' is a thing which if it be done at all must be done thoroughly." However I shall say no more until the scheme, which I hope may be such as will meet with general approval, is published.

A Stamp Fable in American Slang.

(From "McKeel's Weekly Stamp News.")

ONCE there was a Busy Stamp Dealer who spent all of his Time at Work. One day a Stranger whisked into his Shop who looked like a relative of Rockefeller, judged from the Standpoint of his Glad Apparel. His clothes looked to stand him a Small Fortune and his fingers were covered with Overgrown Carbons from the South African diamond gardens. The Dealer gave a Gasp and hardly had Breath enough to ask the Animated Fortune what he could do for him. The Stranger stated that he was a Collector and would Deign to Glance at a few good Things if the Dealer happened to have any. Whereupon the Dealer trotted out Thirty-three stock books and all the High-priced Sets in the shop, and, after putting on a Pair of Smoked Glasses to preserve his Eyes from the Diamond Dazzle, he spent Three Hours and Six Minutes pointing out Choice Specimens to the Apparent Millionaire. After looking at the Whole Works the Wonder assumed a careless Expression and remarked that he Guessed all he cared for was a set of Seebecks which the Dealer had marked down to 29c. Then he gracefully Blew out and left the Dealer to Figure up the profits on his afternoon's Labour.

Moral.—All is not Easy Money that glistens. BIZIE.

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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.

Abyssinia.—We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. for a specimen of the current ¼ guerche, fitted with a new and mysterious surcharge in black. It is understood that all the values of the existing set have been so surcharged.



Ceylon.—The newest addition to the list are the 4 cents, 6 cents and 30 cents of the King's Head series. An illustration of the 6 cents denomination is given here.

Fernando Poo.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the usual "hardy annuals" of this Spanish Colony for 1903. Colours and values are as follows:—

¼c. violet.	25c. red-brown.
¼c. black.	50c. olive-brown.
1c. red.	75c. carmine.
2c. green.	1p. purple-brown.
3c. blue-green.	2p. bronze-green.
4c. lilac.	3p. claret.
5c. lake.	4p. dark blue.
10c. yellow.	5p. dark blue.
15c. blue-green.	10p. orange.

The stamps are of exactly the same design as those of 1902, but the inscriptions at the top and right sides have been altered, that across the top reading "Fernando Poo" and at the right "para 1903," the word "telegrafos" being omitted.

French Foreign Offices, Etc.—*Hoi How.*—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have received the 1c., 2c., 4c., 5c., 10c., 20c., 25c., 30c., 40c., 50c., and 1 franc stamps of *Indo Chine* with surcharge in black, *Hoi Hao*, and underneath this a Chinese inscription. This native inscription, our correspondents point out, differs on each stamp and indicates the value in Chinese money.

Tahiti.—A provisional 10 centimes stamp must be chronicled for Tahiti. This takes the form of 25 centimes stamp for French Oceania, with a three-line overprint, "Tahiti--10--Centimes."

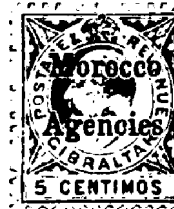


India.—*Chamba State.*—An illustration is supplied of the latest arrival from India—the 3 pies of the King's Head series, with overprint, "Chamba State," in two lines of type.



Gwalior.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the ¼ anna yellow-green Indian stamp of the *Queen Victoria* surcharged for use in Gwalior. We are given to understand that there has been a very limited issue of this unexpected "novelty."

Morocco Agencies.—The inevitable sequel to the issue of King's Head stamps of Gibraltar is the "Morocco Agencies" overprint thereon. We learn that the values surcharged, so far, are the 5 centimos green and the 25c. blue. A specimen of the latter value is already to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.



Morocco (Spanish).—That venerable little stamp, the small square ¼ cent de peseta of Spain has been overprinted diagonally, in red, "Correo Espanol; Marruecos" for use in Morocco. Our thanks to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a specimen.

St. Helena.—Large pictorial stamps for this colony are to hand from our correspondents at Ipswich. The obvious opportunity to do something great in the way of commemorative stamps by means of portraits of Napoleon and Cronje is utterly missed by St. Helena. Instead, we have a small head of King Edward, and under this a local view—in some cases depicting "The Wharf." in others, "Government House." Colours and values as follows:

¼d. green and brown.
1d. carmine and black.
2d. olive-green and black.
8d. brown and black.
1/- orange and brown.
2/- violet and black.

The first colour in each instance is that of the body of the stamp; the second is that of the view.

St. Kitts-Nevis.—In No. 216 of the *Fortnightly* we chronicled and described a new stamp for St. Kitts-Nevis. We now have a set of values from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.:—

¼d. green, mauve	centre.
1d. carmine, black	"
2d. brown, mauve	"
2½d. blue, black	"
3d. brown, green	"
6d. purple, grey-black	"
1/- brown, green	"
2/- black, green	"
2/6 violet, grey	"
5/- sage-green, purple	"

Seychelles.—A whole host of King's Head stamps are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.:—

2 cents, brown and green.
3 .. green.
6 .. carmine.
12 .. olive and green.
15 .. blue.
18 .. olive-green and carmine.
30 .. royal-blue and green.
45 .. brown and carmine.
75 .. yellow and violet.
1 rupee 50c., black and carmine.
2 rupees 25c., purple and green.

United States.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the following additions to our list:—

15 cents olive (<i>Portrait of Clay</i>).
\$1 black (<i>Farragut</i>).
\$2 blue (<i>Madison</i>).
\$5 green (<i>Marshall</i>).

How "Correspondents" are "Answered."

FROM Mr. Alden Ridley, of Harrogate, comes a note enclosing the following cutting from the "Answers to Correspondents" column of a journal for juveniles. "Boys of our Empire":

YOUNG COLLECTOR (Putney).—The letters in the corners of the old stamps of Great Britain are known as plate numbers and designate the position of the die when the dies are made up for printing. We cannot tell you the issues of the envelope stamps unless they are sent for examination with return postage.

How the corner letters can be plate numbers is a problem we decline to wrestle with in the temperature now prevailing. It is a pity, however, that "Boys of our Empire" are so woefully misdirected on philatelic matters.

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FISCALS.—Those wishing to sell, purchase, or exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London.

COLLECTOR specializing has a nice lot of medium Colonials for Sale, especially African, West Indies and Australian. Selections on approval. References required. Wanted Barbados.—FRANK H. MADISON, St. Neots, Hunts.

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WANTED, penny reds, plate numbers, mint. Cash on receipt.—KNOWLES, Eversley, Wednesbury.

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63 & 64, Chancery Lane,
London, W.C.

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

THE PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

THE July packet started on circuit promptly and carries a good assortment of stamps to the value of £234 9s. 11½d. Members are requested to send in good sheets for the August packet. The secretary will also be pleased to hear from readers of this journal desirous of becoming members of the above society. No fees of any kind. Rules and full information on application.

R. T. MORGAN, *Secretary*, 14, High Street, Selhurst, S.E.

AN EXCHANGE CLUB FOR KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

WE gather from Mr. H. Escala that an exchange club for philatelists in Jamaica has been formed at Kingston. A cutting from a local paper gives the following details:—

A meeting to consider a proposal for the formation of a Philatelic Club in Kingston was held at Messrs. Louis Winkler & Co.'s Stores on Wednesday evening. There was a fair number of interested persons present, who voted Mr. Astley Clerk in the chair. It was also proposed that Mr. Escala act as Secretary.

Mr. Clerk, in a neat speech, acknowledged his thanks, and then went on to explain the objects of the Society. These were, briefly, to promote collecting by making it easier and more remunerative; to procure a central place for effecting sales or exchanges; and to facilitate intercourse with one another. He preferred not to say more, but asked Mr. Escala, the originator of the proposed society, to read correspondence on the subject, and to give further information on the aims of the proposed association. Correspondence was then read from certain gentlemen expressing their sympathy with the movement and promising assistance. Mr. Escala then proceeded to cite cases illustrating the need for such a society as they contemplated forming. He then moved that the meeting approve the formation of a philatelic association, to have its headquarters in Kingston, and as its object the exchange of stamps between members and the sale of their duplicates to the general public. The motion was carried, after which those present were enrolled as members.

It was decided that the club should be known as "The Jamaica Stamp Exchange Society, with headquarters at No. 18, King Street, kindly offered by Messrs. Winkler & Co.

The following gentlemen were appointed officers:—Mr. Escala, Acting Secretary; Mr. Clerk, Acting Treasurer; Messrs. Eugene Finzi, George Kinkead, G. T. Armstrong, H. Escala, A. Clerk, and W. Valdes were named as a committee for the framing of rules.

Anyone requiring further information is requested to apply to the Secretary at No. 68, King Street, Kingston. P.O. Box 160.

THE LADIES' STAMP EXCHANGE.

THE May packet contained thirty-two sheets, value just over £105, of which stamps to the value of £234s. were sold. Among the better things were a superb Cape woodblock on original. New Brunswick's, St. Vincent's, British Guiana's on entires, mint blocks of four of first issue. Newfoundland's, scarce bisected Falkland's and Gold Coast's, sheet of fifty different old Ceylons, some fine old Europeans.

There is one vacancy at present for either lady or gentleman.

Subscriptions date a year from the month paid.
Hon. Sec. LOUISE HAYNES, Westwood House, Wood Lane, W.

THE BEGINNERS STAMP EXCHANGE.

SINCE the last report appeared the following Packets have been returned.

February—Sales, £4 4s. Credits settled April 27th.

March—Sales, £6 10s. Credits settled May 14th.

April—Sales, £4 13s. Debit accounts sent out June 15th. Credits will probably be settled by the time this appears.

The May packet was a fairly good one—containing 30 sheets, value £56 14s., but those for June and July were poor.

The next packet will start on October 1st, and the Secretary hopes to receive good sheets from all members not later than Sept. 28th.

There are four vacancies for genuine collectors. Rules for ½d. from

MISS FLORENCE E. SMITH, Member S.E.P.S., Winfrith, The Crescent, Bedford.

THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND EXCHANGE.

SINCE the last report appeared March and April Packets have returned. Sales from the former were over £20 and all credits were settled June 4th. April sales were rather below the average. Debits were sent out June 29th, and credit will be paid as soon as possible. The May packet contained 41 sheets, net value £112. June and July show signs of summer when philately usually retires into the background.

The Secretary will not start a packet on August 5th unless she receives at least £50 worth of stamps—but will keep sheets till September 5th, when she hopes to start a good packet. Common stamps are not wanted on sheets, there being no sale for them in this Club. Members having good duplicates are wanted; also good buyers. The Club is a very successful one, and the greatest care is taken to prevent undesirable members obtaining a place upon the Postal List.

Rules sent for ½d. by the *Secretary*, MISS FLORENCE E. SMITH, Member S.E.P.S., Winfrith, The Crescent, Bedford.

"CALEDONIAN" STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

APRIL packet returned from circuit some time ago, and all have been returned to their respective owners, along with cash balances. Stamps circulated, £220 12s.; amount sold, £15 9s. 2d.

The May packet just in, and sheets will be returned to owners as soon as accounts can be made out.

All the members are requested to send on sheets for circulation as regular as possible during the off-season.

The following ladies and gentlemen have joined the Exchange since last report:—Mrs. Hanson, Mrs. Beers, Messrs. F. W. Paterson and W. M. Baxter. There is still room for other good reliable collectors, and I shall be pleased to add such to our present list of members.

J. JOHNSTON, *Sec.*, Moss-side, New Deer, Aberdeenshire.

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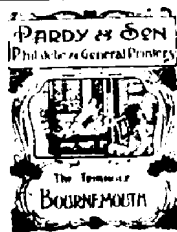
Barbados.	Newfoundland.
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THE TRAFFIC IN BRITISH OFFICIAL STAMPS.

(Continued from page 77.)

big price you then thought it necessary to write to Somerset House?—No; if I had O.W. Officials offered to me in the same way I should have made enquiry. I made enquiry next day about official stamps.

It remains that no enquiry was made until you were offered Govt. Parcels stamps; eight for £5?—That was the day after I bought the O.W. Officials.

When you had only got 10/- at stake you made no enquiry; when you had £5 at stake you made enquiry first.

What was the answer you got from Somerset House? You said next morning I sent my manager?—I have got a note down here.

Was that made at the time?—Yes.

What is the answer you got?—"There is nothing to prevent you buying these stamps, but if we knew the whereabouts, such as, being advertised or at auctions, we should be at liberty to seize them."

That was the answer your manager brought you back?—Yes.

On the faith of that answer you did buy them?—I bought the eight, yes.

How much did you pay for them?—It was either £5 or £6 5s. I believe it was £6 5s. and I gave him 7/6 commission.

You construed that message from Somerset House as an authority to you to purchase these, did you not?—Well, fairly well. I thought it was fairly good grounds to go on.

Fairly good grounds to purchase on?—Yes.

Did not you consider that Somerset House had said you were at liberty to buy them?—In other words, they said, "We cannot prevent you buying them."

That is not an answer to my question. Did not you consider that Somerset House said you were at liberty.—Not beyond what the message had said.

Did you consider that message an authority from Somerset House to you to buy them; that you had their permission to buy them?—I took the message in this way: that there was no harm in us buying them. We had told Somerset House.

You did not consider it put you at liberty to purchase them, but there was no harm in buying them?—No harm in purchasing them.

Only the 13th of January you wrote this: "We recently enquired at Somerset House if we were allowed to purchase unused Government parcel stamps, and we were informed that we were at liberty to purchase them." Were you so informed?—We went entirely on the message we had received.

Were you or were you not informed by Somerset House that you were at liberty to purchase them?—Nothing beyond that in the message.

Don't you think this statement in your letter goes a little further than the message justifies or warrants?—I don't think so.

Now after getting that message from Somerset House you purchased some Government parcel stamps?—I purchased a sheet, yes.

That is the one you got from Mr. Moore. After buying those you bought a whole sheet of 240 penny ones?—Yes.

Am I right in saying that that sheet you bought on the 21st of January?—No, sir.

Mr. Muir: I think that is the date Mr. Moore has given us. That is the date he bought them on.

Mr. Reed: What day did you purchase them on?—I bought them on the 30th of January.

Now you did not think it necessary to communicate with Somerset House before purchasing the sheet?—No.

Were your suspicions aroused Mr. Healey when the complete sheet of Government parcels were brought to you?—Yes.

Did you think they had been come by honestly?—I thought there was some irregularity somewhere.

Don't let's split straws about it. Did you think they had been stolen?—I had no idea.

What did you think?—I thought more stamps had been offered and—

You have told me your suspicions were aroused. What did you suspect?—I suspected there was some irregularity—that the stamps had got on the market somehow.

That is not what you suspected. Did you suspect they had been stolen?—No I did not.

Why didn't you write to Somerset House that your suspicions were aroused with regard to that sheet? I did not write the same day.

Why before you purchased them didn't you write for permission?—I consider it is as broad as it is long.

The fact is you did not write till after you had purchased them?—Yes I wrote in the evening, I thought it didn't matter whether we communicated first or after.

Had you any motive for not communicating with Somerset House?

—I can't say whether there is any object.

Did it occur to your mind that you might be able to turn this offer of a sheet to your own advantage, in a way other than by selling them.—I don't clearly understand.

Did you understand that by turning informer to Somerset House of this it would profit you? Did that occur to you?—None whatever.

You did turn informer?—In what way?

Because you wrote: "We recently inquired at Somerset House if we might purchase stamps. . . . We have this day purchased an entire sheet; please let us know if we are at liberty to purchase these stamps in quantity." Do you say that that letter was written with an honest intention?—Absolutely.

Didn't you know perfectly well from the first answer that your own messenger had brought back that Somerset House would not allow and had no knowledge of whole sheets.—We wanted to get their message in writing.

How much did you pay for the sheet of penny stamps that you actually bought?—I believe it was about £6 12s. 6d. I haven't the exact figures here.

From whom were you given to understand that there were five more sheets of other values?—The party from whom I bought them, Mr. Moore.

Did you make any enquiries of Mr. Moore as to where he got them from?—I believe I asked Mr. Moore to make enquiries and he said he would try and find out where the party got them from.

That is in reference to the sheet you bought?—One sheet of 240. Yes. I practically expected to see the seller down there. We had told Mr. Moore to keep the seller there until we came down.

That is the seller of the sheet for which you paid £6. Was this a little arrangement between you and Moore that you or your representative should go down to Moore's shop, so that you could spot the seller and subsequently identify him?—None whatever.

Why was it necessary to go down?—Because Moore hadn't got the money and we were to take it down for him to pay for them, and give him commission for what he bought. He was our agent.

You would not want to see the vendor so long as you got the stamps which you were paying for. How would it interest you to see the vendor so long as you got in exchange for your money what you agreed to purchase? Moore telephoned to me about this sheet of stamps. He said he hadn't got the money. I said my manager would come down with the money.

Moore has told us he paid £2 for the whole sheet.—When we got down there we found he had paid for them instead of waiting.

Although he was re-selling them to you at a profit of £4 you say an arrangement was made between you and Moore to meet the vendor at his shop?—Not exactly to see him but to pay the vendor.

To enable you to pay Mr. Moore it was not necessary to see Mr. Moore's vendor?—None whatever.

Then why should you have wanted to see the vendor?—Because we did not anticipate that Moore had got the money on him.

Your agent was making a secret commission?—That is what it is. It is very evident.

I suggest to you Mr. Healey that at the time you bought these stamps, or were in negotiations for the purchase of them there was an arrangement with Mr. Moore to enable you to identify the person who sold them in case it became necessary at a later stage?—No arrangement whatever.

Of course, Mr. Healey, you always conduct your business in an honest manner?—As well as I possibly can.

When, as you have told us, your suspicions were aroused about this complete set why did not you say to Moore, "I cannot have any dealings in these stamps until I have some bona-fide of the vendor?" I thought if we bought a sheet and communicated afterwards it would be the same. My intentions were honest.

Why didn't you? We intended to see the vendor. We should have liked to have seen him.

Can you answer my question?—Why didn't you refuse to complete this purchase, as to the subject matter of which you had your suspicions aroused, unless you were satisfied as to the bona-fides of the vendor?—Well, I was satisfied so far in buying the sheet, but I thought before we dealt with them or bought any more we would communicate with Somerset House and get their permission.

You thought that whether the stamps were stolen or not you might get them into your possession and save your skin by subsequently telling Somerset House you had purchased them?—None whatever!

Now the five or more sheets of other values which you refer to in this letter: did you know of this before or after?—After, by telephone on the same day.

Who informed you of them?—I think Moore telephoned through.

At any rate Moore was your informant?—Moore telephoned through and told us he thought there would be some more sheets of them and of other values.

All these transactions were done at the same time or were there a

number of different communications on the telephone?—None but this subject.

With one communication on the telephone the whole subject was discussed?—Yes; we agreed to pay £6 and told him if he would keep his man there my manager would call and pay.

It was during that time he also gave the other information?—No, it was later on that day to the best of my belief.

How was the £6 paid?—By cheque.

Did you send it by post?—My manager took it to Moore himself.

Did he bring back the sheet of stamps with him?—Yes.

Was it before or after your manager went down to Moore's Office, in Villiers Street, that you received this telephonic communication with regard to the sheets of other values?—It was after.

After he had gone and returned with the sheet?—That was the middle of the day and the other was the afternoon or evening.

That £6 transaction was closed before you knew about the sheets?—I believe Moore mentioned at the time that he had other stamps, which I refused; a 6d. or 2d. Govt. Parcel, I believe he mentioned, among other things.

Did that excite your suspicion too?—Well, we —.

Did it or did it not?—It excited my suspicion when the sheet came back.

When the first sheet was offered to you of 240 penny, your suspicions were excited, but your suspicions were not of anything criminal, but irregularity. You told me just now that at the time negotiations were going on for the purchase of other sheets —. He didn't mention it on the telephone. He mentioned it to my manager.

Did that excite your suspicion?—Well, we were doubtful.

You were suspicious when one was mentioned, with two or more you were doubtful. What was it that you suspected? We could not understand.

Do yourself justice. You know what I mean. What were you suspicious of?—Well, we were doubtful about the stuff; could not make out how it came on the market.

You bought the stuff and then communicated with Somerset House. Why didn't you communicate to them first if you were acting honestly?—I was acting honestly.

Very well. In answer to your letter of January 30th you got a letter signed by Mr. Bartlett that neither the sale nor the purchase of these stamps is allowed, and thanking you for your offer to assist them. In face of that letter do you say that you construed the message of your manager as a liberty or licence to purchase them?—I didn't think there was any harm.

Mr. Bartlett also says: "The board also desires me to thank you for your offer to assist them. When did you make that offer?—When Mr. Richards called upon me he asked me if I would make arrangements.

Let us go by stages: After you had written your letter of the 30th January and before you received a reply you were visited by someone from Somerset House?—Yes.

Did Walter Richards come to you at Wormwood Street and then was it that a suggestion was made that you should get the person who was going to dispose of these stamps to attend there in order —, Mr. Richards said he would like to know where the stamps came. I said directly I hear from the party I had bought the stamps from that he has his customer there, I will tell Mr. Richards to ask Moore to detain his seller so that Richards could go down and interview him.

Who made the suggestion; you or Mr. Richards?—I really don't know.

Well, try and tax your memory. Was it your suggestion?—I really cannot remember exactly whether it came from Richards or myself.

Do you remember anything at all about it?—I told Mr. Richards I would help him all I could.

Cannot you remember exactly who it was made that suggestion?—Mr. Richards told me he wanted to know —.

My question is a very simple one. Was it you or Richards who suggested this meeting at which he should have a meeting with the vendor?—I should think I suggested it.

You should think you suggested it. You don't recollect exactly who suggested it?—The suggestion probably did come from me.

Do you remember the details of the conversation?—All of the conversation I had with Richards on that day?

Yes.—I remember him calling there. I don't remember the day for the moment.

Do you remember the details of the conversation you had with him?—He asked to be shown a sheet.

Yes or no.—I am trying to get round to that. I showed him a sheet —.

I only want to know if you recollect the details of the conversation or not. You did not make any note of it?—I keep no diary at all.

Do you recollect the details?—I recollect the details so far as to what assistance I was going to give him. Do you mean that?

All the details.—I thought you meant in regard to assisting him. Mr. Richards asked to see the sheet.

I don't want you to tell me the details; I only want to know if you know them.—I think I do.

Then how is it you cannot tell me who it was made the suggestion?—It was me I think.

Do you think you can undertake to repeat word for word what the conversation was with Mr. Richards?—No; I don't think so.

Substantially?—As near as possible I can. To the best of my belief.

Very well. Now why should you have made that suggestion?—Mr. Richards required us to help him in the matter to find out where these stamps were coming from.

You know you were receiving them in large quantities.—I bought them, and I informed Somerset House at the same time.

After you bought them. Well, it is as broad as it is long.

Why did you make the suggestion?—He asked for assistance.

Why should you go out of your way to make the suggestion Didn't you tell him you bought them from Mr. Moore?—No.

Why didn't you?—I said I bought them from a dealer in the West End.

Why didn't you tell him you bought them from Mr. Moore?—I really don't know.

You never did tell him you bought them from Mr. Moore?—No; I don't think I did.

Either on that or on a subsequent occasion when he called?—I don't think I did.

If you were genuinely anxious here to be of assistance to Somerset House why didn't you disclose immediately who your vendor was?—Well I wanted to —.

Play your own game?—No; not at all. I wanted to find out for my own information.

Why didn't you give Somerset House the information when you at least had it in your possession? They asked me to make enquiries.

Did they ask you the name of the dealer?—That I can't remember.

Who was the first person you in fact told you bought these stamps from Mr. Moore?—which stamps do you refer to?

The sheet that you paid £6 for.—I wrote to Somerset House. That was the letter I wrote on January 30th.

No, no, no. You don't mention the name of your vendor there. When Mr. Richards came down in answer to your letter of the 30th of January, to make enquiries, you knew you had got them from Moore?—Yes.

You didn't tell him?—I don't think Mr. Richards suggested —. You didn't tell him?—No, I did not.

When he and Mr. Stonestreet came down on the 8th of February, you didn't tell either of those gentlemen you had got them from Mr. Moore?—No.

Whom did you first make the communication to?—Sergeant Ward.

Why didn't you communicate to Mr. Stonestreet and Richards when they came down?—When Richards and Stonestreet came down I complained that my letter —.

When did you mention it to them?—I was annoyed at my letter being shown, and I said: "I'll have nothing more to do with it, or something to that effect.

Have you been promised anything for coming here and giving evidence?—Nothing whatever.

Either directly or indirectly?—Neither.

Was the reason why you did not disclose Moore's name to either Richards or Stonestreet that neither of those individuals offered you any compensation for your assistance?—So far as I can recollect I don't think they did.

Say the reason why you did not disclose the information?—No, it was not.

Mr. Creeke only called upon you once?—Yes.

When he called to see you on the 4th had you then seen Walter Richards?—I saw Walter Richards before I saw Creeke.

Did you tell Mr. Creeke this: That if Somerset House would give a reward, you would be prepared to give away the name of your vendor?—No.

Will you swear you did not tell Mr. Creeke that?—I am almost positive I did not tell him that. I never mentioned such a thing. To the best of my belief I never did. In fact I am almost certain I never did.

Do I understand you that the idea of a reward was not in your mind either when you wrote your letter to Somerset House on the 20th January?—No; none whatever.

Or when Walter Richards first saw you?—When he called I think there was some mention about a trouble and we were put to being compensated for our outdoor expenses; travelling about.

Did you on that occasion when you gave your evidence in chief detail the whole of the conversation which you had with Walter Richards on the first occasion when he called?—To the best of my belief.

Did you make any note of the conversation which you had with him?—No.

When you gave your evidence in chief you had a document which you were frequently referring to. Have you got it now?—I have a book here of notes which I made.

Was that the book you referred to on the last occasion when you gave your evidence in chief?—I don't know.

Did you look at it?—Very possibly I did.

Have you any objection to my seeing it now?—I don't think there is anything here which I would object to anybody seeing. That is only a recent book; not the one I had the dates in. That is at the office. This probably isn't the book.

Haven't you on previous occasions rendered assistance to Somerset House in connection with the investigation of the leakages of official stamps?—Not to my recollection.

You don't recollect I suppose?—I really don't think so.

Do you recollect sometime ago an enquiry being made by the authorities as to leakages which were suspected to take place from De la Rues, in connection with the printing of official stamps?—I cannot say I do.

You must know whether you remember it or not. Sometime ago?

I don't remember whether it is within the last year or five years.

Do you know Mr. Page, Government representative at De la Rue's?—I know the manager there. I don't know whether his name is Page.

The manager who represents the Government?—Oh yes, I know him. I believe it is him.

Do you know Mr. Haines, who is De la Rue's own manager in the printing department?—I don't think so.

Will you swear you don't, sir?—I don't really know. I know some of the gentlemen there, but I cannot recall which is one and which is the other.

You do remember Mr. Page?—I am not certain that I do.

Do you recollect in connection with the printing of official stamps at De la Rues a question arising as to whether there was not a leakage and that official stamps were getting on the market. And didn't you in connection with the matter render some assistance?—Years ago?

I don't remember when it was. Do you recollect the incident?—I don't.

Perhaps you recollect receiving the reward?—I have received no reward.

Did you tell Walter Richards when he came to see you on the 2nd of February that you had assisted?—My servants received the reward. They had £5 for three weeks trouble.

Which servant?—The whole of my staff divided it between them.

What does your staff consist of?—I think at that time I had three or four girls and three men. I think it was divided amongst the men.

In respect of what transaction was that reward paid?—I once had some unperforated stamps offered to me.

What was the transaction in respect of what that was paid?—I think some unperforated stamps were offered to us.

There is no partner in your business?—No.

Then just say "me."—I wrote to De la Rues or did something to De la Rues. I think I must have told one of the officials; it is such a long while ago. It is some seven or eight years ago.

What did you tell them?—It seemed curious that some of these stamps were unperforated without watermark.

What was it you wrote or told to some official at De la Rues?—I think some of the officials saw them and seemed to be rather suspicious about the stamps.

What was it you wrote or told them?—I showed them these stamps. They questioned them and thought there must be some leakage from De la Rues from the waste after the printing of them.

Do you think you were quite candid with me a minute or two ago when you pretended you knew nothing about it?—You said Somerset House Official Stamps.

They were official stamps weren't they?—I think they were ordinary ones unperforated and without watermark.

Was that the matter you mentioned to Walter Richards?—I should think that was the matter.

Think before you answer the next question. Was that the only transaction of the kind you told Walter Richards about?—I am absolutely uncertain about that. I cannot remember all the conversation six months ago.

You would remember the conversation of an episode of that kind?—None whatever. Anything I can tell you I will.

I wish you would without my having to drag it out of you. When he came to see you on the first occasion did you enquire whether

there would be any reward in the event of your disclosing the name of the vendor?—I really cannot remember.

Did not you tell him that if the Government would reward you that you would disclose the name of the vendor?—Oh, it is impossible to say such things.

Did you tell him or did you not?—It is impossible for me to say such things.

I put it to you that you not only asked for the reward but you stipulated what the reward should be. That was that you were to be allowed to keep the five or six sheets official stamps referred to in your letter of the 30th January to deal with as you please?—I cannot say that.

Is it true that you asked Walter Richards as a condition of disclosing the name to keep the five or more sheets of other values referred to in your letter?—I cannot recollect.

I call for the report that Mr. Walter Richards made of that interview on the 2nd of February. When Richards saw you in the presence of Mr. Stonestreet on the following Saturday, did you not then refuse to disclose the name of your vendor upon the grounds that you had discussed the matter with your manager, and had come to the conclusion that it might injure your business?—Yes I did, knowing that my letter had been seen. I said I did not care to have anything more to do with it.

Did you also make an appointment with Mr. Richards on the occasion of his first visit to you, to have the vendor present on the following Saturday, when he was to call?—Yes, to call at Moore's place. I telephoned to Moore something to that effect.

Not what you said to Moore, what you said to Richards. Did not you arrange that if he would go to Wormwood Street?—It was arranged he was to call at Moore's place.

Did you hear Mr. Stonestreet say on the last occasion, that when he went down to the city on the Saturday, that he believed he was sent down to witness the sale of stamps?—I believe he did.

Don't you know he was taken down there because of the arrangement which you had made when Mr. Richards went, that if the sale of stamps was effected, he was to see it?—I arranged with Moore to ask the seller to be present at his office on Saturday, so that Richards could go down and interview him.

That is not an answer to the question, whether you did not arrange with Richards that if he would come to your place of business on the following Saturday, you would arrange for the person to be there from whom you had purchased these official stamps and arranged also for the sale of stamps in his presence?—At Moore's place.

You accept what I have suggested with the exception that it was at Moore's place and not at your place of business. Now this is Walter Richards' report to his superior officer of the result of that interview. In the last paragraph he says: "No question of reward was raised, but Mr. Healey asked that if he bought the stamps he might be permitted to keep them." Those are five sheets of the other values. Is it true that when Mr. Walter Richards saw you on the first occasion no question of reward was raised between you, but you stipulated that if you bought the stamps you might be permitted to keep them?—I should certainly think it is a very genuine transaction, too.

Is it true?—It might have been with regard to the one sheet I had, but not with further sheets.

You say it is true?—To the best of my belief. It is impossible to swear anything correctly that happened six or eight months ago.

Here is Mr. Richards making a report deliberately in writing. Is it true?—If the Government allowed me to keep them.

Now, Mr. Healey, at the time of that interview with Walter Richards you had bought a sheet of Government Parcels?—I had.

You had been offered five more sheets of other values. What you were discussing with Mr. Richards was the further purchase by you of these extra sheets, was it not?—Ah! that was for Richards to go there and see the sale.

Is not it a fact that what you were contemplating doing on the 2nd of July was to arrange a meeting at Moore's office and Moore was to bring stamps from the seller?—That was what was contemplated under Richards' directions.

Was not the stipulation made as a condition of arranging that interview at the sale that whatever stamps you then bought you should be allowed to keep?—I shouldn't think so.

Wasn't it the stipulation you made?—I should think not.

Do you say it was not?—It is impossible for me to remember all these little items.

Now I want to take you on to the interview with Mr. Creeke. You say he came to you on the 3rd or 4th February?—I think it was.

Did he give you his name when he came in?—Not when he first came in.

Did you recognise him as a gentleman who had been to your shop on several previous occasions?—I had never seen him before in my life.

Do you know Mr. Hastings Wright who collaborated with him in writing that book?—Yes.

Do you remember Mr. Hastings Wright calling at Wormwood Street and going through a large quantity of used official stamps from 1870 to 1880 which you had?—He has called there many times.

Do you recollect that occasion?—I have no recollection of it whatever.

Do you know a stamp known amongst collectors as the 2½d. lilac rose?—Yes.

Is there a mistake in the corner lettering?—Yes.

Instead of L.H.H.L. appearing in the corners it reads L.H.F.L. Do you mean to say you have no recollection of Mr. Hastings Wright and Creeke searching through large quantities of unused stamps for the purpose of finding that lilac-rose?—None whatever.

Have you had many dealings with collectors in purchasing from them?—Yes. I have advertised all over the place to buy collections.

Not only collections but single stamps?—Yes.

Have you found in the course of your dealings with these gentlemen a disinclination to let it be known that they are disposing of their stamps? No.

They like to publish it to the world?—Well they don't mind giving their names and addresses.

I put it to you sir that it is a common thing amongst collectors to transact their business as quietly and privately as they can—I don't think so.

Never had anyone come to your shop and ask to see you privately?—No. I do no private business. My business is done in the shop.

Never had anyone come to your shop to ask to see you privately?—I ask their name.

Never mind about that. Have you or have you not had persons come to your shop and ask to see you privately and subsequently done business with you?—I may have or may not. Very rarely.

Mr. Creeke gave you his name did he not?—Yes, afterwards.

Did you ask him for his address?—I think he said Creeke of Leadenhall Street.

And you recognised the name?—Yes.

Then he showed you, did he not, some O.W. Official stamps?—No; he didn't show me.

Didn't he show them to you at all?—No; I don't think Mr. Creeke showed me them while he was in the office.

He asked you if you would like to buy some? Yes.

Did you ask him the price? To the best of my belief I did not.

Did he tell you what the stamps were he had for sale?—He said two sets of O.W. Officials.

Did he state the price without any invitation from you?—To the best of my belief he did.

What price did he mention?—£40.

For the two sets.—Yes.

You had been buying them at 10/- a set.—Oh no.

I suppose that rather frightened you. You told us this morning that you bought some for 10s. that you expected to sell for £18. £40 was rather too high?—Oh no.

Didn't you tell him you should like to have the stamps, but you couldn't afford that price?—I said I didn't want them.

Will you swear that you didn't say so?—I have no recollection of it.

Have you got any recollection at all of what did pass at any of those interviews?—Yes, I have.

Now I put it to you that knowing who Mr. Creeke was; recognising him as the author of this book and the person interested in these philatelic matters, you entered into conversation with him, amongst other subjects———We talked on other subjects.

Didn't you start the conversation? Didn't you say you had recently had offered to you some Government parcels stamps?—Yes, I did.

Didn't you show Mr. Creeke a half-sheet of Government parcels stamps?—I think I did.

Have you any clear or distinct recollection of the conversation with Mr. Creeke after you produced these stamps to him? Yes. I told him I had written to Somerset House asking permission about the purchase or sale of these stamps. He then stated: "Oh, yes; I know all about your letter." I then asked him if Richards had shown it to him and he said no. After that I produced my letter book and showed him a copy of the letter. He said "I don't want to see it," or something like that.

Are you sure that what Creeke said was "I know all about your letter"?—To the best of my belief that is what he said.

If that was what he said how came you in examination-in-chief to say that what he said was "I have seen your letter"?—He said "I have seen your letter."

Why was it you did not, in your examination-in-chief, when you said you asked him if Richards had shown him the letter you wrote, say that you had asked him if Richards had shown him the letter?—It is very possible I did not remember the whole of the conversation then.

There is no doubt you did say to Creeke "I have written a letter to Somerset House asking permission about the sale or purchase of

stamps"?—I don't think there is any doubt about it at all. I did not mention that until I knew Creeke was in connection with Somerset House.

What we were told last week was that you complained in the presence of Mr. Stonestreet that Creeke had been made acquainted with your letter by some person or some means at Somerset House. What I want to put to you is this: that the first information Creeke had about your letter was the information he received from yourself?—No; not at all.

You not only told Creeke you had written that letter, but showed him the press copy of it?—Yes.

Then why, if Mr. Creeke had already been shown this by some traitor at Somerset House, should you show it to him?—I looked upon him as an official.

Official!—Well next door to an official.

Why should you do that, recognising him as an author?—Because he had permission to examine the records of Somerset House.

Did he tell you what he had had that permission given him for?—To write a book.

Do you really mean to say that because of that you jumped to the opinion that he was an official at Somerset House?—Yes; he seemed to know all the ins and outs of Somerset House.

What motive had you got on Saturday morning, when Mr. Richards and Mr. Stonestreet came, in not carrying out your promise to arrange the sale of stamps and in telling them that Creeke had seen your letter?—There was no motive at all.

Did you say to Creeke: "I don't want official stamps from you at all"?—I don't think I said that.

How long was Mr. Creeke with you?—I should think possibly about three-quarters-of-an-hour.

Why did you swear on the last occasion that you did say to Creeke: "I don't want official stamps from you at all"?—I didn't say that.

That is what appears on the depositions. Aren't you aware that there is an element of prejudice contained in that statement?—I never said anything of that sort at all.

Although you have sworn to it?—I told Creeke I did not want any official stamps.

What was it about Creeke's looks you did not like? I never objected to Mr. Creeke's looks.

You said so.—Excuse me.

Oh it was Mr. Stonestreet. He swore that "Mr. Healey declined to buy stamps from him (Creeke) as I did not like the look of him."

Did you say that?—No, no.

Do you like the look of him?—I consider he is a very nice looking man.

Cross-examined by Mr. Williams (for Walter Richards): How often have you seen Walter Richards in your shop?—I think it must be three times.

When was the first?—It was on the Monday, 2nd February.

When was the second occasion?—I cannot remember.

Wouldn't it be on the Monday night?—I think Monday night was the first occasion.

The report which Richards wrote on February 3rd says: "I saw Mr. Healey again last night."—All these three interviews happened between the 2nd and the 6th of February.

You never saw him before you sent that letter enquiring at Somerset House?—I don't think so.

You only mentioned you had been offered and had bought some Government Parcels stamps?—Yes.

Mr. Richards, when he came to see you, only mentioned this matter to you of the Government stamps?—He asked to be shown the sheet. I showed him the sheet, or the half-sheet, and he said he thought the surcharge was a forgery. He took it away with him in order to test it. I told him I was positive it was genuine.

Did it turn out to be genuine?—Yes.

On the first two occasions you saw Richards he was by himself?—I don't know whether he brought some with him the first time. I believe he did.

Did it appear to you he was acting quite straightforwardly?—In a very straightforward manner.

I want you to tell me if this is an honest report of what occurred on the 2nd of February. This is what Walter Richards reports to his superior officer: "I saw Mr. Healey again last night and returned to him 120 Government parcels penny stamps which he had lent me for official inspection. His manager's statement as to the interview with the officer in room 59 is as follows: Question, 'We propose to buy some Government parcels stamps offered to us. Shall we be right in doing so?' Answer, 'There is nothing to prevent you doing so, but if we know where the stamps are we can stop the sale.' I took this down and read it over to Mr. Healey and his manager before leaving."—He may have done.

"I informed Mr. Healey that he would receive a formal reply to his letter and thanked him for calling attention to the wholesale dealing in stamps for official purposes, and asked him if he would assist the

Board to stop the irregularities. Mr. Healey would not mention names. He said he had obtained them from a party with five other sheets of stamps of other values, all of which he was offering for sale. He said he would communicate with his client and arrange a meeting with the holder of the stamps and promised to give me notice so that I could be present and take any steps which should be considered necessary. No question of reward was raised, but Mr. Healey asked that if he bought the stamps he might be permitted to keep them."—If the Government allowed it. It is perfectly correct.

Would you say it was perfectly honest?—I should say it was a perfectly honest straightforward account of his interview with me.

That is the last time you saw Richards before Stonestreet came?—Yes.

What are the three occasions?—The first visit I took stamps away; second visit returned stamps; third visit with Mr. Stonestreet. It was on the following Wednesday that Mr. Creeke called?—I think it was; either Wednesday or Thursday.

Mr. Creeke at once denied that it was Mr. Richards who had shown him the letter. Did you accept the denial?—Yes.

As far as that answer is at all events concerned were you satisfied from Mr. Creeke's demeanour that he was telling the truth?—Yes; Mr. Creeke gave me the opinion that he was telling me the truth.

I come to the interview on Saturday when Stonestreet came with Richards. I think you complained almost immediately to those two officials that your letter had been shown to Mr. Creeke. Did Mr. Stonestreet look surprised?—He seemed to be listening very attentively.

Did Mr. Richards seem to be surprised?—I think so; yes.

Genuinely surprised?—Yes; I am certain he was surprised when I told him.

I think that is the last time you saw Mr. Richards?—I have seen him at different times since then. I have met him once accidentally.

What would be the value of those five sheets of stamps which were offered to you?—Well, I have known those penny stamps to fetch as much as £1 and 30s. each. I should think they would fetch 10s. or 15s. each. I have known them fetch even 40s.

Some hundreds of pounds. A very nice reward.

I think you said you had known them fetch 30s. or £2 each?—Yes, and even higher than that; £4 or £5.

The cross-examination of the witness was then concluded, Mr. Healey having been in the witness box nearly four hours.

MR. ERNEST DOUET'S STORY.

The case was resumed on the following Monday, July 13th, when further interesting evidence was adduced:—

Ernest Henry Douet, a clerk in the department of the Controller of Stamps at Somerset House, was called. He said that towards the end of last year Walter Richards spoke to him about O.W. official stamps, and said, "Why should we not have some of them to keep?" Witness said he would not have anything to do with that. The subject was discussed on several subsequent occasions, and at last witness consented to do what Walter Richards had suggested.

On January 23 witness took from the stock one sheet each of half-penny red, halfpenny green, and 5d. and 10d. official stamps for the purpose of cancellation. Walter Richards had to decide what stamps should be cancelled; cancellation warrants were then issued, and a record of the transaction was entered in the department in which witness was engaged. The stamps referred to were kept in a safe with two locks, witness having one key and Walter Richards the other.

It was agreed the stamps taken out, ostensibly for cancellation, should be preserved. In fact, they shared them, and, to make the accounts right, put in ordinary postal stamps of the same value. When they shared the stamps, witness said, "I shall keep them; they may be valuable one of these days." Walter Richards said, "I shall do the same." Witness gave Walter Richards cash for the ordinary stamps which had to be provided to take the place of the overprinted stamps which were supposed to be cancelled.

Witness took from the stamps he had acquired, four of each kind for his collection. The remainder he placed in a drawer in his safe at Somerset House. On the evening of the 23rd of May, Witness was at his home at Epsom, when Walter Richards called and said one of his sons had been arrested, and that upon him a cheque for £10 from Stanley Gibbons & Co., had been found. He said that cheque was for the Office of Works stamps which he had taken from Somerset House. He explained that he had locked them upon arriving home, and that his son Percy had stolen them.

Mr. Muir.—What did you say?

The Witness.—I really don't know. I was staggered: almost knocked over. I don't think I said anything special.

The witness was pressed on this point, and, in an agitated way, said he felt hurt that Richards had not kept to his compact to keep the stamps locked up.

Mr. Muir.—Your feelings are not evidence. What did you say?

Witness.—I said, "What are you going to do?" He replied, "I am going to brazen it out," or something like that. He said, in a reassuring way, "Don't say anything about it," and I agreed.

The witness went on to say that on the following day Walter Richards again called upon him at his house at Epsom. He said he had been called upon for an explanation with regard to the stamps, and remarked, "The fat's in the fire." He said he was sorry to have to drag witness into it, but as his son and family knew he had these stamps he was bound to do so, or they would.

Richards went on to say, "I would go in alone in this matter, but if I did I know the result would be that 'Dismissed' would be written on the papers. I know you have friends, and that may help me. Witness suggested that they should both make a clean breast of it to the controller." Richards said, "I have told so many many stories over this I don't know what to say. I expect to be arrested when I get home, and very likely the same fate is awaiting you."

Witness told Richards that he had an appointment with the controller (who lived near him) at half-past eight o'clock that evening. Richards said, "Don't tell the controller to-night; wait until to-morrow morning." Witness agreed, and kept his word. Witness saw the controller that evening, as arranged, and then returned home. He could not sleep, and during the night he got up and destroyed the whole of his collection of official stamps.

Mr. Reed.—I remember doing the same thing with partridges' eggs when I was a schoolboy.—(Great laughter).

Witness said that on the following morning he and Richards saw the Controller at Somerset House. Richards told him the whole story, and by order of the Board witness gave the Controller the official stamps he had locked up in his safe. Witness once had 40 Government parcels stamps for a shilling each from Mr. Gore, the Assistant Controller, giving him penny postage stamps for them. Walter Richards gave him for the parcels stamps a ten-shilling Queen's Head, a ten-shilling King's Head, and a £1 King's Head, I.R. official stamps.

Witness added these three stamps to his collection, and they were destroyed with the others in the way already described. Witness told him that the three stamps had been returned for cancellation, but instead of cancelling them he had cancelled six penny stamps of the same value taken from the issue stock. Sometimes they had to make the books agree with the stock. There was no inquiry so long as the total value was correct.

Questioned by Mr. Williams, witness said he did not think he was guilty of theft when he agreed with Walter Richards to take some. Some stamps had been substituted for others before this—under an order. He knew of no official regulation against the substitution of stamps for others of equal value. The revenue was not defrauded of a single penny by what witness and Walter Richards did in January.

Mr. Lincoln Reed.—Do you draw any distinction between the part you played and the part played by Walter Richards?

Witness.—No, I was equally guilty.

If he was guilty of a larceny, you were equally guilty?—Yes.

You don't want to put yourself in the position of the weak man who yielded? I accept the responsibility for all I did.

Answering other questions by Mr. Reed, the witness said, sheets of stamps were often destroyed because they were soiled.

Mr. Reed.—The net result of what you and Richards did was to get four sheets of printed and perforated paper in exchange for £9 6s. 8d., which you and he bore in equal shares?

Witness.—Yes.

Proceeding, witness said he had been in the service nearly 36 years. He wished now that he had not destroyed his collection of official stamps which he started many years ago. It was not complete, and he did not think there was a complete collection in existence. He obtained his first official stamps (Inland Revenue) by getting permission to have ordinary stamps substituted for them. He believed that was done under an order signed by the then controller, Mr. Cosens. Most of the stamps which formed part of the collection he had destroyed were obtained by a process of substitution. He never doubted for a moment that he would have been allowed to substitute one stamp for another if he had applied for permission. He was away from Somerset House about 10 years, returning in 1901.

When he substituted one stamp for another it never occurred to him that he was doing anything criminal. He thought there was no harm in it if he gave the face value of the stamps which he obtained. He believed there were about 30 varieties of official stamps, but was not quite sure. He did not give Creeke the cancelled stamp for £5 marked "specimen" found on him when he was arrested. Anyone at Somerset House could obtain them by asking the controller (or at any rate, the late Controller) for them.

After the luncheon interval the witness was questioned as to whether he did not know it to be a fact that some of the high officials at Somerset House had collections of unused official stamps. He said he did not know anyone who had such a collection. He

knew that in 1887 an album of stamps was made up in connection with the Jubilee.

Mr. Reed.—Do you know that Sir John Purcell, the late Controller, sold one of those albums to the prisoner Creeke for £21?

Witness.—No; I know he had one, but I do not know what he did with it.

Answering other questions, the witness said he remembered a clerk to a surveyor of taxes being charged at Gloucester with stealing stamps by substitution. The judge ruled that there was nothing criminal in what he had done, and he was acquitted.

Mr. Reed.—Have you some influential friends?—I have friends, but I should not ask them to use their influence if I had done anything wrong. Walter Richards and myself went before the Board of Inland Revenue after the matter had been investigated. Sir Henry Primrose, the chairman, said we had given value for value, and there had been no fraud committed, although the Board regarded their conduct as a gross breach of confidence. I said "breach of trust," and Sir Henry Primrose said "I do not think you can go so far as that; it is an error of judgment."

He acquitted you absolutely of any fraudulent intent?—Yes.

And in order to mark their sense of your misconduct the Board reduced you from principal clerk to senior clerk, and took £60 off your wages?—Yes, and Walter Richards was served in the same way.

You have been allowed to go back to your duties?—Yes.

And Walter Richards is charged here with felony. Is that owing to the influence of your friends?—It is not for me to say.

Does it not strike you as a disgraceful thing? We are under orders.

Is it not an outrage on fairplay and common justice? (No answer).

Has any promise been made to you? Have you any hope of reward?—None whatever.

Re-examined by Mr. Muir.—The witness said he did not sell any of his stamps, and none of them went on the market. Sir Henry Primrose told Walter Richards and witness that their salaries would depend upon how much money they had made out of the stamps they had had. He once gave Creeke a penny parcels stamp, as he (Creeke) had presented him with a book he had written on stamps.

Sir Albert De Rutzen asked the witness why he destroyed his collection of stamps. The witness explained that Mr. Highmore, of the Inland Revenue, had told him and others that anyone found with official stamps in his possession would be deemed guilty of fraud.

Mr. Lincoln Reed.—It is a great pity that Mr. Highmore's bad law lost us such a good collection. (Laughter).

Mr. Muir said he must protest against interruptions of this kind.

Mr. Reed replied that he had no desire to interrupt. He did not intend to be intimidated by Mr. Muir, and was proof against his sarcasm.

Evidence was given to the effect that in May last Creeke sold three pairs of Inland Revenue stamps of the face value of 5s., 10s. and £1 respectively for £28 to Mr. F. R. Ginn, of 143, Strand, and one set of three O.W. Official stamps of the respective denominations of 3d., 5d. and 10d. each for £8 10s. to John William Jones, 444, Strand.

After formal evidence by Detective-Sergeant Palfrey, the prisoners were again remanded.

ERRATA.

In Messrs. Glendining & Co.'s Sale Report, 28th & 29th May, 1903 (No. 217 S.C.F.), Faridkot should read Jhind.

REVISED RATES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY."

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Auctions: A Reply to Mr. Tilleard.

Messrs. Plumridge & Co., write as follows in reply to the remarks of Mr. J. A. Tilleard, Hon. Secretary of the London Philatelic Society, as quoted in the last number of the *Fortnightly*:

"Though there may be some grounds for Mr. Tilleard's strictures on reserves at stamp sales, we think that there exists a widespread misapprehension as to their prevalence. Speaking from our own experience we can state that the number of reserved lots in any one sale bears but a very small proportion to the whole, and these reserves are in most cases only to be considered nominal. Personally we deprecate any reserves being placed on lots, and make a rule of declining to catalogue lots on which unreasonable prices are placed. We find however that it is the collectors, not the dealers, who expect unreasonable prices, probably because the former are not always well acquainted with actual market, as distinct from catalogue values.

"As regards 'declaring' reserves, we fail to see what good would be gained by this. As, in the event of a lot being bought in, this is done at one bid above the best one obtainable, the price cannot be considered misleading, though of course if the auctioneer chose to 'run it up' to some fancy price this would be the case. This course, however, we have never taken; nor do we think such a thing is done by any other reputable firm."

"Condition" of Auctioned Stamps.

By the way, Mr. Ernest Heginbottom, B.A., of Rochdale, has something pertinent to say regarding stamp auctions in the course of a recent letter. First, as regards damaged stamps:

I think (writes Mr. Heginbottom) that owners of stamps wishing to dispose of same by auction, should be more particular as to the condition of their stamps—that is, of course, mostly as regards certain rare stamps. It is not to be expected that auctioneers have the time to examine each stamp sent to them, I have just come across an example of this. I have bought a certain stamp at auction, and, on receiving it, find it has a distinct tear partly across. Now the catalogue mentions no name of any tear at all; it simply says "rare," and one naturally assumes it to be sound, whereas it is decidedly *not so*. I don't blame the auctioneers, because the stamp in question would not be noticeable as to the tear except by a careful scrutiny, but I do say that owners should try to make sure of the *condition* of such stamps before sending them to auction, as this is a matter which causes considerable trouble to the auctioneers. In this case I am obliged to return the stamp, sorry though I am to do so.

Doubtful Lots at Auction.

Mr. Heginbottom goes on to refer to the spurious stamps that sometimes creep into auctions, mentioning as instances within his own experience so-called *used* Ionians with forged obliterations; also a forgery of the provisional manuscript surcharge of Tobago, 1880.

Such things are calculated to deceive the most careful philatelist unless an expert examination is made. What is the remedy? Mr. Heginbottom goes on:

I agree that where stamps are bought at sales, subject to opinion, that the would-be purchaser is expected to pay for that opinion. Quite so; but how about a case like this which has recently happened to myself? I obtained an opinion upon a certain stamp from a well known and highly respected authority, with the result that the stamp was pronounced wrong. I returned it to the auctioneers and they again returned it to me, saying that the owner was sure the stamp was right, and advised my sending it to the London Expert Committee for opinion. Now who was to pay for this second opinion, which would have cost me an additional 5s. or so? Surely I could not be expected again to bear this cost? I returned the stamp and agreed with the auctioneers' advice to let the owner have it back again. If the owner would not pay for expense of the *second* opinion, then it was for me to do so; hence I preferred being without the stamp. This is a matter which I think you should open out for opinion, as it is an important point to all concerned.

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6d. lilac	4d.
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6d. violet	6d.
6d. deep violet	1/0
6d. mauve, no hyphen	3d.
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9d. pale straw	3/0
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10d. pale red-brown	3/6
1/- deep green	6d.
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FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
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No. 219.—Vol IX

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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No. 219.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1903

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad

Rare Stamps for Dessert.

This is from the "Morning Leader":—
The Herts Philatelic Society is able to plume itself on the fact that no stamp displayed in the exhibition after its annual dinner was worth less than £1000.
Preposterous!

Columbus with a Telescope.

MR. T. PALMER, commenting on the design of the new 1d. stamp of St. Kitts-Nevis, remarks that if the picture thereon is intended to depict Christopher Columbus gazing through a telescope it represents a grievous historical error, since telescopes were not invented till about a hundred years after the mighty Christopher departed this life!

Federal Stamps for Australia.

A FEW brief extracts may be made from the latest number of the "Australian Journal of Philately" as to the prospects of uniform postage stamps for federated Australia:—

There is much agitation over an announcement which was made in the Federal Parliament last week to the effect that the Postmaster-General has in contemplation the issue of a uniform set of postage stamps but they will bear a distinguishing mark for each State, and this will continue to the end of the book keeping period three years hence. The design has already been submitted to the Postmaster-General by an Australian artist, said to be Mr. D. Souter, of Sydney.

A local morning paper has the further startling announcement that the first set of Federal postage stamps is now being printed in

Melbourne. This surely is intended to mean only a set for use in Victoria. Up to the time of going to press we are unable to get any information, but as it is not intended to issue the new set simultaneously in all the States there will be plenty of time to make arrangements, so that each State will print its own stamps.

Philatelists are now faced with the likelihood of having to collect six new sets of stamps, of from twelve to fifteen varieties in each.

The new issue, however, is a step in the right direction.

More Bow Street Philately.

THE Magistrate at Bow Street Police Court has had another philatelic prosecution before him, one Herbert Lawrence Platt, 22 years of age, being charged with "unlawful possession."

Detective-Sergeant Stephen, who had this case in hand, described a visit to the International Letter Bureau, 4, Duke Street, Charing Cross, where he saw the prisoner writing letters. Witness showed him a letter from a lady at Southampton, in which the writer complained that she had sent a stamp album to 4, Duke Street, and was unable to obtain any reply to her letters. The prisoner said, "Its quite right; I had those stamps." In his possession witness found thirty letters from persons who complained that they had sent stamps to him, and had obtained nothing in return. The officer added that the prisoner had nothing to do with 4, Duke Street, beyond receiving letters there.

Platt is now under remand.

An "Accommodation" Address.

NUMBER 4, Duke Street, Charing Cross, is perhaps one of the best known "accommodation" letter bureaux in the three Kingdoms. The address will be remembered by newspaper readers in connection with the revolting case of the American Charlatan, Theodor Horos, and his notorious female accomplice, "the Swami." It was at 4, Duke Street, that these creatures received the letters of their prospective victims. It may, and frequently does, happen that an accommodation address is used in all honesty and sincerity, but as many people know to their cost the contrary is often the case.

London teems with small newsagents' and tobacconists' shops to which, for a fee of one penny per letter, telegram or parcel, one's mail matter may be directed. The facts are well known to the police, and at Scotland Yard lists are kept, and from time to time revised, of all the "private post offices" of the Metropolis.

Official Stamp Prosecution.

THE EVIDENCE OF MR. CLEAVE, THE COMPTROLLER, AND OF SIR HENRY PRIMROSE, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF INLAND REVENUE.

DEFENDANTS COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.

AT Bow Street Police Court on Monday, July 20th, Monday, July 27th, and again on Wednesday, July 29th, Sir Albert de Rutzen proceeded with his investigation of the case in which Walter John Richards, Percy Tidd Richards, Henry John Richards, Anthony Buck Creeke and Alfred Waterhouse are charged with stealing and receiving Government stamps.

Ernest Cleave, Comptroller of Stamps and Stores at Somerset House, said that he found that many of the specimen stamps which should have formed part of Walter Richards's stock were short. Witness therefore examined what purported to be the torn stamps, and he found that they had been pieced together in the manner described by counsel. Witness found that 800 official stamps, which according to the books had been cancelled, had not been so treated. Richards was called upon for an explanation, and he and another official admitted that they had divided the stamps between them and substituted ordinary stamps of the same value.

In cross-examination, witness said that after stamps were taken out of bulk they were entirely under the control of Richards. Before that they were kept in a safe, which could only be unlocked by Richards and Douet acting together. Sometimes there were millions of pounds' worth of stamps in stock.

Mr. Lewellyn Williams (for Walter Richards): Is Mr. Douet a friend of yours?

Witness: Yes.

Is that why he is still employed at Somerset House? Certainly not. I had nothing to do with the decision.

Answering questions by one of the defendants, Percy Richards, witness said he was a stamp collector, and had in his possession some unused official stamps issued last year. He obtained them by purchase with the authority of the Board of Inland Revenue. Witness wished to be perfectly frank, and to say that last year he had five official and four Government parcel stamps, for which he substituted ordinary stamps.

When you substituted these stamps for others, did you think you were doing wrong?—No; I did it by virtue of my office. I wanted a memento of the stamps I brought out. My action was afterwards approved by the authorities.

Mr. Lincoln Reed (representing Creeke): So was Mr. Douet's action. Do you consider that Walter Richards, as principal clerk, had a right to do what you did?

Witness: No; I do not. He could not do it without my authority.

Witness had heard that his predecessor (Sir John Purcell) had let Creeke have stamps.

Witness further said that last year five sets of stamps were obtained for high officials, including the chairman, Sir Henry Primrose. They were of the face value of 27s., and were paid for in cash. The accounts were not "crooked" in any way. He thought the entries with regard to the 27s. were honest entries. Witness had obtained some Office of Works stamps for Sir Henry Primrose's son.

Mr. Reed: But that was a breach of the regulations.

Witness remarked that the authority who made the regulations had power to make exceptions.

Mr. Reed: I see. The Board makes regulations which Sir Henry Primrose breaks.

SIR HENRY PRIMROSE IN THE BOX.

At the next hearing, namely, on Monday, July 27th, Sir Henry Primrose himself appeared in the witness box, and gave evidence as to his own purchase of 24 half-penny "Office of Works" stamps.

Asked why he had purchased twenty-four specimens the witness stated that a shilling was the smallest change he had on him at the time.

A WITNESS'S EVASIVE ANSWERS.

Joshua King, assistant to the Chief Superintendent, Postal Branch, Somerset House, said he superintended the dispatch of all postage and official stamps, under the control of Walter Richards. Witness was examined as to occasions on which Creeke called at Somerset House to see Walter Richards, but giving evasive answers, Mr. Muir would not proceed further with his examination, and said he would not ask that he be bound over to attend the sessions.

Mr. Lincoln Reed, for Creeke, said the witness was the first person called to connect his client with Walter Richards, and he asked that he should be bound over.

Mr. Muir acquiesced.

In cross-examination, witness said he had never seen Creeke in Richards's private room or the stock room. On one occasion Creeke asked if he would let him have five King's head penny "I.R. official" stamps in exchange for official stamps of the same value, bearing the Queen's head. Witness obtained permission from Walter Richards and effected the exchange.

He had known similar exchanges on previous occasions with the higher officials.

Detective-Sergeant Ward said after the arrest of Walter Richards he found in his desk at Somerset House two stamp catalogues, in one of which were pencil marks against the prices of official stamps. As to the cheque for £10 found on Percy Richards, the latter admitted it had been given in exchange for "old official" stamps. He said his brother Henry gave them to him to sell, or rather took them from his collection.

MR. A. B. CREEKE'S STATEMENT.

Mr. Muir read the statement in which Mr. Creeke said he wrote a book on English stamps, and at that time made the acquaintance of Walter Richards. He had kept up a casual acquaintance with him, and, about 18 months ago, asked him if he could get some Office of Works Official stamps for him. Walter Richards said he could not do it. Subsequently Henry Richards told him that he had got some Office of Works stamps which had been accumulated by a big official at the Office of Works. He (Creeke) bought four sets of these, and sold them to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons for £64, making a profit of £3 10s. or £4 a set. He afterwards obtained six more sets from Henry Richards, and sold them to dealers. When the bother arose at Somerset House, Henry Richards admitted to him that he had received the Office of Works stamps from his father, and said, "I suppose you guessed that." He (Creeke) said, "I accepted the first statement as correct." He did not even then connect his father with it.

Witness said he asked Mr. Creeke if he had anything to say about Inland Revenue stamps.

Mr. Creeke then said "The Inland Revenue stamps (I.R. Officials) which I sold to Ginn I got from Henry Richards. I believe I gave him £21 for them." He added that he had had five sets of Inland Revenue Official stamps, and sold them for £85.

Detective-Sergeant Ward, cross-examined by Mr. Lincoln Reed, said that in May last he went to Mr. Creeke's office and asked him about some Office of Works stamps. He said he could not give any information without the permission of a friend. After that Witness never expected to obtain any information from him.

THE COMMITTAL FOR TRIAL.

This closed the case for the prosecution and counsel for the defence addressed the magistrates, arguing that Walter Richards had no felonious intent when he took the stamps, and that therefore the charge of felony and the other charges which depended upon it fell to the ground. Stress was laid upon the fact that Walter Richards had only done upon a large scale what had been done by the highest officials at Somerset House.

Sir Albert De Rutzen said he was not going to express any opinion as to the facts of the case. All he had to say was that it must go to a jury.

Each of the prisoners reserved his defence, but on behalf of Creeke Mr. Reed called, as a witness, Sir John Purcell, who said he was Comptroller of the Stamp Department at Somerset House from 1883 to 1900. He recollected Creeke being introduced to him about 1885, and although he did not remember it, he had no doubt he let him have a set of official stamps. It was his practice to extend these favours to members of the Philatelic Society, as they were often useful to him in detecting forgeries and frauds. About 1896 or 1897, after a consultation with the present Lord Milner, it was decided to practically cease the issue of official stamps to members of the public. It was quite possible that up to that time Creeke had had three sets from witness, paying face value for them. It never occurred to witness that there was anything irregular about these transactions.

The accused were then committed for trial at the Old Bailey, their own bail being accepted.

The "Fortnightly's" White List.

AN OUTLINE OF OUR SCHEME FOR A REFERENCE REGISTER OF PHILATELISTS.

The Register will be open to all *Fortnightly* Readers and Advertisers, and all Secretaries of Exchange Clubs and Philatelic Societies.

Entry on the Register will be made on two first class references being given, preferably to bankers or well known business houses. The applicant's name (or initials) and the town in which he resides will be published in one number of the *S.C.F.* previous to inclusion in the register, and dealers having any knowledge of the person in question will be invited to communicate with the Manager of the Register.

Fees will be chargeable on application, and will be 1/6—this sum to defray all expenses of printing, postages, letters, &c.

Information as to any person on the Register will be given to readers and advertisers of the *S.C.F.*, and all club Secretaries, on receipt of a stamped envelope for a reply. The Register will be kept in the strictest privacy, and no information will be given except to those who apply by letter.

The Management will exercise the greatest possible care in examining references, and the publication of the name and initials of an applicant, together with the town in which he resides, will materially assist (we believe) in eliminating undesirable applicants. This information on the part of other readers will be specially invited; the cost of postage will be defrayed, if desired, and all communications will be treated with the strictest privacy and confidence.

Suggestions as to points not adequately covered in the above proposals are cordially invited. Please address the Editor, the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 63, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

"Malcolm Campbell, Esquire."

CHARGES AT CRANBORNE.

WE regret that a most interesting report of proceedings against Malcolm Campbell, late of Mexborough, before the magistrates of Cranborne, on Tuesday, July 21st, has been crowded out of this issue of the *Fortnightly*.

Our thanks are due to Mr. J. T. Stevens for the report of the case, which will be fully dealt with in our next number.

Campbell, as we need scarcely remind our readers, is at present serving out a sentence of imprisonment for fraudulent dealings in stamps. He appeared at the Cranborne Court in the custody of a couple of warders.

Stamp Trade Protection Association.

THE Secretary of the above, Mr. W. Ewing, being no longer connected with the Association in any way, the duties of the same will be undertaken (*pro tem.*) by Mr. J. S. S. Telfer, to whom all communications should be addressed, at 63/4, Chancery Lane, W.C.

Members having any matters still open with the Association should communicate with Mr. Telfer, without delay.

CONTINENTAL dealers issue special price-lists of particular countries giving in tabular form, not only the fullest particulars of the stamp quoted, but the key numbers in Gibbons' and other leading catalogues and also the catalogue prices. In this way one gets at a glance an epitome of each stamp and its market position. A most useful list of the stamps of the New Republic is issued in this manner by Mr. M. Z. Booleman, of Amsterdam.

Fiscal Notes and Chronicle.

CONTRIBUTED BY A. PRESTON PEARCE.

SOME months ago, "Mekeel's Weekly" reprinted from one of the American newspapers a description of the system of taxation prevailing in the Republic of Mexico, and I found it so interesting that it was carefully laid aside to be served up in this column when the summer scarcity of philatelic news should afford an opening.

The first thing of importance that I find in the article under notice is that the Mexican public revenue is almost exclusively derived from the sale of adhesive stamps, a fact that should be borne in mind as especially entitling this country to be considered a representative one from our point of view. It is indeed stated that every possible business transaction is subject to taxation, and the regulations set forth seem quite bewildering in their complexity and comprehensiveness.

Ever since their first appearance (in 1870 I believe) most of the series have been changed each year, and it will be remembered that the stamps most commonly met with bearing dates 1874 to 1883 are inscribed "Documentos y Libros," for the next decade the same series is entitled "Documentos" only, and later issues have dropped this word also. However, their employment has not been curtailed, for they are still used on documents and books to an extraordinary extent. It appears that every trader or trading firm possessing a capital exceeding \$2000 must purchase from the Government a set of account books, and must keep them in such a way that they shall show the whole of the purchases and sales made and effected. Every page of these must bear stamps proportionate to the value of the transactions shown thereon, and the books are constantly examined by Government Inspectors. (Objectors to the British method of collecting Income Tax please note!) Every retail dealer has to take out a license every two months, and for this he pays one half of one per cent. upon the total value of the sales made by him during the previous two months as shown by his books.

It is to be presumed from the foregoing that both buyer and seller have to "stamp up" whenever the transaction appears in the books of both, and it appears further that the purchaser for cash does not escape unless he buys in small quantities, for every purchase amounting to more than \$20 at any shop, store or factory, or from any individual, must be accompanied by a bill describing the article and naming the price, and this bill must carry a stamp to the value of one half of one per cent. of the amount.

As for the "documents" scheduled I must spare my readers the full enumeration, but the list includes such items as Statements of Account, Bills and Promissory Notes, Railway Tickets, Pawn Tickets, Lottery Tickets, Contracts, Petitions to and Orders of the Courts, Invoices, Patents, Permits to load or unload Vessels, Policies, Wills, Deeds, Telegrams, &c., &c. Mention of the last named reminds me that I have frequently noticed Documentos y Libros stamps with telegraphic cancellations.

Besides the Government taxes, the various States and some Municipalities impose duties of their own, but as soon as they do so the central authority steps in again with its handsome Contribucion Federal series, the purport of which is that an additional 25 per cent. has to be amalgamated with every such tax and paid by means of these stamps, so that the general exchequer may benefit to that extent. An example given states that if a pedler has to pay a local authority \$1 for a license the receiver has to demand \$1.25, and must affix a 25c. Cont. Federal stamp to the receipt.

As may be supposed, heavy penalties have to be enforced for failures to comply with the stamp laws, and apparently the Inspectors have power to inflict fines (also paid in stamps) in cases where omissions to stamp up appear to have been due to carelessness.

Revenue stamps are on sale at all post-offices as well as at special offices where they are required, and can also be obtained from banks and newsdealers.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, AUGUST 1, 1903.

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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A flippant "Fortnightly"-reader suggests an addition to the decalogue: Thou shalt not collect stamps.

Evidence at Bow Street has brought out the little-known fact that "I.R. Official" stamps were formerly on public sale (at face value) at Somerset House!

There are some "live" dealers down New Zealand way. Messrs. Wilcox Smith & Co., of Dunedin, have recently sent us samples of their latest advertising notions, one of which takes the form of an envelope-front of exaggerated size, bearing a facsimile in colour of a 5s. "Mount Cook" with a "Southern Cross" obliteration and dated postmarks complete. This sort of thing in a shop window catches the eye, but did a London Stamp Dealer dare to publish such a thing he would very speedily hear from the Board of Inland Revenue.

The Stamps of the Popes.

PHILATELISTS possess a permanent memorial of the bad old days of the Temporal Power in the shape of the stamps of the Papal or Pontifical States, issued and used between 1852 and 1870. It is incorrect, by the way, to call these "the stamps of the Popes," because they began and ended within the reign of a single Pontiff—the long-lived Pius IX. Mr. Westoby, in his "Adhesive Stamps of Europe" (Upcott Gill), gives a most interesting account of the stamps of Pius IX.—or, to be more accurate, the stamps of Cardinal Antonelli, the real power behind the Pontifical



throne.

One hears little of these stamps now-a-days. Many fight shy of them because of the plague of forgeries and reprints. Regarding the latter Mr. Westoby writes:—

Some of the type cast blocks of the centesimi series found their way to Florence in an unaccountable manner and there fell into hands that reprinted them in shoals, perforated and imperforated, gummed and un-gummed, coloured paper of all shades, glazed and unglazed, so that it is difficult at times to distinguish between the reprints and the originals. . . . Those of the reprints that are perforated do not gauge that of the originals (which is 13 on all four sides), except in one solitary case; for out of fourteen varieties of perforations of the reprints, only one gauges 13 all round.

Of the forgeries of these stamps two varieties were postally used—the 5 and 8 bajocchi, both, Mr. Westoby tells us, being used at Bologna. Philatelists, however, have suffered severely in the past from Papal States forgeries. We remember treasuring several specimens of the 1 scudo for years in the fond belief that they were a steadily appreciating market—only to find a year or so ago that we had been cherishing a whole nest of vipers. The stamps, true enough, cost us only a penny each; but that was exactly a penny too much.

The British Inland Mail of Madagascar.

IN further reference to this matter, Mr. Herbert W. Baron, of Kendal, writes us as follows:—

I do not base my defence of the Madagascar stamps on one envelope alone. As I stated before, I have, like Mr. Ransom, several copies, of various values, all on originals, sent in the ordinary way of correspondence by people not in the very slightest degree interested in stamps. "Locals" you call them, but locals with a franking power from Antananarivo, the capital, to Tamatave, the port (a distance of a hundred miles, or possibly two) and further from Tamatave to Durban, a mileage that is by no means despicable. I have not an atlas by me, but should judge the distance to run well over a thousand miles. Therefore, why call them "trashy," "rubbishy," etc., etc.? I object to the adjectives.

My interest in the stamps of Madagascar is perhaps sentimental from the fact of my having an Uncle who has lived on the Island for thirty years.

As for your statement as to my being very easily pleased, my collection of over 10,000 Colonials, exclusive of our Madagascar friends, is open for your inspection any time you choose to visit the Lakes—after seeing which I think you would withdraw the charge.

If the "charge" (!) of being a person very easily pleased is unjustly applied to Mr. Baron we are sure it will afford us very great pleasure to withdraw it. We beg to announce, therefore, that Mr. H. W. Baron is *not* a person who is very easily pleased.

As regards the issues of Madagascar stamps referred to, however, we cannot abate one jot of what we have said.

A SUGGESTION TO PHILATELIC SOCIETIES.

An interesting and informing letter comes to us from "An Old London Philatelist":—

I have read with much interest your praiseworthy exposé of the Madagascar local stamps, and am largely surprised that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons have offered no explanation for their admission in the catalogue of postage stamps. It is all very well to say that the catalogue is a priced offer of the goods they have for sale, but Messrs. Stanley Gibbons know, as well as anyone, that the public regard it as a reliable and standard work of reference. If the publishers wish to retain the confidence of collectors, they will do well to relegate rubbishy stuff of this description (if it must be catalogued at all) to their catalogue of local stamps.

The value placed on this trash by dealers may be gauged by the fact that after being hawked round the trade for seven years, the so-called remainder of the issue of March, 1895, was sold by the printers for the imposing sum of—*Twenty Pounds!*

As your articles seem to have had so little effect on the publishers of the catalogue, I would suggest to the leading London and Provincial Philatelic Societies that they should pass resolutions requesting Messrs. Stanley Gibbons to remove these so-called stamps from the catalogue, thereby showing them how strong is the public opinion on this subject.

Should this fail to have the desired effect, why should not one of the principal Societies publish a really reliable priced catalogue, omitting all bogus and semi-bogus issues, but exhaustive in every other respect, and maintain a stock of stamps to supply to collectors at reasonable prices? The capital required would not, in my opinion, be unobtainable, nor the result unprofitable, and there would be a revival of the confidence among collectors which has been sadly waning recently.

CONCERNING THE "NORWEGIAN MISSION."

In continuance of a letter referred to elsewhere, Mr. H. W. Baron writes:—

With reference to the Norwegian Mission, as far as I can learn these stamps were issued by the Norwegian Missionary Society for the use of their members, but whether their franking power was limited to Antananarivo itself or whether they were available for Coast letters, I cannot say but could find out within the next three months. I have many copies of these, used and unused. The used ones are all addressed to well known English Missionaries in the Capital, and the unused ones are in original sheets of 12, shewing all varieties of frame, scroll to right, ditto to left, stars in corners, etc., also white paper, toned paper, etc.

Under what head, we wonder, would Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, place these stamps? Under Madagascar, or under Norway?

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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.

Abyssinia.—We understand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. that the new surcharge on the Abyssinian stamps indicates "Ethiopia."

Aitutaki.—The surcharge New Zealand stamps supplied for use in this island are now to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. :—

- ½d. green, red surcharge. "Ava Pene."
- 1d. red, black "Tai Pene."
- 2½d. blue, red "Bua Pene ma to ava."
- 3d. brown, black "Torn Pene."
- 6d. carmine, "Ono Pene."
- 1s. red. "Tai Tiringi."

Australian Commonwealth.—A letter dated Melbourne, June 23, from the Victoria Stamp Market, brings us prompt tidings of the issue of the first Commonwealth stamp on the day mentioned. This shows an allegorical figure, seated; overhead, an arched inscription, "Commonwealth"; on a shield the value "9d."; and at foot the name of the Colony issuing the stamp, "Victoria." The use of the name "Victoria," however, relates only to a trial essay. The stamp, according to the Melbourne "Age," is "for circulation in New South Wales and Queensland only, as far as is at present determined."

France.—The latest fruit of the "Sower" crop is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

"Sower" type: 20 centimes, red-mauve.

French Colonies (Senegambia and Niger).—The collector of French Colonials will hail with a chastened joy the advent of a new series of stamps of the stereotyped French Colonial type. The following values are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. :—

- 1c. black on azure.
- 4c. claret.
- 10c. carmine.
- 20c. red on green.
- 30c. brown.
- 50c. brown on blue.
- 2s. red-brown (enclosed).
- 5s. yellow-green.
- 15c. grey.
- 25c. blue.
- 40c. red on straw.
- 75c. brown on orange.
- 1 franc, bronze-green.

Natal.—The 4d. King's Head has now reached us per Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. :—

King's Head Series.—4d. brown and carmine.

Since the above was in type we have seen also the new 30s. stamp. Colours, lilac and green. The 2½d. King's Head, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us, is not yet out, the old type being still in use.

New Zealand.—Certain values undermentioned have been received by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich, with the "single N.Z. and Star" watermark :—

- Wmk. single N.Z. and star:
- 2½d. blue (Lake Wakatipu).
 - 5d. brown.
 - 9d. lilac.
 - 2s. blue-green.

Servia.—It appears that the head of the new King, Peter Karageorgevitch, is not yet to appear on the Servian stamps. Instead, a series of provisionals have been treated by dabbing the Servian arms over the head of King Alexander on the existing set. Stamps from 1 para up to 5 dinars thus figured are sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Surcharge Provisionals:

- 1 para, claret and black, surch. in blue.
- 5 paras, yellow-green and black, surch. in blue.
- 10 " " carmine and " " black.
- 15 " " olive and " " "
- 20 " " orange and " " "
- 25 " " blue and " " "
- 50 " " grey and " " red.

- 1 dinar, green and " " brown.
- 3 dinas, violet and " " claret.
- 5 " brown and " " blue.

Sierra Leone.—The new 1d. stamp, with head of King, is now to hand.

Kings Head series: 1d. mauve and carmine.

United States.—It is believed to be practically certain that St. Louis shall have its Exposition issue. Probably only a set of four values will be permitted—1, 2, 5, and 10 cents.



Venezuela.—We show above the designs of the stamps first issued by the revolutionists of this distressful Republic. They are used by the insurgents at Ciudad, in Bolivar, they having exhausted all the local supply of Government postage stamps.

Some New Stamps for Siam.

THE recent change in Siam's postal tariff involves naturally a rearrangement of the set of Siamese stamps, a fact of interest to the collector. This country has been too much given to obtaining new stamps by surcharging old ones, but that expedient is not to be resorted to in this instance. The new stamps have been ordered, and may be expected here soon. Three of the present set will be abolished, viz., those of the 10, 12, and 24 atts; and three new ones will be introduced of the value of 6, 14, and 28 atts. The following will then be the postage stamps in use in Siam:—1 att, 2 atts, 3 atts, 4 atts, 6 atts, 8 atts, 14 atts, 28 atts, and 64 atts. New postcards of the value of 6 and 12 atts are also being prepared in place of the present 4 and 8 atts ones.

There has been a certain amount of agitation over the increase in the postal tariff. The Foreign Representatives have protested, or have at least asked for some justification of the change, but we cannot say we think the new stamps will be out of date when they arrive. It need hardly be repeated that in our opinion it is a mistaken policy to increase the postal tariff. True, the Department was losing money under the old rates, and it has lost heavily in silver. But the public convenience ought to be the first consideration, and that ought not to be limited by the Department having to pay its way. A Government like that of Siam may find such a loss inconvenient but a country like Siam is affected very readily by an increase in postal rates. On the other hand it can hardly be doubted that Siam is within her legal rights in making the increase. At the time the change was arranged 14 atts represented 25 centimes, and the argument from the Government selling rate of the Tical (18 ½ to the pound sterling) does not unfortunately seem to apply. The Department has to remit to foreign countries a large part of what it receives in the way of foreign postal and telegraph rates, and to do that it has to go to one of the Banks, and accept that rate of exchange. In round figures, then, and taking the Bank rate, 13 atts represent 25 centimes at present; and once the tariff has been settled it is only changed for some large difference. There is, moreover, the right of surcharge, which at least one European country has availed itself of since the establishment of the International Bureau of the Postal Union. In that instance the surcharge was 15 centimes, making the unit for foreign postage 40 centimes. Altogether we are likely to have to put up with the new 14 atts postage for some time.—"Bangkok Times."

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FISCALS.—Those wishing to sell, purchase, or exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London.

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WANTED, second-hand book on English stamps. State condition, date, price.—S. BALBEDI, Twickenham Park, S.W.

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" 1/- orange	6/6
" 4d. on 4d. yellow, perf. 14, u.	8/0
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Transvaal, King's Head, 6d.	3d.
Argentina, 1900, 1 peso blue (cat. 1/6)	8d.
" 5 pesos black & orange (cat. 8/6)	4 0
Colombia, 1892, 1 peso (cat. 1/-), mint	6d.
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THE MANAGER,

"Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly,"

63 & 64, Chancery Lane,

London, W.C.

*Clippings from the Newspapers.***Postal Scandals in Western Australia.**

A STUDY IN JOURNALISTIC EXPLETIVE.

Many and gross are the scandals that have stained the administration of the W.A. Postal Department during the past few years. The curses heaped upon the Rip Van Winkle-like Sholl during the early and middle 90's were so frequent and universal as to make the very name of that gaunt and slow-witted official a bye-word for incapacity and procrastination. The ranks of the department were choked with useless popinjays. Favoritism and nepotism were as common on the one hand as sweating and the ignoring of real merit on the other.

No account of official secrecy or reticence is going to smother up the M'Queen scandal, to which the public attention was first drawn in the last issue of the "Sunday Times." Mr. Sholl appears inclined to emulate the fabled ostrich who, burying his head in the sand, strove to delude himself into the idea that he was effectually concealed. But we intend to probe this latest outrage upon justice to the bottom, even if the matter has to be carried to the Federal Parliament.

If there is one Government department more than others where the public have no use for light fingered persons, for embezzlers and for thieves, that department is the postal one.—"Sunday Times" of Western Australia.

New Rendezvous for Parisian Philatelists.

To those who do not collect, the cult of stamps is a mania which is fully as unintelligible as angling is to those who do not fish, or golf to those who have never handled a club. But, to the enthusiast, philately is an absorbing passion, on which he is content to lavish large sums. It has been calculated that, last year, the money spent on the purchase of rare stamps amounted to nearly 1½ millions sterling, and the collections of some of the leaders of the art represent as substantial a fortune as many picture galleries or libraries. One cannot be surprised that in Paris the growing importance of philately has led to the transference of what may be called the stamp market from the open air to handsome premises in a well known thoroughfare. The transactions which could once be carried on without inconvenience in an exposed situation have now become so weighty that they can no longer be placed at the mercy of the weather. Whether it is worth while to make so much of a mere detail of human life is a question on which opinions will differ. Many will be inclined to think that a pastime has gone beyond the limits of rational amusement when it requires a costly organisation and an expensive habitation.—"Liverpool Mercury."

The Prince's Philatelic Correspondents.

As most people are aware, the Prince of Wales is an enthusiastic collector of postage stamps, his collection being one of the finest in the world. The Prince receives many rare stamps, unsolicited, from people he has never known or heard of.—"Nottingham Guardian."

Things That Astonish "The Globe."

A curious instance of the mania of philatelists is reported from Berbera. A rumour was started that a new Somali stamp had been struck, and many alleged samples were put upon the market. In consequence the authorities were absolutely pestered with letters from philatelists all over the world to know if the issue was authentic. It is an astounding thing that so many people should care to spend their money on stamps as to make such forgeries, which are continually appearing, worth while. After all, man is not badly defined as a collecting animal; and stamps are as harmless as anything else.—"The Globe."

Sticking Stamps on a Stick.

Fired by a paragraph which appeared in the "Lincolnshire Echo," Mr. J. L. Hill, 14, Gibbeson Street, Lincoln, set to work about a year ago to emulate the example of the postman therein mentioned, who had covered a walking stick with some thousands of kinds of postage stamps. Mr. Hill first

commenced operations on a piece of wire, but soon found this would not answer, and eventually decided on a cutting from a lilac tree from his own garden as the foundation for his stick. The shoot was barely a quarter-of-an-inch in thickness, tapering to an eighth-of-an-inch at what was to be the ferrule end. Mr. Hill found a difficulty early, this being the elasticity of the handle, but this he eventually overcame by winding a length of tape tightly around the stick, and eventually obtained a firm surface. To-day he brought the finished stick to this office, and was congratulated on a remarkable evidence of patience and resource in a novel task. The stamps are placed with wonderful smoothness, gum having been used for the purpose, and the article presents the appearance of a very handsome walking stick. Mr. Hill declares that he placed on the stick no less than 7,250 stamps. These include 5,864 of the value of a penny; 1,326 halfpenny; 1 ninepenny; 3 eightpenny; 1 fivepenny; 5 fourpenny; 31 threepenny; 12 twopenny; 2 twopenny-halfpenny; and 5 three-halfpenny.—"Lincolnshire Echo."

Philatelic Societies' Reports.**THE ENTERPRISE STAMP CLUB.**

MR. ALBERT H. HARRIS sends us particulars of a new Club started with the above title, chiefly for the benefit of smaller collectors. The entrance fee is 6d. and the subscription only 1s. per annum. Arrangements are being made for monthly meetings in London, and there are Exchange, Library and other sections. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. H. Harris, may be addressed: The Library, Queen's Road, Buckhurst Hill, Essex.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE Society held their annual picnic on Saturday, June 27th. About 25 members and friends left the Central Station in a special saloon by the 1.10 train to Hartford, whence the party were conveyed in brakes, via Whitegate and Little Budworth, to Beeston Castle. It had been intended that a visit should be paid to Peckforton Castle, but after having inspected Beeston Castle it was time to return to Tarporley, where tea was provided. The party returned to Hartford through Delamere Forest, and arrived back in Manchester at ten o'clock.

THE FISCAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MERTING held July 2nd, 1903. Present: Mr. Schwabacher (chair), Messrs. Cooper, Fulcher, Marsh, South, Thomson and Kay.

Mr. E. J. Tomé (Buenos Ayres) was duly elected a member.

The resignation of the Continental Secretaryship, by M. Verzyl, on account of ill-health, was accepted with much regret. The Continental Exchange will necessarily be suspended until a successor is appointed. Applications for the post are invited, and should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary.

Notes on Indian Fiscals were received from Messrs. Corfield and Crofton and M. Marsh showed two types of overprint to the 1s. King's Head "Registration of Title—Ireland."

The fiscals of Uganda, Victoria, West Australia, Zanzibar and Zululand were discussed and catalogued, thus bringing the task of cataloguing the British Colonial fiscals to an end. It is hoped to have the priced and illustrated catalogue issued by the end of the year. Any additions or corrections to the MS. lists should be sent in as soon as possible.

Received for Library:—"El Filatelico Espanol," June and July, 1903 (T. Remoli); "Filatelia," 1903 (Tomé and Malaguzzi); "Revista de la S. P. Argentina," May, 1903 (R. Rosauer).

The Annual General Meeting will be held on October 1st next, and due notice will be given.

The Home Exchange packet will be circulated as usual, and members are particularly requested to inform the Secretary of change of address or absence from home, to save delays.

Any interested in fiscal stamps should apply for Rules and particulars to the

Hon. Sec., A. B. KAY, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London, W.

THE PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

THE February packet has now returned from second circuit and has been broken up. The total sales were £62 5s. 4d. The March packet is expected home shortly. It is requested that all members who contribute sheets, will send good selections for the August packet which will leave on or about the 5th.

Rules and full information on application to the secretary. No fees of any kind.

R. T. MORGAN, Secretary, 14, High Street, Selhurst.

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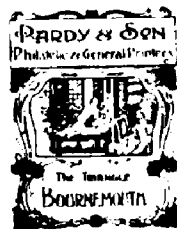
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These countries have been compiled with as many shades, varieties, etc., as possible, and contains most of the rarities. They are now offered, the average prices for single stamps being under half catalogue.

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Natal, King, 3d. used	3d.
" " 5d. "	4d.
" " 6d. "	2d.
" " 1d. and 2d., used pair	2 1/2d.
Canada, King, 5c. used	1d.
Queen, 10 and 20c., pair	6d.
Holland " 1G.	1 1/2d.
Mexico, Picture, 50	4d.
South Australia, 3d., 4d. and 6d., long rect.	1/0
7 Straits, King, 1-25	8d.
U.S.A., 2 1/2	2d.
Gambia, King, 1d.	1 1/2d.

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Some Possible Undiscovered Varieties of Victoria.

By CHARLES B. DONNE, IN THE "AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY."

IN choosing the above subject for this short article, my argument is that where one value of the series has been found on paper of a stated watermark, there is every reasonable chance that the remaining values may have been printed on paper with a similar watermark, and that they will eventually make their appearance. I am fully aware that the Laureated Series have been the subject of articles from the pens of prominent philatelists, so that what little I can add to the subject, must be insignificant, but having been asked by the Editor of the "Australian Journal of Philately" to contribute to its columns, and as many thousands of these stamps have passed through my hands, and have been carefully examined by me during the past twenty-three years, I think that what little I can write on the subject, although not new, may be worthy of consideration, and I therefore pen this article in the hope that it may prove interesting to the readers of the "Aus. J. of P." I propose, first of all, to recount the various watermarks of which I have personal knowledge, and afterwards to enumerate those which may yet appear at some future date. I admit that the chances of some of these latter varieties being found are somewhat meagre, nevertheless there is always the possibility that they may turn up, for going back a few years, I would point out that as recently as 1891, Mr. A. J. Derrick in writing to the "Federal Australian Philatelist" of the 1d. value, watermarked double lined figure 4, speaks of this stamp as follows: "The stamp is catalogued but in my opinion is doubtful. I would be glad to hear of anyone who possesses it." (See "Fed. Aus. Philatelist," page 89, October number, 1891.) Since this appeared in the Journal mentioned, several specimens of this variety have passed through my hands, I quote this to show that of a stamp which was unknown to Victorian collectors in 1891, several specimens have, to my knowledge, turned up during the last twelve years, and during the last few years, two other varieties hitherto unknown in Victoria, have been found, one the 6d. value, watermarked double line figure 2, found by Mr. Fred. Hagen, of Sydney, and the other the 4d. value, watermarked single line figure 8, found by a Melbourne collector, so that all things are possible with this, one of the most interesting series of the stamps of Victoria.

Taking then the varieties of which I have personal knowledge, and which are as follows:—

ONE PENNY VALUE

on papers with the following watermarks, double line figure 1 and 4, single line figure 1, 4, 6, 8, and "sixpence" in words.

TWO PENCE VALUE

on papers with the following watermarks, double line figure 1 and 4, single line figure 2, 4, 6, and 8.

THREE PENCE VALUE

on papers with the following watermarks, double line figure 1, and single line figure 8.

FOUR PENCE VALUE

on papers with the following watermarks, single line figure 4 and 8, also double line figure 4.

SIX PENCE VALUE

on papers watermarked single line figure 6, double line figure 2 and 4, also watermarked in words "three pence," "four pence" and "six pence."

EIGHT PENCE AND TEN PENCE VALUES.

These two values I have seen only on paper watermarked single line figure 8, which I believe was the only paper that both were ever issued upon.

From the fact that the one penny and two pence values are both found on papers watermarked single and double line figure 4, I think it is extremely unlikely that the one penny value was ever printed on paper watermarked single line figure 2, or that the two pence and four pence values

were ever printed on paper watermarked single line figure 1. It is evident that the appearance of the stamps on papers varying from the normal watermark, was due to design, rather than accident, recourse being had to the various papers in stock, to print the stamps on, when the supply of paper of the required watermark became exhausted, and that later all values were printed on any paper that was in hand indiscriminately, until the old stock was exhausted, previous to the set appearing on a uniform paper watermarked V and crown for all values.

Specimens of the 1d. value on paper watermarked single line figure 4, 6, and 8 are daily becoming scarcer, copies on paper watermarked "six pence" in words are scarce, but the stamp on double line figure 4 paper, I regard as a great rarity. Of the 2d. value all varieties of single line figure watermark are plentiful. It is significant that the double line figure 4, so scarce in the 1d. value, is the commonest variety of watermark in the 2d. value, showing that the latter value came in for the lion's share of the double line figure 4 paper. Of the 3d. values in lilac, all varieties are scarce and seldom found in good condition. Of the 4d. value the variety watermark single line figure 8 is the scarcest, only one specimen bearing this watermark, being known to me. Of the 6d. values, the double line figure 4 is scarce, and of the watermarks in words, the "fourpence" is by far the scarcest, the "six pence" coming next, and the "three pence" the most plentiful. Of the double line figure 2 only one copy has to my knowledge turned up in Australia; specimens watermarked single line figure 4, are catalogued, but as yet I have never met with a specimen. I have had submitted to me a copy reputed to be watermarked single line figure 4, but on careful inspection this turned out to be a copy of the double lined figure 4, the perforation of the stamp having passed down the outer double line of the figure of watermark, traces of the outer line being visible on the perforation, and the cross line at the top and bottom of the figure also being visible.

Coming then to the varieties of watermark that as yet are undiscovered, and for which a careful watch should be kept, the following is a list:—

ONE PENNY VALUE.

Watermark double line figure 2, "three pence" and "four pence" in words.

TWO PENCE VALUE.

Watermark double line figure 2, "three pence," "four pence," and "six pence" in words.

THREE PENCE VALUE.

Watermark double line figures 2 and 4, single line figures 4, 6, "three pence," "four pence," and "six pence" in words.

FOUR PENCE VALUE.

Watermark double line figures 1 and 2, single line figure 6, "three pence," "four pence," and "six pence" in words.

SIX PENCE VALUE.

Watermark single line figure 4.

It therefore behoves collectors carefully to examine all specimens of the Laureated Series which may come into their possession, as they may be rewarded by finding any of the above mentioned varieties of watermark. I shall be pleased to hear from any collectors who possess any of them.

An Indoor "Stamp Bourse" Now.

THE Parisian philatelists are "coming in out of the rain." For many years past crowds of the faithful have gathered together to buy, sell and "swap" stamps in the Square de Marigny, Champs Elysées. Now they are moving indoors (according to the newspaper correspondents), a stamp club having been formed sufficiently prosperous to take handsome premises formerly occupied by the Grand Cercle Républicain, at the corner of the Rue de Grammont.

The president is Lieutenant-Colonel De Launay, whilst M. Boisselle will act as vice-president. Both are, of course, philatelists of international reputation.

The Fédération Philatélique de France, as this new Club will be called, proposes to hold exhibitions and an annual Philatelic Salon.

From the Auction Rooms.

* Signifies Unused.

Messrs. PLUMBRIDGE & Co.'s Sale,
May 26th and 27th, 1903.

	£	s.	d.
New South Wales, Sidney View, plate 11, 2d. deep blue, variety without outer frame to band	3	3	0
Do. 1851, 1d. carmine on bluish, mint	3	0	0
New Zealand, 1856, on blued, 1d. red	2	14	0
Do. 1862, star, imperf., 1d. orange, 1d. vermilion and 2d. pale blue, mint	2	10	0
Do. do. do. 6d. red-brown, a mint pair	3	10	0
Do. 1864, N.Z., imperf., 1d. carmine, a mint pair	1	18	0
Do. do. 1/- green, mint	2	0	0
Do. rouletted 2d. blue	2	15	0
Do. 1863-1866, 4d. yellow, a mint block of 4	1	14	0
Do. 1872, wmk. lozenges, 2d. red	4	2	0
Nova Scotia, 1d. brown, a strip of 3	6	0	0
Orange River Colony, V.R.I., 1st print, 2½d. on 3d., a mint pair, one being the antique 2 in fraction variety	1	16	0
Philippines, 1854, 5c. orange-red, type A	2	14	0
Queensland, 1866, wmk. script, 1d. vermilion, a mint pair	5	0	0
St. Lucia, 1860, 6d. green, pair	3	15	0
Do. 1883, 6d. lilac, mint	1	17	0
Do. do. 1/- red-brown*	2	10	0
Do. One Shilling Revenue, orange, perf. 12 (S.G. 120), mint	1	4	0
St. Vincent, 1881, One Penny on 6d. yellow-green, mint	4	5	0
Shanghai, 1876, 1 cand. rose error*	2	0	0
Straits Settlements, 1868, perf. 12½, 96c. grey*	2	0	0
Do. 1883, 2 cents on 12c. blue, mint	2	6	0
Do. 1883, 8c. in black on 12c. purple-brown, a mint pair	4	0	0
Victoria, 1854, Litho, 2d., a reconstructed plate including pairs	2	10	0
Western Australia, 1861, clean cut, 1/- green*	1	12	0
Do. 1861, perf. 14, vermilion, a mint pair	1	14	0
Do. the rare error 2d. mauve*	13	0	0
Do. 1895, CC, ½d. in red and also in green on 3d. mint	1	10	0

Messrs. PUTTIOK & SIMPSON'S Sale,
June 9th and 10th, 1903.

Denmark, 1870-71, 2sk. blue and grey, perf. 12½, mint*	1	4	0
Great Britain, 1841, imperf., 1d. red-brown, a block of 36, mint*	2	6	0
Neapolitan Provinces, 1861, 50c. slate-blue, with inverted head	1	6	0
India, Jhind 1886, 2a. blue, with red surcharge, mint, only one sheet printed*	2	2	0
Perak, P.G.S., 1890, 12c. blue and 24c. green, wmk. CC., mint*	4	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1/- dark green, a mint pair*	6	0	0
New Republic, dated, 1d. straw (pair) and 2d. grey (pair), both with the embossed arms tête-bêche mint*	1	18	0
Do. 30/- straw, and undated, 2d. straw, both without arms, mint*	2	0	0
Do. undated, 2/- and 7/6 straw, two of each, mint*	3	7	6
Orange River Colony, 1896, Halve Penny on 3d. blue, with double surcharge, one inverted, mint*	1	10	0
Transvaal, 1878-9, 1 Penny in red on 6d. black, type 14, mint*, the rarest of all	12	10	0
Do. 1900, V.R.I., 4d. green, with inverted surcharge, mint*	1	16	0
Zanzibar, 1895, 2½d. in red on 2a. blue, with inverted 1 in fraction	1	12	0
Do. do. 2½d. in black on 1a. plum, a very fine block of 9, being three each of types 3, 4 and 5, mint*	9	10	0
Newfoundland, 1897, One Cent on 3c. dull purple, the rare type	1	2	0
St. Vincent, wmk. Star, ½d. in red on half 6d. yellow-green a mint pair*	2	15	0
New South Wales, Sydney Views, 2d. blue, plate 1, on entire original	5	10	0
Tasmania, wmk. Star, 2d. green	1	0	0
Do. 1889-91, 2½d. on 9d. pale blue, with double surcharge, one inverted, mint*	1	11	0

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co.'s Sale,
June 10th, 11th and 12th, 1903.

Zululand, 5/-, mint	2	0	0
Fiji, 1874-5, 2c. on 1d., Gibbons' 17	1	2	0
Do. 6c. on 3d. " 18*	4	0	0
Do. 12c. on 6d. " 19, mint	2	6	0
Do. 2d. in red on 3d. green, Gibbons' 21	1	10	0
Do. 12c. on 6d. " 34*	4	15	0
Do. 2d. in red on 3d. " 36	4	10	0
1879-83, perf. 10 x 12½, 6d. rose	1	5	0
New South Wales, 1850, plate 1, no clouds, 1d. carmine and 1d. lake, together on original	4	17	6
Do. do. with clouds, 1d. red, a pair on original	9	2	6
Do. do. with clouds, on laid paper, 1d. deep lake	3	12	6
Do. do. 1d. deep lake	3	17	6
Do. do. with clouds, 1d. on bluish	2	10	0
Do. do. 1d. red, without clouds, thin paper*	4	0	0
Do. 1851, 1d. vermilion, pair, one stamp having only two leaves at right of South	2	2	0
Do. 1855, 5d. green, imperf.*	4	10	0
Do. do. 8d. orange	6	5	0
New Zealand, 1885, 1d. London print, a very fine copy	2	16	0
Do. do. 1/- green on blued paper	2	10	0
Do. 1856, 1d. no wmk. blue paper	2	2	0
Do. do. 2d. blue rouletted	4	5	0
Do. 1862, wmk. star 1d. orange, mint pair	4	4	0
Do. do. 1d. vermilion fine unused copy and 2d. blue, mint	1	16	0
Do. do. 1d. vermilion, mint pair	2	12	0
Do. do. 2d. blue and 3d. brown-lilac, mint	1	11	0
Do. 1862, wmk. star, rouletted 1d. orange	2	10	0
Do. do. 6d. red-brown	1	4	0
Do. 1864, wmk. N.Z., 1/- green imperf., mint	2	5	0
Do. 1863-6, wmk. star, perf. 12½, 13, 3d. mauve*	2	0	0
Do. do. wmk. lozenges 2d. vermilion	4	0	0
Do. 1873, wmk. N.Z., ½d. rose, perf. 12½ by 10, mint	3	16	0
Do. 1878, wmk. star and N.Z. 2d. rose*	9	0	0
Queensland, 1860, 1d. carmine-rose, a pair	4	8	0
Do. do. 6d. green	2	15	0
Do. 1860-1 wmk. small Star clean-cut perf. 3d. brown, mint	1	18	0
Do. 1861, ditto rough perfs. 1d. mint block of 4	2	16	0
Do. do. ditto 3d., mint block of 4	1	12	0
Do. do. ditto registered mint block of 4	2	8	0
Do. 1862-7, 3d. and 6d., mint	2	2	0
Do. 1864-5, wmk. small star 2d. blue, mint	1	8	0
Do. 1881, wmk. Q. and Crown, perf. 12, 2/6 scarlet, mint	1	12	0
Do. do. 10/- brown*	3	5	0
Do. do. 20/- rose, mint	3	5	0
Do. 1871, lettered Queensland 1d. scarlet and 1d. dull orange	1	2	0
Do. 1882-6, thin paper £1 green, mint pair	2	10	0
South Australia, 1855, 1d. green imperf.	2	4	0
Do. 1867-70, 6d. Prussian blue	1	5	0
Do. 1870-1, 10d. in black on 9d. yellow, perf. 10 x 12½, mint	1	11	0
Do. do. 1d. blue-green, perf. 10, mint	1	14	0
Do. do. 2/- carmine-lake, perf. 10 x 12½, mint	1	18	0
Do. 1872, 9d. grey-lilac, perf. and roulette	2	10	0
Do. 1856-9, 2d. pale red, printed on both sides	3	5	0
Do. 1872, 9d. violet, printed on both sides	3	5	0
Tasmania, 1853, 1d. light blue on original	3	1	0
Do. do. 4d. red-orange*	3	15	0
Do. 1859, on pelure paper, 1d. red	1	7	0
Do. 1861-9, 6d. slate-grey, a mint pair	4	0	0
Do. 1869, 1d. carmine, serrated perf.*	2	2	0
Do. 1864-9, perf. 10, 6d. dull blue*	1	11	0
Do. perf. 11½ x 12, 2d. deep yellow*	2	5	0
Do. 1864-9, perf. 12 x 13, 4d. blue, mint	1	2	0
Do. do. 6d. grey-lilac*	1	17	0
Do. do. 6d. dull blue*	1	3	0
Do. 1870, perf. 12, 4d. blue, mint	3	10	0
Do. 1871-9, perf. 11½, 2d. yellow-green, mint	3	10	0
Do. 1889-91, ½d. on 1d. scarlet, Gibbons' 161	2	8	0
Do. 1891, ½d. brown-orange, Gibbons' 174, mint	1	5	0
Do. 1892-9, £1 yellow-green, mint	8	5	0

	£	s.	d.
Victoria, 1850, 1d. dull brick, mint, Gibbons' 5 ..	2	5	0
Do. do. 1d. orange-vermilion .. 2* ..	1	15	0
Do. do. 2d. lilac, fine background and border ..	3	17	6
Do. do. 2d. cinnamon, very fine, and 3d. blue with- out outer lines*	1	5	0
Do. do. 3d. blue, rouletted, a fine pair on original ..	2	4	0
Do. 1852, 2d. engraved, mint	2	12	0
Do. 1858-61, 2/- green, perf. 12	3	5	0
Do. 1856, 1d. green, mint pair	2	1	0
Do. 1862-3, 1d., wmk. double-lined I, mint ..	3	0	0
Do. 1866-8, 3d. grey-lilac, wmk V and Crown* ..	1	5	0
Do. do. 3d. red-lilac, same wmk., mint ..	1	5	0
Do. 1868-81, 5/- red and blue, perf. 12½, without line under crown, mint	4	12	0
Do. 1873-83, 1d. green on yellow, mint, pair ..	1	9	0
Do. do. 1d. green on drab, pair, mint ..	1	16	0
Do. do. 2d. mauve on green, and 2d. deep mauve, mint	1	8	0
Western Australia, 1854, 1/- grey-brown*	1	15	0
Do. do. 1/- chocolate-brown	2	10	0
Do. do. 1/- red-brown	3	3	0
Do. do. 4d. blue rouletted	2	4	0
Do. 1857, 2d. brown-black on red, the broken transfer variety	3	0	0
Do. do. 2d. brown-black on red, printed on both sides	3	7	6
Do. do. 2d. brown-black on red	3	15	0
Do. do. 2d. brown-black on Indian red rouletted	12	10	0
Do. do. 6d. bronze-black rouletted	4	12	0
Do. 1861, 4d. vermilion, rough perfs.*	1	16	0
Do. do. 2d. blue*	3	5	0
Do. 1865, perf. 12½, 1/- sage-green, mint ..	1	11	0
Do. 1882-90, perf. 12, wmk CA., 6d. lilac mint	2	0	0
British Bechuanaland Protectorate, 1889, 4d. on ½d., the surcharge Protectorate being inverted	2	0	0
Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER'S Sale, June 12th, 1903.			
Naples, ½ tornese blue, "ARMS," on entire	7	5	0
Do. ½ tornese blue, "CROSS," on entire	3	0	0
Schleswig-Holstein, 1st issue, 1 and 2 sch.	4	0	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ rappen blue, black and carmine, with red circular postmark	3	5	0
Ceylon, 1st issue, ½d. lilac on bluish paper	1	4	0
Formosa, black on white, oblong stamps, 3	1	0	0
Newfoundland, 6d. orange	2	5	0
Guatemala, 1881, 5c. orange and green, with centre inverted	5	7	6
New Zealand, 1862, wmk. Star, imperf 2d. blue, rouletted	0	19	0
Messrs. PLUMBRIDGE & CO.'S Sale, June 15th, 16th and 17th, 1903.			
Bahamas, 1861, rough perfs., 4d. rose, a mint pair ..	4	10	0
British Bechuanaland, Protectorate black surcharge, 2/6 green mint	2	18	0
British East Africa, 1895, on Company's 2a. red, mint, perf.	1	14	0
Do. do. 5 annas black on blue, mint, perf. ..	2	6	0
British South Africa, 1890, £1 blue, mint	1	10	0
Do. do. £2 rose, mint	2	6	0
Do. do. £5 green, mint	5	5	0
Do. 1896, One Penny on 3d., mint	2	18	0
Do. do. One Penny on 4/-, mint	1	16	0
Do. do. 3d. on 5/-, a mint pair	1	16	0
Do. 1897, £1 black and red, mint	1	5	0
Do. 1898, £1 purple, mint	1	3	0
Do. do. £10 lilac, mint	10	0	0
Mafeking, the set complete, the Bicycle stamp and B.P. small head*	10	10	0
Gt. Britain, 1840, 2d. blue*	2	4	0
Mauritius, 1859, 1/- yellow-green, a mint pair ..	1	18	0
Do. 1899, 6c. on 18c., surcharge inverted, mint ..	2	10	0
Niger Coast, 1898, CA, 10/-, both shades, mint ..	1	12	0
Do. do. 10/- deep violet, a mint block of 6	4	5	0
Swaziland, red surcharge, on ½d. grey double surcharge, mint	1	10	0
Do. do. surcharge inverted, mint	1	12	0
Trinidad, 1859, pin perf., 6d. yellow-green, a mint pair	3	0	0
Do. 1860, clean cut perfs., 1d., a mint pair ..	2	10	0
U.S.A., Executive set complete, all*	3	15	0

Our Review of Reviews.

"Retouched" or "Re-Entered" Plates?

The "American Journal of Philately," always a readable and improving monthly, and admirably edited by Mr. John N. Luff, devotes a leading article to a subject of mighty interest to specialists of Great Britain—viz., the re-touching, or, as Mr. Luff contends, preliminary touching-up, of the plates of British line-engraved stamps.

Some months ago Mr. W. F. Wilson attracted the attention of philatelists by the announcement that he had discovered retouches of the one penny red of the 1841 issue of Great Britain. These retouches were described as a deepening of the outer lines at the sides of the stamps. As might be expected, this announcement proved of great interest to English specialists and has been much discussed by them. Among other things, it has been claimed that it is not possible to retouch hardened steel plates. This is probably true of hardened plates, but there is nothing to prevent softening them and them touching them up.

But it is much more probable that, after softening, the whole design would be re-entered by means of the transfer roller, instead of recutting a few lines, which is certain to be clumsy work at the best. Re-entering is much resorted to by those engaged in printing stamps from steel plates. It restores a worn plate to good condition at a cost far less than that of a new one. In the United States many stamps have been printed from re-entered plates, but this is not a process that leaves many marks to catch the philatelist's eye. A notable example of re-entering is the printing by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing from the plates for Newspaper stamps, made by the Continental and American Bank Note Companies. These plates were re-entered before they were put to press by the Bureau and, in consequence, the impressions are sharper than those made by the American Bank Note Co. towards the close of its last contract.

In the last "Monthly Journal" Major Evans reviews the subject of the retouches of the English plates and concludes that the lines found by Mr. Wilson do not indicate retouching, but were caused by certain lines being deepened at the time the plates were made and before they were hardened. In support of this contention he has three excellent arguments: First, that much more important parts of the stamp—for instance, the portrait of the Queen—show many signs of wear, and it would have been much more reasonable to retouch these worn lines than those at the sides. Secondly, it would have been simpler to re-enter the whole design than to touch up a few lines and the result would have been far more satisfactory. Lastly, some of these marks have been found on the imprimatur sheets at Somerset House, thus proving the deepened lines to have been on the plates in the earliest state. These facts appear to fully confirm Major Evan's conclusion. Though the discovery is not exactly what he thought, Mr. Wilson is deserving of credit for his keenness of observation and for bringing these varieties to our attention.

In making steel plates it frequently happens that, in pressing the roller into the plate, the metal is forced up between two impressions, making a little ridge, technically a "burr." Of course, it is necessary to remove this ridge before the plate can be used. In doing this the outer lines of some of the impressions are occasionally destroyed and have to be restored by use of the graver. This may be exactly what happened to the English stamps.

A marked example of this touching up before the plates were put to press is to be found in the United States issue of 1851-56. On some of the 1 cent plates the designs were set so close together that some of the lines at top and bottom were destroyed. This resulted in the so called "broken circle." Usually the curved lines at top and bottom were restored by recutting, forming what is known as type II. Stamps showing the complete design, with the scroll at the bottom turned under and forming two small balls, are only found on a few plates and usually only in the bottom row. Plates of other United States issues were similarly touched up and in the 1869 issue notable additions were made to some of the designs. On the 15, 24 and 90 cent stamps each medallion is surrounded by a thin framing line. These lines were not on the original dies, but were added separately to each design on the various plates. In a similar manner the border plate of the 24 cents had two framing lines added inside of the octagon of pearls, which surrounds the picture. These additions are much more extensive than any ordinary touching up of the plates, but they are of an analogous class of work, since they involve the use of the graver on the plate before hardening.

An Amalgamation in the Far West.

The "New York Philatelist" is dead; long live the "Philatelist West"! The one is now merged in the other, and Mr. Clark W. Brown, who has to abandon the "N.Y.P."

through pressure of other work, confidently leaves his subscribers and advertisers in the hands of that genial Westerner, Mr. L. T. Brodstone, of Superior, Nebraska, the Publisher of the "Philatelic West."

And what a bulky, prosperous-looking bundle of advertisements and literature in this same "Philatelic West." We see it only about twice a year—in January and July as a rule. Possibly Mr. Brodstone is afraid to send such a big fat thing across the Atlantic too often lest the carrying capacity of the shipping combine be overstrained. The "West" is a combine in itself, for it deals not only with Philately, but also Photography, Curios, Numismatics and "Philocarty" (whatever that may be), and it is equally learned on Indian arrow-heads, Roman halfpennies, and the Revenue stamps of the United States. A most broad-minded and far-seeing journal.

"NERVE" WANTED FOR PHILATELY.

While money is a prime necessity in stamp collecting, the "Philatelic West" contends that "nerve" is a most useful item to include in one's outfit.

As an illustration (writes Mr. F. C. List in that journal) I will tell you a story that, unlike most others, has the quality of truthfulness.

Several years ago, in the city of C— there was situated a prosperous bank, the president of which was said to be very wealthy. He was also a philatelist and had a fine general collection.

Connected with the same bank there was a young man, also a philatelist, who acted in the capacity of clerk and who was dependant on his weekly salary for the necessities of life.

Although the stations in life of these two men were far distant, the hobby or science, that they held in common had drawn them together in a way and made them the best of friends so that they were frequently found together discoursing over their various treasures.

It was on one of these occasions that the point arose as to which had the best collection of United States. As neither had given much attention to these stamps their collections were far below the average. The outcome of the dispute was that they agreed to take up U.S. in all departments and at the end of six months whichever one had the best collection, he was to receive a small prize at the loser's expense. This lent additional interest and as time wore on each was adding to his album at a rapid rate.

The banker having a plentiful supply of this world's goods, bought extensively while the clerk could but put in a little spare money now and then. But what he lacked in cash he had in tact and knowledge. Visiting drug stores and asking to look over their stock, he would often come out with stamps value at over a 100 per cent. of what he had given for them, while his frequent trips to old established business houses and small out-of-town post offices would often pan out big.

To make a long story short, the six months rolled around and the evening appointed for the "show up" found the young clerk on the spot full of confidence that he had the best collection, and he had as the banker himself admitted after the inspection. In his ramblings he had ferreted out stamps that could not be purchased for any amount of cold cash and thus nerve and tact triumphed over filthy lucre.

Of course, it is necessary to buy stamps, but if you will cultivate nerve you will be able to place many a specimen in your album that you could not perhaps afford to purchase and at the same time derive greater pleasure.

A Stamp Journal for New Zealand.

The "Sterling Monthly," No. 1, Vol. I., lies before us, the Publishers being the Sterling Stamp Company, of Nelson, N.Z. The little paper promises well, and its first number has a distinct attraction in the shape of a page of photographs of early New Zealands, which are given the humorous title, "A Group of Early Settlers."

Embossed Eagles While You Wait!

The "Metropolitan Philatelist," of New York, is indebted to Mr. John A. Klemann, secretary of the New York Philatelic Society, for the first sight of some dangerous counterfeits of the first Imperial issue of Germany. The forgery is produced by pressing out the Arms on the 2 kreuzer, 1871, and embossing a counterfeit impression of the 1872 Eagle in its place. The work is very well done and remained for some time undetected, but now that the fraud is published it is not likely that any careful buyer will be deceived. The same fraud has been practised on the 18k. 1872, which has been altered to the small Eagle of 1871. With these two dies in the possession of the forgers there is of course a danger that all the scarce values have been altered.

TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

MR. JOHN KNOWLES, JUNIOR, in a letter regarding the "Condition of Auctioned Stamps," cordially endorses all Mr. Heginbottom's remarks on this subject published in the last *Fortnightly*. "I, too," says Mr. Knowles, "recently purchased a rare stamp at auction, and upon receiving it found it torn at the top. The defect was almost unnoticeable. . . . I found the tear was cleverly manipulated by the use of the lunge on the back. As Mr. Heginbottom says, I do not blame the auctioneers. . . . but I do think it would be an excellent thing if something could be done to impress upon the owners the great importance of thoroughly examining any stamps they wish to sell at auction, and of advising the auctioneers of anything faulty."

We hope these words will be duly heeded by all whom it may concern. There is nothing clever in trying to palm off a damaged stamp as a perfect specimen—far from it. At the best the sort of thing complained of is gross carelessness; at the worst it is something to which we should give a far uglier name.

Auctioneers, possibly, may find it advisable in future to keep a wary eye upon all philatelists whose "lots" have at any time been rejected by buyers.

"A.J.B." writes us: "I buy your paper every week and read every word of it with great enjoyment. Thanks, 'A.J.B.'! You are a friend indeed. Still, if you buy it once a fortnight in future you will find that quite often enough for all practical purposes."

Another letter on the subject of Auctions. "B.D.K." writes:—

"May I draw attention to one matter which has not I believe been mentioned hitherto? I refer to the fact that reprints are never notified as such in auctioneers catalogues. Yet—considering that many of these are almost as valueless as forgeries—this is very unfair to purchasers, especially those who cannot attend sales who therefore rely upon the printed descriptions of lots for sending their commissions to the auctioneers."

"I have often seen the most palpable reprints handed round at sales without a word of remark, and on reference to the catalogue found them entered as 'unused,' the *suggestio falsi* being that they are unused specimens of original issues and therefore of value, whereas they are worthless modern reproductions."

UNUSED STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

THE May packet has returned; results excellent. The value of the packet as circulated, £122 18s. 6d.; the stamps were taken by various members to value of £23 5s. 5d. or nearly 20 per cent. July packet was started on the 15th ultimo with 12 sheets, total value £85 2s. 11d. A few enthusiastic members can still be included.

Secretary, H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

BRITISH EMPIRE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

THE May packets have returned and the sheets and accounts being sent out to Members.

Colonial packet sales, £19 19s. 7½d., nearly 20 per cent.
General " " £17 10s. 3½d., about 10 " "

A few members can be received at commencement of next season.
H. BEAN, Secretary, 164, Loughborough Park.

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Begin to announce that their SALES FOR THE SEASON 1903-1904, have been fixed as follows:—

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 1904—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27;
 May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8.

Clients wishing to include Collections in any of the above Sales are requested to make early arrangements with regard to their disposal, as some of the earlier dates are already allotted.

The FIRST SALE OF THE SEASON on Sept. 29th and 30th will consist of a **Very Fine Private Collection of Colonials**, especially good in the following Countries:—

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FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 220.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

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ONE PENNY.

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Colonials in Doubly Fugitive Inks.

LETTER FROM MR. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN ON THE COLOURS OF CROWN COLONIES STAMPS.

It has been a subject of remark that not all the British Colonies adhere to the Postal Union recommendations as to the colours of 1d., 1d., and 2½d. stamps. With a view to eliciting the real reason for such abstentions from a now universal rule, the Editor of the *Fortnightly* addressed an enquiry on the subject to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, taking as an instance the recently-issued 1d. stamp of Sierra Leone, printed in mauve and red.

In reply, Mr. H. Bertram Cox, on behalf of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, writes us as follows, under date, Downing Street, August 4th:—

"I am directed by Mr. Secretary Chamberlain to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th of July, relating to the colour of the new Sierra Leone penny stamp.

"2. I am to inform you that the new stamp is of the same colour as the late issue, and also of the same colour as the corresponding stamp in several other colonies. Red was not adopted as the colour of these stamps because doubly fugitive papers cannot be prepared in red, and it has been thought desirable to use doubly fugitive colours for the stamps of Crown Colonies as a measure of protection. Stamps up to and including the value of sixpence are therefore printed in mauve, which is a doubly fugitive colour, and the duty is given on labels of the colours recommended by the International Postal Congress for stamps of the respective values, the name of the Colony being given in letters of the same colour."

Philately at Home and Abroad.

Mr. Creeke and Sergeant Ward.

On Saturday, August 1st, the day the last *Fortnightly* appeared, there was a novel application to the Bow Street Magistrate, arising out of the Official Stamp Prosecution. Mr. A. B. Creeke, jun., one of the five defendants committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court, now applied for a summons against Sergeant Ward for forgery under 47 and 48 Victoria, chap. 76, which makes it a misdemeanour for anyone to forge the name of another to a telegram, even though there might be no intent to defraud.

Detective-sergeant Ward, it will be remembered has had charge of the great stamp case. He admitted, in the course of his cross-examination, that he had sent one of the prisoners Walter Richards, the following telegram: "Meet me at my office, 10.30 this morning. Important.—Creeke." He explained that his object in doing so was to get Richards out of his house.

Sir Albert de Rutzen's reply to the application was that the matter would be considered if Mr. Creeke would lay a formal information.

The summons has since been granted.

The Old Bailey the Final Scene.

Meanwhile, as we were able to announce in the last *Fortnightly*, the five defendants in the stamp prosecution, stand committed for trial, and the final forensic battle as to the legal aspects of the case will be fought out at the Central Criminal Court at an early date in September. Doubtless on that occasion there will be an attendance of philatelists equalling the crowd attracted to a certain historic philatelic case, tried at the same court some thirteen years ago.

Effects of N.Z. Penny Postage.

"Collectors," remark Messrs. Wilcox, Smith and Co., Dunedin, in a letter to the *Fortnightly*, "are only just waking up to the effects of penny postage on the stamps of higher values than one penny. . . . The demand for "no watermark" stamps, used, is very heavy, but, owing to poor supplies, we are only retailing.

"The 4d., star N.Z., perf. 11, is very rare here. Holders of any are asking a big price, and getting it. Business is good."

The Charges against "Malcolm Campbell, Esquire."

Special Report of the Proceedings at Camborne.

The Camborne magistrates, Messrs. John Vivian, C.C., and Thomas Viddick have had before them, on July 21st, and again on July 28th. the case against Malcolm Campbell, late of Mexborough, Yorkshire, charged under a warrant "that he did on divers dates between December 12th, 1902, and January 23rd, 1903, feloniously steal, take, and carry away, a certain quantity of foreign stamps, the property of John George Stevens, of Redruth, Cornwall, to the value of £130 gross."

Immediately the case was called, the prisoner (who was present in custody of two warders) made an appeal to the magistrates, that all witnesses be ordered out of court.

Mr. J. G. Stevens, prosecutor, said he was secretary of the "One and All" Exchange Club at Redruth—a club for the mutual exchange of stamps. It possessed no property. He was the bailee of the stamps that were sent about by the members. Only on one occasion had a packet not been registered, and that was neglect on the part of the prisoner.

Prisoner here objected to the production of a card until his handwriting was proved.

Arthur Melbourne Berry, Chief Constable of Kendal (borough), Westmoorland, was thereupon called to prove the handwriting.

Mr. Stevens, continuing his evidence, said he received this post-card from prisoner on December 13th or 14th last. The post-mark on it was Rotherham. In this communication prisoner said he had forwarded the packet on unregistered, but had a certificate of posting it, after retaining stamps of the gross value of 15s. 10d., and £4 7s. 6d. Members, witness explained, were allowed 50 per cent off the gross price on settlement. Prisoner was not a member of the club. When he received back the packet he had last mentioned (the October B.), he discovered several stamps were missing from different sheets, in fact several sheets were stripped entirely by prisoner, who left nothing but the covers of the sheets. In several cases, the prisoner had written across the sheet "All others removed by me." Prosecutor, continuing, gave evidence as to stamps being missed from other packets, the total value of these stamps altogether amounted to £130 gross.

Cross-examined by Prisoner: He was not a member of the Club, but wrote and asked for the lists to be sent on. He was asked for a reference.

Prisoner: And did you get one?

Witness: Yes.

Can you produce that letter?—Yes, I can. (Laughter).

Prisoner: I do not think it is necessary to produce it. (Laughter).

For a few seconds, one of the scores of stamp sheets got mislaid. Before it was found, prisoner asked witness whether he would save the time of the Court by withdrawing his statements with regard to that sheet. (Laughter).

Later, Stevens said he sent on the packets because he thought prisoner was an honest and straightforward man.

Prisoner: That is enough. You need not go further. (Laughter).

The Chairman expressed a hope that prisoner would restrict his cross-examination, but Campbell went on with his questions. Later on, when again pulled up, he remarked that he was prepared to submit to the ruling of the Court.

Prisoner then asked Stevens, what opinion had he of him. Witness paused, finally saying: From your printed post cards, anybody would consider they were dealing with some one of standing, but instead of that, you have been proved to be a fraud and a big thief. (Roars of laughter).

Chief Constable Berry produced a number of stamps, received from the Dublin Metropolitan Police. Witness was present when they were taken from prisoner. These stamps numbered 40 odd, and several of them had been identified in connection with another case in which the prisoner was tried in April last in Kendal.

The Magistrate's Clerk: Do you wish to cross examine Mr. Berry?

Prisoner—(laughing)—No thank you, sir, — not at this moment. (Laughter).

Edwin Healey, trading as Messrs. Edwin Healey and Co., Wormwood Street, London, stated he only knew Campbell by correspondence, and did not purchase all the lots of stamps sent him by prisoner. He had come there as a willing witness. He produced 3 cheques sent to prisoner in payments for stamps. Prisoner wrote invariably with post-cards. He also produced a £5 English stamp — registered postmarked, but could not say from whom he got it. Sometimes he had a large number of these very stamps in his possession. On January 12th, he sent prisoner a postal order by wire for 10s., several lots were returned to the prisoner.

Prisoner: As this witness has to catch a train to London I will not now cross-examine him.

Mr. E. W. Newton, mathematical instrument maker, Camborne said: Probably a week ago, Mr. Stevens showed him some £5 English stamps, about a dozen of them, and it was his impression that one of them was one he had seen in the club sheet of the One and All Club, and which he almost bought. He spent 20 minutes in examining it.

Mr. W. A. Bois, of East Dulwich, a member of the "One and All" Exchange Club, deposed to receiving an exchange packet from Ardrossan in Scotland, retaining a few stamps from the sheets in the packet,—initialling the blank spaces left after removing the stamps, — and in some instances initialling spaces to the effect, "that there was no stamp here" when he received the list. The packet, he presumed was forwarded to him by the prisoner, whose name was the one in front of his own on the postal list.

Formal evidence of the receipt and despatch of "One and All" packets was given by Mr. Fred Briggs, of the National Bank, London, and Mr. T. C. Row, of Penzance.

Mr. A. Labouchere Spurling, of Furze, Upland, Kenwyn, Truro, said he received Section B. of the October packet in January, and forwarded it on to Mr. Caddy at Redruth and wrote to the prosecutor a post card, stating: "Bois seems to have found many valuable stamps missing."

Prisoner: Did you carefully examine the sheets in the packet, when you received same?—Yes.

Did you find any stamps missing and not accounted for? —Yes: and so did Mr. Bois, and I wrote Mr. Stevens to that effect also.

At this stage, 6.30 p.m., the magistrates adjourned the further hearing of the case until Tuesday, July 28th. Prisoner, by the way, sported a gold Royal Arch Masonic medal attached to a piece of black ribbon.

At the renewed hearing, prisoner, who was again in charge of a couple of Warders, was allowed to sit, and was provided with a table for his proofs, letters, and notes, and Acts of Parliament. At the prisoner's special request, all the witnesses in the case were ordered out of court.

This effected, Campbell next raised an objection to the case being tried at Camborne, stating that as the alleged offences were committed in Yorkshire, the sitting Magistrates had no jurisdiction, and the case ought to have been brought in Yorkshire. To support his contention, he quoted a section of the Act of Parliament on the matter. The Magistrates said they should certainly hear the case now.

Mr. Wearne Caddy, of Redruth, a member of the "One and All" Stamp Exchange, said: Early in October last, he handed to Mr. Stevens, the secretary, a collection of stamps on a sheet value 11s. 5d., for circulation amongst the members. On a Friday in January this year, he received the collection back from Mr. A. S. L. Sparling, of Truro, in a Box similar to the one produced, and at once, after opening it, and seeing such a quantity of stamps taken from the Sheets, closed it up again and took it to Mr. Stevens' stall in the Redruth Wholesale Butter and Egg Market, and finding Mr. Stevens not there, handed it to a boy in charge of the stall. It was alleged that subsequently this sheet was

sent to the prisoner with other sheets in the packet, and that the prisoner removed all but 3s. 2d. worth of the stamps, and endorsed the sheet "all others removed by" that being followed by prisoner's peculiar initials, or signature, which was proved last week by the Chief Constable of Kendal.

Prisoner: Now, Mr. Caddy, what number of stamps was there on this sheet when you sent it to Mr. Stevens?—I don't know till I see the sheet.

The prisoner handed Mr. Caddy the sheet, and he (Mr. Caddy) stated 104 or 105.

Prisoner: Has Mr. Stevens paid you the cash for this 3s. 2d., value taken by the members of the Club?—Yes.

Was this sheet in the actual condition it is now, when you got the packet?—Yes.

Master Stanley Stevens, son of the Prosecutor, stated he received the packet from Mr. Caddy in the market.

Prisoner: When Mr. Caddy gave you the packet, was your Father present?—No.

Was it long after you had the packet that your Father came?—No, about 5 or 6 minutes, I should say.

Did you know what the packet contained?—Yes, stamps. Did you open it?—No.

Then why do you know it contained stamps?—Because I have seen my Father put sheets of stamps every month in these packets (boxes), and I have assisted him to do it.

Robert Davies, of Peniston, Yorkshire, stated he was lately an Insurance Agent, and that in October last, he was residing at 32, Fowett Street, Mexboro', where the prisoner and his wife were boarders from the 9th October to 24th December. On the 26th January, 1903, he left Mexboro', and went to Peniston to live.

The Clerk: You remember the prisoner leaving your house? Where did he say he was going?—To Ardrossan, in Scotland. He told me he was going to see his mother at 4, Montgomery Street, Ardrossan, and desired that anything coming for him should be sent to that address.

Almost every day, in fact, every week, Registered letters, and packets arrived for prisoner,—including one from Penzance, and these were forwarded to prisoner at Ardrossan, including the packet that came from Penzance. This last was sent in a wicker basket, together with prisoner's wife's clothes.

Prisoner: How do you know the packet came from Penzance?—It had the Penzance postmark, and a lot of stamps on the outside.

Prisoner addressed a number of further questions to this witness, to all of which short and simple answers were returned.

Alexander Harvey Dingwall, stamp dealer, said he had correspondence with Malcolm Campbell. In November, prisoner wrote, asking for certain stamps, and witness sent him a lot, from which he selected some, and sent back other stamps, asking that his account be debited with these. Witness wrote, stating the stamps were no use to him, but he would give 1s. 3d. for them. This prisoner agreed to take, and sent another lot in exchange. These witness also offered to keep at 1s. 3d., making in all 2s. 6d. for about 36 stamps.

"I thought Campbell was a collector," continued the witness, "and sent him several sheets of stamps. Campbell returned them all with the exception of 2 sheets. He then wrote for English stamps, and in reply I sent him my English collection, but directly I had posted the collection, I regretted it, and told my wife so, and up to now, I have seen neither the collection nor a penny in payment.

Prisoner: You admit keeping stamps I sent you to the value of 2s. 6d., and crediting me with that amount?—I do not in any way admit crediting you with 2s. 6d. towards the stamps you retained belonging to me.

Have you not sworn you offered 2s. 6d. for certain stamps sent you by me, and that I accepted your offer?—Yes, I offered you 2s. 6d. for two small lots of stamps, and you accepted the offer, but not against the sheets and collection of stamps I sent you, and which you never returned nor paid for.

What is the value of the biggest lot you hold that I sent you?—I can't say right off.

Will you swear they are not worth £5?—Yes, certainly! Not worth that by a long way.

Then what do you value them at?—I can't say unless I go into their value, and this will take some time.

Prosecutor examined the stamps Dingwall had from Campbell, and could only identify for certain two stamps—

one a 5s. Natal with right-hand corner gone, and another a penny English Red stamp, with perforation right down the middle of the stamp.

William Lacy-Berry, of Brighton, trading as "William Lacy," stamp dealer, stated he had bought stamps to the value of £4 6s. from prisoner, and one lot he paid 15s. for by cheque to Ethel Campbell, prisoner's wife, between 11th December and 6th January, 1903. He had only now a few stamps in his possession, which he knew to be purchased from prisoner.

Prosecutor carefully examined these stamps, but failed to swear to any of them, but he knew there had been similar stamps on one of the member's sheets.

William Jaggard, of Liverpool, spoke to purchasing at various times from Malcolm Campbell and Ethel Campbell, stamps to the amount of £11 11s. 1d. The remittances were sent chiefly by Postal Orders, but sometimes by telegraphic money orders. These remittances were addressed to Poste Restante, Ardrossan, Glasgow, Belfast, and Dublin, some in the names of Malcolm Campbell, and some in the names of Mrs. Ethel Campbell. In July last he noticed a paragraph from the prosecutor in the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, warning collectors against Malcolm Campbell, and then wrote the prosecutor on the matter.

Prosecutor examined some of the stamps Mr. Jaggard tendered and identified 2 only, although he thought many of them might have been on the sheets.

Mr. A. H. Dingwall (recalled) said the selling price of the collection of English stamps he sent to Campbell, was just under £28.

Prisoner: Have you made up the value of the largest lot of stamps I sent you? Were they not worth £5?—Oh, dear no! they are roughly of the value of say 20s. outside.

This 20s. is only your estimated value of one lot?—Yes, one lot.

The prisoner, asked if he wished to say anything to the Magistrates in defence, answered: I will reserve my defence, as I understand the case cannot be settled here.

The Magistrates thereupon committed him to Bodmin for trial at the next Quarter Sessions, to be held about 20th October, 1903.

The prisoner applied for a copy of the depositions, and was informed he could have same at the rate of 1½d. per folio of 90 words. Then he stated by an Act he was entitled to such and at his recent trial at Kendal, he was supplied with them without paying a penny.

The Clerk said that was in a Borough district, this was a County; he could only have it by paying.

The Prosecutor stated that he had with him communications from 16 other persons whom prisoner is alleged to have defrauded of stamps worth £249.

Some Stolen Stamps.

Mrs. Heron, of Chorlton-cum-Hardy, has suffered the loss, by theft, of the following stamps:—

Two pages from an old German and English stamp album, numbered in the bottom right-hand corners, 2 and 105. These contain rare first issues of Germany, Western Australia and Queensland.

One very small duplicate book with various stamps.

One small box, containing mixed stamps.

We shall be glad of a line from any dealer able to identify these items as being off-red for sale.

A Stamp Dealer's Transactions.

The case against Herbert Lawrence Platt, of Glendale, Finchley-road, Westcliffe-on-Sea, once more occupied the Bow Street Magistrates' attention on Saturday, August 1st. Platt is charged with obtaining stamps by false pretences.

Mr. R. J. J. Willis appeared for the prisoner, who, it is stated, has been in the habit of advertising for stamps, and also of answering the advertisements of people having collections for sale. It is alleged that on obtaining possession of the stamps, he failed to either pay for or return them.

Detective-sergeant Stephens said he had received upwards of thirty complaints respecting the prisoner, and Sir Albert De Rutzen, in ordering a further remand, directed that the Treasury should be communicated with.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

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Our usual Article on "Entires" is unavoidably held over until our next number. At an early date we hope to inaugurate several new features that will, we trust, commend themselves to all.

Regarding the proposed "White List" we have received various comments and suggestions.

Mr. F. Stacey Hooker, Secretary of the Cleveland Exchange Society suggests: (1), that reference tickets be issued, and (2), that members of the Reference List, when advertising in the *Fortnightly*, be permitted to add an asterisk (*) to their announcements.

An international flavour is imparted to the correspondence by Messrs. Yvert and Tellier, of Amiens, who in a most cordial letter on the subject, suggest an Anglo-French "White List," engineered and controlled by the French and English "Fortnightlies," the "S.C.F." and "L'Echo de la Timbrologie." Messrs. Yvert and Tellier's good wishes are heartily reciprocated, and we hope that something may come of the idea. It would be one more happy instance of *L'entente cordiale*!

The "Fortnightly," from this number, will be printed in London, and the greater convenience of this arrangement will help us to develop certain schemes for the all-round improvement of our journal. At the same time, we wish to extend our cordial thanks to Messrs Pardy and Son, of the "Triangle" Printing Works, Bournemouth, for their excellent work as printers of the *Fortnightly* from the date of its foundation, some ten years ago. Through all that time, the "S.C.F." has been admirably printed and punctually delivered, and we—the poor, uncomplaining person editorially responsible for those 219 *Fortnightlies*—must return our most cordial thanks to Messrs. Pardy and Son for their loyal and intelligent assistance in what is technically known as "putting the paper to bed."

The Latest New Empire is that of Jacques I., Emperor of Sahara." In private life the new-made monarch (whose sovereignty, by the way, is not yet formally recognised by anybody but himself) is simply Jacques Lebaudy, the millionaire son of a millionaire soap-boiler. As outward and visible tokens of his kingship, the Emperor Jacques has issued stamps, and taken unto himself a flag. A few faithful followers will help the young millionaire to build his new Empire in the sands of the Sahara, and there will doubtless be much waving of the Lebaudy flag, which is described as a "blue triangle, ornamented with three yellow or golden balls." "Such a design," remarks the "East Anglian Daily Times," "is suggestive of what may be called the avuncular method of raising revenue, and is, no doubt, indicative of the manner in which Jacques I., means to replenish his Civil List." The postage stamps of the new Empire we have not yet seen.

Two Types of the Laureated Head of Napoleon.

At first glance, as Mons. T. H. Lemaire remarks in "La Cote Reelle," it would seem that the laureated effigy of the Emperor Napoleon III. on the French stamps of 1863-70 is the same for all the values of the series, from the 1c. olive to the 5 francs. lilac. This, however, is not so. There are two absolutely distinct types, the effigy being engraved twice, firstly for the low values, 1, 2, and 4 centimes, and secondly for the 10, 20, 30, 40 and 80 centimes. The type used for the three low values, according to Mons. Lemaire, was also re-



quisitioned for the oblong 5 francs stamp. Comparing the printing of these stamps with that of the stamps of the preceding issue, we find that the Emperor's head has undergone marked changes. The stamps of the non-laureated design have been drawn on the cliché, and retouched as to the top inscription, which was engraved by J. J. Barre in 1852, at that time the future Emperor being simply President of the French Republic.

"We have before us as we write," proceeds the Editor of "La Cote Reelle," "a reproduction of the Daguerreotype which served Barre as a model for his designs, not only of the postage stamps but also of the coins." The son of this same Barre, namely A. Barre, engraved the stamps of the laureated type.

The first issued stamp of the laureated series, the 2c. red-brown, made its appearance in December, 1862; the second (the 4c. grey) in September, 1863; and the third (the 20c. blue) not till nearly four years later—in April, 1867.

It is this 20 centimes stamp which first presents type II. of the Laureated head. The frame of the stamp suggests that of the stamps of 1849-52, but it is more regular, "more geometric" as "La Cote Reelle" observes.

Then as to the effigy of Emperor. This shows variations from the effigy appearing on the two low values which had already appeared. The differences are well shown in the following enlarged portions of the stamps, which we reproduce here from the pages of our French contemporary:—



It must be explained that in each case the portion of design shown on the left in the above collection of fragments is a portion of the design of the low values and the 5 francs stamp, while in each case the right-hand portion is taken from the 20c. blue, and the remaining stamps of the series.

Comparing the first selected portions of the head (ear and part of cheek), we see that in the edge of the ear and its shading, and in the lines of the cheek, the two types show marked differences. But in this part of the Emperor's head the most outstanding divergence of design is in the addition of a small lock of hair near the leaves of the laurel wreath. A glance at the illustrations will show that in Type II., a distinctly additional *meche de cheveux* is introduced.

Passing on to the imperial nostril, one sees an appreciable difference, though at first glance it would seem to consist in the superior curve of the said nostril. Next, observe the difference in the gulf penetrating between the Emperor's nose and the beginning of his moustache, and finally the broken lines, replacing connected ones on the bridge of nose.

Again, near the ribbon that fastens the wreath at the back of the head, we find in Type I., a single vertical line to the left. This is partially duplicated in Type II.

Under the "chop" of the Emperor's neck in the design used for the lower values there is a series of saw-points in white, directed towards the foot of the stamp, but in the 2nd type the points are in black and the white points which separate and define them are pointing upwards.

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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.

Antigua—Our minor Colonies are rather overdoing it. Following upon the big new sets for St. Helena, St. Kitts-Nevis, etc., comes a complete outfit of "chest-plasters" for Antigua. These stamps measure about 1½ by 1½ and show a large central medallion containing the royal arms surrounded by the inscription: EDWARDUS VII., D.G. BRIT. OMN. REX. F. D. IND. IMP. SIGIL. INSS. ANTIQUAE ET BARBADAE, Messrs Whitfield King, and Co. have sent us the following values. The second colour is that of the central medallion:—

- ½d. green and grey-black.
- 1d. carmine
- 2d. brown and purple.
- ½d. blue and grey-black.
- 3d. light brown and green.
- 6d. grey-black and purple.
- 1s. mauve and blue.
- 2s. violet and green.
- 2s. 6d. red-lilac and grey-black.
- 5s. violet and green (King's Head in centre).

Canada—The new King's Head stamps gather an added interest from the statement, which appears to be made on good authority, that the design was directly inspired by the Prince of Wales. The general design of the new stamp is a re-arrangement of the main features of the Maple leaf series, with the head of King Edward substituted for that of Queen Victoria. There seems to be a general agreement among philatelists that these are the best King's head stamps yet produced. The following values are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King, and Co.

- King's Head Series:*
- 1 cent. green.
 - 2 cents carmine.
 - 5 " blue.
 - 7 " olive.
 - 10 " violet-brown.

Colombia (Bolivar)—From the Colombian province of Bolivar the "Philatelic Record" chronicles three new high-value portrait stamps:—

- 1 peso, orange on salmon (Fernandez Madrid).
- 5 pesos, carmine on aure (Rodriguez Torices).
- 10 " deep blue on green (Garcia de Toledo).

Danish West Indies—Various contemporaries mention a new 2 cents. stamp. Colour, rose.

France—Our neighbours over the Channel have been singularly unfortunate in their stamp designs since the abandonment of the "Mercury and Commerce" type. Writes one of the Paris Correspondents:—

For some time now the French stamps have been subjected to a deal of hostile criticism. . . . M. Sandier, director of the art works of Sèvres, is amongst the critics of the poor "Sower," and has essayed to furnish a substitute for her. He has, therefore, designed a new stamp in case "La Semeuse" is definitely condemned.

It shows a charming figure of a young woman with Etruscan cap. An oak branch serves as a collar, and a garter, like that of the English arms, encases it, with the regulation inscription, "Republique Française." Marianne is, therefore, prettily clothed. At one corner of the vignette is the value of the stamp set forth in large figures. At the other corners are the dates of the three Republics—1792, 1848, 1870.

But why not go back to the serviceable and artistic "Mercury and Commerce" type of 1870, which served France faithfully and well for twenty-four years? There are no stamps like the old stamps!

Meanwhile there are two new values to add to the list of the "Semeuse" series:

- "Sower" type: 20c. red-violet.
- 30c. violet.

Germany—The Official or "Zahlmarken" stamps, we gather from the "Philatelic Record" exist in twenty-six or more distinct sets. It was supposed at first that the number "21" was common to all, but it now appears that

a separate number is used for each Kingdom or principality, 21 being the index-number for the Kingdom of Prussia. The prospect is truly appalling, and the "Record" uses this as yet one more argument against the continued philatelic recognition of official issues.

Great Britain—The current 1s. stamp has now been supplied with the "Board of Education" overprint.

Mauritius—A newly-coloured 6 cents. of the "Arms" type is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King, and Co.
6 cents, lilac and red, on red paper.

New Zealand—From a letter from Messrs. Wilcox Smith and Co., Dunedin, we gather that the 5s. stamp should be added to the list of values now supplied with single N.Z. and star watermark. "All the stamps," add our correspondents, "are on specially watermarked paper of one complete watermark on each stamp. The watermark, however, is exactly the same size as for the ½d. and 1d. stamps.

Wmk. single N.Z. and star: 5s. vermilion.

Orange River Colony—At last the remaining King's Head stamps are available. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us seven values to add to the 1d. carmine already received, so that the list up to date reads:—

- ½d. green.
- 1d. carmine.
- 2d. brown.
- ½d. blue.
- 3d. purple.
- 4d. green, carmine centre.
- 6d. purple.
- 1s. buff.

St. Helena—Illustrations of the large new picture stamps already described in the FORTNIGHTLY are now pro-



vided. We omitted to state that the new stamps are on the C.C. paper.

Why St. Helena should need two distinct sets of King's Head stamps no one has yet attempted to explain.

St. Kitts. Nevis—The two types of the curious new issue for St. Kitts-Nevis are now illustrated. We have already commented upon the incongruity of Christopher Columbus being depicted viewing the shores of St. Kitts through a



telescope—a hundred years before that ingenious aid to vision was invented! Mons. Arthur Maury, in "Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste" remarks that it is little wonder the great navigator appears to be holding the telescope so clumsily!

Salvador—A Continental contemporary chronicles a new set of officials, the words "Franqueo Oficial" being set in small block type diagonally across the current Salvadorean set. The words are not a surcharge, the "I.B.J." explains but are engraved on the plate as part of the design and appear in the same colour as the body of the stamp.

Servia—We jumped rather too hastily to the conclusion that the stamps overprinted with the arms of the country were the "King Alexander" series in use at the time of the

Massacre at Belgrade. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., and Mr. J. S. Marshfield write to point out that the stamps are a new set which it had been intended to issue at an early date. The stamps have never appeared in an unsurcharged condition.

It is reported, according to a recent number of "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News," that some £4,000 worth of orders for these stamps had reached the Belgrade Post Office within a short time of the issue. The stamps, it is added, were placed on sale to the public on July 8th and the 1 para had all been bought up by the afternoon of the following day and were being offered by speculators at 2 or 3 francs each, 200 or 300 times their face value!



Fifty times as many 5 paras as 1 para were issued, but it is believed that a new 1 para provisional will be made by surcharging remainders of a previous issue, as the value is required for use on printed matter.

Seychelles.—Surcharges on King's Head stamps are beginning already! From Seychelles we have a 3 cents. provisional, which, we fancy, is the first surcharge of this character on a King Edward postage stamp.

Surcharged on King's Head: "3 cents" on 15c. blue.

Regarding this issue, the following is an interesting extract from a letter received from Messrs. Whitfield, King and Co.

"The 2c. and 3c. stamps of the new King's Head type are completely exhausted, and the 6c. nearly so, and as it is not expected that fresh supplies could reach the Colony before the end of August, a provisional issue of 3c. stamps became necessary, and in consequence the 15c. stamp was surcharged as per enclosed specimen; a notice was published by the Post Office that no one person would be permitted to purchase more than one sheet of 60 of these stamps, but our correspondent in sending us a few specimens writes us as follows:—"By mail I send you a few surcharged stamps—all I could get. I am sorry they are so few, but I did my best. I was in town before the Post Office opened in the morning and gave different people money to buy sheets for me, but no one could get near the door. I am afraid they have nearly all got into the hands of one man, who had a crowd of 50 niggers there. I do not think there is anything worse than to get among a crowd of unwashed niggers. I only succeeded in getting one sheet. There were 33,000 stamps surcharged, of which I know 500 were destroyed, as they were not well done."

Venezuela.—Apropos the "Rebels" stamps, illustrated in the last FORTNIGHTLY, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' have received four distinct sets of these labels—two sets for Guayana, one set for Marino, and one for Maturin. Of the very large stamps, with Arms of Venezuela, issued for Guayana only, there are five values: 5, 10, 25, and 50 centavos, and 1 bolivar. Of the smaller stamps, with ship in centre, there are the same five denominations, but separate sets of these are issued for Guayana, Marino, and Maturin, the only difference being the substitution of the different name at the right.

The Stamps-on-Approval System.

A correspondent sends me a couple of communications which have been addressed to his little boy by "R. King & Co.," who describe themselves as "stamp importers," of Baldwin-street, Bristol. It seems that after the youngster had written to these people for a three-penny packet of stamps, which they advertise in various papers, they took upon themselves to forward to him "on approval," a sheet of foreign stamps, priced at the time, at half-a-crown. No stamped envelope was enclosed for the return of the sheet, and the lad's father, who considered this method of foisting goods on children objectionable, told him not to send it back. Shortly afterwards, the boy received a post-card from R. King and Co., asking for the return of the stamps or the remittance of half-a-crown "within seven days." The post-card was ignored, and a fortnight later there came a printed paper headed "Notice before proceeding in the County Court," and threatening action against the boy for the recovery of 5s. unless that sum was paid in the following week. The money has not been paid, but the father has informed King and Co., that the stamps will be returned if they forward a stamped addressed envelope for the purpose, and apologise for their conduct. I think, myself, that even this offer shows more consideration for King and Co., than they merit.—"Truth."

Mr. S. N. Sherman, of Perth, W.A.

From the Bureau of Intelligence, Perth, Western Australia, we have received urgent warnings concerning one S. N. Sherman, *alias* Sharman, who is stated to have carried on extensive frauds on various Westralian traders. Messrs. Hamilton, Macrae, Limited, the well known stamp dealers, were victimised to the tune of £33 10s., and Sherman also secured fancy goods, jewellery, guns, cameras, bicycles, etc., from various other firms to the amount of some hundreds of pounds.

Sherman, it seems, was on his way to Europe at the time the mail bringing us the Intelligence Bureau's letter left Perth. "Unfortunately for our clients and others interested" (proceeds the Bureau's letter) "his departure did not become known here till the day after the ship had passed Colombo, or his extradition would certainly have been applied for. The heavy expenses, however, appertaining to such a process at this stage deter those concerned in proceeding further in this direction; but they trust that this notice together with such particulars of the fugitive's personal description as we have been able to glean at short notice, and which we attach, will prove useful to those who may receive a visit from S. N. Sherman, who, by the way, is said to have lived at London, Paris, Rome and Venice, and where he stated he acted as a Company Promoter and Stamp Dealer (?). It is further believed that he has a brother—a Jeweller—residing either in London, Manchester or Birmingham in the old Country."

Enclosed with the Intelligence Bureau's letter is the following "Description of S. N. Sherman, *alias* Sharman."

Believed to be a French Jew, but described by himself as an Austrian by birth. Of good appearance, well educated, and polished and polite in his manners. Speaks English, French, German, and Italian fluently. About 30 years of age, of medium height and build in proportion, fresh complexion, between colours—*i.e.*, neither fair nor dark,—but inclined to be sandy, with large, floating moustache, no beard, brown eyes, mixed nose, *i.e.*, blend of the Roman, Celestial and Grecian, with the Roman predominating, good set of teeth, well dressed, wore a gold chain of the tapping kerb pattern, diamond cluster pin, with green (?) stone in centre, gold ring, with stones (oval shape), of greenish colour, fond of smoking cigars, erect, smart, and alert in gait. Accompanied by an Italian lady, described as his wife, and a child just starting to walk.

Finally, Messrs. Hamilton Macrae, Limited, supply the following list of the stamps obtained from them by Sherman:

Books: No. 340, Foreign, value £3 5s.; No. 331, ditto, £2 8s.; No. 2086, Mixed, £11 15s. 8d.; No. 2088, W. A., mostly official, £4 4s. 7d.

Sheet No. 4086, Australians, value, 15s. 5d.; No. 5017, ditto, 9s. 2d.; No. 4018, ditto, 11s. 8d.; No. 5007, Foreign, 6s. 10d.; No. 5022, Australians, 10s.; No. 4017, British Columbia, £1 13s.; No. 4036 ditto, £1 1s. 3d.; No. 3074 ditto, 14s.

Also W.A.'s. (Cat. £12), £3 3s.; and various packets and sundries, making a total of £33 10s.

Initials on the back of Postage Stamps.

Messrs. W. H. Everett and Son (Limited), of Bell's buildings, Salisbury-square, Fleet-street, send us a letter from the General Post Office granting them permission to mark their stamps on the back and thus prevent them from being stolen. "For 15 years past," they write, "we have been trying to obtain this, and have at length succeeded, thanks to the fact that you have from time to time inserted letters from ourselves, and the replies to the same." The passage in the letter from the General Post Office giving the necessary permission runs as follows:—"If . . . you still consider it necessary, in order to prevent pilfering, to adopt the practice of printing your initials on the back of your postage stamps, the Postmaster-General will not withhold his assent to your taking this course; and in the event of your doing so, instructions shall be given to the effect that stamps printed on the back are not to be repurchased at post offices."—"The Times."

TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



More than once during recent weeks we have been urged to warn philatelists against the smaller exchange clubs. "Mushroom Concerns," one *Fortnightly* reader calls them, but so far as we are aware, the term of contempt is wrongly applied. It is our firm belief that the person who "acts on the cross" in Philately is nowadays pretty speedily

found out (we hope he will be found out still more speedily in the near future), and as regards the question of the smaller exchange clubs, we believe that some of the small ones are conducted on better and straighter lines than some of the big ones.

If any specific complaint is brought to our notice, concerning a small club, or a club of "mushroom" growth, we shall not hesitate to take the matter up.

It is our hope and belief that no exchange club coming within the *Fortnightly's* purview is misconducted, but we wish every reader to bear constantly in mind the fact that we feel a special desire—we had almost said a special obligation—to ensure that every Exchange Club for which the "S.C.F." acts in the capacity of official organ, should be run on lines of scrupulous honesty and integrity. Any complaint addressed to the Editor of this paper, and marked "private and confidential," may be regarded as a privileged communication, and one that will be seen by no third party. As a matter of fact, however, the complaints against Exchange Clubs have lately been very few and far between. With the exception of one or two notorious clubs (with which the *Fortnightly* has nothing whatever to do), the shady members of this particular line of business appear to have been fairly well weeded out.

"An Amateur" writes us: "Was not a book published a year or two ago, bearing some such title as 'How to Arrange a Stamp Collection?'"

We cannot recall it. Possibly some reader of the *Fortnightly* can oblige?

In the course of a recent interesting letter on our "White List" proposals, and other matters, Mr. E. Heginbottom declares that the matter is one requiring delicate handling.

because there is such a number of Collectors who have decided objections to having their personal qualifications publicly known.

"Why I cannot say, but it is a fact that many philatelists have a rooted antipathy to public references to their personal qualifications. They are collectors who are as honourable and straightforward as is possible, still who dislike to become, as it were, 'publicised'."

"I would suggest," Mr. Heginbottom goes on, "that you issue tickets like the 'Bazaar'; I think this a very good system for those who really do an amount of either exchanging or selling. I would not limit the references to any given number. For example, surely one good bankers' reference is sufficient?—or else, say, two from leading Dealers, or leading Collectors."

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

"STAMPS" EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

In consequence of the number of members taking their summer holidays during August, no packet will be despatched for that month. The value of the packets circulated during 1902 was £9,395, and the sales £858.

Members are requested to notice a few points in order to improve the usefulness of the Club.

- 1.—The Club covers should always be used.
- 2.—Only Good specimens should be mounted on one side of sheet, with Good hinges; common and damaged stamps are not likely to find a purchaser, and greatly increase the weight of the packet.
- 3.—To introduce the Club to friends with good duplicates.
- 4.—To suggest any improvement to the secretary.

Collectors are invited to join, and may obtain Rules and further information from the Secretary, Thos. B. Widdowson (Member of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society) Lincoln Street, Leicester.

COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

The 95th meeting of the Board of Governors was held on Monday evening, July 13th. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's reports, showing a cash balance in bank of 155.03 dols. exclusive of reserve fund, was approved as read. The report of the House Committee was read and received.

The following application for membership was received and noted on the bulletin board: L. N. Herbert, New York City.

ALBERT PERRIN, *Secretary*, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York City.

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Rate: 3 Words a Penny.

6 insertions for the price of 5.
12 insertions for the price of 9.
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"UNUSED" STAMP EXCHANGE. No subscription or fines. Commission 2 1/2 per cent on members sales who purchase 5/- value.—Secretary, H. BEAN, 161, Loughborough Park, London.

J. C. auf der HEIDE, P.O. Box 479, Amsterdam, wants to send you good approval sendings of stamps of Holland and Colonies. Prices cheap. Nicest stock in Holland. Perforation, shades, unused, etc. Please try me and you will be completely satisfied.

WEST AUSTRALIAN and other British Colonial Stamps. Fine selections on approval. Prices very moderate. Stamps bought. Stamps exchanged.—WM. MORLEY, 69A, Preston Street, Brighton.

FISCALS.—Those wishing to sell, purchase, or exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London.

SUMMER BARGAINS. 5000 well-assorted stamps from 10 following countries only—Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Spain, Portugal, Sweden, Russia, Luxemburg, Greece, Wurtemberg—a very useful mixture, over 100 kinds, only 20/- Post free. Wholesale price list to dealers only. PIERRE NIESSEN, Stamp Dealer, Brussels, Belgium.

GREATEST rarities, rare and medium British Colonials, unused or used, priced under half Gibbons. Send approval against serious references.—BERNARDINA GARCIA, Barriogratiense, Barcelona, Spain.

ANY single Stamp at wholesale price. Selections, priced low, sent on approval. Discount and handsome present to purchasers.—LEY, 84, Gracechurch Street, London.

100 Different including 75c. Nyassa, 6c. Borneo, 1 Yen. Japan, Pictorial Tasmania (Haban), Bulgaria, etc. Post free. 4/6.—R. HUDSON, 3, Eileen Road, Selhurst.

FINE used copies Chinese Expeditionary Force, set of 10, 3 p/c's to 1 rupee 9/-, BARRADOS, 1872, 1/-, 2/-, B.E.A. on India, 5s, 2 G. GOLD COAST, 1898, 10/-, NIGER COAST, 1893, mint set of 6, 4d. to 1/-, 16/-, postage extra C. L. Pickard, 15, Grange Terrace, Leeds.

FIFTY FOREIGN STAMPS, all different including Canada (Map), Chili (Telegraph), Caylon, Cape, Turkey, Egypt, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, Japan, Nyassa, Portugal, Russia, Suisun, (Camel), United States, (Columbus), Victoria, &c. Post Free 6d. D. E. Reid, 12, Frederick Road, Pendleton, Manchester Approval Books on application.

OFFICIAL KING'S, used, Army, Admiralty Parcs's, Ravenna, Nine different 1 l. Admiralty 1d's, 7 6/100; Army 4d., 13 1/10, 1d., 9s., 100. Fine Packet, 30 different unused, obsolete, and rare Straits Settlements, 5/- QUINON, Sackville Street, Southsea

BATH & WEST OF ENGLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.—Members wanted to join this newly-formed Society. Rules, &c., from Secretary, CHARLES J. PREATER, Monmouth Place, Bath.

WANTED to Buy Stamps, Fiscals, Revenue, Railway Letter Fee, Telegraphs &c., of all Countries, in Lots or Collections. I also want Old English, including all officials, etc., 1d. Blacks to any number. Send on approval. References given. CHARLES J. PREATER, Dealer in English, Colonial, and Foreign Stamps, Monmouth Place, Bath.

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ST. VINCENT, a magnificent collection, including 1/- slate, compound perf., a block of 4 mints; 1/- rose-red and 1/- vermilion (both perfs.) mint; 4d. dark blue, star, and 4d. red-brown, a pair, mint; 5/- rose used and unused; One Penny on 6d. yellow-green, a pair, mint; 1d. on half of 6d. blue-green, a superb block of 4, mint; 4d. on 1/- vermilion, a superb strip of 3, mint, and a single used; &c., &c.
BRITISH HONDURAS, a nice lot of used and unused, including mint pairs of 6d. rose, perf. 14; 6d. yellow and 1/- grey; 50 cents on 1/- grey; 2 cents on 6d. rose, perf. 15, &c., &c.
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List of SALES for Season 1903-1904:—

1903.—September 29 and 30; October 13 and 14, 27 and 28; November 10 and 11, 24 and 25; December 8 and 9.

1904.—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27
 May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8.

Clients wishing to include Collections in any of the above Sales are requested to make early arrangements with regard to their disposal, as some of the earlier dates are already allotted.

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VOL. VIII.

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THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 221.—Vol IX.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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No. 221.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 1903

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

The End of the Story.

The little strip of territory known as Moresnet, lying between Belgium and Prussia, has hitherto been a kind of neutral territory, jointly owned and administered by the two countries aforementioned, much in the manner of the Republic of Andorra in the Pyrenees, which is under the joint control of France and Spain. Now a change has come. Moresnet, henceforward, will rank as Belgian territory, King Leopold, an experienced dealer in land, having bought the 800 odd acres for a round sum in cash.

Moresnet's disappearance from the list of quasi-independent states recalls a stamp story to which the word "Finis" may now be applied. In the days when certain ingenious and covetous persons were beginning to discover that there was a type of stamp collector who would pay cold cash for anything that was gummed and perforated—just about that halcyon period, a certain R . . . (no good object would be served by dragging him out of the oblivion to which he long ago retired)

thought out a brilliant scheme for a raid on the pockets of philatelists. He would issue a set of stamps for Moresnet.

Nobody in Moresnet wanted a set of stamps, but that fact did not discourage Mr. R. "Not for a single nation did he labour, but for all the world!" The stamps might not sell in Moresnet—that did not matter so long as they sold in the stamp shops! Unfortunately it was a well understood thing that the inhabitants of Moresnet could use either Belgium or German stamps—at their own pleasure. This was a serious drawback to the enterprising R. Nothing daunted, however, he secured the help and goodwill of an inferior postal official in the "buffer state," arranged for the transmission of letters bearing his stamps to various places in Belgium, France and England (of course with the addition of ordinary Belgium stamps on each envelope forwarded), and then came back to his native London to complete his plans.

Alas, poor R! Those plans were destined to disappointment, and all because of the lack of the miserable £100 or so that would be needed to prepare the designs and to print off the necessary stock of stamps. To dealer after dealer he went with glowing stories of the wealth that would be extracted from his Moresnet gold mine. He painted vivid word-pictures of provisional issues to come, and in the future a glorious bi-coloured pictorial series that would sell like hot cakes among the schoolboys of Britain and America. All in vain! Stamp dealers for the most part listened in stony indifference, and the few who did catch a little of Mr. R's enthusiasm were just those who lacked the money to help him. The people who warmly enter into our plans are generally those without capital.

And so the Moresnet scheme died, and little Moresnet was doomed to go on using commonplace Belgium and German stamps instead of helping to swell the already growing ranks of the "gumpaps" in the world's stamp albums! Poor R! His was only one of many such schemes that came to nothing. Not all of them met with this fate, however. In certain instances the cold heart of the philatelic capitalist must have been warmed by the eloquence of would-be stamp issuers. Else we had never seen the stamps of Brunei or those of Prince James of Trinidad!

On Postal Cards & Covers.

BY A SPECIALIST.

Stamp Collectors have been reading with much interest a series of articles in the "Monthly Journal," by Mr. Chas. J. Phillips on "Stamp collecting as an Investment," and as the 'main chance' is kept in view, if not actually studied, by all classes of Collectors I make no apology for commenting on the matter. There is much advice in the articles that may very properly be repeated of Postal Cards and other Entires. The first consideration, of course, is what to avoid, and Mr. Phillips strongly advises Collectors to

"Avoid stamps quoted in advertisements at one-third to one-tenth par or catalogue price. Because in such cases catalogue prices are sure to be greatly reduced in later editions, as publishers can always buy stocks cheaper than Collectors who trust to advertising columns. This applies equally to Entires.

Avoid stamps made primarily for stamp collectors, and only secondarily for postal use. This, of course, is only a small danger in Entires collecting.

Avoid stamps postmarked to order, or pen-cancelled in any way.

Above all, avoid poor condition."

Mr. Phillips then says: "Beware of speculation in new issues." This obviously is an unconcealed criticism of the business advertisements of a clever competitor, and into the merits of the question we do not need to enter. But we know for certain that this portion of Mr. Phillips' advice is *not* applicable to Entires. I believe I have in this column already referred to the astounding scarcity of issues of recent date, issues current and plentiful, which are almost unobtainable in this country, simply because no one 'speculates' in them. And although copies of the first Post Card Great Britain ever issued can be bought by the hundred for three-pence or fourpence each, I could name a score of cards issued within the last seven or eight months which are *absolutely unobtainable* at any price, in London to-day. Current issues of Entires are the rarities, not obsolete varieties. If to-morrow I call a hansom and armed with a £5 note endeavour to purchase the 2c. Slate Wrapper which the Argentine Republic issued five or six months ago, I should probably have to return home without it, after visiting every dealer in the city. And if I took with me a list of all the Cards, Envelopes, and Wrappers issued during the past twelve months, I venture to assert, that not more than 20 per cent. of the items would be found. In New York or Chicago, Paris or Berlin, I should fare but little better. In fact I do not know of a single firm who systematically import all new issues of Entires as they appear. It therefore remains for some enterprising imitator of Mr. Ewen to step into the breach, fill a long felt want, and make a rattling good thing out of it for his trouble. Whatever may or may not be the truth in regard to stamps, it is most undoubtedly a fact that a judicious investment in current and new issues of Entires, particularly Postal Cards, would eventually repay the far-sighted collector. But since he cannot possibly invest in them unless he imports them himself, the advice will not be of much use to him. There was a movement on foot last year to overcome this difficulty by the formation of a Postal Card Society, which among other things should import a small quantity of new issues for the benefit of members. But as suitable officers and an energetic secretary did not seem to be forthcoming, we allowed the matter to slide. Probably, however, this will be the eventual solution of the problem.

ALL ABOUT POST CARDS.

It is not often that I have a book to review on the subject of Postal Cards, but this month under the above comprehensive title, a neat little book by Mr. W. J. Scott is launched into the world. I have not space here for a full notice of the book, but would like just to say that there is

a great deal of interesting matter packed close within its pages. In fact, Mr. Scott's treatment of his subject reminds me forcibly of the Curate's first sermon, which is popularly supposed to contain his whole knowledge, both of heaven and earth, delivered with a force and conviction that he could not possibly in later years attain. "All about Post Cards" deals with Picture and View Cards (which, by the way, are not really Post Cards at all), as well as with Postal Cards of official issue, and commencing with the History and Development of the card traces its use and purpose down to the present day. The two subjects "officials" and "Pictures" are of course separately treated, and the connection between them is cleverly made by an article on "Official Pictorial Cards," which makes very interesting reading. The official Cards with pictures issued by Hungary in 1896 are instanced as the first of these, the most notable since being those of Queensland, Cape Colony, Greece, etc. It is a pity, our author did not give us a detailed dated list of these issues, as he is probably the best authority on the subject. In addition to this there are chapters on all aspects of both subjects, and the whole book is beautifully illustrated and produced, and has as frontispiece an illustration of Valentine's famous Ocean Postage Envelope. No doubt all Card collectors will hasten to become possessors of a copy, since the price is only one shilling. The publishers are Scott and Wilson, 4, Reginald Mount, Leeds.

NOTES AND NOVELTIES.

Austria. The M. C. states that the 10 heller Envelope is the only one on sale now at post offices. Other values, 3, 5, 6, 10, 20, and 25 heller are struck to order only.

Bavaria. The new design of Cards, like the new German issues, with space for postmarks in upper centre, inscriptions in upper left and stamp in upper right are now in use. The unstamped Card is not watermarked, but the vertical wavy lines appear in the others.

P.O.	No value,	black on buff,	90 x 40 mm.
2 pf.,	2 x 2	grey on cream,	ditto.
5	5 x 5	ditto,	ditto.
5 x 5	10 pf.,	green on cream,	ditto.
		ditto	ditto.
		carmine on cream,	ditto.

Cape of Good Hope. Adorned with the King's head, the following are in use:—

Env.	1d.	pink,	145 x 80.
Reg. Env.	4d.	ditto,	Sizes, F.G.H.I.K.
P. C.	½d.	green on buff	

Dutch Indies. The *W. P. Era* chronicles a new 5 cent card with oblong type of stamp, with new type of arms.

5c., red on pale rose, 69 x 139 mm.

Germany. I find in looking back my files that I have not chronicled the new Cards, with re-spaced inscriptions, and postmark space in upper centre.

2 pf.,	slate blue on pale blue,	92 x 140 mm.
2 x 2	ditto ditto,	90 x 140 mm.
5 pf.,	green on cream	93 x 140 mm.
5 x 5	ditto,	93 x 140 mm.
10 pf.	carmine on cream	90 x 140 mm.
10 x 10	ditto	ditto

Malta. The 1d. Carmine King's Head Card is now in use. The old Queen's Head ½d. cards are still, however, on sale.

1d. carmine on pale buff.

Mexico The new 2c. Cards are now on sale, along with the split halves of 2 x 2 reply-cards as per note in my last list. The new card is a changed colour.

2c. emerald green on cream, 89 x 140 mm.

New Zealand. A very pretty newswrapper has been issued with King's head.

W. ½d. dark green on white.

I learn that the surcharged Envelope 1d. on 2d. mentioned in my last month's list is already obsolete, and was only issued from Wellington.

Rhodesia. Messrs. Scott and Wilson have sent me a copy of a new 1/2d. card, issued July 1st, as per notice below. The stamp of the B. S. A. Co., and the fancy labels Rhodesia with arms and inscriptions are all in green, and the card is white.

P.C. 1/2d. green on white.

Department of Posts and Telegraphs.

RHODESIA.

Postal notice No. 15 of 1903.

It is hereby notified for public information that postcards bearing a postage of one halfpenny will be available for circulation within Southern Rhodesia, and from Southern Rhodesia to N.E. Rhodesia, N.W. Rhodesia, the Cape Colony, the Transvaal, Natal and Orange River Colony, and the Bechuanaland Protectorate, on and after the 1st of July 1903.

G. H. EYRE, Postmaster General.

G.P.O., Salisbury, 24th of June, 1903.
(2322/03.)

Trinidad. *Mekel's Weekly* says "specimen" sets of the following have been sent out. Head of King Edward.

Reg. Env., 1d. carmine on cream
W. 2d. blue on white.
P.C. 1d. green on buff.
1d. green on white

White List of Philatelists.

NOW OPEN FOR MEMBERSHIP.

The Register of THE PHILATELIC WHITE LIST will be open to *Fortnightly* Readers and Advertisers, and all Secretaries of Exchange Clubs and Philatelic Societies.

Entry on the Register will be made on two first class references being given, preferably to bankers or well known business houses. The applicant's name (or initials) and the town in which he resides will be published in one number of the *S.C.F.* previous to inclusion in the register, and all Philatelists having any knowledge of the person in question will be invited to communicate with the Manager of the Register.

Fees will be chargeable on application, and will be 1/6 per annum—this sum to defray all expenses of printing, postages, letters, etc.

Information as to any person on the Register will be given to readers and advertisers of the *S.C.F.*, and all club Secretaries, on receipt of a stamped envelope for a reply. The Register will be kept in the strictest privacy, and no information will be given except to those who apply by letter.

The Management will exercise the greatest possible care in examining references, and the publication of the name and initials of an applicant, together with the town in which he resides, will materially assist (we believe) in eliminating undesirable applicants. Information regarding each applicant, on the part of other readers acquainted with him, will be specially invited. The cost of postage will be defrayed, if desired, and all communications will be treated with the strictest privacy and confidence.

Suggestions as to points not adequately covered in the above proposals are still cordially invited. Please address the Editor, the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 63, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

THE FIRST LIST OF MEMBERS.

Already the names of several philatelists have been received for publication as those of would-be "White Listers." We propose to publish the first "List" in the next *Fort-*

nighly. Please send in your names by the hundred, and send them early, and let us make this first batch of applicants a big one. All applications may be addressed either to the Editor of the *S.C.F.*, or the Secretary of the "White List of Philatelists," but all confidential information which may be sent us hereafter regarding applicants for our "List" must be addressed personally to:—

Mr. J. S. G. TELFER, Secretary, The White List of Philatelists, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Every envelope containing information of this kind should be marked "Private and Confidential."

A SECRET "BLACK BOOK" ALSO.

It has been represented to us by many who have studied this question that the natural corollary of a "White List" is a "Black List," even though it be one that is secretly kept, so as not to offend against the British Libel Law—a law specially framed, as some think, to shield and shelter blacklegs, swindlers and the scum of the community generally. The need of a "Black List" as well as a "White" has been borne in upon us since first this thing engaged our attention, and we shall make it our business, as conductors of the "White List of Philatelists," to compile for our own guidance and reference a Big Black Book, in which will be entered up the names, addresses, and principal exploits of the *chevaliers d'industrie*, who prey upon philatelists both at home and abroad.

For this "Black Book" contributions are invited from all persons and at all seasons, not only complaints, as to persons who may be applying for enrolment in the "White List," but as to all persons connected with stamps, whose dealings are open to suspicion.

It will be necessary, however, to be very stringent in our precautions against error or malicious injury, and for this reason we must insist upon:—

(1.) The full name and address of every person sending us information, the same not to be published but merely as an evidence of good faith. On no account will the slightest credence be attached to anonymous communications.

(2.) Substantial evidence in support of the allegations brought forward. We cannot accept the unsupported word of any one person as against any other person in a matter which might possibly lead to grave injustice being done.

In return for the help we receive in this way—help given not to ourselves personally, but to Philately as a hobby—we shall strain every nerve to make this compilation of the "bad men of Philately" a blessing to the upright section of the community, a terror and a scourge to the "wrong 'uns."

Communications for the "Big Black Book" should be made personally (each envelope being marked "Private and Confidential") to:—

Mr. J. S. G. TELFER, Secretary, The White List of Philatelists, 63/64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

There need be no waiting. The Big Black Book has arrived from the stationers' and the ebony handled pen of the Secretary, dipped in ink of the blackest, is ready for its work.

REVISED RATES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY."

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	For 1 insertion.	6 insertions.	12 insertions.	24 insertions.
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The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, AUGUST 29, 1903.

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.

One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
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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.



The "Puffer" in the Auction Room.

From the "London Philatelist" the discussion of the ethics of philatelic auctioneering appears to have wandered along to the more outspoken columns of the "Philatelic Record." Therein we find a suggestion that the stamp auctions of the present day are not free from an element of positive illegality! Our contemporary refers, of course, to the practice alleged by Mr. J. A. Tilleard to be so prevalent in London stamp auctions of the present day—viz., the bidding for lots by the owner of same (or by his agent) against a would-be purchaser.

"It is well-settled law" (declares the "Record") "that the employment of 'puffers,' as they are called at auctions, is illegal. A case of this kind was recently reported in "The Field" and commented upon at the time. The sale in that instance was a horse, but whether the article sold be a horse or a postage stamp the principle is the same. An auction is presumed to be without reserve unless otherwise stated, and although it is not necessary in law for the auctioneer to declare the limit in cases where the conditions of sale reserve the power for the auctioneer to bid on the vendor's behalf he is acting contrary to the law, unless the fact is stated to the assembled bidders before the lot is put up. In such a case where the lot is bought, and the buyer ascertains that the price has been run up against him by anyone acting as agent for the seller, he can bring an action and will be successful, on the ground that such conduct amounts to a secret reserve and causes the sale to become fraudulent."

"It can be stated in the conditions of sale that the vendor reserves to himself to bid one or more times by himself or his agent (the auctioneer), in which case the vendor is within his rights, but if nothing be said, no 'puffer' can be employed. The law is very stringent on this subject, and vendors who contrary to the law employ puffers would do well to remember that, if detected, they have not only to disgorge their money, but may be prosecuted for fraudulent dealing.

"Now what is the position of philatelic auctions? Our experience is that the printed conditions reserve no power to the said vendor to bid by himself or his agent!"

The matter opens up a serious vista of probabilities if, as the "Record" suggests, the system of "puffing" is rife in our auction rooms. It would be interesting, on the eve of a new auction season, to have the views both of buyers and vendors on this subject.

Meantime, Messrs. Puttick and Simpson add their contribution to the discussion concerning philatelic auctions in a letter to the "London Philatelist." On the much debated subject of "Reserves" the firm in question are definite and outspoken. "We have always done our utmost," Messrs. Puttick and Simpson assert, "to discourage reserves; indeed, we have even gone so far as to refuse to offer property which we have found the owner intended reserving too highly."

Fiscal Notes and Chronicle.

CONTRIBUTED BY A. PRESTON PEARCE.

I shall only indulge in one note this month, and that must be a note of mild complaint. A candid friend has suggested that the heading under which I write has become a misnomer, the Chronicle being usually conspicuous by its absence, and I must admit that he has good ground for his criticism, though a glance backward shows me that I have actually chronicled a good many novelties amongst my Notes. However, I wish to transfer the implied shortcoming from my own shoulders to those of my readers, with a special shrug in the direction of those in foreign parts.

If readers will send me particulars of any new fiscal issues they may hear of I shall be very pleased to chronicle them with due acknowledgments, and I would ask even those who take no personal interest in revenue stamps to render this service to their fiscal philatelic brethren whenever opportunities come their way.

Changes of design, etc., in existing series of revenue stamps are seldom notified to the public, and usually remain unknown until used copies fall into the hands of collectors, which may not take place for a considerable time. For this reason our Chronicles are seldom or never up-to-date, but such backwardness is not without its compensations, for, as the Editor of "Morley's Journal" has recently pointed out, it keeps the speculator and would-be cornerer of provisional issues out of the field. I may now pass to the description of sundry varieties that do not appear to have been listed as yet.

Ecuador.—A new set was due this year, but the stamps thus far seen are those of the last issue (1901-1902) overprinted "BIENIO 1903 y 1904" in a slightly ornamental oval.

Holland.—*Sesul Clief*. Mr. Schwabacher has shown me half-a-dozen varieties of these ancient adhesives differing from those illustrated in the catalogues of M.M. Moens and Roussin in that the arms are two lions *passants* instead of one *rampant*. Doubtless they were issues of some important province or seigneurie of the Low Countries, and some Dutch reader may be able to place them more precisely. The dates and values expressed on them are: 1687, 3g. 1742, 12st. 1745, 6st.; 6g. 1748, 12st. 1756, 12st.

Jalisco.—I have seen the 10c. and 25c. green, of 1887-88, with overprint "Habilitado 1888 y 1889" in violet, instead of in black. On the 1893-94 issue the name appears both in Roman and in sans-serif capitals. The former has only been noted on the 1c. 2c. and 5c., the latter on the 2c. 10c. and higher values.

Nandgam.—M. Bailliere submits as a fiscal a label of which the following is a description: Three lines of what appear to be Marathi characters are surrounded by a double circle containing RAJASABAB OF NANDGAM and a further native inscription. The value, one anna, appears in words in the upper spandrels, and in native characters in the lower ones. The whole is set in a double-lined rectangular frame having slight conventional ornamentation in the angles, and is surrounded by an imitation perforation. Printed in red on rose paper, imperforate and ungummed.

Norway.—*Stempelmaerke*. I have just received the 20 ore stamp in a new design which is much more florid than the old one. The shape, size, colour, perforation, and general arrangement remain as before, but the inscriptions are now in a type resembling Old English Antique, and the value, much reduced in size, appears on an ornamental scroll standing on a solid ground of colour. The shield is larger, and the slight scroll work in the spandrels has been replaced by solid ovals, bearing, respectively, representations of a caduceus, anchor and cable, stalk of corn, and square and compasses.

Santa Fe.—*Patentes, Contrib. Directa of Guías*. The type for 1903 shows a rather unclassical head of Liberty, to left, in a double-lined oval inscribed with the name of the province and the date. The titles of the three amalgamated series are below, and the value above, the control number being printed at the top. I have not yet seen the list of values and colours.

Surinam.—I believe that only the 15 cent has been chronicled in the current Colonial type, but I possess the 10 cent in bluish grey with value twice expressed in red, perf. 11½, and I have seen the 50 cent red-lilac.

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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.

Albania.—There has been a change in the over-printed Italian stamps, which now bear a surcharge of value only, the name "Albania" being omitted. Regarding this change Mr. Charles de Grave Sells writes us:—

"I send you one of the new stamps just issued for the Italian office at Janina in Albania, to take the place of those first issued. These, as you will remember, were issued in virtue of a royal decree and had the word 'Albania' printed across the face and the value in paras, and they were catalogued generally under the heading of Albania and were spoken of as Albanian. It would appear that His Imperial Majesty the Sultan did not approve of his territory being thus appropriated (even although it was only philatelically) and must have made known his disapproval, for the stamps were quietly withdrawn and others substituted with a surcharge of value only."

Antigua.—Illustrations are now given of the two types already fully described in the *Fortnightly*. All the values from



4d. to 2s. 6d. are in the "Arms" type, while the 5s. stamp shows the King's Head in centre.

Australian Commonwealth.—From Messrs. J. H. Smyth and Co., Sydney, the Victorian Stamp Market, and Messrs. Hamilton, Macrae, Limited, of Perth, W.A., we have received some most interesting press extracts on the subject of the new 9d. "Commonwealth" stamp issued for use in Queensland and New South Wales. The "Sydney Morning Herald" says the new stamp will be used principally for telegraphic purposes in those States, and that it is not certain whether this design will be adopted for a uniform Federal issue.

In the Commonwealth generally, the stamp seems to have been received with great disfavour. From the "West Australian" we gather that a meeting of the Council of the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects passed the following resolution on June 24th last:—

That this Council desires to place on record its deep regret that the first Commonwealth postage stamp should be so utterly weak and inartistic in design; and also to express the hope that it be withdrawn from issue, to prevent our Australian designers being held up to ridicule.

The "West Australian" itself pronounces the stamp "a clumsy and ugly production."

Since the above was in type we have received a specimen of this 9d. stamp in blue and brown from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. The inscription at foot is "Queensland."

We also have the same stamp from Mr. Robert Reid, jun., with lettering at foot, "New South Wales."

Bermuda.—News reaches the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" that the remainders of the 1d. Queen's Head issue have been burnt.

British Central Africa.—Advance illustrations are given of the forthcoming King's Head stamps of this Protectorate.

There is, evidently, to be a large size for the higher values of 2s. 6d. and upwards.



Ceylon.—We have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for three additions to the new set.

King's Head Series: 2c. brown, 3c. mauve, 16c. blue.

The 5 cents value is almost identical with the familiar Queen's Head stamp of the same denomination and colour, the only differences being curved instead of straight labels at the sides—giving the stamp a rather more symmetrical appearance—and a crown over the Sovereign's head.

French Congo.—Mr. Albert Harris sends us two specimens of the 1 centime, of the picture series (tiger crouching in jungle) one of which shows the central background in a sort of dirty lilac, while the other has this same background in a distinct grey. There seems to be not only incompleteness but confusion on the part of our cataloguers with regard to this stamp. The following are quotations from the three leading catalogues in the Anglo-Saxon tongue:

Gibbons: 1c. purple and grey,
Bright: 1c. claret and lilac.
Scott: 1c. brown-violet and grey-lilac.

In no case is more than one variety listed, yet it is clear from the above excerpts that the background is found in grey as well as in lilac. The thing is proved, too, beyond the possibility of doubt by the two specimens Mr. Harris sends us. We should say that a correct catalogue description of the 1 centime stamp would read

1 centime, claret and lilac,
1 centime, claret and grey.

Of the two, our correspondent believes the variety with grey background to be the scarcer stamp, though whether any question of scarcity will ever trouble us with regard to a stamp of this class is more than doubtful.

Ivory Coast.—We learn from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. that provisional parcel post stamps have been created for this section of the French Empire by surcharging the unpaid stamps as follows:—50c. on 15c.; 50c. on 60c.; 1 franc on 5c. and 1 franc on 10c.

Montserrat.—This is another of the "Presidencies" of the Leeward Islands, to which the ancient stamp-issuing privileges have been restored by an "Order in Council" dated Antigua, June 9th. The St. Kitts, Nevis, and Antigua series have already been chronicled and described, and there is yet one issue to come—that of Dominica.

The Montserrat stamps, now to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., show a classical picture representing a female figure, a cross and a harp—on all values except the 5s., which in accordance with the Government decree, bears the head of King Edward.

Picture series: 1d. green,
1d. carmine and grey-black,
2d. brown and black,
2½d. blue and grey-black,
3d. mauve and brown,
6d. olive and mauve,
1s. violet and green,
2s. chestnut and green,
2s. 6d. black and green.

With King's Head: 5s. carmine and grey-black.

Nyassa.—More surcharging straws for the backs of the long-suffering camels of Nyassa! Messrs. Whitfield King

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

Rate : 3 Words a Penny.

6 insertions for the price of 5.

12 insertions for the price of 9.

26 ins. (whole year) for price of 18.

"UNUSED" STAMP EXCHANGE. No subscription or fines. Commission 2½ per cent on members sales who purchase 5 - value.—Secretary, H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, London.

J. C. auf der HEIDE. P.O. Box 479, Amsterdam, wants to send you good approval sendings of stamps of Holland and Colonies. Prices cheap. Nicest stock in Holland. Perforation, shades, unused, etc. Please try me and you will be completely satisfied.

WEST AUSTRALIAN and other British Colonial Stamps. Fine selections on approval. Prices very moderate. Stamps bought. Stamps exchanged.—W. MORLEY, 69A, Preston Street, Brighton.

FISCALS.—Those wishing to sell, purchase, or exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London.

SUMMER BARGAINS. 5000 well-assorted stamps from 10 following countries only—Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Spain, Portugal, Sweden, Russia, Luxemburg, Greece, Wurtemberg—a very useful mixture, over 100 kinds, only 20/- Post free. Wholesale price list to dealers only.—PIERRE NIESEN, Stamp Dealer, Brussels, Belgium.

GREATEST Rarities, rare and medium British Colonials, unused or used, priced under half Gibbons. Send approval against serious references.—BERNARDINA GARCIA, Barriograciense, Barcelona, Spain.

ANY single Stamp at wholesale price. Selections, priced low, sent on approval. Discount and handsome present to purchasers.—LEY, 38, Gracechurch Street, London.

100 Different including 75c. Nyassa, 6c., 18c. Borneo, 1 Yen, Japan, Pictorial Tasmania, Labuan, Bulgaria, etc. Post free. 4jd.—R. HUDSON, 3, Eileen Road, Selhurst.

BATH & WEST OF ENGLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.—Members wanted to join this newly formed Society. Rules, &c., from Secretary, CHARLES J. PREATER, Moulmouth Place, Bath.

"BRITISH EMPIRE" EXCHANGE. Two packets monthly. References. Prompt settlements monthly. Reports in this Paper.—Secretary, H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

OTTERDALE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.—Gross sales during present financial year to date, exceed £220 per month. Bona-fide philatelists (not dealers) especially those with good duplicates, invited to join. First rate references essential. Nominal charges. Last report, rules, etc., on application to Secretary and Founder, G. HERBERT DANNATT (Member "Stamp Exchange Protection Society," "Lyndale," Blackheath, S.E.

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BARGAINS—Antigua 4d. unused, 6d. British East Africa, 1896, 3 rupees, used 3s. cat. 9s. British South Africa, 1890, all used, £1 blue, 18s.; £5 sage-green, 30s.; £10 brown, 40s. Canada, 17cts. used 1s. 3d. Chili, 1892-1910, 1 peso, used, 3d. Barbados, 1856-7, imperf. pair, unused, mint, blue, 12s., pair deep blue, 12s. Great Britain, 1s. green, 1 R. Official used 10d. Hong Kong 8, G. 107, 2c., lilac, 1s. 3d. used, cat. 5s. Leeward Isles, Jubilee, 2½ unused, 9d. Malta, all unused, 1s., 1s. 2d., 2s. 6d., 2s. 9d., 5s., 5s. 6d., 10s., 11s. Niger Coast, 1894, 2d. used, 1s. 2d. Oil River, 1s. unused, 3s. Tonga, 6d. 12½ perf. used, 1s. Tobago, ¼ purple-brown, used, 9d., 2½ on 4d. grey, used 1s., 1s. olive-yellow, unused, 1s. 6d. Trinidad, 1d., 1882, uncharged, 2d. U.S.A., 1898, 1 dol. black, unused, 4s. 3d.; 2 dols. Columbus, used, 1s. 6d.; 5 dols. current issue 20s., unused. Selections sent on approval against deposit or good references, at 60 to 80 under catalogue.—Box 170, c/o Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

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These countries have been compiled with as many shades, varieties, etc., as possible, and contain most of the rarities. They are now offered, the average prices for single stamps being under half catalogue.

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HEAD OF SULTAN, 1896, issue		s. d.
1 Rupee	...	1 6
2 Rupees	...	3 6
3 "	...	3 6
4 "	...	4 6
5 "	...	5 0
HEAD OF SULTAN, 1898, issue		s. d.
1 anna	...	0 2
2 anna	...	0 2
2 annas	...	0 2
2 1/2 "	...	0 2

HEAD OF SULTAN, 1896, issue		s. d.
3 annas	...	0 4
4 "	...	0 4
4 1/2 "	...	0 6
5 "	...	0 5
7 1/2 "	...	1 0
8 "	...	1 0

Selections sent on approval to responsible Collectors. Collections or loose lots of stamps purchased for cash.

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* THE LATEST NOVELTIES. *

Transvaal, King, 2, used	...	1 0
Natal, King, 3d, used	...	3d.
" " 5d. "	...	4d.
" " 6d. "	...	2d.
" " 1d. and 2d. used pair	...	2 1/2.
Canada, King, 8c. used	...	1d.
Queen, 10 and 20c. pair	...	6d.
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B.S.A., 2 1/2	...	2d.
Gambia, King, 1d.	...	1 1/2d.

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YOU CAN SEND

New Zealand, 1856. 1d. on blue, cat. 35/-	...	25 0
Niger Coast, 1893. 2d. green, used, superb	...	6 6
N. Nigeria. 2 6 Queen, mint	...	10 0
Oil Rivers. 1 - green, used, superb	...	4 6
P. E. Island. 2d. rose, perf. 9, mint	...	6 6
St. Helena, 1865. 6 blue, Imp., unused, superb	...	10 0
" " 1865. 4d. carmine, imp., mint	...	22 0
" " 3d. purple, perf. 14 x 12 1/2 used superb	...	20 0
St. Vincent, 1862. 6d. blue-green, very fine	...	2 6
" " 1871. 1 - violet-rose, very fine	...	22 6
" " 1877. 1 - vermilion, very fine	...	10 6
" " 1883. 1/2 green, CA. 12, mint	...	8 0
" " ditto, used, superb	...	5 0
" " 4d. Ultra. CA. 12, very fine	...	6 0

Cash with order. Selections on approval, on receipt of reference.

CUTHBERTSON & Co., 14, EXCHANGE ST. EAST, LIVERPOOL.

THE FIRST BRITISH POSTAGE STAMPS.

HOW THEY WERE RIDICULED BY THE PRESS OF THE PERIOD.

THE following extract from the "Morning Herald" of many years ago shows that Londoners tried to kill with ridicule the first postage stamps that were issued:—

Considerable diversion was created in the City to-day by the appearance of the new penny-post devices for envelopes, half-sheet letters, and bits of "sticking-plaster," about an inch square, for dabbing on to letters. The surface of the latter is filled up with a bust of her Majesty, or what is guessed to be intended for such, but which is much too vulgar of expression to be mistaken by any of the loyal subjects who have had the good fortune to see the graceful original herself. But for this unlucky perversion of the Royal features the penny-post "sticking-plaster" might appropriately have come into fashion and superseded the court sticking-plaster, so common for the concealment of trifling cutaneous cracks on the face of beauty. Thus women and men, too, might have carried sovereigns on their countenances as well as in their hearts and purses, and many a decayed beauty might have refreshed her faded charms with the renovating representation of Royal youth and loveliness. It is shrewdly suspected that this untoward disfiguration of the Royal person has been the studied work of ministerial malevolence and jealousy, desirous of rendering their Royal benefactress, if possible, as odious as themselves.

The envelopes and half-sheets have an engraved surface, extremely fantastic and not less grotesque. In the centre at the top sits Britannia, throwing out her arms as if in a tempest of fury at four-winged urchins, intended to represent post-boys, letter-carriers, or Mercuries, but who instead of making use of their wings and flying, appear in the act of striking out or swimming, which would have been natural enough if they had been furnished with fins instead of wings. On the right of Britannia there are a brace of elephants, all backed and ready to start, when some Hindoo Chinese, Arabic, or Turkish merchants, standing quietly by, have closed their bargains and correspondence. The elephants are symbolic of the lightness and rapidity with which Mr. Rowland Hill's penny post is to be carried on, and, perhaps, also, of the power requisite for transporting the £1,500 a year to his quarters, which is all he obtains for strutting about the Post Office with hands in his pockets and nothing to do, like a fish out of water. On the left of Britannia, who looks herself very much like a termagant there is an agglomeration of native Indians, Missionaries, Yankees, and casks of tobacco, with a sprinkling of foliage, and the rotten stem of a tree, not forgetting a little terrier dog inquisitively gliding between the legs of the mysterious conclave to see the row. Below, on the left, a couple of heads of the damsel tribe are curiously peering over a valentine just received (scene, Valentine's Day), whilst a little girl is pressing the elders for a sight of Cupid, and the heart transfixed with a score of arrows. On the right again stands a dutiful boy, reading to his anxious mamma an account of her husband's hapless shipwreck, who, with hands clasped, is blessing Rowland Hill for the cheap rate at which she gets the disastrous intelligence. At the bottom of all there is the word "Postage," done in small upon a large pattern of filagree work.

With very great propriety the name of the artist is conspicuously placed in one corner, so that the public and posterity may know who is the worthy Oliver of the genius of a Rowland on this triumphant occasion. As may well be imagined, it is no common man, for the mighty effort has taxed the powers of the Royal Academy itself if the engraved announcement of W. Mulready, R.A., in the corner, may be credited. Considering the infinite drollery of the whole, the curious assortment of figures and faces, the harmonious melange of elephants, mandarins' tails, Yankee beavers, naked Indians squatted with their hind-quarters in front; Cherokee chiefs, with feathered tufts, shaking missionaries by the hands; casks of Virginia threatening the heads of young ladies devouring their love letters, and the old woman in the corner, with hands uplifted, blessing Lord

Lichfield and his Rowland for the saving grace of 11d. out of the 1s., and valuing her absent husband's calamity or death as nothing in comparison with such an economy—altogether, it may be said, this is a wondrous combination of pictorial genius, after which Phiz and Cruikshank must hide their diminished heads, for they can hardly be deemed worthy now of the inferior grade of associates and aspirants for academical honours. Withal the citizens are rude enough to believe that these graphic embellishments will not go down at the price of 1s. 3d. the dozen for the envelopes, and half or quarter sheets, for the size is somewhat of the mongrel sort, and of 1s. 1d. per dozen for the bits of "sticking-plaster," with a head upon it which looks something like that of a girl, but nothing of a Queen. As a very tolerable profit may be made out of the odd pence thus charged over the stamp, the penny-postman calculates no doubt, to make up the deficit in the Post Office revenue by the sale of these gimcrack pictures for babes and sucklings.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

The ninety-sixth meeting of the Board of Governors was held on Monday, August 3. Present: Messrs. Aendreini, Dewing, Luff, Rich, Scott and Perrin. The meeting was called to order by the President at 8.10 p.m.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance in bank of \$186.07, exclusive of reserve fund, was approved as read.

The resignation of Mr. Jos. B. Leary was accepted with regrets.

Mr. Maurice Herbert was elected a subscribing member of the club. ALBERT PERRIN, Secretary, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

THE PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

The August packet of the above Society started on first circuit on the 6th, and carries a total value of £267 17s. 2½d. Some good stamps are to be met with in this packet. Rules are sent free on application. Vacancies occur for good buyers and collectors in want of really first-class Colonials. No fees or subscription.

Members are requested to send as early as possible sheets of good duplicates for insertion in the September packet which will start promptly. As this month will start the stamp season once again, we are anxious to circulate a good packet. Members are also asked to note that the official address is now open on week days (except Wednesdays) for the purpose of receiving sheets and exchanging, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. We shall be pleased to meet any members here with a view of better acquaintance. R. T. MORGAN, Sec., High Street, Selhurst, S.E.

BRITISH EMPIRE STAMP EXCHANGE.

June Packets have returned, the results are as follows:—

Colonial packet sales ...	£13 14s. 6d. nett
General ..	£13 1s. 2½d. gross

August packet was despatched on the 10th August with a very good selection for holiday season. Sec., H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

UNUSED STAMP EXCHANGE.

June packet has returned, results rather below the average; about 11½ per cent of stamps sent, viz.: £8 0s. 7d. sold out £64 5s. 2d. sent in.

August packet sent off on August 15th, with 16 sheets value £12 3s. 7d. gross. Secretary, H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

Our Review of Reviews.

Mons. Coyette, the Colonel and the Club.

"Le Franc-Parleur Philatelique" is the latest new journalistic venture in Paris. Its name may be freely translated into "the Philatelic Plain Speaker," and it is described as a "periodical organ" that is absolutely free and independent. Free and easy would perhaps be a better name for Mons. A. Coyette's new paper. "Le Franc-Parleur Philatelique" is obviously intended rather to amuse than to instruct, for No. 1 is devoted mainly to a six-page effusion on the subject of "Le Delanney's Club," in the course of which the Club and "the Colonel" (as its President is affectionately termed) are discussed with, to say the least of it, much vivacity. Then there is a page and a half devoted to "La Speculation de la Guadeloupe," and finally, at the end of the paper, about the third of a page devoted to new issue items, under the heading, "Nouveautes Philateliques." In common fairness, however, to Mons. Coyette's new paper, we ought to add, that this short chronicle of novelties is set in smaller type than the other contents of the journals, as if there were a consciousness somewhere in the office of "Le Franc-Parleur Philatelique" that such matter-of-fact information might be better omitted altogether.

We wish good luck and a long life to our newest contemporary. But it frequently happens that the continued existence of such a journal as "La Franc-Parleur Philatelique" depends upon how long it continues to amuse—its Editor!

A Philatelist's Aid to Memory.

With each of us it now and then happens that the question is vainly asked "Have I got that stamp?" The best memory "jibs" occasionally. Mr. Charles F. Tanner, of Birmingham, who has been interviewed recently for the "Stamp Collector," makes a practice of marking his catalogue in such a way that he can tell at a glance, not only whether he has any particular stamp, but also whether he has it used or unused. He places a plain tick against all varieties that he has in used condition, and a cross against all those of which he possesses an unused specimen.

The Postmarks of the 3 pfennig Saxony.

In the course of an article in "La Revue Philatelique Francaise," that voluminous writer on philatelic subjects Mons. Victor Flandrin, declares that all genuine specimens of the rare 3 pfennig of Saxony must be postmarked either Dresden or Leipzig, so that, inferentially, all specimens sharing any other cancellation must be spurious. Mons. Flandrin's reason for the statement is this: the 3 pf. stamp was used only for newspaper postage, and all the specimens used must have been cancelled at one or the other of the two cities named. The statement seems a startling one, and it does not surprise us to find it called in question by the Reviewers of the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" and an American contemporary.

Over Twenty Years a Philatelic Journalist.

We are getting to be a bit of an old hand at philatelic journalism ourselves, but as our first effort at running a stamp paper dates back no further than 1886 we must take a back seat as compared with Mr. Charles Haviland Mekeel, who issued the "Stamp Collectors' Bureau" in 1881. Since that date Mr. Mekeel, now Editor of "Mekeel's Stamp Collector," has been almost continuously associated with the literature of our hobby. His firm's most characteristic and interesting productions were "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News," and the "Daily Stamp Item," the latter an experiment in daily philatelic journalism, which lasted 285 days.

Encased Stamps of the American Civil War.

While seeking for knowledge in Philately's well exploited field (writes Mr. Clarence P. Dekay in the "Canada Stamp

Sheet") the writer has interviewed many notable veterans of our recent Civil strife, and in consequence thereof he possesses, in a very slight degree, the following knowledge relative to the peculiar and extremely rare encased postage stamps used in 1862.

The curious 1, 2, and 5 cent stamps are perfectly round and fit into a little circular tin shield, which, by arrangement with the postal authorities, were made at the time by manufacturers, who used them for advertising purposes. I have examined some with the advertisement of Bennett, a manufacturer of cooking flavours, appearing on the back. Protecting the face of the stamp from moisture or from being soiled or torn is a circular disc of mica that fits under the rim of the metal shield, holding the stamp firmly in place.

These stamps were issued for the soldiers of the Union army, and were accepted in payment for small purchases as readily as cash. Protected from the transparent mica disc, through which one could see the denomination of the stamp from one side and by a tin shield on the other, they could be carried by the soldiers in any pocket through rain and sun without injury to the stamp enclosed within. This curious stamp case was invented by Burnett. When anyone wanted to use the stamp he tore off the mica covering and took the stamp, throwing away the tin shield, which was of no value in itself. These stamps now have a great many admirers, and, because of their scarcity, few collectors have the fortuity to possess the very rare and interesting specimens.

A Famous Dealer-Collector-Journalist.

Mr. John N. Luff, as it appears from a biographical sketch, published in the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" is a New Yorker by birth, though he removed to California on coming of age. In 1893 he moved back from San Francisco to take up a post with Messrs. R. F. Albrecht, then in the stamp business in New York City.

Nowadays he is manager of the approval department of that mighty philatelic "Combine," the Soc. Stamp and Coin Co., but devotes most of his attention, the "Ph. J. G. B." tells us, to expert work and to the editing of the "American Journal of Philately."

As a collector, the stamps of the United States naturally take first place in his estimation, and this portion alone of his collection would catalogue to nearly £5,000, so there is not much to be desired, though he is still wanting some of the rare Postmasters' stamps, and has not mounted his Confederates as not being sufficiently satisfactory to him. The British Colonies are gone in for on the lines of limited specialism—a reasonable number of shades and not too many perforations, confining these in a general way to the work of the various machines, neglecting the very minute subdivisions. Though not possessing the Post Office Mauritius or circular British Guianas, he is happy in having obtained most of the stamps that catalogue at £10 to £20 each.

As an exhibitor he has often appeared, and his U.S. secured for him the gold medal in Paris, 1900, and in Chicago last winter. Two years ago he entered a series of competitive exhibitions of the Boston Philatelic Society, and carried off silver and bronze medals for various exhibits sufficient to entitle him to the gold medal at the end of the series which was given to the winner of the most points. He also holds other medals won in New York City, San Francisco, etc., receiving also Mr. C. J. Phillips' second prize for 100 fine Australians, as to which he modestly says:—"I don't deserve it, but others failed to compete."

"It is not often," remarks our contemporary, "that one's everyday work is so attractive as to be continued as a hobby or recreation of our spare time; but in this case, Mr. Luff's appetite as an all-round philatelist seems to increase with feeding."

Is it a case of "Ringing the changes."

"I am somewhat puzzled," writes 'Pelure,' in the 'Otago Witness,' "at the relation the stamps of Angra, Horta, and Funchal bear to the Azores. I do not remember just what explanation was given of these stamps when first issued, but

was under the impression they were to supplant those of the Azores. Such seems not to be the case, however. Azores stamps are still used, though not so often as those of Angra and Horta, and why there should be two or three sets of stamps under different names and from the same country is my puzzle. Angra, Horta, and Funchal are not islands, but the names of the principal towns on the several islands of the Azores, and I would like to know just when an Azores stamp or an Angra stamp should be used, according to propriety, in this Portuguese group."

An Action Lost (and Won) through Philately.

Mr. B. W. Warhurst contributes an interesting letter to the last number of the "London Philatelist" regarding a legal action the report of which will doubtless linger in the memory of constant *Fortnightly* readers. It was an action in which Mr. Marshall Hall, K.C. distinguished himself by a certain small knowledge of philately which sufficed to turn the scales of justice—in the wrong direction!

Never was there a better instance of the adage, "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing." Mr. Warhurst, in his letter to the London Philatelic Society's organ refers to an "Occasional Note" in the May issue of that journal.

"The legal case mentioned," he writes,— "is most probably one that occurred early in 1898, a brief summary of which in the 'S.C.F.' (or a local paper of Yorkshire) caused me to write to the man who had lost his case in the Courts.

"The legal case mentioned," he writes, "is most probably receipts put in as payments on account early in 1883 were stamped with postage stamps that had not been issued till June, 1883, as confirmed by a local 'Philatelist.' The stamps so used being the 16 dots issue, I saw there was a gross mistake or miscarriage of justice; the inference being that the receipts were forgeries, the defendant lost his case. I at once wrote to him (Henry Berry) and told him that the stamps in question appeared in December, 1881, and I could send post-marked and dated specimens from January to June, 1882.

"He (or a T. Priestly for him) wrote thanking me, and adding that his solicitor (on receipt of my letter) "had got the same information from the Stamp Society at London," by which I suppose he meant the Philatelic Society of London. The case, however, was to be reopened, and in July I sent the used stamps, and on August 8th received them back with the report that in consequence the 'case was settled out of Court,' renewing thanks, etc., for assistance."

Postmen-philatelists in the United States have organised themselves into a society, to be known as the National Philatelic Association of Letter-Carriers.

"The Jewish," writes Mr. Charles E. Jenney in "Mekeel's Stamp Collector," "is not the only nation without a country. Many a collector, striving to work up a profitable foreign exchange, has been surprised at the wide-spread dissemination of the Tartar."

One Way to Spoil Good Stamps.

An extraordinary screen has been made by an Aylesbury man, named Mr. F. Bunning. It is entirely covered with English postage stamps bearing the late Queen's head, and nearly 2,000 stamps have been used in the work, which has occupied about four years. There are several devices worked on the screen with stamps of different colours, including "1837"—"1901," a crown, the shamrock, rose and thistle, and a Union Jack.—"Amphill News."

Mint Unused Sets of British COLONIAL STAMPS,

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Set of	Face value s. d.	Our price s. d.	Set of	Face Value s. d.	Our price s. d.
Antigua, Arms, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 6d., 1, 2, 26	0 6 9	7 4	Gibraltar, King, 1, 1, 2, 2½, 6d., 1, 2, 1, 8	9 16 0	17 4
Aitutaki on N.Z., 1, 2½, 3, 6d., 1	6 2 1	2 4	Grenada, King, 1, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 6d., 1	8 2 3	2 6
Bahamas, King, 1, 2½, 4, 6d., 1	5 2 1½	2 4	Hong Kong, King, 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 12, 20, 30, 50c., 1, 2, 3, 5d.	14 22 10	21 8
Queen's Staircase, 1, 5d., 2, 3	1 5 6	6 0	Labuan, Crown, 2, 1, 8, 10, 12, 16, 18, 25, 50c.	9 2 9	3 0
B.C.A., King, 1, 2, 4, 6d., 1, 2, 6, 10	7 11 7	15 10	Montserrat, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 6d., 1, 2, 26	9 6 3½	7 4
Brit. Somaliland on India, 1/2 to 5rs, complete	13 17 11	22 9	Natal, King, 1, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 5, 6d., 1, 2, 26	12 7 7	8 4
1/2 to 1rs	10 4 7	6 1	N.Z. Fine stock of varieties of wmk. and perf.		
British New Guinea, 1, 1, 2, 2½, 4, 6d., 1	7 2 4	2 9	Niue, 1, 2, 3, 6d., 1 (Penrhyn Is. ditto)	6 2 1	2 4
Cayman Islands, King, 1, 1, 2, 6d., 1	5 1 10	2 0	Orange River Colony, King, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 1, 6d., 1/2	8 2 7	2 10
Canada, King, 1, 2, 3, 7, 10c.	5 1 0½	1 2	St. Helena, Pictorial, 1, 2, 8d., 1, 2	6 3 1½	4 4
Cook Islands, 1, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 5, 6, 10d., 1	9 3 1½	3 8	St. Kitts, Nevis, 1903, 1, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 6d., 1, 2, 26	9 6 9	7 4
Dominica, 1, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 6d., 1, 2, 26	9 6 9	7 4	Seychelles, King, 2, 3, 6, 12, 15, 18, 30, 17, 75c.	9 2 9	3 0
Fiji Island, King, 1, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 5, 6d., 1, 2, 5	9 8 0	8 10	Southern Nigeria, King, 1, 1, 2, 4, 6d., 1, 2, 6, 5, 10	9 19 7½	21 4
Gambia, King, 1, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6d., 1, 2	9 4 7	5 0			

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THE
Government Stamps Case.

DETECTIVE WARD'S STRATEGY.

On Tuesday, August 18th, the question of Mr. A. B. Creeke, jun. s, complaint against Det.-Sergt. Ward, of sending a forged telegram to Mr. Walter Richards, again engaged Sir Albert De Rutzen's attention at Bow Street. The formal charge against the officer was one of "forging and uttering, knowing the same to be forged, a telegram purporting to be sent by Anthony Buck Creeke, jun., solicitor, to one Walter John Richards."

In support of the summons appeared Mr. Given, who stated that the prosecution was under section 11 of the Post Office Protection Act, and it arose out of the charges which had already been before the Court in connection with the alleged theft of official stamps. The complainant Creeke was arrested, and afterwards it occurred to the prosecution that they wished to arrest a man named Richards. Apparently the officer in charge of the case thought it would be an astute thing to send a forged telegram to Richards purporting to come from Creeke.

On the 20th of June, therefore, he sent the following telegram, addressed to Richards at his house at Balham:—"Meet me at my office, 10.30. Important.—CREEKE." As it happened Richards had left his house before the telegram arrived, and he was arrested outside. On July 29th Sergeant Ward gave evidence, and in cross-examination he admitted that he had forged the telegram and sent it—it was what he called "a police trick."

PRODUCTION OF THE TELEGRAM.

Mr. F. F. Hollamby, of the Accountant-General's Department of the Post Office, produced the original telegram in question.

Mr. A. B. Creeke, the complainant, then gave evidence. He said he was a solicitor practising in Leadenhall Street. On June 21st he went to Walter Richards's house, and there saw the telegram which purported to have come from him. He had not sent it or given any authority for it to be sent. The witness was in court when Sergeant Ward admitted having sent the telegram.

Mr. Given.—Was he asked—?

Mr. Muir (appearing for Sergeant Ward and on behalf of the Commissioner of Police).—I object. The best evidence is the written record of what was said.

The clerk (Mr. Newton) stated that the depositions had been sent to the Old Bailey.

Sergeant Ward then formally admitted having sent the telegram.

Continuing the witness said he believed he was the only person of the name of Creeke in London.

Mr. Muir.—What harm has been done to you by the sending of that telegram?

The Witness.—No harm; a great deal of inconvenience.

What inconvenience did it cause you?—In consequence of a telegram I received from Richards I went to his house on Sunday evening, June 21.

Do you suggest any harm was done to anyone else?—no harm some inconvenience. In consequence of it Richards wrote and telegraphed to me.

Do you dispute the truth of Sergeant Ward's evidence?—Of certain portions of it.

Do you dispute the truth of his statement that he found in your possession three pieces of 10s. postage stamps?—Yes.

If his evidence is believed on that point have you any explanation to offer at all?

Mr. Given objected to this question, and Sir Albert ruled that it was inadmissible.

Mr. Muir.—Do you wish to discredit Sergeant Ward's evidence by bringing this prosecution?

The Witness.—I wish to discredit his evidence by this and other means.

And is that your object in taking these steps against him?—It is one of my objects.

Walter John Richards, of Bedford Hill, Balham, gave formal evidence as to the complainant being the only person named Creeke known to him.

This was the case for the prosecution, and Mr. Muir at once called

Sergeant Ward, who said he had been in the force 16 years, and had a clean sheet. On June 19, he received a warrant for the arrest of Richards, and he watched his house in Balham all the evening. He did not go in because he was not sure whether Richards was there and he did not want to arrest him in the house.

SERGEANT WARD'S "STRATEGY."

The witness had written the telegram in question, and had given it to someone to despatch on the following morning if Richards was not arrested before then. The object of it was to get Richards out of the house in order that he might be arrested. The witness believed he had a right to use any strategy to assist him in effecting the arrest of an alleged felon.

Mr. Given.—And this is what you call strategy?

The Witness.—Yes.

You thought it more desirable that Richards should be arrested in the open street than in his house?—Yes; from the point of view of both of us.

It never occurred to you to communicate with him from outside, and ask him where he would like to be arrested?—(Laughter.)—No.

Do you still think it was a proper thing to do to forge a man's name?—I don't admit it is forgery.

But you intended Richards to suppose the telegram came from Creeke?—That was the idea, of course.

Re-examined, the witness said he wished to arrest Richards out of doors in order to obtain certain keys and documents which he had in his possession.

A "TRUMPERY PROSECUTION."

Mr. Muir said a more trumpery prosecution and a prosecution from a more improper motive never was instituted in that or any other court of justice. A man desired to dispute the evidence of another man upon a vital point, and with a view to prejudicing the credit which would be given to that evidence he started a criminal prosecution in respect of a telegram which by his own showing had not harmed a single soul in the smallest possible degree.

In the circumstances, if the magistrate thought there was anything in the point that this was a technical offence, section 16 of the Summary Jurisdiction Act of 1879 exactly covered it. The object of that section was to prevent a person who had, or thought he had, discovered a technical breach of the law from abusing the process of the court.

He (Mr. Muir) did not think he need say anything to satisfy the magistrate that a more gross attempt not only to abuse the process of that court, but to prejudice the course of justice in another court was ever made. But apart from that section, there were substantial grounds for saying that the magistrate had no jurisdiction to convict in such a case, a bona fide claim of right being a sufficient answer to any criminal prosecution.

Such a claim need not be founded on what was the law so long as it was bona fide. Sergeant Ward had said that he believed he had a right to send the telegram, and if he really believed that, that was a bona-fide claim of right. Therefore council submitted there was no jurisdiction to convict at all.

Sir Albert de Rutzen said he would reserve his remarks until later, as he wished to look into one or two facts. Subsequently the magistrate said that as a matter of law he thought an offence had been committed, but it was of so trifling a nature that he did not think it expedient to inflict any punishment, and therefore the summons would be dismissed.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,

Literary,
Fine-Art and

Philatelic Auctioneers,

47, Leicester Square, LONDON, W.C., make the sale of

Rare Postage Stamps **A SPECIALITY.**

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, beg to announce that their FIRST SALE of Next Season will take place on **SEPT. 29th & 30th.**

And will consist of a Fine Private Collection of **COLONIALS** including

LABUAN, a fine lot of unused
BRITISH BECHUANALAND, 25 mint; Protectorate, 2., 2 6, and 5. mint.
BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA, 22 and £10 mint, &c.
CAPE, triangulars, 6d. mauve, 1/- dark-green and 1/- emerald, a superb block of 4 of each, mint
MAURITIUS, Post Paid, 1d., 3 fine early pairs, and 2d., 3 fine copies
SIERRA LEONE, wmk. CA., 4d. blue, mint, and some of the rare provisionals
NEVIS, Perf. 16, 1/- yellow-green, unused, &c. &c.
ST. CHRISTOPHER, 1d. on 2½d., the very rare small type, mint
ST. LUCIA, a fine lot including 1/- orange, CA., a mint pair

ST. VINCENT, a magnificent collection, including 1/- slate, compound perf., a block of 4 mint; 1/- rose-red and 1/- vermilion (both perfs.) mint; 4d. dark blue, star, and 4d. red-brown, a pair, mint; 5/- rose used and unused; One Penny on 6d. yellow-green, a pair, mint; 1d. on half of 6d. blue-green, a superb block of 4, mint; 4d. on 1/- vermilion, a superb etrin of 3, mint, and a single used; &c., &c.
BRITISH HONDURAS, a nice lot of used and unused, including mint pairs of 6d. rose, perf. 14; 6d. yellow and 1/- grey; 50 cents on 1/- grey; 2 cents on 6d. rose, perf. 13, &c., &c.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA & VICTORIA, fine collections, including many rare unused, &c. **CATALOGUES READY.**

OCTOBER 13th and 14th.—A FINE SELECTION of all COUNTRIES. *Catalogue in Preparation.*

OCTOBER 27th and 28th. THE FINE COLLECTION OF **COLONIALS** formed by the late Dr. LAWRENCE, of Jamaica, and containing such rarities as the Cape 1d. and 4d. errors; Canada, 12d. black; British Guiana, first issue, 4c. and 12c.; Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, with centre omitted, etc., etc. *Full details will be shortly announced. Catalogues in Preparation.*

List of SALES for Season 1903-1904:—

1903.—September 29 and 30; October 13 and 14, 27 and 28; November 10 and 11, 24 and 25; December 8 and 9.

1904.—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27
May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8.

Clients wishing to include Collections in any of the above Sales are requested to make early arrangements with regard to their disposal, as some of the earlier dates are already allotted.

For Terms and Full Particulars, address:

TELEPHONE No. 1661, GERRARD.

ESTABLISHED 1794.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,
47, Leicester Square, London, W.C.

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British Stamps.

UNUSED POSTAGE ADHESIVES, singly, pairs and blocks.

USED POSTAGE ADHESIVES—

2/6, 5/-, 10/-, £1 values of all kinds.

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RAILWAY LETTER FEE STAMPS, Used and Unused.

FISCAL POSTAL, 3d. lilac, Used and Unused.

„ „ large embossed, Unused or Used.

BRITISH STAMPS WITH FOREIGN POSTMARKS.

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ALL OFFICIAL STAMPS, QUEEN and KING HEADS,
Proofs, Essays, etc.

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POSTCARDS ”

(By W. J. SCOTT.)

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(ILLUSTRATED).

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Stamp Dealers and PHILATELIC PUBLISHERS,

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WE hold a very fine Stock of **USED** and **UNUSED STAMPS** (20,000 Varieties) arranged in nearly 200 large **APPROVAL BOOKS.**

The condition of the Stamps is exceptionally fine, and the Prices Reasonable. Selections of any Country will be gladly sent on approval to responsible applicants.

"Interchangeable Philatelic Albums."

We have much pleasure in announcing that we have received

A MEDAL WITH DIPLOMA

(This being the only Award given for Permanent Philatelic Albums alone) at the International Philatelic Exhibition, held in Mulhausen, Alsace, last Month.

We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.



THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 222.—Vol. IX

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

MESSRS. GLENDINING & Co.,

Fine Art, Numismatic & Philatelic Auctioneers,

THE ARGYLL GALLERY,

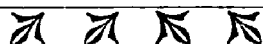
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Telegraphic Address: "NULLIFIED," LONDON.

Telephone No. 4424, GERRARD.

Our next Sale of POSTAGE STAMPS



Following Sales:

*Will be held on Thursday & Friday,
September 17th & 18th, 1903.*

OCTOBER, 1st and 2nd; 15th and 16th; 29th. and 30th.

NOVEMBER 12th and 13th; 26th and 27th.

DECEMBER 10th and 11th.

And every alternate THURSDAY and FRIDAY throughout the Season.

COLLECTORS who intend to DISPOSE OF COLLECTIONS are advised to make early arrangements to secure advantageous dates of Sale.

COINS,
MEDALS,

FINE ART PROPERTY,
JEWELLERY, ETC.

PAINTINGS,
ENGRAVINGS,

MINIATURES,
CHINA, ETC.

Promptly Catalogued
and offered for Sale.

Liberal Cash Advances.

Prompt Settlements.

PERIODICAL SALES BY AUCTION OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY

Messrs VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY).

At the TEMPLE HOTEL, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.
(Close to the Philatelic Society's Rooms and the Temple Station on the District Railway.)

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their Dates of Sales for the ensuing Season are as follows:—

1903.—SEPTEMBER 24th and 25th; OCTOBER 8th and 9th, 22nd and 23rd; NOVEMBER 4th and 5th, 19th and 20th; DECEMBER 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th.

1904.—JANUARY 7th and 8th, 21st and 22nd; FEBRUARY 4th and 5th, 18th and 19th; MARCH 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th; APRIL 7th and 8th, 21st and 22nd; MAY 5th and 6th, 19th and 20th; JUNE 16th and 17th.

SEPTEMBER 24th and 25th.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell on the above dates *A Fine General Collection.*

OCTOBER 8th and 9th.

By order of the Administratrix of the late E. C. H. STOLLE, Esq.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell on the above dates the COLLECTION formed by the late E. C. H. STOLLE, Esq.

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

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, 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.

CATALOGUES of all Sales may be obtained of

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Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.,

(Partners: H. W. PLUMRIDGE & J. H. TELFER).

STAMP AUCTIONEERS

AND COMMISSION AGENTS,

64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Hold AUCTION SALES every FORTNIGHT between SEPTEMBER and JULY.

Next Sales will be held . | .

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, September 22nd and 23rd.,

In the Arbitration Room, 64, CHANCERY LANE.

NEXT SEASON'S DATES—1903—Oct. 6 & 7; 20 & 21. Nov. 3 & 4; 17 & 18 Dec. 1 & 2; 15 & 16.

Clients wishing to include Lots should make arrangements without delay, if early dates are desired.
Commission 10 per cent. Minimum average charge 2/- per lot.

SETTLEMENTS usually in TEN DAYS. AT LATEST within 14 days after sale.

IMMEDIATE AND LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES.

Commissions executed for Clients unable to attend the sales WITHOUT charge and as much BELOW LIMITS as possible.

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THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange, The Northern Stamp Exchange Society, and The Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

No. 222.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1903

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

When Experts Disagree.

At the tail end of a Philatelic Society paper on the Portuguese stamps of the issue of 1866, Mr. J. N. Marsden says:—
 "Mr. Castle states that the reprints are rarer than the originals, but this is not my experience, and I would willingly exchange reprints of this issue for unused originals."
 One can picture Mr. Marsden as a philatelic Abdullah crying "New Stamps for Old," but we hardly think there will be many Aladdins about on this occasion. As mere onlookers, without any Portuguese duplicates to "trade," we dare swear that Mr. Castle, for one, will look twice at his unused originals of 1866 before he lets them go in exchange for reprints.

Sentence on a Stamp Dealer.

Mr. Loveland-Loveland, K.C., at the London County Sessions, on Wednesday, August 26th, disposed of the case against Herbert Lawrence Platt, aged twenty-two, described as a stamp dealer, and charged with having by means of false pretences obtained a number of stamp collections.
 It was alleged that accused, under the title of the "Colonial" or "Imperial Stamp Company," answered advertisements in newspapers from an address in Duke-street, Adelphi, a letter bureau, and by falsely representing that he was carrying on a genuine business induced people to forward

their collections on approval. In consequence of complaints accused was arrested, when he denied that he was a swindler. Platt pleaded guilty at the close of the case for the prosecution, and he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment in the second division.
 In connection with this case we have been requested to state that there has never been the slightest connection between Platt's bogus "Imperial Stamp Company" and the Imperial Stamp Exchange.

Not a Postal Cancellation.

Mr. A. H. Harris sounds a warning note to buyers of alleged postally used specimens of £1 English:
 "During the last few months I have noticed several £1 English stamps (Queen's Head) in London Dealers' shops, bearing a cancellation something like this, and sold as *postally used* copies. As I have met several collectors who do not know the meaning of the "T. A. B." cancellation, possibly some of your readers may not know that it stands for 'Telegraphs Accounts Branch, Edinburgh,' and is therefore not a postal obliteration at all."



No Penny Postage to Australia.

On the ground that Imperial Penny Postage is essentially based on the principle of reciprocity, Mr. Austen Chamberlain, Postmaster-General, informs the British Empire League "with great regret" that "he cannot at the present time take any further steps" towards the reduction of the letter rate to the Australian colonies.

A Stamp Show in Argentina.

Ere these lines are in the reader's hands a Philatelic Exhibition, planned and promoted by the members of the Argentine Philatelic Society, will have been opened and concluded at Buenos Aires, the closing date being announced as September 8th. Besides adhesive stamps (a section presided over by Dr. Jose Marco del Pont), there were to be divisions of the Exhibition devoted to Fiscals, Post-cards,

Philatelic Literature, etc., etc. There are very many keen and enthusiastic collectors in Argentina—including not a few of our own countrymen—and we are hoping to hear that the Exhibition has proved an unqualified success.

Philatelists as Revenue Producers.

A Colonial Report, just issued, on the financial affairs of the Turks and Caicos Islands shows a falling off of over 43 per cent. in the revenue from the postal service during the past year.

"From such a heavy decline," remarks the "Financial Times," "it might be assumed that letter writing has gone out of fashion in the colony, or that a boycott has been established against the Post Office; but this is not the explanation. It is simply that stamp collectors no longer purchased stamps, as the old issue had been completely sold out, and the present series of stamps have been in use for some two years."

Another Job Lot of Leewards.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies have another little lot of Leeward Islands stamps for sale. On a previous occasion the stamps of Antigua, Dominica, etc., etc., were offered for sale by the Colonial authorities on account of the decision to federate the various islands of the Leeward group for postal purposes. Now the stamps of the federal issue are offered for sale for a precisely opposite reason, viz:—because it has been decided to revert to the old order of things by the issue of separate sets for each of the Leeward "Presidencies." The remainders now offered include adhesives, post-cards, wrappers, and envelopes. We give a list only of the numbers of the adhesive stamps included in the parcel which the Downing Street authorities have been attempting to sell:—

Id.	Green and mauve.	Postage and Revenue Stamps...	111,073
1d.	Carmine	" " " "	13,267
2½d.	Blue	" " " "	7,523
4d.	Orange	" " " "	55,165
6d.	Brown	" " " "	21,850
7d.	Grey	" " " "	27,927
1s.	Carmine and green	" " " "	28,163
5s.	Blue	" " " "	13,171

All watermarked Crown and C A.

We say "have been" attempting to sell, because the closing date for the reception of tenders was August 10th, and as "no tender at less than face value would be entertained" we do not suppose the members of the stamp trade have been falling over one another in a mad rush to obtain these stamps. The Crown Agents for the Colonies, of course, do not understand the inner workings of the stamp trade and are not aware that the conditions to-day are far less favourable to a sale of Leeward Islands remainders than at the time when Mr. T. H. Thompson carried through his enterprising and highly-successful deal in the stamps rendered obsolete by the federal issue of 1891.

A Mysterious Watermark.

The Rev. C. H. Lowe informs us that he purchased, recently, an envelope bearing six 2 cent stamps of British Guiana, and one 12 cents, all postmarked 1874. "On examining the 12 cents," he writes, "I found it had a very distinct watermark of a capital 'M' of a large size. Stanley Gibbons do not mention any watermark in connection with these stamps that I can see. This may possibly be of some interest. There is certainly not the slightest doubt that it is a very distinct watermark on the paper." Perhaps some *Fortnightly* reader can elucidate the mystery. A misplaced marginal watermark might account for a letter 'N' but the 'M' baffles us altogether.

A Libel on Christopher Columbus.

Since the inimitable R. G. Knowles sung of the more or less frivolous discoveries of Christopher Columbus on land and sea, there has been no greater libel on the Genoese navigator than that contained in a facetious letter from a Bristol reader, who suggests that the telescope Columbus is holding to his eye (a hundred years before its invention), on the much-

discussed St. Kitts stamp, is not a telescope at all, but a somewhat lengthy bottle into the depths of which the Discoverer is anxiously peering. "My theory," writes our correspondent, "is, that as we are not assured that C. Columbus was a total abstainer, we may fairly conclude that he was more or less in the habit of 'splicing the main brace.' That being so, I think the stamp probably represents Captain Columbus in the act of 'wetting the other eye'!" Terrible!

A Query Answered.

Replying to "An Amateur," Mr. C. Egbert Ashby writes: "I do not know the book referred to, ('How to Arrange a Stamp Collection') but I should think "Stamp Collecting for Beginners," 7d., post free, published by Messrs. Hobbies, Ltd., 12, Paternoster Square, London, would answer his purpose equally well."

Official Stamps in Ceylon.

Writing on the subject of illicit dealings in Government Stamps, a Colombo correspondent says:—

"In this Colony the evil is wholesale and organised. The Government, though applied to, will not sell the stamps; yet in some of the shops of the natives dealing in stamps, you can purchase blocks of 20 or so unused Service labels, based more or less on Stanley Gibbons' prices. It puzzles me why the Government cannot, or will not sell "Service" stamps; and also it puzzles me why respectable stamp dealers price and deal in stamps which they know must be stolen."

In connection with the last sentence of this letter, it should be stated, in common fairness to Messrs Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., that that firm have now publicly stated that they have withdrawn from sale all kinds of unused English Official Stamps.

An Exchange Club Innovation.

Mr. R. T. Morgan, in the conduct of his very successful Palace Philatelic Exchange Society, is evidently not going to be tied down to the traditional red tape of such an enterprise—if we may use such a term without in any way wishing to give offence. This new rule has just been added to the regulations governing Mr. Morgan's Club:—

7a.—For the convenience of Members residing near Croydon, the Committee have granted the Secretary permission to allow any member calling at the Official address to inspect any Sheets that may be in hand for Packets about to go out, and to purchase from them, such purchases to be made between the hours of 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., *Wednesdays and Sundays excepted.*

This seems to upset all established notions as to the postal list, and the precious privilege of "first seeing the packet." We trust Mr. Morgan has taken proper precautions to protect his residence against sudden raids and rushes on the part of excited philatelists. In our mind's eye we can see the local postmen being dogged on their rounds by the keen Croydon stampites, eager to secure first "go" at each Palace Exchange sheet the moment it arrives!

REVISED RATES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY."

PAGES OF TWO COLUMNS.

	For 1 insertion.	6 insertions.	12 insertions.	26 insertions.
Whole Page ...	£1 0 0	£3 10 0	£3 0 0	£2 10 0
Half Page ...	2 2 0	1 15 0	1 12 6	1 10 0
Quarter Page ...	1 2 6	1 1 0	0 17 6	0 15 0
One-Eighth Page ...	0 12 6	0 11 0	0 10 0	0 8 0

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SPECIAL INCH SPACES (matter unalterable).

12 insertions ...	£1 0 0 for net cash in advance
26 " ...	1 17 6 " "
	Insets, £1 per thousand.

White List of Philatelists.

FIRST LIST OF APPLICANTS.

The following gentlemen have offered themselves for enrolment on the "White List of Philatelists," and will be so enrolled unless there be some just cause or impediment advanced by readers of the *Fortnightly*, or others:—

1	A. E. Moore	...	Nottingham.
2	C. J. Preater	...	Bath.
3	W. Houtzamer	...	London and The Hague.
4	J. H. Lane	...	Eastbourne.
5	W. A. Bois	...	London
6	R. Kerr	...	Edinburgh.
7	J. L. Horner	...	Manchester.
8	H. J. Bignold	...	Hockenden.
9	J. Durven	...	Utrecht.
10	J. H. Reynolds	...	Bristol.
11	J. Johnston	...	Aberdeen.
12	F. Hine	...	Liverpool.
13	H. M. Campbell	...	Hastings.
14	J. G. J. Stevens	...	Redruth.
15	W. T. Mark	...	Cardiff.

All information that it may be in the position of any reader to tender as regards these applicants should be addressed personally to Mr. J. S. G. Telfer, Secretary, The White List of Philatelists, 63 and 64 Chancery Lane, London, W.C. Such letters, for greater security, should be marked "Private and Confidential."

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

The Register of WHITE LIST OF PHILATELISTS will be open to all *Fortnightly* Readers and Advertisers, and all Secretaries of Exchange Clubs and Philatelic Societies.

Entry on the Register will be made on two first-class references being given, preferably to bankers or well-known business houses. The applicant's name (or initials) and the town in which he resides will be published in one number of the *S.C.F.*, previous to inclusion in the register, and all *Philatelists* having any knowledge of the person in question are invited to communicate with the Secretary.

Fees will be chargeable on application, and will be 1/6 per annum—this sum to defray all expenses of printing, postages, letters, etc.

Information as to any person on the Register will be given to readers and advertisers of the *S.C.F.*, and all club Secretaries, on receipt of a stamped envelope for reply. The Register will be kept in the strictest privacy, and no information will be given except to those who apply by letter.

The Management will exercise the greatest possible care in examining references, and the publication of the name and initials of an applicant, together with the town in which he resides, will materially assist (we believe) in eliminating undesirable applicants. Information regarding each applicant, on the part of other readers, acquainted with him, is specially invited. The cost of postage will be defrayed, if desired, and all communications will be treated with the strictest privacy and confidence.

Suggestions as to points not adequately covered in the above conditions are still cordially invited. Please address the Secretary, the White List of Philatelists, 63, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

A SECRET "BLACK BOOK" ALSO.

The conductors of the "White List of Philatelists" will compile for our own guidance and reference a Big Black Book, in which will be entered up the names, addresses, and principal exploits of the *chevaliers d'industrie* who prey upon philatelists both at home and abroad.

For this "Black Book" contributions are invited from all persons and at all seasons, not only complaints as to persons who may be applying for enrolment in the "White List," but as to all persons connected with stamps whose dealings are open to suspicion.

It will be necessary, however, to be very stringent in our

precautions against error or malicious injury, and for this reason we must insist upon:—

(1.) The full name and address of every person sending us information, the same not to be published but merely as an evidence of good faith. On no account will the slightest credence be attached to anonymous communications.

(2.) Substantial evidence in support of the allegations brought forward. We cannot accept the unsupported word of any one person as against any other person in a matter which might possibly lead to grave injustice being done.

In return for the help we receive in this way—help given not to ourselves personally, but to Philately as a hobby—we shall strain every nerve to make this compilation of the "bad men of Philately" a blessing to the upright section of the community, a terror and a scourge to the "wrong 'uns."

Communications for the "Big Black Book" should be made *personally* (each envelope being marked "Private and Confidential") to:—

Mr. J. S. G. TELFER, Secretary, The White List of Philatelists, 63/64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

The Young Stamp Collector.

PHILATELY FOR THE BEGINNER AT TWO SHILLINGS PER WEEK.

We are frequently asked to give advice as to the best class of stamps to collect, writes the Editor of the "Metropolitan Philatelist" of New York. Such a question is equivalent to asking a physician "What is the best medicine to take?"

If you are a genuine amateur you collect because you can't help it and probably commenced to exercise your special talent before you were five years old and will continue to be interested in this line as long as the breath lasts in your body. If you are a natural collector you will take hold of some subject that is convenient to you. If employed in a mountainous country it will probably be minerals, if in the woodlands it may be flowers, butterflies or birds' eggs. If in a large city it will certainly be coins or stamps. While the rural amateur can acquire a gratifying collection at little or no expense of cash, the urban enthusiast will have to rely chiefly on his purse to fill his album or cabinet. If he is of a commercial disposition it can be greatly augmented by exchange or barter. We believe that stamp or coin collecting should be a pleasure and should not be made burdensome to its devotees.

HOW MUCH CAN YOU SPEND PER WEEK?

Make up your mind beforehand how much you can afford to spend and religiously set aside the stipulated weekly amount to be used for that purpose and no other. We know of a beautiful collection that has been built up during the last twenty years by a weekly contribution of two shillings. You all remember the fable of the "Tortoise and the Hare." Two shillings per week will achieve much better results than an occasional five-pound note, and moreover, will never be missed.

Select some group of countries that are fairly within your means and then complete them. Never *buy* a single stamp outside of the original group until it is complete and then start a new group. If it is desired to make the collection an investment as well as an amusement we should recommend that the amateur confine himself to the stamps of his own country. If his means will allow, fill the album with entirely unused specimens; it will be expensive but very profitable. If it is beyond your means to *complete* an unused set, then take fine used specimens.

A WORD FOR THE FISCAL.

The genuine collector can derive much pleasure from picking up sets of fiscal stamps; thousands can be bought for a few pence each; and when this branch of philately becomes systematised it will doubtless be found that many very rare stamps have been obtained at a nominal figure.

Never spend enough to embarrass you or to make you look on your collection as a burden. "Little and often" is the motto if you desire to derive the greatest pleasure from your accumulations.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 12, 1903.

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.

One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six months (12 numbers)	...	1	6

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.



Governments as Stamp Dealers.

Should governments compete, in the stamp dealing business, against bona-fide dealers who make (or attempt to make) a living at the business, and who pay their due proportion of taxes towards the upkeep of the government? That, in effect, is the very fair and reasonable question asked by the "Australian Journal of Philately" apropos of a circular letter issued by the Deputy P.M.G. of Western Australia, offering obliterated sets of Postage Due stamps, at a given price per set, to all who care to purchase them.

"It is our intention, at a later period," adds the "Australian Journal of Philately," "to go fully into the subject of the right of the postal department to sell obliterated postage-due stamps to the public, thereby entering into competition with stamp dealers who pay their proportion of revenue and taxes for the support of the Government."

We trust that our contemporary will not fail to do so. The matter is one that should be pressed vigorously upon the notice of the proper authorities. It was a subject of general hope that the federation of the Australian Colonies would have sounded the death-knell of all this trafficking in used postage stamps by government departments. The Post-office of any country, we take it, is authorised to sell unused stamps and unused only. To begin to deal in obliterated specimens is to invade the domain of a legitimate and organised trade, dating back almost to the invention of the adhesive stamp—a trade now recognised and represented in all the civilised nations of the earth. And the post-offices of Western Australia, and the other Colonies, have no more right to enter the philatelic business than to sell bread or milk or groceries.

The Maximum Value.

What is a reasonable "highest value" for the set of postage stamps issued by a civilised country or colony? The question is one that has lately attracted much attention in philatelic journalism and among stamp collectors generally, because of the intolerable lengths to which the practice of issuing unnecessary high values has been carried. A writer on the subject in the "Australian Philatelist," remarks that up to 1860 all the issues of the British Empire could have been collected in the unused state without too great a drain on the collector's pocket. Since that date a very different state of things has obtained, and the high-value evil grows instead of abates. "The general public," says this same writer, "seldom, if ever, require a higher value than the shilling, but even if they do, the five shillings should answer all purposes." Mr. B. W. Warhurst in a recent article, points out that the Cape of Good Hope has always got along with a five shilling stamp as the maximum value, though hundreds of valuable packages of diamonds pass yearly through the post, one packet sometimes using 40 to 80 of such stamps!

Unnecessary in an absurd degree are the £10 (and still higher) values, issued by comparatively insignificant countries and colonies, especially when one reflects that Great Britain—still the world's leader in the value, if not the bulk of its mail matter—is content with a maximum value of £1 (it being understood that the £5 stamp is now definitely abandoned). The matter is one that cries loudly for redress, and the many thousands of philatelists interested in unused stamp collecting should strive by every means in their power to bring the matter home to those in authority.

In every crown colony, such as the Leewards, Barbados, Lagos, etc., etc., the maximum value should be 5s; in every self-governing colony, however influential and important, the outside limit should be a £1 stamp. The governments concerned owe it to themselves to see that some such rule is made and adhered to, if only to silence the suspicion that the postal system—already a profit-earning institution—is used as a means of filching periodical subscriptions from philatelists. Stamp collectors, as a class, have helped forward, in many ways, the success and the safety of the world's postal service, and their views on such a subject are entitled, surely, to the greatest consideration.

The New Auction Season.

Within a few weeks, as will be gathered from the advertisements of the leading auctioneers in this issue of the *Fortnightly*, the auction season of 1903-04 will be in full swing. Messrs Glendining and Co., make a beginning next week, and Messrs Ventom, Bull, and Cooper, Messrs Plumridge and Co., and Messrs Martin, Ray and Co., announce sales at early dates. A notable fixture is Messrs Puttick and Simpson's first sale of the new season, on September 29th and 30th, the catalogue of which now lies before us. Some superb Colonials are to be dispersed at this sale, and collectors of St. Vincent, British Honduras, South Australia, Victoria, Mauritius, and the West Indian and South African Colonies, should be specially interested. Another fine collection—that formed by the late Dr. Lawrence, of Jamaica—is to be dispersed by the same firm of auctioneers a month later, namely, on October 27th and 28th. If we may judge from the catalogues of these two sales, the auction season of 1903-04 will be no less rich in philatelic interest than preceding years.

White List of Philatelists.

In this issue of the *Fortnightly* the "White List of Philatelists" is formally inaugurated, and a first list of fifteen applicants for enrolment is printed. By the way, various readers complain that the publication of names and addresses of intending "White Listers" will not be an unmixed blessing, as the applicants for membership will be "inundated with books and sheets of stamps from dealers and others." "Goodness knows!" exclaims one reader, "its bad enough already!" Now these are fears that our readers may dismiss from their minds altogether, as it is not our intention to publish the full name and address in any instance. Only the name of applicant and town or city of residence will be published. This matter being cleared up satisfactorily, we trust there will be a big accession of applicants for the "White List" by the time the next *Fortnightly* appears.

The Press and Philately.

How do these things get into the papers? The following is headed "Insatiable Philatelists" in the "Birmingham Post" for September 1st:—

"The new twopenny French stamp for Jibutil has just been placed on sale in the colony at the handsome price of 4s. 2d. It was at first readily bought up by residents at that price, but a bitter outcry arose against the artistic defects of the stamp. It represents a camel mounted by two Somali spearmen, and it is alleged that the beast is twice as ugly as nature made him, while the spears are said to resemble tiny shovels. That has killed the sale. The new home French stamp of the Sower design gives little satisfaction, but the 2d. Jibutil gives less."

Happily Jibutil, to be able to place its 2d. stamps at the handsome price of 4s. 2d. Had we not seen it in the "Birmingham Post" we could scarcely give credence to such a statement.

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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 East Africa & Uganda. On the eve of going to press we have been shown a new King's Head stamp inscribed "East Africa and Uganda Protectorates." Value 2 annas; colour mauve.

British Somaliland—The "Philatelic Journal of India" brings us some interesting facts regarding the "too previous" issue of stamps for British Somaliland. It seems that the provisional stamps now in use were printed in Calcutta in September, 1901. It was then proposed that the postal system for the Protectorate should be started in July, 1902, but the expedition against the Mullah delayed the matter until June of this year. The numbers printed of the different denominations were as follows:—

Ordinary Stamps:	1/4, 200 sheets	5/4, 100 Sheets
	1/8, 200 "	1/2, 100 "
	2/4, 200 "	1r, 100 "
	2 1/2, 200 "	2r, 60 "
	3/4, 200 "	3r, 40 "
	4/4, 200 "	5r, 50 "
	6/4, 100 "	
On H. M. S.:	1/4, 30 sheets	5/4, 10 Sheets
	1/8, 30 "	1r, 10 "
	2/4, 30 "	

In addition to the above there were 722 sets printed for the Universal Postal Union.



Canada. We now illustrate the type of the King's Head Canadians.

Danish West Indies—Our thanks are due to Mr. Bertel Fuglsang, of Copenhagen, for most interesting information regarding some coming stampic changes.

The approaching 40th Anniversary of King Christian's accession to the Danish throne, our correspondent informs us, will be made the occasion of a new issue of stamps for the Danish West Indies. The following quantities are ordered:

600 sheets	1 cent
(400)	2 cents
500 "	4 "
300 "	5 "
500 "	8 "
60 "	12 "
60 "	20 "

The design is still unknown, but probably it will take the form of the King's portrait as now figuring on the Icelandic stamps. "The same design," adds Mr. Fuglsang, "is promised for a new series of Danish stamps due on the same occasion."

Now, according to our ever faithful Whitaker, King Christian IX. of Denmark ascended the throne on the 15th of November, 1863, so that if these 40th anniversary stamps are punctual we shall have to make room for them in our albums at a very early date.

In view of the above information it is somewhat extraordinary that two entirely new stamps of the value of 2c. and 8c. should be now issued in the Danish West Indies. Copies of these new stamps are just to hand from Messrs Whitfield, King, and Co:—

2 cents carmine
8 " brown

These values have been supplied, since last year, by sur-

charges on existing stamps, and it seems strange that this arrangement could not have sufficed the Danish West Indies a little longer, in view of the imminence of a King's Head issue, including 2c. and 8c. stamps.

Gwalior—The 1 anna carmine *Queen's Head*, surcharged "Gwalior" in ordinary and in native characters, is to hand from Messrs Whitfield, King, and Co.

Hong Kong—Further additions must be made to our list of King's Heads.

- King's Head* 2c. green
4c. purple on red
5c. light brown and green
10c. blue and purple on blue
20c. brown and grey-black
33c. blue and black
8c. green and lilac
10c. brown and black on blue

Specimens have been received from Messrs Whitfield, King, and Co.

St. Lucia.—The shilling value of the King Edward set is sent us by Messrs Whitfield and Co.

King's Head: 1s. green and black.

Salvador—The "Philatelic Record" is officially informed by a member of the Government of Salvador that the stamps of the obsolete series are to be sold in one lot. They amount in quantity to something approaching 750,000, and are of the face value of about 60,000 dollars. "We are in a position to give more precise information to intending buyers," adds our contemporary, "but it is not a purchase to be recommended."

Seychelles—An interesting note on the subject of surcharging vagaries comes from Mr. Bertram Poole, of Stamford.

"In your issue of the *Fortnightly* for August 29th, writes Mr. Poole, "you list a variety of Seychelles—the 3 cents and 4c., of 1893, with raised 's.' It may be of interest to note that letters above or below the level of the others in the word 'cents' are by no means uncommon in all the values of this provisional issue of 1893. In fact on a pane of 60 3c. on 4c. I examined a little while ago, the varieties of lifted type far outnumbered the normal ones. The same would appear to be the case of the other values judging from large blocks I have seen at various times. I have noticed the following:—'c'; 'ce'; 'ce' and 's'; 'c' and 's'; and 's' raised above the level of the other letters and of these the raised 's' is by far the most common. In addition to these varieties I have a "90 cents" on 96c. of the same issue with a wide space between 't' and 's' in 'cents'."

Western Australia In this number we illustrate the design of the new 2s. stamp. It is worthy of note that the Colony's name is now set shortly "West Australia."

The Government Stamp Prosecution.

TRIAL AT THE OLD BAILEY.

The trial of the five persons accused of stealing and receiving Government Stamps—A. B. Creeke Junior, Waterhouse, and the Richards, father and sons—began at the Central Criminal Court yesterday, the 11th.

Mr. C. F. Gill K.C. and Mr. R. D. Muir appeared to prosecute for the Inland Revenue authorities; the accused were represented by Lincoln Reed and others.

Sir Forest Fulton K.C., the Recorder, in charging the Grand Jury, remarked that the case would be a lengthy one, and that it was highly desirable in the interests of all parties, that the circumstances should be fully investigated, as the defendants were public servants from whom the strictest uprightness of conduct was expected.

A full and special report of the closing scenes of this notable prosecution will be a conspicuous feature of the next number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

Manchester Philatelic Auctions.

MR. D. OSTARA of 24, Corporation Street, Manchester, begs to inform his numerous clients that his well-known Auction Sales will be held periodically during the forthcoming session.

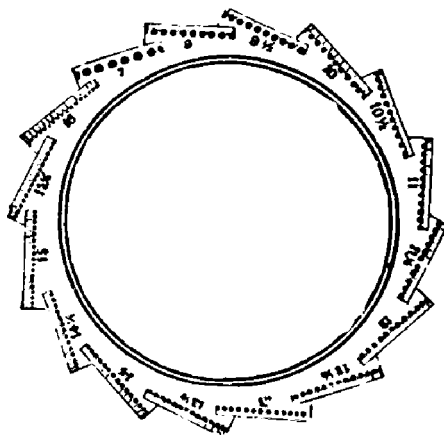
Collectors desirous of disposing of good Collections, and Rare Single stamps should communicate early with Mr. Ostara.

Stamps must be received one month before Sale, or will be included in next.

LOTS WILL BE ON VIEW in Manchester, Liverpool and Birmingham. **PROMPT SETTLEMENTS** within ten days of Sale guaranteed. For terms, etc., apply to above address Catalogues of Sale sent post free on application.

James Bennett, Stoke Bishop, Near Bristol.

Inventor of the Star Perforation Gauge, the only single set of Gauges that can be inserted under the side, as well as the bottom of a stamp while hinged.



6d. each—3 for 1s.; wholesale price on application.

An immense stock of rare and medium stamps to be cleared out at extremely low prices. Dealers and Members of Clubs will find this an exceptional chance, as really large buyers will be liberally treated.

Satisfactory references required. **JAMES BENNETT, STOKE BISHOP, Near BRISTOL.**

W. D. ARNOLD, (MEMBER P.C.S. OF AMERICA) Having opened an Office in England, desires **Collectors of Postal Cards**

to send in their LIST OF WANTS. **Large Assortments, Many Rarities, - - Reasonable Prices.**

Mexican a Speciality. **26, LISTRIA PARK, Stoke Newington, N.**

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

Rate : 3 Words a Penny.

6 insertions for the price of 5.
12 insertions for the price of 9.
26 ins. (whole year) for price of 18.

"UNUSED" STAMP EXCHANGE. No subscription or fines. Commission 2½ per cent on members sales who purchase 5 - value.—Secretary, H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, London.

WEST AUSTRALIAN and other British Colonial Stamps. Fine selections on approval. Prices very moderate. Stamps bought. Stamps exchanged.—Wm. MORLEY, 69A, Preston Street, Brighton.

FISCALS.—Those wishing to sell, purchase, or exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Harleian Mansions, West Kensington, London.

GREATEST Rarities, rare and medium British Colonials, unused or used, priced under half Gibbons. Send approval against serious references.—BERNARDINA GARCIA, Barriogratiense, Barcelona, Spain.

ANY single Stamp at wholesale price. Selections, priced low, sent on approval. Discount and handsome present to purchasers.—LEY, 38, Gracechurch Street, London.

100 Different including 75c. Nyassa, 6c., 18c. Borno, 1 Yen, Japan, Pictorial Tasmania, Labuan, Bulgaria, etc. Post free 4d.—R. HUDSON, 3, Eileen Road, Selhurst.

BATH & WEST OF ENGLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.—Members wanted to join this newly-formed Society. Rules, &c., from Secretary, CHARLES J. PREATER, Mounmouth Place, Bath.

"BRITISH EMPIRE" EXCHANGE. Two packets monthly. References. Prompt settlements monthly. Reports in this Paper.—Secretary, H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

OTTERTDALE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.—Gross sales during present financial year to date, exceed £220 per month. Bona-fide philatelists (not dealers) especially those with good duplicates, invited to join. First rate references essential. Nominal charges. Last report, rules, etc., on application to Secretary and Founder, G. HERBERT DASSATT (Member "Stamp Exchange Protection Society," "Lyndale," Blackheath, S.E.).

"STAMPS" EXCHANGE SOCIETY. Established 1886.—Packets, 1802, £0 39s. sales, £258. Colonial General and European sections. Foreign and Colonial collectors invited.—Rules from Secretary, THOS. B. WIDROWSON, (Member S.E.P.S.), Lincoln Street, Leicester.

JAPANESE.—100 sets of 10 varieties for 2 6; 1000 assorted, 8 varieties, 1 6. Cash with order.—THE IMPERIAL STAMP EXCHANGE, LTD., 56, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

BRITISH STAMPS FOR SALE. Specialist's duplicates. Choice selections sent on approval to responsible collectors, moderate prices. Box, 183, c/o Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

MEMBERS wanted to contribute to the monthly packets of a well-known London Stamp Exchange, good sheets wanted, also a few buyers. Rules of Secretary, E. BRAN, 8, Harbut Road, New Wandsworth, London.

VACANCIES occur for one or two new members in the English Stamp Exchange Society, formed in 1894. Rules and full particulars from the Secretary, V. GREGORY, 2, Burlington Gardens, Chiswick, W.

PIEDMONT EXCHANGE CLUB; few members wanted; good stamps.—103, Piedmont Road, Plumstead.

TO CLEAR quickly, singles and small lots British and Colonial, very cheap; state requirements and give references. Approval.—REV. VOKES, Ryde.

ADVERTISER offers a large number of British Colonial Stamps, each country in separate books. Specimens priced singly below half Gibbons. Nearly all the old and rarest issues complete, many mint. Also small approval books of mixed Colonials at one-third to two-thirds Gibbons. Finest copies only. Any book on approval in Great Britain or abroad. References.—Box 131, c/o, Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

BARGAINS—Antigua 4d. unused, 6d. British East Africa, 1896, 3 rupees, used 3s. cat. 9s. British South Africa, 1890, all used, £1 blue, 18s.; £5 sage-green, 30s.; £10 brown, 40s. Canada, 17cts. used 1s. 3d. Chili, 1892-1910, 1 peso, used, 3d. Barbados, 1856-7, imperf. pair, unused, mint, blue, 12s. pair deep blue, 12s. Great Britain, 1s. green, 1 R. Official used 10d. Hong Kong S. G. 107, 2c. lilac, 1s. 3d. used, cat. 5s. Leeward Isles, Jubilee, 2½ unused, 9d. Malta, all unused, 1s., 1s. 2d., 2s. 6d., 2s. 9d., 5s., 5s. 6d., 10s., 11s. Niger Coast, 1894, 2d. used, 1s. 2d. Oil River, 1s. unused, 3s. Tonga, 6d. 12½ perf. used, 1s. Tobago, ½ purple-brown, used, 9d., 2½ on 4d. grey, used 1s., 1s. olive-yellow, unused, 1s. 6d. Trinidad, 1d., 1882, surcharged, 2d. U.S.A., 1898, 1 dol. black, unused, 4s. 3d.; 2 dols. Columbus, used, 1s. 6d.; 5 dols. current issue 20s., unused. Selections sent on approval against deposit or good references, at 60 to 80 under catalogue.—Box 170, c/o Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

CAESAREA STAMP EXCHANGE; six vacancies, annual subscription 1 -, no commission. For rules apply to Secretary, RALPH MOLLET, 16, Royal Crescent, Jersey.

500 U.S.A., 1903, 3c., 4c., 5c., 10c., well mixed 6 -, post free anywhere FRANKLIN COOMBS, St. Joseph, Michigan, U.S. of A.

POST-MARK SOCIETY; new season commenced in September. Subscription 2 -. New members invited. Secretary, THOMAS WHITWORTH, Waterloo, Liverpool.

WANTED, penny reds, mint; plates 76, 79, 81, 86, 91, 94, 97, 98, 99, 100, 103, 104, 107, 108, 115, 133, 135, 138, 139, 141, 151, 153, 161, 163, 169, 180, for Cash, KNOWLES TIVERSLEY, Wednesbury.

WANTED to Buy Stamps, Fiscals, Revenues, Railway Letter Fee, Telegraphic &c., of all Countries, in Lots or Collections. I also want old English, including all Officials, etc., 1d. Blacks to any number. Send on Approval. References given. CHARLES J. PREATER, Dealer in English, Colonial, and Foreign Stamps, Mounmouth Place, Bath.

50 Assorted stamps including Nicaragua, Salvador, French Colonial, New Zealand, Price 3d. RAWCLIFFE, 12 Westminster Road, Lisard, Cheshire.

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ORANGE RIVER COLONY, 1868, 6d., 2 - per dozen, 1 - 2 6 per dozen, 3d. V.R.I., 2 6 per dozen.—C. L. PICKARD, 15, Grange Terrace, Leeds.

20 AUSTRALIANS TO APPLICANTS for approvals enclosing 1d. Cheapest lists, wholesale, retail.—BRIAN, Stafford, Godalming.

GOLD COAST, 1898. All superb picked copies 10 - at 4 6 each, 6 for 25 6; 5/- at 3 - each, 6 for 16 6, no waste copies.—S. B. GLAZEBROOK, Newark.

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MIXTURES Argentine (1900), 9d. 100; Bulgaria, 1901, 1 - 100; British Colonies, 4d. 100; Western Australia, 1d. 100; Sheet 40 different Japanese, 6d.; 3 6 doz. sheets; Packet 60 different British Colonies, 8d.; 4 - doz. pkts.; 100 different 2 -; 15 6 doz. pkts.; Continentals 10,000 1 10; Catalogues free. MORROW & Co., Highdown Rd., Brighton.

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As is well-known, this FINE COLLECTION contains nearly all the greater Rarities, many Colonies being quite complete.

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	s.	d.		s.	d.
½d.	0	2	1d.	0	6
1d.	0	0½	2d.	0	6
2½d.	1	9	6d.	0	10
1 -	1	0	9d.	1	6
			1 -	3	6
O. W. OFFICIAL.			BOARD OF EDUCATION.		
½d.	2	0	½d.	1	0
1d.	1	0	1d.	0	9
2d.	3	4	2½d.	6	0
2½d.	7	6			
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½d.	0	1	½d.	7	0
1d.	0	0½	1d.	3	6
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Complete Sets of Plate Numbers. Good Condition. Mounted

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Mr. W. F. GREGORY, of New York,

will arrive in London.

Besides wholesale lots for dealers Mr. Gregory will have good stamps for collectors.

Mr. GREGORY will also have advance sheets of a catalogue of the collection of

Mr. Wm. Alexander Smith, Jr.,

deceased,

which is to be sold at auction in New York during

October and November.

This collection is expected to realize £10,000.

MR. GREGORY will accept bids to be executed at this sale.

Appointments may be arranged by mail by addressing

c/o Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly or

London G P.O. Poste Restante.

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Ceylon St. Vincent
Hong Kong Straits
India Tasmania
Natal Trinidad
Newfoundland Victoria 2 vols.
AND OTHERS.

These countries have been compiled with as many shades, varieties, etc., as possible, and contain most of the rarities. They are now offered, the average prices for single stamps in perfect condition, being under half catalogue.
Approval to responsible collectors.
Box 134, c/o Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

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1 Rupee	s. d. 1 6	3 annas	s. d. 0 4
2 Rupees	3 6	4 "	0 4
3 "	3 6	4 1/2 "	0 6
4 "	4 6	5 "	0 8
5 "	5 0	7 1/2 "	1 0
		8 "	1 0
HEAD OF SULTAN, 1898, issue		Selections sent on approval to responsible Collectors. Collections or loose lots of stamps purchased for cash.	
1/2 anna	s. d. 0 2		
1 anna	0 2		
2 annas	0 2		
2 1/2 "	0 2		

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1/- CA., do.	2 6
1/- CA., mint	2 3
5d. no wmk.	0 7

Cash with Order. Postage extra.
Fine series of old issues to send on approval. References required.

Our Review of Reviews.

The Mystery of the Perf. 11 Machine.

"A.G.K.," who contributes "A Little Chat on Perforations," to the "Australian Journal of Philately," has measured many hundreds of his duplicate Victorian stamps, with interesting results.

"The only values," he writes, "to which I gave attention were the ½d., 2d., 3d., and 4d., and the result of my investigation was, that where many of the stamps measured 12 all round, there were quite as many, if not more, that measured 12 horizontally, and 12½ vertically. Then of the perf. 11, I have in my possession many of the ½d., and 1d., values, and just lately have come across the 6d. I have been shown copies of the 3d. unused, but though I have tried many post-offices and spent no end of time, trouble and money, I have not been rewarded with anything like success."

"We are thus left to conclude," remarks "A.G.K.," "that there are three perforating machines in use in Melbourne." Of these he opines that the perf. 11 machine is quite a new addition, as it is only recently that one has heard anything of this perforation.

"A person in the Department, who is in a position to know, told me," he adds, "that out of all the sheets of 1d. stamps that came through, he only noticed one that was perf. 11; but as this information was given me a month ago or more, there is a possibility that other sheets of the 1d. perf. 11 have made their appearance, as we have since seen the 3d. and now have the 6d.

"One is naturally inclined to ask, why are these 11 perforations coming out? If the Department has a new machine, one would think that a quantity of these perforations would come out at once; but it is not so. First we get the 1d. (one sheet), then the ½d. makes its appearance, after that comes the 3d., and now the 6d. If you pounce on the new supply, thinking to get them perf. 11, you will find they are the same old perforation; if you go to the out-of-the-way Post-Offices, where you know they have some older stock on hand, you still meet with the same luck. You look at dated copies of those you have and find they are mostly postmarked Melbourne, and dated any time from October, 1902 up to the present. Why, therefore, are a few copies only of each of these stamps being put on sale, while before and after their issue floods of the old perforation are being sold? This new machine has the power of making things fairly lively for those collectors who get excited over perforations, for not only has it the power to affect stamps in Victoria, but it can cast its spell over Tasmania and West Australia.

Finally, "A.G.K." remarks that Victoria only needs the addition of a few different kinds of paper to be in a position to rival New Zealand!

THE WESTRALIAN P.M.G.'S. PHILATELIC BRANCH.

Stamp dealers and collectors "down under," we gather from an editorial par in the same journal, are being canvassed by the Deputy Postmaster-General of Western Australia with offers of obliterated postage-due stamps at 2s. 9d. the set, postage and registration extra. The "A.J. of P." is rightly indignant, and views the matter from the standpoint of unfair competition on the part of government officials.

The Post Office and Philatelic Property.

Philatelists from time to time entrust much valuable property to the care of the Post Office, and sometimes the trust is misplaced. We reprint from a newspaper of Perth, W.A., the account of a disagreeable adventure occurring to Messrs Hamilton, Macrae, Limited, the well-known stamp dealers of that City:—

A striking illustration of the loose manner in which the Perth Post-office transacts business for its customers is to be obtained from a perusal of a number of documents which are in the possession of Messrs Hamilton, Macrae, Limited, a well-known firm of stamp-dealers of this city, and the injustice which this firm has suffered will tend to make others chary about trusting too much to the boasted efficiency of the department. In June of last year Messrs Hamilton, Macrae, Ltd., forwarded by post a package containing about £10

worth of stamps to M. Jaques Wortman, in Paris, France. To ensure the safe delivery of the stamps, the firm sent the package by registered post, but, as subsequent events proved, their confidence in the post-office was misplaced, for the package never reached its destination. The stamp-dealers immediately asked the Deputy-Postmaster-General to inquire, and, if possible, ascertain what had become of the valuable parcel. After considerable time had elapsed, this official informed them that the stamps had been received in Paris, and delivered to M. Wortman. Inquiries were then set on foot by Messrs Hamilton, Macrae, Ltd., through the British Consul in Paris, and it was then ascertained that the registered letter had not been delivered to M. Wortman personally, as required by the postal regulations, but had been handed to M. Demaison, the concierge of the building in which M. Wortman occupies offices. One of the regulations of the registered post is that no letter or package, registered, is to be handed to anyone but the addressee or his authorised agent, but the Paris postal authorities explained their apparent remissness in this respect by saying that the package was marked in Perth "Samples of no value." This, however, the Perth officials denied, and though the authorities in their certificate of posting accept the liability, in the event of loss, the D.P.M.G. repudiates any responsibility in this instance, and Messrs Hamilton, Macrae, Ltd., have to suffer the loss of £9 19s. 9d. This is not perhaps a very severe loss, but it has caused a dislocation of business which might amount to a much larger sum. It appears as if the mistake had been made by the French postal authorities, but they are the agents of the Commonwealth, and they should repair the damage.

The So-Called "Zahlmarken" of Germany.

In the last *Fortnightly*, under "New Issues and Varieties," we gave the effect of certain information in the "Philatelic Record" regarding the new Official German Stamps, viz.:— that the number "21" found on the first-received stamps of the series was only one of many numbers.

"It appears," says the "Philatelic Record," "that the various States and some institutions have the right of franking their correspondence by means of these stamps, and the number simply indicates which State, etc., has used them. No. 21, being the number of Prussia, are of course the most common, hence all papers giving this number and illustration. The various numbers denote the following:—

- | | | |
|-----|-----|--|
| No. | 1. | The Duchy of Saxe-Meiningen. |
| " | 2. | The Administration of the large military Orphanage at Potsdam. |
| " | 3. | The Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. |
| " | 4. | The Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. |
| " | 5. | The Grand Duchy of Hesse. |
| " | 6. | The Principality of Lippe-Detmold. |
| " | 7. | The Principality of Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt. |
| " | 8. | The Principality of Schaumburg-Lippe. |
| " | 9. | The Duchy of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. |
| " | 10. | The Principality of Waldeck and Pyrmont. |
| " | 11. | The Principality of Reuss, younger line. |
| " | 12. | The Duchy of Anhalt-Dessau. |
| " | 13. | The General Administration of the Thuringian Association of Customs and Taxes at Erfurt. |
| " | 14. | The Principality of Reuss, elder line. |
| " | 15. | The Grand Duchy of Saxe-Weimar. |
| " | 16. | The Grand Duchy of Bade. |
| " | 17. | The Thuringian Provincial Court at Jena. |
| " | 18. | The Solicitor-General's office at this Court (No. 17). |
| " | 19. | The Offices of the Governor of Alsace-Lorraine. |
| " | 20. | The Committee of the Grand Ducal and Ducal Saxon University at Jena. |
| " | 21. | The Kingdom of Prussia. |
| " | 22. | The Principality of Schwarzburg-Vondershausen. |
| " | 23. | The Grand Duchy of Oldenburg. |
| " | 24. | The State of Bremen. |
| " | 25. | The Duchy of Saxe-Altenburg. |
| " | 26. | The Duchy of Brunswick. |

That Ninepenny Federal Blotch.

We now give a fuller extract from one of the Australian newspapers, concerning the new 9d. Federal Australian Stamp. This is from the "Melbourne Age," of June 24th,

and gives a detailed description of the most inartistic stamp referred to.

It is a ninepenny stamp, for circulation in New South Wales and Queensland only, as far as is at present determined. The design is the work of 'an Australian outside Victoria'—those are the vague words beneath which the postal officials timorously hide the light, such as it is of the artist—but it is only fair to say that it was originally made for 'quite another purpose.' Its central feature consists of a draped female, representing Australia, holding in her right hand a distaff, while the left hand rests on a shield blazoned with the Southern Cross on the Union Jack. Australia sits beneath a massive arch which bears the word 'Commonwealth' on its span, and the names of the six States, with the date of their foundation, on the stones of the two supporting pillars, thus:—

Queensland, 1859.	Victoria, 1851.
W. Australia, 1826.	S. Australia, 1836.
Tasmania, 1803.	N.S. Wales, 1788.

The foundation stone of the left hand pillar has depicted on it a pair of scales, representing Justice, while that of the right hand pillar portrays a hive, representing industry. At the foot of the matronly looking Australia is a circle within which the denomination of the stamp is announced by a bold "9d.," and below this a space is provided for the name of the State within which the stamp may circulate. Smaller circles are cut out of the top corners of the stamp for additional indications of the postal value. Two colours are used in printing the stamp. The name of the State and the figures in the small circles are printed in blue. The large "9d." appears in white on a blue ground, and the rest of the design is given a bright brown colour. The work has been executed at the office of the Victorian Government Printer, who has made the best of a rather inartistic design.

On the Stamps of Livonia.

From the "Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal," of Leipzig, the "Philatelic Record" translates an interesting article on the issues of the Russian province of Livonia.

"The district of Wenden, or "Wendenschen Kreis," is one of the largest of the nine districts of the Russian province of Livonia, and is about as large as the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg. Its shape is long and narrow. Proportionally few Russia post offices existed, and the great length of the district from north to south not only made the service difficult but also caused delays in delivery, wherefore it became absolutely necessary to make better postal arrangements. The tract postal service, to be quite separate from the Government postal service. This scheme was submitted to the Diet of Livonia, who decided to lay it before the Government for confirmation, which was accordingly done and obtained. In the district of Wenden special district post offices were instituted, whose duty consisted in the forwarding of all postal matter within the district, with the result that the few Government post offices were quite neglected, except for correspondence addressed to places outside the district, which had to be forwarded, as before, to the Government offices in the principal towns as heretofore. All letters handed over to the Government postal service had to be franked with Russian stamps in addition to those of the district of Wenden; letters posted and intended for addresses within the district, only bore Wenden stamps. These were always obliterated with pen and ink; the Russian stamps, however, with dies, which are sometimes also seen on those of the district when they happen to adjoin the Russian stamps on the envelope. The early stamps had no inscription of value, but all, with the exception of the green oblong stamp, were of the value of 2 kopecs. Lately, a few more Governmental post offices have been opened, yet the district postal service is in full working order still, and enjoying practically a monopoly of the custom."

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	set of	Face value s. d.	Our price s. d.		Set of	Face Value s. d.	Our price s. d.
Antigua, Arms, 1, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 6d., 1, 2 - 2 6	9	6 9	7 4	Gibraltar, King, 1, 1, 2, 2½, 6d., 1 - 2, 4 - 8 -	9	16 0	17 4
Altutaki on N.Z., ½, 1, 2½, 3, 6d., 1 -	6	2 1	2 4	Grenada, King, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 6d., 1 -	8	2 3	2 6
Bahamas, King, 1, 2½, 4, 6d., 1 -	5	2 1½	2 4	Hong Kong, King, 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 12, 20, 30, 50c., 1, 2, 3, 5d.	11	22 10	23 9
Queen's Staircase, 1, 5d., 2½, 3 -	4	5 6	6 0	Labuan, Crown, 2, 4, 8, 10, 12, 16, 18, 25, 50c.	9	2 9	3 0
B.C.A., King, 1, 2, 4, 6d., 1 - 2 6, 10 -	7	11 7	15 10	Montserrat, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 6d., 1 - 2 - 2 6	9	6 9½	7 4
Brit. Somaliland on India, ¼ to 5s, complete ¼ to 1s	13	17 11	22 9	Natal, King, ½, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 5, 6d., 1 - 2 - 2 6	12	7 7	8 4
British New Guinea, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 4, 6d., 1 -	10	4 7	6 1	N.Z. Fine stock of varieties of wmk. and perf.	-	-	-
Cayman Islands, King, ½, 1, 2½, 6d., 1 -	7	2 4	2 9	Niue, ½, 1, 2½, 3, 6d., 1 - (Penrhyn Is. ditto)	6	2 1	2 4
Canada, King, 1, 2, 5, 7, 10c.	5	1 10	2 0	Orange River Colony, King, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6d., 1 -	8	2 7	2 10
Cook Islands, ½, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 5, 6, 10d., 1 -	9	3 4½	3 8	St. Helena, Pictorial, ½, 1, 2, 6d., 1 - 2 -	6	3 11½	4 4
Dominica, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 6d., 1 - 2 - 2 6	9	6 9	7 4	St. Kitts, Nevis, 1903, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 6d., 1 - 2 - 2 6	9	6 9	7 4
Fiji Island, King, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 5, 6d., 1 - 5 -	9	8 0	8 10	Seychelles, King, 2, 3, 6, 12, 15, 18, 30, 45, 75c.	9	2 9	3 0
Gambia, King, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 1, 6d., 1 - 2 -	9	4 7	5 0	Southern Nigeria, King, 1, 1, 2, 4, 6d., 1 - 2 6, 5 - 10 -	9	19 7½	21 1

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The Personal Element.

MAINLY ABOUT PHILATELIC PEOPLE.

With the traditional valour of a belted earl, his lordship of Crawford and Balcarres has set at defiance the Customs Authorities of the Australian Commonwealth, not by running an illicit cargo of stamps and such like, but by declining to pay duty on taxable food consumed by self and crew. List, ye landmen, to the story as told by a merry contributor to the "Australian Journal of Philately."

Lord Crawford, Vice-President of the Philatelic Society, London, has metaphorically wiped the dust of Australia from his feet and shown a clean pair of heels to the Customs authorities of the Commonwealth. And the reason for this flight? Well, it is a curious story, and its relation will cause many an English philatelist to thank his lucky stars (or star watermarks) that he can collect Australian stamps at a distance from the Commonwealth Minister for Customs and his works.

Lord Crawford owns the *Valhalla*, a magnificent steam yacht in which he is touring the world, and in the course of his travels he touched at the northern-most point of Australia—Thursday Island—staying there some two or three days. As might have been anticipated, during that period both owner and crew yielding to the cravings of a perfectly natural appetite, stimulated by the pure Australian air, partook of certain meals, to wit, breakfast and dinner with occasional smacks in between, and something to wash them down with, all being taken from the ship's stores.

This, in the eyes of Mr. Kingston and his Revenue officers, was an offence, inasmuch as no Customs duty had been paid on the eatables devoured and the potables absorbed. A demand was made for the payment of "Fifty bob"—which estimate was probably arrived at by measuring the cargo capacity of the captain and the crew, and multiplying the result by three days. Lord Crawford, having found no authority for this proceeding in any of his philatelic handbooks

of Australia, declined to pay up, and telegraphed to Mr. Kingston for guidance. That Minister being apparently too busy to reply, a further one was sent, and failing any answer to this and yet a third telegram, Lord Crawford

Put his helm hard a-lee,
And promptly steered for the open sea.

Should he come back, it is dreadful to contemplate the fate in store for this intrepid sailor. Captains have ere this languished in Darlinghurst for breaking seals on their own ship's stores; but what adequate punishment can be devised for such a flagrant act? Perhaps Mr. Kingston will condemn the Lord of Crawford and Balcarres to purchase one of Drake's new ninepenny stamps. This, however, would be mere vindictiveness.

We note with pleasure that Mr. E. P. Reynolds, jun., an American philatelist to whom we are indebted for many courtesies in connection with our "New Issues" column, has successfully pulled through a severe illness, and is now well on the road to recovery.

After three years of regular and much appreciated contributions to our bright American contemporary, the "Weekly Philatelic Era," Mr. William D. Eldredge, of Boston, is compelled to abandon his work of writing "Notes from the Hub," owing to the pressure of other duties. His successor, Mr. Henry A. Kidder, is a journalist on the staff of a world-famous newspaper, the "Boston Herald," and is already well-known to philatelists as the compiler of the "Era's" New Issues—a Chronicle that ranks second to none among the philatelic journals of America.

Half-ounce letters can be sent from Canada to Australia for one penny, while we in the old country still have to pay 2½d. There is no reciprocity about the business, however, for Australian letters to the Dominion still pay the full 2½d., and except for a 2d. fee to New Zealand the full international rate is still exacted for all over-sea letters.

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All in the finest possible condition.

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PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB, N.S.W.

The annual general meeting was held at the Equitable Buildings, George-street, Sydney, on July 15th. There were thirteen members present, Mr. A. H. Pettifer, Vice-president, being in the chair.

Good progress was reported for the past year. Twelve new members were elected, three resigned, and the names of nine others, who had failed to pay their subscriptions, were eliminated, leaving 70 members on the roll. Eleven monthly meetings were held, which were well attended.

The hope was expressed that the idea of establishing an Australian Philatelic Society may be realised during the early portion of the new year.

The welcome tendered to Mr. Basset Hull upon that gentleman's return from his travels abroad was recorded, and the less pleasant duty of saying *au revoir* to Mr. R. Maney Lake, President, who left early in April last on an extended visit to Europe, was also mentioned in the report.

The Treasurer's statement, showing a balance of £26 9s. 6d. to the credit of the club, was then read, after which the Exchange Superintendent's report was received. Twelve books had been circulated containing stamps to the value of £566, of which ten books had completed the round, stamps having been removed to the value of £107 nett. All the reports were unanimously adopted.

The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place, the following being elected unopposed: President, Mr. A. F. Basset Hull; Vice-president, Mr. A. H. Pettifer; Treasurer, Mr. J. J. Witney; Librarian, Mr. C. A. Gilles; Exchange Superintendent, Mr. F. Hagen; Honorary Secretary, Mr. J. H. Smyth; Committee, Messrs Himmelhoch, Waddington, Van Weenen, W. A. Hull, and F. J. Ridley.

A discussion then took place regarding the 9d. value of the New South Wales variety of the new Federal stamps, the issue of which had begun that day (specimens being shown by Mr. Smyth). Opinions were expressed to the effect that New South Wales was not receiving proper treatment from the Postal Department, and that the members ought to take some action in regard to the matter immediately. The following resolutions were carried unanimously:—

"That the members view with regret the action of the Postmaster-General in issuing the first Federal stamps without previously calling for public competitive designs. They also regret that he has favoured one State to the disadvantage of the others by having stamps intended for use in New South Wales and Queensland printed in Victoria on paper watermarked V and Crown. They desire to express the opinion that the Postmaster-General's excuse for putting New South Wales last on the list of Federated States on the new stamp is not satisfactory, and they consider that the omission of the word "Australia" is a serious mistake. They further desire to say that the design adopted has not even the merit of being original, is quite unworthy of the occasion, inartistic, and crude. That these resolutions be communicated to the Postmaster-General and the Press."

ONE AND ALL STAMP EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

The April packet of the above Society have just returned from circuit and there was sold during its journey 398 stamps to the value of £12 15s. 1d., out of a value of £72 3s. 1d.

The August packet was dispatched on its journey on the 18th August and contained 44 sheets value £216 15s. 4d.—amongst them some very good stamps.

There being a few vacancies for good contributing and buying members—

Rules free from J. G. Stevens, Secretary, Stanley House, Redruth.

CALEDONIA STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

June packet now returned from circuit. Gross value, £169 4s. 8d.; sales, £13 3s. 9d. Sheets have all been duly returned to members, and all cash balances paid. Stamps never go so well during the summer months, but now that the winter is coming on, better packets and larger sales may be expected.

Two members have joined the Club since last report: Messrs Hein and Pilgrim, bringing the membership up to

62, but other good, reliable members will be made welcome.

Rules and any other information from John Johnston, Secretary, Moss-side, New Deer, Aberdeenshire.

NEW ENGLAND PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

This well-known organisation of the philatelists of the "New England" States held their seventh annual convention at Bass Point, Nahant, on August 1st. A suspension of the rules was voted in order to accept, as an associate member, the Rev. R. von Proch, of Berlin, Canada.

For the coming year, Mr. John J. Cone, jun., was elected President; Mr. Gardner R. Kennedy, Vice-president; and Mr. Frank A. Wilson, of Somerville, Mass., Secretary and Treasurer; and it was resolved to hold the Convention of 1904 at Boston.

Afterwards it was unanimously voted that a committee of two be appointed by the new President to prepare a programme of exhibitions for the ensuing year and to have charge of same. In accordance with this vote the President appointed Messrs Gardner R. Kennedy, and H. W. Legg, as an Exhibition Committee.

ENTERPRISE STAMP CLUB.

At the eighth General Meeting, held at Finsbury Sq., E.C., on Aug. 26th, the following new Members were elected:—F. Brook, Clapton; H. Rice, New York; F. W. Lake, Norwood; H. G. Ross, Exeter.

It was unanimously decided to make the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* the Official Organ of the Club, and all notices will, in future, appear therein.

Several minor alterations were made in the Rules, to come into force on October 1st. There are several vacancies for medium collectors with good references.

Hon. Sec:—A. H. Harris, The Library, Buckhurst Hill, Essex.

THE FISCAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Thursday, October 1st, at 65, Bishopsgate Street, Within, E.C., at 6.30 p.m. It is hoped that all the members will endeavour to attend.—A. B. Kay, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington.

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BRITISH BECHUANALAND, £5 mint; Protectorate, 2-, 2 6, and 5.- mint
BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA, £2 and £10 mint, &c
CAPE, triangulars, 6d. mauve, 1/- dark-green and 1/- emerald, a superb block of 4 of each, mint
MAURITIUS, Post Paid, 1d., 3 fine early pairs, and 2d., 3 fine copies
SIERRA LEONE, wmk. CA., 4d. blue, mint, and some of the rare provisionals
NEVIS, Perf. 15, 1- yellow-green, unused, &c. &c.
ST. CHRISTOPHER, 1d. on 2 1/2d., the very rare small type, mint
ST. LUCIA, a fine lot including 1- orange, CA., a mint pair

ST. VINCENT, a magnificent collection, including 1/- slate, compound perf., a block of 4 mint; 1/- rose-red and 1/- vermilion (both perfs.) mint; 4d. dark blue, star, and 4d. red-brown, a pair, mint; 5/- rose used and unused; One Penny on 6d. yellow-green, a pair, mint; 1d. on half of 6d. blue-green, a superb block of 4, mint; 4d. on 1/- vermilion, a superb trio of 3, mint, and a single used; &c., &c.
BRITISH HONDURAS, a nice lot of used and unused, including mint pairs of 6d. rose, perf. 14; 6d. yellow and 1- grey; 50 cents on 1- grey; 2 cents on 6d. rose perf. 12 1/2, &c., &c.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA & VICTORIA, five collections, including many rare unused, &c.

Catalogue Ready.

OCTOBER 13th and 14th,

A FINE SELECTION OF ALL COUNTRIES. *Catalogue in Preparation.*

OCTOBER 27th and 28th.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON have received instructions to sell on these dates the fine **COLLECTION OF COLONIALS.**

Formed by the late Dr. LAWRENCE, of Jamaica. Amongst other Rarities may be mentioned:

GREAT BRITAIN. 1d., black, V.R.; 2d., blue, without lines, a pair, unused; 3d., with secret dots, etc. etc.
GIBRALTAR. Practically complete and including the rare error 10c. without value.
CEYLON. Imperf., 8d., 9d., 19 (2), and 2-. Perf., wmk. Star, 8d. (3. one yellow-brown), 2-, used and unused, etc.; wmk. CC, 6d., purple-brown, unused, 2 rupees 50c., etc.; wmk. CA., 2c., purple-brown, unused, etc.
LABUAN. 1880, 6 in red, on 16c., and 8 on 12c., unused, etc.
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. The 1d. and 4d. errors and other Woodblocks and Triangulars.
LAGOS. 5- blue, unused.
MAURITIUS. Post Paid, 1d., several used, and one unused; 2d., several, including the "Penne," superb; large fillet 2d., Greek border 2d., a fine strip of four, etc. etc.
TRANSVAAL. A fine lot of all issues and several of 1879 provisionals, including the rare Type 14 of the red surcharge.
ZULULAND. 5-, £1, and £5.
CANADA. 12d., black, etc.

NEW BRUNSWICK. 6d. (2) and 1-, superb, and the 5c. Connell.
NEWFOUNDLAND. 1-, orange; 4d., 6d., 8d., and 1-, scarlet, etc.
NOVA SCOTIA. 1-, three copies, one superb.
MONTERRAT. 4d., CA., very fine
NEVIS. 1-, yellow-green; 6d. litho; 6d. green, etc.
ST. VINCENT. 1d. on half of 6d., 4d. on 1-, and 3-. Star, all unused.
TOBAGO. 1st issue, 3- and £1, wmk. CC. 6d. stone; wmk. CA. 6d. stone, all mint.
TRINIDAD. A fine lot of the early issues and the rare "Lady McLeod" local on entire original.
TURKS ISLANDS. 1-, lilac, and a fine lot of the rare 1861 provisionals.
VIRGIN ISLANDS. The very rare 1-, crimson, with centre omitted.
BRITISH GUIANA. 1850, 4c. and 12c. (8); 1856, 4c.; 1862, 1, 2, (2), and 4c., etc. etc.
NEW SOUTH WALES. Some fine Sydney Views and Laureateds.
QUEENSLAND. Imperf., 1d., 2d., and 6d.
VICTORIA. 5- blue on yellow, etc.
WESTERN AUSTRALIA. 6d., bronze, rouletted, etc. etc.

And a very fine lot of large remainders of the various countries. **CATALOGUE READY.**

NOVEMBER 10th and 11th.

A FINE SELECTION, including the Collection of Australians formed by

R. T. THORBURN, Esq. *Catalogue in Preparation.*

List of SALES for Season 1903-1904:—

1903.—September 29 and 30; October 13 and 14, 27 and 28; November 10 and 11, 24 and 25; December 8 and 9.

1904.—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27
May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8.

Liberal advances made pending realization if desired.

For Terms and Full Particulars Address:

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,

Telephone No 1561, Gerrard.
Established 1794.

47, Leicester Square, London, W.C.



G. Hamilton-Smith & Co.,

Stamp Dealers and PHILATELIC PUBLISHERS.

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

Telegraphic Address: "PHILATELIC, LONDON."

Telephone: No. 5596 AVENUE,

APPROVAL BOOKS.

WE hold a very fine Stock of USED and UNUSED STAMPS (20,000 Varieties) arranged in nearly 200 large APPROVAL BOOKS.

The condition of the Stamps is exceptionally fine, and the Prices Reasonable. Selections of any Country will be gladly sent on approval to responsible applicants.

"Interchangeable Philatelic Albums."

We have much pleasure in announcing that we have received

A MEDAL WITH DIPLOMA

(This being the only Award given for Permanent Philatelic Albums alone) at the International Philatelic Exhibition, held in Mulhausen, Alsace, last Month.

.....
We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.

THE

STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 223.—Vol. IX

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

MESSRS. GLENDINING & Co.,

Fine Art, Numismatic & Philatelic Auctioneers,

THE ARGYLL GALLERY,

7, ARGYLL ST., REGENT ST., W.

(Adjoining Oxford Circus Station)

Telegraphic Address: "NULLIFIED," LONDON.

Telephone No. 4424, BERRARD.

Our next Sale of POSTAGE STAMPS



Will be held on Thursday & Friday,

Following Sales:

October 1st & 2nd, 1903.

OCTOBER, 15th and 16th; 29th. and 30th.

NOVEMBER 12th and 13th; 26th and 27th.

DECEMBER 10th and 11th.

And every alternate THURSDAY and FRIDAY throughout the Season.

Fine Art and Bric-à-brac Sale—7th & 8th October.

COLLECTORS who intend to DISPOSE OF COLLECTIONS are advised to make early arrangements to secure advantageous dates of Sale.

COINS, FINE ART PROPERTY,
MEDALS, JEWELLERY, ETC.

PAINTINGS,
ENGRAVINGS,

MINIATURES,
CHINA, ETC.

Promptly Catalogued
and offered for Sale.

Liberal Cash Advances.

Prompt Settlements.

PERIODICAL SALES BY AUCTION OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY

Messrs VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY).

At the TEMPLE HOTEL, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.

(Close to the Philatelic Society's Rooms and the Temple Station on the District Railway.)

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their Dates of Sales for the ensuing Season are as follows:—

1903.—OCTOBER 8th and 9th, 22nd and 23rd; NOVEMBER 4th and 5th, 19th and 20th; DECEMBER 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th.

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OCTOBER 8th & 9th.

By order of the Administratrix of the late E. C. H. STOLLE, Esq.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell on the above dates the Collection formed by the late E. C. H. STOLLE, Esq.

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

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, 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.

CATALOGUES of all Sales may be obtained of

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, (Philatelic Department),

35, Old Jewry, LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM, LONDON." Telephone Number, 3392 CENTRAL. ESTABLISHED 1761.

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.,

(Partners: H. W. PLUMRIDGE & J. H. TELFER.)

STAMP AUCTIONEERS

AND COMMISSION AGENTS,

64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Hold AUCTION SALES every FORTNIGHT between SEPTEMBER and JULY.

Our 172nd and 173rd Sales will be held . . .

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY October 6 and 7,

In the Arbitration Room, 64, CHANCERY LANE.

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Clients wishing to include Lots should make arrangements without delay, if early dates are desired.
Commission 10 per cent.

SETTLEMENTS usually in TEN DAYS. AT LATEST within 14 days after sale.

IMMEDIATE AND LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES.

Commissions executed for Clients unable to attend the sales WITHOUT charge and as much BELOW LIMITS as possible.

Commissions also undertaken for all other London Stamp Sales. Terms on application.

Telegraphic Address "PLUMAVERE, LONDON"

Telephone: 3473, CENTRAL

FROM

Also at

J. T. BOLTON,

New York City,

5. ELMWOOD ROAD,

U.S.A.

CROYDON

No.

Special Offers.

* Denotes unused.

** Denotes unused.

	Description	Cat. No.	Cat. Price	Set Price	Description	Cat. No.	Cat. Price	Set Price
	salvage all postally used				1003 Labels, mostly in use 3 days	114	20	10
Foreign Stamps	1 green	325	20	10	50 Blue	114	20	10
	20 Rose	326	20	10	150 Chocolate	119	—	20
	20 Black	327	20	10	200 Green	117	—	20
	10 Green	335	20	10	20 Red	170	17	1000 1/2
	20 Rose	336	30	150	50 Blue	171	10	100 1/2
Less than Cat.	50 Blue	338	50	20	100 Mauve	172	—	100 40
	10 Green	341	—	17 6	20 Red	177	—	20
	50 Blue	347	—	17 0	50 Blue	178	—	30
	10 Blue	348	—	50	100 Mauve	179	—	10
					5 in Red on 100	161	1 30	100 4
Colonial Stamps	Nicaragua all postally used				10 in Blue on 2 1/2	—	60	—
	1003 Labels, mostly in use 3 days				15 in Blue on 5	—	60	King 20
	50 Blue	114	20	10	20 in Red on 5 1/2	—	60	—
	150 Chocolate	119	—	20				
	200 Green	117	—	20				
Less than Cat.	20 Red	170	17	1000 1/2				
	50 Blue	171	10	100 1/2				
	100 Mauve	172	—	100 40				
	20 Red	177	—	20				
	50 Blue	178	—	30				
Wanted to buy	100 Mauve	179	—	10				
	5 in Red on 100	161	1 30	100 4				
	10 in Blue on 2 1/2	—	60	—				
	15 in Blue on 5	—	60	King 20				
	20 in Red on 5 1/2	—	60	—				
U.S.A.	and many other New Issues							
	Mexico 60 1/2 50	306	70	80				
	new 5	—	60	10				
	Canada 12 1/2 new	25	20	—				
	50 King	200	20	80				
High Value	Cuba Sp and delivery 100	100	50	10				
	British South Africa 100	100	50	10				
	50	—	100	—				
	100	—	100	—				
	Chili 500 Orange Rare	—	60	—				
South Americans	Canada 500 Queen	—	60	—				
	Zanzibar 5 Rupees	15	70	—				
	5 Rupees	—	70	—				
	Angola 65 on 20	—	50	—				
	65 on 40	—	50	—				
High Value	65 on 30	—	50	—				
	115 on 10	—	80	—				
	115 on 200	—	80	—				
	130 on 50	—	90	—				
	130 on 75	—	90	—				
High Value	400 on 5	—	20	100				
	400 on 20	—	20	100				
	Guatemala new set 10 to 20	—	5	10				
	Panama 500	—	5	10				
	100	—	5	10				
High Value	Columbia 100	—	5	10				

50 cents for 70 for 40 or in 100 any of the above I accept 1/2 3/4 5/8 2/3 2 per cent any values, also a fine lot of other issues (20-40) same rate.

PERIODICAL SALES BY AUCTION OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY

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Commission 10 per cent.

SETTLEMENTS usually in TEN DAYS. AT LATEST within 14 days after sale.

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FROM

Also at

New York City,

U.S.A.

J. T. BOLTON,

5. ELMWOOD ROAD.

CROYDON

Special Offers.

Specialists
Foreign Stamps
662
less than Cat.
Colonial Stamps
602
less than Cat.

Wanted to buy
U.S.A.
57, 52, 55
High Value
South
Americans

Denotes unissued				Denotes issued			
Description	Cat. No.	Cat. Price	Net Price	Description	Cat. No.	Cat. Price	Net Price
Salvador all postally used				Don't miss on 60c black	37-38	2/6	1/6
1 green	325	2d.	1d.	Lewis 1d on 6d (black)	44	1/6	5d.
2c Rose	326	2d.	1d.	1d on 2d.1	6/1		5d.
2c Black	327	4d.	2d.	Uruguay 2 dol	242	7d	4d.
1c Green	335	2d.	1d.	Don't miss sets of 7	174-180	6/	2/6
2c Rose	336	3d.	1 1/2d.	2c Inverted centre	181	4d.	2d.
5c Blue	338	5d.	2 1/2d.	1c	182	3d.	1 1/2d.
5c Black	344	—	2 1/2d.	5c	183	3 1/2d.	2d.
1c Green	341	—	17/6	10c	—	—	4d.
5c Blue	347	—	17/6	12c	—	—	4d.
10c Blue	348	5d.	17/6	20c	—	—	4d.
and a fine lot of Miscellaneous Surcharges.				Miscellaneous			
Nicaragua all postally used				Newfoundland 5d			
1003 Jubilee 5 only in use 3 days	114	2d.	1d.	5c Black	each	11.	2d doz
5c Blue	114	—	2 1/2d.	5c Brown	—	7 1/2	8 1/2 doz
15c Chocolate	116	—	2 1/2d.	5c Orange	(or)	12	27 doz
2c Green	117	—	2 1/2d.	5c Yellow	—	7 1/2	8 1/2 doz
2c Red	170	—	14 1/2d.	6c Orange	—	6 1/2	32 1/2 doz
5c Blue	171	—	10c	Green Brazil all postally used		24	doz
10c Mauve	172	—	10c	Queen		—	4d.
2c Red	177	—	3d.	King		—	4d.
5c Blue	178	—	3d.	10c		16	1 1/2
10c Mauve	179	—	4d.	5c		21	5 1/2
5 in Red on 1dol	161	—	6d.	2c		2	6d.
10 in Blue on 2 dol	—	—	6d.	10c		5	6d.
15 in Blue on 3c	—	—	6d.	5c		1	5d.
20 in Red on 5dol	—	—	6d.	10c		1	2 1/2
and numerous other New Issues				1, R. official 6c, Queen			
Mexico old 50	36	2 1/2	8d.	1c Green and Rose Queen	15	doz	1 1/2
new 50	—	—	6d.	1c Green and Rose King	18	doz	1 1/2
Curion 12 1/2c new	27	—	2 1/2d.	1c Green and Rose Queen	40	doz	4 1/2
50c King	26	—	5d.	Admiral official 1d. King	13	doz	1 1/2
Cuba Special delivery 10c	—	—	5d.	O.W. King 1d	—	—	4 1/2
British South Africa 6c 2 1/2	—	—	10c	South Americans etc.	—	—	—
3/-	—	—	4/-	Angelina 2 1/2d 1 mint but perf. with initials			—
10/-	—	—	4/-	face 4 1/2d			—
Chili 30c Orange Rare	—	—	6d.	—	170	50c	12.6
Canada 50c Queen	—	—	6d.	Columbia Rep. (S. of Nos. 274 to 380.)			
Zanzibar 3 Rupees	—	—	7/6	2c	274	1.	4d. per 100
5 Rupees	—	—	7/6	5c	275	2.	8d. per 100
Angola 85 on 20	—	—	5d.	10c	276	2.	8d. per 100
65 on 40	—	—	5d.	20c	277	3.	1 1/4 per 100
65 on 30	—	—	5d.	50c	278	6.	2 1/2 per 100
115 on 10	—	—	8d.	1 dol	279	13.	(15-100) 3d
115 on 200	—	—	8d.	1 dol	280	26.	(15-100) 3d
130 on 50	—	—	9d.	1 dol	—	—	each 2 1/2d.
130 on 75	—	—	9d.	1 dol	—	—	—
400 on 5	—	—	2/-	1003	—	—	—
400 on 2 1/2	—	—	2/-	—	—	—	—
Venezuela new set 1c to 2dol	—	—	5/-	—	—	—	—
Panama 50c	—	—	1 1/2d.	—	—	—	—
1 dol	—	—	1 1/2d.	—	—	—	—
Columbia 1dol	—	—	1 1/2d.	—	—	—	—

No. 1000

Denotes unissued

Description

Cat. No. Price Price

Denotes issued

Description

Cat. No. Price Price

5/- for 2 40 for more any of the above I accept 1 1/2
 3/- (200-280) 2/- per 100 any values, also a fine lot of other issues
 (2/- doz) same rate.

* Denotes unused.

Table of stamps with columns: Description, Cat. No., Cat. Price, Nett. Price. Includes entries for Antigua S.G 5 to 30, Bahamas 1d., Barbados 5/- Star, Bernuda 6d., B.C.A. 3/- on 4/-, Brit. Columbia 3d., Brit. East Africa 8a., Brit. Guiana 1c Brn Red, S.G. 39 to 61, Canada 6d. Purple, Cape of Good Hope 1d., Ceylon all with exception of the great Rareties, Dominica practically complete, Gold Coast 2/- mint, Grenada 1d., Hong Kong 24 Green S.G. 6, etc.

* Denotes unused.

Table of stamps with columns: Description, Cat. No., Cat. Price, Nett. Price. Includes entries for Hong Kong 10 on 12c, Jamacia 2 1/2 (also S.G. 15 34 cheap), Lagor S.G. 1 to 26, Madagascar S.G. 69 to 75, Mauritius 1/2 on 10d., Natal 9 to 25, New Brunswick 3d., Nova Scotia 6d., New Zealand S.G. 9 to 15, Niger Coast 1-5, North Borneo 8 on 2c, Northern Nigeria Queen Head Mint, Prince Edward Is., Queensland fine lot, St. Christopher 1d., St. Helena S.G. 1d., St. Lucia 1d., St. Vincent 2 3 6 9 to 27, Sarawak mint singles pairs & blocks, Seychelles 1 7 60 per cent.

* Denotes unused.

Table of stamps with columns: Description, Cat. No., Cat. Price, Nett. Price. Includes entries for Sierra Leone 13 to 34, South Australia Selections, Straits Settlements, Tasmania 1d. Blue, Tonga Marriage Stamp, Transvaal lot of early issues, Southern Nigeria, Sudan, Transvaal Early Issues, Victoria, Western Australia, Zululand, Zululand 6d., etc.

Any of the above stamps will be sent on approval against deposit or references. The current unused Colonials offered at face are only those sent to me in payment and cannot be offered regularly as I do not import them but Clients wishing to have such as I get in payment at face may do so. This list is issued periodically and will be sent free on request. Each new list cancels its predecessor. In addition to above list offered a very great Variety of Foreign stamps can be sent on approval at 1/3 catalogue. A collection of 10123 for disposal price £125 do 9870 £100



With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange, The Northern Stamp Exchange Society, The Stamp Exchange Protection Society, The Enterprise Stamp Club, The One and All Stamp Club, The Palace Philatelic Exchange Society.

No 223.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

Catalogue Price and Selling Price.

"PHILATELIST," who contributes a bright and newsy column of Philatelic Notes week by week to the "Irish Times," is to be congratulated upon warning philatelists as to the real market status of the St. Helena 3d. mauve of 1884.

This stamp, unused, is catalogued by Gibbons at 10s. It is offered for sale by a London dealer at 4d.

A statement such as this, is, we know, calculated to shake one's faith in catalogues. In certain quarters we shall be criticised for giving publicity to such a statement. "You really shouldn't publish such things," certain people sometimes say to us—they do harm, great harm, to Philately! Bosh! To such remarks we have one invariable retort: if Philately is in such a state that one can harm it by publishing the truth, then the sooner Philately "cracks up" the better! The truth harms only those who have reason to fear it, and we have every confidence that the best interests of true philatelists are conserved by a persistent exposure of shams, frauds, and anomalies.

There is, of course, nothing fraudulent or discreditable about Messrs Gibbons pricing a fourpenny stamp at ten shillings. It is simply an error of judgment. We doubt not that Messrs Gibbons, at the time their current catalogue was sent to press had formed an erroneous opinion that this 3d. St. Helena stamp in the mauve shade was comparatively a rare stamp. But "that," as "Philatelist" remarks in the

"Irish Times," "does not alter the position as regards the collectors who bought the stamp at 10s. in the belief that it was a scarce shade, and not, as it turns out, a very common one." The moral is that philatelists (as the *Fortnightly* has so persistently advised throughout its nine years of life) must not blindly pin their faith to catalogue quotations; and as regards the Gibbons Catalogue in particular they must remember that it is the avowed practice of Messrs Stanley Gibbons, Limited, to fix the prices in their book, not on the basis of the known or estimated supply in the market, but solely on the basis of the number of specimens in their own stock-books.

In the case of this 3d. mauve of St. Helena one may easily understand what happened. Messrs. Gibbons, probably, possessed very few specimens of the mauve shade, but a great many of the violet. Result: mauve shade, unused, 10s; violet shade, unused, 5d! But since then another London dealer, lighting upon a big parcel of the mauve shade, has been able to sell the stamp at 4d. a copy—just a thirtieth of the catalogue price. We think there has never been such a crushing criticism of the system of "cataloguing by stock." It is the system of the ostrich.

The St. Helena "Remainder" Fiasco.

APPERTAINING to this question of the 3d. mauve of St. Helena an interesting letter is published from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

"We have before us," write these gentlemen, "one of the original printed lists of St. Helena stamps, which were offered for sale by the Crown Agents for the Colonies on January 10th, 1898, and in this list are included 75,840 of the 3d. stamps, of a total face value of £948. This circular also distinctly states on the authority of the Crown Agents for the Colonies that no further supplies of these stamps would be printed, and that the plates from which they were produced had been destroyed. As you are no doubt aware, the Crown Agents were unable to dispose of the stamps in London, and they were therefore returned to St. Helena, from which place a circular was sent out in January, 1899, stating that they would be on sale until the stock is exhausted, and repeated the statement that the plates had been destroyed."

This latter point is emphasised by Messrs Whitfield, King and Co., because of a surmise on the part of "Philatelist" of the "Irish Times" that the stamps had been "re-issued"

six months ago. "They could not have been re-issued," write Messrs King in conclusion . . . "and we think it quite possible that if the present stock could be overhauled it would be found to contain several different shades, including the one which Gibbons price at 10s."

The Fear of the "Find."

Our friend of the "Irish Times," in pointing the moral, takes perhaps rather a gloomy view of a contretemps that is, happily, of rare occurrence. "It proves," writes he, "that it is quite unsafe to buy the stamps of many colonies at more than a mere fraction over face value," because no one knows when what is called a "find" will bring the prices down from high to low. For our part, however, we think the fear of the find is exaggerated. Such occurrences as the Nova Scotia incident of notorious memory are of the "once in a blue moon" order. Some further remarks by "Philatelist" on the subject of Colonial Reminders are of such interest that we reprint them verbatim:—

"Enormous quantities," he writes, "of the Leeward Islands Queen's Head issue are now being offered at or anything over face value; but no one would dream of buying them. It is impossible they could ever be sold, and what their ultimate destination will be it is easy to conjecture. The most straightforward course for the Colonial authorities to make would be either (1) to go on selling the old issue till it is exhausted before putting the new issue on sale; or (2) to destroy the old issue at once if the issue of the new set is imperative. If it were not for the stamp collectors, the remainders of an old issue would be mere waste paper after being superseded by a new issue. Several of the colonies when issuing their King's Head sets destroyed all the Queen's Heads in stock. This is straightforward business; but it is not the course pursued by many little colonies, like Seychelles or St. Helena, which apparently use their postal system principally for the purpose of making money out of collectors."

This matter is one that should be pressed home upon the Crown Agents for the Colonies, and, through them, upon the local powers-that-be. Who will undertake the task?

The Re-Arranged Tapling Collection.

In their new cabinets, or, rather, glass-covered slides, the Tapling Stamps are now quite ready for public inspection in that section of the British Museum known as the King's Library; but whether the collection is now actually open to the public we cannot definitely say. Certainly no announcement to that effect has been received from the British Museum authorities. But there can surely be no excuse for further delay?

Why "National Collection"?

A WORD as to the names by which this collection is called. A habit has grown up of speaking of the Tapling Stamps as the "National Collection." The name is not only inapt; it savors also of ingratitude, and betokens a short memory for benefits received. These stamps were collected at prodigious expense by the late T. K. Tapling, sometime M.P. for Market Harborough, and presented by him as a free gift to the nation. To speak of them as the "National Collection" is to snap the last link between these beautiful stamps and the man who expended so much of his time and money in gathering them together. To us, and in the columns of our paper, the Tapling Collection will always be the Tapling Collection!

Thessalian War Stamps Forged.

The curious octagonal stamps issued during the Greco-Turkish war of 1889 have been somewhat clumsily forged. Specimens of the counterfeits are kindly lent us by Messrs Whitfield, King & Co., who remark that as the forgeries are being advertised for sale in certain quarters it would be well to set readers of the *Fortnightly* on their guard.

Examining the specimens sent, alongside genuine copies, we find that there are many points of difference in the designs, and that the colours and perforations of the counterfeits are wrong. At a hasty glance, however, the imitations would certainly pass muster, and a warning to philatelists is most necessary.

First, as to the perforations—in which particular, by the way, the stamps of Thessaly are unique, having eight perforated sides. The perforation of the genuine stamps is 13½ all round, but the forgeries are a uniform 11½.

The colours, generally, are darker and duller in the counterfeit stamps; but the paper shows no conspicuous variation.

These tests are perhaps enough without any reference to differences of design, but it may be noted that the printing of the counterfeits is much sharper and clearer than that of the genuine stamps. Especially is this the case in the central view, where the bridge and the hills beyond it are brought out much more sharply in the imitations. Another good point to scan is the outer frame of the stamp. This is printed more or less "smudgily" in most of the genuine stamps we have seen, so that specks or smudges of colour can be seen outside the octagonal border; while in the set of forgeries now before us the edges of the design invariably come out sharp and true.

A Year Book of Philately.

MESSRS Nissen and Co., of 77, High Holborn, London, W.C., announce their intention of publishing, in November next, the first issue of a new yearly publication for Philatelists, to be known as "The Stamp Collectors Annual." It will be a shilling book of over 100 pages, containing a compilation of facts and information interesting and valuable to all Philatelists, besides a mass of original and exclusive matter. The new "Annual," in fact, will aim at being the "Whitaker" or the "Hazell" of our hobby, its publishers being firmly convinced that there exists a real demand for an interesting and authoritative "Year Book of Philately." Messrs Nissen cordially invite correspondence from those who are interested in the subject.

Some Recent Philatelic Publications.

MATTERS of pressing interest have crowded out certain new publications sent to the *Fortnightly* for review.

Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen's "Priced Catalogue of the Railway Letter Stamps of the United Kingdom" comes as a logical sequel to the same publishers' Scientific Handbook on the same subject, long since noticed in our columns. Mr. Ewen lists some 570 varieties of Railway Letter Stamps, of which no less than 29 varieties are "completely unknown," and about 100 varieties, according to Mr. Ewen's calculations are actually rarer than the "Post Office" Mauritius. The two things, however, are vastly different, and Mr. Ewen shows both wisdom and discretion in fixing upon £25 as "about the maximum value at the present day of the rarest Railway Letter Stamp. In two instances, however, he exceeds this valuation, pricing the stamp of the Barry Dock Railway Company at £75 and that of the Finn Valley Railway at £50. Perhaps the most interesting part of this small catalogue, to the uninitiated, is the "Preface," wherein Mr. Ewen provides a clever analysis of the Railway Companies' issues, showing their respective rarity and other items of interest.

MESSRS Edwin Healey and Co., of Wormwood Street, E.C., have recently placed a new British Empire album on the market. One has so often heard collectors ask for a good and cheap album for British and Colonial stamps, and here is the very thing they want. The volume is arranged with great skill, well printed, well bound, and costs only 7s. 6d. We predict a large sale for an album that so exactly supplies an urgent public demand.

The "Alexander Smith" Auction.

A GREAT and notable stamp auction sale will be held at 351, Fourth Avenue, New York City, under the auspices of the J. W. Scott Company, when the fine collection of the late Mr. William Alexander Smith, Jun., will be dispersed. The collection is rich in British Colonials, U.S.A.'s, Confederates and old Europeans, and some idea of the magnitude of the sale may be gathered from the fact that the stamps will be sold in two portions—with an interval of a month between the two—and that the sale will monopolise in all eight days! The first portion of the sale will take place on October 26, 27, 28, and 29, and the second on November 30, December 1, 2, and 3.

The catalogue now lies before us. No less than 176 pages go to its bulk, and the total of the lots is 4408.

Some of the "gems" of this noteworthy sale may be enumerated. There are the 27, 54, and 100 paras of Moldavia (the two last named on original covers); the "Baton Rouge," "Athens" and other scarce Confederate Locals; the 60 crazie Tuscany on original cover; the 2 reales Spain of 1851 and 1852, both unused; the ½ tornese (arms) of Naples;

many choice old Swiss, Oldenburgs, Prussians, and other Europeans; and among British Colonials such stamps as the shilling Newfoundland, the 4d. and 8d. Ceylon, some fine Mauritius, Barbados Id. bisected provisionals, St. Vincent 4d. on one shilling, etc., etc. In South American descriptions there are some fine stamps of Brazil and Colombia.

THE late Mr. Alexander Smith (whose death at a sadly early age was duly noted in the *Fortnightly*) must have been a general collector of the most indefatigable kind, for the collection he left behind him appears to be rich in the best things of all countries; and the sale we have referred to should attract the attention, and the bids, of a diversity of philatelists.

Tasmanian Treasury Stamps.

WE are indebted to Mr. Alfred H. L. Giles for a description of the current pictorial stamps perforated with the letter "T" indicating their use by the Treasury Department. "Whether these would be considered collectable I do not know," writes our correspondent. "I am told they are difficult to obtain."

From drawings made by Mr. Giles it would seem that the "T" is not perforated in a very regular or uniform manner. On the 4d. stamp the downstroke of the letter does not meet the horizontal portion at the centre, but almost at the extreme right end, giving the letter almost the appearance of an inverted "L." And on the 6d. value the perforated device looks far more like a cross than the letter "T."

A Buyer of "Fac-Similes."

WE have received from somebody whose name need not be mentioned the following letter, written by a person living at Brighton:

"Gentlemen—Please let me know if you have any good fac-similes of stamps, or a collection of fac-similes, to dispose of cheap.

"I can take any quantity of one kind.

"If you wish to buy very fine fac-similes by the 12 or 100 (same as sold by most of the Paris dealers as genuine) please let me know! Awaiting your reply. Yours truly, H—"

The writer is still awaiting that reply. It will never be sent. But there may be, here and there, a meaner rogue who has been lured into fake-mongery by this impudent rascal at Brighton. Any of our readers who have received letters similar to that quoted above are requested to write us on the subject.

The Next Postmaster-General.

THE affairs of the nation being now directed and controlled by the halfpenny morning newspapers, we must conclude that there is some official justification for the prediction that Lord Stanley will succeed Mr. Austin Chamberlain as Postmaster-General. In a mild sort of way philatelists are interested in the personality that directs the policy of St. Martins le Grand; they may therefore like to know, without the trouble of turning the matter up in "Burke" or "Whitaker" that Lord Stanley, C.B., M.P. for Westhoughton, is the eldest son and heir of the present Earl of Derby, and of course a descendant of the great Earl of Derby, the "Rupert of Debate." When Mr. Austin Chamberlain came to the postal throne there was grave danger that the red-tape traditions of St. Martin's le Grand would be rudely interfered with, but in Lord Stanley's hands, if he be appointed, we may be quite sure that the uachydermatous conservatism of our greatest profit-earning government department will pursue its old sweet way. Many people think that Mr. Henniker Heaton would make an ideal Postmaster-General, but unfortunately Mr. Heaton is not related to any of our great political families; and that being so he is obviously unfit for office.

Philately and Matrimony.

MR. L. T. Brodstone, a widely-known and popular philatelist "out west," contemplates matrimony. His betrothed, Miss Madeline Keller, is President of the American Souvenir Card Exchange, so theirs will be a union of philatelist and cartophilist. Miss Keller is sister-in-law to Mr. R. R. Thiele, whose "Stray Notes on Sheets of Stamps" form one of the most original and interesting features of current philatelic journalism in America. Quite a stampic affair, all round! We echo the congratulations that are being showered upon Mr. Brodstone, while resisting the temptation to crack once again the ancient joke about an "undivided pair."

White List of Philatelists.

SECOND LIST OF APPLICANTS.

The following gentlemen have offered themselves for enrolment on the "White List of Philatelists," and will be so enrolled unless there be some just cause or impediment advanced by readers of the *Fortnightly*, or others:—

16	F. T. Varley	...	...	Falkirk.
17	W. A. Jutsum	...	...	Cardiff.
18	P. J. S. Lee	...	...	Bristol.
19	W. Robinson	...	...	Wetherby.
20	J. Knowles, Junr.	...	...	Wednesbury.
21	T. Whitworth	...	...	Liverpool.

All information that it may be in the position of any reader to tender as regards these applicants should be addressed personally to Mr. J. S. G. Telfer, Secretary, The White List of Philatelists, 63 and 64 Chancery Lane, London, W.C. Such letters, for greater security, should be marked "Private and Confidential."

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

THE REGISTER of WHITE LIST OF PHILATELISTS will be open to all *Fortnightly* Readers and Advertisers, and all Secretaries of Exchange Clubs and Philatelic Societies.

ENTRY on the Register will be made on two first-class references being given, preferably to bankers or well-known business houses. The applicant's name (or initials) and the town in which he resides will be published in one number of the *S.C.F.* previous to inclusion in the register, and all Philatelists having any knowledge of the person in question are invited to communicate with the Secretary.

FEES will be chargeable on application, and will be 16 per annum—this sum to defray all expenses of printing, postage, letters, etc; and will not be returnable in the event of non-election.

INFORMATION as to any person on the Register will be given to readers and advertisers of the *S.C.F.*, and all club Secretaries, on receipt of a stamped envelope for reply. The Register will be kept in the strictest privacy, and no information will be given except to those who apply by letter.

THE MANAGEMENT will exercise the greatest possible care in examining references, and the publication of the name and initials of an applicant, together with the town in which he resides, will materially assist (we believe) in eliminating undesirable applicants. Information regarding each applicant, on the part of other readers, acquainted with him, is specially invited. The cost of postage will be defrayed, if desired, and all communications will be treated with the strictest privacy and confidence.

SUGGESTIONS as to points not adequately covered in the above conditions are still cordially invited. Please address the Secretary, the White List of Philatelists, 63, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

A SECRET "BLACK BOOK" ALSO.

The conductors of the "White List of Philatelists" will compile for our own guidance and reference a Big Black Book, in which will be entered up the names, addresses, and principle exploits of the *cherry-pickers d'industrie* who prey upon philatelists both at home and abroad.

For this "Black Book" contributions are invited from all persons and at all seasons, not only complaints as to persons who may be applying for enrolment in the "White List," but as to all persons connected with stamps whose dealing are open to suspicion.

It will be necessary, however, to be very stringent in our precautions against error or malicious injury, and for this reason we must insist upon:—

(1). The full name and address of every person sending us information, the same not to be published but merely as an evidence of good faith. On no account will the slightest credence be attached to anonymous communications.

(2). Substantial evidence in support of the allegations brought forward. We cannot accept the unsupported word of any one person as against any other person in a matter which might possibly lead to grave injustice being done.

In return for the help we receive in this way—help given not to ourselves personally, but to Philately as a hobby—we shall strain every nerve to make this compilation of the "bad men of Philately" a blessing to the upright section of the community, a terror and a scourge to the "wrong 'uns."

Communications for the "Big Black Book" should be made *personally* (each envelope being marked "Private and Confidential") to:—
Mr. J. S. G. TELFER, Secretary, The White List of Philatelists, 63 & 64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 26, 1903.

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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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.



Our New-Season Number.

The next *Fortnightly* will be a bigger one, with more articles, more illustrations, more advertisements, and—more readers! In short it will be the SPECIAL NEW-SEASON ISSUE of the *Fortnightly*, ushering in the philatelic season proper.

Readers can help us to make the number worthy of the occasion by communicating any items of interest that may come their way.

In re Creeke and Others.

WHAT shall we say—what can be said?—regarding the muddle-headed, fatuous, farcical "Official Stamp" prosecution, the closing scenes of which are reported in the Supplement of this issue of the *Fortnightly*? Nominally five persons were placed on their trial:—A. B. Creeke Junior, Walter Joan Richards, a head clerk at Somerset House; and three other persons, whom we need no longer mention by name, since they have been acquitted as innocent of the charges brought against them. Nominally, we say, these five persons were on their trial on certain mysterious charges of "stealing and receiving Government stamps"—charges which even the counsel for the prosecution had the greatest difficulty in enunciating, so befogged was everybody connected with the prosecution by the tinkering, red tape methods of our Government officials. Actually, in the minds of philatelists—the only section of the public properly understanding the case—it was the Government that was on its trial. The strenuous efforts of the authorities to secure a conviction are alone a proof of the dismal feeling of uncertainty that possessed the minds of the rulers of Somerset House. Those efforts were successful. A conviction was secured against two of the defendants—Creeke and Walter Richards. But what a conviction! Both men acting under advice, pleaded guilty to what is practically only a technical offence—the illegal possession of mutilated stamps. For this they each received a sentence of six months' imprisonment in the second division. The Government, the greatest culprit of all, escaped without even a word of censure.

Jack and His Master.

ONE thing the prosecution most strikingly demonstrates—namely, that Jack is *not* as good as his master, nursery rhymes to the contrary notwithstanding. What is permitted to one man another may not do—especially if that other stands a little lower in the social scale. Witness the following facts, culled from the evidence at Bow Street and the Old Bailey:

Sir Henry Primrose, Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue, took twenty-four 4d. Office of Works stamps and paid one shilling for them. The stamps were for his son's collection.

Mr. Cleave, Comptroller, took various official stamps for his own collection.

Walter John Richards, a subordinate of Sir Henry Prim-

rose and Mr. Cleave, took various official stamps, but disposed of them for cash.

Now what is the present position of these three persons? Sir Henry Primrose is still Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue; Mr. Cleave is still Comptroller, but—Walter John Richards is now an inmate of one of His Majesty's prisons!

To Mr. Lincoln Reed all philatelists having the slightest sympathy with the defendants must feel a deep debt of gratitude for his able leadership of the defence. Mr. Reed, naturally, did not fail to make the most of the incongruous state of affairs to which we have drawn attention; but the Recorder, though he listened with patience and care, brushed the defending counsel's arguments aside.

"A high official," the Recorder is reported to have said, "might take specimens for his own collections, but this could not justify the prisoner in taking stamps in a wholesale way and dealing in them."

Become a "high official" as rapidly as possible!

What will Happen Next?

MEANTIME, things cannot remain as they are. The present system of official stamp-issuing, if persisted in, will remain an incessant menace to the internal integrity of the various Government Departments, as well as a constant temptation to stamp collectors and stamp dealers. As we have said before, what is a dealer to do when unused official stamps are offered him? Refuse to touch them? That is the way to drive the business away to a trade rival who is thoughtless and unscrupulous. No! there are three possible solutions of the difficulty, (1) to drop the system of official stamps altogether, (2) to place the official stamps on public sale at face value; or (3) to substitute perforating for overprinting, in which event the stamps would be valueless in the eyes of philatelists. One or another of these alternatives the Government must adopt if it wishes to stop these "forbidden stamps." The farcical prosecution which has just closed will not stop it. Stamp dealers, as a class, have been far less to blame than the Government officials from whom they have drawn their supplies; and we say this with a full knowledge of the fact that both the Recorder and the jury at the Old Bailey expressed the opinion that one Moore, a stamp dealer of Villiers Street, Charing Cross, should have stood in the dock rather than in the witness box. We do not know Mr. Moore; but we are in a position to gauge the extent of his moral turpitude, but we have little doubt that if he had refused to purchase the stamps that were offered him his loss would have been the gain of some other dealer near at hand. Two blacks, proverbially, do not make a white; but we contend that the system is wrong. And sooner or later the system must be mended—or ended!

Sympathy, or Censure?

As to the two men who have gone to prison: do they merit our sympathy or our censure?

Walter John Richards, a trusted and respected official for a long term of years, is said to have made a little over £200 by his dealings in official stamps. For the sake of that comparatively trifling sum (for his salary was £550 per annum) Richards loses his position, his pay, his prospects of a pension, and, for six months, his liberty. Frankly we are sorry for him.

In honesty we cannot say that we feel the same degree of sorrow for Creeke. All will agree that it is lamentable to see one who has rendered signal service to Philately in such a position as his, but we must remember that, both as lawyer and as philatelist, Creeke knew that he was acting wrongly. He knew this perhaps more clearly than any other person connected with the case, and all that he did was done with his eyes fully open as to the possible consequences. Furthermore, the joint-author of "The Adhesive Stamps of Great Britain" was allowed free access to Somerset House purely out of compliment to himself as an historian of the stamps of this country. The trust thus reposed in him demanded a scrupulously honourable observance. It did not get it. The trust was abused, a slur was cast upon the name of philatelist in the estimation of the official classes—a slur that will not be easily removed. Creeke, according to the surmise of Mr. Gill K.C. and the Recorder, will be struck of the rolls. He will also, we assume, be deprived of his rank as an honorary member of the Philatelic Society.

What a miserable, mean, pitiful business it has been!

The End of the Great Stamp Trial.

CREEKE AND WALTER RICHARDS SENTENCED; THE OTHER PRISONERS ACQUITTED.

At the opening of the September Sessions of the Central Criminal Court on Tuesday, September 8, the Recorder, Sir Forrest Fulton, addressed the Grand Jury on various of the more notable cases included in the Calendar. Coming to the Official Stamp Prosecution Sir Forrest made the following remarks:—

"This is a charge of a very peculiar character, which occupied the attention of the Magistrate for some considerable time. Considering this fact I think you will not have much difficulty in returning a true Bill against the defendants. The persons implicated are Government servants, Henry Walter and Percy Richards, Waterhouse, and another practising as solicitor and member of a Philatelic Society.



MR. A. B. CREEKE, JUN.

The charge is one of stealing and receiving Government Overprinted Stamps which are never issued to the public. It seems that there is a large number of persons who have a mania for collecting rare specimens of stamps. The stamps in question have no real value. It is a fictitious value placed upon them by stamp collectors. It is the desire of members of the Society before mentioned to obtain rare stamps in an uncanceled state. A warrant was made out for the destruction of the stamps alleged to be stolen. Many of the officials were in the habit of dealing in these stamps, even the Controller, Mr. Cleave, it is said, by virtue of his position, Sir Henry Primrose, Sir John Purcell, late controllers, and assistant controller Gore. They considered there was nothing wrong as face value was substituted for stamps taken. The charge against Waterhouse was one of stealing stamps. I do not intend to put the whole of the facts before you. It is a long story which needs investigation. Those charged are Public Servants, the case is of great importance, and the unfortunate Petty Jury who will have to hear this case might be some time engaged upon it! You may congratulate yourselves on the lightness of your task as compared with that imposed upon the unfortunate members of the Petty Jury."

A True Bill was formally returned, and as the result of a special application to the Recorder, the trial was set down for Friday, September 11th, as noted in the last number of the *Fortnightly*. On that day the five defendants—A. B. Creeke, Junior, Waterhouse, and the Richards, father and sons—were placed upon their trial.

FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

A great number of philatelists of all sorts and conditions were gathered together at the Old Bailey when the five accused were placed in the dock and charged with "stealing and receiving" Government stamps. The prisoners were described as Walter John Richards, a principal clerk in the services of the Inland Revenue Department; Percy Tidd Richards, a clerk of nineteen years of age; Henry John Richards, a cycle-maker; Anthony Buck Creeke, jun., a solicitor; and Alfred Waterhouse, a clerk.

All pleaded not guilty to the charges against them; and the trial began.

Mr. C. F. Gill, K.C., Counsel for the prosecution, set forth the case for the Crown. Walter John Richards, he said, occupied, at a salary of £540 a year, a position in which he had the custody of all the stamps kept at Somerset House, representing a face value of many millions.

The class of stamps in regard to which the charges were made were called "overprinted official stamps," and were used by surveyors of taxes and by public departments in dealing with business which required the sending of letters through the Post Office. These stamps were over-printed with the letters "I.R." indicating Inland Revenue, "O.W." (Office of Works), or some other letters, and were not sold to the public for ordinary use. The question of destroying any stamps which had been defectively printed would rest with Walter John Richards, and sets of "specimen stamps," over-printed with the word "specimen," and issued in the service to be used if necessary in the checking of the genuineness of stamps on documents, were also in his charge.



MR. LINCOLN REED; Counsel for the Defence.

These official stamps could not get into the possession of members of the public by any legitimate means, and an elaborate scheme had

A GRAND NEW SEASON NUMBER

Of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* will be published a fortnight hence—viz., Saturday, October 10th. Great increase in size and circulation. An opportunity no advertiser should miss. Readers,—both collectors and dealers,—are invited to send us items of interest for publication in our "NEW SEASON SPECIAL."

been devised with the object of preventing the public gaining possession of them. It was contended that Richards, together with Creeke, set himself to defeat these precautions.

Creeke, Mr. Gill went on, was a solicitor in an office in Leadenhall-street, in the City, and in addition to the knowledge of stamps which he would have as a solicitor, he had special knowledge of the proceedings with reference to stamps at Somerset House. In conjunction with another person, he had published a book on the postage stamps of Great Britain, and in his capacity as an author had secured facilities to acquire information as to the stamps, and was allowed access to Somerset House from time to time. Creeke asked if he might, for philatelic purposes, be allowed to purchase certain official stamps, among them being 5s., 10s., and 20s. stamps. He was not allowed to purchase these, but a very few months after Richards obtained his appointment as the principal of the postal branch Creeke had these very stamps in his possession, and offered them for sale at £42, their face value being £3 10s. When Richards' stock was examined, certain sets could not be accounted for.

Several witnesses were then called (their evidence being substantially a repetition of that already adduced at Bow Street) and the case was adjourned until the following day.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

On the second day of the trial (Saturday, September 12), came a new development.

Mr. Lincoln Reed, on behalf of the prisoner Creeke, stated that he had advised his client to plead guilty to the indictment charging him with being in unlawful possession of mutilated stamps; and Walter Richards also admitted aiding and abetting.

The prosecution then proceeded to deal with the case against Alfred Waterhouse, who was said to have sold to one Moore, stamp dealer, of Villiers-street, 372 penny, 240 twopenny, 120 sixpenny, ten ninepenny, and twenty-seven shilling official stamps.

The contention was that Waterhouse obtained these stamps, none of which were issued to the public, when he was employed as a temporary accountant clerk at the Admiralty.

Mr. Moore, the Villiers Street dealer, narrated his dealings with a young man, whom he identified as Waterhouse. He first purchased four stamps of a face value of 1s. each, and paid 10s. for them.

He did not know, he told the Recorder, that these stamps were not issued to the public. He could get £1 each for the shilling stamps.

The Recorder questioned Moore very closely as to why his suspicions were not aroused by receiving such large quantities.

Moore: Well, it was no business of mine to inquire where he got them from.

The Recorder: Oh, wasn't it! I think it was.

Moore said he once spoke about the matter to Waterhouse, who replied that his conscience was quite clear, remarking that he was so miserably paid.

The Recorder told Moore that he was fortunate he was not in the dock as well, and intimated that he should advise the jury that Moore had been acting as an accomplice.

Moore then admitted buying "Office of Works" stamps from Henry Richards.

THE THIRD AND FINAL DAY.

The final round was fought on Monday, September 14th, when the case against Alfred Waterhouse was continued.

Waterhouse, electing to give evidence in his own behalf, denied the allegations of the prosecution entirely. The witnesses who had spoken as to his identity were mistaken. He did not know either of the Richards.

Mr. Frampton proceeded to ask the accused as to a practice supposed to exist in Government offices of dealings with those stamps, but the Recorder said this would be only hearsay, and was not admissible. Evidence upon these points must be direct evidence. The accused was cross-examined as to a correspondence he had had with a bookmaker to whom he owed money in respect to turf transactions.

The jury found Waterhouse not guilty, and expressed the opinion that Moore, the stamp dealer who had received the stamps, ought to be standing in the dock as a receiver.

Waterhouse was discharged, and no evidence being offered against Henry John Richards and Percy Tidd Richards, they also were found not guilty.

Mr. Gill, proceeding with the case against Creeke and Walter Richards, said the circumstances of this case were first brought to the notice of Somerset House through a Mr. Edwin Healey, who had bought some of the stamps, communicating the fact to them.

As a person in the confidence of Somerset House, Walter John Richards, the father of the two young men who had been acquitted, was entrusted with the inquiries as to how the stamps could have left the Government department. As might be expected, from what was known now, the inquiries were without result. It was, however, significant that after this there was the utmost care displayed in dealing with the stamps stolen.

In the month of May last Percy Richards was arrested upon a charge of forgery, and upon him was found a cheque for £10

drawn by a firm of stamp dealers, and this led to the discovery that the stamps sold were some of these Government official stamps. It was then found that other cheques for large sums for Office of Works stamps had been given to Percy Richards. The father, Walter J. Richards, then made a statement that in January he and another clerk had abstracted four sheets of these stamps, and that upon the authority for cancellation being obtained, penny stamps of the face value of the stamps taken were substituted. From the end of January onwards sets of these stamps were sold through Creeke and others, and upon these Government stamps of the face value of £9 9s. only, sums amounting to £246 were realised.

The Recorder.—I suppose as a result of this case Richards will not only lose his position but his pension, and that Creeke will be struck off the rolls?

Mr. Gill.—No doubt that will be the result.

Mr. Lincoln Reed, for Creeke, said the stamps sold by Creeke were brought to him by Henry Richards, who said he had them for a gentleman able to deal with them. He had no knowledge whatever as to how the stamps were obtained. All that he had got by the transactions was a sum of £25. He now stood before the Court a ruined man.

The Recorder said it had been suggested in the case that high officials had taken some of the stamps.

Mr. Lincoln Reid.—Yes, it was admitted by Sir Henry Primrose and Mr. Cleave, the present controller, that they had at times taken specimens and had given them to friends. They did not regard it as an offence.

Mr. Gill.—I do not accept that statement.

Mr. Lincoln Reid.—But Sir Henry Primrose said so in his evidence.

Mr. Gill said the suggestion had no foundation whatever, and the only basis for it was that Sir Henry Primrose said that on one occasion he took a shilling's worth of the halfpenny stamps, two of which he sent to his son and two he placed on the letter. The rest he still had in his possession. He paid for the stamps. There was a vast difference between a high official taking specimens and a man like the prisoner, taking them by hundreds and selling them for his own profit.

MR. LINCOLN REED'S ABLE DEFENCE.

Mr. Lincoln Reed, continuing a most able and eloquent speech for the defence, said that the fact remained that these stamps were worth outside among the dealers £4 each. Mr. Cleave stated he had the right to take specimens and to substitute for them ordinary postage stamps. The books of the department would therefore have to be altered to meet this transaction, and they would have to be altered to meet the transaction of Sir Henry Primrose, who was the chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue. Therefore they had the highest authority for what was done, and there was no wonder that Richards should have thought that he also was entitled to substitute one class of stamps for the other.

When a young man, Creeke, he went on to say, was entrapped into a marriage with a woman who had a husband living, and he was involved in considerable expenses. His father was the town clerk of Burnley, and he had a brother in the legal profession. He appealed for mercy for Creeke.

Mr. Llewellyn Williams, who appeared particularly for Walter Richards, said his client had benefited financially, but to a very small amount, by the sale of the stamps.

In reply to the Recorder, Mr. Gill said Government stamps had been abstracted from other public departments besides the Admiralty.

Mr. Williams, in the course of his speech, added that Richards was educated at Rugby, and entered Somerset House when he was 19 years of age. He had been 35 years in the service, and not only had he lost his position and pension, but obligations he had entered into on account of his son had necessitated his seeking the protection of the Bankruptcy Court.

The Recorder said no doubt Richards did not at first realise the gravity of the offence he was committing. The fact was the case was one of extreme gravity. A high official might take specimens of stamps for his own collection, but this could not justify the prisoner in taking stamps in considerable numbers for the purpose of making money out of them. As to Creeke, he ought to have known, as a solicitor and as an authority upon stamps, that he was doing wrong. He saw no distinction between the accused, and sentenced them each to six months' imprisonment in the second division.

There had been an intense stillness and silence in the crowded court during the Recorder's closing words, but on the pronouncement of the sentences and the conclusion of the case there broke out a loud buzz of conversation amongst the large number of collectors and dealers who had followed the case with intense interest from start to finish. And when the philatelic audience filed out it was to pass down Ludgate Hill in twos and threes eagerly discussing the result of the case and its probable bearing on the future of British Official Stamps.

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New Issues and Varieties.

Austrian Levant.—From Messrs Whitfield King & Co., we have received the 20 heller of Austria with new Levantine surcharge, "20 para."

British East Africa & Uganda—Messrs Whitfield King & Co. have sent us a specimen of the new stamp chronicled in our last. The colour, we find, was not quite correctly described in our previous note.

King's Head type: 2a, red-mauve and purple.

Ceylon—Messrs Whitfield King and Co., send us two additions to the King's Head set.

King's Head: 12c. olive-green and carmine.
25c. light brown.

Curacao—A new 12½ cent stamp is to hand from Messrs Whitfield King and Co., with head of Queen Wilhelmina in circle, lettered "Postzegel Kolonie Curacas."
12½c. blue.

Cyprus—To the King's Head series must be added the 45 piastres, a specimen of which is kindly sent us by Messrs Whitfield King & Co.

King's Head: 45 piastres, mauve and blue.

France (Mongtze).—The stamps of Indo-Chine are being overprinted with the name "Mongtze" in both European and Chinese characters, after the fashion of the Hoi Hao set. The "Bazaar," in chronicling these new additions to the French Colonial set, hazards the opinion that we shall shortly be favoured (?) with similar sets for other far Eastern towns.

India.—The new 6 annas Indian is kindly sent us by Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Birmingham.

King's Head: 6 annas, olive.

India (Nabha).—The 3 pies, ¼ anna, 1, 2 and 3 anna stamps of the King's Head series of India have now received the surcharge "Nabha State" in the usual style. We must thank Messrs Whitfield King & Co. for specimens.

Gwalior.—"I note," writes Mr. C. Egbert Ashby, "the following varieties of surcharge in the King's Head Gwalior stamps."

1. Broken "I" (letter without cross-bar at left top).
 2. Broken "I" (two breaks in the down-stroke of the letter.)
- (Nos. 1 and 2 are a vertical pair. No. 1 being the top stamp.)
3. Small "A" which is slightly tilted.

"The above varieties are on the 3 pies grey, ¼ anna green, and 1 anna carmine. I regret I cannot locate them on the sheet."

Mauritius.—A makeshift "Express Delivery" label has been created by surcharging the blue "Labourdonnais" Commemorative stamp of 1899. The bold red surcharge, "Express Delivery 15c." in three lines, almost covers the surface of the stamp.

Express Delivery: 15c. red on 15c. blue "Labourdonnais."

We hear from Messrs Whitfield King and Co., to whom we are indebted for a specimen of this stamp, that only 10,000 specimens were issued, and that these were distributed amongst the sixty post offices on the island.

New Zealand—Mr. Rosenburg has seen the current 5s stamps on the close watermark paper, as used for the smaller stamps, the consequence being two watermarks on the stamps. The 2½d., 5d., 9d., and 2s. stamps are printed on the wide watermarked paper that was expressly made for the stamps of large size, and presumably the 5s. value also exists on this paper, but our correspondent has not yet seen it.

Life Insurance Department: We are also indebted to Mr. Rosenburg for a sight of the following novelties in connection with the postage stamps of the Government Life Insurance Department:

1d. blue, perf. 14 x 11.
¾d. violet, and 1d. blue, perf. 11, wmk. sideways

Sweden—Alas that we should have to say it! sedate, steady-going Sweden has caught the "gumpap" fever, and on no better provocation than the building of a new Post Office at Stockholm! No great modesty is shown as to face value, for this commemorative stamp, which might just as well have been of the value of 2 ore, bears the face value of 5 krona—about 5s, 3d, in English money. We chronicle the

thing but sincerely hope that collectors will discourage further "gumpapism" in Scandinavia by leaving it severely alone.

Commemorative Issue: 5 krona, grey and lilac.

The stamp, we should add, is of a large rectangular shape and shows a sketch of the new post office which it is intended to immortalise.

Postal Cards and Covers.

BY A SPECIALIST.

THE use of the new-fangled stamping machines in Norway, presents a new problem in philately which I recommend to my readers as a holiday task. When you place your penny (or its Norwegian equivalent) in the slot, and the descending stamp smites your envelope in the right upper corner, does the dull thud proclaim the birth of a stamp or an entire? And will each machine have its own particular die number, and will completeness require the collection of a specimen from every machine, and will but stay, the stupendous possibilities unman me!

The postal authorities at the Leeward Islands have been stocktaking, and being desirous of making room for ambitious new issues with glorious portraits of the King, pictures of Columbus sighting land, the Sulphur Bath of Nevis, are clearing out the old stock of last season's goods, both adhesive and entire. Therefore the Crown Agents have been requested by the Secretary of State to ascertain what prices can be obtained from stamp dealers and speculators for the stocks. It is plainly stated, however, that as the issues have not been demonetised they will not be sold at less than face value. Amongst the lots are the following:—

1d. postcards, carmine	1831
1½d. postcards, brown	1082
2d. postcards, reply, carmine	839
3d. postcards, reply, brown	1294
½d. wrappers, green	210
1d. wrappers, carmine	12 987
1d. envelopes, embossed pink	18,509
2½d. envelopes, embossed light blue	17,864
2½d. Registration envelopes	383
3d. Registration envelopes	398

A nice little fifty-five thousand lot.—Who's first?

NOTES AND NOVELTIES.

Bolivar.—The following new Registration Envelopes are chronicled:—

20c. orange on rose, laid paper.
20c. carmine rose on rose.
20c. red on salmon.

Bulgaria.—Mr. Lohmeyer has seen a new the fifth-variety of card amongst the current 5 stot. Ferdinand type post cards. This time it is pale green card.

P.C. 5s. on pale-green.

Cape Colony.—E.W.S.N. prints the following from the 1902 Report of the Postmaster-General of Cape Colony.

Private post cards and sale of official cards at face value.

"During the year arrangements have been made with the other South African Colonies for the admission of post cards of private manufacture into the S. A. postal service, and these cards may now be used for transmission to any part of the world provided they conform in general with the regulations applying to official post cards.

This arrangement dates from the 1st of January, 1903, from which date it has also been agreed to sell the official cards at face or stamp value. The price of the illustrated cards issued by the post office remains unaltered."

Ceylon—A new King's Head wrapper has appeared.

W. 2c. violet on buff.

Danish West Indies—The "Era" reports a new set of cards, consisting of 1c. and 2c. single and double which they have seen. The inscriptions are in Danish and English, which is quite a new departure. There is a border or frame

of Greek pattern with arms as on Danish cards.

- P.C. 1c. green on white, 90 x 140 mm.
- 1 x 1c. green on white, 90 x 140 mm.
- 2c. blue on white, 90 x 140 mm.
- 2 x 2c. blue on white, 90 x 140 mm.

Great Britain—History moves quickly with E.W.S.N. The Die list of the King's Head envelope stamps now stands as follows:—

- ½d. Dies 7 to 25, 27, 28; 43, 44.
- 1d. Dies 7 to 30, except 19; 43 to 53, except 45 and 47.

It is probable, (says our contemporary), that the series runs as follows:—

B.R. unnumbered dies—six of each value (Nos. 1 to 6?).
 Numbered dies (Somerset House)—Two dozen dies, Nos. 7 to 30, each of ½d. and 1d.

B.R. unnumbered dies—a dozen of each value, (Nos. 31 to 42?) Numbered dies—a doz. ? of each, Nos. 43-54.

If so the following have not yet been recorded:—
 ½d. dies 26, 29, 30, 45 to 54. 1d. dies 19, 45, 47, 54.

India—Messrs Scott and Wilson have shown me the new King's Head Inland cards, single and double.

- P.C. ½ anna, red-brown on buff, 74 x 121 mm.
- ¼ x ¼ anna, red-brown on buff, 74 x 121 mm.

Italy, (Albania)—The Italian card (902) has been surcharged 20 Para 20, in a curve below stamp for use in Albania. This, we presume, is different to the variety with the surcharge "Albania."

P.C. 20 par on 10c., carmine on buff.

Morocco Agencies—The following cards and wrappers of Gibraltar have been overprinted "Morocco Agencies," and value in black:—

- P.C. 5c. on ½d. green on cream.
- 10c. on 1d. carmine on cream.
- W. 5c. on ½d. green on chamois.
- 10c. on 1d. carmine on chamois.

New Zealand—E.W.S.N. states that they have seen the new King Edward envelopes, and that the design and gen-

eral appearance of the ½d. is so extraordinary as to defy adequate description.

- Env. ½d. green, (on ?), 138 x 79 mm.
- 1d. rose, (on ?), 138 x 79 mm.

Norway—Mr. Lohmeyer reports to the "Era" having seen the new set of 3 and 5 ore single and double cards with the instructions "(Paa denne side skrives kun adressen.)" with only one capital letter "P."

- P.C. 3 ore, orange on white, 90 x 140 mm.
- 3 x 3 ore, orange on white, 90 x 140 mm.
- 5 ore, green on white, 90 x 140 mm.
- 5 x 5 ore, green on white, 90 x 140 mm.

Servia—The Lohmeyer reports having received two postal cards and two letter cards from this country, which are not only interesting, but also mark an epoch in the history of this Kingdom. The stamp, an entirely new design, much larger than on previous issues, measuring 20 x 26 mm. has the portrait of the murdered King Alexander in an oval surrounded by an oak and olive branch. **SERVIA** (in Russian) appears on a ribbon scroll above and figures of value in the two lower corners with **PARA** (in Russian) between. The postal cards 5 para yellow-green, and 10 para carmine, are on white, while the letter cards 5 para and 10 para are on pale rose. So much for the description of the cards as prepared for issue prior to the death of the late King. They have since been overprinted with the Coat-of-Arms of Servia in black on the postal cards, and in blue on the Letter Cards; completely covering and rendering unrecognisable the head of the murdered King. This provisional issue is likely to have a short career, a new permanent issue with head of the new King being in preparation.

- P.C. 5p. yellow-green and black on white, 90 x 139 mm.
- 10p. carmine and black on white, 90 x 139 mm.
- L.C. 5p. yellow-green and blue on pale-rose, 80 x 130 mm.
- 10p. carmine and blue on pale-rose, 80 x 130 mm.

Strait Settlements—New issue with King's Head are now on sale.

- P.C. 1c. green on cream, 74 x 121 mm.
- 1 x 1c. green on cream, 74 x 121 mm.

Mint Unused Sets of British COLONIAL STAMPS,

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LIST OF SOME OF THE LATEST SETS ISSUED.

	set of	Face value s. d.	Our price s. d.		Set of	Face Value s. d.	Our price s. d.
Antigua, Arma.	1, 2, 2½, 3, 6d., 1, 2, -	6 9	7 4	Gibraltar, King.	1, 2, 2½, 6d., 1, 2, -	16 0	17 4
Aitutaki on N.Z.	½, 1, 2½, 3, 6d., 1, -	2 1	2 4	Grenada, King.	1, 2, 2, 3, 6d., 1, -	2 3	2 6
Bahamas, King.	1, 2½, 4, 6d., 1, -	2 1½	2 4	Hong Kong, King.	1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 12, 20, 30, 50c., 1, 2, 3, 5d.	22 10	21 9
Queen's Staircase.	1, 5d., 2, -	5 6	6 0	Laluan, Crown.	2, 4, 8, 10, 12, 16, 18, 25, 60c.	2 9	3 0
B.C.A., King.	1, 2, 4, 6d., 1, -	11 7	15 10	Montserrat.	1, 2, 2½, 3, 6d., 1, -	6 9½	7 4
Brit. Somaliland on India.	½ to 5rs, complete	17 11	22 9	Natal, King.	1, 1½, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 5, 6d., 1, -	7 7	8 4
British New Guinea.	1, 2, 2½, 4, 6d., 1, -	2 4	2 9	N.Z. Fine stock of varieties of wmk. and perf.	-	-	-
Cayman Islands, King.	1, 1, 2½, 6d., 1, -	1 10	3 0	Niue.	1, 2, 3, 6c., 1, - (Penrhyn Is. ditto)	2 1	2 4
Canada, King.	1, 2, 5, 7, 10c.	1 0½	1 2	Orange River Colony, King.	1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6d., 1, -	2 7	2 10
Cook Islands.	1, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 5, 6, 11d., 1, -	3 4½	3 8	St. Helena, Pictorial.	1, 2, 2½, 1, -	3 11½	4 4
Dominica.	1, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 6d., 1, -	6 9	7 4	St. Kitts, Nevis, 1903.	1, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 6d., 1, -	6 9	7 4
Fiji Islan on King.	1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 5, 6d., 1, -	8 0	8 10	Seychelles, King.	2, 3, 6, 12, 15, 18, 30, 45, 75c.	2 9	3 0
Gambia, King.	1, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 1, 6d., 1, -	4 7	5 0	Southern Nigeria, King.	1, 1, 2, 4, 6d., 1, -	19 7½	21 4

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* 1d. lake-red ...	3	0	* 1/4d. lilac ...	2	3
* 1d. S.C. perf. 16, Die I	5	0	* 3d. lilac ...	3	6
* 1d. do. rare shade, Die II ...	20	0	* 1d. lilac, 1881, shade 16 dots ...	4	0
* 2d. blue, small Crown perf. 16, no gum	40	0	* 3d. on 3d. lilac ...	3	3
* 2/- blue ...	50	0	* 6d. on 6d. "	3	6
* 1/- green pl. 7 ...	20	0	* 1d. lilac, wmk. inverted block of 4 ...	4	0
* 2 1/2d. lilac-rose pl. 2 ...	12	6	* 3d. on the rare orange paper ...	20	0
* 2 1/2d. blue, pl. 23 ...	2	6	pair do. ...	40	0
* 1/4d. red, pl. 8, block of 4	4	0	£1 green I.R. Official, very fine, used ...	45	0
* 3d. rose, pl. 6 ...	6	0	1/-, 1885, do. very fine	70	0
* 3d. " pl. 21 ...	5	0	2 1/2d. lilac, 1885 ...	10	6
* 4d. sage-green, pl. 16	9	6	1/4d. vermilion, O.W.		
* 6d. lilac, pl. 5 ...	10	0	Official, block of 4, very fine ...	16	0
* 6d. do. pair ...	16	9	2 1/2d. lilac-rose, plate 2, on blued paper ...	25	0
* 6d. grey, pl. 13, pair	10	0	£5 very fine ...	30	0
* 1d. deep lilac, 14 dots	3	0			
* 1d. pale do. ...	3	0			
* 2d. rose ...	2	6			
* 1 1/2d. y-red, block of 4	10	0			

VOL. VIII.

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PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

Secretaries are requested to assist the Editor by sending in their reports not later than the Monday preceding publication.

THE TRAVELLERS' STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

The June Packet of this Amateur Club returned showing excellent sales in British Colonials, 17 members having seen it. This Packet was valued at £602 5s 6d., and many rare stamps changed hands. The Hon. Secretary will be pleased to send a copy of the rules, and furnish any information desired to Collectors, but only those who are amateurs and can give the highest references will be entertained. Hon. Secretary, Leicester A. B. Paine, Longsdon, Near Stoke-upon-Trent.

"STAMPS" EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

The September packets (one for each of the three sections) which have just started on their journeyings, total up to nearly £1000, and contain an excellent assortment of all countries, and it is hoped that the members will help to keep up the QUALITY of the packets during the coming session.

The April packets have returned, (being delayed on their travels through holidays) and the sheets will be despatched during the next week. The May packets also returned this week and will be dealt with in due course. Hon. Secretary, Thos. B. Widdowson, Lincoln Street, Leicester.

THE LADIES' STAMP EXCHANGE.

Owing to so many members going for their holidays, the June packet has been delayed, but the sales were very fair for the time of the year. There were thirty two sheets, value just over £90, from which were sold stamps value about £20.

Among the better things, were a large selection of old European, Hamburg being nearly complete, and some very fine specimens of the better stamps on parts of the originals, among which were the 3 Lira Neapolitan, used, at 2 6, the 5 Lira Eritrea, used; some superb Naples, and a variety which I have not yet seen catalogued of Congo, surcharged with large "O" official, used. Any lady or gentleman wishing to join this club should make application to the Secretary, Miss Louise Haynes, Westwood House, Wood Lane, Shepherd's Bush, W.

THE FISCAL STAMP EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

The stamp season having again started, it is hoped that the Fiscal Club will still show continued prosperity. The September packet lately sent out amounted to £238 and will circulate among thirty-three members.

New members are welcomed, either as sellers or buyers, and any having fiscals for disposal or desirous of taking up fiscalism, should write for rules and information to the Hon. Secretary—A. B. Kay, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London, W.

CHELSEA "ENTIRES" EXCHANGE.

This Exchange distributes among its Members officially-issued Postcards and envelopes in an "entire" condition with impressed Postage Stamps. A few Telegraph Forms and *used* original covers with adhesives, if of special interest, may be sent from time to time.

The subscription of One Shilling being nominal, all postages for correspondence, accounts, returning or acknowledging lots or cash are charged, with a commission of 5 per cent. from cash balances and cost of postal order or cheque. Twelve printed covers are provided free, extra ones at 4d. per dozen.

First class references required with application for Membership to the Manager, B. W. Warhurst, 15, Paultons Square, Chelsea, S.W.

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In Large or Small Quantities.

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Our Review of Reviews.

Chronology of the SurchARGE.

"The first surcharged postage stamp," remarks a writer in "The Adhesive," "was the France 25c on 20c, 1849-50, Scott's No. 5, but as it was never put into use the Y! on the 2r 1855 of Cuba is generally considered to be the first, and next came the curved "Four Pence" which gave a value where none was given before to the green Mauritius of 1858.

The Poor Peso of Guatemala.

In the Central American Republic of Guatemala, we gather from the "Philatelic Record," the value of the peso has so fallen that the President issued an order on the 6th of November, 1902, fixing the same at one franc; 50 centavos are therefore equal to 50 centimes or 5 pence, and the new postal tariff for the Postal Union has been raised proportionately. For instance, single letters up to 15 grammes now cost 50c.; single cards, 15c.; printed matter, for every 50 grammes or part, 10c.; patterns, 1-50gr., 15c.; 50-100gr., 20c. and c.; registration is 75c. This is the reason assigned for the recent issue of seven new provisional stamps, 25 centavos surcharged on various values.

Death of the "Collectors' News."

We regret to note that the "Collectors' News," originally known by the somewhat senseless title the "I. P. R.," has departed this life. Under Mr. Regan's editorship the "Collectors' News" showed promise of becoming a readable and useful journal. The strain of producing a stamp periodical, however, proved too great for one unused to the work, and Mr. Regan is left to lament a few premature grey hairs and equally premature wrinkles as the result of his short tenancy of the editorial chair.

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Rare Postage Stamps A SPECIALITY.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that their **FIRST SALE** of Next Season will take place on **SEPT. 29th & 30th.**

And will consist of a Fine Private Collection of **COLONIALS**. Full particulars have already been advertised, and illustrated Catalogue will be forwarded upon application.

OCTOBER 13th & 14th—A FINE SELECTION OF ALL COUNTRIES. *Catalogue Ready.*

OCTOBER 27th & 28th—Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON have received instructions to sell on these dates **The Fine Collection of Colonials**

Formed by the late Dr. LAWRENCE, of Jamaica. Amongst other Rarities may be mentioned:

GREAT BRITAIN. 1d., black, V.B.; 2d., blue, without lines, a pair, unused; 3d., with secret dots, etc. etc.
GIBRALTAR. Practically complete and including the rare error 10c. without value.
CEYLON. Imperf., 8d., 9d., 1/9 (2), and 2/-. Perf., wmk. Star, 8d. (8, one yellow-brown), 2/-. used and unused, etc.; wmk. CC, 3d., purple-brown, unused, 2 rupees 50c., etc.; wmk. CA., 2/6., purple-brown, unused, etc.
LABUAN. 1880, 6 in red on 16c., and 8 on 18c., unused, etc.
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. The 1d. and 4d. errors and other Woodblocks and Triangulars.
LAGOS. 5/- blue, unused.
MAURITIUS. Post Paid, 1d., several used, and one unused; 2d., several, including the "Penoe," superb; Large Fillet 2d., Greek border 2d., a fine strip of four, etc. etc.
TRANSVAAL. A fine lot of all issues and several of 1879 provisionals, including the rare Type 14 of the red surcharge.
ZULULAND. 5/-, £1, and £5.
CANADA. 13d., black, etc.

NEW BRUNSWICK. 6d. (2) and 1/-, superb, and the 5c. Connell.
NEWFOUNDLAND. 1/-, orange; 4d., 6d., 6 1/2d., and 1/-, scarlet, etc.
NOVA SCOTIA. 1/-, three copies, one superb.
MONTERRAT. 4d., C.A., very fine
NEVIS. 1/-, yellow-green; 6d. litho; 6d. green, etc.
ST. VINCENT. 1d. on half of 6d., 4d. on 1/-, and 5/-, Star, all unused.
TOBAGO. 1st issue, 8/- and £1; wmk. CC. 6d. stone; wmk. CA. 6d. stone, all mint.
TRINIDAD. A fine lot of the early issues and the rare "Lady McLeod" local an entire original.
TURKS ISLANDS. 1/-, lilac, and a fine lot of the rare 1881 provisionals.
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NEW SOUTH WALES. Some fine Sydney Views and Laureateds.
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And a very fine lot of large remainders of the various countries. **CATALOGUE READY.**

List of SALES for Season 1903-1904:—

1903.—September 29 and 30; October 13 and 14, 27 and 28; November 10 and 11, 24 and 25; December 8 and 9.
 1904.—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27
 May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8.

Clients wishing to include Collections in any of the above Sales are requested to make early arrangements with regard to their disposal, as some of the earlier dates are already allotted.

For Terms and Full Particulars, address:

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We have also

Perak, 5c. blue "Service" mint ...	s: d.
B. E. Africa, 1st Issue, 1d. lilac, mint ..	at 80 0
Mauritius, 5/- CC., mint ...	20 0
Gold Coast, 1d. on 6d. orange, mint ..	25 0
Newfoundland, 4d. lake, superb	18 0
pair, used ...	22 6
Hawaii, 1c. black on laid, mint ...	25 0
Pahang, 8cts. orange, used, superb ..	35 0
Uruguay, 1857, 120 blue, on piece ..	45 0
Do. do. 180 used, superb ...	50 0

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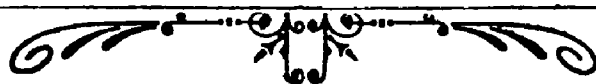
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Special New Season Number.

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 224. — Vol. IX

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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Our next Sale of POSTAGE STAMPS



Following Sales:

Will be held on Thursday & Friday,

October 15th & 16th, 1903.

OCTOBER, 29th. and 30th.

NOVEMBER 12th and 13th; 26th and 27th.

DECEMBER 10th and 11th.

And every alternate THURSDAY and FRIDAY throughout the Season.

Fine Art and Bric-à-brac Sale—9th & 10th November.

English Coins and War Medals—27th and 28th October.

COLLECTORS who intend to DISPOSE OF COLLECTIONS are advised to make early arrangements to secure advantageous dates of Sale.

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(Close to the Philatelic Society's Rooms and the Temple Station on the District Railway.)

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce their Dates of Sales for the Season as follows:—

1903.—OCTOBER 22nd and 23rd; NOVEMBER 4th and 5th, 19th and 20th; DECEMBER 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th.

1904.—JANUARY 7th and 8th, 21st and 22nd; FEBRUARY 4th and 5th, 18th and 19th; MARCH 3rd and 4th, 17th and 18th; APRIL 7th and 8th, 21st and 22nd; MAY 5th and 6th, 19th and 20th
JUNE 16th and 17th.

OCTOBER 22nd & 23rd.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell on the above dates A FINE GENERAL COLLECTION including many fine and scarce stamps.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, have also received instructions to sell on November 5th & 6th, and November 19th and 20th, TWO VERY FINE COLLECTIONS OF COLONIAL STAMPS, detailed advertisements of which will appear shortly.

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

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, 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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CATALOGUES of all Sales may be obtained of

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The greatest care is taken of all property entrusted to us for sale by Auction. Every stamp is carefully handled and mounted in such a way that it can readily be examined by intending purchasers without causing any injury to it.

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It frequently happens that people who have stamps to sell, and who have very little knowledge of market prices, expect to receive for their property far more than it is worth. As Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co. earnestly desire that all their clients should be completely satisfied with the result of any business entrusted to them, they would feel obliged if intending Vendors, who have not such knowledge of the actual value of stamps, would mention the lowest price they think they should receive, in order that the stamps may be returned without expense to the Vendor if the amount required is prohibitive.

The Register of Philatelists to whom Auction Catalogues are forwarded has been compiled at enormous expense and labour, and includes the names of all the best buyers, not only in the United Kingdom but also abroad. Every lot offered for sale is, therefore, brought under the notice of everyone it is likely to interest, with the resulting open competition entailing the best current market price.

Advantages to Buyers.

Formerly Stamp Auctions were almost entirely supported by London Dealers and Collectors who were able to go carefully through all the lots prior to the Sale actually taking place. This was rendered necessary by the very loose way in which the condition of many lots was described; stamps, for instance, that were slightly defective would be described as "very fine." Country collectors and others unable to view the lots were afraid to send bids, as, in many cases, when they had done so, the result to themselves was the reverse of satisfactory. When Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co. first started Stamp Auctioneering, their first aim was to remedy this regrettable state of affairs as far as their own sales were concerned, and "A Special Condition" (No. 5) in the "Conditions of Sale" was the result. *This condition absolutely ensures accurate descriptions and enables buyers, unable to view the lots, to send bids, fully confident that a stamp described as "fine," "very fine," or "superb" is such in every sense of the word.*

The Auctioneers make *no charge* whatever for *executing commissions* for Collectors and Dealers unable to attend their sales, and lots are purchased as much *below* the given limit as possible; in fact, bidders by post are treated in exactly the same way as if they were present in the auction room.

All instructions are most carefully attended to

Nearly every lot is sold without reserve, and in any case only very reasonable reserves are accepted; buyers will therefore find it greatly to their advantage to attend or be represented at every Sale throughout the season. As an auction sale is a cash market, prices are to a certain extent influenced by circumstances, and the consistent buyer will find that if he is unable to procure what he wants at one Sale, his opportunity will come sooner or later. Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co. are the only firm of Stamp Auctioneers who make it a strict rule that no member of their staff may collect or deal in stamps, etc. Bidders will consequently appreciate the obvious advantages to be derived from this regulation.

Private Treaty Department.

Vendors can, if they wish, have *entire collections and single rare stamps* disposed of by Private Treaty instead of by Auction, the inclusive rate on lots sold being 10 per cent., no charge whatever being made when a sale is not effected.

Collectors and Dealers who are desirous of purchasing collections and single rare stamps would do well to notify us of their requirements, as we can then communicate with them when we have anything on hand likely to prove suitable.

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We make valuations for all purposes at very moderate charges. No charge is made for valuing when the property valued is afterwards disposed of through us.

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE and Co. are the only Firm confining their attention entirely to the sale of stamps on commission, and as all business is transacted under the direct supervision of the partners, who have had a wide experience of matters connected with Stamp Auctions during the past ten years, they are thus in a position to attend to the interests of their clients in a manner that could not be attempted by a firm simply holding Postage Stamp Sales as an adjunct to their ordinary business.

Commission Department

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co. can execute bids for Clients, unable to be present, at all London Stamp Sales — an advantage to Collectors of being represented by a firm of non-dealing Experts whose interests are not in any connected with those of the sellers.

All lots carefully examined previous to purchase, and report sent if desired.

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- 5 % on the price paid, minimum 1/- per lot
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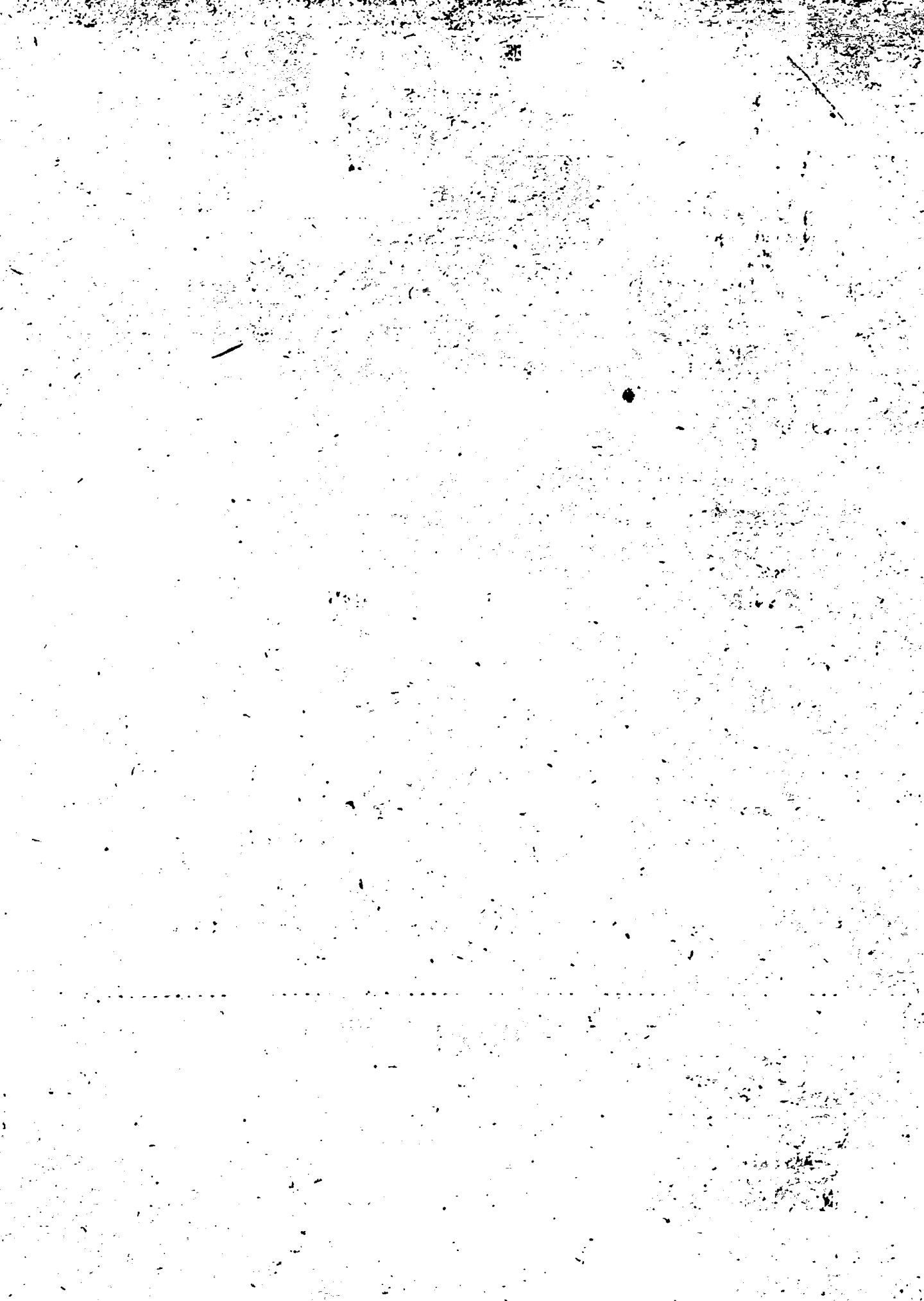
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No 224.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

Where are the White Listers?

THE applications for enrolment in our "White List of Philatelists" are coming in with precious slowness, as the proverbial Irishman might have said. Even some of those who applauded the scheme most loudly when it was first mooted have not yet submitted their names for the "ordeal of publication."

What are we to conclude? Is the "White List of Philatelists" a thing unwanted, or are there less than thirty stamp men of blameless reputation among the thousands who read the *Fortnightly*? It must be one thing or the other.

"I am downright astonished," writes one of those whose names have already appeared, "at the paltry few names sent in for enrolment. Philatelists ought to join in shoals for the ben'fit of Philately at large."

There breathes the true spirit, and we earnestly commend it to all readers of the *Fortnightly*. It should be clear to every philatelist that by helping Philately he helps himself.

New Catalogues from Germany.

We can teach German publishers nothing as regards the typography and general "get up" of the stamp catalogue.

The new "Seuf," just to hand from Leipzig, is a model of completeness, combined with severe compression. "Seuf"

seems to become more and more valuable as a handbook year by year, and there is necessarily an increase of bulk, yet, thanks to the clever typography and the well-selected paper, the book is by no means unwieldy, for all its 1,300 pages.

ANOTHER ever-welcome catalogue is that of Mr. Paul Kohl, of Chemnitz—a book rather like the "Scott" catalogue in its general style of production. The 1903-04 edition is much enlarged, and totals nearly 1,000 pages.

Some Varieties of English.

"Yob," writing from Calcutta says: I shall feel much obliged if you or any of the readers of the *Fortnightly* can tell me whether any of the following varieties of English have been chronicled:—

- 31. plate No. 21; mauve instead of lilac surcharged 3d.
- 4d. Rose, medium garter; Postage, (i.e. the Circle (o) in the Centre).
- 4d. " " " " ; Postage, (i.e. the dot (.) in the Centre).
- 6d. Plate No. 18; mauve instead of lilac; 6d. (dots not full).
- 6d. type 18, pair on azure paper.
- 9d. plate No. 2; yellow brown, controlling letters marked III., faint net-work over R; RI (Circle over R) net-work over I.
- 1s. plate No. 7, green, controlling letters $\frac{K}{N}$ dotted half circle round.
- 1s. plate 1, pair $\frac{M}{A}$ — net-work over A. $\frac{B}{B}$ half circle round B.
- 1s. type No. 19; block 3 watermark emblems, azure?
- 5s. plate No. 1, block, bluish or blued paper or azure?
- King's Head, 2 6 } blued paper?
- " " 5. }

The Case of the High Officials.

OVER the pen-name, "Sauce for the Gander," a reader of that very plain-spoken Sunday journal "Reynold's Newspaper," indites the following letter:—

Since it has been decided that it is illegal for any person except a duly authorised official, to be in possession of certain stamps, it seems to follow that the selling or giving of such stamps to unauthorised persons is illegal. It does not appear that the substitution of postage stamps of equal value renders those transactions legal.

The following question then arises: Why is not a prosecution instituted against Sir H. Primrose, who, on his own admission, gave official stamps to his son, a person unauthorised to receive them. Sir Henry, of course, might plead ignorance, for under cross-examination in the

police courts he made the amazing admission that Somerset House would be the last place to know the outside value of stamps. There is some advantage in being an earl's grandson and Lord Rosebery's cousin.

Those, like myself, who know the attitude adopted towards the rank and file of Inland Revenue officials and the severity with which Sir Henry treats even the most trifling official lapses, can well imagine how far a plea of ignorance would weigh with him.

I trust that when Parliament reassembles the matter will receive the attention of those M.P.'s who are in the habit of bringing intelligent criticism to bear on questions of this kind.

JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A most attractive prospectus is issued for the season 1903-1904. A new meeting-place has been secured at the Wheat-sheaf Institute, South Lambeth Road, which is within four minutes' walk of Vauxhall railway station. The following (subject to revision) is the Society's generous programme for 1903-04, the meeting night in each case being Saturday.

- Oct. 17.—8.0—Forgery Night. Display of the Society's Forgery Collection.
8.30—"Forgeries and Fakes."
8.45—Paper, "Skeleton Philately," by A. R. McCullum, Esq.
- Nov. 7.—7.30—Sale and Exchange.
8.0—Paper, "Is Philately on the Wane?" by C. J. Patman, Esq.
8.45—Display with notes—British Colonies: II. Cyprus.
- Nov. 21.—8.0—Lantern Lecture in the Wheat-sheaf Hall, South Lambeth Road, S.W., "The Romance of Postage Stamps," by Fred J. Melville, Esq.
- Dec. 5.—7.30—Sale and Exchange.
8.0—Paper and Display, "Entires, and their Collection," by W. A. Bois, Esq.
8.45—Display with notes—British Colonies: III. Malta.
- Dec. 19.—8.0—Paper and Display, "The Stamps of Seychelles," by H. W. H. Poole, Esq., Vice-President.
8.45 Paper, "The Joys of Generalism," by J. Feeney, Esq.
- 1904.
- Jan. 2.—7.30—Sale and Exchange.
8.0—Paper, "The New Collecting," by R. Halliday, Esq.
8.30—Display with notes—British Colonies: IV. Ceylon.
- Jan. 16.—8.0—Fiscal Notes, accompanied by a display of Stamps, by W. Schwabacher, Esq., Chairman of the Fiscal Society.
- Jan. 23.—2.45—Special Afternoon Meeting. Visit to the Tapling Collection of Postage Stamps at the British Museum.
- Feb. 6.—7.0—Fifth Annual Conversation and Dance in Raleigh Hall, Saltoun Road, Brixton, S.W.
- Feb. 20.—8.0—Paper and Display, "The Stamps of Mexico," by Rudolph Frenzel, Esq.
- Feb. 5.—7.30—Sale and Exchange.
8.0—Paper, "The Evolution of the Postmark," by B. W. H. Poole, Esq., Vice-President.
8.30—Display with notes—British Colonies: V. Straits Settlement.
- Feb. 19.—8.0—Paper and Display, "The Stamps of France," by R. S. Farden, Esq.
- Apr. 2.—7.30—Sale and Exchange.
8.0—Paper, "Our Young Philatelists and Philatelic Prospects," by E. Heginbottom, Esq., B.A.
8.30—Display with notes—British Colonies: VI. India.
- Apr. 16.—8.0—Paper and Display, "The Stamps of Denmark," by W. Darwen, Esq., Vice-President.
8.30—Paper and Display, "Revenues and Cut Square Envelopes of Great Britain," by Oswald Marsh, Esq.
- May 7.—7.30—Sale and Exchange.
8.0—Paper, "Philately at a Distance," by C. B. Purdom, Esq.
8.30—Display with notes—British Colonies: VII. Hong Kong.
- May 21.—7.30—Annual General Meeting.

The meetings, with the exception of that on November 21st, and the Special Gathering at the British Museum, on January 23rd, 1904, will be held in the Small Hall of the Wheat-sheaf Institute, 67, South Lambeth Road, London, S.W.

The interesting series of British Colonial Displays on the first Saturday of each month (except February) has been arranged by the kindness of Ernest Heginbottom, Esq., B.A., who has placed his vast collection at the Society's disposal for study on these occasions.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. Herbert F. Johnson, 9, Lorne Terrace, South Lambeth Road, London, S.E., from whom a full prospectus and all desired information may be obtained.

The Press and the Prosecution.

VARIOUS COMMENTS ON THE OFFICIAL STAMPS CASE.

Newspapers, both in London and the provinces, have commented, in many cases interestingly and intelligently, on the Government Stamp Prosecution. We make a few extracts from leading journals, arranging them in what we venture to think is their order of merit:

The "Daily Mail," London:

To stamp collectors it is a matter of common knowledge that official stamps have been leaking out for many years past. Almost any advanced collector can show with pride his unused or "mint" officials' labels, and this leakage has not been confined to minor officers. There is no regulation prohibiting the use of the stamps in question for private correspondence, while the chief of the department, Sir Henry Pimrose, admitted on the preliminary hearing that he himself had at one time purchased twenty-four halfpenny stamps for a shilling, which were, of course, worth in the market very much more. Questioned as to the morality of his action, Sir Henry stated that he was authorised to take them, but the authority, he afterwards admitted, was his own by virtue of his office! It is apparently the old story of a scapegoat having to be found. By all means purge the public services of these irregularities. We could wish, however, that the attempt had not been made in the manner it has.

The "Daily Graphic," London.

The stamp "collectors" who were yesterday sentenced at the Old Bailey to six months' imprisonment for trafficking in Government stamps seem to have hit upon an ingenious method of benefiting themselves without doing any material injury to anyone else. The sentence passed upon them will, it may be hoped, be not only a warning to themselves, but to others engaged in the same business who have hitherto escaped detection. There must be some laxity in the Government Departments to make such a traffic possible. The profits arising out of the transaction appear to have been considerable, for it seems that stamps of the "face" value of fifteen shillings were disposed of for no less a sum than £160. A remarkable feature of the case was that one of the prisoners sentenced yesterday was delegated to make inquiries into the leakage of the stamps when suspicions were first excited. Needless to say, his investigations were not very successful.

The "Evening News," London.

While not disputing the justice of the sentences in the Government stamp case, it is impossible not to entertain a certain feeling of sympathy with the prisoners. On the one hand, they committed acts, which they knew were against the law, solely for their own profit; on the other hand they knew that nobody was a penny the worse, and we fear that the collectors' conscience is easily soothed. To them the Government was a dog-in-the-manger which would not sell its precious wares nor allow them to be sold, and the temptation was naturally great to those who were placed in charge of the stamps. For our own part, we think the whole business of over-printed stamps sufficiently childish. Some nations have official stamps, and the United States at one time had separate stamps for each department, but this expensive custom has been abandoned. Why should not our Government offices either perforate the stamps—which would prevent theft and would not raise the value in the eyes of collectors—or else sell the over-printed stamps to collectors at their face value? If the latter scheme were adopted, it would prove a substantial benefit to the Revenue, and would remove a great and unnecessary temptation from the path of weak-minded Government employees.

The "Daily Post," Birmingham.

If Richards, who was the official custodian of all the stamps, had supplied Creeke from the regular stock, representing usually a face value of many millions, the fraud would have been promptly detected, owing to the excellence of the Government checks. But this risk was cunningly avoided by transferring the stamps first to the waste department and selling them to Creeke as damaged goods. In order to provide for the contingency of imperfectly printed or accidentally torn stamps, it seems, Richards had authority to apply to his superiors for a cancellation order whenever he met with stamps in this condition. Another method of taking stamps out of stock or demonsting them was by printing on them the word "specimen," when they were issued to some Government official, for information or checking purposes. The system adopted in either case seems to have been as perfect as it could well be for preventing fraud; but Richards, with the assistance probably of Creeke, found a vulnerable point in it, in the discretion allowed him in regard to damaged stamps.

The "Evening Standard," London.

The enthusiasm of the collector is not always proof against the temptations to underhand transactions which beset him in the pur-

suit of his beloved hobby; but there was nothing in the evidence brought forward in the Stamp Fraud case, decided at the Central Criminal Court yesterday, to prove that those who bought the purloined specimens from the intermediaries were aware that they were engaged in an illegal transaction. The internal regulations of a Government department are not necessarily known to the public at large, and the fact that rare stamps could be obtained through responsibly-placed officials would not suggest itself to every intelligent collector as proof of any illicit traffic. But any belief in the innocence of the principals in the charge is negated by the elaborate precautions taken to avoid detection. The methods employed leave no grounds for uncertainty as to the guilty knowledge of those engaged in the sales. In view of this feature of the case, and the length of the period over which the frauds extended, the sentences cannot be called excessive, and the action will be of importance in calling public attention to the grave consequences which may attach to such purchases.

"FAKERY" IN SYDNEY.

LETTER FROM MR. FRED HAGEN REGARDING THE PHILATELIST WHO LEFT AUSTRALIA IN A HURRY.

Readers of the *Fortnightly* will remember an article in our No 207 (February 14th., 1903), detailing Mr. Fred Hagen's sensational revelations as to stamp fakery in Sydney, N.S.W., and as to the hurried departure for America of one F. W. Reid, erstwhile a fairly prominent Australian dealer.

Since that time Mr. Reid, from his new home in the great Republic, has addressed repeated letters to the "American Journal of Philately" in his own defence and justification. Replying to these letters Mr. Fred Hagen asserts that Mr. Reid's "facts" are distortions.

"It is a mighty long way between New York and Sydney," Mr. Hagen writes; "I have, therefore, to crave your indulgence if I refer to what is practically ancient history.

In your JOURNAL for April you publish several letters from Mr. F. W. Reid in connection with the exposure of faked perfs., etc. These letters are an endeavour to distort facts.

Mr. Reid admits having refunded an amount to Mr. Maney Lake, but only when requested to do so—this is the collector to whom I refer in my article, who had money refunded—but Mr. Reid omits to mention that many others, who can be named if required, are lamenting Mr. Reid's absence, or, at least, the cash they would like to have in place of the faked perfs. they hold. Mr. Reid also forgets to explain away his candid remarks to one of the Sydney dealers that he had altered the figures denoting the perforation marked on the back of certain New Zealand stamps after the perforations had been faked.

Mr. Reid mentions that many of the stamps "are so low priced as to preclude the idea of anyone faking them"—true, but it was omitted to be mentioned that these common perfs. (but which are not the commonest) were unused and in this state are fairly difficult to get locally.

The main point of Mr. Reid's defence is that the letter written by him five years ago has been distorted, since the typewritten copy was shown to him. Mr. Reid, when shown the typewritten copy, stated that the original letter had been tampered with; now he says that the copy has been tampered with. I attach the original copy and the typewritten copy of same, which was shown to Mr. Reid, and which you will see is certified to as correct by Judge Hamilton and Mr. Maney Lake. I published extracts only referring to stamp matters as the private affairs of Mr. Reid did not concern the philatelic world; you will please notice that the extracts published are *exactly* the same as the authenticated copy and have not been distorted as Mr. Reid infers.

Mr. Reid was quite correct in stating that my informant was the "Japanese Faker" of the diadem watermarks, but he omits to mention that his incriminating letter was written to the "Japanese Faker," who was also his intimate friend, that he carried on business in his friend's shop during the time of the diadem fakes and that he also lived at his friend's house for some considerable time. Furthermore, the private and domestic reasons which Mr. Reid advances for his hurried departure were due to his fear of an action being brought against him in causing his friend's home to be broken up. Notwithstanding the incalculable damage done, his one time friend, whom he terms the "Japanese Faker," informed me he had no intention of bringing legal action against him. Mr. Reid, I believe, was aware of this, consequently I felt justified in stating that the "private and personal reasons due to domestic affairs" were proved not to exist.

Mr. Reid was given every opportunity of explaining matters and, although he remained in Sydney for some 14 days afterwards he studiously refrained from giving any explanation to the Committee appointed to investigate the matter.

Some New-Season Jottings.

CHANGES AND ENTERPRISES THAT BETOKEN A BUSY WINTER FOR PHILATELISTS.

Reports from the stamp trade, both in London and the provinces, are most promising.

Mr. W. H. Peckitt's latest big purchase is the fine collection formed by the late Rev. W. Bell, of Kilmeen, County Cork, whose tragic death last year will be a sad remembrance to all readers of the *Fortnightly*. It says much for Mr. Peckitt's extensive trade in rarities and for his financial resources that he is able to buy such a big lot as this so soon after his purchase of the Earl of Kintore's "gilt-edged" collection.

From Messrs. Lawn and Barlow, of Regent Street, we have particulars of a most interesting novelty in the shape of a Philatelic Cabinet, known as the Cistafile. The Cistafile is virtually an application of the system of the "elastic bookcase" to stamp collecting. It is a building up of small cabinets, each cabinet accommodating 500 stamps. The thing needs to be seen to be properly understood, and we advise all readers who are within reach of Regent Street to see it. Or a line to Messrs. Lawn and Barlow, 99, Regent Street, will bring a prospectus of the new invention by return of post. It is claimed that the Cistafile will supersede the stamp album altogether.

Messrs. Bright and Son are in the happy position of having, during the past year, beaten their "previous best" in point of business transacted. The "King Edward Edition" of their "A.B.C." Catalogue has sold remarkably well, and a supplement to the same is now in active preparation.

Down Bi-hop-gate way Messrs. G. Hamilton Smith and Co. are doing brisk business in the "Interchangeable" Albums which brought the firm such a well-deserved honour at Mullanhausen. Their trade generally is good.

Their lease in Essex Street having expired, Messrs. Alfred Smith and Son have removed to new offices at 4, Southampton Row, W.C.

Another removal is that of a very well-known and popular City dealer, Mr. J. Louis, who has migrated to 63 and 64, New Broad Street, E.C. His is a very fine all-round stock. Mr. W. Jacoby is still to be found in Fenchurch Street, where he can show one of the finest stocks of European stamps in London, especially rich in rare Bremens, Oldenburgs, Wurtemburgs, etc. After successful visits to the Continent and America, Messrs. J. Boulton and Co., of Queen Street, Cheap-side, are now very busily engaged in large wholesale "deals." Another E.C. firm, *The City Stamp Company*, are making a special show of all African Colonies—used, King's Heads in sets and single rarities. Their trade grows daily as the season advances.

The fine Colonial price-list issued by Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. brought such a rush of business that the firm found it necessary to enlarge their offices and arrange a well-lighted room specially for customers wishing to view stamps. They report very satisfactory business generally. In the same quarter of London, Messrs. Charles Nissen and Co. speak enthusiastically of the prospects of their new publishing venture, the "Stamp Collectors' Annual," for which some very noteworthy contributions have been promised. Another old friend, Mr. A. Boucard is preparing a very fine list of sets of stamps of all countries, which should be of interest and value to hundreds of collectors.

The Auction Season, 1903-1904.

Messrs. Glendining, of the Argyll Gallery, have some splendid sales "coming along." Apart from stamps their art and curio department has shown a gratifying development. In early sales they will be offering some very choice collections and examples of china, antique furniture, armour, oil paintings, etc., etc.

In Messrs. Ventom, Bull and Cooper's stamp sales there will be the usual plenitude of good stamps of all countries. A busy and satisfactory season is anticipated.

Messrs. Plumridge and Co. have begun the season well, and have many excellent sales in the making.

Messrs. Martin Bay and Co. will hold their usual Monday sales throughout the season. Their first auction, which will be duly reported in the *Fortnightly*, proved a great success.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, OCTOBER 10, 1903.

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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Good Luck to all Philatelists in the New Season. The present number of the *Fortnightly* may be taken as an earnest that 1903-1904 is going to be an active and eventful season.

An interesting Paper on Lagos, by Mr. Bertram Poole, will be among the features of the next *Fortnightly*. Much matter that should have appeared in this issue (including New Issues and the notices of the White List of Philatelists) has been crowded out by the great pressure of advertisements. In fact, we have been compelled, very reluctantly, to decline several advertisements tendered too late for insertion.

The "White List Notice" will reappear in our next number, accompanied, we hope, by a large list of applications for membership. Let us make a good showing at the opening of the new season.

There is a popular impression that literary contributions for the *Fortnightly* are not required, and that no payment is offered for same. The facts are these: We are constantly seeking for scientific philatelic articles—papers and reference lists on special countries by specialists of those countries—and for such contributions we are prepared to pay, and to pay liberally. Of articles of a general nature, we have, generally speaking, a plentiful supply; and though we are always pleased to consider any contribution that may be submitted to us, it must be understood that our present staff is quite capable of dealing with such general matters as the news and gossip of the day, and the doings of philatelists at home and abroad. We shall revert to this question of contributions in an early number.

Our News re Forgeries at Brighton has brought us several interesting letters, which, for reasons that may easily be guessed, we do not at present publish. It will be sufficient at present to warn South Coast philatelists that there are a number of dangerous fakes and forgeries in the hands of certain small shopkeepers at the "Queen of Watering Places." Mr. C. Nissen, who has just returned from a short stay at Brighton, has collected a great many of the local fakes and will describe and illustrate them in the "Stamp Collectors' Annual," a new publication promised for an early date in November.

The usual Auction Reports for the season 1903-1904 will begin in the next number of the "S. C. F."

Our friend Mr. W. Lacey, informs us that he has removed to much more commodious offices at 65a, London Road, Brighton, where he will at all times be pleased to see collectors or dealers. He can show a very large and varied stock.

A most attractive price list of British and Colonial stamps listing a very wide range of varieties, reaches us from Messrs. Hyam and Co., 158, Brompton Road, S.W. Some of the prices are remarkably low.

Fiscal Notes and Chronicle.

CONTRIBUTED BY A. PRESTON PEARCE.

In my last Notes I referred to the difficulty of obtaining early information respecting new issues, and a striking illustration of this is afforded by Mr. Thomson's article on Jersey Fiscals in "Morley's Journal" for September. Collectors who have not seen this article will probably open their eyes rather widely at the unfamiliar name, and their surprise will not be lessened by the announcement that there was a provisional issue in May, 1900, followed a few weeks later by a handsome series of seven values which has been in use for over three years without coming to our knowledge. For the account of their discovery, and for the first part of the official decree governing their issue and employment, readers must be referred to the article mentioned.

Approval sheets of fiscals frequently exhibit certain curious productions bearing such inscriptions as "Business College Stamp," and every now and then I am asked to explain their status. Most of these come from Canada or the United States, and emanate from institutions professing to give a commercial training, the labels being employed in the endeavour to carry out even to the smallest detail the preparation and stamping of mercantile documents such as Bills of Exchange, Bills of Lading, etc. From this it will be seen that they do not possess the slightest philatelic interest; and the same may doubtless be said of the Japanese "School Post and Telegraph" labels, of which considerable numbers made their appearance a year or two ago.

NEW ISSUES AND DISCOVERIES

Cambodge.—Type of French *Effets de Commerce* of the last upright issue, printed in colours and overprinted at the bottom, in three lines, with the value, the name and the title of the series, "Droit de Greffe." The overprint is in black for the lower values, and in red for the higher ones.

1c lilac-brown	50c rose
10c. blue-green	1 piastre black
20c. pale magenta	2 piastres black

Jersey.—Provisional issue, May, 1900. Type-set design, consisting of the words "Etats de Jer-ey," at top, "Treasurer" at bottom, and value in large figures between. Printed in violet on white wove paper, perf. 12. Treasurer's initials—"H.N.G."—added in black ink. Values, 1/- and 2/6.

Permanent issue. Printed in colour on thin white wove paper, perf. 14.

1/- lake; Jersey Cow.
2/- dark green; Victoria College.
2/6 purple; Mt. Orgeuil Castle
5/- black; Harbour.
£1 sepia; Battle of Jersey.
£2 grey; Corbiere Lighthouse.

There are no inscriptions indicating the use for which these stamps are intended, but the expression of the value in words on some of them (e.g., "deux chelins") has a most uncanny appearance.

Peru.—M. Bailliere has unearthed some curious provisionals of that distressful period so philatelically prolific, and they prove to be quite different from any that have previously been described.

Arms in a double-lined oval containing the inscriptions "DEPARTAMENTOS DEL SUR—TIMBRES 1881-1882," immediately below which is the name "PERU." For the 10c., the value in words appears at the top, in the case of the two other values seen it is at the bottom in words and in the upper corners in figures. There is a bold overprint in black consisting of the word "PROVISIONAL" in semi-circular form with the date "1881-1882" across the base.

Roughly lithographed on very thin transparent paper, imperf:

10c. blue	5 soles yellow.
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With further overprint of date "1883" in large figures in red:

5 soles yellow.

With same overprint in black:

25c. printed on thicker white paper.

BOND STREET PHILATELY.

SOME SPLENDID STAMPS AT MR. DAVID FIELD'S SWAGGER SHOP IN THE ROYAL ARCADE.

A TEN-MINUTES TALK ABOUT STAMPS WORTH BUYING—AND OTHERS.

The non-philatelic person who passes the Royal Arcade, Bond Street, either at its Bond Street or its Albemarle Street extremity, is in danger of being converted to philately on the spot, or, at any rate, at a spot not far distant. A handsome show case full of interesting stamps is conspicuously placed at each of the two entrances to the Royal Arcade—well-named the Royal, by the way, for it is the king of all the London arcades in architecture and decoration. It (the show case) sets forth the name and fame, and illustrates the wares of Mr. D. Field; and the whole thing has such an enticing look that most people who feel the slightest interest in stamps and many who feel no interest in them whatever, are attracted into the broad and well-planned arcade. Once there, the uninitiated are in imminent danger of "falling a victim to the wiles of the Goddess Philatelia." The phrase is not ours, but is borrowed, with respectful acknowledgments, from one of the junior stamp journals of America.

A brilliant show of stamps from all quarters of the globe may be seen in Mr. D. Field's shop window—the biggest window of any stamp shop in London, by the way—but these are merely an earnest of what is to be seen inside, where is to be found a stock of rarities, and especially Colonial rarities, that probably very few firms in the kingdom can equal.

Mr. Field's progress as a stamp dealer is a story of swift and abiding success. It must be some sixteen years ago that he first opened shop as a stamp dealer in Booksellers' Row, Strand, on premises then belonging to his father, well-known as a successful art dealer. Mr. Field the elder is now the proprietor of the Albemarle Gallery, within a stone's throw of his son's stamp shop in the Royal Arcade. By reason of his sound



MR. D. FIELD.

and unchanging belief in the value of good stamps, and by dint of many daring but successful investments, in "the best stuff" at top prices. Mr. D. Field occupies to day the enviable position of one of our most prosperous dealers. He is in a position to buy, at short notice, the biggest things in stamps that can be placed on the market, and, moreover, he has accumulated a stock of stamps that bristles with superb copies of those fine old stamps that the philatelist of restricted means can only afford to dream about. Our most recent visit to Mr. Field was on behalf of the *Fortnightly*. We wished to "talk stamps," and found the dealer so fluent in his facts and his views on stamp topics that the pencil of the interviewer frequently lagged behind the voice of the interviewee.

"Some of my best stamps?" said Mr. Field, echoing his visitor's opening request. "Certainly. Where shall we begin? My stock books are kept in here"—pulling open the doors of a bran-new Milner safe, taller and even broader than himself.

"You see, they are fairly thick quarto volumes, well-filled with stamps. I don't think you will find many blank spaces

in them, and as I have about 200 of those books altogether, you can see they represent a great number of stamps and a good deal of money.

"So much for the stock books. The great rarities and special things I keep apart. Here is one little book, for instance, that I value at about £300 nett. Full of fine things, you see"—running through the eight or ten leaves of the slender volume: Capes, a fine lot of Ceylons, the rare lavender shade of St. Vincent, and so on."

Turning to other books, Mr. Field showed many special rarities, oddities and errors.

"Here is a stamp"—pointing to the circular hand-printed first issue of Bermuda "of which only two copies are known to exist. This is one; the other is in the collection of Mons. le Renotiere von Ferrary. I gave a cheque for three figures for this specimen, buying it from the gentleman whose information led to the investigation of the facts concerning the issue."

In another book were shown such things as the English 9d. with hair lines, a Cape "Woodblock" error, three fine specimens of the early Moldavians, and some pretty things in Orange River Colony, such as a pair of the 2d. with V.R.I.

inverted and showing the thick "V"; a pair of the 1d., one of them without the overprint; others of the "A.T." series with "A.T." inverted.

"Here's something unique," went on Mr. Field, opening a little collection of African gems—"a block of four of the 'Zanzibar' on 2 annas blue Indian showing a double surcharged specimen. Now only one sheet was printed with the double surcharge, and only two stamps on the sheet showed the error. I originally

had both of them, as I bought a block of six comprising both the double overprints. I kept only this block of four myself, however, and gave the other pair to my wife for her collection, which, by the way, I must show you presently. So you see, there is at least one philatelic error of which my wife and I have an absolute monopoly."

Another "uniquity," so to speak, in Mr. Field's collection is a most curious example of the £5 Transvaal stamp with V.R.I. overprint. This is a thing that is not easily described. It needs to be seen to be believed and understood. There are two surcharges of the "V.R.I." and yet there are not two. To be clear about it, when the surcharge was originally applied the letter "I" failed to print, probably being uninked. The discrepancy being noticed, the printers proceeded to rectify it by making a second surcharge a little lower down, but with the letters "V.R." either uninked or covered with a piece of paper to prevent them printing. The result is that the stamp shows a surcharge of "V.R. with an albino printing of the "I" and lower down a surcharge of "I" alone, with a blind impression of the "V" and "R." A most extraor-



MRS. D. FIELD.

inary stamp, of the possession of which Mr. Field is naturally proud.

"What is your speciality!" we asked when there came a pause in the procession of scarce stamps.

"Rarities," Mr. Field promptly and emphatically answered. "Fine and rare stamps of all countries, but especially the older issues of British Colonies. As a buyer of gilt-edged stamps I do not think there is any dealer in London who can outbid me."

"You have many clients among advanced philatelists?"

"The most advanced—many of them people to whom price is really a secondary consideration so long as the stamp is the thing they want and in absolutely the finest condition. I am always on the look-out for rarities in fine condition, and in this particular line I can honestly say that I am as ready and as willing to buy as to sell."

Mr. Field, in fact, has tremendous faith in the steadily appreciating value of the very finest stamps and he, we must remember, is one who bases his confidence in them upon his actual knowledge of the principal buyers of such stamps. And like Mr. C. J. Phillips, and many another sound judge of the stamp market, Mr. Field strongly deprecates the present practice of hoarding up unused Colonials of current and recent issues. Many of these accumulators (for how can one properly call them collectors?) will have a very rude awakening one of these days. Indeed, some of them have suffered that rude awakening already.

"I myself," Mr. Field declared, "have a big stock of certain Colonials that I would be pleased to dispose of at face value or a little less, although many of them are supposed to be good stamps and are catalogued at a good deal over 'face.' The fact is there is no real market for newly-issued stuff, though it may show a nominal rise in the catalogues. I should like philatelists to be strongly warned against over-speculation in recent issues of Colonials. The thing can have only one end.

"Here is a little object lesson for the hoarder of unused Colonials in sheets and panes," proceeded Mr. Field, warming to his subject. "Here is an envelope containing mint British Colonials of the face value of £2 12s. I bought them

in this shop, only the other day, for £2! Many dealers could give you instances of the same sort of thing, and this is all due to reckless speculation by people who are advised that to purchase current Colonials is an easy way to become a millionaire.

"Those philatelists who are hoarding up current Colonials in the hope of making vast profits out of them in years to come are making a big mistake. They should put the same money into the older stamps. Of course, they would have less to show for their outlay, but their prospect of a profitable realization in the future is infinitely greater."

"And what do you regard as the very best stamps to buy, Mr. Field?"

"Unused English and Colonials are the safest investment for a collector, without a doubt. I think foreign stamps are a little over-rated now, for so many philatelists have given up foreign sorts altogether to devote themselves entirely to Colonials. Stamps and varieties have multiplied at such a rate, you see, that people have to restrict their collections more and more as time goes on. It is impossible to collect everything. But the scarcer stamps of the British Empire are a strong and a rising market. The better class West Indians, for instance, are in great demand. These are stamps I buy at every opportunity. Here are a few knocked down to me last night at 'Puttick's'—the Nevis 6d. lithographed, and 1s. yellow-green, and so on. I gave £10 for the shilling stamp."

"You spend a great deal at the auctions?"

"I should say I pay away to dealers and auctioneers not less than an average of £200 a week," answered Mr. Field; "so I must be doing a fairly big business, eh? I should think there are not more than two other philatelic firms in London with a larger turnover than mine. And yet, although I am constantly hunting for rarities and buying them at big prices, I cannot supply all that I am asked for. I have many great rarities on order for wealthy clients. The price doesn't really matter much, but I can't get the stamps."

"The bulk of your business, I suppose, is done through the post?"

"Yes. I send approval books of rare and better class stamps to all parts, but I do practically no approval business in common stuff. Here's a pleasant little letter I received this morning: 'Dear Sir, I enclose cheque for the amount of the stamps sent on approval. I will keep the whole book.' Short and sweet, eh? Yet a lot of people are strangely ignorant and incredulous about stamp collecting to this day. Not long ago a lady journalist came in here for a chat. 'I suppose,' she said, 'you sometimes sell a single stamp for as much as £10?' Now at that moment I received a letter containing a cheque for £500, in payment for a few very choice English stamps. I showed the lady the letter. It was about the best answer I could make her."

"And your stock, Mr. Field. What do you value it at?"

"About £70,000 to £80,000 would represent the catalogue value, I should think. One's stock varies in amount from time to time, but not to any great extent. In that safe"—pointing to the great Milner in the corner—"I've the stamps of one Colony alone in unused mint condition, cataloguing up to more than £11,000. And, of course, I'm buying every day. No price is too big if the goods are right. I daresay if you brought me a Colonial collection, which I agreed to buy for £10,000, the money would be ready for you within twenty-four hours."

"Thanks. I'll see what I can do," was our response, as we closed our note-book.

But before quitting the Royal Arcade we were privileged to look through a part of Mrs. Field's very fine collection of Great Britain and Colonies, unused. The collection, which is worth something between £3,000 and £4,000, was awarded a diploma and silver medal at the Mullhausen Exhibition—the only award to an English exhibitor of stamps. Mrs. Field's albums are a feast for the eye. Most of the high value Colonials are included, and every stamp in the collection is a mint unused copy.

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AT THE HOME OF SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS.

A FORTNIGHTLY REPRESENTATIVE'S VISIT TO MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON'S HISTORIC HOUSE—
PHILATELIC AUCTIONEERING, PAST, PRESENT AND TO COME.

"Formerly the home of Sir Joshua Reynolds." Thus is described No. 47, Leicester Square, now and for generations past the headquarters of the ancient firm of Puttick and Simpson, "Auctioneers of Literary Property, Music and Works of Art"—to say nothing of stamps.

There is not a great deal of rare old Sir Joshua left about the place, but the original staircase is still there, almost as it stood in the days of the famous painter. Moreover, the legend runs that on occasions when a choice example of Joshua Reynolds has been offered from the rostrum at No. 47, those present in the sale-room have described a shadowy form in snuff-coloured garb and full-bottomed wig flitting uneasily about, and—tradition goes on to say—let the picture but fetch a thought too little for its worth and the auctioneer is like to feel a chill sensation like unto the touch of a hand that is still. Of course, we can't vouch for all this. Being a strictly truthful person we chronicle it with all reserve, like a new provisional from some dubious parish in Colombia.

Putting tradition aside, Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's premises—how would Sir Joshua have liked that word?—are not only commodious (are not all premises commodious?) but most generously planned and handsomely appointed. The "Library," where many of the stamp sales are held, is big enough to accommodate a hundred people; the Great Gallery, of which an illustration is given here, would do for a concert hall. But of these things

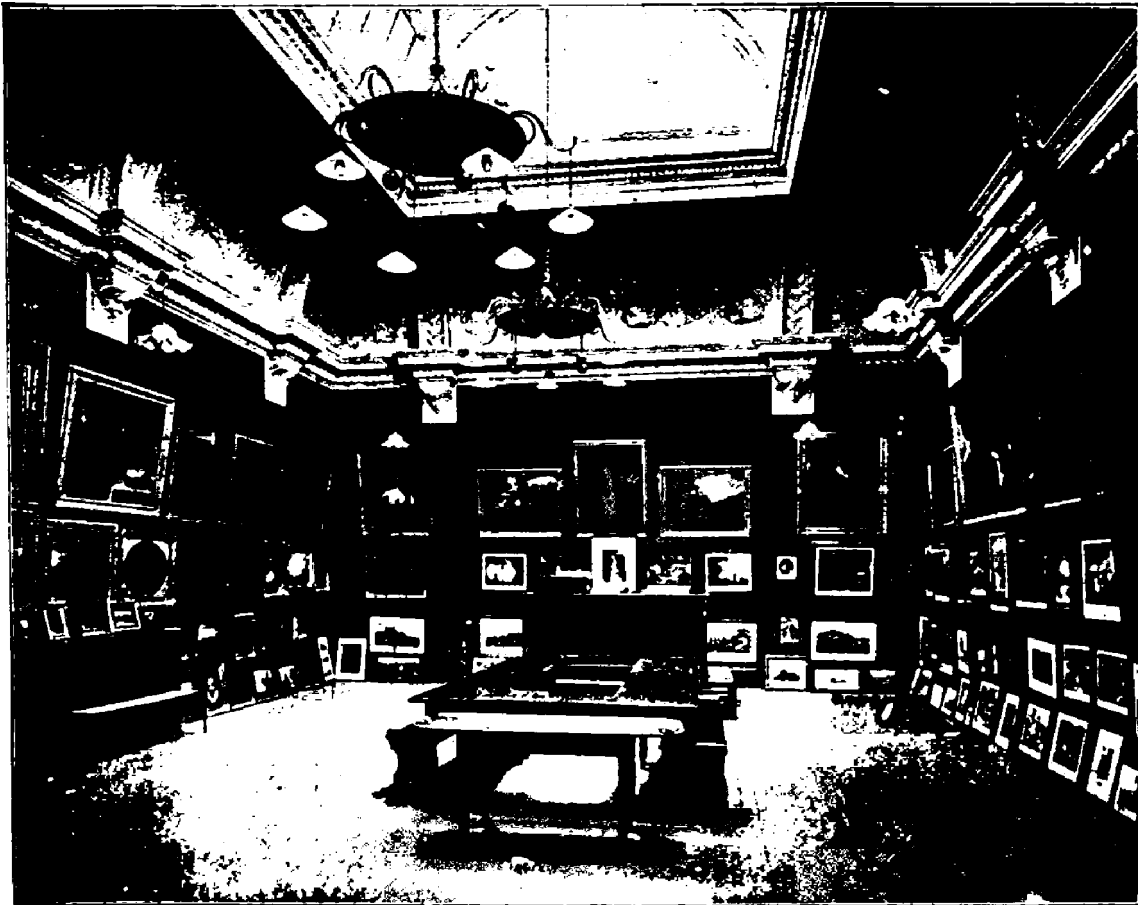
more anon. On the occasion of a recent visit to No. 47, Leicester Square, note-book in hand, we were courteously received by Mr. Neville Stocken, well-known and most popular among the many London stamp men who attend Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's philatelic sales. It is this gentleman who attends to the details of the philatelic side of the great Leicester Square business, while the actual "knocking down" of the "lots" is entrusted to Mr. Alfred Wilson, a popular and successful auctioneer. Mr. Wilson's "counterfeit presentment" has already appeared in the *Fortnightly*, as one of our recent Gallery of Auctioneers, but we illustrate him again—a later and revised edition of him. We also reproduce a photograph

of Mr. Neville Stocken.

ally took care of us on our visit to "No. 47," we are indebted for an interesting chat about the prospects of the auction season generally and the business of Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's philatelic department in particular. We are also grateful to him for his personal conductorship through many devious ways and subterranean passages. Almost we had said we owe our poor life to him. But enough. The danger is past and we live to tell the tale. (Tell it then, and quick about it!—EDITOR, "S.C.F.")

"We shall have to take a rather roundabout way to my office," said Mr. Stocken, as we exchanged greetings in the wide hall that leads to Sir Joshua's staircase. "A few alterations going on," he murmured. "This way, please," and led me forthwith below ground. "Four steps there, please—that's it! Now bear to the right—it's rather dark here—three more steps—one step up, here—so! A few books," my

conductor remarked, with a comprehensive wave of the hand. A few books! Great Boswell! Here was a very ocean of them. Large books and little books, lean book and fat books; slim, bloodless-looking pamphlets leaning languidly against sleek and prosperous-looking tomes. Long barricades and galleries of books, with but a meagre strip of walking space between them. Was there no end to these books? "Got a book sale just coming on," Mr. Stocken explained, as he threaded his way forward



THE GREAT GALLERY.

through the semi-darkness—and the books. His voice echoed oddly among the rows and tiers of books. A terrible fear gripped at our heart. Had we been wise to trust ourself in this inferno of books? We looked ahead at our conductor—he plodded steadily, doggedly on. We gazed around us. In the gloom men flitted hither and thither among the books—one ticketing them in bundles, another sorting out the component volumes of a cyclopadia. In our fancy they looked like the gnomes from a German fairy story, and this book-strewn basement the heart of a mountain. What if ill befel us here? We thought of the *Fortnightly* and of what our past life had been. In fancy we saw our lifeless corpse catalogued for the next curio sale as that of a mummified Princess of Peru. Hideous thought! Our brain reeled, our limbs reeled, and we brought to the ground a great 16 by 12 volume in half calf. Trembling, we stooped to restore it to its place,

reading off the title of the work as we did so. Omen of omens! It was "Higginson on Sudden Death." Slamming the book down we set our back against the wall and prepared to make the best defence we could with a poor fountain pen for our only weapon. And then—blessed relief!—a flood of light streamed from an open door some distance ahead of us, and we heard Mr. Nevile Stocken's genial voice: "This way please—some more steps here. That's right. Here we are, in my own particular office."

Messrs. Puttick and Simpson must be fervently thankful that stamps take up so little room. When big book and picture sales are in progress even the capacity of their present very extensive premiss is strained; but stamps are a very different story. The manager of the philatelic department works in an office whose size is about eight feet by ten, and he can keep the whole of the stamps comprised in the forthcoming sales in a safe at his elbow.

"I had a bad ten minutes at that safe one day," Mr. Stocken remarked with a laugh, as he drew out some of the stamps for our inspection—"I thought a book containing some very valuable lots (about £500 worth, I should think) was lost or stolen. I found it at last, wedged between two other books, but the feeling was uncomfortable while it lasted. Now, what am I to tell you about stamp auctioneering?"

"First, as to the prospects of the season now beginning?" "Excellent!" was the emphatic reply. "'Stuff' coming in well, and good 'stuff' too! Look at the sale we have just concluded—the first of the season. What do you think of that strip of St. Vincent?"—pointing with pride to the strip of three 4d. on 1s. which constituted one of the particular gems of the sale held on September 29th and 30th. "Fetched a nice round £50, and worth every penny of that, I should think. I doubt whether quite such another strip exists."

"Were the prices good generally at this first sale?"

"Very, very. Let me give you a few instances—just to show there's always good money for good stamps. First of all, the British 10s. 1s. Official—

"Not unused?" we interrupted, with a nervous glance behind us.

"No!" laughing. "A copy with the Accounts Branch cancellation. That fetched £3. Then some fine mint Bechuanaland and B.C.A.'s realised big prices. The



MR. NEVILLE STOCKEN.

Capes sold well—they always do. That fine block of four triangulars, dark green, mint condition, was knocked down for £15; a similar block of the 6d. mauve brought £7 15s., and another black type "lot," a mint block of four of the emerald-green, realised sixteen guineas. Another very rare thing, a strip of three of the Sierra Leone Provisionals, 2½d. on 2s., being types A, B and D, were bid up to £32 10s.—not an excessive price when you remember that there could be only four such strips (showing the three types) in existence. The 4d. blue C.A. Sierra Leone fetched £9 5s. Then we had some fine copies of the 'Post Paid' Mauritius. Three pairs of the 1d. orange, early impressions, fetched £11, £14 and £13 respectively, while a 2d. early impression sold for £8 15s., and another, medium impression, for £6 5s."

"There's a story hanging to some of the Mauritius 'Post Paid's' we have sold," said Mr. Stocken, digressing for a moment from the subject of the sale just past. "We've sold a great number of these stamps, many of them in the most beautiful condition possible. Well, it is quite a fluke that many of them were not lost to Philately altogether. I am referring now to a splendid lot of these stamps that came to us from a judge in the island. This gentleman was actually

engaged in burning these 'Post Paid' stamps, when a friend happened in upon him—a man who knew something about them—and managed to rescue them. 'Those things are worth money,' he declared; 'send them to Puttick and Simpson's!' In course of time the judge came to London, and, while here, gave us a call. He was more than half incredulous about the matter, but he gave us the stamps to sell, and I think we paid him altogether—let me see—some six or seven hundred pounds, I should think. One block of four of the 2d., a lovely lot, fetched £200 alone. A nice little windfall, that, for a bundle of old letters that he had just been about to burn!"

On the other hand, Mr. Stocken, you occasionally get a parcel of rubbish, I suppose, from some person who imagines he has got something good?"

"Occasionally?" There were italics in his voice as he echoed the word. "We're always getting them from all kinds of people and from all parts of the country. Do you know we frequently receive packages of the current ½d. and 1d. English to sell—current, my dear sir! and sometimes the would-be vendors place a reserve price about them. People in outlying parts, non-collectors, of course, get the haziest notions about stamps. . . . I remember a curious incident in connection with one of our sales. In this case the stamps were all right, but the seller was eccentric. He was an old gentleman, desirous of selling a small book of various stamps, on which he placed a reserve of £20. Oh, he was most particular about not selling below £20. But when I came to examine the book I found in it one stamp that I thought would fetch about £3. I catalogued that as a separate lot, and put in the rest of the book *en bloc*. On the night of the sale the one stamp was, sure enough, knocked down at my estimate of its value—£3 and when the book containing the balance of the stamps was offered it was knocked down for, I think, £18 or £19—under £20, anyhow! Oh, the anger of that old gentleman! You see, he was not aware that one individual stamp had already been sold for £3, and he made quite a scene in the auction room. How dared we sell his stamps at less than the reserve?—and then he actually tried to snatch the book out of the hand of the gentleman who had bought it. We mollified him eventually, but it was quite a lively little breeze while it lasted."

"By the way, which stamps sell best at auction now?"

"Colonials, generally; but I should say the Australians and Africans best of all. You know it's wonderful how the War Provisionals keep up in price. A lot of people predicted a great slump after the war boom, but look at the prices we got the other night for Orange River Provisionals"—turning again to the marked catalogue. "Here's the 6d. carmine without stop after 'V.' first printing, unused, £3 15s.; the 1s. brown, no figure of value, with normal type, *so tenant*, mint £2 18s.; and several others at good prices. Certainly, Mafekings go cheaper than they did, but as a general thing, South Africans are a wonderfully strong market. So are the really good West Indians, such as we sold in this first sale. There were many fine things in Nevis, St. Christopher, St. Lucia, and most of all in St. Vincent—including, of course the fine strip of three 4d. on 1s. The St. Vincent alone took up over 50 lots in the catalogue, and here are some of the prices of individual items:—£50, £27, £11, £8 10s. twice, £8 8s., £7, £6 5s., and so on. Many collections of St. Vincent stamps will be greatly enriched as a result of this sale. Some fine Australians fetched big figures too," added Mr. Stocken, concluding his review of the catalogue.

"Prices vary greatly, of course?"



MR. ALFRED WILSON.

"Surprisingly! Nor can one predict when they will be high or otherwise. Just when the conditions seem most promising we may have comparatively an indifferent sale. The reason is this, I think: the sale is widely advertised—it's a big catalogue, choke full of good things, and so the bargain hunter says to himself: 'Oh, everybody will be there—prices will be sky-high—I shan't go!' And he doesn't, and he misses perhaps the finest chance of his life, because a number of other people think precisely as he does; there is a sparse attendance, and stamps are knocked down at prices below the average. It's never safe to prophecy an auction price. Why we have often sold the very same specimen of a stamp for different prices at different sales."

"The same specimen? Do you really mean to say, Mr. Stocken, that the same stamp will come back to you again and again?"

"Oh, often!" smiling at our surprise. "Some of them seem quite like old friends. Seriously, I can remember no less than three instances of identically the same stamp passing through our hands three times, and we have frequently handled stamps twice."

"Some philatelists are such erratic creatures, you see. I have known instances of a man purchasing stamps at one of our sales and re-selling them at the next."

"Quick work! And speaking of the next, Mr. Stocken, I believe your second sale of the season is going to be a big affair also?"

"Yes, a very fine collection formed by the late Mr. Lawrence, of Jamaica. That's for October 27th and 28th. There are the two Cape errors, some early Mauritius and other fine things. We're practically full up for our other sales till Christmas."

"There is, then, no lack of sellers?"

"Likewise no lack of buyers," supplemented Mr. Stocken. "Trade and finance are not encouraging. Consols and Home railways are slumping, but yet there always seems to be plenty of money for good stamps."

Many other interesting facts as to the firm of Messrs. Put-

tick and Simpson and their business Mr. Stocken imparted as we made a tour of the auction rooms and the premises generally. The firm's origin, as is well-known, dates back to 1794, but the first stamp sale was not held until a century later. It was in the nature of an experiment, that initial sale, and its catalogue caused no little amusement. However, there was evidently business to be done in stamps, and early in 1895 the matter of stamp auctions was tackled in earnest and Mr. Neville Stocken was placed in charge of the department. What a quantity of rare and choice stamps have been dispersed at "Puttick's" since that time! The present average for a season is £20,000, and the firm's record for a single event is £4,100 for a sale occupying four days. The auctions held at No. 47 are as a general thing essentially not "trade" sales, the only purely wholesale event of this kind being the Hilekes auction in 1899.

The London philatelists who have not yet attended a stamp auction at Puttick's must be very few in number, but we advise them strongly to pay this famous rendezvous a visit. A sight of the place itself will well repay them. Proceeding up Sir Joshua's historic staircase (with its curious bowed railing, so shaped to accommodate the enormous hoops worn by the grand dames of the period) one enters the Library, the venue for many of the stamp sales, and thence into the Great Gallery, a truly magnificent room. And when a stamp sale is in progress at "Puttick's" the scene is a cheery and comfortable one, for though a vast amount of business is done, that fact is not allowed to depress the spirits of the assembly. A stamp auction is a thing that needs to be seen to be understood.

But enough. After a most enjoyable hour at No. 47, Leicester Square, we bade Mr. Stocken "good-bye," out of regard for the feelings of a little knot of people who were waiting to consult him. And as we rassed out we heard the head of the philatelic department endeavouring to convince an elderly lady that although the current issue of Guatemala would look very well on a flower-pot or a fire-screen they would not be of any great account as an auction lot.

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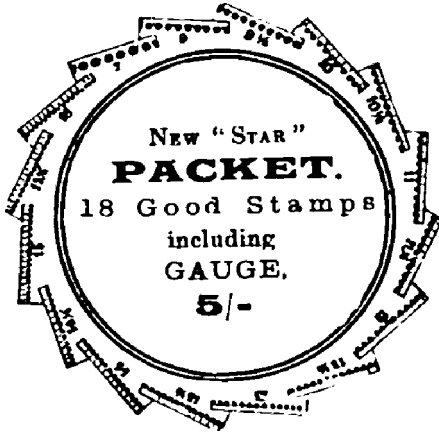
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Disgrace of New Zealand.

PLAIN SPEAKING BY THE "LONDON PHILATELIST."

We consider that the time has arrived (says the "London Philatelist" in the course of an article under the above heading) when a little plain speaking with regard to New Zealand postal administration may have a useful effect—perhaps not in altering the methods of that postal administration (?), but in opening the eyes of collectors to the rubbish that is being foisted on them. We are fully aware that the S.S.S.S., had it lived (and been supported as it deserved), would by no means have been able to confine its energies to the banning of the issues of South American States or Spanish and Portuguese Colonies. Several of our own possessions would have come under the ban of the Society. Seychelles, St. Helena, the Leeward Islands, and many others have pandered to Philatelists by speculative and unnecessary issues. It may, therefore, be urged that the case of New Zealand is no worse—but the whole thing is a question of degree. These stamps may or may not be the proverbial straw that will cave in the philatelic camel's overloaded back, but it will be seen that the latest issues of New Zealand are of the ridiculous nature that is safe to kill all respect or liking for the ineffable rubbish of an advertising colony.

There are few colonies whose older issues command a greater or more deserved appreciation at the hands of stamp collectors than New Zealand, and the more to be regretted therefore is the prostitution of their present postal administration. For more than forty years—from 1855 to 1898—there was no redundancy of issues, although the changes of papers in the older issues afforded ample scope for investigation and collation. For seventeen years—1855 to 1872—New Zealand was content with six values which, excepting the 4d. rose, remained unchanged in colour. In 1872 the 1d., 2d., and 6d. were changed in colour, but the design remained until 1874, when a new set of the same six values was issued, and four years later were added to them values of 2s. and 5s. These were superseded by the series in use from 1892 to 1897, the new denominations of 4d., 2½d., 5d. and 8d. being introduced in accordance with the requirements of the Postal Union rates. Thus in more than forty years there were but three sets of new types, the colours of one set being changed as to three values. The difficulties of procuring paper and perforating machines in the earlier days led to the interesting varieties of blue, thick, fiscal and pelure papers, and to the various improvised kinds of perforation—all of them as interesting in their character as they were unpremeditated in their issue.

The first symptom of decadence in the New Zealand stamps was the printing of advertisements on the backs of the last issue of the foregoing—a practice that any self-respecting administration would hardly be capable of, and one that the force of public opinion speedily put an end to. The succeeding achievements of this Colony in the stamp-issuing line may be briefly epitomised as follows:—

1898. Issue of thirteen varieties of pictorial designs printed by Waterlow and Sons, that were created apparently to advertise the beauties of New Zealand and the modesty of its postal administration. This included the error on the 2½d. "Wakaitipu"—which assuredly might have been avoided.

1900. Issue of eleven of the foregoing values printed in the Colony and perforated 11.

1900. Issue of eighteen varieties of Unpaid Letter stamps.

1900. Issue of two values, 4d. and 1d., of preceding with watermark NZ and Star.

1900-2. Issue of eleven varieties with the preceding watermark, the 4d. and 1d. being of altered design. The 4d. converted from the former 1d. and the 6d. in a new colour.

1901. Issue of a new design of 1d. and of the 4d. with the introduction of a new perforating machine gauging 14. This machine was used in conjunction with the old one gauging 11, in charming variety, even going so far in some instances as to perforate stamps with the latter gauge, to then paste paper over the perforations, and finally to perforate them 14 alongside of the other covered-up perforation! In the course of a few months no less than four distinct papers were used, and in conjunction with the two machines a combination of varieties has been made that must disgust anyone but those speculative holders. The four changes of paper within so short a time seem utterly inexcusable or unaccountable, except on the assumption that as many varieties as possible were desired. This issue has already resulted in a list of twenty-eight varieties as drawn up by Mr. C. A. Giles in the "Australian Journal of Philately" for May.

1902. Issue of several values of the preceding surcharged for Niue and Penryn Island. Errors were provided in the surcharges, including the shilling value with the aboriginal equivalent for "chief" printed on it "in mistake"—promptly called in but now being offered for sale at about £5 each by the holders. The continued use of the two perforating machines in conjunction with these surcharges has created varieties galore!

1903. Issue of several varieties for Aitutaki, surcharged and perforated as preceding.

Assuming that the 11 values of the "Mother Colony" will be issued surcharged respectively for New Zealand's "Colonies"—a proceeding that judging by the past vagaries we are entitled to predict—no less than 118 varieties that a consistent collector is bound to accept have been issued since 1898 by a portion of the British Empire containing as many inhabitants as Liverpool!

Until the issue of these surcharged stamps, the tiny islands, or rocks, of Niue and Penryn were practically unknown, their population in either case consisting of but coloured folk and a scanty handful of whites. Their solitude is at rare intervals intruded upon by the advent of a steamer which takes letters, and where postage stamps required for so scanty a "population," ten shillings' worth of the New Zealand stamps would probably suffice for a year's requirements.

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MIXTURES, MIXTURES! 1,000 stamps to sell 1d. to 4d., used and unused, good 7s. 6d.; sample 500 4-3d. British Colonials, about 120 different, superb, sample 500 for 7s. 6d.—WILLIAM LEWTHWAITE, Printer, Egremont, Cumberland.

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"The Philatelist." 1867-1876.

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Maltese Cross, in red ...	0 5	1 6	20 0	
in black...	0 6	1 9	0 1	0 3
in blue ...	20 0		1 6	15 0
in violet ...				
in green ...			25 0	
1 to 12, in centre of Cross			0 8	
Complete Set ...			6 0	
No. 12 ...				1 6
1 to 11, from ...				5 0
Straight outer line Cross (scarce)			1 0	1 0
English Obliterations, in red				
in black	15 0	6 0	0 1	0 2
in blue			0 9	5 0
in green			5 6	
in violet			10 6	
Towns, dated Oblit., in black		7 6	2 0	
in blue			5 0	
in green			10 0	
London City Oblit., in black		8 6	0 2	0 6
in blue			3 6	
in violet			10 6	
Suburban Oblit., in black		10 6	0 1	0 6
in blue			2 6	
in violet			10 6	
Scotch Oblit., in black ...	20 0	10 0	0 1	0 4
in blue ...			2 6	7 6
in green ...			5 0	
in bluish-green				
Irish Oblit., in black ...		8 6	0 2	0 6
in blue ...			3 0	8 6
in green ...			5 0	
in red ...			30 0	

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	s.	d.		s.	d.
Gold Coast, 1838. 2/- green and red ...	0	10	*Transvaal, 1875. Queen. 6d. black ...	3	9
Ditto, 5/- green and lilac...	3	0	Ceylon, 4d. Star, perf ...	25	0
Ditto, 10/- green and brown	3	5	Ditto, 9d. Star, p.r. ...	15	0
Canada, Jubilee, 2 dollars	2	3	Wurtemberg, 18kr. orange, roul. ...	19	0
Great Brit in. 41 gr ea (Queen) Postally ...	5	9	Ditto, 7kr. blue. roul. ...	3	9
Ditto, £5 orange, very fine	32	6	Finland, 1869. 1 mark ...	8	0
*Newfoundland, 1866. 2/- blue ...	1	11	Hanover, 10 gros. green... 2	6	6
Antigua, 1/- lilac, used ...	16	0	*Iceland, 1874. 2 skil. blue ...	5	0
Orange Free State 5/- grn.	6	9	*Ditto, 1876. 5 aur blue... 3	0	0
*Ditto, V.R.I., 5/- green...	5	6	United States, 1859. 15c. 3	0	0
*Southern Nigeria, 1911, 2 6 brown... 3	0	0	Ditto, 24c. ... 9	6	6
*Northern do., 1/- Queen... 2	0	0	Ditto, 1862. 24c. with grill	7	6
*Niger Coast, 10/- violet... 16	6	0	Ditto, 1895. 1dol. black ... 0	8	0
*Nova Scotia, 8½c. green ... 4	0	0	Ditto, 2dol. blue ... 1	6	6
Ditto, 12½c. black ... 3	3	3	Ditto, Columbus, 2dol. ... 3	6	6
Seychelles, 45c. on 48c. ... 2	6	6	Ditto, Omaha, 2dol. ... 5	0	0
Jamaica, 2/- perf. 12½ ... 3	3	3	Ditto, 50c. ... 0	7	0
Ditto, 5/- ditto ... 12	0	0	Uruguay, 1900. 50c. carn. 1	0	0
Trinidad, 1893. 5/- marone 6	0	0	Ditto, 1 peso dark green 2	0	0
Ditto, 1896. 5s. penmarked 1	0	0	Ditto, 2 pesos. carn. and ochre ... 4	9	9
*Gibraltar, 1886. 6d. lilac 16	0	0	Ditto, 3 pesos. carn. and brown ... 7	0	0
*Ditto, 1896. 5 pes-tas ... 5	6	6			

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No. in set. 1 set 3 sets

*Madagascar, Brit. Ind. Mail, 2d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. and 4s. ...	6	2 6	6 6
*Costa Rica, 1892, complete set ...	10	3 6	10 0
Dominica Rep., 1902, 1c. to 50c. ...	7	2 0	5 6
*Abyssinia errors, sets of 3 ...	3	1 6	4 0
Zanzibar, 1896. ½an. to 8ans. complete ...	10	3 0	8 6
Ditto, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 rupees ...	5	11 9	31 6
*Ditto, 1899, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 rupees ...	5	21 0	

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No. in set 10 sets 100 sets

1891, ½c. to 10c. ...	9	5 6	52 6
1891, complete sets ...	9	7 0	64 6
1897, 1c. to 8c. ...	6	3 0	28 6
1901, Postage due, 2c.—8c. ...	6	3 0	28 6
1901, Dues 2c.—24c., complete ...	9	7 0	64 6
1902, Protectorates, 1c.—8c. ...	7	3 0	29 0
1902, Protectorate, 1c.—24c. ...	10	6 3	60 0
.. 10, 16, 25 and 50c. ...	4	11 0	—

Labuan.

1892, Queen, 2, 6, 8 and 10c. ...	4	3 3	32 0
.. complete, 2c.—10c. ...	7	8 0	—
1897, 1c. to 8c. ...	6	3 6	32 6
1901, Postage due, 2c.—8c. ...	6	3 0	28 6
.. complete ...	9	7 0	68 6

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(ESTABLISHED 1879.)

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

Secretaries are requested to assist the Editor by sending in their reports not later than the Monday preceding publication.

THE FISCAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting of the Society was held on October 1st, 1903. Messrs. E. Agnes (Paris), M. Friestes (Buenos Aires) and C. J. Preater (Bath) were duly elected members, and the resignations of Messrs. E. Dozkalik and F. Laschevin were accepted with regret.

The election of officers for the ensuing season resulted as follows:—
President: W. Schwabacher.
Hon. Vice-Presidents: H. Kohler, M. Langlois, A. E. Lawrence, A. P. Pearce.

Vice-Presidents: W. Morley, E. R. Selway.
Committee: B. F. J. Cooper, T. P. Derman, O. Marsh, A. M. South, H. Thompson, D. Thompson.

Librarian: L. W. Fulcher.
Secretary, Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent: A. B. Kay.
Continental Secretary: Under consideration.

Auditors: H. Thompson, D. Thompson.
During the coming season the revenue stamps of Great Britain, Peru and Switzerland will be taken.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 15th, 1903, at 6.30 p.m., at 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C., when British Colonial Railway stamps and the fiscals of Peru will be discussed and catalogued. Members are particularly requested to assist by bringing or sending any as yet unlisted varieties of these stamps.

Received for the library, with thanks:—"Revista de la S. F. Argentina" (R. Rosauer), June-August, 1903.
"Filatelia" (Tome), April-June, 1903.

Members are reminded that their subscription of five shillings for the ensuing season is now due.

The Annual Report, Rules of Society, Exchange Sections, etc., will shortly be issued, and copies of same, with any other information desired, can be had from the Secretary, A. B. Kay, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London, W.

"NORTHERN" STAMP EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

This well-known and highly-successful club has just entered upon its 11th year of existence and maintains its position as the premier exchange club in the United Kingdom. Three packets are made up every month, Section 1 being for British and Colonial stamps only; Section 2 for the stamps of all countries (advanced) and Section 3 a general packet for medium collectors and beginners. The average value of the monthly packets is about £2,000 and the sales total to between £300 and £400 per month. There is room for a few new members who can furnish undoubted references. Rules and all other information may be had post free from the Secretary, F. A. Wickhart, "Avonmore," 30, Highbury New Park, London, N. The *Fortnightly* is now the official organ of the "Northern Exchange."

THE STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.

The Hon. Sec. and Treasurer (Mr. F. A. Wickhart, 30, Highbury New Park, London) will be pleased to forward prospectus and any further particulars regarding the S.E.P.S. to collectors who may desire to avail themselves of the benefits of membership. The information at the Society's disposal will be found especially valuable to collectors who engage in exchange transactions either privately or through clubs and may save many losses.

CALEDONIA STAMP EXCHANGE.

The July packet has now returned from circuit, and all sheets have been returned to their respective owners and all cash balances paid. Value of packet, £165 18s. 7d., from which stamps to the value of £17 13s. 5d. have changed hands. A few good reliable members could still be admitted. Either ladies or gentlemen having stamps to dispose of, or wishing to add to their collections, could not do better than give the Caledonia Stamp Exchange Club a trial. Rules and all other particulars on application to John Johnston, Secretary, Moss-side, New Deer, Aberdeenshire.

PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

The October packet will have started in circuit by the time this report is in print. At the time of writing the packet was not made up, but there are some exceptionally good sheets and the value is expected to run well into £300. The committee are contemplating a thorough re-organisation of the society and also forming a junior section. All members will be duly notified of this change and it is requested that they will respond with their views on the matter. Attempt will be made to keep the original "Palace" Society an advanced club, and the new section for medium stamps and beginners in our hobby.

This will, it is hoped, do away with the too bulky packets now in practice and will collect together the rarer specimens. The committee have pleasure in introducing Mr. C. A. Squire Cox as hon. asst. secretary of the Junior Section, and in the meantime request all communications to be sent to the general secretary, B. T. Morgan, 14, High Street, Selhurst, S.E.

COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

The 27th meeting of the Board of Governors was held on Monday, September 14th.

Present: Messrs. Andreini, Dewing, Luff, Rich, Scott, and Perrin.

The resignation of Mr. Wm. Knudson was read, and was accepted with regret.

The report of the Committee to devise rules for the governing of future competitive exhibitions was submitted to the Board of Governors, as follows:

- (1) All exhibitors must be members of the club, and in good standing.
- (2) All stamps entered must be the absolute property of the exhibitor.
- (3) In any exhibition, in which arrangement is to count, the stamps must be arranged by the owner.
- (4) A collection which has previously won a prize in this country shall not be eligible in competition for a prize of the same grade, but it may compete for a prize of higher or lower grade.
- (5) When a competition is limited to a certain number of stamps, only that number of stamps may be shown.
- (6) Pairs and blocks may be shown, but only one stamp will be considered and counted.
- (7) In judging a collection, condition is to count 25 per cent., rarity 25 per cent., and completeness 50 per cent.
- (8) Unless at least two competitive entries are entered, no first prize can be awarded. Likewise three competitive entries must be entered for a second prize to be awarded, and four competitive entries for an award of a third prize.
- (9) The name of the exhibitor should not appear on the package, but a private mark may be affixed, indicating such exhibitor's ownership.
- (10) All exhibits must be in the hands of the judges at least two days before the date of exhibition.

We recommend that special rules be made for special exhibitions whenever it shall seem desirable to the Governors.

The above report was accepted, and the committee discharged with thanks.

Albert Perrin, Secretary, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

ENTERPRISE STAMP CLUB.

A committee meeting was held on September 24th, at which Mr. A. D. Klaber, South Norwood, and Mr. H. W. Westcott, Ilford, were elected members.

The annual meeting was held on October 2nd, having been unavoidably postponed from an earlier date. It was unanimously decided to increase the entrance fee to 1s. and the annual subscription to 2s. Several minor alterations were made in the rules, and these will be forwarded to members with as little delay as possible. M. R. Decomis, Bonn, Germany, was elected a member.

There are still vacancies for medium collectors with good references. Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, A. H. Harris, The Library, Buckhurst Hill.

"BRITISH EMPIRE" STAMP EXCHANGE.

July packets have at last returned. Sales in Colonial Section very good, viz., £8 5s. nett, out of £50 6s. 8d. nett. The General Section has not done so well. The sheets are being checked and accounts, I trust, will be settled by the time this is in print.—Secretary, H. Bean, 164, Loughborough Park, London.

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THE LADIES' STAMP EXCHANGE.

The July packet contained 36 sheets, total value just over £150, of which were sold nearly £50 worth. Among the better things were 1s. Queensland 1865, with Q and Crown but *imperf.* with wide margins and should say it was cheap at the price asked—20s. There was also a fine lot of older Queensland on pieces of original and very fine—an unused St. Vincent 4s. 1877, priced at 5s. Some good Straits, Seychelles and St. Helena's *imperf.* Some fine old Mauritius 1815 1d. and 2d. used. 3d. and 6d. first issue Natal used, at 12s and 50s. Some mint blocks of four of each value first issue New Brunswick. This season the Club will be strictly limited to 30 members.—Secretary, Miss Haynes, Westwood House, Wood Lane, Shepherd's Bush, W.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND and the BEGINNERS' S.E.C.

At the commencement of the new season the Secretary wishes to thank all members for their support during previous years, and she hopes that the Clubs will continue to flourish. All accounts up to and including the July Packets have been sent out and all members residing in Great Britain have received the payment due to them. There are one or two foreign credits remaining unpaid, as unfortunately one or two rather large debits have not yet been settled. The Secretary takes this opportunity of saying that all debit accounts not paid by October 13th will be sent to the Secretary of the S.E.P.S. with a request that he will kindly write to the debtors. If a club is to prove successful in all ways, promptness in paying accounts must be the rule for members as well as for the Secretary.

The Beginners' Packet for October contains 57 sheets, value £45 19s. nett, that of the South of England contains 33 sheets, nett value £100 4s. 7d. There are a few vacancies in both clubs for reliable collectors who would be buyers. Rules sent for 3d. stamp from the Secretary, Miss Florence E. Smith, member S.E.P.S., Winfrith, The Crescent, Bedford.

THE ONE AND ALL STAMP EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

The May packets of the above club have arrived back and sales were fairly good, 641 stamps having changed hands to the value of £23 12s. 2d., about 20 per cent. of the value of the packets. Sheets are being returned and all accounts sent out.

The September packet has been dispatched on its journey and will be seen by nearly 60 members before its return. It contained 39 sheets, on which many good and useful stamps may be found. Messrs. Lean, Bole, Sewell and Roll joined this month. The holiday season now being over, I anticipate better sheets and sales during the winter months. A few vacancies for good buying and contributing members. Rules, etc., free from the Secretary, Stevens, Stanley House, Redruth.

MARTIN, RAY & Co.,

Stamp Auctioneers and

Commission Agents,

Lonsdale Chambers,

CHANCERY LANE, W.C.

— HOLD —

STAMP AUCTION SALES

- FORTNIGHTLY. -

Monday	Oct. 12th
Monday	Oct. 26th
Monday	Nov. 9th
Monday	Nov. 23rd

Stamps to be included should reach our Offices
14 days prior.

Commission 10%. Minimum Charge 1/6 per lot.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,
Literary, Fine-Art and Philatelic Auctioneers,
47, Leicester Square, LONDON, W.C., make the sale of
Rare Postage Stamps A SPECIALITY.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that their **NEXT SALE** **OCT. 13th & 14th.**
 will take place on
and will consist of A FINE SELECTION OF ALL COUNTRIES. Catalogue Ready.

OCTOBER 27th & 28th - Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON have received instructions to sell on these dates **The Fine Collection of Colonials**

Formed by the late Dr. LAWRENCE, of Jamaica. Amongst other Rarities may be mentioned:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>GREAT BRITAIN. 1d., black, V.B.; 2d., blue, without lines, a pair, unused; 3d., with secret dots, etc. etc.</p> <p>GIBRALTAR. Practically complete and including the rare error 10c. without value.</p> <p>CEYLON. Imperf., 8d., 9d., 1/9 (2), and 2/- Perf., wmk. Star, 8d. (2, one yellow-brown), 2/-, used and unused, etc.; wmk. CC, 5d., purple-brown, unused, 2 rupees 50c., etc.; wmk. CA., 24c., purple-brown, unused, etc.</p> <p>LABUAN. 1880, 6 in red on 16c., and 8 on 15c., unused, etc.</p> <p>CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. The 1d. and 4d. errors and other Woodblocks and Triangulars.</p> <p>LAGOS. 5/- blue, unused.</p> <p>MAURITIUS. Post Paid, 1d., several used, and one unused; 2d., several, including the "Ponce," superb; Large Fillet 2d., Greek border 2d., a fine strip of four, etc. etc.</p> <p>TRANSVAAL. A fine lot of all issues and several of 1879 provisionals, including the rare Type 14 of the red surcharge.</p> <p>ZULULAND. 5/-, £1, and 25.</p> <p>CANADA. 12d., black, etc.</p> | <p>NEW BRUNSWICK. 6d. (2) and 1/-, superb, and the 5c., Connell.</p> <p>NEWFOUNDLAND. 1/-, orange; 4d., 6d., 6 1/2d., and 1/-, scarlet, etc.</p> <p>NOVA SCOTIA. 1/-, three copies, one superb.</p> <p>MONTBERRAT. 4d., C.A., very fine</p> <p>NEVIS. 1/-, yellow-green; 6d. litho; 6d. green, etc.</p> <p>ST. VINCENT. 1/2d. on half of 6d., 4d. on 1/-, and 5/-, Star, all unused.</p> <p>TOBAGO. 1st issue, 5/- and 2/-; wmk. CC. 6d. stone; wmk. CA. 6d. stone, all mint.</p> <p>TRINIDAD. A fine lot of the early issues and the rare "Lady McLeod" local on entire original.</p> <p>TURKS ISLANDS. 1/-, lilac, and a fine lot of the rare 1881 provisionals.</p> <p>VIRGIN ISLANDS. The very rare 1/-, crimson, with centre omitted.</p> <p>BRITISH GUIANA. 1850, 4c. and 13c. (8); 1856, 4c.; 1862, 1, 2, (2), and 4c., etc. etc.</p> <p>NEW SOUTH WALES. Some fine Sydney Views and Laureateds.</p> <p>QUEENSLAND. Imperf., 1d., 2d., and 6d.</p> <p>VICTORIA. 5/- blue on yellow, etc.</p> <p>WESTERN AUSTRALIA. 6d., bronze, rouletted, etc. etc.</p> |
|--|--|

And a very fine lot of large remainders of the various countries. **CATALOGUE READY.**

List of SALES for Season 1903-1904:-

- 1903.—October 13 and 14, 27 and 28; November 10 and 11, 24 and 25; December 8 and 9.
 1904.—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27
 May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8.

Clients wishing to include Collections in any of the above Sales are requested to make early arrangements with regard to their disposal, as some of the earlier dates are already allotted.

For Terms and Full Particulars, address: Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,
TELEPHONE No. 1661, GERRARD.
ESTABLISHED 1794.
47, Leicester Square, London, W.C.

J. LOUIS,

63 and 64, NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.

A MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION OF COLONIAL STAMPS, Just purchased will be on View in a few days. Every stamp, including the **Greatest Rarities**, will be priced, and for sale at **surprisingly cheap rates.**

Amongst them are—**GREAT BRITAIN**, 4d. medium garter, white paper, mint; **LAGOS**, 1884, 2/6, 5/-, 10/-; **CAPE OF GOOD HOPE**, deep blue woodblock, superb, and many other woodblocks; **TOBAGO**, £1 mauve, mint; 6d. stone, C.A.; **SYDNEY VIEWS** (errors); **CEYLONS**; and many other rarities.

J. LOUIS,

(For many years at 42½, Old Broad Street, E.C.),

63 & 64, New Broad Street,
LONDON, E.C.



G. Hamilton-Smith & Co.,

Stamp Dealers and PHILATELIC PUBLISHERS.

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

Telegraphic Address: "PHILATELIC, LONDON."

Telephone: No. 5596 AVENUE,

APPROVAL BOOKS.

WE hold a very fine Stock of USED and UNUSED STAMPS (20,000 Varieties) arranged in nearly 200 large APPROVAL BOOKS.

The condition of the Stamps is exceptionally fine, and the Prices Reasonable. Selections of any Country will be gladly sent on approval to responsible applicants.

"Interchangeable Philatelic Albums."

We have much pleasure in announcing that we have received

A MEDAL WITH DIPLOMA

(This being the only Award given for Permanent Philatelic Albums alone) at the International Philatelic Exhibition, held in Mulhausen, Alsace, this Summer.

.....
We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.



THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 225. — Vol. IX

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

MESSRS. GLENDINING & Co.,

Fine Art, Numismatic & Philatelic Auctioneers,

THE ARGYLL GALLERY,

7, ARGYLL ST., REGENT ST., W.

(Adjoining Oxford Circus Station)

Telegraphic Address: "NULLIFIED," LONDON.

Telephone No. 4424, GERRARD.

Our next Sale of POSTAGE STAMPS

*Will be held on Thursday & Friday,
Following Sales: October 29th & 30th, 1903.*

NOVEMBER 12th and 13th; 26th and 27th.

DECEMBER 10th and 11th.

And every alternate THURSDAY and FRIDAY throughout the Season.

Fine Art and Bric-à-brac Sale—9th & 10th November.

English Coins and War Medals—27th and 28th October.

COLLECTORS who intend to DISPOSE OF COLLECTIONS are advised to make early arrangements to secure advantageous dates of Sale.

COINS,
MEDALS,

FINE ART PROPERTY,
JEWELLERY, ETC.

PAINTINGS,
ENGRAVINGS,

MINIATURES,
CHINA, ETC.

Promptly Catalogued
and offered for Sale.

Liberal Cash Advances.

Prompt Settlements.

PERIODICAL SALES BY AUCTION OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY **Messrs VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,**

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY.)

At the TEMPLE HOTEL, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.

(Close to the Philatelic Society's Rooms and the Temple Station on the District Railway.)

NOVEMBER 5th & 6th.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell on the above dates **A Fine Collection of British and Colonial Postage Stamps** the property of a **Well-known Private Collector**, including the following rarities:—

Great Britain, 1d. black, mint block of 12; wmk. Maltese Cross, 10/- grey-green, mint, 1844, 21 brown-purple, mint; and others
Barbados, 1d. on half 5/- rose-red.
British Bechuanaland, 1st. issue, 1/2, surcharged in black and red, mint; surcharged "Protectorate" 1/-, 2/-, 2 G. 5/- and 10/- unused etc.
British East Africa, on Company's Stamps, the set.
Cape triangulars, a fine lot including 6 pairs of the 1/- values; wmk. C. and C.G., 1/2, on 3d. claret very fine, etc.
Ceylon, a fine lot of pence issues.
Gold Coast, 20/- green and red, unused, with gum.

1/-, 1844 No. 2 G - live-black and 5/- blue, etc.
Nevis 6d. green, unused, with gum, and scarce early issues.
New Brunswick, 1/- violet.
Tobago wmk. C. and C.A., 6d. stone, unused.
St. Vincent a very fine lot including 1d. in red on half 6d., 1/2, in red on half 6d., a mint pair, 1/2, on 1/- vermilion 5/- wmk. Star, mint, etc.
Zululand 5/- carmine and 1/- purple on red, both mint.
New South Wales, Sydney View, 1d. red, plate I, unused, in mint state, and many others.

NOVEMBER 19th and 20th.

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper have received instructions to sell on the above dates **A FINE COLLECTION OF COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS, etc.**, the property of a **Private Collector**.

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

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, 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.

CATALOGUES of all Sales may be obtained of

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, (Philatelic Department),

35, Old Jewry, LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM, LONDON." Telephone Number. 3392 CENTRAL. ESTABLISHED 1761.

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.,

(Partners: H. W. PLUMRIDGE & J. H. TELFER).

STAMP AUCTIONEERS

AND COMMISSION AGENTS,

64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Hold AUCTION SALES every FORTNIGHT between SEPTEMBER and JULY.

Our 176th and 177th Sales will be held . . .

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY November 3 and 4,

In the Arbitration Room, 64, CHANCERY LANE, at 5 p.m. sharp.

CATALOGUE READY—Sent, post free, on application.

FUTURE DATES—1903—Nov. 17 & 18 Dec. 1 & 2; 15 & 16 Jan. 19 & 20. Feb. 2 & 3; 16 17.

March, 1 & 2; 15 & 16; 29 & 30. April 19 & 20 May 2 & 3; 17 & 18; 31, and June 1; 15 & 16.

Clients wishing to include Lots should make arrangements without delay, if early dates are desired.
Commission 10 per cent.

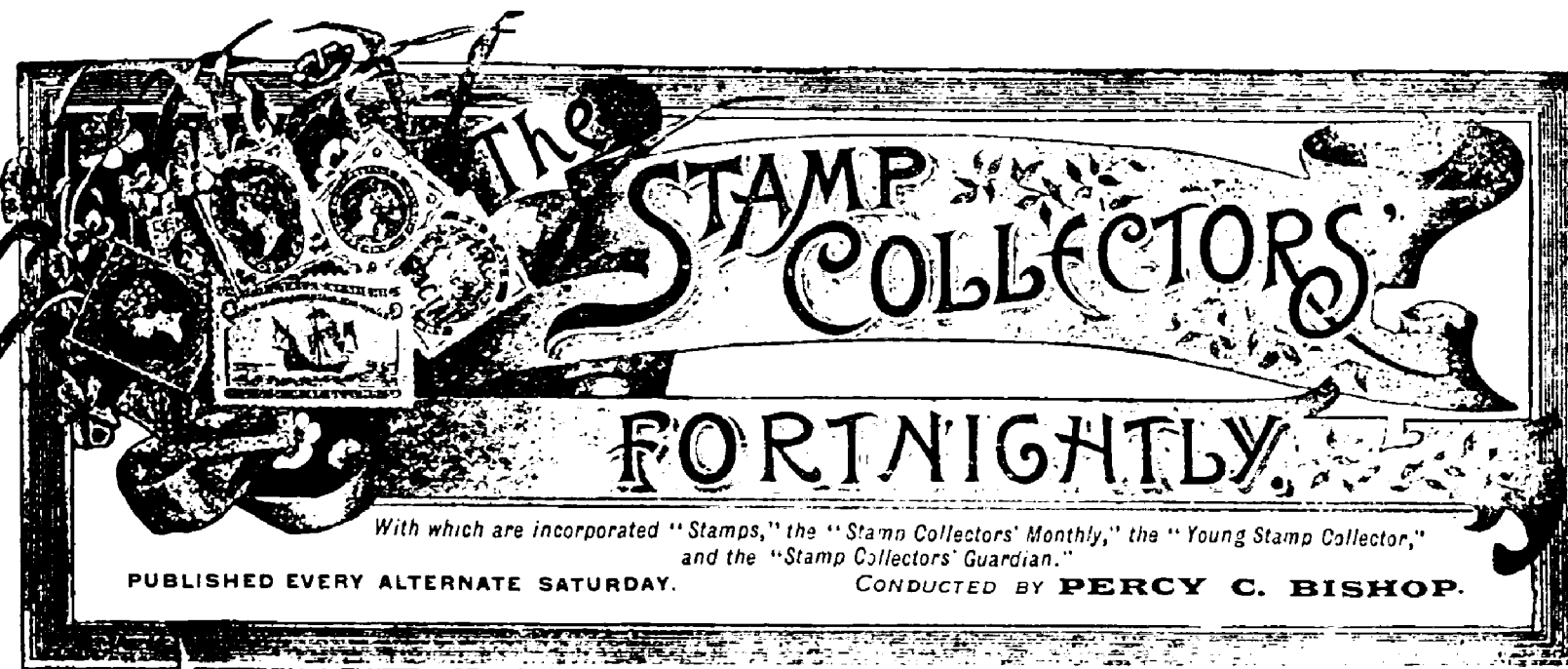
SETTLEMENTS usually in TEN DAYS. AT LATEST within 14 days after sale.
IMMEDIATE AND LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES.

Commissions executed for Clients unable to attend the sales WITHOUT charge and as much BELOW LIMITS as possible.

COMMISSION DEPARTMENT.—We can now accept buying commissions for all London Stamp Sales. Inclusive terms 5%.
All lots carefully examined previous to purchase.

Telegraphic Address: "PLUMAVERE, LONDON."

Telephone: 3473, CENTRAL.



The STAMP COLLECTORS

FORTNIGHTLY

With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange, The Northern Stamp Exchange Society, The Stamp Exchange Protection Society, The Enterprise Stamp Club, The One and All Stamp Club, The Palace Philatelic Exchange Society, The British Empire Stamp Exchange Club, The Unused Stamp Exchange.

No 225.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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Death of M. Berger-Levrault.

A LINK with the past of Philately is snapped by the death of Mons. Oscar Berger-Levrault, author of the famous catalogue that bears his name. He was one of the most earnest and pains-taking of continental philatelists, and a very great authority on proofs and essays—a subject that he made peculiarly his own. The deceased was an officer of the Legion of Honour.

"Missionaries" of Madagascar.

IN CONNECTION with our recent articles on the local stamps issued by the "British Inland Mail" of Madagascar we asked for information concerning another series of Malagasy locals, listed and priced in "Bright's A.B.C. Catalogue" and, we believe, in that catalogue only. These are described as the stamps of the "Norwegian Missionary Society's Post," and Messrs. Bright quote fairly high prices for them. The "5 vari" stamp is put at 7s. 6d. unused, 3s. used, and the "1 era 5 vari" at 10s. unms. d. 30s. used. A letter on the subject is now to hand from Mr. Egbert Ashby, of Nottingham.

"Through the kindness of a Government official in Madagascar," writes Mr. Ashby, "I am able to furnish you with information re the Norwegian Mission. He writes:—

The Norwegian Mission in Madagascar is a Missionary Society for the evangelisation of the natives. During the war they had their inland mails carried by private bearers, and had a little printed stamp on their letters; but it was never any regular postal stamp recognised by the Postal Union.

"This," concludes our correspondent, "seems to put the 'stamps' down as mere labels similar to those used by Foster's, the carriers!"

Which is very excellently put. Every little pettifogging syndicate that chooses, nowadays, to organise a camel post or a sort of Carter Paterson service by native runner, appears to expect a handsome revenue from any job lots of printed labels it dumps down on the philatelic market. It is all very well from the point of view of the syndicate, but why reputable philatelic firms should lend their countenance and assistance to transactions of this kind is beyond our comprehension. It is possible, however, that Messrs. Bright may have information tending to controvert the facts elicited by

Philately at Home and Abroad.

The Society's Work on Zanzibar.

Mr. W. V. Morten, of the Philatelic Society, London, who is assisting in compiling the Society's handbook on the Stamps of Zanzibar, invites readers of the *Fortnightly* who have large blocks, errors, and more especially sheets or panes of any value of the Indian surcharged stamps, to send him particulars of the same. Mr. Morten's address is 205, Sumatra Road, West Hampstead. Such assistance as he may receive from our readers he will duly and thankfully acknowledge.

A "St. Kitts" Essay of 1866.

ANOPPOS the new stamps inscribed "St. Kitts—Nevis," we read in "Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste" that the idea of using the abbreviated name "St. Kitt's" on the postage stamps of St. Christopher is no new one. As long ago as 1866—four years before the first actual issue—a Queen's head series was projected, bearing the inscription "St. Kitt's Postage." Mons. Maury, in chronicling the fact, gives an illustration of the design then prepared. This most interesting essay, like the early stamps of Barbados, Mauritius, Trinidad, etc., bears no indication of value.

Mr. Egbert Ashby with regard to the stamps of the Norwegian Mission, in which case our columns are open to them.

Some Increased Prices in "Scott."

Following a traditional practice the Scott Stamp and Coin Company issue sectional "advance proofs" of their forthcoming catalogue to philatelists paying a special subscription for same. The completed catalogue should now be available at an early date.

The variations in values as between the forthcoming catalogue and its predecessor are not sensational. In Great Britain there are few radical changes of price. The 1d. Plate 1, lilac-rose, has gone up to £2; the £1 brown-violet, watermarked crowns, unused, is now quoted at £7 10s., while the same stamp with orbs watermark is quoted at 2s. for used specimens, no price for unused being given.

Official stamps in mint condition will continue to be priced in "Scott." Messrs. Gibbons' "lead" in the contrary direction notwithstanding. Thus, in the 1904 edition, the 6d. grey "I.R. Official" is priced at £2, unused. Big figures are quoted for mint "O.W. Officials," and the "R.H. Officials" ½d. and 1d. are each priced at £1 unused.

A Study of the Stamps of Siam.

In "L'Écho de la Timbrologie" for September 30th appears the first instalment of what promises to be a most exhaustive and interesting study of the stamps and the postal administrations of Siam, with illustrations of all types, watermarks and surcharges. In the same number of the "French Fortnightly" appears an equally interesting article with the somewhat forbidding heading, "De la Propagation des Maladies Contagieuses par les Échanges Postaux"!

The Latest New Exchange Club.

The newest Stamp Exchange Society is the "Federal." Mr. J. C. Long, of 7, Salcott Road, Clapham, S.W., Secretary of the new venture, appears to have framed a set of rules and regulations that should commend themselves to all. There is a trifling subscription of a shilling a year and ten per cent. on the sales. The "Federal," by the way, is to be a *net* club.

A Find of Bermuda C.C.'s.

We understand that the purchaser of the remainder of the 3d. grey Queen's Head Bermuda, on carefully examining his purchase, found a few sheets at the bottom with watermark C.C. instead of CA.

Evidently the first few stamps had been printed on a remnant of the old CC. paper in order to use it up.

Philately by Limelight.

Mr. Fred J. Melville, the philatelic lecturer, has opened his winter's campaign. On Monday October 5th, he delivered his first lantern lecture for the season, under the auspices of the Prestwich Lectures Committee. The subject was "Postage Stamps with Stories." Several Manchester philatelists were among the audience, and it is to be hoped that some new converts to the hobby were made during the course of the evening.

By the way, the Junior Philatelic Society, of which Mr. Melville is President, is anxious to have a big meeting on Saturday, November 21st. Mr. Melville's newest lecture, "The Romance of Postage Stamps," illustrated with nearly a hundred new lantern slides, will be ready by then and will be delivered for the first time on that occasion. The meeting-place, the Wheatsheaf Hall in South Lambeth Road, is within a few minutes' walk of Vauxhall Station and is easily accessible from all parts of London. Admission is free, and it is hoped that the society's membership roll will gain considerably by the introduction of new members.

Charge Against a Secretary.

On Wednesday last, the 21st, the Bow Street magistrate had before him the case of William Ewing, secretary of the Stamp Trade Protection Association, who is charged with embezzlement in connection with his post. The defendant was remanded, Sir Albert de Rutzen offering to accept bail.

Postal Cards and Covers.

BY A SPECIALIST.

ONE of my most valued correspondents, who is one of the foremost "entire" collectors in the country, calls my attention to the fact that a great deal of the most valuable stuff, both in cards and covers is continuously going abroad, and has been doing so for many years past. Being above all things an Englishman, he deplores in no uncertain terms the fact that these things are slipping away, and that much of it may have to be re-imported at advanced prices. For, though during the past few years entire have been rather unpopular in this country, this has not been the case everywhere, and the wonderfully low prices at which long obsolete and rare issues can be purchased here has brought many demands from abroad.

A great many parcels of postal cards and European envelopes have gone to Germany, where entire are greatly valued. And I can speak with equal certainty of America, where, during the past two or three years some of our greatest rarities have been quietly absorbed. A leading firm of dealers assured me recently that, taking the last three years, quite eighty per cent. of their trade in entire had been done in dollars and cents. And in support of this statement I was shown a remarkable collection of want-lists, all from Collectors in the United States and Canada, which appeared to have been compiled with the deliberate intention of securing total completeness, and "finest condition only" was a mark frequently noticeable. As an example of the whole-heartedness with which the American collector collects, I was shown a want-list that had been to some of the best dealers in the country and also to Berlin and Paris. Those who, for the time being, were using the list, received a weekly postcard containing numbers secured, which were to be erased. When I saw it this list was reduced to a few score impossible varieties, official issues, etc., many of which probably do not exist.

Some of these days, when "entires" receive more attention as I fully believe they will, ere long, it will be found that stocks of these rarities are, after all, very light; and that on a deflated catalogue value, much of the best stuff has been quietly removed. One has only to compare the prices quoted in New York and Leipzig for any set of issues with those obtaining here, to know the reason for all this. Let them look into the packets offered at present in London by a leading firm for the encouragement of beginners. It is positively astounding. Surely beginners never had such opportunities in any hobby, surely never such clear prospect of compensating reward, as in the bargains which are now so apparent in entire.

NOTES AND NOVELTIES.

British South Africa—A new Letter Card, which, but for the stamp, is almost an exact copy of that of Great Britain, has been sent me by Scott and Wilson. The card, inscriptions, perfs, and colour are alike similar, but the stamp is that of the B.S.A. Co.

L.C., 1d. carmine on pale blue.

Canada—Messrs. Scott and Wilson have sent me a specimen of the long-expected postal card with head of King Edward VII. It is a very plain affair, quite commonplace, in fact. The simple inscription, CANADA POST CARD, with simple inscription, is in black. No arms or ornament whatsoever, or even a punctuation mark! The stamp is in green and shows the royal head, evidently taken from the Coronation photograph, as a little of the ermine is shown. The card is cream.

P.C., 1c. green and black on cream.

Ceylon—"E.W.S.N." chronicle a new King's Head envelope which they have seen.

Env., 5c. dark blue on cream wove (134 x 108 mm.).

Gwalior—Indian Card, with King's Head, with usual surcharge.

P.C., ¼ x ¼, red brown on buff.

Great Britain—The energetic "E.W.S.N." has seen a 1/2-King's Head envelope stamp, privately stamped.

Env. 1s. green.

Italy. *Albania*—I have received the Albania card referred to recently, and it is exactly as issued in 1902, except that the word Albania has been removed. The 20 para 20 remains below stamp.

New Zealand.—Mr. Rosenberg has been good enough to send us a copy of the curious new 1d. envelope mentioned and chronicled last month. It is an extremely crude affair. The paper is poor and the stamp which is half embossed, is a most martistic effort.

St. Kitts. Nevis.—"Dir Post" chronicles the following stationery:—

Env. 1d. red on white, 120 x 91 mm.
2 1/2 l. blue on white, 120 x 91 mm.
Reg. Env. 2d. blue on white, 151 x 95 mm.
W. 1/2 d. green on buff, 126 mm. wide.
1d. carmine on buff, 126 mm. wide.

The Personal Element.

The chances and changes of Philately are well illustrated in the "Stamp Collector's" biographical sketch of Mr. H. J. Bignold, a well-known specialist of British stamps and postmarks.

While many philatelists have forsaken used stamps for unused, Mr. Bignold has gone in the contrary direction. His first collection of British was entirely unused, but the c were cleared out in favour of extra fine used specimens, and even at the outset he became greatly interested in the various cancellations. British postmarks, indeed, became Mr. Bignold's passion, and remain so to this day. His used collection of British stamps showing a wonderful range of scarce old cancellations.

Few dealers, Mr. Bignold declares, realise the scarcity of many of these varieties of cancellation, and the careful student has many opportunities of picking up good things at bargain prices. As an illustration, only recently he obtained five green and blue postmarks on the 2d. blue for 1s. 6d. each, one being on the 16, large crown; and to show how even experts err, he bought from a noted dealer in English a strip of three 1d. large crown 16, brown with green Irish postmarks for 7s. 6d.

Mr. Bignold's number 9 in Maltese Cross on 2d. 1 10 was in the general collection of a friend, who paid no attention to postmarks, and it took him six years to persuade his friend to exchange it for a nice pair of the same stamps (of course without numbers in the cross). For a long time it was not known that the 1d. black existed with the number in the Maltese Cross, until Mr. Bignold discovered one with No. 9 among the stock of Messrs. Hilckes.

From our personal knowledge of Mr. Bignold we could add many items to the story of his philatelic career as told by the "Stamp Collector." For four years, as our contemporary points out, he was Secretary to the English Stamp Exchange. He was also for some years a valued and popular member of the long-defunct City of London Philatelic Club.

As readers of the *Fortnightly* are aware, Mr. H. J. Bignold was a witness at Bow Street in the Government stamp case. In fact, he and the *Fortnightly* made their appearance in the witness box together, Mr. Bignold being invited by the examining counsel to read aloud an advertisement in the "S.C.F." wherein certain official stamps were publicly offered for sale in mint condition. Mr. Bignold made a good witness, and those present in court—unfortunately we did not personally witness the moving scene—inform us that the picture of "H.J.B." as he stood in the box, his slim figure drawn erect, gravely declining the terms of a *Fortnightly* advertisement, was a sight for gods and men.

STAMPS OF RAIATEA & RAPA.

HOW FRANCE IS KILLING THE PHILATELIC GOOSE THAT LAYS THE GOLDEN EGG.

From "La Cote Reelle" the "American Journal of Philately" translates the following satirical commentary upon the alarming growth in the numbers of French Colonial issues:—

Does not this title puzzle you? Where are this Raiatea and Rapa? From whence come these stamps as uncouth as they are strange? They are the names of French Colonies; the names of islands lost in the Pacific Ocean, to put it plainly, in Polynesia. These islands, Tahiti, Moorea, the Marquesas, Tuamotu or the Low Islands, the Gambier and Tubuai islands have been and are still using the colonial postage stamps of the allegorical type, bearing upon the medallion the inscription: "Etablissements de l'Océanie."

Now at this very moment an important change is being prepared; because seven of these groups of islands, having an independent budget, insist upon having their own stamps as well.

It appears that this is a malady which is spreading; already the French Congo and the Somali Coast, not forgetting New Caledonia, have succeeded in having special stamps issued, the custom, then, will continue to spread and before very long we shall have new vignettes for all of our colonies.

In order that the feast shall be complete, and thanks to the suggestions of Mr. B—, they will commence by surcharging the stamps of Oceania with the name of the islands in black. Subsequently these islands will be able to admire—and we also—the same names within the tablet at the bottom. "All this while awaiting, without doubt, a new type. In short, it is the same thing that England has done with Pearnyn and Nine and Spain with three little lost islands which contain altogether 50 inhabitants.

To come back to our possessions in Polynesia, we will give a list of them:

We have, first, the Society Islands which comprise, among others, Tahiti and Moorea, then little islands like Bora Bora, Maupiti, Tapuanaua, etc.; the Marquesas Islands or Mendana Archipelago, where we have Nouka-Hiva, Hiva-Oa, Fatu Hiva, etc.; the Tuamotu or Low Islands: Rairoa, etc.; the Tubuai Islands, Vavita, Raiatea; the Gambier Islands and the Clipperton Islet.

It is evident that they will not give a stamp to each of these islands, which are at least fifty in number, but we can count upon at least seven series.

Here, indeed, will be something with which the collector may be kept busy during the long evenings of the approaching winter.

In the intense interest which these emissions will arouse, we should not lose sight of the fact that, in buying these stamps he is doing a good deed with which he will be credited in heaven: he is giving employment to the postal employees of these desert islands—which is not at all a bad thing—and he will be putting a little but rich the *couacous* of the inhabitants of Vavita, Raiatea and Turlututu (peak-hat).

In truth, one might ask why the French administration does not apply this genial idea to the mother country, consisting, as it does, of preparing special stamps for these islands of which some, at least, have as many inhabitants as some Parisian houses. Why do they not come out squarely and make special stamps for all our coast islands? Where is the collector who would not wish to possess, with or without surcharge, the stamps of Corsica? How nice they would look in our albums! And, besides Corsica, should we not have the pleasure of contemplating the stamps of the islands of Brehat, of Batz, of Ushant, Groix, Belle Ile, Noirmoutier, Yeu, Re, Oleron, Hveres, Lerins, etc.? What a shame it is that Mont Saint Michel has been bound to the main land by a dike embellished with a tramway! How beautiful it would have been to contemplate a series for Mont Saint Michel with a portrait of Mme. Poularch preparing the renowned omelette!

Our ideas upon the colonial postage stamps are well known. It would appear to us that it would be preferable to see each of them with their own separate stamps; thus we would avoid, maybe, surcharges—and yet? However, it is not necessary to carry things too far and to give each little island postage stamps of which they have not the least need, and which are made solely for collectors. There have already been too many novelties.

These zealous officials cannot seem to see that they are following in the steps of La Fontaine's peasant, who killed the goose which laid the golden eggs.

A correspondent of the "Pall Mall Gazette" writes:—"The true inwardness of H.I.M. Emperor Jacques Lebaudy's little game was given away at the Old Bailey yesterday. The philatelists are his mark." When his head is in a few issues of Sahara stamps his Imperial Majesty will recoup his initial outlay in no time."

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, OCTOBER 24, 1903.

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.

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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.



The White List of Philatelists. "Your White List will be a failure," predicted a philatelist of great experience, in the course of a recent conversation. "Why? Simply because neither the stamp collector nor the stamp dealer wishes to be protected. Each one imagines himself such an excellent business man that any suggestion of safeguarding his interests strikes him as being a distinct impertinence. And that is why philatelic protection societies have always been more or less of a fizzle. The really big men, having a large stake in Philately, support these things, but the rank and file hold severely aloof. Still, I wish you all success."

That's just it. Everybody wishes us success, but the people who are actually willing to support the White List of Philatelists by submitting themselves for enrolment are lamentably few. Perhaps it has been the holiday season, but that is well over now. What then is the reason? As the result of repeated articles on the subject, we have a total of 26 applicants. Marvellous! Only 26 persons among all the philatelists who read the *Fortnightly* are willing to avail themselves of the protection and the guarantee which a properly conducted White List would ensure them.

We shall now have to consider seriously the question of abandoning our enterprise, but before we adopt that extreme step we appeal to all those who have been wavering or procrastinating to send in their names for the "White List" forthwith. In the event of the scheme being dropped for want of support, we shall return all the applicants' fees without deduction.

Two letters of enquiry may be answered while this subject is before us. "T.H.B." enquires as to the position of a minor joining the "White List," and the answer to him is that minors are not admissible. The Hon. Secretary of a Philatelic Society suggests that the various members of the principal Societies and Clubs might be admitted to the "White List" at a reduced fee, and this is a plan which will be considered forthwith.

A Prize Competition, open to all Philatelists, begins in the next number of the *Fortnightly*. It will take the form of a contest for the best literary contributions on philatelic subjects.

Our Thanks are due to many readers of the *S.C.F.* for words of congratulation on our New Season number. "It is a regular multum in parvo of philatelic information," declares a Cardiff reader. "The personal element is a little too pronounced," objects another; but others again welcome this personal aspect and protests that it lends an added interest to the journal. We may say that the "Fortnightly Chats" inaugurated in our last issue will be continued at intervals, the series being resumed, we hope, in our next number.

White List of Philatelists.

THIRD LIST OF APPLICANTS.

The following gentlemen have offered themselves for enrolment on the "White List of Philatelists," and will be so enrolled unless there be some just cause or impediment advanced by readers of the *Fortnightly*, or others:—

22 Soobrahmoney Iyer	Travancore.
23 James Bennett ...	Stoke Bishop.
24 W. Armistead ...	Burnley.
25 Mrs. L. K. Kennedy	Norwood, Ceylon.
26 A. D. Oubridge ...	Newcastle-on-Tyne.

All information that it may be in the position of any reader to tender as regards these applicants should be addressed personally to Mr. J. S. G. Telfer, Secretary, The White List of Philatelists, 63 and 64 Chancery Lane, London, W.C. Such letters, for greater security, should be marked "Private and Confidential."

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

THE REGISTER of WHITE LIST of PHILATELISTS will be open to all *Fortnightly* Readers and Advertisers, and all Secretaries of Exchange Clubs and Philatelic Societies.

ENTRY on the Register will be made on two first-class references being given, preferably to bankers or well-known business houses. The applicant's name (or initials) and the town in which he resides will be published in one number of the *S.C.F.* previous to inclusion in the register, and all *Philatelists having any knowledge of the person in question are invited to communicate with the Secretary.*

FEES will be chargeable on application, and will be 1/6 per annum—this sum to defray all expenses of printing, postage, letters, etc; and will not be returnable in the event of non-election.

INFORMATION as to any person on the Register will be given to readers and advertisers of the *S.C.F.*, and all club Secretaries, on receipt of a stamped envelope for reply. The Register will be kept in the strictest privacy, and no information will be given except to those who apply by letter.

THE MANAGEMENT will exercise the greatest possible care in examining references, and the publication of the name and initials of an applicant, together with the town in which he resides, will materially assist (we believe) in eliminating undesirable applicants. Information regarding each applicant, on the part of other readers, acquainted with him, is specially invited. The cost of postage will be defrayed, if desired, and all communications will be treated with the strictest privacy and confidence.

SUGGESTIONS as to points not adequately covered in the above conditions are still cordially invited. Please address the Secretary, the White List of Philatelists, 63, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

A SECRET "BLACK BOOK" ALSO.

The conductors of the "White List of Philatelists" will compile for our own guidance and reference a Big Black Book, in which will be entered up the names, addresses, and principle exploits of the *chaculiers d'industrie* who prey upon philatelists both at home and abroad.

For this "Black Book" contributions are invited from all persons and at all seasons, not only complaints as to persons who may be applying for enrolment in the "White List," but as to all persons connected with stamps whose dealing are open to suspicion.

It will be necessary, however, to be very stringent in our precautions against error or malicious injury, and for this reason we must insist upon:—

(1). The full name and address of every person sending us information, the same not to be published but merely as an evidence of good faith. On no account will the slightest credence be attached to anonymous communications.

(2). Substantial evidence in support of the allegations brought forward. We cannot accept the unsupported word of any one person as against any other person in a matter which might possibly lead to grave injustice being done.

In return for the help we receive in this way—help given not to ourselves personally, but to Philately as a hobby—we shall strain every nerve to make this compilation of the "bad men of Philately" a blessing to the upright section of the community, a terror and a scourge to the "wrong 'uns."

Communications for the "Big Black Book" should be made *personally* (each envelope being marked "Private and Confidential") to:—
Mr. J. S. G. TELFER, Secretary, The White List of Philatelists, 63/64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Some Notes on the Stamps of Lagos.

THE CURRENT QUEEN'S HEAD ISSUE.

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE.

The current Queen's Head issue of Lagos is one that will repay careful study and quite an interesting specialised collection might be formed by a nicely arranged selection of the various printings and shades. At first sight it does not strike one as presenting anything but a very limited field for research. A little consideration, however, will show that, as the ½d. and 1d. values were issued as far back as 1884 and the other values from 1887 to 1894, there are reasonable grounds for surmising that many printings have taken place. During the past few years I have been collecting single copies of the various values from ½d. to 1/- in a more or less desultory fashion and I am quite convinced that there are several printings so distinct that it would be a by no means impossible task to classify and arrange these properly.

Until quite recently only one plate was in use and judging from the later printings this must have become considerably worn as a result of its long service. In fact, the difference between specimens from the early and later printings is as striking as that between many London and locally produced stamps. All values of this issue are printed from the same plate, as far as the body of the stamp is concerned, a rectangle being left at the base in which the value is afterwards inserted. Plate 1 consists of 60 stamps arranged in 10 rows of 6 without surrounding line. The number "1" in a circle appears above the second stamp in the top row and below the fifth stamp in the bottom row. In addition a "1" in an octagon is placed above the fifth stamp at the top and below the second stamp at the base of the sheet. Plate 2, which has lately been brought into use for the ½d., 1d., 6d. and 1/- values, also consists of 60 stamps with a continuous line around. The plate number "2" in a circle is shown four times—above the second and fifth stamps in the top and below the second and fifth stamps in the bottom rows.

The following notes may be of use to collectors who are interested in these stamps.

½d. green. Plates 1, 2.

I have seen specimens with dark brown gum, and these, I fancy, belong to the first printings from plate 1. These have fine clear lines, while later impressions from this plate have a much rougher appearance. There are slight varieties of shade from both plates and frequently the word "HALF-PENNY" is in a lighter or darker shade than the rest of the stamp. Generally speaking, printings from plate 1 are dull green while those from plate 2 are brighter.

1d. carmine. Plates 1, 2.

The impressions from plate 1 vary considerably, some (early printings) having a finely grained appearance and others being very blotchy in places. Plate 2 copies are deeper in colour and, as the plate is comparatively new, shew all the lines clearly. There are slight differences in shade from both plates, and the words of value are often lighter or darker than the body of the stamp. The lettering, too, is sometimes thick and blurred.

2d. lilac and blue. Plate 1.

Fine ranges of the lilac shade may be made, varying from pale to dark. There is much variety in the impressions—early printings have all lines perfect and later ones show them rougher and more blurred as the plate gets worn. I have some early prints with brown gum, and in these the value "TWO PENCE" is in dull steely blue and pale dull blue. In later printings many shades exist from dark bright blue to pale ultramarine. In some specimens the letters in the words of value are thicker than in others.

2½d. ultramarine. Plate 1.

As in the other values impressions vary from fine to rough, though I have seen no very fine ones. There are shades from

light blue to fairly dark ultramarine. The value is sometimes very dark or very pale and often differs in shade from the rest of the stamp. In most of my specimens the "P" in "PENNY" appears to be a minute fraction lower than the rest of the letters.

3d. lilac and brown. Plate 1.

The early printings (fine impressions) shew many shades from deep to pale lilac—the deep one being probably the first. The rougher impressions vary from pale to dark lilac. The difference in shade in the words of value is slight, but a prominent variety with thick blurred lettering occurs.

4d. lilac and black. Plate 1.

I have several specimens with brown gum, evidently from early printings, in which all the lines are fine and even. All are pale lilac. Other copies with white gum have the lines more or less patchy and smudged and vary in shade from pale to deep lilac. The lettering in "FOUR PENCE" slightly varies in thickness, but there is no appreciable difference in shade.

5d. lilac and green. Plate 1.

Again, there are many difference in the impressions—some fine, some rough, and some intermediate. The lilac shades are pale to dark and in the words of value a good range of shades from light to deep green may be had. The lettering is thicker in some than in others.

6d. lilac and mauve. Plates 1, 2.

Some copies I have with dark brown gum, from an early printing with thick letters in "SIXPENCE." Others with pale brown gum—probably the next printing—have the letters thinner and in a duller shade. With white gum I have specimens with very fine lines, others less fine, and so on to very rough and blurred impressions, while the shades vary from pale to dark lilac. The words of value differ from pale to deep mauve and in some cases the letters are roughly shaped. All I have seen from plate 2 are fine in appearance and of a deep lilac tint.

7½d. lilac and carmine. Plate 1.

The appearance of the impressions varies from fairly fine to very rough and the shades from pale to dark lilac. There are pale and bright tints in the carmine and in some cases the letters in "PENCE" are roughly formed.

10d. lilac and yellow. Plate 1.

In this value the early printings with fine lines throughout are in many shades from very dark to pale lilac. In the rougher impressions the tints are not so pronounced, but may be had from pale to fairly dark lilac. There are light and dark shades in "TEN PENCE" and in some copies these letters are not perfectly formed.

1/- green and black. Plates 1, 2.

My early copies of these from plate 1 have deep brown and brown gum and impressions are fine to slightly rough. The shades are pale to deep yellow-green and the lettering in the value differs in thickness. With white gum I have many variations in impressions from fairly fine to very rough, while there are numerous tints—pale green, light green, etc., to dark green. The letters in "ONE SHILLING" are thicker in some copies than in others. Specimens from plate 2 have a brighter appearance, though there is no striking difference as far as the shade is concerned.

The High Values.

I have not included the 2/6, 5/- and 10/- values in my investigations, but should imagine varieties may be found shewing distinct printings as in the other stamps. I have a note of the 2/6 one with shades of carmine dark and pale, while the 5/- value is known with lettering in blue and ultramarine.

New Issues and Varieties.

Bermuda.—The new 3d. of the Arms, or "Dockyard" type, is to hand.

3d. olive and violet.

From Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. we have received the 6d. (Queen's Head) in a bright mauve colour.

6d. bright mauve.

Bosnia.—Two more examples of the new type with black numerals of value.

30 heller, bistre-brown and black.

40 heller, orange and black.

We have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. for specimens.

Cyprus.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the latest additions to the King's Head series.

1 piastre, carmine and blue.

4 piastres, olive and violet.

Dominica.—The promised new stamps for Dominica are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. The stamps, from ½d. to 2/6 are of oblong shape and show a view of the island, while the 5/- stamp bears a head of the King, in accordance with the recent Leeward Islands decree.

Pictorials: ½d. green.

1d. carmine and black.

2d. brown and green.

2½d. blue and black.

3d. black and mauve.

6d. brown and black.

1/- violet and green.

2/- purple and black.

2/6 orange and green.

King's Head: 5/- brown and black.

French Somali Coast.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the following stamps, of the same design as the set issued early in 1903. The central design is in second colour.

1c. claret and black.

2c. ochre and black.

4c. red and black.

5c. green and black.

10c. rose and black.

15c. brown and black.

20c. purple and black.

25c. indigo and blue.

25c. blue and black.

40c. orange and black.

50c. green and black.

75c. orange-brown and black.

1fr. orange and black.

2fr. green and black.

5fr. orange and black.

French Offices in China.—It appears that we have not yet told our readers the worst regarding the surcharging of French Colonial stamps for Chinese ports. In addition to Canton, Hoi-Hao and Wong-tze, complete sets have been overprinted for Pack-Hoi, Chung-King and Yunnan-Sen.

Great Britain.—Mr. H. D. Stockwell, of Dover, sends us an interesting pair of penny reds (1854), with perforation 16 along the tops, but no perforation either between the stamps or at sides or bottom! In fact, the stamps are entirely imperforate except for the top sides, there being a generous margin in proof thereof. The stamps are on a portion of the original envelope; they are cancelled with obliterations bearing the number 15 and the envelope is pcs marked "Dover, No. 7, 1854, A." Mr. Stockwell cannot conceive it possible that the perforation has been faked.

Natal.—Two additions to our list are made by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

King's Heads: 2½d. blue.

4s. yellow and rose-lake.

Servia.—The 5 dinars stamp of the recent surcharged issue has been overprinted with new value, 1 para, in red. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. inform us that the stamp is obtainable only in the used condition.

Provisional: 1 para on 5 dinars.

Seychelles.—Still another 3 cents Provisional! And apparently there is no reason why we should not continue to have these at regular intervals until the crack of doom.

Provisional: "3 cents" on 18c. olive and carmine.

United States.—Replying to a letter from Mr. E. R. Aldrich, of the "Philatelic World," Assistant P.M.G. Madden states definitely that commemorative stamps will be issued in connection with the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis. "The matter of designs," Mr. Madden adds, "is now under consideration."

Is one of the American stamp journals an advertiser offers a stable for sale, and is willing to take a stamp collection as part payments.

The death is reported at St. Louis, Missouri, of Mr. R. S. Hatcher, an Indiana philatelist, formerly well-known for his writings on American fiscals and other topics.

Writes Mr. Clarence De Kay: The only fault I have to find with some philatelic publications is, that they use up about half the paper in telling how good the other half is.

The "Postman" of the "Philatelic Chronicle," commenting on "White Lists" and "Black Lists," declares that the list that is wanted is a list of the people who are willing to buy stamps at catalogue prices!

A CHICAGO firm have adopted a system of selling common stamps that appeals strongly to the schoolboys of the "Windy City." A large box of stamps is placed on the counter; each juvenile customer thrusts his hand in, grabs as many as his fist will hold, and pays at the rate of 5 cents a handful.



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Used Stamps Unpriced in the Catalogues.

AN INTERESTING TABULATION.

BY J. E. HEGIN BOTTOM, B.A.

As a sequel to a most interesting letter to the *Fortnightly*, in May, 1902, Mr. J. F. Heginbottom, B.A., sends us a revised list of stamps which, for one reason or another, are unpriced as to used specimens in either Gibbons' or Bright's catalogues, or both. Nothing in the nature of a full list of stamps so treated can be attempted, but we now publish the first portion of Mr. Heginbottom's interesting compilation, in the hope that it will attract opinions and suggestions from *Fortnightly* readers as to the approximate market values of these unpriced stamps.

This first portion of the list refers to *Common and Medium Colonial Stamps*. It will be followed shortly by a tabulation of the rarer Colonials.

	Gibbons' 1902.		Bright's 1903.		
	unused. s. d.	used. s. d.	unused. s. d.	used. s. d.	
BAHAMAS.					
CA. 14	5/- sage-green ...	6 6	—	6 6	
	1/- blue-green ...	1 4	—	2 0	
BARBADOS.					
CA. 14	5d. olive ...	0 7	—	0 7	
1892-9	6d. mauve and carmine ...	0 8	—	0 8	
	8d. orange and blue ...	0 10	—	0 10	
	2/6 blue and orange ...	3 3	—	3 3	
CC. 14	5d. olive ...	2 6	—	1 0	
1897	6d. mauve and carmine ...	4 0	—	1 6	
	8d. orange and blue ...	1 6	—	1 0	
	10d. carmine and green ...	4 0	—	1 9	
	2/6 black and orange ...	4 0	—	3 6	
BRITISH BECHUANALAND.					
1896	½d. black ...	2 6	—	2 6	
	½d. black ...	0 8	—	0 8	
1888	½d. red ...	0 3	—	0 3	
PROTECTORATE.					
1888	1d. lilac ...	0 6	—	0 8	
1889	½d. black ...	0 4	—	0 6	
B. C. AFRICA.					
1891	3/- brown and green ...	3 9	—	3 9	
1897	3/- sea-green ...	—	—	12 6	
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.					
1896	7½s. mauve ...	0 10	—	0 10	
B. GUIANA.					
CA. 14	8c. lilac and green-black ...	0 6	—	Not listed.	
1900	48c. grey and brown-lilac ...	2 8	—	2 8	
B. HONDURAS.					
CA. 14	1888	2c. on 1d. rose ...	1 6	—	1 9
	1899	24c. orange and blue ...	3 0	—	1 4
	1900	10c. lilac and green ...	0 8	—	1 3
B. S. AFRICA.					
1897	8d. olive and violet ...	1 0	—	1 0	
	On Cape	½ black ...	0 9	—	0 10
		2d. brown ...	1 6	—	1 6
		3d. claret ...	8 0	—	3 9
1897	½d. olive-black and violet ...	0 2	—	0 3	
1901	4d. olive-brown ...	0 6	—	0 6	
CAPE.					
CC. 14.	No outer frame				
1877	½ black ...	1 0	—	1 0	
	Anchor.				
1898	5/- brown-orange ...	6 6	—	6 3	
CEYLON					
1892	3c. on 4c. rose ...	0 6	—	0 6	
	3c. on 28c. slate ...	0 6	—	0 6	
1900	75c. black and red-brown ...	1 4	—	1 4	
	On Service, 3c. green ...	1 0	—	—	

CYPRUS.

CA. 14.	Die II.						
1886	30 paras mauve ...	0 6	—	0 4	0 9		
CA. 14	1500	12 piastres orange and black	2 6	—	2 6	2 6	

FALKLANDS.

CA. 14.	1884	1d. claret ...	0 9	—	1 0	2 6
	1896	½d. blue-green ...	—	—	Not listed.	
		2½ bright ultramarine ...	0 8	—	Ditto.	
		6d. orange-yellow ...	3 0	—	Ditto.	
		9d. red ...	1 0	—	1 0	1 2
		1/- brown ...	1 4	—	1 4	1 6

GAMBIA.

CC. 14	1880	½d. orange ...	0 8	—	0 6	2 0
CA. 14.	1887	3d. grey ...	1 0	—	0 9	1 0
		6d. slate-green ...	1 6	—	1 0	1 6
	1898	2d. Queen ...	0 4	—	0 4	—
		2½d. Queen ...	0 5	—	0 5	—
		3½d. Queen ...	0 9	—	0 6	—
		4d. Queen ...	0 9	—	0 8	—
		6d. Queen ...	1 0	—	0 10	—
		1/- Queen ...	1 9	—	1 6	—

GIBRALTAR.

CA. 14	1889	10c. on 1d. rose ...	0 4	—	0 6	0 6
		25c. on 2d. brown-lilac ...	2 0	—	1 6	1 9
		50c. on 6d. lilac ...	2 6	—	3 0	7 6
		10c. carmine ...	0 2	—	0 2	0 1
1895		1 piastre brown and ultramarine	1 3	—	1 3	1 3
		2 piastre black and carmine	2 0	—	2 0	2 6
1898		1/- bistre and red ...	1 3	—	1 3	1 3

GOLD COAST.

CA. 14	1902	2d. lilac and orange ...	—	—	4 6	4 6
	1900	2½d. lilac and ultramarine ...	0 4	—	0 5	0 5
		2/- green and carmine ...	2 8	—	3 6	—

GRENADA.

CA. 14	1899	2d. lilac and brown ...	0 4	—	0 4	0 4
		3d. lilac and yellow ...	0 6	—	0 6	—
		6d. lilac and green ...	1 0	—	0 10	—
		8d. lilac and black ...	1 0	—	1 3	—
		1/- green and yellow ...	1 9	—	1 6	—

HONG KONG.

CA. 14	1902	5c. yellow ...	0 2	—	0 2	0 1
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INDIA.

1895		5r. violet and ultramarine ...	8 3	—	8 0	2 0
1900		2½s. blue ...	0 4	—	0 4	0 1½

LAGOS.

CA. 14	1894	2½d. blue ...	—	—	0 4	0 2
		5d. lilac and green ...	0 7	—	0 7	0 7
		7½d. lilac and carmine ...	0 10	—	0 10	0 10
		10d. lilac and yellow ...	1 1	—	1 1	1 1
		2/6 green and carmine ...	3 3	—	3 3	3 3
		5/- green and blue ...	6 6	—	6 3	6 0
		10/- green and brown ...	12 6	—	12 0	12 6

LEEWARDS.

CA. 14	1890	6d. lilac and brown ...	0 8	—	0 10	0 10
		7d. lilac and slate ...	0 9	—	1 0	1 0
		1/- green and rose ...	1 4	—	1 8	1 6

MALTA.

1886		5/- rose ...	6 6	—	6 3	5 0
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MAURITIUS.				NIGER COAST.			
s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1877	1d. on 4l. rose	...	2 0	2 0	6 0		
1930	15c. green and orange	...	0 1	0 1	0 3		
	12c. on 18c. green and ultra.	...	0 6	0 5			
MONTSERRAT.				ORANGE RIVER COLONY.			
C.A. 12				1900-02 1d. carmine on Cape			
1885	1d. rose-red and red	...	1 0	0 9	2 0	0 2	0 2
C.A. 14	2½d. ultramarine	...	3 6	2 6	3 6		
NEWFOUNDLAND.				QUEENSLAND.			
1897 1c. brown				Large Q and Crown. Perf. 12½.			
	3c. brown	...	1 0	0 2	1895 1d. red	...	0 1
1897	1c. on 3c. I. (Gibbons' 80)	...	2 6	2 6	2d. blue, faintly impressed	...	1 6
	1c. on 3c. II. (Gibbons' 81)	...	7 6	7 6	1896 1d. orange-red, ditto	...	0 1
NEW SOUTH WALES.				Perf. 13			
Unsurfaced paper. N.S.W. 11 by 12				1899 3d. brown			
1902	½d. blue-green	...	0 2	0 1½	4d. yellow	...	0 6
Die II.	2½d. deep blue	...		1 0	5d. purple-brown	...	0 7
	6d. orange	...		0 1	2c. greenish-blue	...	2 8
	8d. magenta	...					
N.S.W. 12 by 12				ST. HELENA.			
Die I.	1d. carmine	...	3 6		Words 1½ mm. long. C.A. 14		
	9d. on 10d. red-brown	...			1895 1d. dark green	...	0 1
	1½ chocolate	...			C.A. 14 3d. deep violet	...	0 5
Chalky paper. N.S.W. 12 by 12				1d. sepia			
1902	4d. brown	...	0 6	0 6	1½ yellow-green	...	1 1
	8d. magenta	...	1 0	0 11	0 6	0 6	
	10d. violet	...	1 2	1 3	1 0	0 7	
NEW ZEALAND				ST. VINCENT.			
Star N.Z. 11 by 11				C.A. 14			
1897	5d. olive-black	...		6 0	2 6	8 6	1 0
1898	2½d. blue "Wakitiu"	...	0 8	0 9	0 4	1 3	1 6
NORTHERN NIGERIA.				SEYCHELLES.			
1900 Queen, Gibbons', none priced				C.A. 14			
	used	...	1d. to 12 6	2d. to 22 6	1893 12c. sepia and green	...	0 1
	Bright, ditto	...		2d. to 22 6	45c. brown and carmine	...	3 6
					1896 36c. on 45c.	...	6 0
					1900 15c. ultramarine	...	0 6
					75c. yellow and violet	...	1 1
					2c 25c. lilac and green	...	1 0
					1901 3c. on 10c.	...	0 8

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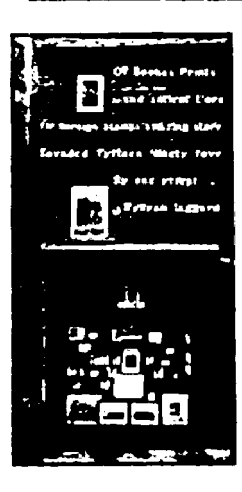
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The Seychelles Scandal.

HOW A GANG OF SPECULATORS MANIPULATE THE ISLANDS' ISSUES.

By E. J. NANKIVELL.

THE Seychelles Islands are a curious example of the extent to which the stamp collector pays the piper and calls the tune in the issue of postage stamps.

The islands are infested with gangs of stamp speculators who are ever on the watch for a favourable opportunity to manipulate an issue. They seem to be well informed concerning the stocks of stamps in hand, and their plan of operations is very simple, and, unfortunately, very effective. When a particular common value is running short, they will suddenly buy out the small remnant which the postal officials hoped would last until a fresh supply could be got from London. Then, to provide for immediate demands, the postal authorities take some higher value of which they happen to have a good supply, and these they surcharge with the lower value required. As a rule, of such make-shift stamps, only sufficient are printed to tide over the delay in getting a fresh printing of the regular value. The speculators, however, having caught the postal authorities "out of stock," make a regular harvest of the opportunity. They besiege the post office with their agents on the morning of issue, and in an hour or two absolutely clear out the new provisional. The public, such as there is in the Seychelles, has to take a back seat and beg in vain for even a few of the genuinely needed value. The postal authorities, at their wits' ends, proceed to surcharge what they can of another value, but again the speculators lay siege to the post office, and once more they "corner" the lot. These hauls the speculators subsequently retail at their own fancy prices to stamp dealers all over the world. And so the game goes on. Every now and again the unfortunate little colony has to resort to the very objectionable expedient of surcharging their stamps. They apparently do all they can locally to outwit the speculators, but to little or no purpose, and so long as so small a colony is allowed to issue a separate series of postage stamps for a population numbering no more than that of a very small English provincial town, so long will the stamp speculator run the post office to suit his own ends. The remedy is in the hands of the higher colonial authorities. Let them put an end to separate stamp issues and make the stamps of Mauritius serve the postal needs of the little group. Then the stamp speculator would soon be compelled to confess that his occupation had come to an end, for whilst he can very comfortably and profitably manipulate printings which run only into a few thousands, he would be appalled by printings running into millions.

The recent issue of provisionals furnishes a very fair example of how the game is played. At the beginning of July the 3 cents of the recently received King's Head stamps was exhausted, and a supply of the 15 cents was surcharged "3 cents" to provide the needful value. In order to outwit the speculators notice was given by the post office that no one person would be permitted to purchase more than one sheet of 60 stamps. Those desirous of getting supplies were on the scene at an early hour, and gave money to different people to buy sheets for them, but many could not even get near the door of the post office, and it is said that, despite the restrictions of the postal officials, nearly all these provisionals got into the hands of one man who had a crowd of fifty negroes on the spot. As there were only 33,000 stamps surcharged, the fifty negroes, taking one sheet of 60 each, would monopolise 30,000 stamps, leaving only 3,000 for the other speculators and dealers' agents, to say nothing of the general public for whose use the stamps were provided.

So that, before the day was done, the post office was once more out of its stock of 3 cent stamps. Consequently the supply of another value, this time the 45 cents, was surcharged "3 cents." Again the restrictions were put into force with a further restriction that when the daily sale reached 400 stamps no more would be sold until the next day. By these means the local authorities hoped to make the new provisional last until a fresh supply of the ordinary 3 cent stamps was received from London. But Seychelles is far away in the Indian Ocean, and though the fresh printing was probably or-

dered by cable, it is very doubtful if the period of waiting was tided over without a further surcharge.

This spectacle of a gang of speculators subordinating a colonial post office to speculative purposes for purely personal ends is neither edifying nor creditable, but, as I have suggested, a definite remedy is in the hands of the authorities. From the stamp collector's point of view, there is an unnecessary multiplication of varieties which are not the result of natural postal causes. The only persons who benefit are speculators who are in no philatelic sense stamp collectors.—(Reprinted from "The Captain.")

The 'Forged' 200 Reis Brazil.

In No. 217 of the *Fortnightly* (July 4th, 1903) we described, on the authority of the "American Journal of Philately," an alleged forgery of the 200 reis Brazil, issue of 1900. The "A. J. P.", however, has now made the discovery that its news was erroneous, the so-called forgery being no forgery at all, but "an official impression from a retouched die." Its genuineness is proved by the fact that a correspondent of our contemporary—a leading philatelist of Brazil—purchased specimens of the retouch at the post office. As this stamp, formerly denounced as a counterfeit, is now to be regarded as a perfectly genuine variety, it will be interesting to reproduce the minute description of its characteristics, as published by the "A. J. P." in June last and reprinted in the *Fortnightly* of the date already mentioned:

The impression is clearer and sharper. This is particularly noticeable in the ruled lines which form the background. The lines behind the words "Reis" are especially distinct.

The white face of the numerals "200" is ornamented with dots and dashes. These have nearly disappeared in most stamps of the original printing, but are very distinct in the retouch, making the figures appear bluer.

The shading lines of the face are heavier, more regular and less broken to represent lights and shadows. The central oval is surrounded by a thin, sharp line in the retouch and a broad, heavy one in the stamps of the original printing.

The leaves of the laurel wreath have each a strong, dark outline and the one at the right forms a straight line with the stem.

The letters of "UNIDOS DO BRAZIL" are 1½mm high, instead of 1mm as formerly.

The color, a dark blue, does not differ materially from that of the original printing.

It appears that certain alleged forgeries of the 300 and 500 reis, issue of 1894, described by the "American Journal of Philately" in 1901, are also "official impressions from retouched dies."

The Rudeness of Stamp Dealers.

An interesting letter is written us by "A Small Stamp Dealer":—

"I was very much interested," he writes, "in your interview with Mr. D. Field. When people read of £500 orders they will all be wanting to open stamp shops, so I should like to give the other side of the picture, being a stamp dealer myself. First of all, as to the demand for unused current stamps, I find that many of the customers buy almost nothing else, and there is very little profit on this stuff now.

"Then all stamp dealers are pestered with a class of collector who haggle over every stamp they buy, offering, say, 3s. for a stamp marked 5s., and waste about two hours spending 2s. 6d., if the dealer is weak enough to abate his prices. Such collectors cannot expect to be well served, dealers keeping their special bargains and fine copies for better paying customers. One man last week, seeing me buy a stamp for 1s. 9d., offered me 2s. for it. I explained to him that even a newsagent expects 3d. in the shilling profit, and I should want that at least. This is the class of collector who goes about complaining of the rudeness of stamp dealers, who will hardly take the trouble to serve him. Of course they won't."

Certain countries are stamp-issuing themselves to philatelic death, declares a philosophic writer in the "Philatelic West."

WANTED. Canada, 12c. black, fine used copy. Send us lowest price.

WE BEG TO OFFER —
Great Britain; 1-, I.R. Official, green and carmine, superb, used c. py ... 15 0
Gold Coast; 20-, brown on red, very fine ... 2 9
Newfoundland, 1d. lake, mint block of 4 ... 10 6
 " 6d. lake, ditto, ditto ... 8 0
 " 1-lake, ditto, ditto ... 16 0
Trinidad, 1850, 1d. car. lake, pin perf. 12½, superb used pair ... 35 0
 " 1d. rose red, pin perf. 14, very fine vertical strip of 4, used ... 00 0
 " 1d. rose red, clean cut 11 to 16, very fine ... 15 0
Victoria, 1902, 5-, examine and blue, fine ... 2 6
 " ditto, ditto, extra fine ... 3 0
 " 2-, blue on rose, very fine ... 1 0
 " 20-, examine, King, used ... 5 1

Cash with order. Approval against references a deposit.
CUTHBERTSON & Co.,
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THE STAMP EXCHANGE.
 Rate: 3 Words a Penny

EXONIA STAMP EXCHANGE. Members required present membership 27; subscription 6d. rules free. C. HOUSE, Merton Villa, Princes Square, St. Thomas, Exeter.

BREAKING COLLECTION. Old Issues, English and Colonials, used and unused, pairs and blocks. WRIGHT, Ivy Cottage, St. Neots.

GERMAN CHINA: (Reichpost): 5, 10, 20 and 30 pf. set 9d. French China (obsolete): 5, 6, 25, 50c. and 1fr. set 9d. post free. BUCKNELL, 103 York Road, East Ham, E.

WHAT OFFERS. Mint unused Colonials, British South Africa, 5- yellow (shades), catalogued 15-; Ceylon, 10d. vermilion, 60-, catalogued 12 6; Victoria, 1-deep blue, Gibbon's 15. Many others for disposal unused and used. H. EDGAR WESTON, 56 Graham Road, Brixton.

SCOTTISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY. Vacancies for few members owing to resignations. New Entrance Branch. Prospectus free from T. A. McINTYRE, Secretary, 13 Nile Grove, Edinburgh.

MINT COLONIALS. A fine collection of obsolete Colonials for disposal, singles, pairs and blocks, cheap, many priced fraction over face, approval, references required. HOLLICK, Boldmere Road, Erdington, Birmingham.

FIVE Army, Five I.R., Five Govt. Parcels, all different, lot 1-. Eight Hayti 6d. BUCKERS, Richmond Terrace, Cork.

MIXTURES, MIXTURES! 1,000 stamps to sell 1d. to 4d., used and unused, good 7s. 6d.; sample 500 1s. 3d. British Colonials, about 120 different, superb, sample 500 for 7s. 6d. — WILLIAM LEWTHWAITE, Printer, Egremont, Cumberland.

PICTORIAL POSTCARDS.—28 Different, British, in colours, 7d.; or, 130 assorted 1s. 6d.; abroad extra.—LEWTHWAITE, above.

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COLLECTORS' & WHOLESALE LOTS OF STAMPS no duplicates, British Colonials only, returnable.—Established 1884.—LEWTHWAITE, above.

SUBURBAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY. No entrance fee or subscription. Members wanted. Particulars:—Secretary, 20 Grosvenor Gardens, Willesden Green, London.

APPROVAL SHEETS. Exceptional Offers. Liberal discount. Priced under Gibbons. From 1 upwards, mint condition. Reference required. JAMES STEWART, 7 Annfield Terrace, West Partickhill, Glasgow.

ADVERTISER has a few really good duplicates for sale monthly, references required. Apply H. LEE, Clover Cottage, Deragwy, Llandudno.

SELLING off a large collection of stamps. Send for approval sheets, low prices. WOOD, Huntingdon.

FISCALS, FISCALS, FISCALS. Collector wishing to clear out all his duplicates (of which he has a immense quantity) offers the following lots of Fiscals: Australian £25, Mexican £25, Argentine £25, English £25, Californian £15, Ceylon £5, Mauritius £10, European £20, Asia £10, West India £15, African £10, &c., &c. Each lot is a bargain to anyone able to handle such parcels of Fiscals. Inspection invited for full particulars apply—H. POMPSON, 31 Crossdale Road, London, S.W.

BRIITH BOND, RAS, Newfoundland, &c., in choice selections given in exchange by an advanced collector for scarce and desirable British Colonials; common not wanted. Approval selections under 40- not desired. I send good or better lots on approval. Address: GEO. L. PACK, Lakewood, New Jersey, U.S.A. English reference: Editor, Philatelic Chronicle, Fentham Rd., Birmingham.

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S. & W. have just published an illustrated handbook for collectors entitled:—

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From the Auction Rooms.

* Denotes UNUSED.

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co.'s Sale.

September 17th and 18th, 1903.

Ceylon, 1862, 5d., no watermark ...	1	2	0
British East Africa, 1890-1, 1s. on 1s. brown (Gillons 32) *	2	4	0
New Republic, 1887, 7 6 with inverted arms, mint ...	1	16	0
Orange Free State, V.R.L., 1d. reversed surcharge, and 1d. normal, both mint ...	1	14	0
Transvaal, 1878, 3d. mauve on green, wide roulette (Gibbons 138) ...	1	13	0
Transvaal, V.R.L., 3d. green, mint pair, one stamp having the R.L. omitted ...	2	6	0
St. Vincent, 1865, 1d. deep blue, *	2	10	0
Turks Island, 2 1/2d. on 1 - (Gibbons 28), mint ...	2	12	0
Hawaiian Islands, Provisional Government, 12c black surcharge and 25c. red surcharge, both mint ...	1	12	0
New South Wales, 1855, 8d. orange, imperf. ...	4	10	0
South Australia, 1887-93, perf. 10, 15 -, yellow-brown, mint	1	2	0

Messrs. VENTOM BULL & COOPER'S Sale.

September 24th and 25th, 1903.

Great Britain, Watermark small garter on blue safety paper, 1855-57, 4d. carmine, *	4	17	6
Do. Octagonal issue, 1847-54, 6d. mauve, *	2	7	6
Do. Watermark small crown, perf. 14, 2d. blue ...	2	0	0
Finland, 1st issue, 10kop. rose on vertically laid paper, a pair	2	2	0
Luxemburg, 1874, 1fr on 37 1/2c. bistre, error "Un Franc," *	1	12	0
Spain, 1851, 2 reales red, *	15	15	0
Madrid, 1 cuarto bronze ...	1	7	0
Straits Settlements, 1883 Provisional, 8 in red on 8c. on 12c. purple-brown, *	1	2	0
British Central Africa, 1896, 4d. black and blue, *, mint ...	3	5	0
Cape of Good Hope, wmk. C. and C.A., 5 - orange-yellow ...	1	3	0
Gold Coast, Perf. 12 1/2, 1d. blue, *	1	10	0
Natal, 1st issue, 1d. buff, 9 specimens, and 3d. rose, 3 specimens, all used on entire ...	16	0	0
British Columbia, 1867-69, perf. 14, 10c. lake and blue, mint	2	6	0
Canada, 1st issue, laid paper, 3d. red, *	1	1	0
Do. ribbed paper, 3d. vermilion, *	1	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1d. brown-red ...	1	4	0
Do. 1 - cold violet, a pair ...	3	0	0
Dominica, wmk. C. and C.A., 1 - lilac-rose ...	2	0	0
Grenada, 1891, Provisional, 2 1/2d. on 8d. grey-brown, twice surcharged, *	3	3	0
Montserrat, wmk. C. and C.A., 2 1/2d. red-brown, a mint pair ...	1	18	0
St. Vincent, 1866, perf. 11 to 12 1/2 by 14 to 16, 1d. rose-red ...	2	10	0
Do. 1880, Provisional, 1d. in red on half 6d. blue-green, a pair with additional diagonal perforation, *	8	0	0
Tobago, 1880, Provisional, surcharged in pen and ink, 1d. on half of 6d. orange, with half a 1d. yellow-green ...	4	5	0
Trinidad, 1852, lithographed 1d. blue ...	3	2	6
Turks Islands, 1881, 2 1/2d. on 6d. black, type 6, *	1	1	0
Tonga, 1896, surcharged in English in violet and in Tongan in black, the latter reading downwards, 3d. on 7 1/2d. on 2d. pale blue, a pair ...	2	5	0

Messrs. MARTIN, RAY & Co.'s Sale,

September 28th, 1903.

British Central Africa, 1895, no wmk., 2 6 mauve, 5 - olive, 4d. orange, mint and superb ...	3	3	0
British South Africa, 1890, 4d. deep blue, mint ...	1	9	0
Cape of Good Hope (Woodblock), the error 1d. blue ...	36	15	0
Great Britain, V.R., 1d. black, apparently *	5	5	0
Labuan, 1891, 18c. olive, a pair, imperf. between ...	1	3	0
Madagascar, 1884, 1d. redd-lilac (S.G. 6), with handstamp inverted ...	1	10	0
New South Wales, 1871-83, 9d. in black on 10d. brown, with double surcharge, *	1	2	0
North Borneo, 1889-90, 8c. on 2c. brown, with surcharge inverted, *, an uncatalogued variety ...	1	9	0
Spain, 1852, 2r. pale red, *	7	15	0
U.S.A. (Periodicals), 60/6d. violet, mint ...	2	10	0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sale.

September 29th and 30th, 1903.

Great Britain, I.R. Official, 1855, 10 - blue, "Accounts Branch" cancellation ...	3	0	0
Do. 1832, 4d. green ...	1	10	0
Labuan, 1883-86, wmk. C.A., 8c. carmine, mint ...	1	12	0
British Bechuanaland, 1886, wmk. C.A., 3d. black with overprint in red and in black, *	2	0	0
Do. 1887, 2 1/2d. lilac, *	4	17	6
Do. 1888, One Halfpenny on 3d. lilac, mint ...	1	2	0
Do. Protectorate, 1889, 2 - green, mint ...	2	2	0
Do. Do. 2 6 green, mint ...	4	15	0
Do. Do. 5 - green, mint ...	6	10	0
British Central Africa, 1895, One Penny on 2d. green, the scarce trial type printed in Blantyre, with double surcharge, mint ...	3	15	0
British South Africa, 1890, 4d. rose-red, mint ...	2	2	0
Do. 1896, Provisionals, Three Pence on 5 - yellow, mint ...	1	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1853-8, 1 - dark green, a block of 4, mint	15	10	0
Do. 1863-4, 6d. mauve, a block of 4, mint ...	7	15	0
Do. Do. 1 - emerald, a block of 4, mint ...	16	16	0
Do. 1871-77, wmk. C.C., 5 - orange-yellow, *	1	2	0
Gold Coast, wmk. C.C., 1875, 1d. mauve, mint ...	1	2	0
Do. 1891-94, wmk. C.A., 20 - green and red, mint, ...	6	15	0
Do. Do. 20 - lilac and black on red, mint ...	1	4	0
Mauritius, 1848, Post Paid, 1d. orange on bluish, late impression on original ...	2	4	0
Do. Do. 2d. blue, early impression, on original ...	8	15	0
Do. Do. another, medium impression, ditto ...	6	5	0
Do. Do. another, late impression, ditto ...	4	0	0
Natal, 1857, 3d. pink, on entire original ...	1	8	0
Orange River Colony, V.R.L., 6d. carmine, without stop after "V," 1st printing, *	3	15	0
Do. Do. 5 - green, 2nd printing, pair and a single one with thick "V," mint, mixed stops ...	7	15	0
St. Helena, 1881-95, wmk. C.A., 3d. emerald, with double surcharge, mint ...	5	5	0
Seychelles, 1893, 3 cents on 4c. carmine and green, with inverted surcharge, mint ...	1	15	0
Do. Do. 15 cents on 16c. brown and blue, with inverted surcharge, mint ...	2	12	0
Sierra Leone, 1862, no wmk., perf. 14, 6d. bright violet, mint	1	5	0
Do. 1883, wmk. C.A., 4d. blue, mint ...	9	5	0
Do. wmk. C.C., Half-penny on 1 1/2d. lilac, mint ...	3	3	0
Do. 1896-97, 4d. lilac on red, mint ...	1	7	0
Do. 1897, Provisionals, 2 1/2d. on 2 - lilac, a strip of 3, being types a, b and d, mint ...	32	10	0
Transvaal, 1878-79, Queen's Head, 1 - green, mint ...	1	6	0
Do. 1887-90, 2 1/2 Pence on 1 - green, the error "2 1/2," *	1	4	0
Dominica, 1882, Provisionals, 4d. on black on half of 1d. lilac, a pair, the scarce type with large "1" and no fraction bar and the "2" has straight foot, mint ...	2	5	0
Jamaica, 1890, Provisionals, Two Pence Half Penny on 4d. orange-brown, a pair, the lower stamp has double surcharge, mint ...	2	2	0
Nevis, 1867, perf. 15 engraved, 1 - yellow-green, *	10	0	0
St. Christopher, 1885-88, Provisionals, One Penny on 2 1/2d. blue, the small type of surcharge, *, in mint state, extremely rare ...	19	10	0
St. Lucia, 1860, wmk. Star, 1d. blue, mint ...	1	16	0
Do. do. do. 6d. green, mint ...	2	12	0
Do. 1883-84, wmk. C.A., 1 - orange, mint ...	2	10	0
St. Vincent, 1862, no wmk., perf. 11-12 1/2 by 14-16 1 - slate, a block of 4, mint ...	11	0	0
Do. 1877, wmk. Star, perf. 11-12 1/2, 1d. dark blue, mint ...	4	2	6
Do. do. perf. 11-12 1/2, by 15, 6d. pale yellow-green, mint ...	2	5	0
Do. 1890, wmk. Star, perf. 11-12 1/2, 1 - vermilion, mint ...	6	5	0
Do. do. 5 - rose-red, mint ...	8	10	0
Do. 1890, Provisionals, 1d. in red on half of 6d. blue-green, a superb block of 4, mint ...	27	0	0
Do. 1881, Provisionals, 3d. in red on half of 6d. yellow-green, a pair, mint ...	3	0	0
Do. do. 4d. on 1 - vermilion, a strip of 3, mint ...	50	0	0
Do. 1881, wmk. Star, perf. 11-12 1/2, 4d. ultramarine, mint ...	3	3	0
Do. 1883-84, wmk. C.A., perf. 11, 4d. bright blue, mint ...	3	15	0
Do. perf. 12, 4d. ultramarine, mint ...	3	7	6
Do. 1885, wmk. C.A., perf. 11, 4d. red-brown, a pair, mint ...	8	8	0
Turks Islands, 1881 Provisionals, 2 1/2 on 1 - lilac, type 6, *	3	17	6
Do. another, the variety without fraction bar, mint ...	3	15	0

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

Secretaries are requested to assist the Editor by sending in their reports not later than the Monday preceding publication.

THE JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A meeting of the above Society was held on Saturday, October 17th, at the Wheatsheaf Institute, 67, South Lambeth Road, Mr. Fred. J. Melville being in the chair. The Society's recently-instituted Forgery Collection was displayed. Considering this collection was started only last May, the progress made is excellent. Mr. B. W. H. Poole, the Honorary Secretary of the Forgery Centre, will be glad to receive specimens for inclusion. Mr. Melville read a chapter entitled "Forgeries and Fakes" from his forthcoming book on "The A.B.C. of Stamp Collecting." Mr. A. R. McCallum read a paper on Skeleton Philately, advocating making a general collection of types of stamps rather than the individual stamps, at the same time making a detailed specialised collection of one country. After the paper a lively discussion took place, in which a fair proportion of the members present joined.

On Saturday, November 7th, in addition to the usual auction sale, Mr. C. J. Patman will read a paper on "Is Philately on the Wane?" There will also be a display of Mr. E. Heginbottom's collection of the stamps of Cyprus.

Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. F. Johnson, 9, Lorne Terrace, South Lambeth Road, S.W.

FEDERAL STAMP EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

We have received particulars of a Stamp Exchange Society started with the above title. Annual subscription, one shilling.

The first packet started promptly on October 3rd, when twenty applications for membership had been accepted. The society promises to be a success. The secretary mentions that other societies will be amalgamated at a future period when special sections will be provided for collectors of Entires, Fiscals, etc. (the Secretary, Mr. Long, being himself a keen collector of Entires).

A commission of ten per cent is charged on all sales, and members are requested to mark their stamps as reasonable as possible at net prices for the benefit of their fellow collectors, but ladies and gentlemen having no duplicate stamps are eligible for membership as purchasers. A few more desirable collectors with good duplicates are invited to join, also good purchasers. Only excellent references will be entertained. Rules can be obtained on application to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. C. Long, 7, Salcott Road, Clapham Junction, London.

ENTERPRISE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the request of several members and by general consent, the title of the "Enterprise Stamp Club" has been changed to the above.

The officers for the season 1903-4 are as follows:—

President: F. W. Lake, Esq.

Vice-President: E. A. Klaber.

Hon. Librarian: H. P. Harper.

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer: A. H. Harris.

Committee: Messrs. Harper, Harris, Klaber, Lake, Simons and Towson.

Rules and full particulars from A. H. Harris, Hon. Sec. and Treas., The Library, Buckhurst Hill.

BLACKPOOL STAMP EXCHANGE.

This Exchange is now entering on its third season, and so far has worked very satisfactorily. Number of members limited to about 25, and, owing to business pressure, there will shortly be vacancies for three or four new members. Preference given to medium collectors. Two really first-class references required—Philatelic ones, if possible. Secretary, W. Warburton, 53, Waterloo Road, Blackpool.

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SCOTTISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the annual general meeting the accounts for the past session ending 30th September were adopted. For the present session Mr. John Walker was elected president, in place of Mr. Adam Smail, who resigned after several years' service. A syllabus of meetings for the winter months was arranged.

TRAVELLERS' STAMP EXCHANGE.

The July packet of this amateur Exchange returned last week, showing very good sales.

October packet commenced its round on the 2nd, containing 32 sheets, value £559 odd. This packet is strong in rare British Colonials, Cape Woodblocks and early issues.

Hon. Secretary, Leicester A. B. Paine, Longsdon, Near Stoke-upon-Trent.

PALATINE STAMP EXCHANGE.

This club has lately appointed new officers. Mr. C. W. Pauer, Uttoxeter, becoming President and Mr. W. E. White, Bradford, vice-President. The August packet returned showing good sales, especially in Colonials. The Secretary will be pleased to forward a copy of the rules to collectors, but only those who can give the highest references will be entertained.

Hon. Secretary, Leicester A. B. Paine, Longsdon, Near Stoke-upon-Trent.

THE PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

Members are requested to send in good selections for the November packet. Special wants are old Colonials, in an unused condition; also fine used copies. Many members are seeking these and have made special application for fellow-members to look over their duplicates. Sheets should be sent in as early as possible as the official address is now open to all members. No fees.

The October packet started punctually and carries an excellent assortment to the value of £168 11s. 6½. Some good sales are expected. The May packet has now finally returned and shows a total sale of £10 9s. 9½d., or one-seventh of the total value. Vacancies occur for advanced collectors with or without good duplicates. Rules free. Apply General Secretary, R. T. Morgan, 14, High Street Selhurst, S.E.

JUNIOR SECTION.—This section, for the retaining of the commoner and cheaper varieties from the Senior Section, is now formed, and the first packet will be made up early in November. The Secretary in charge will be pleased to receive applications as early as possible, as already a goodly number have entered. Rules are the same as the ordinary Palace Society, and can be had free from the Assistant Secretary, C. A. Squire Cox, "Woodbine," Cambridge Road, Anerley, S.E.

MARTIN, RAY & Co., Stamp Auctioneers and

Commission Agents,

Lonsdale Chambers,

CHANGERY LANE, W.C.

— HOLD —

STAMP AUCTION SALES

- FORTNIGHTLY. -

Monday ... Oct. 26th

Monday ... Nov. 9th

Monday ... Nov. 23rd

Stamps to be included should reach our Offices
14 days prior.

Commission 10%. Minimum Charge 1/6 per lot.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,

Literary,
Fine-Art and

Philatelic Auctioneers,

47, Leicester Square, LONDON, W.C., make the sale of
Rare Postage Stamps A SPECIALITY.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that their NEXT SALE **OCT. 27th & 28th.**
will take place on

and will consist of the

Very fine COLLECTION OF COLONIALS.

Formed by the late Dr. LAWRENCE, of Jamaica.

Amongst other Rarities may be mentioned:

<p>GREAT BRITAIN. 1d., black, V.R.; 2d., blue, without lines, a pair, unused; 3d., with secret dots, etc. etc.</p> <p>GIBALTAR. Practically complete and including the rare error 10c. without value.</p> <p>CEYLON. Imperf., 8d., 9d., 19 (2), and 2-. Perf., wmk. Star, 8d. (2, one yellow-brown), 2-, used and unused, etc.; wmk. CC, 5d., purple-brown, unused, 2 rupees 50c., etc.; wmk. CA., 21c., purple-brown, unused, etc.</p> <p>LABUAN. 1880, 6 in red on 16c., and 8 on 12c., unused, etc.</p> <p>CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. The 1d. and 4d. errors and other Woodblocks and Triangulars.</p> <p>LAGOS. 5 - blue, unused.</p> <p>MAURITIUS. Post Paid, 1d., several used, and one unused; 2d., several, including the "Pence," superb; Large Fillet 2d., Greek border 2d., a fine strip of four, etc. etc.</p> <p>TRANSVAAL. A fine lot of all issues and several of 1879 provisionals, including the rare Type 14 of the red surcharge.</p> <p>ZULULAND. 5-, £1, and £5.</p> <p>CANADA. 12d., black, etc.</p>	<p>NEW BRUNSWICK. 6d. (2) and 1-, superb, and the 5c. Connell.</p> <p>NEWFOUNDLAND. 1-, orange; 4d., 6d., 5d., and 1-, scarlet, etc.</p> <p>NOVA SCOTIA. 1-, three copies, one superb.</p> <p>MONTSERRAT. 4d., CA., very fine</p> <p>NEVIS. 1-, yellow-green; 6d. litho; 6d. green, etc.</p> <p>ST. VINCENT. 1d. on half of 6d., 4d. on 1-, and 5-, Star, all unused.</p> <p>TOBAGO. 1st issue, 5- and £1; wmk. CC. 6d. stone; wmk. CA. 6d. stone, all mint.</p> <p>TRINIDAD. A fine lot of the early issues and the rare "Lady McLeod" local on entire original.</p> <p>TURKS ISLANDS. 1-, lilac, and a fine lot of the rare 1881 provisionals.</p> <p>VIRGIN ISLANDS. The very rare 1-, crimson, with centre omitted.</p> <p>BRITISH GUIANA. 1850, 4c. and 12c. (2); 1856, 4c.; 1862, 1, 2, (2), and 4c., etc. etc.</p> <p>NEW SOUTH WALES. Some fine Sydney Views and Laureateds.</p> <p>QUEENSLAND. Imperf., 1d., 2d., and 6d.</p> <p>VICTORIA. 5 - blue on yellow, etc.</p> <p>WESTERN AUSTRALIA. 6d., bronze, rouletted, etc. etc.</p>
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And a very fine lot of large remainders of the various countries. **CATALOGUE READY.**

Following sale on **November 10th. and 11th.** will contain a **VERY FINE SELECTION OF ALL COUNTRIES**, including a **Superb Private Collection** (mostly unused) of **CEYLON, CAPE, LAGOS** and **ST. VINCENT**, and the Collection of Australians formed by **R. T. THORBURN, Esq.**

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON have received instructions to sell on

NOVEMBER 24th & 25th and **DECEMBER 8th & 9th,**

A Magnificent Collection of Great Britain and Colonies,

Formed by a **Well-known Philatelist.**

The **Collection**, which is **Very Fine and Complete**, contains a large number of scarce stamps, including **Many** of the **Greatest Rarities**, the majority being **Unused**.

Catalogue is in preparation and full particulars will be shortly announced.

DATES of SALES for 1904:—

1904.—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27
May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8.

Clients wishing to include Collections in any of the above Sales are requested to make early arrangements with regard to their disposal, as some of the earlier dates are already allotted.

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

Liberal advances made pending realization if desired.

For Terms and Full Particulars Address:

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,

Telephone No. 1561, Gerrard.
Established 1794.

47, Leicester Square, London, W.C.



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 are desirous of purchasing for SPOT CASH,

Collections of any magnitude, and Single rare stamps, for which we are prepared to

Pay Highest Possible Prices.

We are *especially* in want of any specialised collections of countries, particularly unused.

"Interchangeable Philatelic Albums."

We have much pleasure in announcing that we have received

A MEDAL WITH DIPLOMA

(This being the only Award given for Permanent Philatelic Albums alone) at the International Philatelic Exhibition, held in Mulhausen, Alsace, this Summer.

.....
We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.



NEW COMPETITION FOR PHILATELISTS.

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 226. — Vol. IX

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

MESSRS. GLENDINING & Co.,

Fine Art, Numismatic & Philatelic Auctioneers,

THE ARGYLL GALLERY,

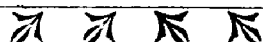
7, ARGYLL ST., REGENT ST., W.

(Adjoining Oxford Circus Station)

Telegraphic Address: "NULLIFIED," LONDON.

Telephone No. 4424, GERRARD.

Our next Sale of POSTAGE STAMPS



Following Sales:

Will be held on Thursday & Friday,

November 12th & 13th, 1903.

NOVEMBER 26th and 27th.

DECEMBER 10th and 11th.

And every alternate THURSDAY and FRIDAY throughout the Season.

Fine Art and Bric-à-brac Sale—17th & 18th November.

English Coins and War Medals—23rd, 24th & 25th November.

COLLECTORS who intend to DISPOSE OF COLLECTIONS are advised to make early arrangements to secure advantageous dates of Sale.

**COINS,
MEDALS,**

**FINE ART PROPERTY,
JEWELLERY, ETC**

**PAINTINGS,
ENGRAVINGS,**

**MINIATURES,
CHINA, ETC.**

**Promptly Catalogued
and offered for Sale.**

Liberal Cash Advances.

Prompt Settlements.

PERIODICAL SALES BY AUCTION OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS
HELD BY **Messrs VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,**
(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY.)
At the TEMPLE HOTEL, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.
(Close to the Philatelic Society's Rooms and the Temple Station on the District Railway.)

NOVEMBER 19th & 20th.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell on the above dates **A Fine Collection of British, Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps**, the property of a **Private Collector**, including the following rarities:—

Dominica; the extremely rare provisional "One Penny" on 6d. green, used on entire envelope with 8 other stamps.
Virgin Islands; the rare "FOUR PENNY" error used on entire envelope with the two ½d. green errors and another.
St. Vincent; Provisionals, 4d. on 1/- vermilion, unused, 1d. on 6d. unused, etc.
Trinidad; 1d. red, lithographed, used on entire, with a 4d. pin-perf.
Ceylon; 4d. rose and 2/- blue, imperforate.

India; 1st issue, ½ anna red unused.
Labuan; Provisional, "2 CENTS" on 16c. blue, unused, the rare variety.
Queensland; 1st issue, 1d. carmine, a pair, 2/- blue and 6d. green, all used on pieces.
Gold Coast; 2/- green and red, unused in mint state.
Newfoundland; 1/- carmine-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 number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, one month before the date of Sale. In order to facilitate this arrangement, owners intending to include Stamps should forward them at the earliest possible moment. The greatest care is requisite in the preparation of these Catalogues, so that a correct and comprehensive description of the Stamps may be given.

VALUATIONS MADE IF REQUIRED.

ADVANCES MADE ON COLLECTIONS PENDING REALISATION IF DESIRED.

CATALOGUES of all Sales may be obtained of

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, (Philatelic Department),

35, Old Jewry, LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM, LONDON."

Telephone Number, 3392 CENTRAL.

ESTABLISHED 1761.

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.,

(Partners: H. W. PLUMRIDGE & J. H. TELFER)

STAMP AUCTIONEERS

AND COMMISSION AGENTS,

64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

OUR 178-180th. SALES WILL BE HELD ON
MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 16-18th.

In the Arbitration Room, 64, Chancery Lane, at 5 p.m. sharp.

These Sales comprise two good Collections of Colonials broken into lots, and a number of **Rarities**, including —

British Guiana; 1850, 13c. cut square on entire; 1853, 1c. *.
Canada; 6d. perf.
Cape; triangular 1/- dark green, a mint pair.
Ceylon; 4d. imperf., very fine.
Fiji; fancy V.R. 2d. in black on 6d., mint.
Hamburg; imperf. 9s., fine.
New South Wales; 1855, 8d. yellow.
Mauritius; 1848, 2d. early plate.
New Brunswick; 1 - 3 copies.

Nova Scotia; 1 - 2 copies.
St. Vincent; 1 - lilac rose, * with gum.
Spain; 1852, 2 reals.
Tobago; 1850, 6d. stone.
Tuscany; 2 soldi.
Victoria; 1850, 3d. a rouletted pair on entire, 1858, 2 - green, a pair, rouletted on entire, 5 - blue on yellow.
Wurtemberg; 70k. * and others.

CATALOGUE READY—Sent, post free, on application.

FUTURE DATES—1803—Dec. 1 & 2; 15 & 16. Jan. 19 & 20. Feb. 2 & 3; 16 17.

March, 1 & 2; 15 & 16; 29 & 30. April 19 & 20. May 2 & 3; 17 & 18; 31, and June 1; 15 & 16.

Commission 10 per cent.

Settlements usually in Ten Days. At Latest within 14 days after sale.

IMMEDIATE AND LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES.

Commissions executed for Clients unable to attend the sales WITHOUT charge and as much BELOW LIMITS as possible.

COMMISSION DEPARTMENT.—We can now accept buying commissions for all London Stamp Sales. Inclusive terms 5%/. All lots carefully examined previous to purchase.

Telegraphic Address: "PLUMVERE, LONDON."

Telephone: 3473, CENTRAL.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY.

With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange, The Northern Stamp Exchange Society, The Stamp Exchange Protection Society, The Enterprise Stamp Club, The One and All Stamp Club, The Palace Philatelic Exchange Society, The British Empire Stamp Exchange Club, The Unused Stamp Exchange.

No 226.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

A Rarity Hidden since 1864.

THERE are many of us who would like to share the luck of the individual who has had one of the incomparable "Post Office" stamps of Mauritius in his possession since 1864, and has only just awakened to the fact that it is worth money. The stamp has been handed to Messrs. Puttick and Simpson for sale under the hammer, and from the photograph the auctioneers have kindly sent us we should class the stamp as a real beauty.

"It was found quite by accident," write Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, "the owner having had a collection by him since about 1864, without knowing what was in it. There was hardly another stamp in the whole book worth anything except this one, which is a very fine copy in all respects. It is to be included in our sale on January 12th and 15th."

Among the Blue Coats.

That philatelic genii of the lantern, Mr. Fred J. Melville, paid a visit on October 24th to the famous Christ's Hospital, lately removed from London to West Horsham. Here he entertained some eight hundred bluecoat boys and their masters and friends with his well-known lecture on "Postage Stamps with Stories."

The Headmaster (Rev. Arthur W. Upcott) in introducing Mr. Melville to the audience, said that the authorities at Christ's Hospital were anxious to encourage stamp collecting in the school. But there was one phase of the pastime which had proved very undesirable in schools, and he had felt obliged to make a regulation that no boy should receive approval sheets of stamps without their house-master's permission and knowledge.

A project was set on foot to start a philatelic society among the boys of the school, as a very large proportion of the boys are collectors.

Changes in Stamp Dealing and Collecting.

During a pleasant chat with Mr. Edmund Bluett at his cosy premises in Crooked Lane, our attention was called to the advice tendered by some of our contemporaries to the young collector, viz.: "that the best way to commence a collection was to specialize one or two particular countries, according to the means of the collector." Mr. Bluett emphatically said (and we are inclined to agree with him) that far greater interest in the collection would be retained by the collector (and that is what is needed in Philately to-day: the collector who begins to-day and gives it up in a few months is certainly no acquisition), if he, in his mind, decided what amount he was prepared to expend on the hobby, and, as he was able, disburse a portion of it in acquiring specimens of each issue, as far as possible, of one country at a time, say, for instance, he decides to spend £1 at a time, he might commence with Antigua, expending that sum to the best advantage on all the issues of that colony: the next time take Barbados, and so on; he would then find his collection growing rapidly in numbers and decidedly in interest, and the envy and interest of his friends as he showed them a nice collection of examples of the various issues of many countries would be very apparent, and we think with Mr. Bluett that half the charm of collecting is in showing one's possession to some interested friend.

For this mode of collecting, the plain album or the collecting cabinet just introduced by Messrs. Lawn and Barlow, and which has met with so much well-deserved success, is much preferable, as the collection grows by itself, the "blank spaces," so heart-breaking to many a collector, being unknown.

We would recommend this view of starting a collection to the careful attention of the beginner.

In reply to a question as to the state of trade, Mr. Bluett told us that everything had livened up considerably, and he was now very busy—very busy indeed.

"The old-fashioned way of doing business in stamps is quite dead," he remarked. "Collectors who come in for one particular stamp and cannot obtain it will not be persuaded, as they used to be, to buy some other that the dealer is able to offer them." A dealer, to be successful nowadays, must be able to supply the actual want of the collector, and Mr. Bluett, for one, seems to have very effectually prepared for this by his well-filled books of stamps, one book to each country, and all carefully arranged in order of catalogue. His English book for example, is priced at over £ 00. and contains many choice things, and another volume containing French stamps is valued at over £100; and this speaks for their completeness when one remembers that Mr. Bluett always prices his books as reasonably as possible, and puts therein only fine copies.

One feature of the new season's business is the great decrease in the demand for packets. It is to be hoped the schoolboy collector has not quite deserted his old friend and will again return to the hobby.

To all interested in stamps, both the commencing and the advanced collector, we could not suggest a better and more profitable way to spend an hour than to look in on Mr. Bluett, of Crooked Lane, E.C. He has always something good to show.

The Business Side of Philately.

A REMARKABLY fine collection of Colonial's could be made from the cheap sets enumerated in the list just issued by Mr. A. Boucard, of 368, Strand, W.C. There are no less than 328 sets in the list, ranging in price from 2d. to 25s. All told, they represent a very wide range of British Colonial issues, and the prices appear to be most moderate.

A most interesting little list of Holland, Dutch Indies, Transvaal and Orange Free State stamps is issued by Mr. M. Z. Booleman, of Amsterdam. The types of the Dutch "Unpaid" stamps are well illustrated and prices quoted for all the varieties.

No British Colonials need apply.

WE have been informed of a rather singular state of affairs in connection with the Bureaux de Change conducted by Messrs. Cook, the tourists' agents. It has long been the custom of the firm, under certain conditions, to cash unused postage stamps of foreign countries and British Colonies, but it now appears that British Colonials are barred. Messrs. Cook, we understand, will still give cash for United States, French or German stamps, but no postage stamps bearing values expressed in shillings and pence are accepted. One would like to know the meaning of this change of policy. Are we to take this as one more consequence of the speculative hoarding up of unused Colonials by philatelic gamblers in "futures?"

Given away with Boot Polish.

"STAMP Collectors, Attention!" was the heading which I saw to day (writes Mr. Egbert Ashby) in the window of a boot shop, of all places!

It seems that Messrs. S. M. Bixby and Co., of New York, are giving away packets of postage stamps in exchange for labels off their various boot polishes and "oil shines."

The rate of exchange is three labels, or 1 label and six cents (or equivalent) in unused postage stamps, for a packet. Among the packets are: 30 British Colonials, all different; 10 India, different; 11 Cuba, different.

Fakes and Forgeries at Brighton.

A Brighton reader of the *Fortnightly* confirms all that has been said as to the small newsagents and sweetstuff shops where "facsimile" stamps, otherwise forgeries, are exposed for sale. He urges that something should be done by Philatelists to stop the practice. "As to 'most of the Paris dealers,'" he adds, "have they nothing to say in refutation of the statement that they sell these 'facsimiles' as genuine?"

Some years ago (our correspondent reminds us), a certain person at Brighton was guilty of the same offence, until Mr. J. P. Castle (who resides at Brighton) went with the police to the shop and compelled the shopkeeper to destroy all his "facsimiles," or, in plain English, forgeries, before he left the shop.

From the Auction Rooms.

* Denotes UNUSED.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sale.

September 29th and 30th, 1903.

Virgin Islands, 1867-68, perf. 15. 6d. rose on white, mint ...	4 0 0
British Honduras, 1872-79, wmk. CC., perf. 12½. 6d. rose, a pair, mint ...	3 5 0
Do. 1852-87, wmk. CA. 6d. yellow, a mint pair ...	6 6 0
Do. 1888, wmk. CC., perf. 12½. 2 cents on 6d. rose, a pair ...	4 1 0
Do. wmk. CA. perf. 14. 50 cents on 1 - grey, a mint pair ...	8 0 0
South Australia, 1859, rouletted, 6d. slate-blue, * ...	2 10 0
Do. 1860-67, rouletted, 4d. purple, two mint copies ...	1 8 0
Do. 1867-70, rouletted, 10d. black on yellow, the scarce error with inverted surcharge ...	13 10 0
Do. 1868-74, wmk. SA and Crown, perf. 10 x roulette, 2d. orange, mint ...	2 4 0
Do. 1869, wmk. Star, rouletted 2d. orange, mint and perf. 11½ x roulette, 2d. orange, * ...	2 5 0
Do. 1870-71, perf. 10. 1 - chestnut, mint ...	3 3 0
Do. 1876-77, wmk. broad-pointed Star, perf. 10. 6d. blue, mint, and so widely perforated that it shows portions of all the surrounding stamps ...	6 10 0
Do. Departmentals, G.F. in black on 2d. orange, perf. 10 ...	2 2 0
Do. Do. G.S. in red on 2d. orange, rouletted ...	2 2 0
Do. Do. P.S. in black on 9d. red-lilac, perf. 11½ by 12½ ...	2 5 0
Do. Do. T.R. in black on 1 - brown, perf. 11½ ...	1 6 0
Do. Do. V. in red on 2d. orange, rouletted ...	2 2 0
Victoria, 1858-61, 2½ - green, perf. * ...	3 10 0
Do. 1861, 2 - blue on green, mint ...	2 5 0
Do. 1861, wmk. single-lined numerals, 1d. green, wmk. 6. mint ...	5 15 0
Do. 1864-67, 6d. blue, wmk. double-lined 4. * ...	2 1 0
Do. 1866-68, 3d. red-lilac, wmk. 8, a mint pair ...	2 7 6
Do. 1868-71, wmk. V and Crown, 5 - blue and red, mint ...	2 1 0
Do. do. 5½ - pale blue and red, mint ...	4 2 6

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co.'s Sale.

October 1st and 2nd, 1903.

Ceylon, 1861, clean cut perfs., 8d. deep brown ...	9 10 0
Do. rough perfs., 8d. yellow-brown ...	4 4 0
India, 1866, service 2s. purple ...	1 15 0
Laluan, 1880, 8c. on 12c. carmine (Gibbons 10) ...	2 6 0
Bangkok, 4c. rose, wmk. CC. ...	1 12 0
British Central Africa, 1895, 4d. orange ...	1 10 0
Cape of Good Hope, 1861, 4d. blue, woodblock ...	2 12 0
Natal, 1d. on 6d. rose, inverted surcharge (Gibbons 9) ...	1 11 0
Do. 1869, 1d. pair, one has surcharge 13½, and other 14½ ...	2 2 0
Transvaal, 1d. on 6d. red surcharge (Gibbons 167) ...	1 14 0
British Guiana, 1852, 1c. black on magenta ...	3 10 0
Do. 1c. black on blue ...	1 10 0
Do. 1862, 2c. yellow (Gibbons 68) ...	1 11 0
British Honduras, 1 - grey ...	1 11 0
Montserrat, 1d. blue, wmk. CA ...	1 12 6
Newfoundland, 1d. scarlet- vermilion ...	2 6 0
Do. 6d. orange-vermilion ...	1 0 0
Nova Scotia, 6d. yellow-green ...	1 12 0
Piji Islands, 1874-5, 6c. on 3d. (Gibbons 18) ...	2 5 0
New South Wales, 2d. plate III, first retouch on laid paper, no clouds (Gibbons 34) ...	3 10 0
New South Wales, 1853, 8d. orange ...	1 15 0
New Zealand, 1862-3, 2d. lilac-blue, perf. 13, pelure paper, very fine ...	2 10 0
Queensland, 1881, 10 - brown, * ...	1 1 0
Victoria, 1857-63, 4d. vermilion, imperf., watermark Star, * ...	1 5 0
Do. 4d. rose, no wmk., imperf. ...	3 10 0
Do. 1862, 6d. orange ...	2 2 0
Western Australia, 1860, 4d. deep blue ...	1 10 0
Do. 1861, 2d. blue, rough perfs., extremely rare, very fine ...	1 10 0

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.'s Sale,

October 6 and 7th, 1903.

British Guiana, 1862, 2c. black on yellow, border of pearls ...	2 0 0
Do. do. 4c. rose (S.G. 69) ...	3 5 0
Do. 1c. blue (S.G. 71) ...	3 10 0
Cape of Good Hope, Mafeking, the set complete ...	9 10 0
Do. do. Baden Powell, small head, 3d. pale blue reversed impression (head looking to right)	17 0 0
Great Britain, 1854, large crown, 11, 2d. blue, a mint block of 6 ...	4 12 6
Natal, 1862, rough perf., 6d. grey, a mint block of 4 ...	2 0 0
New South Wales, 1851, 3d. on blue, the Wace error ...	1 5 0
Transvaal, 1900, V.R.I. inverted on 1d. mint ...	2 2 0
Do. do. on 6d. mint ...	1 5 0
Do. do. on 1 - mint ...	1 5 0
Zululand, 1888, 1d. green, with stop, surcharge inverted, mint ...	2 2 0

Mr. J. J. DARLOW'S Sale,

October 7th, 1903.

British Bechuanaland, 2 6, 5 -, and 10s. * ...	1 1 0
Cyprus on Great Britain, 1d., plate 216, a mint sheet of 240 ...	15 0
Great Britain, 4d. on blue, wmk. small garter, * ...	9 0 0
Do. O.W. Official, 5d. ...	2 2 6
Do. 10d. ditto ...	5 0 0
Do. I.R. Official, Queen's Head, 41 green ...	1 11 0
Niger Coast, 1894, Halfpenny on 2 1/2d. blue ...	1 9 0

Messrs. MARTIN, RAY & Co.'s Sale,

October 12th, 1903.

British Bechuanaland, 1888, 1/2d. red, surcharged Protectorate twice (S.G. 52) ...	1 1 0
British Central Africa, 1897, wmk. C.C., 10 - and £1 ...	1 0 0
Ceylon, 1861, wmk. Star, rough perf. 1d. on blue paper, * ...	1 1 0
Labuan, 1895, 2c. on 10c., mint ...	1 10 0
Lagos, 1887, 1/2d. on 4d. lilac and black, with double surcharge, mint ...	1 1 0
St. Christopher (St. Kitts), 1 - olive ...	0 16 0
Transvaal, 1887-90, 2 1/2d. on 1 - green, the error 2 1/2 for 2 1/4 (S.G. 230) ...	1 16 0
Victoria, 1873-6, surcharged in blue, 8d. on 9d. brown, pink on rose, mint ...	1 9 0

Messrs. VENTOM BULL & COOPER'S Sale,

October 8th and 9th, 1903.

Great Britain, wmk. 3 orls., £1 brown-lilac, 2 specimens ...	1 11 0
Do. £5 orange, with Registered postmark ...	1 12 0
Do. Board of Education, Queen, 5d. purple and ultramarine, used on piece ...	1 7 0
Do. Board of Education, 5d. purple and ultramarine, and 1 - green and scarlet, used on piece ...	3 0 0
Do. Board of Education, a similar lot, with 3d. green and 2 1/2d. ultramarine all used on piece ...	3 3 0
Do. Board of Education, 1 - green and scarlet, used on piece ...	3 3 0
France, 1862, 20c. blue, a fine vertical 1 ste-tache pair ...	1 8 0
Switzerland, Basle, 2 1/2 rappen, used on piece ...	1 0 0
Hong Kong, 1874-1902, 10 dollars rose ...	1 2 0
British East Africa, 1891, provisional, 5 annas on 8a and 7 1/2 annas on 1 rupee, * ...	1 1 0
British South Africa, 1893, Provisional, "THREE PENCE" on 5 -, orange-yellow, a mint pair ...	1 19 0
Zululand, on Natal, 1/2d. green, with double surcharge, mint ...	4 0 0
Do. 1891-96 £1 purple on red mint ...	2 1 0
United States, New York, 5 - Black, variety double-lined frame, on entire ...	1 10 0
Do. Columbus issue, 3, 4 and 5 dollars * ...	1 15 0
St. Lucia, 1-86, 6d. blue, * ...	1 11 0
Western Australia, 1882-90, perforated 12 by 11, 1d. yellow-ochre, * ...	8 0 0

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co's Sale,

October 20th and 21st,

British Central Africa, 1895, 1d. on 2d. green, a pair, the lower stamp being doubly surcharged ...	3 0 0
Cape of Good Hope, 1871-90, the error THE EE pence on 1d ...	2 8 0

Ceylon, 1858, no wmk. on bluish, 1/2d. lilac, a strip of three ...	7 0 0
Do. 1861, Star, clean cut 8d. brown ...	1 7 6
Great Britain, 1810, 2d. deep blue, a pair, * ...	1 12 6
Do. 1855-7, Emblems, 6d. deep lilac, an imperf pair ...	6 6 0
Do. O.W. Official Queen, 1/2d. green, a block of 4 on piece ...	1 18 0
Do. O.W. Official Queen, 5d. on piece ...	2 10 0
New South Wales, 1851, on bluish, a reconstructed plate of the 2d. Blue ...	2 12 6
Do. 1855, 8d. yellow, superb colour ...	4 0 0
New Zealand, 1861, N.Z. non-perforated, 6d. red-brown ...	6 0 0
St. Vincent, 1780, 5 - rose ...	7 0 0
Saxony, 1850, 3pf. brownish-red ...	1 0 0
Switzerland, 1889-90, perf. 12 1/2, 5 - slate-blue, mint ...	1 0 0
Switzerland, Geneva, 1817-8, large eagle, 5c. on yellow-green, a pair, * ...	2 0 0
Tonga, 1896, Halfpenny on 7 1/2d. on 2d., a pair ...	2 0 0
Victoria, 1850 1d. brown-red, * ...	1 0 0

Sweet are the Uses of Philately.

A new postage stamp from Sweden bears a picture of the handsome new post office at Stockholm. The face value 5 kronor, is considerable. Stamp collectors distrust these "commemorative" issues, and many will suspect Sweden of an attempt to reimburse herself for the cost of the new building out of the pockets of Philatelists — *Daily Paper*.

How sweet the thought!
That we philatelists, who buy
Old postage stamps at prices high,
Should also strive to keep alive
The Governments they're issued by!

How sweet the thought!
By great big gumpaps Sweden tries
Her builder's bill to minimise:
A wreath of bay on bricks to lay
As important to immortalise,
How sweet the thought!

A MANGOLD WURZEL.

**A Word in the Ear = = =
= = = of the Advertiser.**



ON December 5th will be published
a PHILATELIC CHRISTMAS NUMBER,
bigger, brighter and better than any

previous attempt in this direction. The
Number will be enclosed in a beautiful
Coloured Cover, and to partly cover the cost
of printing and postage in consequence of a
much increased circulation, the following rates
will be charged for Advertisement space:—

ONE PAGE ... £5 0 0 | QUARTER PAGE £1 10 0
HALF-PAGE ... 2 15 0 | EIGHTH-PAGE ... 18 0

Copy and instructions should reach the
Manager, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 63
and 64, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON, W.C.,
not later than **Monday, November 30th.**

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 7, 1903.

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.

One Year (26 numbers) post free ... 3 3

Six months (12 numbers) ... 1 6

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.



The Literature of Philately. It is our hope that the new "S.C.F." Prize Competition, of which full particulars are to be found in the supplement to this number of the *Fortnightly* will be the means of enriching the literature of our hobby by the preparation and publication of papers on Philately that might otherwise never have seen the light. It has been said (and we believe it to be true) that every stamp collector could, if he would, instruct his fellow-philatelists as to some particular issue, or issues, of stamps. Too often, however, this special knowledge, born of personal research and experience, remains locked away from us, generally because the one person who could commit the information to paper is either too busy or too diffident to appear for a brief while in the role of author. In some few cases it may be that a philatelist declines to impart his knowledge to others from purely selfish motives, but we cannot think that such a narrow-minded course would commend itself to any but a very, very few. The desirability of a free interchange and dissemination of philatelic facts and opinions must surely be obvious to all who have the best interests of Philately at heart.

We take it for granted then, that there is a great deal of unprinted philatelic lore which remains unpublished, simply for the reason that the embryo authors need to be urged and encouraged to commit their knowledge to paper. It is with the object of urging our readers to become writers that our newest Prize Competition is instituted.

Wanted Scientific Articles. The Competition calls for no lengthy explanation. We offer money prizes for scientific papers on stamps, and in this connection the words "scientific papers" must be understood to mean papers that deal in a thoroughly scientific way with the stamps of some particular issue or country. We earnestly invite every reader of the *Fortnightly* to read through the terms of the Competition, as given on page lxxiii of our supplement, and to consider whether there is not some way in which he or she can contribute to the success of the Competition.

A Record Christmas Number. We are now at work upon what we trust will prove to be a record Christmas Number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*—a bigger, brighter breezier Christmas Number than any of its predecessors. A special feature of the number will be an illuminated cover of attractive design. The price will be one penny, as usual although the postal and printing expenses will be doubled, perhaps trebled. To regular advertisers in the *Fortnightly* there will be no disturbance of the present advertisement tariff, but to others the rates for space in the Christmas issue will be: full page, £5; half page, £2 15s.; quarter page, £1 10s.; one-eighth page, 18s.

The Christmas *Fortnightly* will be the issue dated December 5th, and it is essential that all literary and advertisement copy should reach us not later than the previous Monday, the first day of December.

Fiscal Notes and Chronicle.

Contributed by A. PRESTON PEARCE.

It was announced some two or three months ago that a Stamp Act had been passed by the States of Guernsey, and collectors have therefore been awaiting the issue of this new Act, some particulars of which will be found below.

We now have distinct fiscal issues for England (including Wales), Scotland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Jersey and Guernsey, so, presumably, all the self-governing portions of the British Isles are now using their own special stamps. I am not, however, clear as to the position in this respect of the little island of Alderney, for, although stated to be a dependency of Guernsey, it still has its ancient elective assembly. Perhaps some reader can tell us if the new Guernsey Stamp Act does or does not apply to Alderney and Sark.

I have been comparing some entries in my note book with the British Colonial lists compiled by the Fiscal Philatelic Society and issued to its members, and think it may be as well to draw attention to one or two of them here.

The first relates to the issues of British East Africa, and my note is culled from the exhaustive article on the stamps of this region, that recently appeared in "Gibbons' Monthly Journal." It is there stated, on the authority of the Company that issued them, that the *grey* stamps of the first permanent series were intended for Inland Revenue purposes, but finding this arrangement an inconvenient one, those in hand were used up for postal purposes. It is also stated with regard to a 4 anna stamp in grey that this had not got beyond the imperforate stage, but that those received in that condition were sold and used along with the 8 anna and 1 rupee in the usual course.

Our list includes the 8a and 1r. grey, with overprint of "INLAND REVENUE" in violet, but the 4a. grey does not appear to be known in this form to any member of the Society. Is a copy in the possession of any reader?

On the Society's list, No. 10, it is stated, under the heading of Canada, that a set of surcharged stamps has lately been issued for the district of Yukon, but particulars are not known. I see that a set described as "Yukon Territorial Court Law" stamps, values 10c., 25c., 50c., \$1, \$2 and \$3, and another set, entitled, "Jawson Mining Court Law," with the same values, are advertised in "Mekeel's Weekly." If some collector across the pond will kindly send over particulars, I shall be glad to publish them.

Guernsey.—To Mr. A. B. Kay I am indebted for the first sight of a specimen of the new issue, and for the list of values and colours.

Upright rectangular stamps, 23½ x 26mm. In the centre a shield bearing the arms (three lions gardant) and surrounded by engine-turned devices. Solid rectangular panels at top and sides containing the inscriptions, "REVENUE—STATES OF—GUERNSEY" in colourless open block caps, and the value in words at the bottom in coloured block caps, on a lined background. Printed in colour, on white, meshed wove, unwater-marked paper, perf. 14.

1d. violet.	1/3 vermilion.
8d. green.	2/6 ultramarine.

Porto Rico—I have seen a portion of a Bill of Exchange drawn in San Juan on February 18th, 1890, bearing two *Recibos y Cuentas* stamps of 5 c. de p. claret, overprinted as shown in a square of 17mm.

Habilitado
Para
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giro

Communications in respect of this department should be addressed to Mr. A. Preston Pearce, 12, Edgcumbe Street, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

IMPORTANT.—Owing to the large number of lots to be offered, Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON have been obliged to extend their forthcoming 4 days Sale by a day, so that the dates will be November 24, 25 and 26, and Dec. 8 and 9.

Five Seasons of Stamp Auctioneering.

The Trials of a Philatelic Auctioneer—A Chat with MR. J. H. TELFER, of MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.

THE QUESTION OF RESERVES.

It came almost as a shock to us to find that the firm of Plumridge and Co. was only some five and a half years old. The well-known auctioneers of 63 and 64, Chancery Lane seem to have been always with us, yet the records show that Mr. H. Wilfred Plumridge first mounted the rostrum as a philatelic auctioneer as recently as March 21st, 1898.

At that time Mr. Plumridge was well-known and very popular among London philatelists, but not even his warmest friend could be blind to the fact that "Plum," as his intimates called him, was taking a very daring and speculative step in entering a field that many people deemed full to overflowing already. However, the new firm soon achieved an assured position in the philatelic auctioneering world. Their first sale, held in the Arbitration Room, at 63 and 64, Chancery Lane—already a recognised philatelic rendezvous—was very well attended and a success in every sense of the word. Since then, the firm's progress has been steady and continuous, and at the present day it would be difficult for the average London philatelist to imagine a London stamp season in which the fortnightly sales of Messrs. Plumridge and Co. did not figure.

Mr. J. H. Telfer, with whom we recently had a chat on the subject of stamp auctions generally and Chancery Lane stamp auctions in particular, joined the firm of Plumridge and Co. as active partner—a very active partner—in February, 1902. Mr. Telfer has been for more than a year past the presiding genius of the business. It is his hand that compiles the catalogues—an onerous and laborious task—and his also that wields the little hammer of boxwood, the auctioneer's traditional "wand of office," at the fortnightly stamp sales.

A long experience as a stamp dealer has helped to fit Mr. Telfer for his present work. We remember him first as a stamp dealer in first floor offices in High Holborn—some fourteen years ago; thence he removed to a shop in Newgate Street, immediately opposite the now vanished walls of Newgate Prison; thence again to a fine and well-equipped shop in Leadenhall Street, and afterwards for some years he conducted a business that was mainly postal from his private residence at Catford. Stamp dealing of any sort or kind he now eschews altogether, it being Messrs. Plumridge and Co.'s rule that no member of the firm or of the firm's staff may collect or deal in stamps. Mr. Plumridge believed from the first that a man who was both auctioneer and dealer would frequently find himself face to face with "two paths of duty," and Mr. Telfer fully shares the view that an auctioneer should be an auctioneer only. This is a question that agitated the minds and pens of *Fortnightly* readers years and years ago, as "Readers from Number One" will remember.

"Up to the present time," said Mr. Telfer, laying aside the manuscript of an auction catalogue "in the making," "we have held 175 sales and with very few exceptions all have been held in the Arbitration Room in this building. Once or twice, when I have been unable to book extra dates here, we have had sales at Auderton's Hotel.

"Our best total for an individual sale? Let me see—there was £1900 for the Lowe Collection, and since then we have had another sale totalling £1,500." All told, our turnover amounts to about £11,000 for the season."

"We rather pride ourselves," continued Mr. Telfer, "on the number of lots we get through in the season. In the 1902-03 season we got through 4,300 lots in excess of any other firm of philatelic auctioneers."

"Indeed! And how was that managed?"

"We have more sales, for one thing, and our sales are longer as regards the number of lots. And then," smiling, "I sell very rapidly, you know. I get through some 100 to 110 lots per hour, so that each day's sale of 250 to 300 lots is disposed of in two and a half to three hours."

"And you never suffer from a lack of 'stuff' to sell?"

"Oh, never, never!" was the emphatic answer. "As a general thing we can't keep pace with the supply. And then the trouble is that a seller, once he has decided to sell, generally wishes to do so quickly, and we are constantly asked to include stuff in 'the next

sale,' which is nearly always impracticable. At present," showing us a great sheaf of manuscript, "I am pegging away at the catalogue for our next sale, November 16th, 17th, and 18th, which I have had to make a three days' sale in order to clear off some of the stuff that has accumulated."

The sale in question will be one of exceptional interest, to judge from the many fine lots, notably Colonials, Mr. Telfer brought out for our inspection. The catalogue will be a bulky one, containing two full pages of photo. illustrations of the more noteworthy lots.

"To keep pace with our supply of stamps to sell," proceeded Mr. Telfer, "we ought to have more sales, but that, unfortunately, is impossible, unless we can lengthen the season or re-arrange the almanac. It would mean clashing with other auctioneers, and that would be inadvisable in the interests of all parties concerned."

"There are many wholesale items, miscellaneous lots, and so on, in your sales?"

"Yes, and those miscellaneous lots sell at very fair prices, on the whole. Collections make especially good figures. There is often the very keenest competition for the collections included in our sales. Then there are the bundles of mixed stamps—"surprise packets," we call them in the auction room. Very often these contain rare bargains."

"And you always get a good attendance, Mr. Telfer?"

"Always, and especially good when the catalogue contains a good showing of collections. But of course the attendance never represents the full support accorded to the auction. We get shoals, simply shoals, of postal bids from people in the country. Sometimes I have had eight or ten different bids by post for the same lot of stamps. Then again there will be dealers and agents in the room who are buying on commission for clients in all parts of the country, and not merely for themselves."

"Now a great deal of nonsense is talked about auction reserves," said Mr. Telfer in reply to a further question. "Believe me, there are far fewer reserves placed on philatelic lots at auction than in other branches of auctioneering. In our own case I do not think the reserve lots average more than five per cent of the total. We do all we can to discourage reserves, and in cases where what we consider a prohibitive value is placed on a lot or lots we respectfully decline the business altogether, not only in our own interest but in that of the philatelists who attend our auctions."

"Yes. We get all sorts of clients, you know, from the expert philatelist to the person who knows nothing whatever about stamps, but has

found a few Continentals stuck in a child's exercise book and imagines they must necessarily be very valuable. Not long since a lady brought us a small collection—a very mixed lot, containing one or two £5 and £10 stamps, and some of the most execrable forgeries I have ever seen. The lady was a good deal keener on the forged stamps than the genuine ones though—but that is generally the way. Most of the smaller collections brought to us contain a good sprinkling of reprints and forgeries, and these, as a rule, are just the stamps that their owners hold in the highest esteem."

Mr. Telfer confesses to having felt horribly uncomfortable on making his first appearance as an auctioneer last year, but he soon settled down to the work and now feels quite as much at home on the rostrum as if he was seated at his table in his private office. His varieties or general collections is as popular as, if not more popular than ever before. Prices all round are steady and satisfactory, while really scarce stamps are a sounder and a surer market than ever."

"Making up the catalogue" is the most arduous part of Mr. Telfer's work, but it is a task that he carries out with conspicuous care and exactitude. In this connection it is important that we give acknowledgement to Messrs. Plumridge and Co., for one very conspicuous advantage offered to auction buyers. When Messrs. Plumridge and Co. first took up philatelic auctioneering, the London stamp sales were not quite what they are to-day. The auctions at that time were almost entirely supported by London Dealers and Collectors who were able to go carefully through the



Mr. J. H. TELFER.

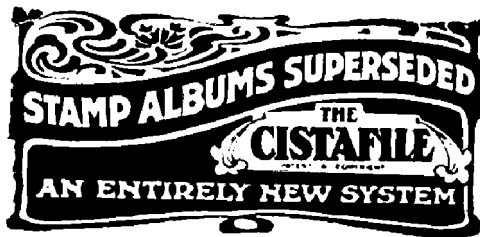
lots prior to the Sale actually taking place. This indeed was rendered necessary by the very loose way in which the condition of many lots was described; stamps, for instance, that were slightly defective would be described as "very fine." Country collectors and others unable to view the lots were afraid to send bids, as, in many cases, when they had done so, the result to themselves was the reverse of satisfactory. Messrs. Plumridge decided to remedy this state of affairs as far as their own sales were concerned, and "A Special Condition" (No 5) in the "Conditions of Sale" was the result. This condition absolutely ensures accurate descriptions, the buyer being allowed to return a lot having any fault of description on the condition that the claim is made within seven days after the date of the sale.

Auctioneering is tiring work, and at stamp auctions in particular, those present in the room are apt to become over talkative. But there are always compensations. Mr. Telfer and his audiences are always on good terms with one another, and there is no man better liked in London philatelic circles at the present moment than the subject of the photograph reproduced in this number of the *Fortnightly*, and no firm more highly esteemed as auctioneers than Messrs Plumridge's and Co.

Mr. H. Wilfred Plumridge's photograph was given recently in the *Fortnightly* as one of our Gallery of Auctioneers. We regret that a delay in transit has prevented our reproducing in this number.

BIRMINGHAM'S veteran philatelist, Mr. Shorthouse, is still an enthusiast in stamp-collecting. At an age when the energy and sight of most men are declining, Mr. Shorthouse is as eager in research as ever, and, what surprises us more, has accumulated in three years a collection of unused British stamps of considerable importance. "We could hardly believe it possible to gather such a splendid store (remarks the "Stamp Collector") all unused, in so short a time." Mr. Shorthouse has also valuable collections of coins and curios.

NOTE:—Don't forget the "S C F" Competition.



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Used Stamps Unpriced

In the CATALOGUES.

An interesting Tabulation by J. E. Higinbottom, B.A.

(CONCLUDED FROM NO. LXV.)

		Gibbons' 1933.	Bright's 1933.
		unused.	unused.
		s. d.	s. d.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA			
Crown S.A.	Perf. 12½		
1902	9d. blue-rose ...	—	3 0
	1/- dull brown ...	1 4	1 4
	2/- carmine ...	2 8	2 8
	Perf. 13		
1900	0.8 ½ green ...	1 0	0 2
	2½d. blue ...	2 6	—
SOUTHERN NIGERIA.			
1901	Queen, none priced used by G. or B. and 10 - not at all 1d. to 12 6		2d. to 10s
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.			
1887	2c. on 5c. blue ...	0 9	0 9 1 6
1892	1c. on 6c. blue ...	0 6	0 6 0 9
CA. 14			
1899	12c. claret ...	0 5	0 5 0 1
TASMANIA.			
1889	10d. lake and green ...	1 2	omitted.
1900	3d. dark brown ...	0 5	0 4
1896	9d. blue ...	1 3	1 3 1 3
TOBAGO.			
CA. 14			
1891	1d. grey ...	0 8	0 8
	6d. orange-brown ...	1 0	1 0 1 3
	1 - greenish-yellow ...	2 0	Not listed.
TURKS ISLE.			
CA. 14			
1889	6d. yellow-brown ...	1 0	2 6 3 0
1891	½d. green ...	0 5	0 2 0 2
	1d. purple and ultramarine ...	1 0	0 10
1891	5d. green and carmine ...	1 3	1 0
	1900 issue, none priced used by G. or B. ...	1d. to 4 -	1d. to 39
UGANDA.			
	1894 issue, none priced used by G. or B. ...	2d. to 9 6	2d. to 10 -
VICTORIA.			
V. and Crown	Perf. 11½ by 13		
1885	"Stamp Duty" 3d. orange ...	3 6	3 0 5 0
1897	1 - mauve ...	4 0	2 6 0 5
1901	9d. rose ...	1 0	1 0 0 8
	P. Dues, ½d. in lake and ultra	0 4	0 4
	5d. ditto ...	2 6	2 6 2 6
	6d. ditto ...	2 6	2 6 2 6
	10d. ditto ...	3 0	3 0 3 0
1892	4d. claret and ultra	0 4	0 6 0 8
1894	½d. bl-gr and rosine	0 3	0 1
	5d. ditto ...	1 0	1 0 0 9
	10d. ditto ...	1 9	—
1899	½d. yel-gr and rosine	0 6	not listed
VIRGIN ISLES.			
1899	None priced used by G. or B.	1d. 4 6 6	1d. to 6 3
WEST AUSTRALIA.			
CA. 14.			
1878	3d. cinnamon ...	2 0	1 9 1 9
CA. 12			
1884	½d. on 1d. yellow ...	0 6	0 6 0 9
CA. 14			
	Ditto ...	2 0	2 0 4 0
1885	1d. on 3d. cinnamon I and II	2 6 to 5 -	4 0 4 0
	Ditto brown II. ...	—	not listed
ZULULAND.			
1892	½d. gn (Natal), with full stop	4 0	4 0

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				Set of	s. d.
½d. red	15	6 0
1d. red	151	15 6
1½d. red	2	0 6
2d. blue	7	1 0
2½d. lilac-rose	18	7 0
2½d. blue	7	1 0
3d. rose	20	9 6
4d. orange	10	2 0
6d. violet	8	3 0
6d. grey	8	5 6
rs. green	13	10 0

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On November 15th., 1903, I will publish my 17th Illustrated Price List of **75 pages**, containing
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WILL PAY A VERY FINE PRICE— *anything in reason.*

Any really rare varieties in English WANTED, used or unused.

ALSO MINT SHEETS, BLOCKS, etc.

And anything fine in British Colonials SEYCHELLES WANTED.

New Issues and Varieties.

Albania — (*Italian*) The amended Italians, with only the value overprinted, are now to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Surcharged on Italian: 10 para on 5c.
35 para on 20.
40 para on 25c.

British Guiana. — Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. notify us of the receipt of a 60c. stamp in the type of 1889.

60 cents green and rose.

Bulgaria. — A provisional stamp of 10 stotinki is created by overprinting the 15 stotinki stamp with a large numeral "10" in black. A specimen is sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Provisional: "10" on 15 stotinki carmine and black.

Dutch Indies — Two of the values of the new Queen Wilhelmina set, now in course of issue, are submitted by our friends at Ipswich.

10 cents grey-black.
30 cents red.

France — Mr. W. H. Earl writes: "From Paris I have just received the 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 centimes 'la Semeuse' type with millesime 3. Can any reader of the *Fortnightly* say if 20 and 30c. of the previous type exists with millesime 1, as I have not, after much searching, been able to discover a specimen?"

French Somali Coast. — Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have received the 5 francs, with centre in black, but having the border in yellow, instead of in orange.

Variety: 5 frs. yellow and black.

India. Gwalior. — Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the 2 annas violet, Queen Victoria, overprinted for Gwalior.

Nabha. — The same firm send us the 4, 6, 8 and 12 annas and 1 rupee Indian stamps of the King Edward series, overprinted "Nabha State" in black as usual.

Indo China — The 25c. has been roughly overprinted "15" in black.

Provisional: 15c. on 25c.

Malta. — The 2½d. King's Head is a very brilliant affair in blue and claret.

King's Head: 2½d. blue and claret.

Mauritius — Yet another new addition to the list of the "Arms" type--this time an error of colour.

"Arms" type: 4c. green and violet.

"The 4c. stamp we send you is an error" (write Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.), "the printers having transposed the colours by mistake, the stamps being printed in green and the value in violet, instead of *vice-versa*. We are informed that 90,000 of these were printed, but there will not be any more in these colours."

Morocco Agencies. — The 10 centimos (King's Head) of Gibraltar is the latest to bear the overprint "Morocco Agencies."

Orange River Colony. — Messrs. N. Yaar and Co., of Amsterdam, have received the 1d. carmine Cape of Good Hope with the surcharge "Orange River Colony" inverted.

Surinam. — The new 5 cents stamp, numeral type, is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

5 cents rose.

Russian Levant. — New values are created by surcharge, as follows:

Diagonal black surcharges: 2 piastres on 20 kop.
5 piastres on 50 kop.
7 piastres on 70 kop.
10 piastres on 1 rouble.

Specimens have been received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Tahiti—The 25 centimes French Colonial stamp of the "Etablissements de L'Océanie" series has been overprinted "Tahiti 10 centimes" in three lines of red type. On the specimen sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., the overprint is in a curiously "shiny" ink, and the execution is very spotty and uncertain.

Provisional: 10c. on 25c.

Trinidad—The new fourpence of the "Britannia" type is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

4d. blue and green on straw.

A New Prize Competition.

FOR
PHILATELISTS!

OPEN FREE TO ALL READERS OF THE "FORTNIGHTLY."

To encourage our readers to commit their philatelic knowledge to paper we offer the following prizes for

The Best Essays on the Stamps of any particular issue or country or group of countries

A First Prize of £3 in Cash.

A Second Prize of £2 in Cash.

A Third Prize of a Free Subscription to the *FORTNIGHTLY* for Ten Years.

A Fourth Prize of a Free Subscription to the *FORTNIGHTLY* for five Years.

The choice of a subject is left entirely to the individual competitor, because we wish every *Fortnightly* essayist to write about something whereof he has special knowledge. The one condition we make is that every paper submitted for competition shall deal in a scientific philatelic way with the stamps of some particular country or issue. General papers on "The Advantages of Stamp Collecting," "What Philately Teaches," etc., etc., are not required.

The competitor may be either a collector or a dealer. We wish to make as few restrictions as possible. The papers will be judged on their merits, without regard to the personality of the writer or the subject chosen.

Although literary style must necessarily count for something in a competition of this kind, we shall not allow an undue proportion of marks to elegance of diction, but rather endeavour to award the prizes to those competitors whose papers betray the greatest amount of philatelic thought and knowledge.

Attempts may be sent in as early as the competitor pleases—the earlier the better.

The latest date for receiving manuscripts will be Monday January 18th, 1904.

All should be clearly addressed: The Editor, The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 63-64 Chancery Lane, London, W.C., and marked "Prize Competition," on the envelope.

We make no rule whatever as to the length of the manuscript submitted, but every competitor must bear in mind one important condition: *Only one side of the paper should be written on*

SPECIAL NOTICE re COPYRIGHT.

It need scarcely be said that the contributions which carry off the four prizes mentioned above will become the property of the proprietors of the "S.C.F." It may happen that among the unsuccessful manuscripts are many which we may wish to publish in the *Fortnightly*. We reserve the right to publish all or any of them, but in each case that we do so, we shall pay the non-winners for the essays at the usual rate for contributed matter.

Those essays which are unsuccessful and which the Editor of the *Fortnightly* does not desire to publish, will be returned to their authors, provided a stamped and self-addressed envelope be sent for that purpose.

Manchester Philatelic Auctions.

MR. D. OSTARA of 24, Corporation Street, Manchester, begs to inform his numerous clients that his 21st Auction Sale will be held on October 28th., at the Grand Hotel, Manchester.

LOTS WILL BE ON VIEW in Manchester, Liverpool and Birmingham. Catalogues of Sale sent post free on application. Collectors desirous of disposing of good Collections and Rare Single stamps, should communicate early with Mr. Ostara.

Stamps must be received one month before Sale, or will be included in next. PROMPT SETTLEMENTS within ten days of Sale guaranteed. For terms, etc., apply to above address.

A NEW BARGAIN

The WONDER packet contains 130 different stamps, including the following picturesque and interesting BRITISH COLONIALS unused: Cayman Islands Set of five Cape of Good Hope, including King's Head, Bermuda. Set of four New Zealand, also Ceylon, New South Wales, Western Australia, Queensland obsolete, British Guiana, unused Virgin Islands; also Set of five Portugal, Chili, Dahomey, &c., post free, 6d. abroad 2/4, extra, and free to every purchaser.

Set of Nine ARGENTINE. Every packet is a dead loss to us, and we only offer it to circulate our List.

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EXCELSIOR COLLECTION No. 9. 2,000 different stamps in 20 packets, price from 2/- to 10/- per packet, according to contents; full particulars in list, post free. WRITE TO-DAY for sample of

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I HOLD a fine Stock of BRITISH COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS, in fine condition, and will send selections on approval at 50 per cent discount. References or deposit necessary. Want lists especially attended to. I am wanting all kinds of Fiscal and Revenue Stamps and will pay high prices for suitable parcels. JOHN JAMES COATES, 4, Southwark Street, London Bridge, S.E. Established 1879.

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FISCALS.—Those wishing to sell, purchase, or exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London.

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BRITISH EMPIRE EXCHANGE. Two packets monthly. References. Prompt settlements monthly. Reports in this Paper.—Secretary, H. BEAN, 161, Loughborough Park, S.W.

LYNDVALE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.—Gross sales during present financial year to date, exceed £220 per month. Bona-fide philatelists (not dealers) especially those with good duplicates, invited to join. First rate references essential. Nominal charges. Last report, rules, etc., on application to Secretary and Founder, G. HERBERT DANNATT (Member "Stamp Exchange Protection Society," "Lyndvale," Blackheath, S.E.

STAMPS EXCHANGE SOCIETY. Established 1886.—Packets, 1/02, £936, sales, £858. Colonial General and European sections. Foreign and Colonial collectors invited.—Rules from Secretary, TITUS B. WIDDOWSON, (Member S.E.P.S.), Lincoln Street, Leicester.

PIEDMONT EXCHANGE CLUB: few members wanted; good stamps.—103, Piedmont Road, Plumstead.

MALTA, error PENNEY, 2/-, British want lists solicited enclose stamped envelope, Rev. VOKES, Hyde.

BREAKING up fine collection, mint Scandinavian and Finland stamps. Approval selections to responsible collectors against good references.—WILLY, No. 1, SOVOTSKERKASKAYA, OCHTA, ST. PETERSBURG.

20 AUSTRALIANS TO APPLICANTS for approval, enclosing 1d. Cheapest lists, wholesale, retail.—BRES, Stafford, Godalming.

SHEETS of stamps sent on approval; exchange entered named. THE CURATE, Ightham, Sevenoaks.

CAESAREA STAMP EXCHANGE: six vacancies, annual subscription 1/-, no commission. For rules apply to Secretary, RALPH MOLLET, 16, Royal Crescent, Jersey.

POST-MARK SOCIETY: new season commenced in September. Subscription 2/-. New members invited. Secretary, THOMAS WHITWORTH, Waterloo, Liverpool.

ADVERTISER offers a large number of British Colonial stamps, each country in separate books, specimens priced singly below half Gibbons. Nearly all the old and rarest issues complete, many mint. Also small approval books of mixed Colonials at one-third to two-fifths Gibbons. Finest copies only. Any book on approval in Great Britain or abroad. References.—Box 131, c/o, Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

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UNUSED STAMP EXCHANGE. For unused stamps exclusively. Rules, particulars on application. Secretary, H. BEAN, 161 Loughborough Park, London.

WANTED early Transvaals for cash or in exchange for other Colonials. High prices paid for red and inverted surcharges, wide spacings, errors and curios. J. WESTHOPE, 13 Regents Park Road, London.

CAMBIA, all unused, Queen's Head, 20, 3d, 24d, 4d; 4d, 6d; 6d, 9d, 1/-; 6; Malu, 1885, 1-lilac, unused, 19; 1-violet 12; Error PENNEY unused 2-Natal 1-orange and red No. (108) unused 13; Niger Coast, 1894, 1d, unused, 6d, 2d unused, 9d; 24d unused 16; 5d unused, 7d., Seychelles, all unused 30c, on 75c, 9d; 30c on 1r 6d; 15-on 1r 1/- Box 170, c/o, Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

MOROCCO AGENCIES, first issue. Local overprint 5, 10, 20, 25, 40 and 50 centimos, 1 and 2 pesetas, mint set 5s. 6d. HOLLICK, Boldmere Road, Erdington, Birmingham.

ENGLISH used and unused for sale, moderate prices, fine copies. Box 200 Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly 63 1 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

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1000 British Colonials, etc., 1/-; 10N. Borneo British Protectorate, 1c to 24c, 1/6 set. New Wholesale Price List, post free. WILLIAM STAMP COMPANY, 120 Leadenhall St., London.

GREAT BRITAIN 1840-1900. Specialist offers superb used copies of all varieties including rarities. Moderate prices. J. B. c/o NEYBOUDS, 14 Queen Victoria St., London, E.C.

SCOTT'S STAMP CATALOGUE, 1903, all countries' 729 pages, 6,000 illustrations, free 1/6, reduced to clear remainder. W. T. WILSON, 193 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

THE "One and All" Stamp Exchange Club requires several good buying and contributing members. No Subscription, 1/- entrance fee only. Reference; prompt settlements. Rules etc., from STEVENS, Stanley House, Redruth.

OBSELETE Colonials, sale or exchange. Foreign correspondence desired. A FRANCOIS, 12, City Chambers, Birmingham. No cards or callers.

90 DIFFERENT, including Peru, Malta, Guiana, etc.—7d. H. Edmenson, 29, Cardozo Road, Holloway, London.

A FEW really good duplicates for sale monthly. Apply H. LEES, Clover Cottage, Deganwy, Llandudno.

BRITISH COLONIALS, at Bargain prices.—Bahamas Penny, 1882, C.A. 14, 5/-; Bechuanaaland 1/- S.G. 9, 12/6; Antigua 6d. C.C. 11, 2/6; British Central Africa, 6d. 1897, 1/3; all fine used copies. Large variety equally cheap. Approval, against deposit or references. A. G. HARRISON, 1 Crawford St., London W.

80 Colonials, all different, wonderful value; 1/4 post free. G. HARRISON, 1, Crawford Street, London, W.

OFFICIALS used, 4d, 1882, 2d, each, 1/4 slate, 6d; dozen, 1d, lilac, 6d, 100, 1d, red, 9d, 100, 6d, red, 1/9. Govt. Parcels, used, 1d, lilac, 9d, doz., 6d, red, 2/- doz., 2d, Queen, 2/6 doz., 2d, King, 2/-, each. Red Penny mint, one third off catalogue. Mr. EARL, Newcastle, Staff.

WHOLESALE exchange wanted. We offer stamps of U.S.A., South and Central America in exchange for Eastern Countries—large lots and cheap sets desired. Send for wholesale list. 6 Pan-American—only 6d. TOLEDO STAMP Co., Toledo, Ohio, U.S.A.

APPROVAL Sheets, genuine bargains farthing upwards. New list cheap sets—BUCKWELL, 103 York Road, East Ham. Foreign correspondence solicited.

HAMPSHIRE STAMP EXCHANGE. Few good collectors wanted. No subscription. Secretary, ARTHUR TOOLE, Southampton.

Advertisement for 'THE MOST DIVERSE VARIETY OF STAMPS, British, Foreign & Colonial.' Includes an image of a stamp album and text: 'Always on view & sale, whether common, medium or rare. CARDINAL VIRTUES: QUALITY, CONDITION, NATIONAL PRICES.' To ensure satisfaction, anyone seeking or stipulating special issues, classes, specimens or kind should communicate with the 'S.C.F.' agents, Messrs. JACQUARD of Liverpool. Desiderata invited. Mention 'S.C.F.' Speciality: Used & Official. References—Approval.

The Charges against "Malcolm Campbell, Esquire."

A FURTHER SENTENCE OF SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

Special Verbatim Report for The "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly."

A further term of six months' imprisonment has been meted out to Malcolm Campbell, "Esquire," by the Bolnisi Bench, this additional sentence to begin on the expiration of the term the prisoner is already serving.

We append a special verbatim report of the trial.

The Cornwall Michaelmas Sessions were held on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 20th and 21st October last, at the Assize Hall, Bolnisi, before Mr. W. Cole Pendarves (chairman), Messrs. Sir Coleman B. Rashleigh, Bart., Col. F. J. Hext, Col. Porter, the Rev. A. H. Malon, K. K. Elford, E. J. P. Mayor, H. D. Foster, E. C. P. Sandford, J. Hicks, W. Blank, C. D. Gilbert, R. A. Peter, A. Cooke, W. H. L. Shadwell, J. E. Veale, G. Hext, J. Bayers and R. Cardell.

Malcolm Campbell (described as aged 24), surveyor, was indicted for stealing a quantity of English and foreign postage stamps, value £15, the property of John G. J. Stevens, of Redruth, between 12th December 1902, and 23rd January, 1903. Mr. J. R. Daniel (Camborne) prosecuted. The prisoner was undefended. Upon the charge being read over to prisoner he pleaded "Not guilty." Prisoner at once made a strong appeal to the Bench on the question of jurisdiction, stating that according to a certain Act which he quoted, the charge, not being committed in Cornwall, but at Mexboro in Yorkshire, and Ardrossan in Scotland, the case ought to have been heard in either of the latter places. The Chairman stated the charge originated at Penzance in Cornwall, and the prosecutor resided at Redruth in Cornwall. He was quite satisfied that they had jurisdiction and the case would be heard there, but if the prisoner was not quite satisfied, he could afterwards apply to the Crown thereon. The prisoner, on the names of the jury being read over, objected to three persons, on account of their residing within a few miles of Redruth or Camborne; others were sworn in their places. The Chairman stated that such action did not in the least help his case, as he did not believe that the jury knew anything of the case nor the prosecutor, but would do their duty straightforwardly. All witnesses were ordered by prisoner out of court.

Mr. A. M. Berry, Chief Constable of Kendal, Westmoreland, gave evidence of the handwriting of prisoner. Mr. Berry stated that on the 7th March, 1903, he arrested prisoner in Dulham, and found on him 34 stamps, letters, pawn tickets and other things. Of these stamps, which were discovered between the pages of a book, several of them were identified by the prosecutor in the Kendal charge (Mr. H. W. Baron) and several others by Mr. Stevens, the present prosecutor.

By the prisoner: Do you consider yourself an expert in handwriting?—I do, in your case.

Is it not true you only saw me write on two occasions?—Yes, but I can swear to your handwriting and your very peculiar signature or initials.

John George James Stevens, of Stanley House, Redruth, wholesale dairy merchant, and hon. secretary of the One and All Postage Stamp Exchange Society, stated the Society or Club existed for the mutual exchange and buying of English and foreign stamps amongst its members. Prisoner made application for membership and the rules were forwarded to him. Campbell was informed that the entrance fee for membership was 1s., but he never sent the amount. He gave a reference after special application was made for same. Once every month, or more frequently, witness would send a packet of stamps away to the first member's name on the postal list of the Society, and it would be circulated round to all the names on that list until it reached the last member's name, and he, then, would send it back to him. Prisoner wrote asking that letter he joined he be allowed to see some of the packets then in circulation, especially the October and November packets, so he could see the kind of club it was, and he was allowed to see same on sufferance; that is, he was to take nothing from the packets and these packets were sent him on that understanding, per registered post. In December, 1902, a postcard was received from prisoner stating he had despatched the packet to Mr. Barham, of Leicester, by unregistered post. This was entirely against the rules of the Club. From this packet the prisoner had taken 68 stamps gross value £5 16s. 9d. This packet was sent to prisoner by an oversight of one of the members, as the prosecutor explained fully.

The October B packet was forwarded to the prisoner at Mexboro, Yorkshire, from Penzance, and arrived at Mexboro on the 25th December last, and witness, not getting any further intimation as to the whereabouts of the packet, got alarmed, and made enquiries of Campbell, but Campbell replied several times on post cards that he had not seen the packet, and trusted he would be able to trace it. Witness placed the matter in the Post Office detectives' hands, and wrote prisoner stating what he had done, and asking him, if he (the prisoner)

had received it, it would be best for him to forward it to the next name to his on the post list at once. This evidently had the desired effect, as Campbell then posted it on. In a few days it was brought to my notice that Campbell had played havoc with the sheets of this packet, taking away some of the sheets entirely, also taking the major part of the stamps on others, and simply initialing the cover. "Others removed by me." In fact he abstracted from all the packets no less than 2171 stamps to the value of £134 2s. 4d. gross. Upon the receipt of the packet witness at once telegraphed to Campbell, viz.: "If all stamps taken from packet not returned immediately shall take police proceedings," and confirmed this wire by letter, registered. Not getting a reply by the time given to prisoner, a warrant was issued for the apprehension of prisoner.

Cross-examined by prisoner: Did you regard me as a debtor to your Club?—Witness: Certainly not.

Prisoner: I was a member of your club, and had a perfect right to take what stamps I liked from the sheets, had I not?—Witness: No; you had no right whatever to take any stamps. You were not a member; did not complete your application form, nor pay a single cent, and the packets were distinctly sent you on sufferance.

Prisoner: Mr. Stevens, did you not consider me an honest and trustworthy man?—Witness: replied: Your priced postcards, etc., would lead anyone to think such, but I have found out since that you were quite the contrary to that, a thorough bad one, a big thief and a fraud, as your previous conviction proves.

Prisoner cross-examined witness, respecting the various sheets of stamps produced, but failed to shake the evidence given.

At this stage—6 15—the court adjourned till 10 o'clock Wednesday morning, the witness having been in the box from 2 35—4 hours and 10 minutes.

The trial was resumed at 10 o'clock by the prosecution calling Mr. Thomas, Candy Row, Regent Square, Penzance, who stated he sent the October B packet to prisoner, per registered post, at Mexboro, Yorkshire, and produced the P.O. receipt for same. When the packet left him it was in order. I did not take anything out of the packet, as I was very busy at the time.

By the Prisoner: When did you send the packet away?—On December 22nd, 1902.

Prisoner: What is the reason you wrote Mr. Stevens stating you had sent the packet away on the 20th, as per your writing on this postal list, when you now state you did not post it till 22nd December.

Witness: I put it in my desk intending to post it, and forgot it, and when I went to the desk again I saw the packet and I immediately posted it.

Then what you wrote to Mr. Stevens and on this list is a lie?—Witness: Well, yes; if you take it in that light. I posted it 22nd December.

Mr. Robert H. Davies, 10, Railway Terrace, Peniston, Yorkshire, stated that for some time prisoner and his wife lodged with him, from 9th October to 24th December. Registered letters and parcels frequently arrived for prisoner, by every mail. When prisoner left Mexboro he requested him (Davies) that everything coming for him should be sent to 4, Montgomery Street, Ardrossan. Witness complied with that request.

Did you receive a parcel per registered post for prisoner from Penzance?—Yes, and I put this parcel with about 20 other letters, etc., in a wicker basket amongst his wife's clothes, and sent it to the prisoner. It went per railway, and prisoner sent him the label to put on the basket.

By Prisoner: How old are you, Davies?—68 next month. Prisoner: At that great age have you a good memory?—Well, yes; I remember these things and you all right.

Prisoner: When did you send this basket away? I can't date the exact date—a little after Christmas.

Was it on January 8th? I don't know; it might be. I will not swear it was or it wasn't.

Was it not a box?—No, it was a little white wicker basket.

What weight was it?—I don't know.

Was it 1 or 1½wt.? I don't know. I am not going to swear anything about the weight.

Mr. James Smith, Errymann, Hill Street, Ardrossan, employed by the Glasgow and South Western Railway, gave evidence of delivering to prisoner a wicker basket on the 30th December, 1902.

Prisoner: Have you got the delivery sheet with you? No, but I have a copy of it here (producing same).

Prisoner stated it was a letter written by some one, stating "I box, etc."

Prisoner (to witness): Do you often get a basket when a box is invoiced?—No, but we do sometimes.

Whose signature is this: M. Ethel Campbell?—Your wife's.

You have no signature of mine for this particular entry?—No, I gave you the parcel myself, and you ran upstairs and told your wife to sign for it, and she did, and paid me the carriage.

You will swear it was a basket?—Yes, and you took it from me yourself?

Mr. W. A. Bois, wine merchant and stamp collector, East Dulwich, stated he was a member of the One and All Club, and deposed to receiving a packet from Ardrossan in January last, and finding several places from which stamps had been removed and not initialled; he initialled them, "No stamps here," and wrote to the Secretary to the effect that spaces to the amount of 16s. 6d. were not initialled. He took a few stamps out of the packet himself and accounted for them to the Secretary.

By the prisoner: How did you receive the packet?—By post, registered.

Was it contained in a box like the one produced?—Yes, that is the exact box.

From whom did you receive it?—I don't know. It came from Ardrossan, according to the post mark, and I should say from the person whose name preceded mine on the post list.

You found places where the stamps had been taken from and not initialled?—Yes.

Did you go carefully over the whole sheets in the packet?—Yes, pretty carefully.

Mr. Fred. G. Biggs, ledger clerk, National Bank, London, also gave evidence of being a member of the One and All Club, and to the dispatching of the packet to Mr. Bois, and when he dispatched it the packet was in order.

By the prisoner: Did you yourself post the packet?—Well, I think not, I usually give it to one of the bank messengers to post, and he did so, as he brought back the receipt for same.

Can you produce the receipt?—I daresay, but I have not got it here. I could get it from the Post Office people if I have lost the original.

Did you take any stamps out of the packet?—Yes, a few shillings-worth.

Mr. A. S. L. Spurling, Kenwyn, Truro, also gave evidence of sending the packet to the Secretary, after receiving a special request to do so from the Secretary, and noting to the Secretary that "Bois seemed to have found a lot of good stamps missing."

Mr. Wearne Caddy, Superintendent Pearl Insurance Co., residing at Redruth, stated he was a member of the One and All Stamp Exchange Club, and a stamp collector. He remembered receiving the October B packet on a Friday morning in January last, per registered post, and on examining the packet he found a very large number of sheets entirely stripped of their stamps, and, thinking this strange, took the packet to Mr. Stevens' Stall in the Butter and Egg Market, Redruth, and finding Mr. Stevens not there, gave it to a boy in charge of the stall. Sometime afterwards he saw Mr. Stevens, and Mr. Stevens showed him a telegram he had sent to Campbell, as he (Mr. Stevens) was surprised at the amount of stamps taken by Campbell. I did not take any stamps from the packet myself.

By the Prisoner: What time was it when you gave the packet to the boy at Steven's stall?—I should say about 10.30 in the morning.

Stevens was not at the stall?—No. I gave it to a boy.

Did you think it was strange so many stamps had been taken?—Yes, I did.

You did not know the boy at the stall?—It is so long ago I can't remember?

You know Stevens' son, I presume?—Yes.

Was it Stevens' son whom you gave the parcel to?—I can't say; it was a boy at the stall.

Mr. Edwin Healey, stamp merchant, Wormwood Street London, stated he only knew prisoner Campbell by correspondence. He received a large quantity of stamps from the prisoner, but only purchased five or six lots from him, the rest he returned again to the prisoner, as he asked too much for them. He produced three cheques sent to the prisoner in payment for stamps. All the correspondence he got from prisoner was invariably on postcards. A £5 used English stamp which he purchased from Campbell had been recognised by Mr. Stevens as the property of the Club. Sometimes he had a large number of these stamps in stock. Mr. Stevens wrote him asking him about a £5 stamp, and he sent him (Mr. Stevens) all he had then in stock, and Mr. Stevens identified this stamp.

By prisoner: Will you swear that you purchased this £5 stamp from me?—No, not that particular stamp, but I bought one from you, and I could not swear which particular stamp it was.

Mr. Edward Milton Newton, mathematical instrument maker, Cambridge, said:—Early in July or late in June last, Mr. Stevens brought me a number of £5 stamps, and asked if I could recognise any of them. I looked over the lot and at once identified this stamp as the one I saw on the sheet of the Club. I can identify it by the postmark being not quite perfect. I thought of purchasing it, and spent about 20 minutes over the stamp in examining it.

By the prisoner: Is there anything peculiar about the stamp over any other £5 stamp?—Yes, first of all it has a registered postmark, and registered postmarked £5 stamps are very uncommon, as the majority of the postmarks on these stamps have telegraphic cancellation. Secondly, I identify it by the postmark being broken and the date.

Master Stanley Stevens, Redruth, son of the prosecutor, stated that on a Friday morning in January last he remembered Mr. Caddy bring-

ing a packet to the stall in Redruth market and handing same to him, asking him to give it to his father when he returned. Upon his father returning in about 5 or 6 minutes he handed the packet to him in exactly the same manner as he got it, and his father went home with it.

By the prisoner: What time was it when Mr. Caddy brought you the packet?—About a few minutes to 11.0 in the morning.

Was the packet tied up?—Yes.

What did the packet contain?—Stamps.

Did you open it?—No.

Then why do you know it contained stamps?—Because I have seen my father put sheets of stamps every month in these boxes, and I have assisted him to do it.

Who was there at the stall when you opened this packet?—Witness paused, evidently taken aback by this question; then replied: I never opened the packet, I gave it to my father the same as Mr. Caddy handed it to me.

By the Prisoner: But you did open the packet.—I did not.

At this point the Chairman rebuked the prisoner strongly on the manner he was conducting his cross-examination.

Mr. A. H. Dingwall, stamp merchant, Weston-super-Mare, stated he had corresponded with the prisoner. In November last prisoner wrote asking for certain stamps, and witness sent him a lot, and he (the prisoner) selected some, and sent back other stamps, asking that his account be credited with their value. Witness wrote stating that they were of no use to him, but he would give 1s. 3d. for them. This prisoner agreed to take, and sent another similar lot, which witness also agreed to keep at 1s. 3d.

I thought Campbell was a collector, and in response to a letter from Campbell I sent him my English collection, valued about £30, and which I have never seen since, nor their value. He sent me in all three lots, and their total value was about 25s.

Witness being very deaf, prisoner wrote out a lot of questions to ask witness, who replied to them all, remarking that the prisoner had sent him some common stamps, which he did not want. He only wanted his own stamps back, and prisoner eventually wrote him a letter on two postcards, in which he stated he regretted unforeseen circumstances compelled him to act not too straight, etc. Witness now produced the stamps prosecutor identified at Camborne in July last.

William Lacy Berry, of Hythe Road, Brighton, trading as William Lacy, stamp dealer, stated he had bought several lots of stamps from the prisoner, in all to the value of £4 6s., and one lot he paid 15s. for by cheque to Ethel Campbell, prisoner's wife, between December 11th, 1902, and 30th January, 1903.

William Jaggard, of Moorfields, Liverpool, stamp dealer, etc., said he purchased at various times from Malcolm Campbell and Ethel Campbell stamps to the amount of £11 11s. 1d. He sent the remittances chiefly by postal orders, but sometimes by telegraphic money orders. These remittances were addressed to Poste Restante, Ardrossan, Glasgow, Belfast and Dublin—some in the name of Malcolm Campbell and others in the name of Ethel Campbell.

I produce some of the stamps identified by prosecutor, especially a strip of three Montserrat. I never sent the prisoner any stamps whatever. I should have, I dare say, but what he asked for I had not at that time in stock.

By the prisoner: The strip of Montserrat produced you swear came from me?—Yes.

Were they sent singly?—No, they were sent to me amongst other stamps by you.

Mr. A. M. Berry, C.C., of Kendall, was recalled, and he proved the handwriting on all the correspondence produced by the various witnesses, and stated he had seen prisoner write and swore he knew his writing well.

This was the case for the prosecution.

Prisoner, although he had subpoenaed two witnesses, one from Swinton, in Yorkshire and the other from Penzance, both railway employees on the Midland Railway, said he did not intend to call them, nor did he propose to give evidence on oath, but he should address the jury at some length.

Mr. J. R. Daniel, the prosecuting solicitor, occupied only a few minutes in addressing the jury, briefly pointing out the main facts of the case, and that he did not want to harass the minds of the jury by any lengthy address, as the facts of the case had, to his mind, been very clearly proved by the witnesses called, that the prisoner was guilty of taking these stamps and disposing of them and appropriating the same to his own use. He felt confident that the jury had listened very attentively to the evidence produced, and he was sure they were capable to return their verdict.

The prisoner commenced his defence with a most remarkable rhetorical flourish, and proceeding at great length, he quoted numerous incidents and law cases from 1887 to 1902 in support of his contention. He stated there had been no misrepresentation on his part, no fraud was made out, or intended, and he urged no crime such as larceny could take place without misrepresentation. The charges against him were false, and contrary to the facts. The majority of the witnesses gave their evidence in the most uncertain way, making statements in their evidence which, on cross-examination, shifted considerably. For instance, (said prisoner) is the evidence of the Chief Constable of Kendal to be relied upon when he has stated here to day, on three or four times, that when he arrested me in Dublin he found 39 stamps upon me, and I have since the commencement of these

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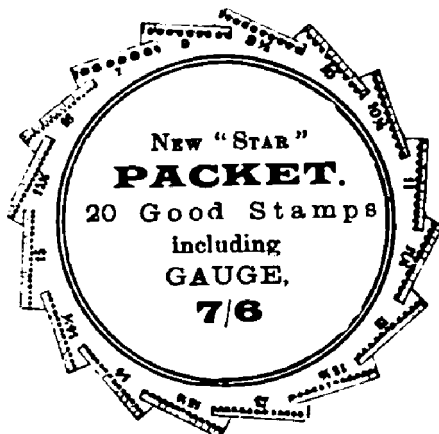
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proceedings written to the Dublin authorities and have here (producing the letter) their reply plainly stating 49 stamps were found on me then. Now if a person goes in the witness-box and swears that 49 were found on me when it was 49—a big difference of 10—is he not an "Ananias of the deepest dye?" Then, gentlemen, there is the evidence on the £25 stamp; utterly unreliable, as this stamp was reported to have been sold before the date of this action. Could it not have been possible, and I say very much possible, and probable, that those who gave their evidence on this score were labouring under a great misapprehension. Then, with regard to the evidence of the basket being delivered to 4, Montgomery Street, Ardraara, I never lived at No. 4, but at No. 6, another flimsy part of the proof that I had the parcel. Why did they not produce my signature for receiving same? Is it feasible that I should receive the parcel and ask another unconcerned person to sign for same? Then the son of the prosecutor stated he never opened the parcel, but I fully believe he did, and was it not possible that he could have taken out the said missing stamps (the Chairman here called the prisoner to order, as he could not allow him to make such a statement, when the evidence was most clear on this point). Then, with regard to my not being a member, I contend I was, I signed the members' agreement form and had the packets sent me, giving me the members' usual discount, and my name inserted on the post list by the prosecutor himself and by others with his instructions, thereby giving me all the privileges of a member. On the face of this, how on earth I can be prosecuted for stealing the stamps is beyond reason and justice—(the Chairman here stated: You were not a member, and it has been plainly proved by the prosecutor and by your own action in not conforming to the rules, and it is with you to prove to us you were a member; up to now you have not done so). Is the witnesses' evidence as I have given you, gentlemen, to be relied upon? They have shifted from post to pillar. It has been stated I initialled the places where stamps had been taken from, and the Secretary had accepted that. It was evident it was not my intention to defraud, or I should not have returned the major portion of the stamps, and kept only a few, which I should have paid for, or, at least, made arrangements for paying, had not unforeseen circumstances of non-employment and illness prevented. Everything I did was clear and above-board. I have simply incurred a debt for the stamps. This could be recovered in a civil court, and no criminal proceedings ought to have been taken. There is great doubt in this case, and as the prosecution admitted that they had not produced all the documents, the jury ought not to have the slightest hesitation in giving me the benefit of the doubt. A late Lord Chief Justice had said that the law was carried out to better advantage in leniency than in severity, and it had been laid down that there should be very great care indeed taken in sentencing young men, and that it should not only be considered what was right and best for their souls, but any doubt in a case should be very carefully weighed, and the benefit of it given to a defendant. In a case at Lanark, in Scotland, it had been held that misrepresentation could not be said to be proved if a defendant declared that he believed what he stated to have been true. The prosecution had not proved that he had misrepresented anything and he claimed thereby an acquittal at their hands, and pathetically added as it was St. Margaret's Day, might he not be permitted at such a time as this to appeal to the gentlemen of the jury for a merciful verdict. Mercy blessed the giver more than the receiver; it blessed him that gave and him that received. Their duty (and a great duty it was) was to weigh most carefully the evidence before entering upon any line of conduct, and he strongly and earnestly warned them against any suspicion that he wished to be an ambassador of justice must aid it by bringing in a verdict of guilty. Gentlemen, rather let it be remembered that justice was mercy and mercy was righteousness. He most earnestly counselled them, if they had the slightest tendency to prejudice against him to check that disposition. Let them think seriously of the issues that depended on their verdict. It might be that there would follow guilt, agony, disgrace, shame, broken hearts, the bringing down of grey hairs with sorrow to the grave, on the one hand; and on the other, innocence, happiness, the living of a new life—it might be a life of honour—as the result and product of mercy. Any difficulty they might have, let them overcome it with mercy, and any favour they might be empowered to confer, let them bestow it with mercy. The strength of mercy was undoubted; just think for a few seconds the agony to an aged mother going down to the grave with grey hairs and a loving wife awaiting the loving embraces of an innocent husband resting upon your verdict. You, gentlemen of the jury, have been empanelled in the interests of justice, and I have no doubt you wish to be just. To err is human, but for error on the side of mercy there was forgiveness, whilst for error on the side of injustice they would have to answer before another bar, in the hereafter. The prisoner impressed upon the jury not to bring in a verdict of guilty against him and blight his future career, reciting some of the writings of the more eminent poets bearing on the quality and leniency of mercy, and quoting a great number of passages from the Bible relating to mercy, and repeatedly calling the Almighty to witness. This caused the Chairman to interfere, and the prisoner was asked not to mention the Scriptures and bring the name of the Almighty into the question. He could address the jury on points of evidence and attention would be given to all he had to say. The prisoner, having glanced at the clock, concluded his address to the jury by stating: As it seemeth good to you to do unto me, so do,

remembering that with what measure ye make, it shall be measured to you again.

The prisoner had spoken for 2 hours and 10 minutes, during which time great interest was taken by those present.

The Chairman, in summing up the case, said the case rested on a few points, one of which was whether prisoner was a member of the Club—the One and All Stamp Exchange Club, and whether he had a right to remove any of the stamps from the sheets sent him for examination. If not a member the sheets of stamps were only sent to him for the purpose of inspection, to let him see what the business of the Club was, and he had no right whatever to retain any of the stamps. They had a right to consider whether in removing the stamps he did so fraudulently. It was not proved that the prisoner was a member of the Club, and it was clearly shown that he had removed a very large number of stamps from the sheets, and had evidently appropriated them to his own use. The Secretary (Mr. Stevens) it appears, wired and wrote repeatedly asking for the return of the stamps, which he alleged prisoner had taken, and getting no replies, he eventually placed the matter in the hands of the police. These being briefly the facts of the case I leave it gentlemen to you to consider them.

The jury then retired, and after being away about 15 minutes, they returned into court.

The Clerk of the Court asked the foreman of the jury if they had all agreed on their verdict, and, getting a reply in the affirmative, asked: Do you find the prisoner guilty or not guilty.

The reply came "Guilty."

The Chairman then asked the prisoner if he wished to say anything before sentence was passed.

Prisoner evidently felt the force of the verdict, paused a few seconds, but, pulling himself together, addressed the Bench for about 10 minutes in mitigation of his sentence, imploring for mercy for having sinned, and promising it to be a lesson for his future life, and remarking also his present state of health, having shortly to undergo a surgical operation, he trusted the sentence would be as lenient as possible.

The Chairman, in giving sentence, said that in a letter he had received information to the effect that prisoner had obtained by false representation divers articles to the value of over £200. He was convicted at Galshorough in July, 1902, and was sentenced to two periods of three months for obtaining prize poultry under false pretences, and on the 9th April, 1903, he was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment in the second division at Kesh for stealing foreign stamps to the value of £10. Apparently the Chairman of the Westminster Quarter Sessions, knowing prisoner had been guilty of a succession of frauds, passed a heavier sentence than he would have done if the one case only was before him. He (the Chairman) thought he was bound to give effect to what had been done in Westminster, and pass a more lenient sentence in this case. The manner in which prisoner had represented his case to the jury showed him to be a man likely to prey on society. He (the Chairman) believed if he were tried before a judge at the Assizes he would receive a much heavier sentence than he was going to impose, which would be six months' in the second division. The Chairman of the Westmorland Quarter Sessions had placed prisoner in the second division, and although he (the Chairman) saw no reason for that, he thought it would not be fair to make a change. The six months would commence at the expiration of the twelve months' imprisonment which he is already undergoing.

The case lasted in all 10 hours and 10 minutes.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

Secretaries are requested to assist the Editor by sending in their reports not later than the Monday preceding publication.

LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Liverpool Philatelic Society was held at the Alexandra Hotel, Dale Street, on Monday, October 19th, 1903, there being 20 members present.

The balance sheet presented to the meeting showed the Society to be in a flourishing condition, and after being duly passed, the following gentlemen were elected officers and Committee for the ensuing season: President, J. H. Ghes; Vice-Presidents, W. McQuinn-Green and H. Woods; Committee, W. Gill, W. F. H. Hill, C. S. Molloy, H. M. Savage and J. G. Tweedle.

Honorary Treasurer, M. Broad.

Honorary Secretary and Exchange Secretary, W. Halfpenny.

Membership Cards, with the programme when arranged will be sent to each member, and all further arrangements made by the Committee will be duly announced.

Official Address, 28, Dale Road, Liverpool.

"STAMPS" EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

Members' Remarks:—"Great improvement in the packets." "Pleased with such prompt settlements." "Three months' earlier than I expected." "Hope you will enforce the rules strictly." The

October packets, amounting to £865 (Colonial, £430; General, £435) were despatched on the 8th., with an exceptional good selection, at moderate prices, and in some cases very cheap.

The July Sheets have all been returned and credits paid. It is hoped members will be equally quick in paying debits.

The EUROPEAN packet will be sent out every alternate month, until sufficient sheets are sent in to make up one each month, as several members see only EUROPEAN, such Collectors are especially invited to join. The November packet will contain about 20 sheets.

Members are again cautioned against attaching stamps to BOTH SIDES of the sheets, as it causes them to pull off in opening.

Bona-fide Collectors welcomed.

First Class References only.

Three New Members and one expelled.

Hon. Sec. Thomas H. Widdowson, Member of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society, Lincoln Street, Leicester.

BRISTOL & CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The above Society held a meeting at 22, Hurles Crescent, Clifton, on October 22nd, with Mr. P. J. Lloyd in the chair.

The Hon. Secretary presented his report of the Exchange Packet for the season 1902-3, which showed that the sales were well maintained. After other business matters had been disposed of, Alder-

Mr. W. HADLOW,
Stamp Auctioneer,

12, ADAM STREET, ADELPHI.

Unique Opportunity.

Z.A.R.—My Catalogues this season will be printed on paper prepared for the South African Republic before the war, and watermarked Z.A.R. in panes of 60.

SALE ALTERNATE MONDAYS THROUGHOUT SEASON,

Terms 10 per Cent. inclusive.

CATALOGUES POST FREE.

Entire Sheets of the above paper, containing four panes of the watermark, post free, 1s. 1d.

Consignments of Stamps to be included in above Auctions invited.

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LONDON.

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Admiralty Official. 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d.

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Government Parcels 1.R. Official, and Army Official, wholesale parcels of the commoner values of all Departments. Used.

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1 & 2, QUEEN STREET, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON.

Telegraphic Address:—"BROMELIA, LONDON."

Telephone:—"1984 CENTRAL."

man Gardner, J.P., showed his collection of British and Colonial stamps, which was much appreciated by the members present.

Henry Alsop, Hon. Secretary, Archfield, Archfield Road, Cotham Park, Bristol.

THE FISCAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Meeting held October 15th, 1903.—Present, Mr. Schwabacher (chair), Messrs. Fulcher, Kohler, Marsh, Morley, South, Thompson, Thomson and Kay.

Rev. Dr. McKee Wright (New Zealand) was duly elected a member. M. G. Gilbert was appointed Continental Secretary and Exchange Superintendent.

The list of Colonial Railway stamps was discussed, and the early issues of Peru fiscals catalogued.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 5th, at 6.30, at 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London E.C., when the fiscals of Peru will be again taken. Members are particularly requested to bring, or send for inspection, any of these stamps they may have, as information respecting them is greatly required.

The Continental Exchange Section will now be resumed, and foreign members should send their sheets (vide Rules), direct to G. Gilbert, 15, Rue de Turin, Paris.

The sheets of home members should be forwarded through the Hon. Secretary, as previously. The sales from the September Home Packet (value £69), amounted to £23. The October Packet lately sent out, totalled to £120. Will all members, including those abroad, endeavour to contribute sheets?

The second annual report will shortly be issued, and may be had on application to the Hon. Secretary, A. B. Kay, 2, Haarlein Mansions, West Kensington, London, W.

THE PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

SENIOR SECTION.—The November packet will be made up on Monday next sheets should reach me first post Monday morning. Few vacancies occur for first class members with good duplicates. Rules free. No fees. R. T. Morgan, General Secretary, 14, High Street, Sellhurst, S.E.

JUNIOR SECTION.—This section has been formed for medium stamps, and to lighten the bulk of the Senior packets, members will oblige by sending the low priced stamps to this section. The Secretary in charge will be pleased to hear of any caring to join, first packet starts next week. C. A. Squire Cox, Assistant Secretary, "Woodbine," Cambridge Road, Anerley, S.E.

MARTIN, RAY & Co.,

Stamp Auctioneers and

Commission Agents,

Lonsdale Chambers,

CHANCERY LANE, W.C.

— HOLD —

STAMP AUCTION SALES

- FORTNIGHTLY. -

Monday ... Nov. 9th

Monday ... Nov. 23rd

Stamps to be included should reach our Offices
14 days prior.

Commission 10%. Minimum Charge 1/6 per lot.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,

Literary,
Fine-Art and

Philatelic Auctioneers,

47, Leicester Square, LONDON, W.C., make the sale of

Rare Postage Stamps A SPECIALITY.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that their NEXT SALE NOV. 10th & 11th.

will take place on

and will consist of

A FINE SELECTION OF ALL COUNTRIES, Including:—

GREAT BRITAIN. 6d. and 10d. octagonal, unused; 2d. wmk. small crown, perf. 14, unused; 10- wmk. cross, unused; £1 wmk. orb. and cross, unused.

CEYLON. Imperf. 4d., 8d., 9d., 1/9 and 2-, very fine; no wmk. 1 - unused, mint; wmk. CC. 2d. emerald, block of 4; 5d. purple-brown, pair, unused, mint; etc., etc.

LABUAN. 6 in red on 16c., used and unused; 8 on 12c.; and 2 CENTS on 16c. unused etc.

AUSTRALIANS. A nice lot and many good collections.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. A very fine lot of unused triangulars, including 1d. rose 8, 4d. blue (18), 1- dark green (2 pairs), 1d. carmine (8, 4 and several pairs) 4d. dark blue (18 and 8) 1- emerald (pair), all in blocks etc., etc.

LAGOS. 2 6, 3 - and 10 -, mint.

ST. VINCENT. Nice lot of unused, including 1- brown, 1- indigo, 1- rose, 1- vermilion and 5- lake.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1850, 18c. indigo.

COLUMBIAN REPUBLIC. 50c. red error.

Catalogue Ready.

NOVEMBER 24th & 25th and DECEMBER 8th & 9th,

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON have received instructions to sell on these dates a Magnificent Collection of Great Britain and Colonies, formed by a well-known Philatelist. The Collection (which is MOSTLY UNUSED) is very fine and complete, and contains a large number of very rare stamps, such as —

GREAT BRITAIN. Several early 4d. values and octagonals. 10- and £1 cross, all unused, etc.

CEYLON. Imperf. 6d., 9d., 1-, 1/9 and 2-, unused. No wmk. 1 -, unused, etc.

CAPE. Unused, woodblocks.

MAURITIUS. Used and unused, post-pairs, including pairs and strips; large sheet, very fine, 1-; Britannia, perf., unused, etc.

NATAL. Very fine lot of the rare first issue and the various surcharged, including 1- with "POSTAGE" in red.

NIGER COAST. Exceptionally fine lot of the scarce provisionals, including some of the very rarest.

CANADA. 12d. black, etc. New Brunswick. 1-, unused. Nova Scotia. 1-, unused. Newfoundland. 1-, orange, unused; and others of the rare penny issues.

BRITISH GUIANA. Several of the rare 1840, 1852, 1856, and 1862 issues.

WEST INDIES and AUSTRALIA. A very fine lot of the various Colonies, the scarce stamps being too numerous to mention in detail.

Fully Illustrated Catalogue.

January 12th & 13th, 1904.

A very fine General Collection formed by a well-known collector and especially good in the Colonial portion, which comprises a splendid range of the early issues in superb condition including many rarities and the later issues mostly unused in mint state. In this sale will be included a splendid unused copy of the 2d. Post Office Mauritius, which has been placed in Messrs PUTTICK & SIMPSON's hands for sale.

Catalogue in Preparation.

DATES of SALES for 1904:—

1904.—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27
May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and

Clients wishing to include Collections in any of the above Sales are requested to make early arrangements with regard to their disposal, as some of the earlier dates are already allotted.

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

Liberal advances made pending realization if desired.

For Terms and Full Particulars Address:

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,

Telephone No. 1561, Gerrard
Established 1794.

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Collections of any magnitude, and Single rare stamps, for which we are prepared to

Pay Highest Possible Prices.

We are *especially* in want of **any specialised collections** of countries, particularly unused.

"Interchangeable Philatelic Albums."

We have much pleasure in announcing that we have received

A MEDAL WITH DIPLOMA

(This being the only Award given for Permanent Philatelic Albums alone) at the International Philatelic Exhibition, held in Mulhausen, Alsace, this Summer.

.....
We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.



THE NEXT "S.C.F." WILL BE OUR GRAND 'XMAS NUMBER.

Advertisers should apply at once for space.

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 227.—Vol. IX

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

MESSRS. GLENDINING & Co.,

Fine Art, Numismatic & Philatelic Auctioneers,

THE ARGYLL GALLERY,

7, ARGYLL ST., REGENT ST., W.

(Adjoining Oxford Circus Station)

Telegraphic Address: "NULLIFIED," London

Telephone No. 4428, GERRARD

Our next Sale of POSTAGE STAMPS



Following Sales:

*Will be held on Thursday & Friday,
November 26th & 27th, 1903.*

DECEMBER 10th and 11th.

And every alternate THURSDAY and FRIDAY throughout the Season.

Fine Art and Bric-à-brac Sale—14th & 15th December.

English Coins and War Medals 21st, 22nd & 23rd December.

COLLECTORS who intend to DISPOSE OF COLLECTIONS are advised to make early arrangements to secure advantageous dates of Sale.

**COINS,
MEDALS,**

**FINE ART PROPERTY,
JEWELLERY, ETC.**

**PAINTINGS,
ENGRAVINGS,**

**MINIATURES,
CHINA, ETC.**

**Promptly Catalogued
and offered for Sale.**

Liberal Cash Advances.

Prompt Settlements.

PERIODICAL SALES BY AUCTION OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY **Messrs VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,**

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY).

At the TEMPLE HOTEL, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.

(Close to the Philatelic Society's Rooms and the Temple Station on the District Railway.)

By Order of the Executor of the late L. L. Tunstall.

By Order of the Executors of the late W. D. Crotch.

DECEMBER 3rd & 4th.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell on the above dates **A Fine Collection of British Colonials**, the property of a **Private Collector**, also **two other Collections**, by order of Executors, as above, including the following rarities:—

British East Africa, a very fine lot including rare provls. with MS. surcharge.

Zanzibar, 2½ in red on 1½. Indian, a horizontal pair showing the error "Z A N Z I D A R," and other scarce varieties.

Hong Kong, Jubilee 2c. rose, variety with long narrow K.

Sierra Leone, wmk. C. and C.A., 4d. blue unused in mint state.

Gold Coast, 20/- green and red unused.

Nova Scotia, 1/- violet, superb (from the Aikman collection).

New Brunswick, 1/- violet, superb.

Newfoundland, 1/- orange-vermilion.

Canada, 6d. grey-lilac perforated, unused in mint state.

British Columbia, 10c. lake and blue, perf. 12½, a mint pair.

Trinidad, Lithographed, 1d. blue, fine impression, used on piece, 1859 61, green, imperforated and very fine, etc.

United States, a very fine lot, including many rare stamps.

Switzerland, fine early issues including Basle (2)

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 number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, one month before the date of Sale. In order to facilitate this arrangement, owners intending to include Stamps should forward them at the earliest possible moment. The greatest care is requisite in the preparation of these Catalogues, so that a correct and comprehensive description of the Stamps may be given.

VALUATIONS MADE IF REQUIRED.

ADVANCES MADE ON COLLECTIONS PENDING REALISATION IF DESIRED.

CATALOGUES of all Sales may be obtained of

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, (Philatelic Department),

35, Old Jewry, LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM, LONDON." Telephone Number. 3392 CENTRAL. ESTABLISHED 1761.

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.,

(Partners: H. W. PLUMRIDGE & J. H. TELFER).

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64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

OUR 181st & 182nd. SALES WILL BE HELD on
TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 1 & 2.

In the Arbitration Room, 64, Chancery Lane, at 5 p.m. sharp.

These Sales will comprise a good Collection of Colonials broken into lots, and a number of **Rarities**, including—

British Guiana, 1853, 1c. Magenta, superb.

British Honduras, C.C. 12½, 3c. on 3d. used.

Ceylon, imperf. 4d. rose, superb

Lagoa, 2/6, brown, mint.

Gibraltar, 1-t issue, all values.

British South Africa, 1d. on 4/-.

Orange River, 4d. on 6d. rose, surcharge inverted. V.R.I. 1st. print.

no * t p after V. 6d. carmine.

Nevis, Lithographed, 4d. * 6d. mint.

Nova Scotia, 1d., strip of 3.

St. Vincent, 4d. on 1/-, 5/- star used and *; 1d. on half 6d.; 1d. on 6d. mint; 4d. CA. 14 mint.

Sierra Leone 6d. imperf.

Swaziland 5/- variety D. omitted, surcharge inverted, extremely rare.

Turks Islands, 2½d. on 1/- and 4d. on 6d., (rare type).

Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow.

Virgin Islands, perf. 15, 6d. mint. etc. etc.

CATALOGUE READY—Sent, post free, on application.

FUTURE DATES—1903—Dec. 15 & 16. Jan. 19 & 20. Feb. 2 & 3; 16 17.

March, 1 & 2; 15 & 16; 29 & 30. April 19 & 20. May 2 & 3; 17 & 18; 31, and June 1; 15 & 16.

Settlements usually in Ten Days. At Latest within 14 days after sale.

Commission 10 per cent. IMMEDIATE AND LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES.

Commissions executed for Clients unable to attend the sales WITHOUT charge and as much BELOW LIMITS as possible.

COMMISSION DEPARTMENT.—We can now accept buying commissions for all London Stamp Sales. Inclusive terms 5%.

All lots carefully examined previous to purchase.

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Telephone: 3473, CENTRAL.



With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange, The Northern Stamp Exchange Society, The Stamp Exchange Protection Society, The Enterprise Stamp Club, The One and All Stamp Club, The Palace Philatelic Exchange Society, The British Empire Stamp Exchange Club, The Unused Stamp Exchange.

No 227.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

The "International Stamp" Scheme.

At next year's International Postal Congress, we learn, new proposals will be brought forward for the issue of a postage stamp which shall be current and available in all countries.

The S.T.P.A.'s late Secretary.

At Bow Street, as already reported, William Ewing, sometime Secretary of the Stamp Trade Protection Association, was charged with misappropriating sums of money received as subscriptions. The magistrate, at the second hearing of the charges, dealt with the case summarily, and sentenced Ewing to one month's imprisonment in the second division.

What is "Ultramarine"?

One of our readers, suffering from a slight attack of "the blues," pleads for a definition of the term "ultramarine" as used by philatelic cataloguers.

"When," he writes, "the same stamp is listed both as "blue" and as "ultramarine," I have noticed, whenever I have had specimens from stamp dealers, etc., that the lighter colour is always called ultramarine. Is this not a wrong des-

cription? I have seen and sold powder blue in large quantities, and in "the trade" ultramarine is always dark blue—that is to say, among ordinary blues. Of course, indigos, Prussian and Chinese blues are darker. Can you explain?"

We cannot. We gave up trying to understand philatelic colours years ago, but there are many *Fortnightly* readers who are experts on such matters, and perhaps they will be kind enough to clear up this mystery in the columns of the next "S.C.F.," which, lest ye forget, is our special Christmas number.

Our Philatelic Lecturers.

At to-night's meeting of the Junior Philatelic Society at the Wheatshaf Hall, South Lambeth Road, S.W., Mr. Fred J. Melville will lecture for the first time on his newest theme, "The Romance of Postage Stamps." Since the readers of this number of the *Fortnightly* will scarcely have time to apply to the Hon. Secretary for a ticket for a meeting held to-night, we are requested to announce that all stamp collectors, and especially juniors, will be welcomed at the meeting.

Another philatelist, who renders our hobby great service by his frequent papers on Philately and displays of stamps is Mr. J. E. Heginbottom, B.A., of Rochdale. In addition to the periodical displays of sections of his fine collection before the members of the Junior Philatelic Society, Mr. Heginbottom has entered into engagements to read papers before the Manchester, Plymouth, Liverpool, Leeds, Herts and other Philatelic Societies. His own town of Rochdale is not exactly a hotbed of Philately, but it can claim at least one enthusiastic and indefatigable lover of stamps in Mr. Heginbottom.

At the York Railway Institute, Mr. Hugh Richardson, M.A., Science Master of the Friends' School, in the Yorkshire capital, has been lecturing on "The History of the British Empire, Illustrated by its Postage Stamps." He deals with his subject (the "Yorkshire Herald" tells us) in a highly interesting manner, treating of the various changes which have taken place in the British possessions, and saying that the history of the stamps is the history of Queen Victoria's reign.

"The Maximum Value."

Our recent editorial on the subject of the needlessly high values included in many British Colonial issues has, we are

glad to note, been read with appreciation by *Fortnightly* subscribers in all parts. One of these, a gentleman in Barbados, writes us:

"Please don't class Barbados in this category. Our maximum value is, and has been for many years, 2s. 6d. Also, Barbados is not a Crown Colony yet, and we are proud of the fact!"

Bravo Barbados! May the shadow of your postage stamps never grow larger!

The Personal Element.

Our latest royal visitor, His Majesty the King of Italy, is not a philatelist, but takes a very active interest in a kindred hobby: numismatics. His collection of coins is described as one of remarkable interest and value.

From Mr. E. P. Reynolds, junior, of Boston, concerning whom a personal paragraph was recently inserted in the *Fortnightly*, we have received a cheery and cordial letter announcing his gradual restoration to health, Mr. Reynolds has been at grips with grim death, and we rejoice to know that he has pulled through and will shortly be quite himself again.

Australian P.M.G. and Philatelists.

The following correspondence has passed between the Hon. Secretary of the Sydney Philatelic Club and Sir Philip Fysh, the new Postmaster-General of Australia:—

Sydney Philatelic Club, Sydney, 21st August, 1903.

Dear Sir,—At the usual monthly meeting of the members of the Club, held on Wednesday evening last, I was instructed to write and congratulate you on your assumption of the office of Postmaster-General, believing, as we do, that you will discharge your duties in the best interests of the country generally, and with due regard to the wishes of those who indulge in stamp collecting in true philatelic spirit. We have no intention at the present stage to ventilate any grievances, but if, later on, we should deem it desirable to make any representations to you respecting the postal issues of the Commonwealth, we beg to assure you that such a course will only be taken with a view to assist in placing the stamps of Australia above the level of reproach by philatelists throughout the world. With every respect

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) J. H. SMYTH, Hon. Sec.

Sir Philip Fysh, Postmaster-General, Melbourne.

Commonwealth of Australia,
Postmaster-General's Dept.

Dear Sir,—I value the interest which the members of the Philatelic Club take in the artistic character which should enrich, or at least adorn, the Commonwealth issues of postal stamps and shall further value at any time any suggestion it may think proper to make upon the subject. Amongst large collections, issues from all sorts and conditions of Governments and Colonies, I think there should be some which meritoriously stand out from the rest. To any such if my attention be directed, I shall be indebted.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) P. FYSH.

J. H. Smyth, Esq.

A Correction.

We wish to call attention to an unfortunate error that occurred in Mr. M. Z. Booleman's advertisement in our last number.

His address is P.O., Box 152, Amsterdam, and he has no branch at Southampton, as stated in the advertisement. Any readers who have written to Arthur Road N., Southampton, and received no reply will understand the reason.

An invention, on the penny-in-the-slot principle, has been brought under the notice of the postal authorities. It provides that when a letter is inserted and a penny dropped into the machine, a stamp marking "one penny paid" will be impressed on the envelope. A severe test is to be made of the machine, which is the invention of a local man.

On Postal Cards and Covers.

BY A SPECIALIST.

As there are quite a lot of items in my Chronicle this month, and as the editorial fiat has gone forth that space is valuable in the *S.C.F.*, and must be treasured, I will at once plunge into the

NOTES AND NOVELTIES.

Argentine—Mr. Lohmeyer chronicles a 6 centavos card, issued August 5th. with the circular stamp. There is also a new design of the 15c. envelope.

P.C., 6c. grey-blue on buff, 82 x 130mm.

Env., 15c. blue on grey, 150 x 120 mm.

British South Africa.—"E.W.S.N." has been shown a new 2½d. envelope, square shape, embossed.

Env., 2½d. grey-blue.

Canada.—A new King's Head wrapper.

W., 1c. green on cream.

Ceylon.—A 5c. wrapper has been shown to "E.W.S.N." who chronicle it with the opinion that it may be a privately issued one, for the "Times" of Ceylon.

W., 5c. bistre yellow on buff.

A 2c. postcard is reported, with King's Head stamp.

P.C., 2c. buff-yellow on cream.

Costa Rica—The "W. P. Era" has received the new set of stationery chronicled below. They are the work of Waterlow and Sons. The envelopes and cards all bear the portrait of Columbus, except the 10c. envelope, which has the arms of Costa Rica instead, the embossing on the envelopes being very clear and distinct.

P.C., 2c. red on rose. 90 x 140mm.

2 and 2½ red on rose.

Env., 5c. grey-blue on bluish. 90 x 155mm.

10c. yellow-brown on white. 90 x 155mm.

Reg. Env., 20c. mauve on white. 124 x 150mm.

A 4c. single and reply card are also issued, but of these I have no information.

Dutch Indies.—Specimen copies of the following have been seen:—

P.C., 5c. rose on pale rose. 141 x 89mm.

5 and 5c. rose on pale rose. 141 x 89mm.

East Africa and Uganda.—"E.W.S.N." is informed of a new Registration Envelope, King's Head.

Reg. Env., 2 annas pale blue. Size F.

France.—The "M.C." chronicles a new 15c. envelope, with stamp of latest Mouchon type.

Env., 15c. rose-red on greenish.

Gibraltar.—King Edward issues.

P.C., ½d. green on buff.

½ and ¾d. green on buff.

1d. carmine on buff.

1 and 1d. carmine on buff.,

W., ½d. green on buff.

1d. green on buff.

Gold Coast.—The following items are announced. King's Head.

P.C., ½d. green on buff.

½ and ¾ green on buff.

1d. carmine on buff.

1 and 1d. carmine on buff.,

Great Britain.—It is hard to keep pace with the die discoveries in E.W.S.N." The die number lists now stand as follows:—

½d. Env., Dies 7 to 30, 43 to 45, 47.

1d. Env., Dies 7 to 30, 43 to 55, 57.

1½d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 10d., 1/-, Env. Die 1.

2½d. Env., Die 3.

6d. Env., Dies 1, 2, 3, 4.

Reg. Env. 3d., Dies 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

The 1d. wrappers "stamped to order" are done in orange-vermilion, whilst those sold at post offices are carmine.

Hong Kong—In addition to the list of new envelopes I gave recently, there is a 1c. value.

Env. 1c. brown on white. 140 x 78mm.

Jamaica—A King's Head Wrapper is announced.

W. 1d. green on buff. 126 x 300mm.

New Zealand—Mr. Lohmeyer reports having received a n. w. 1d. Postcard, with same stamp as on Letter Card recently issued, with King's Head.

P.C., 1d. dark blue on buff. 86 x 138mm.

Seychelles—King's Head change.

Reg. Env. 12c. blue on white. Size F.

REPORTS OF EXCHANGE CLUBS.

Secretaries are requested to assist the Editor by sending in their reports not later than the Monday preceding publication.

THE PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

The November Packet started punctually carrying a total value of £428 3s. 6½d. Some specially fine stamps are included in the packet. Vacancies occur for good advanced collectors. Rules free. No fees. R. T. Morgan, Secretary, 11, High Street, Selhurst, S.E.

Junior Section—This section's first packet is an exceptionally good one and carries a total of £81 12s. 9½d. A few sheets that were sent in for the senior have been transferred to this owing to their small value. The Secretary will be pleased to hear from collectors' desires of becoming members and should communicate with:—C. A. Squire Cox, "Woodbine," Cambridge Road, Anerley, S.E.

"BRITISH EMPIRE" STAMP EXCHANGE.

August Colonial Packet, sales £12 6s. 4d., sent in £48. 18s. 4d.
September Colonial Packet, sales £14 2s. 7d., sent in £92 10s. 1d.

Season 1902-3, sales £169 2s. 1d., sent in £1065 3 9d. These figures are nett and speak for themselves of satisfactory business done.

November Colonial Packet, sent off on the 2nd, value £126 15s. 5d., nett. November General Packet, sent off on the 10th, value £247 15s. 9d., gross.

The following letter received:—"Thanks for September sheets and settlements; quite correct. I wish you would inform the secretaries of some of the other clubs how you manage to return sheets and settle so quickly, I belong to several, quite satisfactory in every way except they retain sheets such a long time. I have several April and May sheets still out.—H. C."

THE PALATINE STAMP EXCHANGE.

The September Packet returned, showing good sales. All sheets settled and returned to their owners within seven days. November Packet contains many rare early issues in fine condition. The Secretary will be pleased to send a copy of the Rules to amateur Collectors who might like to join. The Club is now entering on its seventh year.

Hon. Secretary, Leicester A. B. Paine, Longsdon, Nr. Stoke-upon-Trent.

TRAVELLERS' STAMP EXCHANGE.

August Packet of this amateur Exchange returned, showing excellent sales. On the 2nd inst., November Packet, containing 38 sheets, value £617 19s. 6d., started its round. Fifty members will see it. The Hon. Secretary has lately been elected a member of "The Stamp Exchange Protection Society."

Hon. Secretary, Leicester A. B. Paine, Longsdon, Nr. Stoke-upon-Trent.

CARDIFF PHILATELIC EXCHANGE.

This Exchange is keeping well to the fore having started its thirteenth year with 49 members.

The October Packet comprised 31 sheets totalling £302 16s. 6d.

The November one was made up of 15 sheets aggregating £252 12s. 3d.

Sheets for December Packet should be with the Secretary by the 25th inst., as the Packet starts promptly.

Secretary, W. A. Jutsum, 317, Cowbridge Road, Cardiff.

Our Christmas Number.—This will be extraordinarily attractive, so that dealers and others who fail to send in an advertisement, will miss one of the finest opportunities ever offered for placing their announcements before the philatelic world. The circulation will be largely increased and copies will be sent to all collectors on our books, in addition to subscribers. Advertising rates will be found on page 152.

Our Review of Reviews.

The Surcharge the "Bane of Philately."

Mr. Wilmot Corfield is no lover of the surcharge. To the "Philatelic Journal of India" he contributes an article headed: "The Surcharge—Away with it!" We quote him as follows:—

The surcharge has always been a temptation to evil for all sorts and conditions of men. It is the bane of Philately, affording, as it does, the earliest opportunity for the rogue and rendering the full pursuit of stamps a pleasure too expensive for the ordinary man's means. Could Government but take to heart the harm done by forged Zanzibars alone, for instance, in all parts of the world, a harm that will, if anything, increase rather than lessen as time goes on, or could it bring itself to seriously peruse the best part of a column in the last issue of hand of "Ewen" on the subject of "irregularities" in the new issue of British Somaliland, the world would soon see the operations of this insidiously mischievous postal institution reduced to a minimum. Manipulators of Zanzibars have been doing their worst for years—those of British Somaliland are, it may be feared, just about to begin, and for the present Government shuts its eyes to the evil in progress, caring for none of these things.

Not only is the surcharge a prolific temptation to minor fraud, but its use is vandalism—pure and simple. A superimposed addition to a work of art, after the artist has completed it, should arouse all lovers of the beautiful to active resentment. To make or save money is not the first aim of good government; were the contrary the case we might expect to see advertisements of "Somebody's Soap" surcharged across the canvasses of the old masters in the National Gallery or the Louvre, and the statues in our public places converted into tailors' dummies by enterprising sartorial tradesmen. In the great majority of instances the surcharge is, however, no economy; it involves a further change in the "completion" of an already completed stamp, which might just as cheaply have been properly turned out at the start.

It is, at its best, an artistic afterthought, and while some such afterthoughts lead to success, they more probably end in failure. The permanent official surcharge is a sort of afterthought planned in advance, and therefore indefensible.

The cure of the evil seems to me very simple one. No permanent surcharged issue of any kind should ever be made—the finer feeling of every nation should shrink from such a thing as in the nature of an outrage on its artistic perception, and every temporary issue, except under extreme circumstances, should come from one special unappropriated die.

Mr. Bickers' "Stamp Exchange Medium."

A happy idea well carried out is "The British Empire Stamp Exchange Medium," published by Mr. S. F. Bickers, of Richmond Terrace, Cork, Ireland. This takes the form of a list of some 200 stamp exchangers, with their addresses, and particulars of what they wish to buy and what they wish to sell. The price of the "Medium" is one shilling. Nothing is said as to the publication of future editions, but we have no doubt that it is Mr. Bickers' intention to revise his list from time to time as occasion demands.

The "Cistafile" and other Things.

Messrs. Lawn and Barlow, of "Cistafile" fame, are desirous that philatelists should remember that they sell not only "Cistafiles" but also the stamps to put in them. Accordingly they have issued a very attractive 96-page booklet listing a selection of packets and collections, and also giving prices for all accessories. They create a good cover effect by announcing in big bold type that they are open to purchase a certain pair of stamps issued by an island known as Mauritius in the year 1847 for the sum of £2000.

The "A. B. C. of Stamp Collecting."

We have been favoured with an early copy of the handy little book for philatelic beginners contributed by Mr. Fred. J. Melville to the series of "A. B. C." Handbooks, published by Mr. Henry J. Drane, of Salisbury Square. Within the covers of this pocket-size of 160 pages, Mr. Melville has crammed a great quantity of interesting and entertaining philatelic lore, all of which may be read and enjoyed by the philatelic tyro. We shall hope to give a more extended notice of Mr. Melville's book in the *Fortnightly's* Christmas Number, ready a fortnight hence.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 21, 1903.

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.

One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six months (12 numbers)	...	1	6

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.



On "The Rudeness of Stamp Dealers," to quote the sarcastic headline given to a recent short article in the *Fortnightly*, we have received a short but interesting letter from a reader in North London. "Please say a few words in favour of the small dealer in defending his brother traders," he writes, "Collectors think that smaller dealers are so hard up that they must sell at any price they can get in order to keep a shilling or two in their pockets. A city dealer recently had a 5s. St. Helena unused in his window marked at 4s. While I was in the shop a gentleman came in and offered 3s. for it. I think this speaks for itself."

The White List of Philatelists is hereby abandoned. It is useless to blink facts. A thing which appeals to less than thirty of our readers is obviously not wanted. Our only course, therefore, is to abandon our sincere but unappreciated attempt to benefit philatelists and to conserve their interests. The small amounts sent in as fees by the applicants for membership will be refunded without reduction.

Our Christmas Number, to be published a fortnight hence—namely, on Saturday, December 5th, will, without exaggeration, be the biggest and brightest Christmas Number ever attempted by a penny popular journal devoted to philately. We have had promises and half promises of many interesting contributions, but we still have room in the number for anything calculated to interest the general philatelist, whether it be of a scientific or of a lighter character. Those who have it in their minds to write us are requested to "stand not upon the order of their writing, but write at once," for the "Christmas Fortnightly" is going to be a "whopper" and must be sent to press much earlier than usual.

Concerning Exchange Clubs we have an interesting note from a reader using the pen-name, "Alterium Alterius." "What," he asks, "do you suppose would be the result if all the "Exchange Clubs" were to adopt a new rule of not circulating the sheets of members who do *not* wish to "see the Packet." In other words, keep the Packets for those who buy as well as sell—make them in fact as in name, "Exchange Clubs." I have before me now an Exchange Packet with 30 sheets, 15 of which are from members who do not wish to see Packet and that too out of a postal list of 38 members?" We fear the only possible reply to our correspondent is that you may lead a philatelist to an Exchange Packet, but you cannot necessarily make him buy. However, some means ought possibly to be devised whereby the member who only sells and never buys might in some way be penalised. What do the Exchange Secretaries think?

Saved by a Queen's Head Stamp.

A few years ago I made a short tour through Italy. During one of my perambulations in the outskirts of the City of Firenze (Florence) I came to a very large place, partly walled in. Says I, what place can this be? On looking around, I observed a small iron gate fastened, but unlocked. I opened it and went in, and found myself in a large open space looking very bare except for a few beds of flowers and shrubs here and there at the sides, which formed something like a square. In the distance I saw a huge military-looking building, and began to wend my steps towards it. I had not gone very far when I beheld a uniformed sentry with musket slung across his shoulders, coming towards me, and shouting for all he was worth. I immediately realised I was on forbidden ground, and began to retrace my steps. The sentry followed me very quickly and beckoned me to come back.

"Not if I know it," says I, "I shall go out the way I came in."

However, he soon overtook me, jabbering and gesticulating, and motioned me to follow him. I scarcely understood a word he uttered, or he a word I said. However, I caught the words: "Iomo Re, Capitano, detenzione," which I translated in my mind: "Oh! in the King's name he is going to detain me and bring me before his captain."

"Will you?" I said, "You dare! I am no spy. I simply strolled in here by mere accident. I am an English tourist; do you understand that?" So saying, I took out of my pocket book a penny Queen's Head English stamp, put it between my lips, removed my hat and stuck it on my bare forehead. "Now" says I, "You son of an organ-grinder, take it out of that!" Well, it acted on the man like magic. He kept his eyes fixed on the Queen's Head made obeisance to it, became very calm in his demeanour, and remarked something about "Esito" by which I at once comprehended that he would show me the proper way out which he did by a very handsome entrance gate. I slipped a couple of lira into his hand and bid him "Buono giorno." He replied with thanks and "Buono giorno signore."

I think there is a small moral to be drawn from this little episode "Never enter anywhere by back ways."

W. T. MARK.

A Word in the Ear = = = = = = of the Advertiser.

ON December 5th will be published a PHILATELIC CHRISTMAS NUMBER, bigger, brighter and better than any previous attempt in this direction. The Number will be enclosed in a beautiful Coloured Cover, and to partly cover the cost of printing and postage in consequence of a much increased circulation, the following rates will be charged for Advertisement space:—

ONE PAGE ... £5 0 0	QUARTER-PAGE £1 10 0
HALF-PAGE... 2 15 0	EIGHTH-PAGE... 18 0

Copy and instructions should reach the Manager, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 63 and 64, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON, W.C., not later than **Monday, November 30th.**

Morocco Agencies.

THE LOCAL OVERPRINT.

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE.

Owing to the insecure and chaotic state of the postal arrangements in the Empire of Morocco, British post offices are maintained in the following towns: Casa Blanca, Fez, Larache, Mayagau, Mogador, Nabat, Safti, Tangier and Tetuan. For many years the ordinary stamps of Gibraltar were used in these offices, but to simplify the keeping of accounts, it was eventually decided that the stamps should be marked in some way. Therefore, in 1898, the current stamps of Gibraltar in the Spanish currency—centimos and pesetas—were overprinted "Morocco Agencies" in two lines in black ink. The values so treated were:

- 5 centimos green.
- 10 centimos carmine.
- 20 centimos olive-green and brown.
- 25 centimos ultramarine.
- 40 centimos orange-brown.
- 50 centimos violet.
- 1 peseta bistre and blue.
- 2 pesetas black and carmine.

These stamps are in sheets of 120, arranged in two panes of 60 (10 rows of 6), placed side by side. The plate number 2 appears four times in the margin, and it should be noted that the body of the stamp in all values was printed from this plate, the values being inserted later. Thus, it often happens that in the 5, 10, 25, 40, and 50c. stamps the value is quite different in shade from the main portion, being sometimes lighter and sometimes much darker. Frequently, too, the letters in the value are very heavily printed, and appear abnormally thick.

The surcharging was done at the printing-office of the "Gibraltar Chronicle," the two panes being overprinted at one operation. There were at least two settings of the type, and probably several printings. In the first setting there are two varieties:

- (a) An inverted "V" for A.
- (b) A long tail to the letter "s."

Of these (a) occurs on the last stamp in the sixth row, and (b) on the second stamp in the eighth row of the right hand pane. All eight values are known with the errors. The printings from this setting seem to have been fairly well done, for the letters are uniform in thickness. Judging by the weak outlines, though, it would appear that the type used was old and somewhat worn. Very few of the 50c. were overprinted with the other values. Later, a quantity of sheets of this denomination and a few of the 40c. were surcharged, and an examination of these showed that ink containing a decided bluish tinge had been employed. This blue print can easily be distinguished by holding the stamps in front of a strong light. Evidently, an error was made in mixing the ink, but while the 40c. is scarce with the blue surcharge, the 50c. is considerably rarer with the black one. The two errors (a) and (b) named above, may be found in this blue printing. It is reported that the 1 peseta may also be found with this overprint, but I have never seen a copy.

In the second setting, these errors were corrected, and three new ones appeared. These are:

- (c) Battered "M" in Morocco.
- (d) The "g" in Agencies is without serif.
- (e) The letters "en" are joined together.

These occur on the first stamp in the top row and second in the sixth row of the left hand pane, and fifth in the fourth row of the right hand pane respectively. All values, with the exception of the 50c., show these varieties. It is stated that electrotypes were taken from the ordinary type, and the overprinting done from these. Judging from the very poor manner in which the surcharging was done, this ap-

pears very probable. The letters are all thick and more or less blotchy. The inking, too, must have been carelessly done, for on some sheets parts of the words failed to print at all.

I have a specimen of the 40c. with blue overprint, showing variety (d). This would seem to point to the fact that there were two printings of the blue surcharge—one from each setting.

In addition to the above, I have the following varieties:

- (f) The "n" slopes slightly to the left.
- (g) Straight serif to "g."

The first of these I have in the 5c. and 40c. values, and it may exist in the others. Variety (g) I have only found in the 20c. As these are permanent varieties it seems that there was at least one other setting, but unfortunately I haven't them in large enough blocks to note their positions on the sheet. I also remember having had a side pair of the 2 pesetas, showing variety (d), which is another point in favour of the probability of there having been another setting, or, at any rate, another printing, in which more of the letters were damaged. I have a copy of the 10c., with most of the "g" cut away and a 1 peseta with a dot below the "e" in Agencies, but these are possibly varieties due to defective printing.

The local printing proved so unsatisfactory that towards the end of 1899 it was decided that all future supplies should be surcharged by Messrs. De la Rue, of London.

A German Stamp Prosecution.

SEVERAL ARRESTS.

ALLEGED ILLICIT DEALINGS IN THE NEW GERMAN OFFICIAL STAMPS.

Germany is to have its Official Stamp Prosecution next. News comes to hand at the time of our going to press with this issue of the *Fortnightly* to the effect that several persons, including a number of well-known stamp dealers, have been arrested by the German police in connection with certain alleged illicit dealings in the new German Official Stamps. So far we are without detailed information as to the names, etc., of those involved in what promises to be a prosecution quite as sensational as that which so long engaged the attention of our criminal courts.

POLICE ENQUIRIES IN ENGLAND.

The German Official stamps have been openly advertised and sold by dealers in this country, and to these dealers police enquiries have been addressed, asking them whence they obtained their supplies. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., of Ipswich, have been visited by police officers, and write us as follows on the subject:

"We are told that already six stamp dealers have been arrested in Germany. The police have already been here, wanting to know from whom we bought some unused German Official stamps (present issue) which we have been advertising in sets. We have not given them the desired information yet, and shall not do so unless pressure is put upon us, as they came from a very respectable Berlin dealer, and no proof has been given us that the stamps have been stolen."

FORBIDDEN STAMPS, BRITISH AND GERMAN.

It seems to us that these English and German Official stamp prosecutions are absolutely analogous. To the best of our knowledge no definite warning has ever been issued forbidding dealings in the new German "Officials." Doubtless a keen fight will ensue between accusers and accused, and the case is one that will be closely watched by stampites all over the world.

In the next *Fortnightly*, which will be the Grand Christmas Number, we shall be able to amplify the sensational news here given in brief.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

Secretaries are requested to assist the Editor by sending in their reports not later than the Monday preceding publication.

THE FISCAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Meeting held November 5th, 1903—Present: Mr. W. Schwabacher (Chairman), Messrs. Fulsher, Marsh, Morley, South, Thompson, Thomson and Kay.

M. A. Schoeller (France) was duly elected a member.

Among the novelties shown were a 7/6 Basutoland and the handsome newly-issued fiscals of Orange River Colony, by O. Marsh.—A £5 Bechuanaland Protectorate, and £5 violet surcharge Zululand, by A. B. Kay—and photographs of provisional 2s. on 18r. Foreign Bill, and 2s. on 40r. Special Papers, India, by W. Corfield.

The fiscals of Peru were again taken, and the remaining issues (Tabauo) will be catalogued at the next meeting to be held on Thursday, December 3rd, at 65, Bishopsgate Street, Without, London, E.C. The Marine Policy stamps of Great Britain will also be listed.

Sheets for the Home and Continental Exchange Sections should be forwarded to the Secretary by the 25th of each month.

The Second Annual Report has now been issued and copies, giving full particulars respecting the objects and work of the Society can be had from Hon. Sec., A. B. Kay, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London, W.

THE JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A meeting was held on Saturday, November 7th, in the Wheatsheaf Institute, South Lambeth Road, Mr. F. J. Melville in the chair.

A large number of lots were offered for auction and a good proportion of them were sold, bidding being especially brisk for blocks of Old British.

After the auction Mr. C. J. Patman gave a short paper on "Is Philately on the Wane?" Mr. Patman was of the opinion that stamp collecting on the old lines of making a general collection of all sorts was on the wane but genuine Philately had never seen brighter days. He gave the opinion of a number of dealers to whom he had spoken

on the subject and they all agreed that the demand for stamps was greater now than it had ever been. After the paper, a lively discussion took place. All the members who spoke were strong on the point that stamp-collecting in the old style was not on the wane. Mr. Patman put a motion, "That this meeting is of the opinion that stamp-collecting in the old style is on the wane or has already waned." This motion was however, defeated by a large majority.

Mr. Heginbottom's collection of the stamps of Cyprus was next shown. The collection was accompanied by notes on the Colony and its stamps.

Notes of thanks were passed to Mr. Patman for his paper and to Mr. Heginbottom for his display.

There will be a meeting to-night (Saturday, November 21st), in the Wheatsheaf Hall, South Lambeth Road, when Mr. F. J. Melville will give his lecture on "The Romance of Postage Stamps" illustrated by lantern slides. The Committee would like to see a large number of visitors.

Hon. Secretary, H. F. Johnson, 9, Lorne Terrace, South Lambeth Road, S.W.

BRISTOL & CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

On Thursday, November 12th, the Society held a meeting at 202, Rodland Road, which was well attended. Mr. P. J. Lloyd in the chair.

Several important matters were discussed.

Mr. Dalton showed his very interesting collection of Australian stamps, which were much admired.

The next meeting to be held at 6, Priory Road, on December 3rd.

Henry Alsop, Hon. Secretary, Archfield, Archfield Road, Colham Park, Bristol.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

October 20th. Display, New South Wales and Mauritius. Mr. W. B. Avery.

The following were unanimously elected members:—Lieut.-Col. G. Chichester, Messrs. C. Nissen, Eugene Egly, I. J. Bernstein, and Leon de Raaij.

Messrs. T. Peck, F. C. Henderson and A. H. Stamford were thanked for donations to the Permanent Collection and during the evening Mr. W. A. Callaghan presented a valuable collection of the stamps of Great Britain, and received a special vote of thanks for the same.

Mr. W. B. Avery then gave a display of his superb collections of New South Wales and Mauritius. In New South Wales, reconstructed sheets were shown of every type and shade of Sydney View and Laureate, besides a marvellous accumulation of other rarities. In Mauritius the unused 1d. and 2d. "Post Office" and the other early issues, some in reconstructed sheets, excited the admiration of the large and appreciative meeting.

October 29th, paper, "Portugal and Colonies," Mr. G. Johnson, Messrs. W. Armistead, Wiseman, Clarke, E. Doods, O. Crane and Miss F. E. Smith were unanimously elected members.

Notes of thanks were ordered to be entered on the minutes to the following donors to the Society's permanent collection:—Messrs. G. W. Martin (valuable lot of Colonials and Foreign), W. B. Avery (mint pair of Great Britain, 1d. black V.R.), C. McNaughton, (early Barbados, etc.), P. Fabri, H. le Cronier, J. Winch, C. A. Stephenson, R. Hollick, A. A. Green.

Messrs. W. Morley, O. K. Trechmann and Rev. G. H. Raynor were thanked for contributions to the Library.

Mr. G. Johnson then read his paper on the stamps of Portugal and Colonies. Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A. Official Address: 205, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

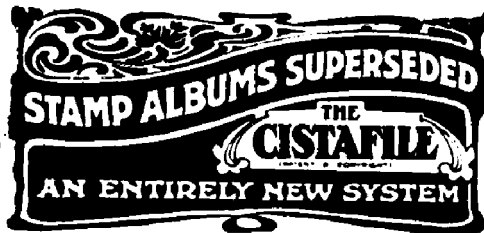
The monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, November 10th. In the absence of the president, Mr. F. Gerhartz, the chair was taken by Mr. Skipwith, of Leeds. After the formal business had been disposed of, Mr. W. M. Gray gave a short descriptive address on the English fiscal postals and officials, following on with a display of the stamps of Gambia, the latter being displayed complete. Many values were shown in blocks and panes, the members declaring the embossed series to be the most beautiful stamps produced by any of our colonies. An enjoyable evening was spent, and at the close Mr. Gray was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The first meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday, November 4th, at the new quarters in the Traders' Hall, Bedford Street, Plymouth, the president, Mr. R. P. Stevens, in the chair. Five new members were elected, and the programme for the session was discussed. The subject for discussion at the ensuing meeting (November 18th) was announced as "The halfpenny and penny issues of New Zealand of 1900-1902."

Major Hailes, R.M.L.I., is the Hon. Secretary of the Society, and to him all applications for membership, etc., should be addressed.

(Continued on page lxxxi)



FOR HOLDING STAMP COLLECTIONS.

The Cistafile is small enough for 10 stamps and large enough for 150,000 stamps.

There are no blank spaces, no loose leaves, no damaged stamps, no friction, in fact no disadvantages whatever.

THE CISTAFILE IS NOT A BOOK.

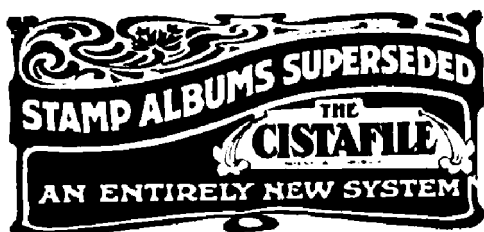
Once mounted on the Cistafile by turn the stamp need never again be touched, while any new order, at no extra cost, can be made in a few minutes, without touching a single specimen.

In two weeks over 1500 Cistafiles have been adopted by collectors in preference to albums.

The Cistafile is acknowledged by hundreds of philatelists to be THE SYSTEM for stamps.

For full particulars and prices see illustrated catalogue, gratis and post free on application to

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Mr. J. N. MARSDEN, of LISBON.

THIS FINE LOT CONTAINS

MANY OF THE FIRST-CLASS RARITIES,

AND IS ALSO PARTICULARLY RICH IN VARIETIES, ERRORS, Etc.,

Many of which are seldom to be found except in Collections of this age and magnitude.

The Collection of COLONIAL STAMPS made by the late Rev. W. BELL, of Cork. This Collection contains a very large number of Old Issues in mint state, the condition in general being very fine.

SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL. LISTS OF WANTS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.

**W. H. PECKITT, Dealer in Rare Stamps,
47, STRAND, W.C.**

TELEPHONE :
3204
GERRARD.

A Fine Selection of Stamps always on View, ranging
from New Issues to the greatest Rarities.

TELEGRAMS & CABLES
"PECKITT. LONDON"

1904 CATALOGUE

(Part I) **Great Britain and Colonies** for 1904 will be ready about Nov. 30th. price 2/- post free 2/3.

(Part II) **Foreign Countries**, is in the press and will be ready in January, 1904, prepaid orders can now be booked, price 2/-, post free 2/3.

RECENT PURCHASES comprise

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..	6d. light buff, very fine, pair	2	0
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We also have:—the £1-orbs and Crown I.R. Official; 10d. O.W. Queen's; a fine mint block of 8 1d. red. Plate number 225; 2/6 and 5/- on blue paper mint; ½d. red, plate 9 mint. Prices on application.

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Any really rare varieties in English **WANTED, used or unused.**
ALSO MINT SHEETS, BLOCKS, etc. And anything fine in British Colonials.

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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.

Abyssinia.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us a full set of Abyssinian stamps from 1 to 16 guerche, with the new surcharge, which, we are now given to understand, indicates "Ethiopia."

Corea.—Two of the stamps of the large obsolete issue have been used for the creation of surcharged provisionals: the 25 poon stamp doing double duty by being overprinted both for 1 cheun and for 2 cheun. The surcharge is roughly applied in black in native characters. Messrs. Whitfield, King and Co. send us specimens.

Provisionals: 1 cheun on 25 poon.
2 cheun on 25 poon.
3 cheun on 50 poon.

Costa Rica.—From the same indefatigable correspondents we have three new portrait stamps of Costa Rica and also a set of eight "Multas," or unpaid letter stamps.

Portrait Series: 4c. purple and black (J. Canas).
6c. sage and black (J. Volio).
25c. pale blue and brown (E. Figueroa).

Unpaid Letter stamps: 5c. green and black.
10c. brown and black.
15c. green and black.
20c. red and black.
25c. blue and black.
30c. brown and black.
40c. olive and black.
50c. lake and black.

The design of the unpaid letter series is the same for all the issue, the only variation being in the numeral of value, which is printed in black in the centre of these very commonplace looking labels.

Crete (French).—"You know," write Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., "that there have been two issues of stamps for use at the French Post Offices in Crete. The higher values were at first issued without surcharge, in error, as at all the other offices in Crete the postage on letters to be sent abroad was one piastre (or 21 Cretan lepta) per half ounce, or whatever the unit of weight may be. The surcharged stamps were then issued, and the unsurcharged ones went up to a fancy price, when the speculators who had bought them up were not a little disgusted to find that after a time the surcharged stamps were withdrawn and the unsurcharged again put into use.

"Of course it was at once said this was done to exploit the collector, but it was nothing of the kind, as we shall show.

"We have corresponded more than twenty years with a Greek gentleman who was many years ago at the head of the Greek Post Office, but who retired from official life and joined a banking firm. When the independence of Crete was established, Prince George prevailed on this gentleman to go with him to Crete and organise the postal service. As this is now in satisfactory operation, he left Crete two months ago and rejoined his bank, and we have recently received an interesting letter from him, in which he says that before he left Crete he achieved an object for which he had been striving for two years—viz., the abolition of all stamps in the island bearing a surcharge which reduced its value to Turkish currency or its equivalent, the actual circulation of Turkish money itself having ceased three years ago, and the feeling of patriotic Cretans being wounded by using stamps with values expressed in piastres, notwithstanding that this made them cheaper. Accordingly on October 1st all stamps used in Cretan, Austrian, French and Italian post-offices and surcharged with values in Turkish money were withdrawn from use, and henceforth at every post office in Crete the stamps will be sold only for the value expressed on them in centimes or Cretan lepta, which is exactly the same thing, a Cretan drachma being of precisely the same value as a franc.

"We might add that the Cretan stamps overprinted with the word "PROSORINON" were sold at the rate of 21c. for a 25c. stamp, or at the rate of 84c. per drachma, solely in order to compete with the foreign post offices who sold their stamps for piastres. These surcharged stamps are now obsolete, and by the change which took place on October 1st the Cretan post-office will add 7000 francs per annum to its profits.

"At the Austrian post-offices in Crete, the stamps in use before October 1st were the current Austrian Levant, except the two low values, which were specially over-printed 5 and 10 centimes; of course when these came out the wisacres all cried out "speculative" and "unnecessary" but they were neither one nor the other. Stamps in Crete below the value of one piastre were not sold for "paras" but for the full price in lepta or centimes, and if no special stamps had been issued for the Austrian post office they would have had to use ordinary Austrian stamps, with values in heller. Now an Austrian krone is worth about 6 per cent more than a Cretan drachma, so that it would soon have been perceived that good business could be done at the expense of the Austrian post by buying up the 5 and 10 heller stamps in Crete and sending them to Vienna—hence the surcharge in centimes. There will now be in all probability a full set issued, all in centimes and francs."

Tunis.—Two high values of the Tunis Unpaid letter stamps are sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. The specimens are described as used, and they certainly bear post-marks. The Tunisian postal authorities, however, should buy a penny sponge and wipe the gum off the back. Such happenings as this are certainly a very strong argument in favour of the further pruning of the philatelic tree by the abandonment of Unpaid Letter stamps, officials, etc.

"Chiffre Taxe": 2 francs red on green.
5 francs black on pale yellow.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

(Continued from Page lxxviii)

IRISH PHILATELIC CLUB.

The opening meeting of the session was held on October 30th, at the X.L. Cafe, Grafton Street, Dublin. There was a large attendance of members. The report of the Hon. Secretary (Mr. P. C. Scarr) showed the club to be in a flourishing condition. The support given to the monthly packet was most gratifying, over 12½ per cent. of the value of the sheets circulated being sold. The membership showed a slight increase. The Hon. Treasurer (Mrs. Betham) submitted the accounts, showing a satisfactory credit balance. The following officers were elected:—President, Mr. Lane Joynt. Committee, Miss Lyster, Mrs. Armstrong Todd, Captain Crookshank, Mr. J. A. Montyn, Mr. P. W. Meredith, Mr. Stodart, Mr. Peebles. Hon. Secretary, Mr. P. C. Scarr. Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Alfred Betham. The meetings will be held every Friday at 4 o'clock during the season.

ENTERPRISE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The ninth Ordinary Meeting was held on Friday, 23rd October, at the usual address in Finsbury Square. In the absence of the President, Mr. Klaber called the Meeting to order at 6.15 p.m. On the recommendation of the Committee, the words "from October to May inclusive" were inserted after Rule II, thus reducing the number of meetings per annum to eight. Members are requested to note that meetings are now held during the third week of each month, instead of the last week, and those who have not yet remitted their subscription are invited to do so.

There are still several vacancies for smaller collectors with good references, and full particulars may be obtained post free from the Hon. Secretary, A. H. Harris, "The Library," Buckhurst Hill.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY,

The opening meeting of the session was held on Thursday, Oct. 22, in the Society's rooms, Wharfedale Hotel; in the absence of the President, Mr. J. H. Chapman occupied the chair. The report and balance sheet for the past session were read and adopted; they showed the Society to be still in a flourishing condition, both as regards membership and finances. The following members were elected as officers for the coming session:—Mr. J. S. Nowill, President; Mr. E. Crowther, Vice-president; Mr. P. Bathe, Secretary; Mr. G. H. Hunt, Treasurer; Mr. J. F. Peace, Librarian; Mr. R. Sneath, Exchange Secretary; Messrs. J. H. Chapman, A. T. Nixon and G. H. Whittaker, Committee. An interesting programme was drawn up, including various exhibitions of stamps, essays, and discussions on matters pertaining to philately.

OFFERS: GREAT BRITAIN (USED) OFFICIAL

All Fine Specimens. Cash with Order.

Table listing various stamps and their prices, including 'BOARD OF EDUCATION' and 'OFFICE OF WORKS, 1902'.

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The GREAT packet contains 130 different stamps, including BRITISH BECHUANALAND, Spain, Italy, French Empire, etc.

Table with columns 'CHEAP SETS.' and 'RARE STAMPS.' listing various countries like Sweden, Roumania, Norway, Italy, etc.

Price List. 74 pages full of illustrations containing particulars of thousands of packets, sets and single stamps, post free.

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Rate: 3 Words a Penny.

6 insertions for the price of 5. 12 insertions for the price of 9. 26 ins. (whole year) for price of 18.

FISCALS. Those wishing to sell, purchase, or exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London.

GREATEST Rarities, rare and medium British Colonials, unused or used, priced under half Gibbons. Send approval against serious references.

ANY single stamp at wholesale price. Selections, priced low; sent on approval. Discount and handsome present to purchasers.

BRITISH EMPIRE EXCHANGE. Two packets monthly. References. Prompt settlements monthly.

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STAMPS EXCHANGE SOCIETY. Established 1886. Packets, 1-02, £9396. sales, £858.

MALTA, error PENNEY, 2., British want lists solicited enclose stamped envelope, Rev. VOKES, Ryde.

BREAKING UP fine collection mint Scandinavian and Finnish stamps. Approval selections to responsible collectors against good references.

20 AUSTRALIANS TO APPLICANTS for approvals enclosing 10. Cheapest lists, wholesale, retail.

SHEETS of stamps sent on approval; exchange entertained. THE CURATE, Ighiteam, Sevenoaks.

CAESAREA STAMP EXCHANGE: six vacancies, annual subscription 1., no commission. For rules apply to Secretary, RALPH MOLLET, 16, Royal Crescent, Jersey.

POST-MARK SOCIETY; new season commenced in September. Subscription 2. New members invited. Secretary, THOMAS WHITWORTH, Waterloo, Liverpool.

ADVERTISER offers a large number of British Colonial Stamps, each country in separate books. Specimens priced singly below half Gibbons.

200 Stamps all different including British South Africa, British Levant, Barbados, Bona, Natal, Newfourland, New Zealand, O. F. State, Jamaica, Tasmania, Queensland, Egypt, etc.

UNUSED STAMP EXCHANGE. For unused stamps exclusively. Rules, particulars on application. Secretary, H. BEAN, 164 Loughborough Park, London.

WANTED early Transvals for cash or in exchange for other Colonials. High prices paid for red and inverted surcharges, wide spacing errors and curios.

GAMBIA, all unused, Queen's Head, 2d, 3d, 2 1/2d, 4d, 4d, 6d, 8d, 9d, 1s., 1s. 6d. Malta, 1889, 1 - blue, unused, 1s. Violet 1s. Error PENNEY unused 2 - Natal 1 - orange and red No. 109; unused 3 - Niger Coast, 1894, 1d, unused, 6d., 3d unused, 9d.; 2 1/2d unused 1 1/2; 5d unused, 7d., Seychelles, all unused 3/6c. on 75c. 8d.; 30c on 1r 6d.; 4s. on 1r 1s. Box 170, c/o Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

MOROCCO AGENCIES, first issue. Local overprint 5, 10, 20, 25, 40 and 50 centimos, 1 and 2 pesetas, mint set 5s. 9d. HOLLICK, Boldmere Road, Erdington, Birmingham.

ENGLISH used and unused for sale, moderate prices. fine copies, Box 200 Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly 63 4 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

STAMP COLLECTORS' FOR NIGHTLY Volumes, 1 to 8, 2 1/2 each, post free. Others equally cheap. State wants. R. H. APPLEBY, 3, Co-operative Terrace, Sunderland.

1000 British Colonials, etc., 1.; 10N. Borneo British Protectorate, 1c to 2fc., 1 1/2 set. New Wholesale Price List, post free. WILLIAM STAMP COMPANY, 120 Leadenhall St., London.

OBSELETE Colonials, sale or exchange. Foreign correspondence desired. A FRANCOIS, 12, City Chambers, Birmingham. No cards or callers.

90 DIFFERENT, including Peru, Malta, Guiana, etc. 7d. H Edmenson, 29, Cardozo Road, Holloway, London.

BRITISH COLONIALS, at Bargain prices. Bahamas Penny, 1882, C.A. 14. 5.; Bechuanaaland 1s. S.G. 9, 12 6.; Antigua 6d. C.C. 11, 2 6.; British Central Africa, 6d. 1897, 1 3.; all fine used copies. Large variety equally cheap. Approval, against deposit or references. A. G. HARRISON, 1 Crawford St., London W.

80 Colonials, all different, wonderful value; 1 1/2 post free. G. HARRISON, 1, Crawford Street, London, W.

WHOLESALE exchange wanted. We offer stamps of U.S.A., South and Central America in exchange for Eastern Countries—large lots and cheap sets desired. Send for wholesale list. 6 Pan-Americans—only 6d. TOLEDO STAMP Co., Toledo, Ohio, U.S.A.

SCOTTISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY. Vacancies for few members owing to resignations. Nett Exchange Branch. Prospectus free from T. A. McINTYRE, Secretary, 13 Nile Grove, Edinburgh.

FIVE Army, Five I.R., Five Govt Parcels, all different, lot 1s. Eight Hayti 6d. BICKERS' Richmond Terrace, Cork.

MIXTURES, MIXTURES! 1,000 stamps to sell 1d. to 1d., used and unused, good 7s. 6d.; sample 500 1s. 31. British Colonials, about 120 different, superb, sample 500 for 7s. 6d. - WILLIAM LEWTHWAITE, Printer, Egremont, Cumberland.

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I am prepared to take up sole agency for Great Britain for any dealer abroad. C. R. FOX, 3 St. Cathberts Street, Bedford, England.

ENTURES—Great Bargain—120 different used and unused Colonial and Foreign Postcards, Envelopes, Wrappers. Price 5s., Scott, 151 Buccleuch Street, Glasgow.

100 DIFFERENT including unused Sudan (Camel), Labuan, Bolivar, Venezuela, Turkey, Philippine, Costa Rica, Porto Rico, used Lourengo Marques, Mozambique, King's India, Gwalior, Dutch Indies, Surath, Mexico, Peru, Travancore, etc., 100 stamps on 10s. post free 3d. R. HUDSON, 3, Eileen Road, Selhursts. Stamps to light send on approval.

RARITY.—1 pane Orange River Colony, level dots with 1 stamp dotless V, and 1 stamp V.R. only, 27, cash with order, Geo. Carter, The Links, Brockenhurst, Han ts.

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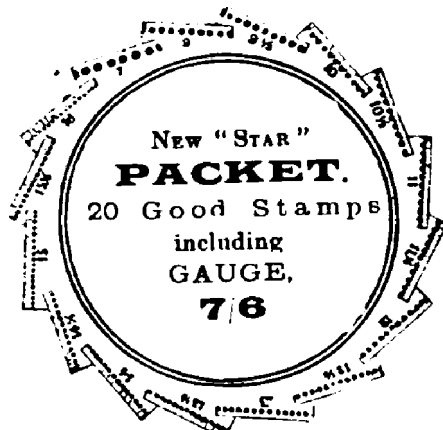
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Large variety of Colonials on view at half Catalogue price.

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Selections of Colonials sent on approval.

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A immense stock of rare and medium stamps to be cleared out at extremely low prices.

Dealers and Members of Clubs will find this an exceptional chance, as really large buyers will be liberally treated.

Satisfactory references required.

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SEYCHELLES, Stamps wanted used or unused: singles, pair-, or blocks, for prompt cash, all varieties; send on approval to W. F. WADAMS (Member Birmingham Philatelic Society.) 36 Broughton Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

GIVEN AWAY set of 5 Japanese to all applicants for my catalogue post free. Special packet, 3s. different British Colonials including King's Head, price 3d. H. SCOTT, 122 Earl Street, Edgware Road, London.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

Rate: 3 Words a Penny

BATH & WEST OF ENGLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.—Members wanted to join this newly formed Society. Rules, etc., from Secretary, CHARLES J. PREEZER, 13 George St., Bath.

HAMPSHIRE STAMP EXCHANGE. Few good collectors wanted. No subscription. Secretary, S. H. TOOTE, Arthur Rd. N., Southampton.

MINTCRES, Greece, 1901, 81, 100; Chili, 9d, 100; South and Central America, 1-10; Australasia, 1d, 100; Sheet 10 different Japanese, 6d; 30 doz sheets; Packet 50 different British Colonies, 8d; 4 doz. pkts.; 100 different 2s.; 15 doz. pkts.; Continentals 10,000 1/2; Catalogues free. MONTGOMERY & Co., Highdown Rd., Brighton.

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WANTED, Old English stamps, state lowest. P. DUNNE, 8 Mentone Place, Leeds.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE. The Editor of the Fortnightly desires to add to his collection of philatelic works (English language only). Lists with lowest cash prices invited. Address: P. C. R., Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly Office, 63 and 64 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

FRANSAAL, 3d, and 1d., surcharged E.R.L., very rare, Gt. Britain, 4d, rose, issued 1870, plate No. 2, all mint unused, price 1/0 the entire lot, postage extra. Fransvaal, King 2 - obsolete, first issue, mint unused, each 1s. Henry E. ENGLISH, 8, St. Marks Street, Peterborough.

GREAT BRITAIN, 1863, 3d, surcharged 6d, each, 6d, ditto 9d, each, 10d penny, 10d, 100 different plates at one third off Gibbons. Wanted Penny black 10 dozen or hundreds. Mr. EARL, Newcastle, Staff.

PRIVATE Collector is selling English Foreign Colonial used and unused Envelopes, Post cards, etc. via list to twentieth catalogue (Bright). Please correspond letter only. PARKY, 35 Parade, Pen-y-ar-odd, Glamorgan.

STAMP COLLECTORS' MAGAZINE, 1863-1871, 12 volumes. Philatelist 1860-7-1876, 10 volumes. Philatelic Journal (coloured illustrations) 1872, one volume. Philatelic Record 1879-1894, 14 volumes all practically new and bound in original covers, for a/c. Apply, stating prices offered, to SCOTT, 62 Richmond Road, Cardiff.

SUPERB Collection 16,000 stamps of which over 5,000 are English and Colonial. £250 or offer, see by appointment. Ten teny Wells, 63, London Road, Croydon.

FINLAND, 1891, 1-35 Kopeck, mint 1s., used 3s., 50 kopeck and 1 rouble, mint 1s., used 4s. 3d. and 7 roubles, mint 5s. Postage 5d. extra. WITBY, No. 1, Novotcherkasskaya, St. Peter sburg (Member Dresden Philatelic Society).

CAUFAN HEIDE, S.N.D. P.O. Box 479, London, William Stamp Company, London, etc., etc. For only 1s in unused stamp or by money order, I send post free 60 all different postage stamps of Holland, Dutch Indies, Surinam and Suriname. Every buyer receives my new price list, 144 pages, thousands of bargains.

BLACKS, Penny black, British, 1810, 5d. each, any selected lettering for plating sevenpence an eightpence each, black postmark ninepence, on originals from eightpence. Best selling stamp. Box 147 Envelopes. FRED BOONE, Newmarket.

SEYCHELLES, 1s on 4s., black of four, 3s, 6d., 5 varieties, narrow E 2s. 6d., short T 2s. 6d., short S 2s. 6d. 18 Cent 7s. 6d. all used. 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13 and 15 cents. Queen's Head, mint 2s. 6d. per set. HOLLIC, Boldmere Road, Erdington, Birmingham

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.. C.A. 1d brown	5 0
Niger Coast, 2d. green	7 6
Virgin Island, 4d. on 1-	25 0
Prince Edward Island, pair 2d. imperf.	3 0
.. pair 3d. imperf.	4 0
.. pair 4d. imperf.	4 0
Jambia, embossed, 4d to 1-	5 0
Hong Kong, 7 cts. on 10 cts.	1 3
.. 14 cts. on 30 cts.	1 8
Grenada, Half Penny on 2-	2 0
B. C. Africa, 1s black on green	30 0
B. C. Africa, 1s 4d., 4d., 6d., 1-	9 0
.. 1897, 3s. sea-green	25 0
Tranavaal, 1878, V.R., 1d. red on orange, fine roulette, (S.G. No. 18.)	18 0
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A Pessimist on Philately.

A "CONVERTED COLLECTOR'S" CONTRIBUTION TO AN IRISH NEWSPAPER.

"T.B.," who styles himself "a converted collector," contributes the following pessimistic screed to the "Irish Packet" of November 7th:—

Of all the collecting manias which man is prone to in these modern times one of the most persistent and senseless is the accumulation of old postage stamps. It has been said that no man is human who does not collect something, but if we must do so, with the help of Jove, let us avoid the malignant attraction of stamps. Collect old horse shoes if you will, the cigarette ends of celebrities, but, if you leave your pocket and your peace of mind, shun stamp collecting as you would the plague.

To begin with, the man who indulges in the "science of philately" rarely does anything else. He is like Mrs. Jellaby and Africa, and lives for stamps. His family and friends have stamps, stamps, stamps, for breakfast, dinner and tea, until they fly at the very mention of an old envelope. His only conversation is an unintelligible jargon of reprints, watermarks, surcharges and perforations. His friends drop off, his business goes, his money runs away, but leaves him his album and his stamps, and nothing short of the Day of Judgment could turn him from his folly.

His greatest pleasure is to find a non-collector who will listen to him. Him will he pester with wondrous persistence. To him he will plead the knowledge of geography, the enticing daintiness, and the astounding value of stamps, using every cranky argument so dear to the heart of the stamphunter, until at last it sometimes happens that the unwary one gives in to his blandishments and joins him in his folly.

To me, who have been, as it were, "snatched like a brand from the burning" such a pursuit now appears the summit of consummate folly. To devote time, mind and money to the accumulation of dirty bits of tissue paper seems but a fit occupation for a harmless lunatic. To think that men in the possession of their seven senses should enjoy it—aye, and even devote their lives to it, would be to offer them a grievous insult. But to our astonishment the undisputed fact remains—they do.

The very reasons so often advanced by stamp collectors appear but an additional deterrent to the craze. A child in "first book" knows as much about geography as is possible to learn from stamps, unless it is counted geographical knowledge to know that the Nicaraguan issues are more numerous than any others, or interesting information of a like nature.

The beauty of stamps is very imperceptible, and for a penny one can buy pictures far more beautiful and numerous in any illustrated paper. Also, if I remember right, a clean fresh and unused specimen is often counted worthless by the collector, while the same copy, defaced and blotted by ink, would have been worth pounds.

Let us now turn to a more mercenary motive, but, in my opinion, a far more sensible one—the market value of stamps. And here we find that it is a very hard matter, indeed, to make a profit on them. The dealers do so, true. But then, you see, the dealers make the profit on the collector.

The mere collector, when he wants to sell his stamps, buys a dealer's catalogue, and values them at an enormous sum. He offers them to the dealer at half that sum, and is politely informed his stamps are but a drug upon the market, and not worth sixpence, but that, in the fulness of their heart, they will give him ninepence ha'penny for them.

He then advertises, offering a "magnificent collection for sale at a great sacrifice." He has in that collection all his cherished bargains, stamps worth pounds which he has bought for pence. And, consequently, when for his pounds he expects reward threefold, it is rather a shock to him to receive an answer from some insignificant schoolboy, who magnanimously offers to swap for a shilling, six volumes of "Deadwood Dick," and a pair of prize-bred white mice.

Such experience ought to be enough to daunt the most determined, but, sad to say, it does not. The disappointed collector still cherishes his album, in hopeful expectation of the day which will come—never mind when—the time when all his common stamps shall have become rare.

Then, he tells himself, he will sell his collection for wealth untold, and live for ever in luxurious comfort for the rest of his life on the proceeds; never realising that as long as stamp collecting exists common stamps can never become rare, and that if, by some lucky chance, the craze were to die out, his stamps would not be worth the value of the paper on which they were printed.

"If the craze were to die out!" Pessimists have talked like this since the early "eighties," but instead of the "craze," as they call it, dying out, the love of stamp collecting becomes

greater year by year. "T.B." is wrong in his facts as in his fancies, for he attributes to Nicaragua a greater numerical showing in postage stamps than any other country, quite forgetting or ignoring Salvador's superior claims. But perhaps we may pardon a great deal in a person who has obviously sat down with the intention of being both pessimistic and funny. Humour and gloom never did and never will go well together. And, considering its many humorous absurdities it is perhaps fitting that "T.B.'s" article should have made its appearance in an Irish publication!

A New Prize Competition.

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To encourage our readers to commit their philatelic knowledge to paper we offer the following prizes for

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The choice of a subject is left entirely to the individual competitor, because we wish every *Fortnightly* essayist to write about something whereof he has special knowledge. The one condition we make is that every paper submitted for competition shall deal in a scientific philatelic way with the stamps of some particular country or issue. General papers on "The Advantages of Stamp Collecting," "What Philately Teaches," &c., &c., are not required.

The competitor may be either a collector or a dealer. We wish to make as few restrictions as possible. The papers will be judged on their merits, without regard to the personality of the writer or the subject chosen.

Although literary style must necessarily count for something in a competition of this kind, we shall not allow an undue proportion of marks to elegance of diction, but rather endeavour to award the prizes to those competitors whose papers betray the greatest amount of philatelic thought and knowledge.

Attempts may be sent in as early as the competitor pleases—the earlier the better.

The latest date for receiving manuscripts will be Monday, January 18th, 1904.

All should be clearly addressed: The Editor, The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 63-64 Chancery Lane, London, W.C., and marked "Prize Competition," on the envelope.

We make no rule whatever as to the length of the manuscript submitted, but every competitor must bear in mind one important condition—*Only one side of the paper should be written on.*

SPECIAL NOTICE re COPYRIGHT.

It need scarcely be said that the contributions which carry off the four prizes mentioned above will become the property of the proprietors of the "S.C.F." It may happen that among the unsuccessful manuscripts are many which we may wish to publish in the *Fortnightly*. We reserve the right to publish all or any of them, but in each case that we do so, we shall pay the non-winners for the essays at the usual rate for contributed matter.

Those essays which are unsuccessful and which the Editor of the *Fortnightly* does not desire to publish, will be returned to their authors, provided a stamped and self-addressed envelope be sent for that purpose.

From the Auction Rooms.

* Denotes UNUSED.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales.

October 13th and 14th, 1903.

Great Britain, 1841, 1d. red-brown, a block of 36, mint ...	1	18	0
Do. 1847-54, Octagonal, 1/- bright green, mint ...	5	0	0
Do. 1854-59, wmk small Crown, perf. 14, 2d. blue *	4	10	0
Do. 1854-59, 3d. brown on orange, mint ...	1	5	0
Do. I.R. Official, 1892, £1 green ...	1	14	0
Italy, Estero, 1874, 10c. orange, the variety with left top corner not altered, very fair, scarce ...	1	17	0
Ceylon, 1855-59, imperf. 8d. brown ...	9	9	0
Do. 1855-59, 9d. lilac-brown ...	3	17	0
Do. 1855-59, 10d. vermilion ...	0	19	0
Do. 1855-59, 2/- blue ...	9	19	0
Do. 1862, no wmk., 1/- violet ...	1	0	0
Do. 1883-84, wmk. C.A., 24c. purple-brown, mint ...	6	5	0
Straits Settlements, Johor, 1891, 2c. on 24c. green, the error "Cent" ...	2	10	0
British Bechuanaland, 1888, Protectorate, 2/- green, mint ...	2	10	0
Do. 2/6 green, mint ...	4	0	0
British Central Africa, 1892-93, Three Shillings on 4/- grey and Four Shillings on 5/- orange, mint ...	1	16	0
Do. Do. 1895, £1 orange, mint ...	2	16	0
British East Africa, 1895, July, 1a. green, with double surcharge, mint ...	2	4	0
Do. do. 5a. black on blue, mint ...	3	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1855-58, 1/- yellow-green, a pair ...	2	10	0
Do. do. 1855-58, 1/- dark-green, a mint pair ...	8	0	0
Do. do. 1861, Woodblock 4d. light blue ...	3	10	0
Do. do. 1861, Woodblock 4d. dark blue ...	6	0	0
Do. do. 1863-64, 1/- emerald ...	2	0	0
Do. do. 1864-77, wmk. C.C., 1d. red, imperf., * ...	1	4	0
Transvaal, 1878-79, Queen's Head, 1/- green, mint ...	1	7	0
Do. 1d. in black on 6d. black, type 14 ...	2	2	0
Do. 1d. in red on 6d. black, type 11 ...	1	12	0
Do. 1d. in red on 6d. black, type 15 ...	1	10	0
Do. 1887-90, 2½ Pence on 1/- green, the error - ½ ...	1	18	0
Do. 1878, V.R. Transvaal, 6d. blue on blue, a block of 6, mint ...	10	0	0
Orange River Colony, 1900, V.R.I., 2½d. blue, the varieties with Roman "1" and Antique "2" in fraction and with broken foot to "2," * ...	3	10	0
Sierra Leone, 1897, 2½d. on 2/- lilac, type A ...	2	6	0
Zululand, 5/- carmine ...	2	6	0
Do. 1894-96, £5 black and lilac on red ...	5	5	0
Natal, 1/- carmine and lilac ...	1	18	0
Nova Scotia, 1851, Half of 6d. yellow-green, used on entire original as 3d. ...	1	12	0
St. Vincent, 1880, Provisionals, 1d. in red on half of 6d. blue-green, a pair, * ...	11	10	0
Brazil, 1844, 600 reis, black on grayish ...	4	0	0
Guatemala, 1881, 2c. brown and green, error with inverted centre, mint ...	1	0	0
New South Wales, 1855, Diadem, imperf. 6d. grey, * ...	1	2	0
Queensland, 1865-79, wmk. Q. and Crown, 4d. yellow, perf. 12, * ...	1	16	0
Tasmania, 1892-99, £1 green and yellow, mint ...	8	0	0
Victoria, 1857-63, wmk. Star, imperf. 4d. vermilion, * ...	1	0	0
Do. do. vertically laid, rouletted 2d. brown-lilac, * ...	2	2	0
Do. do. no wmk. perf. 1d. yellow-green, unused ...	1	0	0
Western Australia, 1857, 2d. brown on red, rouletted, unused and fine, but no gum, very rare ...	7	7	0

October 27th and 28th, 1903.

Gibraltar, 1897, Nov. 10c. carmine, the rare error with value omitted, mint ...	9	10	0
Great Britain, 1840, 1d. black, "V.R." * ...	7	15	0
Do. 1840, 2d. deep blue, without lines, a pair, * ...	8	10	0
Do. 1841, 1d. red-brown on "Dickinson" paper, * ...	1	1	0
Do. 2d. blue, without letters in lower corners, probably a proof, but is watermarked ...	1	8	0
Do. 1862, 3d. carmine-rose, plate 3, with white dots, * ...	4	15	0
Do. 1873-80, 8d. brown, mint ...	2	12	0
Do. 1873-80, wmk. Anchor, 10/- grey on white ...	1	4	0
Do. 1873-80, £1 purple-brown on blue, telegraphically used ...	2	0	0
Do. Ditto, £5 orange on blue ...	2	6	0
Do. I.R. Official, 1885, 1/- green ...	1	1	0
Do. I.R. Official, 10/- blue, "Accounts" cancellation ...	2	18	0
Do. 1852, £1 green ...	1	14	0

Ceylon, 1861, wmk. Star, rough perf., 2/- deep blue, * ...	2	17	0
Do. 1862, no wmk. 5d. deep brown ...	1	4	0
Do. 1862, 9d. brown ...	1	2	0
Do. 1883-84, wmk. C.A., 24c. purple-brown, * ...	9	0	0
Do. Service, 1869, 2/- blue, imperf., * ...	1	19	0
Labuan, 1880, Provisionals, 6 in red on 16c. blue ...	5	10	0
Do. 1880, 8 in black on 12c. carmine, with original value obliterated in red, mint ...	2	15	0
Do. 1879, wmk. C.A., 12c. carmine ...	3	7	6
British Bechuanaland, 1888 (Aug.), ½d. vermilion, overprinted "Protectorate" twice, mint ...	1	6	0
British Central Africa, 1892-93, Three Shillings on 4/- grey, mint ...	1	1	0
Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. blue, error ...	36	0	0
Do. do. 4d. red, error ...	41	0	0
Mafeking on Bechuanaland Protectorate, 1d. on ½d. vermilion, with inverted surcharge ...	4	0	0
Do. on British Bechuanaland, sans serif surcharge, 1/- on 6d. lilac on red ...	3	3	0
Mauritius, 1818, Post Paid, 1d. orange, early medium impression, ...	7	0	0
Do. Ditto, 2d. blue, the error "Pence" ...	13	15	0
Do. 1859, Greek border, 2d. blue, a strip of 4, showing curious defects in printing ...	4	0	0
New Republic, 1887, undated, £1 violet on straw, a vertical tete beche pair, mint ...	6	5	0
Niger Coast, 1893, ½ in red on half of 1d. blue ...	1	18	0
Do. 1894, ½ in blue on half of 1d. vermilion ...	2	8	0
Orange River Colony, 4d. on 6d. rose-carmine type d inverted ...	2	0	0
Do. do. 1881-82, 1d. on 5/- green, type b, inverted ...	2	10	0
St. Helena, 1884-95, wmk. C.A., ½d. emerald, with double surcharge, * ...	4	4	0
Swaziland, 1889-90, 10/- fawn, mint ...	3	5	0
Transvaal, 1878-79, Queen's Head, 1 Penny in red on 6d. black, type 10 ...	2	4	0
Do. 1878-79, type 11 ...	1	2	0
Do. 1878-79, type 14 ...	4	2	6
Do. 1878-79, type 15 ...	1	2	0
Zululand, 1888-92, 5/- carmine, mint ...	2	12	6
Do. 1891-96, £1 purple on red, mint ...	2	6	0
New Brunswick, 1851, 6d. yellow ...	3	7	6
Do. 1851, 1/- red-lilac, shade, on entire, with a 3d. red ...	10	0	0
Do. 1860-63, 5c. brown, head of Connell, * ...	21	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1851, 1d. red-brown ...	1	8	0
Do. 1851, half of 3d. blue used with a 6d. yellow-green as 7½d. on entire ...	1	12	0
Do. 1851, 1/- cold violet ...	14	0	0
Dominica, 1882, ½ in black on half of 1d. lilac, a pair, * ...	2	2	0
St. Vincent, 1866-69, no wmk. perf. 11-12½ by 14-16, 1d. rose-red ...	3	10	0
Do. 1880, wmk. Star, 5/- rose, mint ...	13	0	0
Do. 1880, Provisionals, ½d. in red on half of 6d. yellow-green, a pair, mint ...	4	10	0
Tobago, 1879, wmk. C.C., 5/- slate, mint ...	2	12	6
Do. 1879, £1 mauve, mint ...	8	0	0
Trinidad, 1852-60, lithographed, 1d. pale blue, fine impression ...	3	10	0
Do. 1859-63, no wmk., perf. 13, 6d. emerald, * ...	2	2	0
Do. Official, 1894, 5/- lake, mint ...	2	4	0
Do. The "Lady McLeod" local, 1847, 2½d. blue ...	7	7	0
Turks Islands, 1873-79, wmk. Star, 1/- lilac ...	7	5	0
Do. 1881, Provisionals, 2½ on 1d. red, type 10 ...	4	0	0
Do. 1881 Provisionals, 2½ on 6d. black, type 6 mint ...	1	4	0
Do. 2½ on 1/- lilac, type 6 ...	2	17	6
Do. 1881, Provisionals, 4 on 1d. red, type 15 ...	1	12	0
Virgin Islands, 1867-69, perf. 15, 1/-, crimson border, the error with figure of Virgin omitted, * ...	19	10	0
British Guiana, 1850, 4c. yellow, cut octagonally ...	20	0	0
Do. 1850, 12c. pale blue, cut octagonally ...	5	5	0
Do. 1850, 12c. blue, cut round ...	9	0	0
British Honduras, 1888, wmk. C.C., perf. 12½, 3 cents on 3d. brown ...	6	0	0
New South Wales, 1850-51, Sydney Views, 2d. blue, plate 2, the error "Crevit" omitted ...	4	4	0
New Zealand, 1862, wmk. Star, rouletted 1/- green ...	1	12	0
Queensland, 1860, imperf. 2d. blue ...	4	4	0
South Australia, 1837-95, £2 Venetian red, mint ...	2	8	0
Do. 1887-95, 50/- dull pink, mint ...	3	3	0
Do. 1887-95, £3 sage-green, mint ...	3	12	6
Do. 1887-95, £4 lemon-yellow, mint ...	4	12	6
Do. 1887-95, £5 olive-brown, mint ...	5	5	0
Victoria, 1864, 1d. green, wmk. 6, mint ...	4	0	0
Do. 1864, 1d. green, wmk. 8, mint ...	3	10	0
Do. 1868, 5/- blue on yellow ...	3	7	6

Messrs. VENTOM BULL & COOPER'S Sale.
October 22nd and 23rd, 1903.

Oldenburg, 1859, 2gr. black on rose	1 3 0
Labuan, 1893, Provisional, 6c. on 16c. grey, error, surcharge inverted, mint	1 7 0
British South Africa, Bulawayo Provisional, 1896, 3d. on 5/- orange-yellow, mint pair	2 0 0
Cape of Good Hope, wmk. C. and CA., 5/- orange-yellow	1 5 0
Gambia, wmk. C. and CC., 6d. blue, imperf., *	1 0 0
Seychelles, 1893, Provisional, 12c. on 16c., with surcharge inverted, mint	4 0 0
Swaziland, 1d. grey, error "Swazielan," and 2d. olive-bistre, error "eland," together on piece	2 4 0
Canada, 1852-57, 6d. purple on thin paper, *	2 18 0
Newfoundland, 4d. carmine	4 0 0
Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown	1 4 0
British Guiana, 1853, 4c. blue, 2 copies	1 12 0
St. Lucia, 1883-84, perf. 12. 4d. yellow, *	1 8 0
Trinidad, 1860, rough perfs, 1/- indigo, *	9 0 0
New South Wales, 1890-93, 5/- mauve and 20/- ultramarine, both mint	3 17 6
New Zealand, wmk. N.Z., rouletted 2d. blue	1 8 0
Tasmania, 1st issue 1d. blue	2 17 6
Victoria, 1st issue, 2d. lilac, with fine background	3 12 6

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co.'s Sale.
October 20th and 30th, 1903.

Wurtemberg, 70kr. lilac	1 14 0
Canada, 1859-64, 5c. vermilion, the variety with double line at right	1 1 0
Tasmania, 1861-9, perf. 12. 2d. yellow-green, mint	1 2 0
Western Australia, 1861, 4d. vermilion, rough perfs. (Gibbons' 39), *	3 0 0

THE COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

The eighth meeting of the stockholders and seventh annual meeting of the Club was held on Wednesday, October 14th, President Andreini in the chair.

The reports of the following officers and committees were read and accepted:

- The President's report.
- The Treasurer's report.
- The Secretary's report.
- The House Committee's report.
- The Amusement Committee's report.
- The Auditing Committee's report.
- The Literary Committee's report.
- The Membership Committee's report.
- The Biography Committee's report.

The 98th meeting of the Board of Governors was held on Monday, October 12th.

The resignations of Messrs. Benjamin, Douglas, Castle, Frey, Hawkins, Hussman and Phillips were read and accepted with regrets.

The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance in bank of dol \$15.31, exclusive of reserve fund, was read and approved. The Treasurer reported that Mr. Kennedy had purchased a share of stock from the Club, and is now a stockholder instead of a subscribing member.

Mr. W. H. Manning was unanimously elected a subscribing member of the Club.

At the ninety-ninth meeting of the Board of Governors, held on the same date, Mr. J. M. Andreini was nominated and unanimously elected President for the ensuing year, Mr. P. F. Bruner, Vice-President, Mr. W. W. Dewing, Treasurer, and Mr. Albert Perrin, Secretary.

Various committees were appointed, and Mr. J. W. Scott was authorized to have the annual report and membership list printed. Albert Perrin, Secretary, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co.'s Sale,
October 11th and 16th, 1903.

Ceylon, 1857-9, 6d. deep claret, *	1 0 0
Do. 10l. orange	1 1 0
Do. 1863-7, wmk. CC., 2d. emerald-green, mint	2 0 0
Hong Kong, 10c. on 16c. yellow, *	1 2 0
Northern Nigeria, Queen's Head, 10c. mint	1 9 0
Niger Coast, 10/- deep violet, mint pair	1 6 0
Antigua, 1862, rough perf. no watermark 6d. blue-green, mint	1 12 0
British Columbia, 1865, 10c. blue, imperf., *	3 0 0
Danish West Indies, 1873-9, 11c. green and lilac, mint	0 18 0
Newfoundland, 1857, 1d. scarlet-vermilion	3 15 0
Nova Scotia 1851, 6d. yellow-green	1 7 0
United States, 1845, Providence, 10c. black, *	3 15 0
New South Wales, 1850, 1d. Sydney View, plate I., a pair	4 0 0

THE S. C. S. STAMP EXCHANGE,

Rate: 3 words a Penny.

Form for short undisplayed advertisements which must in every case be prepaid.

6d.				
8d.				
10d.				
1s.				
1s. 2d.				
1s. 4d.				
1s. 6d.				

If there is anything in the philatelic line you wish to buy, sell or exchange, fill up the above form and send it, with remittance, to

The Manager of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*,
68/64, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON, W.C.

The Press on Philately.

NOTE:—We accept no responsibility for the statements quoted under this heading—EDITOR.

The Prince's Philatelic Paper.

THE London Philatelic Society are to be honoured at their next monthly meeting by the Prince of Wales, who, as a keen philatelist, has promised to present a paper and to give a display of proofs, essays, and stamps illustrating the history of the postal issues of the United Kingdom during the present reign. The notes which will accompany the display (the London correspondent of the "Scotsman" states) have been compiled by His Royal Highness from official sources, and they will contain a good deal of interesting matter relating to the various designs which were submitted to the King before postal labels with his Majesty's head now in use were finally approved. The Prince of Wales has been a stamp collector ever since his midshipman days.

Patchwork by Postage Stamps.

A writer in the "Windsor Magazine" describes the newest artistic craze—the making of stamp pictures and decorative designs. One of the biggest stamp dealers in Paris, he declares, has experienced so heavy a demand for common stamps that he has created a department specially to deal with it, and several young ladies find agreeable employment in sorting out the stamps—not in mixed packets as to the countries, as has hitherto been the case, but into assortments of colours. Charitable schools, which derive a deal of their revenue from the voluntary contribution of stamps, instead of just selling them rough in sackfuls to dealers, as was previously the custom, are now employing a certain amount of the young scholars' time in preparing the stamps, i.e., soaking them, to get rid of the superfluous paper attaching to them, and packing them in tiny bundles of one hundred each, according to their colours. The result is that the stamps are realising a higher price, and the funds from this source are appreciably increased. The stamps are not used old and stuck over one another anyhow; but are carefully cut and placed in position, with due consideration to the blending of the colours. The result is that the finished work (in the case of a picture) looks exactly like a water-colour drawing, and at a distance of a couple of feet would be readily declared as such, while in the case of a plaque decorated with flowers and insects, and even so elaborate a design as a Royal coat-of-arms, it has the appearance of a cleverly-executed mosaic. One effect of the new art appears to have been to considerably increase the price of common stamps. Hitherto stamps were sold by the pound, but now they are sold according to the value of the colour.

The Young and Vigorous Helvetia.

M. GIBARDET, the engraver, recently submitted to the Art Commission of the Swiss Confederacy specimens of his designs for the new issue of postage stamps, which (says the "Manchester Guardian") were unanimously approved. The new

design, in the background of which are represented the Swiss glaciers, is composed of a young and vigorous female form, crowned with oak leaves. With one arm she supports the coat-of-arms of the Confederacy and with the other a bundle of fasces, on which is the number 22. The word "Helvetia" appears on a ribbon in the upper part of the design, and the value of the stamp on a small shield beneath.

Some of Philately's Big Prizes.

The penny red and twopenny blue Mauritius of 1847 has been sold in London by public auction for £1,921 the pair. The 1856 British Guiana black on Magenta is worth £1,000 at least, and probably very much more. The last two-cent Sandwich Islands—1851 issue sold here fetched £740, and it was a used specimen and pretty badly obliterated at that. In 1851 the Indian Government printed some four-Anna stamps with the Queen's head turned upside down. A specimen will readily sell now-a-days for £250.—"Leicester Post."

"The Craze of Stamp Collection."

THE offer of £1000 for an old postage stamp, and the refusal of the offer by an owner who does not think it enough, are two remarkable facts which show how completely some persons have been bitten by the craze of stamp collection. This valuable specimen is at present deposited, with the tenderest regard for its safety, in the safe of a London auctioneer, and unless disposed of privately will no doubt be put up to auction. It is a Mauritius stamp, and it bears the imprint of "postoffice," instead of "post paid." The error was speedily detected, and the issue was speedily withdrawn. Scarcely any specimens exist, and the lady who found it in an old album is lucky. She has reason to bless the engravers who made this mistake.—"Liverpool Mercury."

Before his accession to the Chair of St. Peter, the Pope had accumulated a collection of over 10,000 postcards. He is still, says the "Western Daily Press," an enthusiastic collector.

MARTIN, RAY & Co.,

Stamp Auctioneers and

Commission Agents,

Lonsdale Chambers,

CHANGERY LANE, W.C.

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STAMP AUCTION SALES

- FORTNIGHTLY. -

Monday ... Nov. 23rd

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14 days prior.

Commission 10%. Minimum Charge 1/6 per lot.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS,

WANTED FOR PROMPT CASH.

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Admiralty Official. 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d.
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Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**
Literary, Fine-Art and Philatelic Auctioneers,

47, Leicester Square, LONDON, W.C., make the sale of
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS A SPECIALITY.

NOVEMBER 24th, 25th & 26th. and DECEMBER 8th & 9th,

Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON** have received instructions to sell on these dates a **Magnificent Collection of Great Britain and Colonies**, formed by a well-known Philatelist. The Collection (which is **MOSTLY UNUSED**) is very fine and complete, and contains a large number of very rare stamps, such as—
GREAT BRITAIN. Several early 4d. values and octagonals. 10- and £1 cross, all unused, etc.
CEYLON. Imperf. 6d., 9d., 1-, 1 1/2 and 2-, unused. No wmk. 1-, unused, etc.
CAPE. Unused woodblocks.
MAURITIUS. Used and unused Post-Pairs, including pairs and strips; Large Fillet, very fine; 1- Britannia, perf., unused, etc.
NATAL. Very fine lot of the rare first issue and the various surcharged, including 1- with "POSTAGE" in red.
NIGER COAST. Exceptionally fine lot of the scarce provisionals, including some of the very rarest.
CANADA. 12d. black, etc. **NEW BRUNSWICK.** 1-, unused. **NOVA SCOTIA.** 1-, unused. **NEWFOUNDLAND.** 1-, orange, unused; and others of the rare penny issues.
BRITISH GUIANA. Several of the rare 1840, 1859, 1856, and 1862 issues.
WEST INDIES and AUSTRALIA. A very fine lot of the various Colonies, the scarce Stamps being too numerous to mention in detail.

Fully Illustrated Catalogue Ready.

JANUARY 12th & 13th, 1904.

A very fine General Collection formed by a well-known collector and especially good in the Colonial portion, which comprises a splendid range of the early issues in superb condition including many rarities and the later issues mostly unused in mint state. In this sale will be included a splendid **unused** copy of the **2d. Post Office Mauritius**, which has been placed in Messrs **PUTTICK & SIMPSON's** hands for sale. *Catalogue ready shortly.*

DATES of SALES for 1904:—

1904.—January 12 and 13, 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27
 May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8

Clients wishing to include Collections in any of the above Sales are requested to make early arrangements with regard to their disposal, as some of the earlier dates are already allotted. Liberal advances made pending realization if desired.

For Terms and Full Particulars Address: Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,
 Telephone No 1561, Gerrard **47, Leicester Square, London, W.C.**
 Established 1794.

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We have much pleasure in announcing that we have received

A MEDAL WITH DIPLOMA

(This being the only Award given for Permanent Philatelic Albums alone) at the International Philatelic Exhibition, held in Mulhausen, Alsace, this Summer.

.....
We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.



CHRISTMAS NUMBER
STAMP COLLECTORS
FORTNIGHTLY

No. 228.—Vol. IX. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1903. ONE PENNY.

Fine Art, Numismatic & Philatelic Auctioneers,
THE ARGYLL GALLERY,
7, ARGYLL ST., REGENT ST., W.
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Following Sales:

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And every alternate THURSDAY and FRIDAY throughout the Season

Fine Art and Bric-à-brac Sale 14th & 15th December.

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COLLECTORS who intend to DISPOSE OF COLLECTIONS are advised to make early arrangements to secure advantageous dates of Sale.

**COINS,
MEDALS,**

**FINE ART PROPERTY,
JEWELLERY, ETC.**

**PAINTINGS,
ENGRAVINGS,**

**MINIATURES,
CHINA, ETC.**

Promptly Catalogued
and offered for Sale.

Liberal Cash Advances.

Prompt Settlements.

PERIODICAL SALES BY AUCTION OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY **Messrs VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,**
(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY.)

At the TEMPLE HOTEL, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.

(Close to the Philatelic Society's Rooms and the Temple Station on the District Railway.)

— December 17th & 18th. —

Messrs VENTOM, BULL & COOPER

have received instructions to sell on
the above dates

Including many scarce stamps.

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

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, 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.

CATALOGUES of all Sales may be obtained of

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, (Philatelic Department),

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Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.,

(Partners: H. W. PLUMRIDGE & J. H. TELFER.)

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FUTURE DATES—1904—Jan. 19 & 20. Feb. 2 & 3; 16 & 17.

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Settlements usually in Ten Days. At Latest within 14 days after sale.

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Please supply the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY for 26 Numbers (one year) for which I enclose 3s. 3d.

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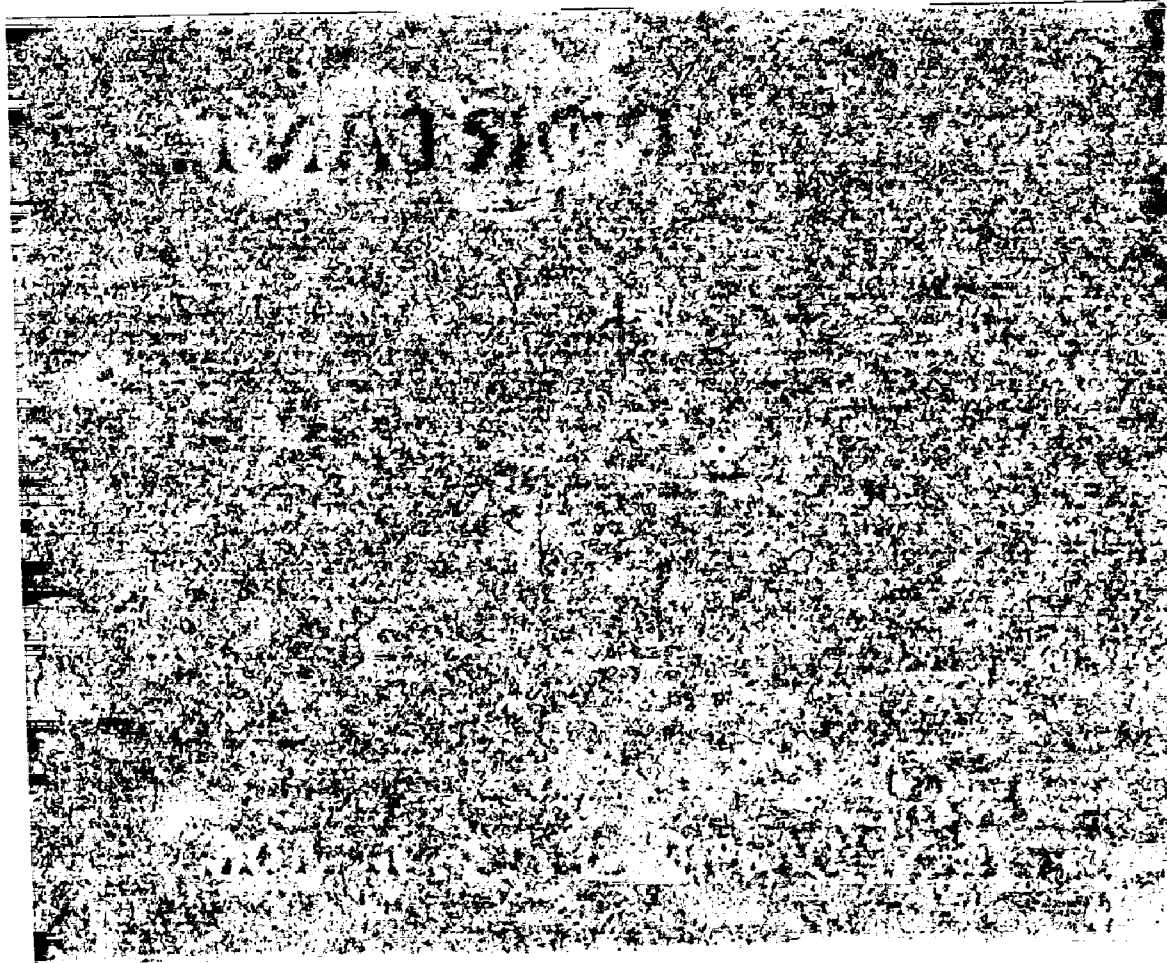
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The stamps are selected specimens, neatly mounted on Lithograph cards, with a space for each stamp and plate number above, elegantly made up in folding book form and bound. All for the nominal sum of

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The Catalogue price of these stamps a little time ago was over £3, this year the 29 scarce numbers are not priced, if they were it is very probable one of the stamps would cost quite as much as the whole 150 specimens in the set now offered for the small sum of 5/-.

If you do not make a study of Plate numbers, they are worth buying as an investment and for exchange purposes,—especially in the Colonies and Foreign countries they afford a profitable and satisfactory transaction, for this purpose they were originally intended.

THE LATE MR. W. A. S. WESTOBY, THE KING OF ENGLISH STAMP COLLECTORS.

Once saw some of the sets, and was so pleased with them, that he desired some might be sent him; when replying he said—"I cannot acknowledge the receipt of the Plate numbers without at the same time saying a word as to the exceedingly neat way in which they are arranged, I never saw anything more neatly or better done."

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You cannot please your Philatelic friends better than treat them to something Philatelic,—to send one of these sets would cost you little or no more than a fancy ornamental card, pleasing to the eye but only claiming the attention of the hour. A set of Plate numbers would not only prove useful and interesting, but of value and be a lasting remembrance of friendship. The sets will be sent direct to friends if desired with the card of the donor enclosed. All for the modest sum of 5/-.

If you want to secure sets do not wait till they are all sold and then send, if you do you may feel disappointed. Several sets reserved for collectors abroad. Send at once to—

MISS C. COOPER, "Adrina," Lower Breck Road, Richmond Park, Liverpool.

Something to interest you on other side.

YOUR WANTS CAN BE SUPPLIED.

The following useful Philatelic articles were specially designed and lithographed for private use, and have never been offered for sale. I am giving up Philately and shall be pleased to supply the wants of those interested in the study, it will afford a great saving to purchasers, as the cost of producing the small quantities now offered would be very considerable.

All the prices named below, include packing and carriage paid to any part of the United Kingdom. Orders from the Colonies and Foreign Countries must be accompanied with extra Parcel postage (weights below) according to the rate charged to the country where purchaser resides.

LITHOGRAPHED RECONSTRUCTED PLATE MOUNTS, 25 in. by 15 in.

These mounts have been designed with the greatest care and are prepared to receive 240 stamps, arranged the exact size and form of the original sheets, the spaces are accurate in detail, affording every assistance for correct and neat plating. A large margin is allowed all round for framing or binding; various values and colours have been plated which have been greatly admired. As a set for pictures they are really magnificent.

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These mounts are very neatly lithographed in blue, with heading spaces—Issue, Value, Colour, Watermark, Perforation, Plate number, Die number, &c. Each mount provides spaces for 96 stamps. For shading they are very useful, as many countries print their stamps in a great variety of shades for which no ordinary album could provide space. An album of shades is very pretty and often well repays the time spent upon it. The mounts may either be bound or cased.

Price : 12 Mounts, 2/6 ; 24 Mounts, 4/6. Packed and Carriage paid (Weight 2 oz. each).

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The mounts are valuable for preserving the condition of special rarities, as they do not bend like the leaves in an album; they are made of the finest material, tinted pale pea green with blue ruling, giving a rich and beautiful appearance to the stamps, &c. The mounts hold 60 stamps each with heading space over every stamp for details. Only a few remain. Envelope and Post Card Mounts are plain.

Price : 6 Mounts, 2/- ; 12 Mounts, 3/6. Packed and Carriage paid (Weight 3 oz. each).

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN COLLECTION.

I am disposing of my collection which contains many rare and beautiful specimens, and shall be pleased to send selections on receipt of references or deposit.

ORDER.

To Miss C. COOPER, "Adrina," Lower Breck Road, Richmond Park, Liverpool. Please send the following articles, carriage paid, to address given below.

.....Sets Plate numbers 71 to 224	:	:
.....Lithographed Reconstructed Plate Mounts	:	:
.....Lettered Reconstructing Cards	:	:
.....Shading or Album Mounts	:	:
.....Gilt Edged Mounts	:	:
Extra Foreign Postages	:	:
Post Office Order or Postal Order enclosed	:	:

From.....

You should read the other side.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS'

PORTNIGHTLY.

With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange, The Northern Stamp Exchange Society, The Stamp Exchange Protection Society, The Enterprise Stamp Club, The One and All Stamp Club, The Palace Philatelic Exchange Society, The British Empire Stamp Exchange Club, The Unused Stamp Exchange.

No 228.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

For Watford Philatelists.

Mr. F. A. Wright, of Watford, suggests the formation of a Philatelic Society for that active Hertfordshire town. "Watford," he writes, "seems fairly well off as regards societies, but there is one I should like to see initiated. In a town numbering 36,000 inhabitants there must be several persons interested in philately. Would it not be possible for a society to be formed so that members might meet, say at least monthly, for the reading of papers, display of stamps, and possibly lantern lectures, etc.? I, for one, should be very willing to show my collection and take some interest in a subject that is very fascinating. If only an exhibition of stamps exhibited by say residents of Watford and neighbourhood, in the "Corn Exchange" or some other suitable building, were to be given, I think it might prove instructive as well as entertaining."

British "Fivers" Refused.

There is something rather startling in the idea of Bank of England notes being declined when tendered in payment for goods bought. Mr. Charles J. Phillips, of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, writes:—

For the first time in over forty years of importation of postage stamps from our Colonies we have had a £5 Bank of England note returned to us, with a statement that same could not be accepted. It is as well, perhaps, to put this on record, as under date September 23rd, the Secretary of the G.P.O., Cape Town, writes: "It is with regret that I must return the Bank of England note of £5, as this department cannot accept Bank of England notes at the present time, owing to the belief that there are a large number of forgeries now in circulation."

How Some Famous Collections Sold.

In his natty little volume on Philately, "The A.B.C. of Stamp Collecting," Mr. Melville gives the following table of the sales of famous stamp collections, from 1876 to 1900:

DATE.	COLLECTOR.	COUNTRIES.	AMOUNT REALISED.
1876	Ehrenbach	German Empire	£6,000
1878	Cooper	General	£3,000
1882	Philbrick	General	£8,000
1882	Image	General	£3,000
1885	Burnett	General	£1,000
1889	Bros. Caillolotte	General	£5,000
1890	Hughes-Hughes	General	£3,000
1894	Castle	Australia	£10,000
1891	Philbrick	Great Britain	£1,500
1895	Harrison	United States	£1,300
1897	Ayer	General (dispersed gradually)	£45,000
1897	Legrand	Part of General	£12,000
1898	Pauwels	General	£4,000
1900	Castle	Europe	£27,500

To these might be added the Nankivell collection of Transvaals, the Earl of Kintore's collection and others recently acquired by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, Mr. W. H. Peckitt, etc. Mr. Melville, as an instance of money profitably invested in stamps, recalls the fact that Mr. Hughes-Hughes spent only £69 on his collection and eventually sold out for £3,000.

A Bargain in Railway Stamps.

To those who are interested in Railway Letter Fee stamps a notice in the "Monthly Journal's" "Notes and News" may appeal. Mr. Phillips announces that a fine collection of these stamps, including many pairs, blocks and panes, has been placed in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' hands for sale. The net price for the collection is £165, that figure being, we are told, "a very small proportion of the price that the collection would price up to by Ewen's new list of these stamps."

Some Double-Perf. Indians.

A well-known collector has shown us (write Messrs. C. Nissen and Co.) an interesting error hitherto undiscovered.

While searching through a quantity of current Indian stamps this gentleman found a number of pairs of the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna green to be double-perfed, the second perforation appearing nearly in the middle of the stamp and going right across horizontally.

"This error appears on both the issues of Queen's Head and King's Head and those discovered bear the postmark, "Bombay, July, 1902."

"The same collector informs us that he has since looked through over 10,000 of these $\frac{1}{2}$ a. stamps, but has been unsuccessful in securing more of the errors."

The Dutch Tariff on Stamps.

In view of the prevailing epidemic of "Fiscalitis," it is interesting to note that stamps imported into Holland are included under the head of "Merchandise," and subjected to a duty of 5 per cent.—presumably an *ad valorem* duty. Mr. M. Z. Booleman, of Amsterdam, draws attention to this fact (in four languages) in the very handy priced list he has just issued for 1903-04. Moreover, he warns philatelists against sending him stamps by parcel post, and goes on to say in plain English, or English that is meant to be plain: "If, contradictory to that notice, these articles should be sent to me by parcel post, without my agreement, I beg to inform here, that each such sending shall be refused without any exception, and that I can take not the less responsibility for the good return of such packets upon me."

The list in which this useful information appears is an interesting and useful one, paying special attention to the stamps of the Orange River, the Transvaal and the British and Dutch Colonies generally. Mr. Booleman's prices are in German marks and pennings, instead of the puzzling five-penny cents of his own country, and a valuable feature of the publication of its translation of all notices, etc., into English, French and German.

Bad Russian Locals from Brighton.

A well-known philatelist of St. Petersburg, a member of the local Branch of the Dresden Philatelic Society, tells of a transaction with an individual at Brighton whom we have no difficulty in identifying with the chief vendor of the fakes and forgeries that have lately flooded that watering place.

"I was in correspondence with this man," writes our friend of St. Petersburg, "more than a year ago, on account of an advertisement in which he offered Russian Zemstvo Locals at a quarter of Gibbons' prices, in exchange for ordinary postage stamps. He sent me some ten stamps valued by Gibbons' Catalogue at about £20.

"They were good forgeries and caused no little excitement among the members of our Branch of the Dresden Philatelic Society, to whom I showed them, and many of whom are collectors of Zemstvo Locals."

Buying Forgeries to Suppress Them.

"Acting on the advice of our President, Mr. F. Broifuss, and others," continues our St. Petersburg reader, "I entered into correspondence with this individual at Brighton, with a view to buying up his whole stock of these fac-similes. I obtained altogether several thousands, and gave in exchange genuine stamps, including Zemstvos, to the catalogue value of several rounds.

"We took this course with a view of stopping the circulation of these forgeries as genuine stamps. Several of our members took specimens of each different kind (about 100) as curiosities, and the remainder are in my possession."

Our correspondent it should be added, wishes it to be distinctly understood that he makes no charge of *mala fides*

against the person in question. On the contrary he protested from the first that he believed the stamps to be perfectly genuine. "I think my sending them to Russia should be proof of that," he declared in one of his letters. He not only sent his whole stock of the Zemstvo stamps (or what he represented to be his whole stock) to St. Petersburg, but also promised to "call in" all that he had sold as genuine and send those along as well. Later on, he did send a further quantity of the forgeries, in exchange for which our correspondent sent him genuine Zemstvo Locals to the value of 50s.

Bristol's Stamp Exhibition.

The scheme for a Philatelic Exhibition at Bristol has been, we learn, earnestly debated by the members of the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society. By the time the Christmas *Fortnightly* appears a meeting of the B. and C.P.S. will have been held, and the exhibition probably settled. Should this interesting West Country event be decided upon, every philatelist will cordially wish the venture all success. There are many earnest collectors in Bristol and its neighbourhoods, and their philatelic possessions alone would provide the nucleus of a most interesting show.

"The Bane of Philately."

MR. W. V. MORTEN REPLIES TO MR. WILMOT CORFIELD'S
ATTACK ON THE SURCHARGES OF ZANZIBAR.

To the Editor of the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly."

Dear Sir,—

With reference to Mr. Wilmot Corfield's article on the surcharged stamps in the "Philatelic Journal of India," I feel in the interest of Philatelists generally, and more especially those who are interested in Countries which have by necessity issued surcharged stamps, that Mr. Corfield's attention should be drawn to the following facts:—

As the stamps of Zanzibar are specially mentioned I can only surmise that Mr. Corfield cannot be aware that the allegations brought against an honourable gentleman, Mr. R. Remington—the then Postmaster of the Zanzibar Protectorate—were so amply disproved, and I understand Mr. Corfield holds a somewhat similar position in India, while Mr. Remington is at the present time Postmaster-General of British East Africa.

For the above mentioned facts, I would refer your readers and Mr. Corfield to the "Philatelic Record" Vol. 19, page 310 and page 34, also the "London Philatelist," Vol. 6., p. 256. The comparisons made in the article between the surcharges of Zanzibar and Somaliland are scarcely allowable considering the latter have only been issued quite recently, whereas the stamps in the former case were overprinted in 1895/6—8 years ago—by native workmen in the office of the "Zanzibar Gazette," and on reference to a copy of the "Gazette" pretty much the same errors will be found.

In one paragraph Mr. Corfield refers to the surcharge as "Vandalism," and in the paragraph immediately following he writes "It is, at its best, an artistic afterthought." There was surely not much thought on Mr. Corfield's part before writing this.

Mr. Corfield's whole argument is that surcharges were not necessary. Surely, as in the case of Zanzibar, they were made, as officially proved, to provide for the 2½ anna or penny fee, when the stamps of that value were exhausted.

What better argument of bona fides can anyone require than the fact that Mr. Remington actually had the stamps surcharged "2½" affixed to the letters by the Post Office official, and later, to prevent any further surcharge, actually used stamps or paid for the Postal Union?

I can add my testimony, extending over 4 years, devoted to making a specialized collection. In that time I have only come across some fifteen forgeries in the stamps of Zanzibar, which Mr. Corfield specially attacks, an attack which must cause pain and annoyance to a gentleman who is probably Mr. Corfield's senior in the Department to which he belongs.

In conclusion I would recommend a perusal of the above mentioned articles which are as interesting as any reports of a present day action at law.

I am, dear Sir, Yours faithfully,

W. V. MORTEN.

205, Sumatra Road, Hampstead, N. W.,
November 27th, 1903.

King Cole, the Magpie.

A STORY OF "STOLEN" STAMPS."

By Amy L. Swift in "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News."

Over the gate I looked down at King Cole. Over the gate King Cole looked up at me. There was malice in the glitter of his bright, bead-like eyes; malice in the flutter of his outstretched wings, and malice in the remarks that poured unceasingly from his open beak. I did not understand those remarks well enough to give a full and literal translation of them, but their meaning was plain without any translation, being very evidently to the effect that, if I attempted to pass that gate, and walk up to the house, he, King Cole, would do his very positive best to pick numerous good-sized holes in my defenceless ankles. Having had many encounters with his sable majesty, wherein I was invariably routed in literally flying disgrace, I rather hesitated about risking another battle, so over the gate I attempted to argue the matter.

"Now, King, be good, and let me come in peacefully," I begged.

"Won't!" replied King Cole in his own magpie language, terse, but nevertheless unmistakable.

I sighed for the fortieth time, and then, losing patience, struck at the little wretch with my parasol, called him all the uncomplimentary names that occurred to me, and told him it would gratify me greatly if someone would turn him into magpie stew, or dispose of him in some equally effective way so that I need never see him again. The King dodged the parasol easily, he had dodged innumerable parasols during his lifetime, and never became clumsy for want of practice; he also seemed highly edified at my conversation, and said a few things in reply that it was perhaps just as well I could not understand, but possibly after all he had a wee bit of a heart to be touched at my distress, for he finally withdrew into the shrubbery beside the gate, leaving me a clear path to the house. That is, it seemed to be a clear path, but, being pretty well acquainted with King Cole's peculiarities, I rather felt doubts about its being so in reality, and waited some minutes before opening the gate and passing in. Had I been wise, the wait would have been longer still but for fully twenty minutes I had been held up by that bird, sometimes within the gate, sometimes without, and felt ready to take desperate chances in order to reach the house. As I might have known he would be, the little imp was lying in wait for me, and I had only gone a few yards before he was tangled up with my skirts, pecking in glorious delight at my ankles, while I struck out wildly with my parasol, and between hops thought unutterable things. If it had not been for the safety afforded by the branches of a low tree near by my sufferings would have been greater than they were, but a moment of indignified scrambling put me in temporary safety and left the baffled King alone in noisy glee below.

"Oh, Stella!" I wailed, directing a despairing face toward the house; "Oh, Stella, Stella!"

"Stella, Stella, Stellum," began a voice above me.

With a start I looked upward and became aware of a perpetually solemn young man gazing at me from a branch above.

"The star is invisible just now," he explained; "eclipsed by a dressmaker. Won't a comet do just as well?"

"A comet!" I repeated in blank wonder.

"Stephen Commett, at your service, mam'selle," he answered, with a smile which absolutely refused to be denied its way.

I tucked up my toes a little further to get them beyond the reach of King Cole, who was trying how high clipped wings would assist him to leap, continually remarking that he'd get at me yet, and considered.

"If the comet," I observed, "would come into juxtaposition to the earth in such fashion as to annihilate that magpie, or knock him off into space whence he could never return, the service would be highly appreciated, not by myself only, but by four-fifths of the callers here also."

"Too much to ask," responded my companion, with the same studied solemnity; "the King is in such high favour at court that a collision which annihilated him would probably prove equally disastrous to the Commett. However, there are other ways of settling this present difficulty, for the King like so many other high officials, is open to bribery."

With this the young man produced a lump of sugar from somewhere about his garments, and swinging himself to a lower branch, bent low to hold the dainty just beyond reach of the vociferous beak. Then breaking off a branch he held it down to the bird.

"King Cole," he said; "you've got to apologize to this lady at once. Grab this twig and come along up here."

The King plainly did not like the idea, but he wanted the sugar and knew it was only to be obtained as a reward of merit; so, after a little hesitation, he seized the branch and permitted himself to be lifted up. Then ensued some emphatic orders from one side and sulky chatterings from the other, at the close of which King Cole sidled along to me and gravely offered his claw. With King Cole this was a veritable pipe of peace, pro tem., so I lost no time in accepting it; then, slipping from my perch, I hastened toward the house with barely a "Thank you" to the young man. I had no idea who he was beyond the name he had given, but strongly suspected he had been laughing at me from the first of my trouble, and that he might just as well have helped me out at the beginning as at the end, so it is small wonder I felt a bit resentful in spite of my obligations.

The eclipse of the star was over, and the dressmaker probably gone, for Stella came promptly at my call from the doorway, and listened with sympathetic amusement to my tale of woe. She had been a sufferer herself at times from the King's nips, and knew what they were like.

"That magpie is a real nuisance sometimes," she commented, "he just loves to plague anyone who fears him, and never forgets such a one. He steals, too, things you wouldn't think he could move, carrying off and hiding them. I often tell Alice she ought to get rid of him or else keep him shut up, but he is a great pet with her and after all he is a bright little fellow."

Possibly, but in my eyes his virtues did not balance his failings; still, I could hardly argue the question, so changed the subject.

"I came to see Alice," I said; "I've received some new stamps, and before trading them elsewhere came to ask if there were any she needed."

"Alice has gone to the city for a few days," said her sister, regretfully. "I don't know anything about stamps nor what she lacks, but I can get her albums and let you look; then, if you have anything you think she would want, you can keep them until she returns, and send the others where you like. Will that do?"

I thought it would, so, followed by King Cole, who now seemed of the most peaceable disposition imaginable, we adjourned to the old-fashioned secretary in the sitting-room, knowing that the upper drawer of this ancient piece of furniture was devoted to the storage of the three large albums that held Alice's collection of stamps. The lock was a secret one with some trick about it, hence a stranger could not open it even if he chanced to have a key that seemed to fit, so for that reason the key belonging to that lock was generally left on the ring that held all others belonging to the secretary, this ring being kept in a tiny niche opening with a hidden spring, surely a safe place for the key even had the lock been an ordinary one. Stella found the key at once, but the next minute she turned upon me with a horrified face.

"The lock is broken, and every one of Alice's albums gone!" she gasped.

There was no reason to suppose her sight was at fault, but in the involuntary thought that she had not looked in the right place, I immediately made use of my own. King Cole, too, seemed astonished and horrified. With beak and claws he climbed up her dress until he could perch on the edge of the empty drawer, then he hopped in and turned over the few loose papers lying there as if seeking a clue to the mystery. Stella looked at me with very wide eyes, and I stared back at her, my own eyes reflecting her dismay.

"Are you sure Alice didn't take the albums with her?" I asked.

"Very sure," answered Stella, decidedly. "The evening before she left she gave me laughing orders to be sure and save her cat, her magpie, and her albums in case of fire, and she would not have included the albums if she had any thought of taking them. Besides, she was not going among stamp collectors at all, and so would not want them with her."

I nodded. "What will she say? What can you do?" I asked.

"I'm going to consult my brother's chum," replied Stella. "He is here for a few days with Rob, and ought to know what to do as he is in the detective business attached to some concern in New York, I don't know just what. He is out in the garden, I think: you wait a minute and I will find him."

I intended to wait. Not for the world would I have gone away at this point, leaving the mystery unexplained, but a horrible suspicion came to me that Rob's chum must be the hero of my rescue from the magpie, and I didn't ache for further acquaintance. It had to be, however, for he soon came in with Stella, and was introduced as "my brother's college friend, Mr. Commett," acknowledging the introduction with due seriousness, but with a naughty twinkle in his eyes, nevertheless, making me long for a taste of the revenge so sweet to an outraged mind. Then he applied himself to the puzzle of the broken lock and the missing albums with such sobriety that I began to think possibly he would be of some assistance after all.

"Alice left Tuesday morning, and I know the lock was all right then, because she had the albums out Monday evening," said Stella, thoughtfully. "If it had been broken then, she would certainly have spoken of it. I'm afraid—oh, Mr. Commett, I am very much afraid—that it is all my fault, for I forgot to shut the east window Wednesday night, and remember now that things were in rather a mess here the next morning: papers and books on the floor and some things upset. A little vase was lying broken on the floor with the water and flowers all spilled. I thought the wind had done it, for the window was wide open."

"Wide open!" echoed Mr. Commett, musingly. "No, Miss Stella, it could hardly have been the wind, for there was none that night. Have you missed anything else?"

"My gold thimble and silver-mounted scissors," answered Stella. "I had them in this room that evening and haven't seen them since."

"The thief was not very grasping, then," commented our companion; "but I'm afraid your property is gone for good. This is Saturday afternoon, so he has a long start, and will probably be wise enough to take full advantage of it. Tell me something about the albums and their contents if you can; then I will have the dealers of neighbouring cities warned to look out for them, and will set a few other proceedings in train. Have you any idea what the things were worth?"

In spite of her trouble and anxiety Stella laughed outright. "What would Alice say to hear you refer to her precious albums as 'things,' you disrespectful creature!" she exclaimed, but she sobered at once, and gave the required information as best she could, assisted by my occasional reminders.

"There were three blank albums of about a hundred, possibly more, leaves or cardboard pages to each album. One held British colonial issues only; another was for general stamps, and the third contained United States issues only, all kinds, the Department issues all complete, even to the \$5 State. I have heard her boast of that. As for the value, I have no idea. Have you, May?"

"Only a vague one," I answered, "but I know she refused \$500 for the United States album a few months ago."

"The mischief she did!" whistled Mr. Commett in amazement. "I did not suppose the entire lot was worth more than five hundred cents at the most. The thief stole intelligently, after all. Who was it offered her that? Suppose he is the culprit?"

I could not answer either question, nor could Stella. King Cole lifted up his voice at this point, asking to be lifted out of the drawer. Failing to receive attention he gave a vindictive nip at the hand of Mr. Commett, which chanced to be within his reach, whereat the exasperated

young man called him a little imp of darkness, threatened to wring his neck some time, and ended by giving him a none too gentle toss out of a window. As for me, I promptly went out and gave the King two lumps of sugar and half an apple. I thought his deed deserved reward.

Mr. Commett left us that afternoon to hunt up Alice, get a more detailed description of her missing treasures, and to see if she could offer any clue for him to work upon. Unfortunately, she had accepted an invitation to join a camping-out party for a few days, and no one seemed to know exactly where she was or how to communicate with her, so all our friend could do was to notify dealers to be on the look out for any collection resembling the missing one, and come home again. Inquiry near home resulted in the discovery that a rather disreputable appearing tramp had been seen near the house the night of the robbery, so he was immediately searched out and as he couldn't give a satisfactory account of himself, he was popped into the village lockup on suspicion. I said that if he had been guilty, he would have hastened to put a much greater distance between himself and the rifled drawer, but Mr. Commett said loftily that some of the brightest criminals took care to act as innocent folks would have done, and hinted that I must not hope to teach him anything about the methods of thieves who plan to disarm suspicion. So I subsided.

Within four days of our discovery of the broken lock, pretty nearly all of the prominent dealers and many of the less important ones knew of the loss, and had returned a promise to capture that thief if he gave them a call. All were informed under seal of silence, for we did not mean the robber should get warning through the stamp papers. It must have cost Mr. Commett a small fortune for expenses, but he didn't seem to mind it, and knowing Alice's love for her albums, Stella did not try very hard to hold him back, telling me he could easily afford it. All the same I wondered considerably at his exerting himself to such an extent and showing so much interest in a matter that did not concern him, but men have queer streaks sometimes and I concluded this was one of them.

Just a week after we found the broken lock Alice came home, and, with one accord, we pounced upon her to tell the story. She listened in amazement, but without the dismay and indignation we expected.

"Do you really mean to say that a poor tramp is in jail here on suspicion of stealing my collection?" she demanded. "Now, Mr. Commett, you go right down and get him out! He never saw the albums; they're all safe in my trunk this minute unless they have been spirited away since I packed them this morning. I decided at the last minute to take them, and in hurriedly unlocking the drawer broke the trick catch; you know it is very old, for that secretary was my great-grandfather's, and it was probab'y worn out. As for the broken vase, scattered papers and your lost thimble and scissors, Stella, that is very likely to be King Cole's work. It would be exactly like him, and as the window was open, he would have had no trouble at all about getting in. I think it is a good joke on you all, and—where are you going, Mr. Commett?"

Mr. Commett looked back from the doorway, giving prompt reply:

"To wring the neck of that rascally magpie who deluded us into thinking the house had been entered: to liberate the tramp, and give him a \$10 bill; to telegraph to every dealer in the United States and Canada that he can buy all the old stamps he wants to without reference to me, and to take up the various traps I had set for possible culprits." Then the door banged emphatically and he was gone.

"The poor boy!" said Alice, with tears of laughter in her eyes: "did he really go to so much trouble for me?"

He truly had, we assured her, and before long we knew why. There's to be a wedding next New Year's Day, and then Stella will lose her sister and I my friend. Stephen lives in New York, so, of course, Alice will have to live there, too, after the wedding. King Cole is going also. We all agree that he is responsible for the end as well as the beginning of the story, and, therefore, don't want to see him around; Stephen and Alice quite agree with us as to the King's complicity in the matter, and are entirely willing to take him. The King will live on all the dainties of the land the rest of his life, but—well, I pity the future callers at the house of Commett!

New Philatelic Publications.

MR. IMESON'S "PHILATELIC PHANTASY," AND OTHER ADDITIONS TO THE STAMP COLLECTORS' LIBRARY.

A novel contribution to the literature of Philately is "The Stamp Fiend's Raid (in Philatelia's Cause)," described as "A Philatelic Phantasy," by W. E. Imeson," and published at 2s. 6d., by Mr. Horace Cox, Bream's Buildings, E.C. The book is one of close on 300 pages, cloth bound, and containing numerous sketches (or "Pen and Ink Perpetrations," as the prospectus styles them) by the author.

Mr. Imeson's work is virtually a Philatelic Nonsense Book—"a humorous and inoffensive skit on many hobbies of the day, chiefly Philately." Stamp collectors of serious mind, and those who are bent upon the acquisition of solid scientific philatelic instruction, are warned that they will find nothing of the kind in "The Stamp Fiend's Raid." The story, a grotesquely droll narrative of a philatelic "combine," is told entirely in verse. Even the dedication (to Mr. Allan Octavian Hume, C.B.) is poetically expressed, and the only prose portions of the book are an "Author's Note" and a "Glossary of Terms, etc." at the end. This "Glossary," we should explain, interprets for the benefit of the general reader the various philatelic terms employed in the book, and also gives particulars of the many philatelic notabilities whose names are mentioned.

Briefly, the story Mr. Imeson tells us in the drollest of verse concern itself with the weird adventures of Will Wylie, a desperate stamp fiend, and his chum, a Guardsman, dubbed Paul Jones, another desperate philatelic fiend, only more so. In recounting their exploits and enterprises, in Philatelia's cause, our author treats us to many a snatch of cynicism or philosophy, always most good-humourously expressed.

Stamps! there is magic in the word,
To us how much it means.
The solace of our middle age,
Our old age and our teens.

Will Wylie (who himself relates the story) is discovered in the grip of the influenza. To him enter Paul Jones, Guardsman, lately home from the front. Paul is keen on "Capes."

Now for the *Capes*; Jones has at least
A thousand—more or less
A thousand *Capes*! (And I've but one—
A much worn *Inverness*).
His albums are a study, in
A study large arrayed,
You never yet saw "blanks" so filled
With *Capes* of every shade.

Paul Jones has an awesome tale to tell. He has long been in the habit of securing choice "finds" of triangular *Capes* (a habit a good many of us would like to acquire), and he now proposes to tell his chum Will Wylie the secret of the source whence these discoveries came.

Most of the stamps, it seems, he has purchased from an East End "moocher," Pedlar Jim by name, Jim having acquired them from certain old clo' merchants. But one day comes a dispute 'twixt Jim and his military client as to the price to be paid for a Cape of a unique blood-red shade. Paul Jones confesses how, in sudden anger, he slays the low pedlar fellow who dares to haggle as to the price of the coveted rarity. Only one poor life stood in the way of acquiring a stamp that would set the whole philatelic world agog. And so Pedlar Jim was drowned in his tracks.

And while poor Jim lay dead I stood alive,
How true it is, the fittest must survive
mutters the philosophic and murderous Guardsman.
Had he a mother, brother, sister, wife?
I took no count—I only took his life.

Will Wylie hears the confession with mixed feelings and delivers a long reply—in blank verse. He thus remonstrates with his friend, more in sorrow than in anger.

Just think what follows if it once became
The pastime—taking life to get a stamp!
Who would be safe? Stamp fiends would not confine
Their 'operations' to the lower ten;
The turn of men like you and me would come!

Had we unlimited space we would gladly follow Wylie and Jones through all their thrilling escapades. A good sample of Mr. Imeson's paradoxical and punning manner occurs when the Guardsman drags his friend out (the influenza notwithstanding) on the midnight stamp raid which forms the chief incident of the story:

He roughly turned my collar up,
And then my choler rose.
"You come to take me out, but it's
A 'take in' I suppose?"
Said Paul: "You're paradoxical
Its catching, too, no doubt;
I've put you in my cloak and now
I mean to take you out!"

It was our first thought on completing our reading of Mr. Imeson's book, that he could write an exceedingly droll pantomime "book" and he would.

The illustrations show much humour and the book is crammed with philatelic fun from cover to cover. In a characteristically humorous advance prospectus of the publication we read: "The book is the first—and shows much promise of being the last—of its kind." But we are hoping that this whimsical prophecy may be falsified by events.

Philately for Pleasure and Profit.

Mr. Frank Holman of Torquay, sends us a copy of an interesting booklet he has published, entitled, "Stamp Collecting for Pleasure and Profit," price threepence. The publication is evidently intended as a means of interesting outsiders in our hobby, and treats of various phases and departments of Philately in the most general terms. Such essays as this undoubtedly do very great good as philatelic "missionaries," and we heartily wish Mr. Holman a wide circulation for his instructive and brightly-written pamphlet.

Another publication of the "missionary" order comes from Mr. Coin Zerbe, an American dealer in stamps, coins and paper money. This is "Nut-shell Facts on Coin, Stamps and Paper Money," published at 25 cents. Only a small proportion of the little book's space is devoted to philately, but the hints and information given are well-selected and sensibly expressed.

The New "Scott" Catalogue

The sixty-third (1901) Edition of "Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue" is just to hand. We have already had some few references in the *Fortnightly* to some of the more important revisions of price in this world-famous catalogue. But, as a general thing, the modifications are unimportant, apart from British and Colonial Stamps, which show an upward tendency in the prices of choice varieties. The United States section is, of course, always a specially valuable department of the "Scott" catalogue, and in this and other respects the book before us worthily maintains its traditions.

A "Mekeel" Catalogue to come.

We gather from certain advance sheets brought us by the last American mail that the C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Company, of St. Louis, Mo., have in preparation a catalogue of the world's stamps, but listing the standard varieties only. This, we take it, will be a handbook intended primarily for the young collector. There should be a good demand for such a work among the thousands of junior philatelists in the States.

Stamps and Forgeries of Tsingtau.

"German thoroughness" characterises every page of a new publication just to hand from Gebruder Senf, of Leipzig. This is entitled "Die Aushulfsmarken von Tsingtau, und ihre Fälschungen," and with the book are presented three large plates illustrating stamps of the Tsingtau issue (5pf., surcharged on the 10 pf. German stamp for China) and forgeries of the same. We must reserve a more detailed notice for some future occasion.

Some Price Lists

Mr. J. C. auf der Heide, of Amsterdam, sends us his price list of Holland and Colonies, and various other countries—a book of nearly 150 pages, listing many interesting stamps.

The latest issue of Messrs. Hugo Griebert and Co.'s "Special Offers and Bargains," dated December, gives prices for a wide range of British Colonial stamps.

Some Stamp Storyettes.

TRUE AND OTHERWISE, BUT IF ANYTHING
MOSTLY OTHERWISE.

THE PARROT IN PHILATELY.

Down in Copthall Avenue they tell a moving story of what befel a certain bright young stamp dealer. And all through keeping a talking parrot!

The dealer was himself a collector, and eke a specialist, and the country of his heart was Guatemala. Not a wise choice, truly, but that's neither here nor there. Guatemalas he accumulated by the hundred-weight in all shades of colour and in every perf. known to the centimetre measure. He talked Guatemala, he thought Guatemala, he dreamt Guatemala. And it was not perhaps surprising that the aged and dissolute parrot that oinked at the bright young dealer through the bars of a cage at the back of the shop, began to catch the Guatemala craze also. The ancient bird successfully negotiated the name that was so often on her master's lips. "Guatemala!" piped Polly whenever the dealer spoke of his favourite country. "Guatemala!" the old bird chuckled whenever a new variety was discovered.

And one afternoon—a bleak and dreary afternoon for the young dealer—a strange thing happened. It was the day that Sealing Wax was short-headed for the Manchester Cup and the hero of our story had been put "on it" by a benevolent friend. "Guatemala! Guatemala!" screamed the parrot, as the young dealer looked ruefully at the racing results in the halfpenny evening paper.

"Shut up, fool!" the dealer growled.

"Guatemala! Guatemala!" chortled the blithesome parrot; "Guatemala! Guatemala!"

"Oh, Guatemala be d—d!" howled the dealer in his wrath.

Whereat the parrot was suddenly silent. Grief, perchance, at this sudden outbreak of profanity on the part of a young man of blameless life, held poor Polly dumb. Be that as it may, the hours passed in silence until, as evening drew on, an old lady entered the stamp emporium.

"What can I do for you, madam?"

The young dealer was all urbanity in a moment. The lady looked well-to-do. Possibly she wanted a ten guinea packet for her nephew at Eton—

"I want to see some of the stamps of Guatemala," she began. "I believe you have a good—"

"Guatemala be d—d!" came in a loud screech from the parrot's cage. "Guatemala be—"

"I beg your pardon! Really this is—"

"Guatemala be d—d!" chortled the feathered fraud.

A sniff, a snort, a long, long look of double-distilled disgust, and the lady was gone—never to return; and the bright young dealer declares to this day that a wall-eyed, hook-beaked fraud in feathers lost him the most promising-looking customer he ever saw in his shop.

Soon afterwards he swapped the venerable parrot for a stamp collection, through the medium of a newspaper advertisement, and the collection, when he got it home, proved to consist of forgeries with the exception of one stamp, and that was an unused specimen of the 5 centimes French, slightly nicked at the corner, and with a hole in the middle, but otherwise mint!

Down in Copthall Avenue they have a proverb that when bad luck comes, it comes in chunks. P. C. B.

A Romance of the 12d. Canada.

Among the many good stories told in Mr. Fred J. Melville's new book, "The A.B.C. of Stamp Collecting," is one concerning the stamp "find" of a specimen of the 12d. of Canada.

One of these stamps (he writes) is said to have been discovered in a remarkable way. A Canadian gentleman, living in a house facing the St. Lawrence River, had a packet of valuable documents which he was about to post. It bore a 12d. stamp and the packet lay in a small iron cash box in the gentleman's room. Before he had the opportunity of posting it, however, a man in desperate straits tried to wrest it from its owner, and in the struggle that ensued a lamp

was overturned, setting the place in flames. The intruder, after firing at his antagonist, made good his escape. The other, grievously injured, managed to throw the box out of the window, and it fell, breaking through the thin sheet of ice on the surface of the river and sank. The next day the remains of the victim were discovered, but no trace could be found of the iron box and its contents.

That was in 1851, according to the story, which is a Canadian one. Forty-one years later, in 1892, one of the dredgers of the Montreal Harbour Commissioners was in operation in the river when one of the men in charge noticed the iron box. After making enquiries, he was able to deliver the documents to the heirs of the rightful owner. In their gratitude they presented the finder with a cheque and the cover of the package, which bore the 12d. stamp, by this time exceedingly scarce. The stamp, it is understood, was sold for about £70.

The Story of the "Stamps" of Sedang.

Another "twice-told tale" that well bears repetition is given by Mr. Melville in a chapter on Bogus Stamps, to which he gives the apt headline, "Many Inventions." We refer to the story of "Marie I, King of the Sedangs," and of the stamps he issued.

A few years ago a very extraordinary "affaire" aroused great interest in Paris. The whole story has been explained by Mr. Henry Norman in his book on "The Far East."

During 1889 a tall, well-built Frenchman appeared at Hong Kong. He called himself Marie David de Mayrena, and on his visiting cards were printed the words in French: "His Majesty the King of Sedang."

Mayrena had had an adventurous career in the Far East; and, in the course of long wanderings, had reached the region of the Sedangs, a tribe inhabiting the hinterland of Annam. By these people he was elected king and, according to Mr. Norman, there is no doubt whatever about the genuineness of his election.

On his arrival at Hong Kong, the "King of Sedang" was vouched for by the French Consul, who introduced him to the society in the Colony, and to His Excellency the Governor. In consequence of this latter introduction Mayrena was invited to a dinner at Government House.

From the description given of his person he was a most striking figure when in his royal attire. He wore a short scarlet jacket with enormous galons on his cuffs, a broad blue ribbon, a magenta sash, in which was struck a long curved sword worn across the front of his body, white trousers with a broad gold stripe, and a white helmet with a crown of gold and three stars. Having instituted the "Order of Marie I," he decorated the captain of a little Danish steamer who had hoisted his "royal standard" in Haipong Harbour. Later, he even decorated the British Governor of Hong Kong with the ridiculous ribbon and cross. To a number of merchants he conceded rights for the development of the country of the Sedangs, in return for certain duties on exports. He had prepared in Paris a series of postage stamps, not for use among savages, but obviously for sale to philatelic enthusiasts. Soon after the issue of these he was discovered to be an impostor. He left Hong Kong in a German steamer with the French authorities close at his heels. He had passed round the hat to a few friends and acquaintances in Hong Kong to pay his passage. After a term of imprisonment for debt at Ostend, he turned up in Paris. Here he lived for a time in luxury, the French Press and the Parisian people themselves scarcely knowing what to make of him. The Far East, however, still had a fascination for him, and he returned thither, taking up his abode with two or three companions in an uninhabited island off the Malay coast. Here a cobra brought the strange career of Marie I. to an end by biting him on the foot.

In an Old Stamp Catalogue

I turned it over: it was an old stamp catalogue published at Brussels in 1850, and was included with a lot of old stamp literature I had just purchased. The cover was shabby, but the interior of the work struck me as being singularly comprehensive for its early date of issue. I marvelled and wondered: before, however, I had even studied its title page or observed the name of its publisher. I found several leaves stuck together, and opened them: there were sheets and sheets of unused stamps in mint state, mostly numeral and early head issues of Hawaii. What a find! The panes however were differently arranged to those known at the present day, and I discovered a novelty in the shape of a sheet of 2c. blue, 1864. Could it be an error and was I destined to make so fortunate a discovery?

I roughly estimated their value at £5000. While musing thusly I heard a rap at my door, and a familiar voice saying, "Your hot water, sir."

"Cursed illusion! I woke from my sleep a sadder but a wiser man."

H. EDGAR WESTON.

Fiscal Notes and Chronicle.

Contributed by A. PRESTON PEARCE.

Communications in respect of this department should be addressed to Mr. A. Preston Pearce, 12, Edgcombe Street, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

Noting in the preliminary announcement of the Christmas number that this issue of the *Fortnightly* would be sent to a great many non-subscribers, it occurred to me that perhaps I ought to alter the style of my usual heading, lest, peradventure, the jaded reader of the daily newspapers, turning to this attractive-looking journal for restful change might open here, and, catching sight of the now all too familiar word, ejaculate, and pursue his quest no further.

However, my jottings have now been appearing for so many years under this title, that it may, perhaps still be sundered to do duty as long as they serve a useful purpose. The present controversy has brought our particular adjectival label into daily use, and we may possibly reap some reflex advantage thereby. Certainly, the fiscalist who takes an intelligent interest in his stamps, and what they stand for, is not the least well-equipped to take an understanding view of the various pictures now being drawn by political combatants.

I have received a copy of the law relating to the Stamp Duties recently imposed in the island of Guernsey, and find that, unlike the Jersey copy, it is printed in both French and English, which must be much more convenient. The number and denominations of the stamps provided are not stated therein, but the list of adhesives given last month has been confirmed from various sources. The explanation of the fact that the series ends with the very moderate sum of half-a-crown appears in the second item of the Law, which reads:

2.—On instruments signed by the Court and on instruments of which the value of the necessary stamp exceeds two shillings and sixpence sterling, the stamp shall be impressed when practicable, adhesive stamps may be used for other instruments.

As collectors naturally like to know the purposes for which their stamps are used, and as these new comers bear no such indication, I may say briefly that the 1d. value is to be used on all cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, letters of credit and promissory notes drawn in the island, whatever may be their amounts, and on all receipts for sums exceeding £2 sterling. The 2s. and 1/3 values are only required on bonds for money lent, the rate being 8d. up to £25, 1/3 for each £50 up to £300, and above that, 2/6 for each £100 or fraction. The 2/6 value (and multiples thereof) is required on a number of documents, such as contracts, leases, powers of attorney, etc.

My request for information as to the extent of the jurisdiction of the Law under consideration has brought a kindly response from Mr. H. E. Marquand, who points out that practically all the legal work of the neighbouring islands of Alderney and Sark is done through the Guernsey advocates, and that the legal instruments prepared by them having to be registered in Guernsey at the Greffe, come under the local Stamp Act. Cheques also that are issued in those islands, being drawn on the Guernsey banks, have to bear the new 1d. stamp, but what would happen in the case of an Alderney man who banked in Jersey, where cheques are still free from duty? Perhaps the best way to get a clear idea of the position of the adjacent island is to seek for an answer to this question: Has an Alderney or Sark man who gives a receipt to another for a sum of more than £2 to stamp it with a Guernsey stamp or not? Mr. Marquand has been good enough to send me a specimen of the 1d. embossed stamp, with particulars of the other values in that form, and though we do not yet include such issues in our Chronicle, it is desirable to place on record the fact that non-adhesives of the values of 1d., 8d., 1/3, 2/6, 3/9, 5/-, 6/3, 7/6, 10s. and 20s. are now obtainable. Unlike the adhesives, all the designs are different, but all bear the Arms of the States.

Porto Bico.—The copy of the overprint that appeared in last month's chronicle was not quite correct. The word "giro" should have been printed in large Roman caps, and

the whole design is very much smaller than the reproduction.

Queensland.—It will be remembered that the very first stamp issued with King Edward's head was a 2d. fiscal one for this Colony; it has not, however, had a long life, for Mr. Selway has shown me a re-drawn version in which the value at bottom appears in larger letters, filling up the whole space.

Presents from Santa Claus.

THE "FORTNIGHTLY" OFFERS A FEW SUGGESTIONS TO A VENERABLE FRAUD.

Father Christmas, nowadays, shows such a woeful want of originality that we are constrained to offer him a few suggestions regarding gifts suitable for the Yuletide stockings of various members of the philatelic community. We trust that the recipients of these gifts—when they get them—will bear in mind that they owe them largely to the initiative of the Santa Claus Issue of the *Fortnightly*. At the same time, be it noted, we can accept no responsibility for loss in transit!

FOR THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON:

An influx of new members (titled, if possible) and new blood (blue, if convenient).

FOR MONS LE RENOTIERE VON FERRARY.

A variety he has never seen before.

FOR MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON:

A penny "Post office" Mauritius to sell, alongside the twopenny.

FOR MR. D. FIELD:

A Great Britain 10d., watermark emblems (Private mem. to Santa Claus: Price absolutely no object).

FOR THE HOARDER OF CURRENT UNUSED STAMPS:

A chance to "get out" at face value.

FOR MR. H. W. BARON:

An envelope from Madagascar, franked all the way to England by the gummed labels of the "British Inland Mail."

FOR MR. W. H. PECKITT:

Further purchases of important collections, and good luck with them.

FOR MR. W. HADLOW:

A longer run and better luck with the paper watermarked "Z.A.R." than Oom Paul Kruger got.

FOR MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED:

A map of Madagascar, not coloured red.

FOR SIR HENRY PRIMROSE:

Smaller change than a shilling when he wishes to buy a halfpenny stamp.

FOR MESSRS. C. NISSEN AND CO.:

Some more mint blocks of Plate 225.

FOR MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A.:

A rise to 500 in the world's most energetic and go-ahead Philatelic Society—the Birmingham!

FOR THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.":

A large entry for the new Prize competition, and consequently many useful additions to the literature of Philately.

FOR OUR TIRED SELF:

A few weeks' holiday in the Solomon Islands, where one never hears of stamps.

FOR THE CHIEF OF THE BRIGHTON FAKE-MONGERS:

A few years' holiday at Portland, where one never hears about anything.

FOR ALL OUR READERS AND FRIENDS:

Jolly good luck, health, and happiness at Christmas—and afterwards.

"Success," a New York periodical, is about to devote a portion of its space to Philately. On this side the number of weekly papers that take a generous interest in stamp collecting, is steadily increasing.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

LONDON, DECEMBER, 5, 1903.

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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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.



Our Christmas Number.

We shall have another opportunity of wishing our readers good luck and happiness at the festive season. For the moment, in presenting our Christmas Number, we wish to explain the reasons that have militated against our making this Yule Tide *Fortnightly* quite the success we had wished to make it. In the first place, a series of most diabolical twinges of neuralgia attacked the editorial face and head during the greater part of last week; in the second place there was a delay in the delivery of the blocks needed for our coloured cover, and in the third place two contributors who had promised us special articles for this number were prevented from keeping their word. Despite these little eutorial troubles, however, we still think the Christmas *Fortnightly* will be welcomed as a number containing much readable and seasonable fare. If it fall short of our readers' expectations, as we fear it will, then we must ask them to take the will for the deed, and to believe that we have done our level best.

A number of interesting articles which had been promised for this number will appear in the next *Fortnightly*, dated December 19th.

The Value of Original Gum.

Many of us have long thought that too great a value was attached to original gum. Philatelists have made a fetish of a mere matter of mucilage, which (in the opinion of many people) could be imitated as easily as an antique candlestick. In the latest catalogue issued by Mr. Paul Kohl, of Chemnitz, appear some interesting reflections on the subject of gum. In support of his own contention that too much importance has been, and is, attached to original gum, Mr. Kohl invited the opinions of two expert philatelists on the subject. Their replies are as follow:

Herr Max Thier writes:—"In reply to your question I agree that you should warn collectors not to attach too much value to original gum. In my experience I have come to the conclusion that it is very difficult, and in most cases practically impossible, to determine with any certainty the existence of original gum. In some cases the gum is of value, but upon the whole, collectors would be wiser in preferring a perfect stamp without gum to an indifferent and unsightly specimen with original gum."

Herr J. Schlesinger writes:—"A faultless stamp with original gum in first class condition is naturally the desideratum of a true collector. Through the search for such specimens, however, an industry has been created which must be fought against to its full extent. False gum may generally be detected: there are, however, now frequent cases—and they multiply—when the genuineness of the gum cannot be determined with certainty, and it will probably be impossible in coming years, even with the most extensive research. I therefore urgently counsel all philatelists not to attach too

great an importance to the gum."

Mr. M. P. Castle reviews the whole question in his editorial article in the November "London Philatelist," and comes to the somewhat vague conclusion that "too much value should not be attached to the presence of the gum unless the other determining factors of condition are all present." In other words, gum is of no value on a bad specimen, but of some value on a good specimen!

This does not sound like a very able summing-up of the subject. We should be glad if readers of the *Fortnightly* would air *their* views on the Great Gum Question.

The Specialist's Dream.

'Twas Christmas Eve My ease I took
Reclining in an old arm-chair,
With pipe and philatelic book,
Pro tem forgetting life's dull care;
When phantoms weird and strange I found
My chair before, behind, around.

And one, their chief, with blazing eye
Fixed mine. Forget his words I shan't:
"You are a Specialist—deny
It if you can!" I moaned "I can't."
My lame excuse did not appease—
"I'm such a little one, sir, please!"

"These ill-used ghosts," their spokesmen said,
"By you and such as you are raised,
'Tis time that one and all were laid
(When comes that time the Lord be praised!).
A well-earned rest these shades but seek.
But for themselves they now shall speak."

Spoke first the Stamp-World's Frankenstein:
"My name is Perfs (then shivered I),
But added 'names,' as rough, machine,
Serrated, wide—you call me by.
Is it not time—pray answer this!
That I'd a rest?" I groaned. "It is."

The Watermark wraith chimed in next:
"In days gone by few men I bored;
Since found by you I've millions vexed,
'no' e'en by you I'm oft ignored.
And passed by when I should be seen,
Yet 'found' where I have never been!"

Then forward stepped the Gum ghost grim:
"Say! am I 'brown' or 'white' (or 'blue')?
No stickler I, but I'll stick firm
No more to 'stick it,' sir, with you!
You 'mix' me so—that's true, now come?"
"It is true," cried I, "by gum—O Gum!"

His plaint the Paper phantom made:
"O woe is wove, pelure, or ribbed!
My ghost had, but for you, been laid,
O granite heart!" At this I jibbed—
"The *Dickinson*—?!" The ghost cried "Fie!
Own to the truth—and let me lie!"

Passed Dots and Hairlines in review,
And Stops (I might in Hades be!).
Then, at a signal, off they flew.
Ere went their chief, "Repent!" cried he,
"Repent! for time is left you still!"
I shrieked "I do!"—some day I will.

'Twas Christmas Eve. My snooze I took,
Reclining in an old arm-chair,
My pipe was out, and dropp'd my book,
And those weird phantoms vanished were.
The bells rang out—the spell they broke,
As, with a shudder, I awoke.

W. E. IMESON.

"McKeel's Stamp Collector" mentions a scheme for forming an international reference bureau for the protection of philatelists. Thanks! We are taking a rest on protection schemes just now.

A Believer in British Stamps.

BRITISH VARIETIES TO BUY AT PRESENT PRICES.

Interview with Mr. Charles Nissen.

There is no man with a firmer faith in the future of the stamps of Great Britain than Mr. Chas. Nissen, of Messrs. C. Nissen and Co., 77 and 78, High Holborn. When he first began his career as a stamp dealer (at the mature age of thirteen years) it was with a special preference for British Stamps. For some years he was one of London's philatelic shopkeepers, but is now installed in first floor offices immediately facing the Inns of Court Hotel.

"I believed in British stamps from the first," Mr. Nissen declares, "and although I have dealt in all countries in my time, I have always been keenest on Great Britain. There were far fewer collectors of British when I started dealing, and prices were nothing to what they are now. Once, for instance, I sold a parcel of 4,000 penny blacks at the price of 10s. per thousand, and some 800 of the 2d. blue, no lines, for about three-halfpence a piece. And that's not the worst. I sold several 2s. browns and £1 Anchors to a well-known City dealer for about 10s. each. Don't I wish I had them now!"

"The first big boom in British came in 1894, about the time the first special catalogues appeared. A number of important collections started then. Things became quieter for a year or so, and then, about 1898, there was another awakening as to the value of interest of the stamps of our own country; and since then, British stamps have never looked back."

"They are booming still?"

"The values of first-class British stamps, both unused and in used condition, are rising daily, hourly," said Mr. Nissen, earnestly. "Quite recently I bought an unused specimen of £1 Anchor (which the owner had purchased at the Post Office for face value) and sold it the following day for £95 spot cash."

THE REAL VALUE OF THE £1 ANCHOR.

"But," declared Mr. Nissen, "even that large sum doesn't represent the true value of the £1 Anchor. Compare this stamp with the penny or twopenny 'Post Office' stamps of Mauritius. For the 2d. 'Post Office' just recently discovered, an offer of a £1000 has been refused, so we may safely value the stamp at that sum. Five hundred specimens, I believe, were printed of each of the 1d. and 2d. 'Post Office' stamps. Of the British £1 Anchor 2,000 were printed. Therefore, if we take numbers printed as the basis of value, the £1 Anchor should be worth a fourth of the price of either of the 'Post Office' Mauritius stamps. As a matter of fact, in the 'Guide to values of British Stamps' I have just compiled for the 'Stamp Collectors' Annual, I have priced the £1 Anchor, unused, at £120, and it's worth it, every penny!"

"And there's plenty doing in British stamps, Mr. Nissen?"

"Yes; the trouble with first-class varieties of British stamps is not to sell them, but to get them. Catalogue prices for certain sorts are out of date altogether. For fine used copies collectors will willingly pay Gibbons' prices and more than Gibbons'. In fact, there are certain things that one cannot get at double the present catalogue rates."

"At the present time, as you know, there is no special catalogue of British stamps. Collectors take the ordinary catalogues, and just buy as cheaply as they can but in regard to certain varieties it is practically a matter of guesswork. In my 'Guide to Values' in the 'Annual,' I hope to clear up a great many doubts as to the real values of various scarce things in British, including all the rare plate numbers, etc."

SOME BARGAINS AT PRESENT PRICES.

"No one but a very wealthy man," proceeded Mr. Nissen, "can now undertake a collection of unused British stamps. The majority go in for fine used copies. Unused specimens

will soon be quite unobtainable in the open market, and especially fine used copies (which are the exception rather than the rule in the older British issues) are rapidly increasing in value."

"Of one thing I am quite sure—if collectors go in now for fine specimens, used or unused, they will never regret their investment. Take, for instance, the 2d. blue, without lines. Fine copies are a safe and sure investment. Also such stamps as the octagonals, the 1855-57 issue and all the 8d., 9d., 10d. and 2s. stamps; the 5s., 10s. and £1 of the 1867 issue, and so on. Official stamps of all kinds should prove a splendid investment."

"An example of a recent variety that has soon attained an increased value is the 3d. Queen Victoria error, on orange instead of yellow paper. Specimens are now readily saleable at £1 apiece."

"You go in for everything British, Mr. Nissen?"

"Yes; also all foreign and Colonial stamps—Fiscals and Telegraphs, as well as postage stamps. But the bulk of our business, both here and through the post, is in British Stamps."

FROM WILLIAM AND MARY TO EDWARD VII.

On looking through some of Mr. Nissen's stock books we find some nice copies of I.R. Officials, high values, O.W.'s, Board of Educations, octagonals, used and unused, penny blacks, twopenny blues without lines, some mint blocks of Plate 225, and 4d. red, plate 9, etc., etc. In fact, excepting the very great rarities, which can be generally 'placed' at once, Mr. Nissen seems to possess everything in the way of British, from the old deed stamps of William and Mary down to King Edward the Seventh.

Mr. Nissen, we may interpolate here, is himself a man of many hobbies. In addition to stamps he takes an active interest in match labels, prints, ex-libris, etc., and has made collections of autographs and coins. He is especially keen on anything interesting in connection with British stamps and the rise and progress of the British Post Office. In the course of our chat with him we had the pleasure of inspecting numerous quaint old postal documents, dating back to pre-

stamp days; also portraits and autographs of Sir Rowland Hill, William Mulready, Henry Archer and others. One old postal notice details, the "Penny Post Regulations," under date January 1st, 1797; and it is curious to read that at that time the two principal offices for the collection of His Majesty's mails were at the General Post Office Yard, Lombard Street (where the Lombard Street P.O. stands to this day), and at Gerrard Street, Soho.

Yes, we do a good deal of business in the way of sets of plate numbers and re-constructed sheets," remarked Mr. Nissen, in reply to a question. "It's an odd thing, by the way, that re-constructed sheets are more frequently ordered from abroad—from the Continent and the United States—than from clients in our country. Just lately we have completed rather a remarkable order for an American collector—that is, to re-construct sheets of various values, including the penny black and 2d. blue, no lines, the 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., £1 and £5 stamps."

"A big undertaking that?"

"Yes, it took us nearly eight months to get all the specimens required. As for plate numbers I think I can say that we have had nearly every scarce variety through our hands—such as the 4d. red, plate 16, the 1s. hair lines and the 9d. ditto, the 9d. plate 5 emblems, the 10d. wmk. emblems, used and unused, the 6d. buff, plate 13, and so on. Things like those don't remain in our stock books very long," added Mr. Nissen, with something that sounded like a sigh.



MR. CHARLES NISSEN.

"Postmarks are booming, too," he went on; "and when I say postmarks I mean both those used before the introduction of adhesive stamps in 1840 and also those on stamps since 1840. One collector to whom we supplied many fine stamps about 1899 and 1900 (and who would frequently pay double catalogue for fine copies) has recently sold out for £750 cash, the stamps having originally cost him £400. I think that a very quick and satisfactory return on a philatelic investment, don't you?"

A RARITY IN A MIXED LOT.

"That reminds me of a good thing we sold the other day in a cheap job lot of stamps. This was a parcel of a thousand of the penny red, imperf. of 1841. The price was 4s. 6d., and a day or so later the purchaser returned to show us a very curious and interesting stamp he had found in his parcel. This was the penny rose-red—a very fine and distinct rose-red shade—on white paper, with watermark inverted, fine postmark in red, and with double letter in the left hand corner! A nice thing to find in a mixed lot, eh? We had never seen just that particular variety before. We at once offered to re-purchase the stamp for £5; our customer accepted the offer and we re-sold the stamp the following day at a profit."

"Do you find any increase of interest in Telegraph stamps, Mr. Nissen?"

"Yes, a marked increase, especially in British. Military telegraphs are very scarce and hard to get, and some of the private British telegraphs are exceedingly scarce. In our experience the private telegraphs once proved a rather treacherous market. Somebody offered us a small parcel of Universals—I think about 20 each of the 6d. and 1s. stamps. We bought them at 7s. 6d. each all round, only to find a few days later that they were coming out from somewhere or another by the thousand! The few we had sold at a profit we took back from our customers, and refunded the price paid, for the big 'find' of these stamps had brought them down

with a run to about a shilling apiece. However, what we lost on the swings we made up on the roundabouts, as the showmen say, for we bought from the same party a fine collection of Government Telegraphs, including the 3d. plates 4 and 5, the 1/- plate 12, wmk. Crown, the 3/- Crown (a strip of three), the 5s. wmk. Anchor, and several £5 stamps.

"Speaking of British Telegraphs, I shall never forget the magnificent parcel I once had for sale on commission. That was in 1894, I think, and British Telegraphs were not 'everybody's money' at that time. There were thousands and thousands of all sorts in the parcel I speak of, and for want of a better market I had at last to close with an offer of £10. The man who bought them (I afterwards heard) cleared over £400 on his bargain."

AS A FORGERY AND FAKE DETECTOR.

We must not close this brief impression of a chat with Mr. Nissen without some reference to his frequent services to Philately—and, on at least one occasion, to the postal authorities—as a detector of fakes and forgeries. It was he who discovered and exposed the forgery of the 1/- green—a fraud upon the revenue of the country and not upon stamp collectors. He also detected an ingenious fake of the 2d. plate 17, and many cases of manipulated perforations.

One remark made by Mr. Nissen in the course of our chat was possibly of greater interest to ourselves than to the general reader. "I think I am the oldest constant advertiser in the *Fortnightly*," he declared. "I have read it from No. 1, and advertised in it, almost without a break from No. 1. My advertisements in the 'S.C.F.' have been the means of bringing me into touch with a wide circle of clients and friends."

In return, Mr. Nissen has always shown a sincere friendship for the *Fortnightly*, and in 1899, when we released our little journal from the guardianship of the Board of Trade (after a long suspension of publication) Mr. Nissen very willingly agreed to act, pro tem, as publisher, and to this day his offices in High Holborn remain a recognised centre for the news trade's supply of the "S.C.F."

Thither also go many specialists of British and Colonial stamps, and we have sometimes seen Messrs. Nissen's rooms more in the condition of a philatelic society's meeting than of an ordinary business office. At such times the atmosphere is redolent of earnest Philately, with a strong leaning towards choice varieties of British stamps.

Wanted, Letters from Liechtenstein.

Mr. W. C. Stone, in a recent communication to the "Weekly Philatelic Era," speaks of the little independent principality of Liechtenstein, situated between Austria and the Canton of Appenzel in Switzerland.

"I should be pleased to know," writes Mr. Stone, "whether anyone has ever run across Austrian stamps with obliterations hailing from this Tom Thumb country. From a careful study of the best maps I can only find mention of the following places within the principality: Vadutz, Bazzers, Triesen, Eschen."

As Mr. Stone remarks, no special postage stamps have ever been issued for Liechtenstein, although there was at one time a rumour that such an issue was impending.

We think it was Liechtenstein that figured in the story of the irate American traveller and the customs officer. It was in the pre-railway days and the American, reaching the frontier of the tiny principality, was met with the usual demand that his luggage should be turned over for examination. "Goldarn you!" (or something like that) cried the Yankee; "you aren't a country, you're only a spot. I guess I won't come in at all—I'll drive round you!"

A "Philatelic Problem" Competition is suggested by a *Fortnightly*-reader, Mr. Egbert Ashby, as a suitable feature for our paper. There often occur points on which stamp collectors are doubtful as to what course to adopt," he writes, "and I should suggest that a small prize be given each fortnight for the best philatelic problem propounded." Perhaps other readers would let us know how the idea strikes them.



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consist principally of Stamps priced at more
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THE "NORTHERN" STAMP EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

The demand for New Issues in large blocks and complete sheets, brought about by the accession of King Edward VII. and the consequent changes in stamp designs, seems to have become a dead letter, and Collectors are once more finding out that for steady and rising investment, the older issues are much to be preferred to current ones. If those people who have been buying complete sheets of current stamps on the chance of an early rise would only pause and reflect, they would readily perceive that others besides themselves have been spending their money in the same way, so that probably for the next 20 years King's Head and other current stamps will be obtainable, as now, at less than face value. It may be true, as those interested affirm, that a stamp here and there will realise 1,000 per cent., provided it suddenly goes out of issue, but it goes without saying that the vast majority of specimens will remain at face value or less for years to come. In order to reap an advantage from a rise on one or two specimens it is necessary that a Collector should cover the whole ground, and his money is therefore either losing interest or the value of his stock depreciating. On the other hand, fine used specimens of the older issues are gradually being absorbed in collections and are becoming more and more difficult to obtain. It is obvious that not only is a collection of the older stamps more interesting, but, from an investment point of view, it must be more profitable, and as a Collector now-a-days cannot afford to neglect the consideration of £ s. d., it naturally follows that the branch of Philately which promises the higher rate of interest must be in the direction where the copies are few and difficult to get. If any proof of this be required, one has only to inspect the average dealer's stock to find New Issues represented by whole sheets,

and the older ones hardly represented at all, or, very often by inferior copies. There cannot be a surer sign of the direction the Philatelic "wind" is taking than is to be observed in Exchange Club sales, and perhaps the "Northern," as one of the largest clubs, is a certain Philatelic "vane." Recent packets that have returned home have shown a startling "passing by" of the newer issues and an encouraging demand for the older ones, while the more neglected countries and Colonies are once more finding favour. Straits Settlements, with their very interesting series of surcharges and varieties, are selling well; Native States, surcharged on India stamps are also in great demand, especially in unused condition. A sheet of these, value £80, contributed to the March "Northern" Colonial packet, returned home with £32 12s. sold! the sales from this packet being £191 0s. 5d., out of a total value of £937 19s. 3d. The value of the three March sections came to £2,261 17s. 1d., and the total sales were £384 8s. 1d. The Sales for April and May (these packets being circulated during the off season) were £598 out of total contributions value £4,300.

As a medium for buying and selling stamps, the "Northern" Exchange Society will be found extremely useful. Collectors of standing will be welcomed and as there is no obligation to contribute sheets regularly, those who have not a large number of duplicates can see any, or all, of the packets, and select what stamps they may require.

For the November packet sheets to the value of £2,500 have been received and have been made up for circulation. One of the sheets contains a very fine selection of used penny Ceylons, to the value of £210, and another value £254 of a nice collection of old German States in used and unused condition. Rules and all information may be had from the Secretary, F. A. Wickhart, "Avonmore," 30, Highbury New Park, London, N.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

Secretaries are requested to assist the Editor by sending in their reports not later than the Monday preceding publication.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A paper on Fiji, with a fine display of Fijian Stamps, by the President, Mr. Dorning Beckton, was the feature of the Manchester Society's meeting on November 6th. Mr. H. J. Lee, of Manchester, was elected a member.

IMPERIAL STAMP EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

Owing to the pressure of business Mr. Lean has reluctantly been compelled to resign his position as Secretary to the above Society, and the management of same has passed into the hands of Mr. J. C. Long, 7, Salcott Road, Clapham Junction, S.W., to whom all communications should be addressed.

It is requested that members should send in their sheets by the 1st of each month, so that the packet can be made up and despatched promptly by the 5th.

FEDERAL STAMP EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

The Secretary reports that November packet started its rounds early in the month and contained stamps of better value than previous months. Some 10 new members are added to the postal list, and the Society seems to be making steady progress.

October packet has completed its circuit, and sales were fairly good, especially considering the Exchange has only just started. Members have had sheets returned and settlement made. Sheets should be sent in to the Secretary, Mr. J. C. Long, 7, Salcott Road, Clapham Junction, S.W., by the 25th of each month, so that packets may start on 1st of month following.

At the first committee meeting held on the 27th of November, the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly" was unanimously decided upon as the official organ of the society.

ENTERPRISE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The tenth ordinary meeting was held on Wednesday evening, November 25th, 1903, at 47, Finsbury Square, E.C.

M. Nate Mock, of Berlin, Germany, was duly elected a member of the Society.

In accordance with the programme, the President displayed his magnificent collection of Ceylon, practically complete, both used and unused and containing many uncatalogued varieties. This display was much appreciated by those present, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to Mr. Lake for providing so interesting an entertainment.

The November Packet has returned from circuit, and all credit balances were despatched within 24 hours after its receipt.

There are still several vacancies for medium collectors with good references. Rules and full particulars can be had per return from A. H. Harris, Hon. Sec., "The Library," Buckhurst Hill, Essex.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND & BEGINNERS' EXCHANGE.

South of England September Packet returned to Secretary, November 16th. All credit balances were paid to members residing in Great Britain by November 26th.

The October Packet contained 33 sheets, value £107, November Packet, 32, value £88. Net prices.

The Beginners Packet for October is due back December 1th, when accounts will be sent out promptly.

Beginners November Packet contained 31 sheets, net value £47

There are still a few vacancies for reliable collectors, not dealers in both clubs, rules for 4d. stamp, from the Secretary. Letters not containing stamp for reply will not be answered.

Miss Florence E. Smith, Member S.E.P.S. and Birmingham Philatelic Society, Winfrith, The Crescent, Bedford.

SURREY PHILATELIC CLUB

We are glad to hear that this Club, founded four years ago, is again assuming a strong position. Mr. G. C. Rowe, Quantock, Basington Road, Streatham, is now Secretary. Under the able presidency of Mr. R. S. Farden (a committeeman since the Club's infancy) members are fast rallying to the "S.P.C." A successful meeting was held on Monday, November 23rd, at 72, High Street, Sutton—the Club's headquarters.

THE PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

Members are requested to send in by return good sheets for both the Senior and Junior Sections. The packets will be made up on or about the 8th. Few vacancies for good members, in Senior and Junior sections. Rules free; no fees.

E. T. Morgan, General Secretary, 14, High Street, Selhurst, S.E. Communications for Junior section to be addressed: C. A. Squire Cox, Woodbine, Cambridge Road, Anerley.

TRAVELLERS' STAMP EXCHANGE.

The September packet of this Amateur Exchange returned showing excellent sales, a large number of rare British Colonials having changed hands. The December packet will start punctually on the 1st and promises to be a very fine one, sheets to the value of £600 to hand, and members have still three days before the packet commences its round.

Hon. Sec., Leicester, A. B. Paine, Longsdon, Nr. Stoke-upon-Trent.

THE PALATINE STAMP EXCHANGE.

"The Palatine" is a sister Exchange to "The Travellers'" and although not so far advanced, is increasing. The October packet returned showing very good sales. All sheets sent back to the owners within 10 days.

Hon. Sec., Leicester, A. B. Paine, Longsden, Nr. Stoke-upon-Trent.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The latest meeting of the above society, at the Wharnccliffe Hotel, with the President (Mr. J. S. Nowill) in the chair, was devoted to the discussion on "What minor varieties of stamps should be included in a collection?" The President informed the members that Mr. Heginbottom had promised to exhibit his splendid collection of West Indian stamps at the next meeting.

THE COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

The one-hundredth meeting of the Board of Governors was held on Monday, November 9.

Present: Messrs. Andreini, Bruner, Dewing, Luff, Morgenthau, Rich, Scott and Perrin.

Moved by Mr. Luff, seconded by Mr. Bruner, and carried:— That the cost of medals of the club to those desiring to offer them as prizes be fixed at \$6 each for bronze, \$12 each for silver, and \$75 each for gold ones.

Moved by Mr. Morgenthau, seconded by Mr. Bruner and carried that not more than six medals of each class be distributed during any one year.

Mr. Scott was authorized to have struck twenty medals in silver and twenty in bronze, and to have suitable cases made for each.

A communication was read from Mr. Toppan, offering two medals, one of silver and one of bronze for a competitive exhibition of the postage stamps of Siam. Mr. Toppan's offer was accepted with thanks.

Mr. Holland offered, through Mr. Luff, two medals, one of silver and one of bronze, for a competitive exhibition of the telegraph stamps of the United States; accepted with thanks.

Two medals, one of silver and one of bronze, were offered by Mr. Luff for a competitive exhibition of the postage stamps of Porto Rico, and Mr. Rich offered two medals, one of silver and one of bronze, for a competitive exhibition of the stamps of Straits Settlements. These offers were also accepted with thanks.

The Scott S. and C. Co. made an offer of three medals, one of gold, one of silver and one of bronze, for a competitive exhibition of United States postage, official, dues, newspaper and revenue stamps, with the proviso that no gold medal be awarded unless there be at least six entries. The offer was accepted with thanks.

The Collectors Club will also award two medals, one of silver and one of bronze, for a competitive exhibition of United States proofs and essays.

The dates of the proposed exhibitions have been set as follows:—

December 14th, 1903, Siam; January 11th, 1904, U. S. Telegraph; February 8th, 1904, Porto Rico; March 14, 1904, U.S. postage, official, dues, newspapers and revenues; April 11th, 1904, Straits Settlements; May 9th, 1904, U.S. proofs and essays. Messrs. Andreini, Morgenthau and Perrin were appointed judges for the December exhibition.

Albert Perrin, Secretary, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York City.

It Will Pay You to send to me for a selection on approval,—if you do not buy any I will send you 6d to cover your expenses etc., in sending.

It Will Pay You Better, however, not to take advantage of this offer, as my stamps are cheap and in fine condition,—You will want to buy when you see them.

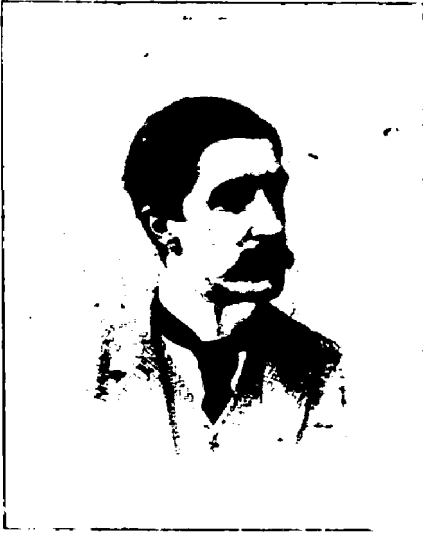
It Will Pay You Best not to send at all, unless you are a genuine and honest collector prepared to pay for stamps purchased; applications from swindlers or those who want to get the r stamps for nothing will be ignored, as I insist on references from those unknown to me.

A. E. MOORE, 7, MAPLES STREET, NOTTINGHAM.

A Talk with Pemberton the Second.

MR. P. L. PEMBERTON and his Partner MR. E. P. AIRLIE DRY.

How the Fashion in Philately affects a Dealer in Stamps.



MR. P. L. PEMBERTON.

The late E. L. Pemberton, the great pioneer of scientific philately, is represented in present-day stamp dealing by his son, Mr. P. Loines Pemberton. Come to think of it, there has seldom been a time in which the name of Pemberton has not figured prominently in Philately. The old established firm of Pemberton, Wilson and Co., dropped out of the ranks in the early "nineties," but in 1892 Mr. P. Loines Pemberton started as a dealer in Manchester. "Young

Pemberton" as many people called him, regardless of the fact that he had already attained the age of seventeen years. The second Pemberton soon decided that Manchester, although a city distinguished for its many good philatelists, couldn't hold a candle to London as a stamp dealing centre. So he came south, settled in West Kensington, and for some time conducted a growing trade in stamps from his private residence.

It was at the end of 1899 that Mr. Pemberton joined forces with Mr. W. B. Kirkpatrick, of Bournemouth, the two trading as "Kirkpatrick and Pemberton" in offices at 202, High Holborn. One of their initial enterprises was to purchase the copyright of a chatty and successful stamp periodical, the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain." For three years these two jogged along very pleasantly and congenially, and the firm might have remained "K. and P." to this day but for Mr. Kirkpatrick's desire to have a freer hand—and to travel. He had a great desire to see other countries, particularly Germany and the States; and has but lately returned to England after a most interesting and agreeable tour.

"We parted quite amicably," said Mr. P. L. Pemberton, in giving us this short outline of his career as a stamp dealer, "and I think with genuine regret on both sides. It was then that I found Mr. Dry, or Mr. Dry found me—I don't quite know which to say."

Mr. Dry at this point emerged from the depths of his own special desk to take part in the conversation.

Prior to joining Mr. Pemberton in the firm now known as P. L. Pemberton and Co., Mr. E. P. Airlie Dry was well-known as an earnest collector and a member of the Philatelic Society. A son of the Rev. Edward Dry, M.A., Oxon., Mr. Dry has spent the greater part of an active and adventurous life in the brewing trade. A singular business, by the way, for a person of the name of Dry! But we must not pun upon his name; it is a thing Mr. Dry has been a martyr to from birth.

"I had ten years in the brewing trade," Mr. Dry went on, "and was very successful at three or four different breweries I was connected with. But after the death of my father I thought I should like to go into some business on my own, and with that idea I articulated myself to a firm of auctioneers in the provinces. I stuck at this two years, but did not think I possessed sufficient technical ability for that business. Then I travelled for a time—visited Egypt, Palestine, Constantinople, Greece; and when I came back, being still keen on having something to do, I met Mr. Pemberton, who told me that Mr. Kirkpatrick intended leaving the firm. As a result of our chat I met Mr. Kirkpatrick, terms were arranged, and the new firm of P. L. Pemberton and Co., was established on August 15th, 1902."

"And your collection Mr. Dry?"

"That was taken into the firm. I went in for Colonials and had a fine lot of Ceylons and St. Vincents, containing all the rarities."

It may be added that Mr. Airlie Dry is thirty-two years of age, being thus four years older than his partner, Mr. Pemberton. Although he lives as far distant as Bedford in the winter and at Pangbourne in the summer, he travels backwards and forwards to

Holborn every day. He acquired the habit of early rising in his previous sphere of work, the process of brewing demanding a commencement (we are informed) of operations as early as 5 a.m. Consequently Mr. Dry may be found busy with the post at 229, High Holborn, by 10 o'clock in the morning.

"Dry is always Airlie" was Mr. Pemberton's sly comment upon this information.

The past year has been a busy and prosperous one for the firm of P. L. Pemberton and Co. The staff has been largely increased and various additions and improvements in the office arrangements have been necessitated by the growing trade.

"And what is your speciality Mr. Pemberton?"

"British Colonials. We went in strongly for Europeans a while ago, but there was no fighting against the fashion. Everybody seemed to want Colonials, and so we just joined the procession. Of course we had always had a very fine lot of Colonial stamps, and these were further reinforced by the stamps Mr. Dry brought in and by several important purchases we have since made. Mr. Dry, as you may have heard, bought the collection of the late Captain Swainson—a magnificent lot.

"But we do not wish it to be thought that we confine ourselves to any particular section of Philately. We are strongest at the present time in Colonials, but I think we can safely claim that we go in for everything and have a first-class all round stock.

"Your Colonial list of last season—was that a success?" we asked, with a vivid recollection of an excellent price current of Colonials issued by Messrs Pemberton.

"So successful," was the answer, "that we are shortly bringing out another—it will be ready very shortly. A much bigger thing this time. In fact, it will be to all intents and purposes an out-and-out catalogue of Colonial stamps. The thing is costing a great deal—in time and trouble as well as in actual cash—and we shall make a charge for it of three-pence a copy."

We happened to be interviewing Messrs. Pemberton and Co., at a moment when the purchase of a big collection was on the tapis. The price was one that ran well into four figures. In the end the deal was satisfactorily concluded and the collection changed hands, and before leaving 229, High Holborn, we had the pleasure of inspecting the firm's latest acquisition.

The collection is most compact, contained as it is in one "Imperial" Album, yet it is representative of every quarter of the Empire. Obviously the owner of these stamps was a true lover of the beautiful in Philately, for the stamps, both used and unused are remarkable for brilliant colour, fine general condition, and a most remarkable symmetry as regards centring. Some beautiful stamps are to be seen under St. Vincent (the best page in the book), Great Britain, Barbados, Ceylon (including the 4d., 8d., etc.) Lagos, Tobago, etc., while in the British South African Colonies there are many desirable stamps, including a fine range of the higher values in mint condition.




MR. E. P. AIRLIE DRY.

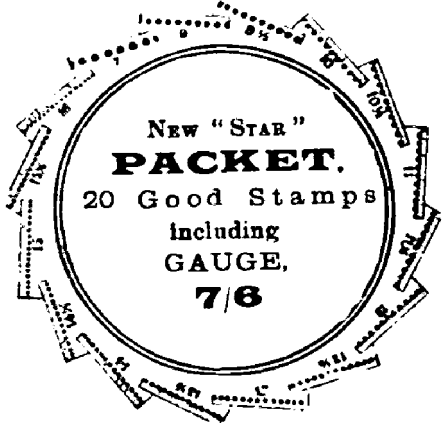
"It is better to buy certain stamps at high prices than it is others at low prices" writes Mr. C. E. Severn. There is a world of truth in what he says.

FRANK MOORE
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3, VILLIERS ST. STRAND
 Opposite Charing Cross underground Railway Station
 Large variety of Colonials on view at
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 COLLECTIONS AND WHOLESALE LOTS OF COLONIALS.
 Selections of Colonials sent on approval.

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 Inventor of the
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 stamp while hinged.



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JAMES BENNETT,
STOKE BISHOP, Near BRISTOL.

50 STAMPS, 6½d. Post free— 50
 Comprising principally B Colonials (King and Queen's heads), new issues, &c.
 Good value.
APPROVAL BOOKS AND SHEETS.
 Local Views 1d. each, 12 for 1s. Post 6½d. from 1d. each.
PEARCE & STAMFORD,
 7, Katherine Street CROYDON.

WANTED TO BUY OLD ENGLISH STAMPS
 A good price given for fine copies. Book of superb English now on sale.

KERR & LANHAM,
 16, Fumival Street, London, E.C.
 (Removed from Chichester Kents)

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.
 Rate: 3 Words a Penny.
L A G O S.—Small collection of the 1887-94 issue for sale. Showing various printing and some scarce shades. For particulars apply.—**BERTRAM POOLE,** Stamford, Lincs.

20-6d. telegraph forms, mint condition dated 1898.
 129 No. 1. each.—Box 5s 6d "STAMP COLLECTOR'S FORTNIGHTLY."

SEYCHELLES.—A fine stock of these now in hand. Send for list.—**BERTRAM POOLE,** Stamford, Lincs.

SCOTT'S 1901 STAMP CATALOGUE just arrived, all countries; cloth bound, over 6,000 illustrations, best guide for prices of United States, Cuba, Hawaii Philippine stamps, etc. free 2s.—**W. T. WILSON,** 192 Birchmead Road, Birmingham.

SEYCHELLES.—An interesting article on the stamps of this Colony is now appearing in "Penny Monthly Philatelist," specimen copy sent post free to anyone.—**BERTRAM POOLE,** Stamford, Lincs.

MARGINAL PLATE NUMBERS of Colonial stamps. A nice selection of these can be sent to any stamp collector sending satisfactory references. Apply.—**BERTRAM POOLE,** Stamford, Lincs.

UNUSED CURRENT COLONIALS at 11 per 1 face value. Send for list (free).—**BERTRAM POOLE,** Stamford, Lincs.

GREAT BRITAIN (used). A large approval book of these now ready.—**BERTRAM POOLE,** Stamford, Lincs.

POSTAGE.—Four Victorian China 6d. and 1s. 6d. China 6d.; used, different, including high values. Enclose stamped envelope.—**BURKINELL,** 103 York Road, East Ham.

BREAKING COLLECTION, Old Issues, English and Colonials, used and unused, pairs and blocks.—**WRIGHT,** Ivy Cottage, St. Neots.

17 different, mint, South Africans 17; Block four 17 O.R.C., 4d. no stop after Colony, 5 1; O.V.S. V.R.L., 1d. no stop after v, 3 1, after B, 5 1 post free—box 247, c.o. "S.C.F."

COLLECTOR has fine duplicates for disposal. Medium and rare Colonials, triangular Capes, rare foreign, European, U.S., etc. Colonials mostly 1000. Foreign 600 0 below Gibsons' prices. Books on approval against reference. **V. SMITH,** Westerslor, Moseley, Birmingham.

JORDGE, 3 cents surcharged on 6 cents, mint unused, (catalogued 2s., King's head, Trauvael, unused Indian, 3 1/2. pictorial, Canada Jubilee, etc. 20 different Colonials, and St. Britain, 4d. vermilion, 1863, postally used on entire letter sheet, price 1- the lot, postage extra.—**HENRY E. ENGLISH,** 8, St. Marks Street, Peterborough.

FOR EXCHANGE, 100 fine condition obsolete Canadian and Newfoundland stamps, mounted in book, thirty different varieties, and not more than five of a kind. No cut envelopes, Post Cards or Revenue stamps. Every stamp in fine condition, in exchange for any Stamp Catalogue, about 6s.—**The MARTEL STEWART Co.,** Montreal, Can. Reference: Borough & Co., 66 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

ENGLISH fine used and unused, sale or exchange. Want rare officials.—Specialist, 2 Lewin Rd., Streatham.

50 Ivory Visiting cards, printed (name only) 6½d. R. LANGRIDGE, 40 Palace Street, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W.

FOR SALE—250 Persian stamps, (20 varieties) for 3s. Post free. Cash with order; payment by British Postal order of Money Order sent via Bombay.—**M. G. FRADEN,** Bagdad, Turkish Arabia.

VARIETY packets containing 25 varieties 6d.; 50 varieties 1 10; 75 varieties 3 6; 100 varieties 9 1; 10 0 discount on orders above 25 Packets. Terms and address above.

100 Complete sets Persia, 1889, all unused on sheets for 3s. terms and address above. For other sets, etc. see No. 301 of the "STAMP COLLECTOR'S FORTNIGHTLY."

SEYCHELLES, 45 on 2H 5 cents, block four fine used 15 s., set of five, Die 2; 4, 8, 10, 15 and 16 cent fine used 33 set. 12 on 16 cents, Die 1, 13 mint or used, Die 2, 10c. mint, 1.—**HARRY LAW,** Westgate, Wakeneld.

MINI India Service—4s. blue O.H.M.S., 2s. orange, "service," 4s. green, "service," all mint, only 1- set. Approval selections at half catalogue rates.—**The Premier Stamp Company,** Brighton.

SEYCHELLES, 10 cents, Die 1, 1- each mint, 13 fine used, Die 2, 1- each mint or used 13 cts., Die 1, 9d. each mint, 16 cts., Die 1, used 1 6 each, Die 2, 1v. each mint, 45 cents un-surcharged fine used 6- each, 8 cts. used 1 6, 36 cents fine used 12 6 each, 45 on 48 cents mint 5- each, 90 on 98 cents 9 6 each mint, others equally cheap, pairs and blocks with controls also supplied. Cash with order.—**HARRY LAW,** Westgate, Wakeneld.

BARGAIN, 85 varieties, catalogued 8s. 6d., no common French or German included, price 1s.—**A. BINCH,** Woodhouse Road, Mansfield.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1903, long stamps, Queen's head, postage stamps only, 3 1/2, 4d. and 6d., fine postally used, per set 8d., postage extra.—**HENRY E. ENGLISH,** 8, St. Mark's Street, Peterborough.

SPECIAL during January 1904. Approval sheets 3d. per cent discount, prices low. **LEONARD CREE,** Stamp Dealer, 62 Trafalgar Street, Nottingham.

WANTED New Zealand Pictorials, no watermark series unused in blocks of 4.—**CLARKSON,** 16 Devonshire Square, London.

BRITISH Colonials, good copies, all different, 50, 6d., 1v. 1s., 180, 3s. Cheapest advertised. Money returned if not satisfied.—**GILBERT,** 11, Farnilo Road, Walthamstow.

FRANSVAAL, Orange River Colony, Swaziland, &c., &c.—To responsible collectors and after receipt of Want List, 1 other fine copies from my South African collection at reasonable prices. Have also large stock of unused entire of all countries.—**J. DUYEN,** Ramstreet 12, Utrecht, Holland.

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BREAKING very fine collection English and Colonial, many unused, selections on receipt of list of 200. Seychelles and others complete. Prices reasonable.—**ETHERINGTON,** Lark Terrace, Rochdale.

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GOLD COAST; 1d. on 2d., and 1d. on 6d. used 19 the two, fine copies, 20- Queen, 2 6 used, mint 2 6.—**ETHERINGTON,** Lark Terrace, Rochdale.

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GREAT BRITAIN, Queen 2 6, 2- and 10- mint, the three 45-; Queen 1- red and green, mint 1 6. 2d. and 10d. the two 1 10; 4d. and 6d. the two 1d. others at face value to purchasers.—**ETHERINGTON,** Lark Terrace, Rochdale.

5000 Continents, splendid assortment and 20 used and unused entire, all different, 1s. 75 entire all different 1 10.—**THURSTON,** 626 St. Helens Road, Bolton.

U. W. King 1d. and 1d., fine 2 4 two, Army 6d. King, mint 1 9, 1d. vermilion, mint pair 4d. 1d. lilac, mint pair 4d. Other Officials used cheap.—**ETHERINGTON,** Lark Terrace, Rochdale.

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New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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 — In order to settle the question of the status of unused specimens of Commonwealth "Postage Dues," Messrs. Hamilton, Macrae, Limited, of Perth, W.A., have addressed a letter of enquiry to the Federal Postmaster-General. The letter has special reference to the fact that a certain dealer is offering these unused "Postage Dues" at an enormous advance on face value. The P.M.G.'s reply will be awaited with interest.

Rumours are still current, Messrs. Hamilton Macrae inform us that a different design is contemplated for each value of the "Postage Due" series, as innumerable mistakes are made by postal officials, owing to the similarity between the values. A like complaint is made with regard to the revenue stamps of Western Australia.

Austrian Levant — From Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. we have the following novelty:

1 piaster black on blue.

Costa Rica — There is an error, it seems, in the current 10 centavos stamp. The name thereon, "Branlio" should read "Braulio," and the government (we read in the "Metropolitan Philatelist") has ordered a new issue with the name corrected.

Germany — Apropos of recent happenings in Germany, it will be of interest to point out that recent statements made in the *Fortnightly*, on the authority of the "Philatelic Record," regarding the alleged issue of 26 distinct sets of German Official stamps, are not quite correct. Messrs. Gebrüder Senf, of Leipzig, in the course of a letter to "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News," write:

"You mention under 'New Issues' that the new German Official stamps exist with 26 different numbers. This is an error. Not only 26 different numbers exist, but 30 authorities (of whom you find a list in No. 11 of our magazine) are paying a yearly indemnity to the Imperial post, for which the latter forwards all their correspondence, etc., exempt from postage. Only one State—Prussia (the 21st in the list)—has issued a stamp, for the purpose of counting the postage expended in the course of a year and this stamp (Zahlmarke) exists in the denominations of 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25 and 50 pfennig."



Hungary— An illustration is given of a series of new unpaid letter stamps just issued. The values are 1, 2, 5, 10, 12, 50 and 100 filler, and all are printed in green and black.

Johore — From Messrs. Mahmond, of Singapore, we learn of a new surcharge—50 cents on 3dol.

Paraguay — From Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. we have received the 1 centavo of the 1903 series, in pale yellow-green.

Senegal — Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the latest surcharge:

Provisional: "5" on 40 centimes red.

Sudan — A couple of novelties reach us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.:

Provisional: "5 millimes" on 5 piastres
With *wmk. of crescents and stars*: 3 millimes.

Sweden — The new commemoration stamp of 5 krona, already fully described in the "S.C.F.," is now to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Commemorative Issue: 5 krona blue.

New Caledonia — In this French Colony there was a scheme for a grand "Cinquantenaire" issue, but the plates for the new series were not ready in time. Accordingly, a sort of scratch issue was made by means of a surcharge of the device shown in our illustration. From "Ewen's Weekly" we quote the following list of twenty-two varieties:



(i). *Overprinted on current issue*

- 1c. black on azure, surch. blue
- 2c. brown, surch. blue
- 4c. violet, surch. blue
- 5c. dark green, surch. red
- 5c. yellow-green, surch. red
- 10c. black on violet, surch. black
- 10c. black, surch. red
- 15c. grey on grey, surch. red
- 20c. red on green, surch. blue
- 25c. black on rose, surch. blue
- 30c. brown, surch. red
- 40c. red, surch. blue
- 50c. rose surch. blue
- 75c. black on yellow, surch. blue
- 1fr. olive, surch. blue.

(ii). *With new figure of value added within oval.*

- 1 on 2c. figure italic.
- 2 on 4c. figure italic.
- 4 on 5c. dark green, figure italic
- 4 on 5c. yellow-green, figure upright.
- 19 on 15c. figure italic.
- 15 on 15c. figure italic.
- 20 on 25c. figure upright.

United States — We have to thank Mr. E. P. Reynolds, junr., for a specimen of the new type of the 2 cents stamp, of which the supply, so far, is very limited. The new stamp is practically only a re-arrangement of the principal features of the old, but it has a bolder effect and is printed in ink of a somewhat richer shade of red. Washington's head is slightly larger on the new stamp, as are also the inscriptions at head and foot.

Some Seychelles Varieties.

BY H. HARROP.

Seychelles stamps are so popular at present that I hope a short list of varieties of the provisional stamps will be of interest to the readers of the "S.C.F." I have not attempted a full list of the varieties, but only mention those I have in my collection, and have actually seen.

VARIETIES OF SEYCHELLES PROVISIONALS.

1893. 3c. on 4c.
"C" of "Cents" raised above the line.
"C" " " " " " "
"C E S" " " " " "
"C S" " " " " "
"S" " " " " "
"C T S" " " " " "
"N T S" " " " " "
"T S" " " " " "
Foot of "T" in "Cents" broken off.
Right hand side of "N" in cents broken off, thus: N
- 12 on 16c:—
Surcharged "12" only.
Surcharged "12 Cent" no S.
Foot of "T" broken off.
Right hand side of N in Cents broken off.
- 15 on 16c:—
Surcharged "15" only.
Foot of "T" in Cents broken off.
Broken "N" in Cents.
- 45 on 48c. Surcharged "Cents". No trace of "C."
90 on 96c. "S" of Cents raised above the line.
- 1896 Issue:—
18 on 45c. Surcharged "Cent. 18"
"8 Cents."
"8 Cents 1."
"S 18 Cent"
- "T" of Cents shorter than the other letters.
Narrow "E." All the horizontal limbs are short.
Foot of "N" is broken, thus: N.
- 36 on 45c. Short "T." Narrow "E." Foot of "N" broken.
(As in the 18 on 45c.)

Our Review of Reviews.

Two Dies of the De La Rue "Postage and Revenue" Stamp.

To the latest issue of the "Monthly Journal" Mr. Bertin Poole contributes an interesting article on the dies of British Colonial Stamps of the De La Rue printings, with special reference to the "Postage and Revenue" type. Referring to some notes on the subject recently contributed by Mr. R. Ehrenbach he writes: "In the case of the 'POSTAGE' type the tests for distinguishing between Varieties i. and ii. *always* hold good, but as regards the 'POSTAGE and REVENUE' type this is not so, and I am afraid the tests named are apt to prove unreliable. The differences on the neck, as detailed by Mr. Ehrenbach, while being helpful in conjunction with other points as a means of identifying one die from another, are not in themselves conclusive, for the simple reason that the peculiarity described under Variety i. is not constant in the first, and that given under Variety ii. is not confined to the second."

So Mr. Poole proceeds to give a list of differences, all "more or less constant." "With the aid of individual stamps," he adds, "collectors should not find it a difficult matter to distinguish the two types. I may mention that three plates have been used—Var. i. occurring on Plate 1, and Var. ii. on Plates 2 and 3, 4.

General differences between the two types.

Variety i.

1. The lines or shading and outline are often blurred, uneven in thickness, and have a tendency to form solid masses of colour wherever they come rather closely together.

2. In most cases the two lowest lines of shading on the left are joined to the solid line of colour at the bottom of the neck.

3. Generally the lines of shading across the neck join at the ends and form a solid line of colour down the nape of the neck. The lines turn sharply upwards between the ear and back of the head, and are not very distinct.

4. In most specimens one of the lines of shading on the left runs into the shaded lines in front of the eye.

5. The jewel in the second compartment of the band of the crown is generally weakly outlined, and the small lines to the right of this are usually blurred and run into one another or into the diamond. The line at the top of the compartment is thick and uneven.

6. The fourth line of shading on the neck, counting from the lowest part, is roughly thickened in the middle, generally on the top part of the line.

7. The outline of the base of the chin is weak, and the lines of shading often join into a solid block of colour.

The differences enumerated under 5 and 6 respectively, will generally be found the best tests, and are, I think, never likely to fail if taken in conjunction with one or more of the other points.

To this the Editor of the "Monthly Journal" appends a somewhat chilling footnote. "All the above," he writes, "seems to prove that it is very doubtful whether it is correct to say that there are two distinct dies, or varieties at all. There appears to be a certain want of clearness in many impressions from Plate 1, and it is possible that Plates

2 and 3 were more carefully made. The latter impressions from Plate 1 would naturally be inferior to those from new plates, and all the differences noted seem to be inconstant, if not indefinite."

Philatelic "Drugs on the Market."

In a "Philatelic West" article Mr. Frank Best remarks on the large number of varieties of stamps that never make a move in value—unless it is a downward move. He gives some instances.

"What caught my attention particularly," he writes, "was the stamps of Cuba—the remainders which were found in the post office at, I think, Havana, in 1894—consisting of the issues from 1871 to 1880. These stamps are genuine and have in nearly all cases original gum, and also have a ridiculous low price attached to them.

"But an instance of the same kind only twenty-five years ago might be quoted as showing the ultimate value of remainders. In 1875 the complete set of 13 Prince Edward Island stamps were offered at 10 cents, and that price prevailed for more than a year. Now, as far as is known, there have been no more of the Cuban stamps found than of the Prince Edwards, but of course there are far more collectors now and at that time (1875) there were none in Canada who wanted the stamps of Canada, every collector being a collector of foreign stamps.

"I also note the issue of 1889 Costa Rica and of 1881 Switzerland, all genuine original gum remainders—but at what a low price these two sets can be obtained and how few takers there seem to be! In fact, it is very strange that more collectors do not avail themselves of the prices and secure more than one set of each, as none of the stamps mentioned: Cuba, Costa Rica and Switzerland will need 25 years to give them the boast that the Prince Edward Island stamps got."

Will they not? Mr. Best is perhaps a little too optimistic. He should remember that Prince Edward Island is within the British Empire, and all British Colonial stamps have boomed tremendously since 1875. There is little hope of such a boom in, for instance, Costa Rica!

The "Era" comes to Boston.

One of the oldest and best of American stamp journals, the "Weekly Philatelic Era," has been disposed of by Mr. W. W. Jewett (its editor and proprietor from No. 1), to a syndicate of Boston philatelists, and will henceforth be published from the "Hub of the Universe," cultured "Bawston." Mr. Wyllard O. Wylie, Mr. Henry K. Kidder, Mr. C. A. Howes and others are going to make the new "Era" lum. Already there is a marked waking-up in all departments. The issue dated October 31st, the first number under the new regime, contains a farewell "card" from Mr. W. W. Jewett and various editorial announcements by the "new hands." We give Boston joy of its new weekly paper, which should prove a valuable and welcome factor in New England Philately.

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AUSTRIA, 1900, 1, 2, 4 kronen ... 0 5

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" 1s. carmine, medium do. on blue ... 5 0
" 2s. brown, fine copy ... 45 0
" O.W. 1d. and 1d. King, the 2, v. fine ... 1 0

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Niger Coast, 1891, 1d., 2 1/2, 5, 1, 1 (5) ... 10 6
Prince Edward Island, pair 2d. rose imperf. ... 3 0

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It will pay you better, however, not to take advantage of this offer, as my stamps are cheap and in fine condition.

It will pay you best not to send at all, unless you are a genuine and honest collector prepared to pay for stamps purchased; applications from swindlers or those who want to get their stamps for nothing will be ignored.

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A Year's Experience of Stamp Exchange Clubs.

(BY EDWIN WEBSTER.)

The following remarks will, no doubt, be of interest to many members of Stamp Exchange Clubs—more to those who belong to the Clubs that work on a catalogue basis for pricing subject to a 50 per cent discount for settlement, than to those who belong to Clubs that work on the principal of pricing nett. The latter I know nothing about, because I do not know how they have arrived at a conclusion for nett pricing.

Now clubs that work on a catalogue basis are somewhat chaotic, considering the majority of catalogues are, I believe priced according to the number of stamps in stock.

I must reluctantly leave this subject as I have promised to read a paper on the catalogue pricing of stamps in relation to the real market value, before one of the Philatelic Societies, but suffice it to say, I have spent the whole of three years in ascertaining what the definite relationship of the catalogue to the market value is.

I have been a stamp collector for many years and in a back number of your Journal I read an article in which persons were advised not to hoard their stamps ad. lib., so decided to get rid of my duplicates. I began by first ascertaining the relationship of the catalogue to the market value, and came to the conclusion, after reading the rules of various stamp clubs that I would join those that priced on a catalogue basis with the 50 per cent discount.

I joined ten clubs and have just completed my first year of membership. I was somewhat alarmed on comparing the expenses with the credits and thought it advisable to analyse every item before deciding to continue my membership.

From each of the ten clubs I received, on an average, two packets a month—the postage on each costing me 7d. To every packet I contributed a sheet and enclosed a registered stamped envelope for return. As the envelopes issued by the postal authorities would not fit the sheets I had two sizes made, one to go inside the other, and these cost me one penny each. On receipt of a packet I had to acknowledge to the Secretary; certainly I could have used a post-card, but almost invariably I had to draw the Secretary's attention to the fact that owing to members putting stamps on both sides of the sheets, many got unfixed, or torn by the perforations becoming interlocked. I was, therefore, unable to get my communication on a post-card. I also found it necessary, sometimes, to make remarks on matters that were better in a letter than written on the sheet of a member for others to see when the offender (in my opinion) might be right and I wrong.

In wrapping up 240 packets I used 60 sheets of brown paper, 12 sticks of sealing wax, 12 books of 20 labels, 3 balls of string, 4 blue pencils, 16,000 hinges, 1500 sheets of paper for stamps inside 240 club covers, 240 envelopes and 240 sheets of paper in notifying Secretaries of receipt and despatch of packets, 10 subscriptions and 5 per cent commission on the nett sale of my stamps which amounted to £315.

EXPENSES.

	£	s.	d.
10 Club Subscriptions at 1/6	0	15	0
240 Packets (Postage on) at 7d.	7	0	0
240 Envelopes at 1d.	1	0	0
240 3d. Stamps for ditto.	3	0	0
240 Return Envelopes at 1d.	1	0	0
240 3d. Stamps for ditto	3	0	0
60 Sheets of Brown Paper	0	5	0
12 sticks of Sealing Wax at 6d.	0	6	0
12 Books of Labels	0	1	0
3 Balls of String	0	0	6
4 Blue Pencils at 3d.	0	1	0
240 Envelopes and Sheets of Paper for notifying receipt and despatch of packets	0	5	6
240 Stamps for ditto.	1	0	0
1500 Sheets and 240 Covers for Sheets contributed...	0	5	0
16,000 Hinges at 10d.	0	13	1
5 per cent on £315 Nett Sales	15	15	0
	£34	4	4

First. What have I got in exchange for the sale of my stamps at half catalogue? I elected to take stamps in

liquidation of my account and not cash. I parted with £315 worth of stamps at half catalogue and took in exchange £315 worth at half catalogue. In addition to this I paid £34 4s. 4d. in expenses—in other words my stamps cost me 12½ per cent over half catalogue.

Have I done right or wrong? Taking the whole year I have got an equitable exchange, but as a monthly settlement is a rule in the clubs, in 60 per cent of the monthly settlements I was decidedly a loser and in the other 40 per cent I was a considerable gainer.

I give the following as an example (and could give many others)—One packet when I received it had £23 taken off my sheet and after going carefully through forty-five sheets I found there was not a single stamp I wanted for my collection. The average price of my stamps taken was 3/6, whereas the remainder, from which I decided to liquidate my account, did not contain twenty stamps over 3/6. As my stamps were all Colonial and fifteen of the twenty stamps mentioned were Foreign, I took the five Colonial to start with and made up the £23 with stamps of less value.

Now, the £23 worth of stamps taken from my sheet I could not buy at £11 10s., unless I went to Auction and should have been compelled to purchase stamps to the value of £150 to obtain the £11 10s. 6d., because the stamps taken from my sheet are only sold in collections of their respective countries. I took similar stamps from my collection and had them valued and found they were only worth £7 10. 0d.

I tried another way. I compared the various exchanges other than clubs and the best offer I received was "We will allow you £11 10s. 6d. for the £23 stamps at catalogue prices, but you must take it out in stamps at our price."

The stamps I took in liquidation, namely, £23, when valued were worth only £5 in other words I only got £5 for £7 10s.

In the next packet of the same Society I could have liquidated my account to considerable advantage as there were several stamps which I knew were rising rapidly in value.

From what my experience has taught me I should suggest a cash settlement at the end of every six months, to induce members to put better stamps on and to give a better and extended chance in exchange.

One thing that struck me, was, that if a member priced a given stamp above catalogue he very rarely sold it and those that were priced below catalogue were snapped up, the latter being no criterion of value.

As an example—if you put a stamp on priced £10, (market value £4 10s. 0d., the 10/- difference being for commission) and find it gone on receiving packet again, you can take cash without loss, if you cannot liquidate with stamps—whereas in an extended time for settlement you will in all probability be able to liquidate to better advantage with stamps than in cash.

Second. Has it been worth my while to pay £18 9s. 4d. for the option of buying at half catalogue, when I can buy from many dealers at the same prices as the clubs without any expense?

My experience for the year I am writing about is that it has been worth my while, because I have got rid of many duplicates which will probably never rise in price and have obtained many stamps that have already gone up considerably in price, in fact, almost enough to cover my expenses.

Stamp clubs are by far the best market for selling medium stamps, in my opinion. Had I, however, known nothing about the market value of stamps I certainly should have lost considerably, for I should only have taken stamps I wanted for my collection and the balance in cash.

Third. I was very much struck with the number of members who marked their sheets "not to see packet." It would be very easy for Secretaries to find out if all these members were *dealers* and in such cases I should suggest their sheets should be so marked, as there cannot possibly be any objection to the honest dealer, for to do away with them, to make the clubs *really* Exchange Clubs you would also have to do away with those who only buy; but if the Secretaries found any member "apeing" the dealer, the objection could be removed. Personally, I strongly advocate dealers being members of clubs, as it is not only interesting but also instructive (assuming that dealers know the market value) to see what stamps they are willing to sell below half catalogue; then many medium stamps would be more likely to be exchanged.

Taking into consideration the rise in the market value of my exchange, I have every reason to be thoroughly satisfied with my first year's membership.

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USED. Cape, Triangular, 1/- green, fine ... 12/6. Canada, 10d blue, imperf ... 18/0. Ceylon, 1861, 2d green, star ... 9/0.

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The GROSVENOR PHILATELIC Co. GROSVENOR CHAMBERS, DEANSGATE, MANCHESTER.

What is an Exchange Club for?

BY H. BEAN.

A REPLY TO "ALTERIUM ALTERIUS."

An Exchange, whether it be the Stock Exchange or a Corn Exchange, etc., is a place where men do congregate to transact business. They do not always exchange oats for barley or 3 per cents for 2½ ditto. In most cases the business done is for cash or maybe bills at a given date. Therefore I consider the first duty of an Exchange for Stamps is to bring in touch with each other those who desire to purchase and those who wish to sell.

If, as "Alterium Alterius" suggests, the selling members are excluded he or she will have rather an uninteresting packet to examine, for from a personal experience of some years, I find that the best purchasers have seldom many good stamps to dispose of, and very often have a rather higher opinion of their stamps than others; for they price at catalogue value or over, independent of condition. And again those that have good useful stamps to dispose of reasonably, have great difficulty in finding stamps worth their attention as buyers.

Why then should collectors (or dealers), who have a superabundance of duplicates be continually troubled with packets (and registered postage) from which as their experience teaches them, they are unable to acquire anything—to say nothing of delaying the circuit of the packet.

To achieve success in an Exchange Club there must be two classes—*purchasers* and *vendors* and both require consideration and balancing. Often there is also a very useful combination of the two classes in the one individual and he or she is a member to be encouraged.

In reply to the S.C.F.'s Editor's query, "What do Exchange Secretaries think?" this prosy paragraph is partly an answer from one. Further, I make public one method adopted, viz., a reduced sale commission of 2½ per cent on Members' Sales who purchase 5/- nett, and an increased commission of 7½ per cent on those who habitually desire "Not to see packet." This is a sliding scale penalty according to

Sales effected, and does not debar members sending good stuff at reasonable prices.

EXCLUDE THE "NON-SEER'S" SHEETS!

Another reader of the *Fortnightly*, over the pen-name of "Navy," writes us on the same question:

I see you have a complain by "Alterium Alterius" about members of Exchange Clubs, who do not wish to see packets. As a member of six clubs, my feeling has always been that the more good sheets the better but I have a strong objection to those habitual "non-seers" who always send very bulky sheets of rubbish: two in particular send to many clubs, always cheap rubbish, and combined weight makes an extra penny postage for all seeing members. I think Secretaries would do well to exclude such sheets when they bring the postage up in this manner. I have known one of these men send a mass of ten sheets of rubbish, and although I was 18th on the postal list, only six stamps had been taken from them—net value, fivepence.

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TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



WEST AUSTRALIA'S POSTAGE DUES.

An interesting letter comes from "Anti-Humbug" on the subject of the "Australian Journal of Philately's" protest against the Western Australian postal authorities' action in retailing lightly-postmarked sets of Postage Due stamps at face value.

The "Australian Journal of Philately," with an air of assumed surprise and indignation, recently announced that sets of obliterated Postage Dues, seven values, were obtainable from the Deputy Postmaster-General, Perth, at 2s. 9d. per set, i.e., face value.

Any one reading the paragraph (which, by the way, you referred to, Sir, in your issue of September 12th) would naturally infer that the Deputy Postmaster-General here went out of his way to cater for philatelists to the great wrong and detriment of the stamp-dealing fraternity, and that Perth was the only place in the Commonwealth where sets of obliterated stamps were procurable.

What hosh! The fact is that no State in the Union has offended less in this respect—if it is an offence at all—than Western Australia. And as to the "A.J. of Philately's" particular complaint, the Deputy Postmaster-General, in communicating the fact that sets of Postage Dues—in an obliterated state (and in an obliterated state only)—were obtainable simply drew attention—and most probably in reply to an enquiry—to that portion of the Federal Postal Guide reading:

"Sale of Lightly-postmarked Postage stamps.—Postage stamps issued in the various States of the Commonwealth, lightly marked, may be purchased at their full value."

This Guide bears the date of November, 1902, and is still the law at the time of writing. Proof is also forthcoming that the "Australian Journal of Philately" was aware of this provision and the question arises: what could be your contemporary's object in singling out this State in particular, when the matter is one regulated by Federal authority, and appertaining to all the States of the Commonwealth?

"I was looking through some old stamps the other day," says the Rev. C. H. Lowe in a letter to the *Fortnightly*. "and came across two South Australians that puzzled me considerably. One was a penny green (S.G. type 6) with the S.A. wide apart; the other a twopenny (S.G. type 7, orange), with the S.A. wide apart. Both of these are perforated 15. The perforation in both cases is so cleanly cut, that there can scarcely be any mistake on my part. Is not this perforation very unusual? I notice that Stanley Gibbons gives nothing higher than 12. Both the stamps are in excellent preservation and were amongst some other scarce varieties, such as the Queensland one penny (S.G. No. 125), perf. 9 x 12."

A correspondent describes a 4 cents King's Head stamp of Hong Kong, with a surcharge in block type of the letters "D.P." He would like to know whether any *Fortnightly* reader can say if such an overprint has ever been authorised or whether (as he fears) the stamp represents only a private mark of some description.

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STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 229.—Vol. IX

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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No 229.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1903.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

The Confusion of Colours.

The Manchester Philatelic Society, not for the first time, has debated the much-vexed question of the Colours of Postage Stamps. A reader kindly sends us a report of a "Practical Demonstration of the Colour Question," promoted by the Society on the occasion of their meeting on November 21st.

For the purpose of this Colour Demonstration a dozen characteristic stamps, all of current issues, had been chosen beforehand, and every member attending the meeting was requested to bring a specimen of each stamp with his own definition of the colour.

The 1d. English caused much discussion, but the general consensus of opinion was in favour of "vermilion-lake" as a good description of the shade.

In addition, the following colours had been selected for illustration: Bistre, olive-brown, brown-olive, chestnut, stone, mauve, lilac, violet, carmine, rose, sage-green, olive-green and grey-green. Each member had to show stamps that he considered typical of the various colours, and this led to a series of animated debates. There was a wide divergence of opinion as to stone colour, no two members agreeing on this point, whilst mauve proved almost as great a stumbling block.

A new arc light, said to be a near approach to daylight, was fixed temporarily in the room by a member, Mr. H. A. Wood, and proved of great value in distinguishing the colours.

It would be most interesting to have a complete report of this most interesting debate, with a full record of the voting on each of the "characteristic stamps of current issues" selected for examination. The pity is that these colour debates, interesting as they are, appear only to plunge us into deeper complications of colour nomenclature. Our present penny postage stamp we have been content to describe as carmine, but the vote of the Manchester Society debaters ordains that it be known as "vermilion-lake!" It makes one recall, with a shudder, the "slightly saddened orange-yellow" and the "joyous blue-grey" of the Tintometer.

Out of "The Blues"

While we are on the subject of colour we must acknowledge with thanks a long and interesting letter from "Blue Bottle," in answer to the reader who pleaded for a proper and satisfactory definition of the term "ultramarine," as used in philatelic catalogues.

I asked a Colourman (writes "Blue Bottle"), "What is ultramarine?" and he replied: "Ultramarine, in the trade, is a dark coloured blue, but not quite so dark as Prussian or Chinese blue." I then sought an artist, who stated that ultramarine was a blue with a purple tint in it.

I turned to a modern work on "Colours used by Artists in Landscape Painting," and found that ultramarine (lapis lazuli) was described therein as "an exquisitely beautiful blue, varying from the utmost depth of shadow to the highest brilliancy of light and colour. It is transparent in all its shades and pure in its tints."

"Genuine ultramarine (continues the book) is the most perfect of our pigments, it is, in fact, the only pure primary colour we have."

"Ultramarine Ashes—These are the ashes or remains of the lapis lazuli, from which the ultramarine has been extracted. They vary in colour from dull grey to blue. The brighter sorts of ultramarine ashes are, more properly, pale ultramarine; the lower kinds or last washings of the lapis lazuli are called mineral grey."

Why not "Ultramarine Ash"?

All this assorted information had the effect of plunging our correspondent into a "blue haze" on the subject. He made enquiries of a manufacturer of the blue used for laundry and domestic purposes, who said that that particular kind of ultramarine (as it is commonly called) was of a dark shade; he also discovered that the kind supplied to printers was of a very much lighter hue. "Made by roasting white, clay, soda, sulphur and charcoal or coal," he declares, "ultramarine

may be produced as light in shade as the ultramarine ash extracted from the genuine lapis lazuli."

I have frequently placed side by side (proceeds our correspondent) the two 10s. British stamps, Gibbons' Nos. 182 and 183. Although both appeared of the same depth of blue, the cobalt was clearer and brighter, while the ultramarine was of a greyish tint. Would not ultramarine ash be a good definition as applied to stamps, i.e., light ultramarine?

More Competitors Wanted.

We gather from the manuscripts already received in connection with the *Fortnightly's* Prize Competition, that the nature of the contest is not quite so well understood as we could wish it to be.

The essays sent in by competitors should deal in what is known as a *scientific philatelic* manner with the stamps of some particular issue or country or group of countries, listing minor varieties of the same, or elucidating points hitherto in doubt, or in some way or another contributing to the public knowledge of the particular issues concerned.

While we have already received a few papers that answer to these requirements, the majority of the manuscripts so far received are written in very general terms, and in some instances they form mere recapitulations of issues as listed in the ordinary catalogues. We hope that nothing we are writing will deter any reader from entering the competition (full details of which appeared in No 226), but we wish it to be as widely known as possible that our principal object in connection with this little pen-and-ink tourney is to get at some of Smith or Brown's special knowledge of stamps, for the benefit of Jones and Green and Robinson.

We firmly believe that every reader of the *Fortnightly* could write an informing and valuable article on the stamps of his own particular branch of Philately—if only he would!

P.O. Exhibit at St. Louis.

From one of the Washington newspapers (the "Era") we reprint an account of the interesting exhibit the United States Post Office will have at the great St. Louis Exhibition.

Kinestoscope photographs have been taken of the course of a letter through the regular mail, showing in actual operation the various departments through which it passes from the time the missive is dropped in the box until its delivery by the postman, special messenger or rural delivery carrier.

These pictures are being made to use as a part of the post office exhibit in the Government building at the St. Louis exposition. A large canvas background was painted, showing a section of the mailing room in the local office, the distributing cases, walls and windows, iron girders and glass roof. This was suspended on the wall outside the building. On the pavement in front of this were arranged several real distributing cases, assorting tables, one of the labour and time-saving cancelling machines and a set of bag-racks. A full set of operatives were brought out with a sufficient quantity of mail just in. The picture machine was mounted on the roof of one of the big mail wagons, where the regular work of handling the mail was carried on. The interest of the operation attracted a large crowd, some members of which did not know fully what was doing even after they had witnessed the scene.

The first picture in the series shows a letter box, into which several persons will be seen to drop mail. Then along comes the collector, who extracts the mail from the box, and, placing it in his pouch, walks off. The collector is then seen as he dumps his mail on the assorting table, where it is "faced-up" by a lightning-quick operator.

The letters are then run through the cancelling machine, of which the local office has several of the very latest pattern. Next the letters are distributed, local mail being separated from that for outside cities, and sub-divided into little bunches for various sections. The work of tying up the little bundles of outgoing mail is shown and then the pouch distribution.

In the latter scene the distributor stands in front of a table, on the other side of which, arranged in a semi-circle, are rows of racks holding open bags, into which he throws the bundles with wonderful accuracy, each sack being destined for a different section of the country.

The pouches are then tied, loaded on trucks and shoved out to the platform at the rear of the building and there transferred to mail wagons to be carried to the railroad station. The bags are seen as they are taken into the postal car and there the mail again is sorted out for the various stations on the route of the car.

The scene when the bag is tossed off at some rural station or caught by a mail catcher from the train while at full speed will be depicted, and the manner of its distribution through the rural free delivery shown. Then, too, the handling of incoming mail in Major Bell's division of the Washington post office will be seen and its distribution by carriers illustrated.

These pictures will not merely show the course of a few letters in ideal fashion as they are handled in the various departments of the postal service, but those dropped in the box in the first pictures may be watched as they merge into and finally become separated from the gigantic bulk of the mail and its contents flow through the post office valve into the numerous channels reaching here and there and everywhere on earth.

It will be gratifying to Washingtonians to learn that two of the kinestoscopic machines will be brought to Washington after the exposition and placed in the Post Office Museum, which, under the direction of Mr. Slack, is becoming a most important institution. The machines have large lenses fitted to them, through which a large number of persons may view the pictures simultaneously.

Mr. Slack has been in charge of similar exhibits of the Post Office Department at various other expositions, including the World's Columbian Exposition, the Paris Exposition, the South Carolina and Pan-American. It is probable that he will be ordered to St. Louis with the forthcoming exhibit.

The kinestoscopic display will also contain illustrations of the delivery of mail on the old stage coaches and the famous pony express of the western plains.

Concerning Picture Postcards.

A BRIEF CAUSERIE FOR CARTOPHILISTS.

The boom in the picture postcard shows no sign of abating. Quite the contrary. For the festive season now approaching the Christmas picture postcard is "all the go," and threatens eventually to oust the printed card in gold lettering and blue silk ribbon that has now held the field for some years. Perhaps, on the whole, it will be a change for the better.

The latest evidence of the popularity of the picture card—and a very substantial piece of evidence it is—is the appearance of the first number of "The Lincoln Postcard Budget and Collectors' Magazine," published by Messrs. M. B. Crabtree and Co., of Gowt's Bridge, Lincoln. Some good half-tone reproductions of characteristic picture cards embellish this first number, and there are many newsy notes concerning Cartophilily generally.

A Lincoln Picture Postcard Club is inaugurated in connection with this new journal; but apparently membership is not confined to residents in the ancient cathedral city, for the names of post-cardists in Brazil, in Petersburg, in Spain, France, Colombia and elsewhere, are included in the first list of "exchangers." This idea of post-card exchanging has grown to be a big thing, and we doubt not that much amusement is extracted from it, especially when an English young lady, and, say, an Italian young gentleman, attempt a friendly correspondence in French.

The "Addled Ads" and "Agony Column" cards, both series published by Messrs. Misch and Stock, are excellent samples of the humorous post-card. Such imperfectly punctuated advertisements as "Lad wanted, to deliver eggs 15 years of age," readily lend themselves to humorous treatment. The cards are, indeed, as Messrs Misch and Stock claim, unique and original.

The "Picture Postcard and Collectors' Chronicle," having committed itself to some most optimistic statements regarding the picture-postcard industry, "Punch" devotes some humorous verses to the subject, declaring that no one need despair of England's outlook while men and women continue to buy and collect—picture postcards! This, of course, is writ sarcastic, but the same cannot be said of another versifier, who "drops into poetry" on the subject of "Picture Postcard-itis" in the columns of the "People's Journal":—

Of epidemics old or new,
'Gainst which the nation's fight is,
The most infectious one, I trow,
Is the picture postcard-itis!

In another verse the same writer pictures philatelists as "in dread" of the rival hobby of Cartophilily:

The stamp collector in the shade,
Discerneth where the light is,
For now he's nowhere, hence his dread
Of picture postcard-itis!

The poor, frightened, shuddering philatelist! Isn't it awful!

The Philatelist in Fiction.

How the Novelist treats of "the Delirium of Philately."

A good example of the thoroughness with which Mr. Fred. J. Melville has gathered together all that is of interest regarding our hobby within the covers of his little book, "The A.B.C. of Stamp Collecting" (of which we gave a brief notice in No 227 of the *Fortnightly*) is afforded by the 31st (and last) chapter of the volume, headed, "Philately in Fiction."

Several novelists of more or less distinction, Mr. Melville tells us, have recognised the charm of the hobby in their books.

Miss Gertrude Forde, in her novel, "Lady Lanark's Paying Guest," gives an interesting and amusing view of stamp collecting. One of her characters, Miss Beauchamp, is made to say:—

"Change of scene (and stamp collecting) are wonderful remedies for love sickness. I knew one young man," she added thoughtfully, "who was completely cured of an unhappy attachment by stamp collecting. A philatelist caught him on the hop, as you may say, and transferred the delirium, and now I don't believe that young man would exchange his beloved album for the loveliest and most charming woman in England."

"The Robe of Lucifer," a work by F. M. White (published in 1896), contains a number of references, of which the following are specimens:—

"Hope apparently had nothing to desire. True, he hadn't a tortoiseshell brown cat, or a blue Mauritius postage stamp; but these were spots on the sun, and besides, he didn't want them.

"It may be asked what brought Death into so exclusive a coterie. In a word, philately. His fine collection of stamps was the envy of Mr. Joseph Nock's soul. The latter had money, influence and an assured literary position; but he lacked a maroon surcharge of the Riddlemaree Islands of 1874, and his heart was as lead in his bosom. Death had two. It is perhaps superfluous to speak further on this vital question."

The stamp album was brought into requisition by the late Mr. R. L. Stevenson and Mr. Lloyd Osborne in their collaborated novel, "The Wrecker." The chief character, Loudon Dodd, is seeking to discover the whereabouts of Mr. Norris Carthew, who is from home, "travelling." He visits the gentleman's residence at Stallbridge-le-Carthew and suffers "a stream of insignificant information" without learning anything at all about the one thing he desired to know.

He betook himself to the village inn, where, after dining with the family, the innkeeper's daughter, a child of seven years, climbed into his lap with her stamp album.

"There are few things I despise more than old stamps, unless perhaps it be crests," he says. Glancing carelessly and sleepily through the album he manages to capsize it, whereupon a number of loose specimens fall out upon the floor.

When picking up the scattered labels he was struck by the preponderance of the common 25 centimes stamp of France.

"Someone," he reasoned, "must write very regularly from France to the neighbourhood of Stallbridge-le-Carthew. Could it be Norris?"

On examining the postmarks he could make nothing of them. He was, however, about to place one specimen in his pocket in order to consult the local postmaster, when the child detected him in the very act. Her mother, thinking that the gentleman was really interested in stamps, suggested that he should see the collection of Mr. Denman, the butler at the home of the Carthaws. This worthy had been collecting for forty years, and his collection was said to be worth a mint of money.

Mr. Denman was accordingly sent for, and he arrived half an hour later with "a most unconscionable volume under his arm."

"Ah, sir," he said, "when I heard you was a collector I dropped all. It's a saying of mine that collecting stamps makes all collectors kin. It's a bond, sir, it creates a bond."

The non-collector, Mr. Dodd, had now to play the hypocrite and pretend to understand and appreciate the beauties

of the collection. This is how he describes the precarious situation in which he was placed:—

"Ah, there's the second issue!" I would say, after consulting the legend at the side. "The pink—no, I mean the mauve—yes, that's the beauty of this lot. Though, of course, as you say," I would hasten to add, "this yellow on the thin paper is more rare."

Had the sham collector not plied Mr. Denman with his favourite liquor—port—he would certainly have been detected. Mr. Dodd discovered that in this collection also there was a considerable surplus of that despicably common stamp, the French 25 centimes. Making a stealthy review of the lot he came across the letters C. and C.H.; then something of an A just following; and then a terminal Y. After a careful scrutiny of many specimens the word was at last complete.

"Chailly, that was the name, Chailly-en-Biere, the post town of Barbizon—ah! there was the very place for any man to hide himself—there was the very place for Mr. Norris, who had rambled over England making sketches."

Loudon Dodd's interest in postage stamps died shamelessly away; the astonished Denman was bowed out; and ordering the horse to be put in, Dodd plunged into the study of the time-table.

In addition to the foregoing novels, which contain allusions to the hobby, there is one interesting French work, "The Stamp King," entirely devoted to the adventures of a couple of millionaire philatelists. It was written by MM. Beauregard and Gorse and relates the incidents that occurred while the two wealthy collectors searched the world over for a copy of one of the rarest stamps in the world, a Brahmopootra specimen, which, it is needless to say, is entirely a fictitious stamp. The scene begins and ends in the New York Philatelic Club, and a strong love interest should hold the attention of not merely the stamp-collecting reader, but even of the grim-visaged person who is inclined to look upon all philatelists as bores.

It will readily be seen (writes Mr. Melville in conclusion), that these novelists, with the exception of the authors of "The Stamp King," had but a slight acquaintance with the real interest in stamp collecting. They all appear to have regarded the hobby as a species of dementia, and collectors can pity them for falling into so grievous an error. If stamp collecting be regarded as a madness then philatelists will readily subscribe to Dryden's axiom that "there is a pleasure in being mad which none but madmen know."

Mr. D. Field's Exhibition.

"One begins to have a respect for the stamp collecting mania!"

That remarkable sentence occurs in the "Sheffield Telegraph" of December 10th. So sweet of the "Sheffield Telegraph," is it not? — The particular occasion which brought about this burst of condescension on the part of a newspaper man was the exhibition of Rare Stamps held during the past fortnight at the Albemarle Galleries, Albemarle Street, W. The display was entirely arranged and organised by Mr. D. Field, of the Royal Arcade, Old Bond Street, assisted by the fine Colonial collection formed by Mrs. Field. During the period of the exhibition many distinguished visitors came to the "Albemarle Gallery of Old Masters," not, on this occasion, to view old masters, but to inspect old stamps. Mons. von Ferrary paid a meteoric visit to the show, and others who looked in were Mr. M. P. Castle, Mr. Vernon Roberts, Mr. Charles J. Phillips, Mr. Franz Reichenheim, Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, etc., etc.

Among the stamps most generally admired was Mrs. Field's fourpenny woodblock Cape, in the dark blue shade—a lovely thing. But rarities confronted one at every turn—including one of the two known specimens of the circular first issue of Bermuda (a greater rarity than the P. O. Mauritius, if it had its rights), many scarce things in Orange Rivers, Transvaals, triangular Capes (including woodblocks and some fine pairs, etc., in brilliant shades of colour), some fine St. Lucias, Seychelles, Indians (including a pair of the ½ anna red) and a host of other good things.

A most successful exhibition, and one that has been well noticed even by the "Times," the "Morning Post," and other newspapers not exactly enamoured of Philately.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

LONDON, DECEMBER, 19, 1903.

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The best of Christmas Wishes to all our readers and to philatelists the world over. And may 1904 be a bumper year for all of us!

A cryptic communication is to hand from a stamp dealer in the City. "Would you mind (he writes) just announcing briefly in the *Fortnightly*, that the gentleman who visited my office the other day and inadvertently gathered up a set of Sierra Leones that he hadn't purchased, is politely requested to return here and ask for the rarest stamp of the set, which by some oversight he left behind him!" This courteous invitation is quite in accordance with the goodwill of the coming festive season, and we trust this note will meet the eye of the gentleman referred to.

On the Eternal Exchange Club Question, Mr. W. A. Jutsum, of Cardiff, writes to the *Fortnightly* as follows:

I wish something could be done to place Exchange Clubs upon a more satisfactory footing than some of them are at present.

Take three points: (1) the return of sheets; (2) the defaulting members; and (3) the substituting of stamps.

(1) The largest Exchange I belong to, the "Birmingham," returns its sheets within five months, notwithstanding that each packet goes to about 100 members. Yet several much smaller clubs hold my sheets for six and more months.

(2) Defaulting members. I have had to sustain many losses through the unbusinesslike ways of secretaries, and I maintain that shrewd tact would have prevented most of, if not all, the bad debts that have been incurred.

(3) The substitution of stamps. That despicable pest, the "changing fiend," still exists in several of our Exchanges, and I should like to "scotch" him. He is a very cunning fellow, is the one I have had experience of, but I am getting on his track. Here, again, I think the admission of such "undesirables" is due to the easy admission some secretaries give to applicants.

From my experience I have come to the conclusion that stamp collectors require some kind of guarantee as to the fitness of the secretary of a club to conduct same before entrusting selections of valuable stamps to his Exchange. It is a question of the fittest surviving, and we who are interested should do our best to promote this end.

The only reply we can make to this is the obvious one that the fittest generally do survive, and that these things must ultimately find their true level. Also we feel confident that the thief who stoops to "substituting" in stamp clubs is sure to be detected in the end.

On Postal Cards and Covers.

BY A SPECIALIST.

The entire change of Colonial issues of stamps and postal stationery rendered necessary by the accession of the King, has been gradually taking place this past twenty months, and the process now approaches completion. During 1903 there has, for this reason alone, been a much larger number of new issues of entires than for any previous year in my memory. Again this month my notes must be sacrificed, on space considerations, to the list of

NOTES AND NOVELTIES.

Argentine Republic.—There seems to have been two kinds of the new 15c. Envelope chronicled last month, one of which was embossed and one of which was not. The design, I gather, was the same in each instance.

Env.: 15c. blue, embossed on grey paper.

Bulgaria.—I have mentioned the fact that the Cunrat 5 stot green card has been issued on five different kinds of card. The dates below are quoted on the authority of the "I.B.J."

- 2.02 cream card.
- 9.02 yellow card, back white.
- 10.02 iron-grey card, back white.
- 3.03 pale green card, very thin.
- 7.03 yellow-green card, very thick.

Cape of Good Hope.—The "W.P. Era" has seen new ½d. and 1d. cards of the King type. Both are of the regulation Postal Union size, and the penny card bears illustrations in the lower left corner.

- P.C. ½d. green on white. 89 x 139mm.
- 1d. carmine on cream. 89 x 139mm.

Mr. Lohmeyer also points out, in the same journal, that there is a ½d. Queen type card which has never really been chronicled or catalogued, although quite well-known. It is the large size (89 x 139mm.) with the inscription "Inland Service," issued probably about 1893-4.

Ceylon.—"E.W.S.N." has been shown the new 5c. envelope (chronicled in October) in two distinct shades, one dark blue, and the other indigo, almost black.

Corea.—A new set of cards for this interesting country is being chronicled—probably from "Specimen" copies. The cards consist of 1ch. and 1 x 1ch. local cards, and 4ch. and 4 x 4ch. for abroad. The designs are very pretty, the local cards having no French inscription except "Postes de Coree" and the value. The foreign card also has "Union Postale—Carte Postale—Universalle" at the left, and "Cote reserve a l'adresse," running down the right side. The foreign reply cards have "Avec response payee" on the one section, and "Response" on the other.

- P.C. 1ch. green on greenish.
- 1 x 1ch green on greenish.
- 4ch. red on rose.
- 4 x 4ch red on rose.

Cuba.—Mr. Bartels has shown the "W. P. Era" a U.S. 2c. foreign card, surcharged "CUBA 2c. DE PESO," but with the surcharge inverted, which brings the overprint at the left instead of the right, and, of course, upside down.

Hong Kong.—Mr. Lohmeyer has received the following cards of the King type, which he describes as of a distinctly Chinese character.

- P.C. 1c. green on cream.
- 1 and 1c. green on cream.
- 4c. carmine on cream.
- 4 and 4c. carmine on cream.

Orange River Colony. Messrs. Scott & Wilson have shown me the new ½d. inland card, of the regular type.

- P.C. ½d. green on thick white. 74 x 121mm.

Port Said.—The "I.B.J." chronicles a 10c. card, rose on greenish, with inscription, "Port Said" across stamp.

- P.C. 10c. rose on greenish. 141 x 91mm.

Stanley Gibbons' New Catalogue.

THE "FORTNIGHTLY" AS A PROPHET.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' 1904 Catalogue, or Part I. of it—and to many philatelists Part I. of the catalogue—is now published.

We must postpone a full review of the book until our next issue but in the meantime we have to thank a *Fortnightly*-reader, Mr. A. C. Constantinides, for a very kind letter on the subject of the prophecies in which the "S.C.F." indulged at the time the 1903 catalogue was published. We ventured then, as constant readers will remember, to suggest the possibility of an advance in the catalogue price of no less than 220 British and Colonial stamps. Now for the results, as shewn by the prices quoted in the 1904 edition. Mr. Constantinides has most kindly compiled the following list of the most notable changes occurring in the prices of the stamps we particularly mentioned:

STAMPS THAT HAVE ADVANCED:—

Great Britain	047	used	0 9 to 2 0
Antigua	9	unused	30 0 — 50 0
Bechuanaland	7	used	2 0 — 4 0
"	8	unused	5 0 — 8 6
"	8	used	3 6 — 8 6
"	24	unused	3 0 — 5 0
"	24	used	1 6 — 5 0
"	59	used	4 0 — 7 6
British Central Africa	27	unused	15 0 — 20 0
"	27	used	1 3 — 2 6
"	28	unused	25 0 — 35 0
"	39	unused	20 0 — 30 0
Canada	61a	unused	4 0 — 10 0
Cape of Good Hope	47	unused	3 0 — 10 0
"	48	unused	3 0 — 7 6
"	48	used	0 6 — 1 3
Dominica	6	used	3 6 — 6 0
"	16	unused	15 0 — 20 0
Falkland Islands	10	unused	15 0 — 20 0
"	10	used	4 6 — 15 0
Labuan	27	unused	4 0 — 7 6
Mauritius	88	unused	4 0 — 7 6
"	104	unused	2 0 — 4 0
Montserrat	9	unused	22 6 — 36 0
New South Wales	282	used	1 0 — 2 0
"	288	used	1 3 — 2 6
Straits Settlements	65	unused	1 0 — 3 6
"	68	unused	6 0 — 12 6

STAMPS THAT HAVE BEEN REDUCED:—

Canada	61	unused	5 0 — 1 6
Grenada	24	unused	80 0 — 70 0
Jamaica	31	unused	25 0 — 20 0
Tobago	18	unused	25 0 — 20 0
Tonga	20	unused	10 0 — 7 6
Turks Islands	40	unused	20 0 — 15 0
"	40	used	12 0 — 10 0
"	42	used	35 0 — 30 0
Virgin Islands	7	unused	15 0 — 10 0
"	26	unused	12 6 — 7 6

"These results," adds our correspondent, "fully uphold my opinion of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* as a guide to values. Out of 220 stamps received 120 have neither advanced nor receded in price, 80 have risen, and 20 have been reduced.

We hope that our "tips" (if readers will forgive the word) have proved to be of real benefit to many readers of the *Fortnightly*. Our one regret is that we were not correct in the whole of the 100 selections that have since made a move in point of value. Still, we give eighty winners as against twenty losers (to adhere to the racing metaphor), and that perhaps is as great a proportion as any human vaticinator can hope to achieve.

ASSISTANT PROPHETS WANTED.

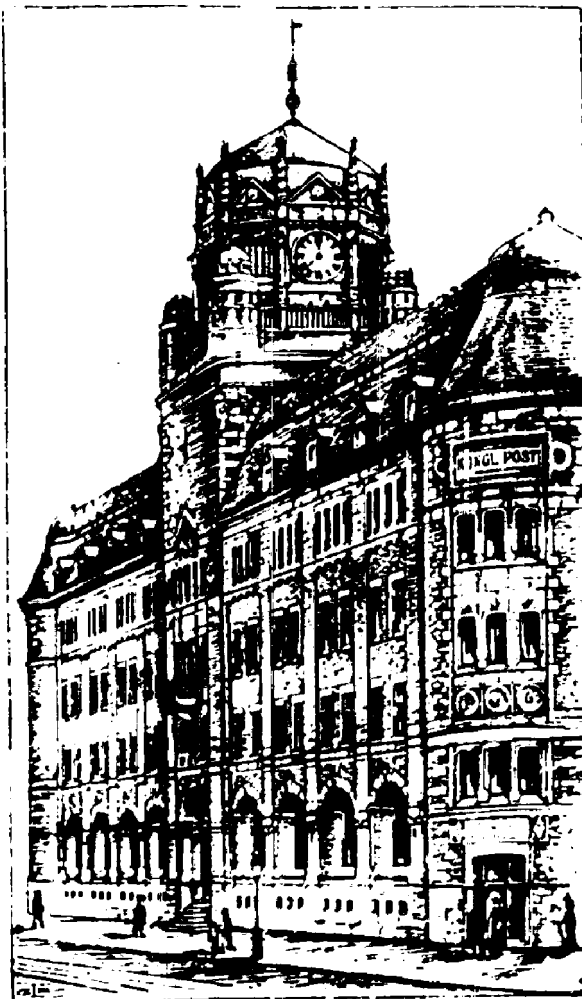
Among the readers of the *Fortnightly* there must be many philatelists holding pronounced views as to the true value (as opposed to catalogue value) of this, that, or the other stamp. From any such who care to write us we shall be

delighted to hear. The work of our own Philatelic Prophet may be greatly profited—we mean greatly lightened by a little assistance from other seers.

Readers who accept this invitation are requested to quote the name of the country, the number of each stamp dealt with, the price in Gibbons' 1904 edition, and the price at which they think the stamp should really stand. Postcards will do.

Sweden's Gumpap Post Office.

We reproduce from Mr. F. W. Andreen's excellent philatelic journal, "Svensk Filatelistisk," a picture of the handsome new Post Office at Stockholm, to "commemorate" which a Swedish gumpap of the face value of 5 krona has just been



issued. As philatelists are thus invited to contribute to the cost of the new Post Office, it seems only fair that they should be given a reliable view of the building.

Society Ladies who Collect Stamps.

The "Daily Mirror" notes that stamp-collecting is increasing in popularity as a hobby for women. The Princess of Wales has a small collection, although it in no way equals the Prince's. Other well-known women who are enthusiastic and keen collectors are the Duchess of Bedford, Duchess of Abercorn, Lady Lanesborough, and Lady Leicester.

Buried in Picture Postcards.

The "Glasgow Evening News" has recently indulged in a lugubrious prophecy regarding the picture postcard boom. In ten years' time, declares the worthy Glasgow newspaper, Europe will be buried beneath postcards!

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

Secretaries are requested to assist the Editor by sending in their reports not later than the Monday preceding publication.

THE JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Society was held at the Wheatsheaf Institute, 67, South Lambeth Road, on Saturday, December 5th.

The third auction of the season was held, after which Mr. W. A. Bois gave a very interesting paper on "Entires and their collection." The paper was illustrated by the display of some very fine specimens.

The stamps of Malta, Part III of the series of Mr. E. Heginbottom's Colonials, were displayed and notes on the country and its stamps were read.

Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. Bois and to Mr. Heginbottom.

The next two meetings of the Central Society will be held at the usual meeting place on December 19, 1903, and January 2, 1904. Visitors are cordially invited.

The Dulwich Branch of the Society held their opening meeting of the season 1903-4, at the Imperial Hall, Grove Vale, East Dulwich, on Saturday, November 28th, when the President, Mr. F. J. Melville, gave a paper entitled "Stamp Collecting as a Popular Hobby."

Another meeting was held last Saturday, December 12th. Some business was first done in electing a Secretary, after which a display of the stamps of Great Britain was given by Mr. H. Atharley, which was much appreciated by everyone present.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Atharley for his display.

A curiosity in the form of a portion of a 1s. Samoa stamp used to defray the postage on a newspaper was shown by the kindness of Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., to whom a vote of thanks was passed.

Future meetings of the Dulwich Branch will be held at the Imperial Hall, Grove Vale, East Dulwich, on the last Saturday of the month, from January to April, 1904.

An interesting programme has been arranged and collectors residing about Dulwich are invited to join. Full particulars from the General Secretary: H. P. Johnson, 9, Lorne Terrace, South Lambeth Road, S.W.

"UNUSED" STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

October Packet returned. Sales effected, £17 0s. 9d., out of a total amount of £28 4s. 4d. sent in for circulation. All credits have been paid out and I trust debits will have been sent in by the date of this report appearing in print. A few members required who have mint Europeans for disposal, either from England or abroad. Rules, etc., on application from: Secretary, H. Bean, 164, Loughborough Park, London.

"BRITISH EMPIRE" STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

October Colonial packet returned. The sales realized are over 20 per cent of value circulated, viz:—£20 11s. 11d. nett sent in; £18 7s. 7½d. nett, sold.

December Colonial packet despatched on the 1st, with 21 sheets £65 2s. 1d. nett; General packet on the 10th, 30 sheets £11 2s. 11d. gross. Both these packets are below the average value, partly due to the expectation of S.G. 16th Edition Catalogue.

Rules on application from the Secretary, H. Bean, 16, Loughborough Park, London.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the monthly meeting held on December 8th, Mr. A. J. Foulger gave an interesting and instructive paper on the stamps of the Haytian Republic, which he illustrated with his fine unused collection in the absence of the President, Mr. F. Gerhartz, the chair was taken by Mr. A. H. Stamford. During the evening, Mr. W. M. Gray passed round for inspection his Cape unused wood-blocks in perfect condition which was greatly admired by the members present.

CARDIFF PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The September quarterly balances due to members have been paid and the October sheets returned to their owners.

The December packet consisted of 31 sheets, value £227 12s. 8d. Sheets for January packet should reach the Secretary by the 25th inst.

Secretary, W. A. Jutsum, 371, Cowbridge Road, Cardiff.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

In the absence of the President, the chair at the meeting on December 3rd was taken by Mr. J. H. Chapman.

There was a large muster of members to listen to a paper by Mr. Heginbottom, on the stamps of the West Indies. He very fully described the various issues, and illustrated the same by means of his collection, which was a splendid display, being practically complete, and including some of the very rarest stamps of the countries described. Amongst them was a magnificent used specimen of the Gd. green imperf. Antigua, watermark Star, and guaranteed genuine by Mr. E. D. Bacon.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Heginbottom, and the Chairman announced that one of the old members, Major Mullins, who was formerly stationed at Sheffield with his regiment, and who had fought in the Boer War, had promised to come to the next meeting and exhibit his collection of stamps of the Orange River Colony.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The third meeting of the 13th session was held in the Traders' Hall, Bedford Street, on December 2nd. An interesting paper on "The stamps of Tasmania," by Mr. E. J. Heginbottom, B.A., of Rochdale (an honorary member of the Society) was read by the President (Mr. R. Tyeth Stevens), and the paper was illustrated by his fine collection of the stamps of that country, as well as that belonging to the President. Among the stamps shown by Mr. Heginbottom was the very rare 1d. vermilion (De la Rue series) of 1871, perforated 11½, watermark TAS (with bars), also the 3d. blue of 1870-71, and the much sought-for but seldom found £1 of 1882-99, in an undoubtedly postally used state. The Society have decided to hold a display of stamps in their room on January 13th, 1904, when Mr. Heginbottom has kindly promised to exhibit some of the stamps from his collection.

The next meeting will be held on December 16th, when "The stamps of South Australia" will be the subject of discussion.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the fortnightly meeting held on Friday, November 21st, at the Grand Hotel, Manchester, there was an interesting and animated debate on the subject of "Postage Stamp Colours." Mr. W. Dornier Beckton presided and a special arc light provided by one of the members, Mr. H. A. Wood, proved of great value in showing up the colours under discussion.

A Post Office for a Penny.

The London Correspondent of the "Manchester Evening Chronicle" holds forth as follows:—

"What I cannot quite grasp is the mania to possess a tiny print simply because there is not another one like it in the world—at least you believe it to be unique, though as like as not some old fogey has unsuspected specimens among the piles of papers in his dusty study. Naturally it is very satisfying to be able to show your friends a complete set of stamps from the Leeward Islands, Zanzibar or Heligoland, but how a person can gloat over a piece of perforated paper issued by mistake passes my understanding. For instance, the authorities at Mauritius once sent out a penny stamp and marked it Post Office, one penny; this suggested that one could buy a post office for a copper, which, as Euclid said, is absurd, so the stamp was withdrawn, and the sole remaining sample is worth £1,500! I don't want to be rude, but I should like to remark 'Bosh.'"

We don't want to be rude either, but we should like to remark "Bosh" also!

The George Washington of Argentina.

In the latest philatelic contribution to "Hobbies," we find a chatty account of the notabilities whose heads have appeared on the portrait stamps of Argentina and Honduras.

"The hero of heroes in the history of Argentina," we read, "is Bernadino Rivadavia, whose head has continuously adorned the 5 centavos Argentine stamps from the issue of 1864 down to the present time. Rivadavia is enshrined in the affections of the Argentine people as securely as George Washington reigns in the hearts of the Americans. In the revolution of 1810, which made Argentina a free and independent nation, none showed such courage, such resource, such whole-souled patriotism as Rivadavia, who, when the Argentine Republic was duly established, was elected its first President. He afterwards filled other offices, and all with distinction and ability. He was great both on the battlefield and in the council-chamber—a rare combination. But Bernadino Rivadavia made enemies, as do all great men, and in 1830, after twenty years of useful and distinguished service to the State, his position began to be successfully assailed by envious and intriguing colleagues. By 1836 he was a ruined man and exiled from the country whose fortunes he had founded, and he died in Europe in 1845, apparently unhonoured and unregretted. Soon, however, the memory of his earlier services to Argentina re-awakened the gratitude of his countrymen; his remains were exhumed and taken to Buenos Ayres for an honoured re-burial; and from that time to this the name of Rivadavia has stood first on Argentina's scroll of fame."

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16, unused, (Cat. £7)	00	0	2d. "	2	6
1 R. Official.			2d. "	6	6
9d. purple on red	1	3	Board of Education.		
1 - green		1	6d. (Green)	14	0
£1, green	31	6	3d. King	0	6
2 1/2d. King			0 1d. "	0	3
1/-	1	3	2 1/2d. "	4	6
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Some Notes on the Fiscal Stamps of the Orange Free State.

BY N. YAAR.

In my opinion there are no more interesting countries in the world than the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony from a philatelic point of view. Probably the reason is to be found in the historical and philatelic obscurity in which the first issues of Postage and Fiscal stamps so long remained, and the difficulty experienced in properly classifying them according to their date of issue. It is very seldom that old specimens turn up with clear dates, giving—so to say—their own history, and when copies do turn up, they generally overthrow the theory that philatelists have hitherto entertained with regard to them!

Much has been written concerning the stamps of the Transvaal and it will be allowed even by specialists that much more can be written, as so much is still enshrouded in mystery, and is only waiting for the opportunity of being brought to light.

Of the postage stamps of the Orange Free State, this cannot be said, as from the commencement, this country had its stamps printed in England, and only used three values. Thus all was "plain sailing," and there remains very little to be cleared up.

It is, however, not our present object to speak about the postal issues, but solely about the first fiscal stamps issued by the Free State.

Interested in all philatelic matters pertaining to this country, and reading an article in "Morley's Philatelic Journal" of July, 1902, from the pen of an eminent philatelist and specialist, Mr. E. Tamsen, we proceeded to peruse it with pleasure and confident of finding some new facts not yet mentioned. We were not disappointed, but as several points were not clear or otherwise incorrect, we jotted down some notes, which we hope may prove of interest to the many readers of the *Fortnightly* who devote themselves to this branch of Philately. We must first thank Mr. Tamsen for his interesting article, also M. Moens for the articles which appeared from time to time in his publications "Le Timbre Poste" and "Le Timbre Fiscal," also Mr. Morley's "Philatelic Journal" for much interesting information.

The first fiscal stamps of Orange Free State—at least as far as is known, and according to the specimens turned up—are the embossed labels on coloured paper, very similar to those of the earliest issue of the Cape Colony. This likeness to Cape Colony's stamps strikes one at first glance. Possibly the two series were made by the same engraver.

In the Fiscal Catalogue (7th Edition) of Moens, the date of issue of these stamps is given as 1867, on the authority we think of Dr. Magnus, who first made mention of them in "Le Timbre Fiscal" of January, 1874, wherein they are described. He had in his possession several specimens of which the earliest dates were 24th September, 1st November and 27th December, 1867.

As to this Mr. Tamsen says: "In this Moens is certainly wrong"—on the following grounds:—The embossed fiscal stamps of the Cape were issued in 1854; those of Natal also in 1854, and therefore those of the Orange Free State, which were next printed on the same paper, can be put down at 1858, or even earlier.

As we have been so fortunate as to secure possession of Moens' own copy of the Fiscal Catalogue, we have observed that he erased the date 1867, and put down in writing the presumable date of 1864 with a "P" added. On what authority he did so, we do not know, but he must have had certain proofs or earlier-dated specimens in his possession to justify him in this alteration of date.

A specimen in the possession of Mr. Tamsen, dated 1857, settles this question without a shadow of doubt. Another specimen, with the words affixed "Gezien voor een Zegel van een shilling sterling" (Translated literally "Seen for a stamp of one shilling sterling" but meaning, "Doing duty

for a stamp of one shilling sterling") draws the remark "that the expression "Zegel" (stamp), denotes that stamps must have existed prior to the use of these specimens."

In this we cannot wholly agree with Mr. Tamsen. As probably every fiscal collector knows, very early dates are known—as, for instance, in Holland (see Moens' Catalogue of Holland, 1829, Handels zegels) paper was used for documents, wills, contracts, etc., the contents being put on stamped paper; this being paper embossed with seals of Government or County (Province). This custom was brought over from France at the time of Napoleon. The word "zegel" is used for all kinds of stamps in Holland, such as embossed, also for wax impression (Zegel in lak). The word for stamped paper (impressed paper) is in Dutch "GEZEGELD PAPIER" and the stamps which were, and are still impressed in one of the upper corners of the document is called a "ZEGEL." From this, we presume the Boers and Free Staters followed the custom of the Dutch people in causing a stamped document "EEN GEZEGELD PAPIER," and the single stamp "EEN ZEGEL." To prove more fully that what we state is correct, take the description of Mr. Klagsbrun in "Morley's Philatelic Journal" of June, 1902, which is similar to the description given by Mr. Tamsen, and proves that the Transvaalers used the same way of accepting or giving a receipt for any documents as all the Dutch speaking nations.

This, we think, proves that no stamp existed prior to the one described above, but only stamped paper. Later, of course, the adhesive stamps such as Mr. Tamsen and Dr. Magnus describe, were issued; but until a specimen with a clear date turns up, to settle this point, we shall not know whether Mr. Tamsen's conclusions are correct.

1858. Issue I. Type I.

Class A, embossed on blue laid paper.

At the top on a curved label the name "ORANJE VRIJ STAAT," beneath this in letters "ZEGEL VAN....." value in letters. Two crossed branches terminate the design.

* * * *

As it is not our aim to catalogue all the varieties we would refer collectors to "Morley's Philatelic Journal," which gives a complete list of the values and varieties to be found.

Class B, embossed on white paper.

.. C.	..	..	green	..
.. D.	..	..	yellow	..
.. E.	..	..	dark blue	..
.. F.	..	..	rose	..

Of all these there exist 14 values, viz:— 6d., 9d., 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 3/-, 4/-, 5/-, 10/-, £1, £2, £3 and £5.

Although Mr. Tamsen did not chronicle all these thirteen values in the six classes mentioned above, we think these can safely be done. He, not knowing at the time of writing, that specimens existed in the possession of English collectors, only chronicled those in his own hands and those mentioned by Moens'. But so many gaps have been filled up in the meantime that it is probable that if a few values have not yet turned up, they can and will come to light, and may with practical safety be chronicled as existing.

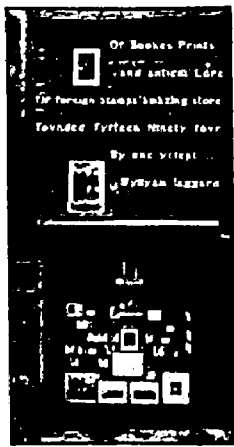
Detailing the different classes, Mr. Tamsen says, "It will be noted that in Class C, D and E, I have made no mention of any 6d. value. They may exist or not; but I rather doubt their existence. Sixpence was not much of a Revenue value in South Africa, 40 years ago, as their 1/- was practically the smallest coin used up country and its purchase power was rather small."

Again we must say that Mr. Tamsen is incorrect in his conclusions, at least in Class C for Mr. Morley shewed a 6d. in his collection, and this being the case, we see no reason why this value should exist in the one series and not in the other.

Further on we read, "It may be noted that this country never had a fiscal adhesive (ad. stamp). To denote this amount on Bank cheques in later years, either postage stamps were used or each cheque bore an embossed impression." We underline these words. It is a pity Mr. Tamsen did not mention the word used in Dutch by the Free Staters for the embossed impression. This cannot be any other word than "ZEGEL," and therefore proves our statement above to be correct.

(To be Concluded.)

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From the Auction Rooms.



Recent sales in London have shown a high average of quality and a very gratifying level of price. In the last auction at "Puttick's" were many choice things in British North America, including 6d. and 1s. New Brunswicks, the 12d. of Canada, the 6d. and 1s. Newfoundland, Nova Scotias, &c. A specimen of the Barbados, 1861-70, 1s. blue error (of which only nine copies are believed to exist) was knocked down for £23.

Messrs. Glendining, at the Argyll Street Gallery, have had several excellent sales. At the most recent of these, the 1 franc vermilion of France sold for £4 15s., a pair of the British Bechuanaland, ½d. black, showing the error "ritish," *se tenant*, for £4 15s., and a block of four of the 1c. magenta British Guiana of 1852 for £13.

Other notable sales have been held by Messrs. Ventom Bull and Cooper Messrs. Plumridge and Co., Mr. W. Hadlow, and Messrs. Martin Ray and Co., all of which will be found duly reported in our columns.

Two philatelic auctions in the provinces call for notice. In Edinburgh, at Smith's well-known rooms, George Street, some fine British and Colonial stamps were auctioned on November 28th. The 10/- green Anchor wmk. fetched £1 5s., the £1 purple, three Orbs, 15s., the £1 brown-lilac, three Crowns, 14s. 6d., the £5 orange, £1 6s.; another £5 orange, £1 8s.

In connection with the liquidation of the estate of Mr. A. T. Ferguson, stamp dealer, a two-days' auction has been held at Aberdeen by the order of Mr. Charles S. Romanes, of Edinburgh, trustee. In some instances the prices realised were ludicrously low. One lot, comprising "89 United States Carriers' and Local stamps, some very scarce," realised the noble sum of 2s. 2d., and there were mixed Colonial lots that fetched such prices as 2s. 4d., 4s., 4s. 3d., 4s. 6d., 5s. and 5s. 3d. The Aberdonians' proverbial care of the "siller" appears to have been well exemplified at this most extraordinary auction.

Messrs. Glendining announce they will disperse early in February the finest collection of English stamps that has ever come under the hammer. Some very choice things are included, and amongst them may be specially mentioned:

- A beautiful mint specimen of the 1d. V.R.
- In 1d. blacks a strip of 6, from bottom of plate, showing the very rare plate 5.
- In 2d. blues, a pair no lines
- In 1d. reds, a pair on Dickinson paper, an Archer roulette and an Archer proof, both used.
- Of the 1854-57 issue, a complete collection.
- A complete set in mint pairs of the 1d. plate Nos.
- Of the Embossed issue, a choice lot, many in pairs, of the surface printed issue, the 4d. small and medium Garter on blue, and the 4d. medium Garter on white (a pair).
- Of the 1862 issue, 1½ hair lines, an imperf. pair on plate 3 paper.
- 9d. Emblems, plate 5, all the 5½ stamps issued. The 10 and £1 Cross, and Anchor, all unused.
- 1884 issue, the 5d. dull green, with original die (only 5 of these were ever issued).

Numerous very rare proofs, some Telegraphs and curiosities. Catalogues will be ready in a week's time, and all collectors of English should ask for one.

* Denotes UNUSED.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales.

November 10th and 11th, 1903.

Austrian Italy, Journal Stamp, 1858, 4kr. red, mint	1 18 0
Great Britain, 1847-54, Octagonal, 6d. dark violet, mint	3 10 0
Do. Ditto, 10d. brown *	2 17 6
Do. 1854-57, wmk. small crown, perf. 14 2d. blue *	7 0 0
Do. 1878, wmk. Cross, 10/- grey, mint	10 10 0
Do. 1880, 2/- brown	2 0 0
Do. 1883, 2 6 lilac on blaute, mint	1 12 0
Do. 1888, wmk. Orbs, £1 purple-brown, mint	10 10 0

Spain, 1865, imperf. 12c. rose and blue, with centre inverted, fair, very scarce	3 5 0
Ceylon, 1855-59, imperf. 8d. brown	12 10 0
Do. Ditto, 1 9 green	3 5 0
Do. Ditto, 2/- blue	4 17 6
Do. 1861, wmk. Star, clean cut perfs, 2d. green, *	1 10 0
Do. Ditto, 8d. brown	3 3 0
Do. rough perfs. 8d. yellow-brown, the scarce "mistard" shade	3 15 0
Do. Ditto, 9d. bistre *	3 7 6
Do. 1862, no wmk. 1/- violet, *	8 5 0
Do. 1863-67, wmk. C.C., 2/- emerald-green, a block of 4, mint	1 12 0
Do. Ditto, 5d. purple-brown, a mint pair	5 0 0
Labuan, Provisionals, 6 in red on 16/- blue, mint	5 0 0
Do. 1895, 2 Cents on 16/- blue *	3 15 0
North Borneo, 1883, 8 cents, vertically surcharged on 2c. red-brown	1 12 0
Philippine Islands, 1854, 10c. pale rose, a pair	4 4 0
Do. Ditto, 1 real blue *	1 14 0
Do. Johor, 1891, Two Cents on 2/- green, the error "Cent,"	2 2 0
Cape of Good Hope, 1853-8, 6d. lilac, a pair, mint	4 4 0
Do. Ditto, 6d. slate, mint	2 12 6
Do. Ditto, 1/- dark green, a mint pair	5 0 0
Do. 1863-64, triangular, 1d. carmine, a mint block of 8	7 0 0
Do. Ditto, 4d. dark blue, a mint pair	3 0 0
Do. Ditto, 6d. mauve, a mint pair	3 3 0
Do. Ditto, 1/- emerald, a mint pair	7 15 0
Do. 1892-93, wmk. C.A., 5/- orange	1 2 0
Lagos, 1884-86, wmk. C.A., 2 6 olive-black, mint	4 4 0
Do. 5/- blue, mint	6 0 0
Do. Ditto, 10/- lilac-brown, ditto	10 0 0
Niger Coast, 1893-94, 1 in red on half of 2d.	1 8 0
Do. Ditto, Half penny in vermilion on 2½d., with double surcharge	2 14 0
Do. Ditto, half penny in vermilion on 2½d.	2 6 0
Do. Ditto, same surcharge in blue on 2½d., mint	1 10 0
Do. Half penny in green on 2½d., mint	2 0 0
Do. 1893, ½ in red on half of 1d. blue	2 0 0
Do. 1894, ½ in violet on half of 1d. vermilion	3 0 0
Orange River Colony, 1901, V.R.I., 6d. carmine (1st printing) the error with figure of value omitted	14 10 0
Seychelles, 1893, 12 cents on 16c. brown and blue, with inverted surcharge, mint	2 10 0
Do. Ditto, 15 cents on 16c. brown and blue, mint	2 2 0
Transvaal, 1892, Een Penny on 4d. sage-green, with inverted surcharge, mint	2 7 6
Uganda, 1896, 1 rupee, a block of 4, *	2 0 0
United States, State, 2 dollars, mint	2 4 0
Guatemala, 1881, ½d. mauve, the error "Ostago," mint	1 3 0
Jamaica, Postal Fiscals 1878-81 5/- lilac on blue, postally used	1 13 0
Do. Ditto, 10/- green on blue, ditto	2 10 0
St. Vincent, 1871-80, perf. 11-12½, 1/- vermilion, mint	5 10 0
Do. Ditto, 5/- lake	8 0 0
Do. 1881, Provisionals, ½d. in red on half of 6d. yellow-green, a pair	4 0 0
Argentine Republic, 1891, 20 pesos green	1 14 0
British Guiana, Official, 1875, 24/- green	2 12 6
Colombian Republic, 1863, 50c. red, error	12 5 0
Queensland, 1892-93, wmk. Q. and Crown, perf. 9 x 12, 1d. pale red, mint	1 3 0
South Australia, 1855, imperf. London print, 1d. deep green, a pair, apparently *	3 17 6
Victoria, 1850, 2d. lilac, with fine background	5 7 6
Do. 1862, wmk. words, 3d. blue, mint	2 0 0
Do. 1867-82, wmk. V. and Crown, 4d. aniline-rose, mint	2 2 0
Do. 1873-83, wmk. V. and Crown, 2d. mauve on green, mint	1 10 0
Western Australia, 1861, wmk. Swan, perf. 11, 4d. vermilion, mint	1 6 0

Messrs. VENTOM BULL & COOPER'S Sale.

November 10th and 20th, 1903.

Great Britain, 1881, 1d. lilac, variety with impression at back, mint	3 0 0
Ceylon, wmk. Star, clean-cut perf. 4d. dull rose	3 0 0
India, 1st issue, ½ anna red	8 5 0
Labuan, 1895, Provisional, "2 cents" on 16c. blue, *	4 15 0
Portuguese Indies, 1871, 20 reis carmine-red	1 12 0
Do. do. Provisionals, 6 on 100 reis of 1876, Gibbons' No. 166	2 10 0
Do. do. Ditto, 6 on 200 reis of 1872, Gibbons' No. 168	1 4 0
Do. do. Ditto, 6 on 200 reis, on laid paper, Gibbons' 169	2 18 0

Vryburg, 1900. 3d. Transvaal, surcharged "V.R. Special Post" ...	1 0 0
Gambia, 1880, wmk. C. and CC. 1/- green, mint ...	2 0 0
Gold Coast, 1891-94, 20/- green and red, mint ...	6 12 6
Sierra Leone, 1891. 3d. on 1 1/2d. lilac, error "Penny," mint ...	1 1 0
Zanzibar, on Indian, blue surcharge, 1 anna plum ...	1 11 0
Do. On British East Africa, 1 anna carmine-rose, an unused horizontal pair with double surcharge, rare ...	3 12 6
Zululand, 1st issue. 5/- carmine, * ...	2 10 0
Do. 1/- purple on red, mint ...	1 17 0
Canada, 1852-57. 3d. vermilion, unused in mint state and fine ...	1 2 0
Do. Ditto, 7 1/2d. green, used on piece and very fine ...	1 18 0
United States, New York, 5c. black ...	1 18 0
Do. 1847, 10c. black on grey paper, mint ...	1 0 0
British Guiana, 1862, Provisionals, 1c. black on rose, border of grapes ...	7 0 0
Dominica, 1886, Provisional, "One Penny" on 6d. green, on entire envelope, with 8 other values, probably unique ...	46 0 0
Montserrat, Postal Fiscal, 1d. red on laid paper ...	0 12 0
St. Vincent, 1881, provisionals, 1d. on 1/- vermilion, * ...	11 0 0
Trinidad, lithographed, 1d. red, on entire, with a 4d. perforated ...	4 0 0
Virgin Islands: Provisional, 4d. in violet on 1/- crimson, mint ...	1 6 0
Do. 1899, 4d. brown, error "Four Penny" on entire with the two 3d. errors and another 4d. ...	5 19 0
Victoria, 1854, Queen on throne, lithographed, 2d. red-lilac, a fine horizontal pair used on piece, one of which has the error "two" ...	3 0 0

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.'s Sale

November 3rd and 4th, 1903.

Bechuanaland, 1888, Half penny on 3d., mint ...	1 4 0
British South Africa, 1899, 1/- blue ...	0 15 0
Do. do. Ditto, 1/2 green ...	1 10 0
Do. do. 1891, 8d. on 1/-, mint ...	1 12 0
Great Britain, 1840, 1d. black, a pair * ...	1 10 0
Do. 1873-80, 2 1/2d. on blued, plate 1, a pair. *; 1883 4d., a mint pair ...	1 12 0
Nova Scotia, 1d. brown ...	1 4 0
Seychelles, 15 on 16, twice surcharged, mint ...	1 12 0
Do. 15 on 16, surcharge inverted, mint ...	2 0 0
Transvaal, V.R.I., 5/- slate, a mint block of 4 ...	2 0 0
Zanzibar, 1895, 3/4 green, the Zanzibar error ...	1 18 0
Do. Ditto, 3 annas, error broken P. for N. ...	1 15 0

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.'s Sale,

November 16th and 17th, 1903.

Brazil, 1866, perf. 430 reis yellow ...	1 15 0
British Guiana, 1850-1, 12c. pale blue ...	11 0 0
Cape of Good Hope, triangular on white, 1/- deep green, a mint pair ...	8 0 0
Mafeking, the set complete ...	9 15 0
Vryburg, the set, 3d., 1d., 2 1/2d. and 6d. ...	2 8 0
Ceylon, 1857, imperf. 4d. rose ...	10 0 0
Congo, 1889-92, Colis Postaux 3 50 on 5fr. lilac, blue surcharge inverted mint ...	2 0 0
Fiji, 1874-5, Fancy V.R., 2d. in black on 6d. mint ...	6 15 0
Do. 1891-2, 6d. rose, printed both sides, uncatalogued variety ...	2 0 0
Great Britain, 1840, 2d. pale blue, * ...	3 0 0
Do. Ditto, 2d. deep blue ...	3 10 0
Do. 1857, large Crown, perf. 16, white paper, 1d. rose-red, mint block of 4 ...	13 0 0
Hamburg, 1859, imperf. 9s. yellow ...	2 10 0
New South Wales, 1855, imperf. 8d. yellow ...	4 0 0
St. Vincent, 1871, perf. 11 to 12 1/2 by 15, 1/- violet-rose, * ...	6 0 0
Do. 1881, One Penny on 6d. yellow-green ...	2 2 0
Tuscany, 1851-2, 2 soldi ...	5 17 6
Victoria, 1850, 3d., a rouletted pair, on entire ...	2 4 0
Do. 1852, engraved, 2d., brown, mint ...	1 16 0
Do. 1858-61, rouletted 2/- green, a pair on entire ...	5 10 0
Do. 1854-61, 1/- rouletted pale blue ...	1 12 0
Do. 1868-81, 5/- red and blue, without blue line under Crown, perf. 11 1/2, * ...	2 5 0
Western Australia, 1857, 6d. bronze ...	2 12 0
Do. 1861, rough perf. 1/- deep green ...	1 10 0
Do. 1882, C.A., 6d. lilac, mint ...	1 18 0

Messrs. VEJNTOM, BULL & COOPER'S Sale,

November 5th and 6th, 1903.

Great Britain, 1d. black a block of 12, mint ...	10 5 0
Do. 1d. red, plate No. 132, a block of 6, mint ...	3 12 6
Do. 1860, 1 1/2d. lilac-rose on blued paper, mint ...	1 5 0
Do. 2d. blue, wmk. large Crown, perf. 14, plate 5, mint ...	1 12 0
Do. 1897, 3d. brown on orange, mint ...	1 16 0
Do. 8d. brown-lilac, mint ...	3 3 0
Do. 1/- green, plate 1, two mint specimens ...	2 0 0
Do. 1/- green, plates 5 and 6, both mint ...	1 10 0
Do. 1/- orange-brown, plate 13, wmk. Spray, mint ...	1 1 0
Do. 2/- deep blue and 2/- pale blue, both *, the former imperf. one side ...	2 14 0
Do. 2/- brown ...	1 18 0
Do. 2/6 lilac on blued paper, mint ...	2 4 0
Do. 5/- plate 1, * ...	1 14 0
Do. 10/- grey-green, wmk. Maltese Cross, mint ...	11 0 0
Do. 1/- brown-purple, wmk. 3 Crowns, mint ...	5 0 0
Do. 1/5 orange, with "Registered" postmark ...	1 12 0
Belgium, 1875-81, 5 francs yellow-brown, * ...	1 1 0
Tuscany, 1860, 80c. pale red-brown, * ...	1 5 0
Ceylon, Provisionals, 5c. on 96c. drab, * ...	2 10 0
British Bechuanaland, 1st issue, surcharged in red and in black, 3d. black, unused, in mint state and rare ...	2 17 6
Do. Surcharged "Protectorate," 2/- green, * ...	3 15 0
Do. 2/6 green, * ...	4 4 0
Do. 5/- green, mint ...	5 15 0
Do. 10/- green, mint ...	9 15 0
British East Africa, Provisional, surcharged in violet with a handstamp, 1 anna A.B. on 4 annas brown ...	4 10 0
British South Africa, 1st issue, 1/2 rose-red, mint ...	2 2 0
Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. blue ...	2 16 0
Do. 1871-77, 5/- orange-yellow, unused, mint ...	1 4 0
Do. 1892, Provisional, 3d. on 3d. claret, wmk. C. and CC. ...	3 15 0
Gambia, wmk. C. and CC., 4d. brown and 6d. blue, imperf. both mint ...	2 12 6
Gold Coast, 1891-4, 1/- green and red, mint ...	7 10 0
Mauritius, 1877, Provisionals, 1/- on 5/- reddish-purple, and 1/- on 5/- violet, both mint ...	2 14 0
Orange River Colony, V.R.I., 6d. carmine, no stop after V., in a strip of three ...	3 17 6
Do. do. Ditto, 5/- green, no stop after V., in a strip of 3 ...	5 5 0
Transvaal, V.R.I., 3d. green, a mint pair, one having only a portion of the letter V ...	1 0 0
Zululand, 1st issue, 5/- carmine, * ...	2 15 0
Do. 1894-96, 1/- purple on red, mint ...	2 2 0
New Brunswick, 1/- violet ...	10 0 0
British Honduras, 1888, 50c. on 1/- grey, mint ...	2 10 0
Montserrat, 1884-85, C and CA, 4d. blue ...	2 8 0
Nevis, 1883, 6d. green, * ...	4 0 0
St. Vincent, 1871-72, wmk. small Star, 6d. blue-green, mint ...	2 6 0
Do. 1878, clean-cut perf. 6d. pale yellow-green, * ...	1 18 0
Do. 1880, 5/- rose-red, mint ...	10 0 0
Do. Ditto, Provisional, 1d. in red on half 6d. blue-green ...	3 17 6



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Messrs PLUMRIDGE & Co.'s Sale,

December, 1st. and 2nd., 1903.

British Central Africa, 1897. 4l. lilac, mint	1	4	0
Bahamas, 1861. no wmk. rough perf. 6d. grey-lilac, *	3	0	0
Do. Ditto, ditto, perf. 11 to 12. 1d. carmine-lake, *	1	15	0
Do. Ditto, perf. 13. 4l. rose, *	6	0	0
British East Africa, July 1895. 2 annas	1	8	0
Do. do. October, 1895. 2½ in red on 1½, fine, used on piece	1	5	0
British Guiana, 1852. 1c. black on magenta	4	12	6
British Honduras, 1883. C.C. 12½. 3c. on 3d. brown	8	0	0
Do. 1855. 6d. yellow, mint	2	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, Triangular, 1 - yellow-green, a pair	1	16	0
Do. do. 1892-3. C.A. 5 - orange	1	1	0
Ceylon, 1857, imperf. 4d. rose	10	0	0
Gibraltar, August, 1889. 25c. on 2½d. blue, variety broken N, mint	1	7	0
Do. Ditto, short I variety	1	7	0
Great Britain, I.R. Official, 1885. 5 -	3	0	0
Do. Ditto, ditto, 4l. marone Crowns, mint, but Specimen	3	3	0
Do. Ditto, 1892. 4l. green	1	12	0
Lagos, 1884. 2 6 olive-black, mint	2	18	0
Mauritius, 1885. 2c. on 38c., variety without bar, rare, and the normal stamp	1	9	0
Nevis, 1878. lithograph, 4d. orange, *	4	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown, a strip of 3	3	15	0
Orange River Colony, 1877. 4 on 4d. rose, surcharge inverted Gibbons' type D	2	0	0
Do. do. V.R.I., 1st print, 6d. carmine, variety No stop after V, mint	2	17	6
Do. do. 2nd print, 2½d. on 3d.	1	15	0
Philippines, 1869. 2 reales blue, surcharge Habilitado invert	3	3	0
St. Vincent, 1880. 5/- rose-red	6	0	0
Do. Ditto, ditto, *	7	10	0
Do. 1880. 1d. on half 6d.	3	0	0
Do. 1881. 1d. on 6d. yellow-green, mint	3	5	0
Do. Ditto, 4d. on 1 - vermilion	8	0	0
Do. 1883. C.A. 14. 4d. bright blue, mint	3	10	0

Sierra Leone, 1862, imperf. 6d. lilac on white	2	12	6
South Australia, 1867-70, perf. 11½ x roulette, 11. yellow-green, mint	2	2	0
Straits Settlements, 1860, C.C. 12½. 96c. grey, mint	3	15	0
Swaziland, perf. 11½ x 12. 5 - slate-blue, the error "Swazie-lan" with surcharge inverted	6	6	0
Tobago, 1892-4. C.A., 6d. stone	3	10	0
Trinidad, 1859, pin perf. 12½. 6d. yellow-green	2	0	0
Turks Islands, 2½d. on 1 - lilac, type 6, mint	3	0	0
Virgin Islands, 1867, perf. 15. 6d. rose, mint	2	12	6

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPERS' Sale,

December 3rd and 4th, 1903.

Great Britain, 1847-51. 4d. red-brown rouletted, used on piece	2	17	6
Switzerland: Basle, 2½ rappen blue, black and carmine, *	2	0	0
Hong Kong, 1891, Jubilee Stamp, 2c. rose, variety with long narrow K	2	12	6
Labuan, 1893 provl. "TWO CENTS" on 10c. amber with inverted surcharge	3	7	6
Philippines, 1863, 2 reales blue	1	6	0
British East Africa, Provisional, ½ anna T. E. C. R. on 3 annas brown on dull red	1	10	0
Do. Provisional, 1 anna A. B. on 1 annas brown	1	12	0
Do. On Indian, Errors, inverted "V" instead of "A" in Africa, ½, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 3 and 6 annas, all *	3	17	6
Do. On Indian, no dot to "i" in Africa, ½, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 3 and 4 annas, all *	3	0	0
Do. On Indian, no dot to first "i" in British, ½, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 3 and 4 annas, all *	3	17	6
Do. On Zanzibar, 20 rupees yellow-green *	1	9	0
British South Africa, 1st issue, 42 rose-red, mint	2	12	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1853-64 triangulars, 1d. brick-red on blue paper	1	10	0
Fernando Po., 1885-93 provisional, 50c. in violet on 5c. blue-blue and 50c. in blue on 5c. blue-blue	2	12	6

(To be Continued).

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Telegraphs.

LONDON DISTRICT TELEGRAPH CO.

1862, S.G. No 2, 4d. blue; No 4, 3d. greenish blue; No 5, 6d. vermilion.

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No 1, 9d. red.

UNITED KINGDOM TELEGRAPH CO.

1862, S.G. No 1, 3d., No 2, 6d., No 3, 1/-; 1863, int under control number, S.G. No 14, 1/6 green, No 15, 2/- brown.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH CO

1854, S.G. No 1, No 2, No 3; 1854-7, No 5 No 9, No 10, No 11, 3d., 4/6, 2/- perf. 14½ to 15½.

Offers of the above (used or unused) will oblige. State price required.

Any really rare varieties in English **WANTED, used or unused.**
TRANSVAAL, S.G. Nos. 56, 57, 170. (And anything fine in British Colonials).

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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 Somaliland.— Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., send us the 2 rupees Indian, of the Queen Victoria series, with black surcharge at foot, "British Somaliland."

Surcharged on Indian: 2 rupees, carmine and brown.

Corea.— The new stamps of the "Hermit Kingdom" are now issued. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., send us specimens of the stamps from 2 re. up to 20 cheun, but the full set includes also stamps of the value of 50 cheun and 1 and 2 wen.

Mr. C. A. Howes, in a letter to the "American Journal of Philately" thus describes the design of the new issue:—"The bird represented is the 'Violet falcon,' falconry being a sport of the nobility as it has been in China. On his breast is the symbol of 'Yang and Yin,' the Chinese representation of the dual forces of nature which, acting together, produce all things; this is surrounded by the 'Pa-Kua of Eight Diagrams.' On each wing are four more small 'Yin-yangs' while the right claw holds a sheathed sword, with its belt, and the left a terrestrial sphere on which Corea and Japan can be discerned. Beneath the falcon is a plum-blossom, the imperial flower. The legends are now in French instead of English, which changes the 're' to 'ri' and the \$ sign has been adopted for the 'wen'."

We append a full list of the values and colours:—

<i>1902 issue:</i>	2ri slate
	1 cheun, violet brown
	2 cheun, green
	3 cheun, orange
	4 cheun, rose
	5 cheun, yellow brown
	6 cheun, lilac
	10 cheun, blue
	15 cheun, red on straw
	20 cheun, violet brown on straw
	50 cheun, red on green
	1 wen, violet on lavender
	2 wen, violet on orange

Honduras.— An interesting letter from Mr. F. F. Sharples to the "American Journal of Philately" gives particulars of a new control mark used on the stamps of this Republic.

"As you probably know (writes Mr. Sharples) stamps are not sold in this country at the post offices, but by an agent of the Government in another office, where he also sells the revenue stamps and the blanks on which it is necessary to write telegrams.

"For some reason, I was unable to learn what, another Government official, having nothing to do with the P. O. Dep't., must examine the postage stamps and mark them be-

fore they can be sold by the official whose business it is to dispose of them. The mark that is put upon them is the word 'PERMITASE,' meaning 'it is permitted to use.

"You will notice this as 'PER' upon the enclosed 10c. stamp and 'ITASE' upon the 5c. I examined a number of sheets of stamps in Amapala, Honduras, recently and was unable to purchase any without this mark. It so happened that in the office there were several sheets of 50c. stamps without the mark, but the authorities would not sell them.

"The mark is invariably on two adjoining stamps."

Nicaragua.— Mr. Albert Calman, writing to the "American Journal of Philately," describes a miscellaneous batch of new surcharges for Nicaragua. The 3c. green of the 1900 series and the 10c. violet of the 1902 issue have been surcharged with various new values in the same type as those already chronicled and, in addition, with the word "OFICIAL," in large Roman capitals, in the centre, the word measuring 22½ x 4 mm. In those values which we have seen the central ornament of fancy border type is found in three varieties in the 1c. on 10c.; and one variety in the 4c. on 10c. and not at all in the 2c. on 3c., of the 5c. on 3c. The usual errors are found.

The 20c. official stamp of 1900 has also been overprinted in a similar type, "10 Cts" of 30 Cts." at the bottom and numerals in each upper corner.

Panama.— Everyone expected something, and the something has come. It is not a new issue; it is simply a surcharge of the map stamps of 1892-94, with the legend "Republica de Panama" in two lines of type. The "Too Late" stamps of 1902 have been similarly treated. Doubtless the newly-fledged Republic will go in for an entirely new issue of stamps at no distant date.

Sierra Leone.— Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., enable us to chronicle the following additions to the King's Head list:—

<i>King's Head:</i>	2s. green and blue
	5s. green and carmine
	£1 lilac on red

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THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 230.—Vol. IX

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1904.

ONE PENNY.

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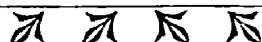
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MARCH 3rd & 4th, and 17th & 18th. APRIL 7th & 8th, and 21st & 22nd. MAY 5th & 6th, and 19th & 20th. JUNE 16th & 17th.

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PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

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No 230.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1904.

ONE PENNY.

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as postal orders can now be obtained from sixpence to one pound, and there is no necessity whatever for remitting small amounts in postage stamps.

Stamp Trade Protection Association.

THE Annual General Meeting of the above Association was held at 63 E. Chancery Lane, on Monday, December 21st. There was a good muster of members, including Mr. W. Hadlow (Chairman), Messrs. F. Olver, J. H. Telfer, A. Boucard, C. T. Reed, E. J. Bridger, A. B. Kay, and others. Also a number of proxies were received from members unable to be present.

The following gentlemen were unanimously elected as directors for the coming year in the place of those retiring Messrs. E. Dry, H. Griebert, J. H. Telfer, E. J. Bridger, E. Cooper, J. Martin and Chas. Nissen.

A number of questions relative to rendering the services of the Association capable of wider application will be considered at a meeting of directors the 1st week in January.

The Association during the past six months has been instrumental in the recovery of goods and cash amounting to considerably over £110, and enquiries carried through have prevented (in many cases) the incurring of bad debts. Foremost amongst these was a case where a matter of £70 was involved.

The assistance of members in immediately advising the Secretary of any cases of fraud is especially invited and also in making the Association more widely known. The objects of the Association are:—

- The prevention of fraud and assistance to members in prosecutions when of general interest to Philately
- The prosecution of enquiries
- The collection of debts

The Association is in need of greater support and the Secretary hopes that all Philatelists both dealers and collectors will interest themselves in the Association.

Readers of the *Fortnightly* may be assured that enquiries relative to the Association will receive the immediate attention of the Secretary, Mr. J. Stanley Telfer, who should be addressed at 63, E. Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Philately at Home and Abroad.

The Hong Kong Surcharge "D.P."

IN reply to a correspondent's query in the Christmas *Fortnightly*, regarding Hong Kong stamps, surcharged "D.P.," we have had solutions to the mystery from Mr. A. C. Constantinides and from Mr. H. M. Campbell.

The former refers us to a statement made in a contemporary that Hong Kong stamps are surcharged "D.P." in the office of a local newspaper, the Hong Kong "Daily Press." Our other correspondent, Mr. Campbell, tells us that he has the 2 cents of 1900 bearing this surcharge.

Cash for Stamps.

THE privilege of exchanging postage stamps for cash at post offices was withdrawn at the end of last year, and they will now only be repurchased under stringent limitations. No smaller amount than one pound's worth will be accepted, the person selling them will have to fill up an elaborate form, and payment will be made by an order to be subsequently sent to the address of the vendor from the chief office. The commission will be raised from two and a-half to five per cent.

The change (remarks a business contemporary) is a step in the right direction. The facility with which the stamps in small amounts could be disposed of over the counter has encouraged pilfering in business establishments to a larger extent than is generally known. The new arrangement will check the practice, without any inconvenience to the public,

The Stamps of Tsingtau

AND THEIR FORGERIES.

A REVIEW OF HERR ALBERT FRIEDEMANN'S BOOK
BY MR. FRANZ REICHENHEIM.

THE well-known stamp dealers and Philatelic publishers, Messrs. Senf Brothers, of Leipzig (Germany), have just published a book entitled, "The Provisional Stamps of Tsingtau and their Forgeries" ("Die Aushulfsmarken von Tsingtau und ihre Fälschungen").

As some of the readers of this Journal will remember, the German Post Office at Tsingtau (Kiautschou, China) ran out of 5pf. stamps early in May, 1900, and to comply with the public demand for this value, 500 sheets of 100 stamps each of the 1889 German Empire 10pf. overprinted diagonally "China," were surcharged horizontally in black, "5 Pfg." and issued on or about 9th May, 1900.

As the little printing office of the Catholic Mission at Tsingtau had not a sufficient number of types of the figure 5 and the letters of the same kind in stock, they were obliged to use different sorts of type, one after the other, to be able to surcharge at least half a sheet at a time.

Messrs. Senf Brothers, according to my opinion, go a little too far in making out six principal types, besides some minor varieties, of this surcharge, and I think every specialist should be content in having the three principal types (*) and perhaps two minor varieties of type III. (broken f and broken 5) represented in his collection, inasmuch as he is at liberty to collect these three principal types surcharged on stamps in two distinct shades with a blue or violet pencil line either through the original value or through the centre of the stamp, or without any such line, and surcharged on stamps on which the first surcharge "China" is made at an angle of 55 degrees or 45 degrees.

Messrs. Senf Brothers are of the opinion that stamps of this issue bearing a double surcharge, or having the surcharge just over the perforation, sometimes inverted, are waste and were never sold to the public, but sent with the usual report to the G.P.O. in Berlin, and found their way through the Imperial Postal Museum into a very well-known channel.

As the necessary supply of 5pf. stamps did not arrive (?) and the first issue of Provisionals were of course rapidly sold, a second issue of Provisionals, this time only surcharged "5 Pf. (f)" was made again locally, and put into circulation on or about 19th July, 1900.

Of this second issue Messrs. Senf Brothers made out not less than ten different types and many minor varieties (!) on the first sheets. Besides these numerous types and varieties on the first sheets, new varieties appeared shortly through exchanging broken letters during the printing; for instance, stamp No. 93 is on some sheets surcharged "5 Pf." As in some types the figure 5 appeared to be too small and not legible enough, it was exchanged for a larger one as far as possible during the printing, or the respective stamps on finished sheets were surcharged with a second thicker 5 or even with another complete surcharge in larger types by a hand stamp, and as on some stamps the second surcharge of the new value did not come out well, a third one was applied, sometimes (for a change) inverted.

Also surcharges, reading 5 Pfg. or 5 Pf. are found on the same sheet.

Altogether only 20 sheets of 100 stamps each were surcharged with 5 Pf.

The high prices which were paid for these China Provisionals by enthusiastic specialists in the "Fatherland," especially for those of the second issue, soon induced some people in Tsingtau to forge the surcharges, and the thanks of collectors are due to Messrs. Senf Brothers for having discovered those forgeries and tried to bring the fakers to justice.

The second part of the book very minutely describes these forgeries, which are often extremely difficult to detect, as

they are partly made with the original types procured from the printing office of the Catholic Mission in Tsingtau, and as some stamps on the sheets with forged surcharges even contain a composition of absolutely identical letters and figures of surcharge as the originals, but luckily, or unluckily, sometimes in the wrong position on the sheet.

As soon as Messrs. Senf Brothers were convinced that a large number of complete sheets with forged surcharges were made and put on the market, and some specimens even found postally used or cancelled to order, they tried hard to trace their origin, and after having collected sufficient material and proofs, reported it to the Postal Authorities in Berlin, who, after a little hesitation, took the matter up.

The third part of the book describes how Messrs. Senf Brothers detected the forgeries and their makers, and gives copies of the numerous letters which passed between the firm, their agent and reliable friends in Tsingtau, the officials in the colony and the Postal Authorities in Berlin, etc., as well as reports of the two cases brought against the two men who were supposed to have made those forgeries, but were ultimately acquitted by the Imperial Court of Kiautschou.

The Book, containing 55 pages, is profusely illustrated by three phototypes of original sheets of the two issues, as well as of one sheet of the second issue, with forged surcharges, and gives in the text twenty-two excellent illustrations and numerous reproductions of every single type and forged type. It can, therefore, be well recommended as a useful little handbook to every specialist in German Colonial stamps.-- "Philatelic Record."

For Philatelic Literature Collectors.

MR. Victor Marsh informs us that his "International Directory of Philatelic Literature Collectors" is now in the Press and will shortly make its appearance. The work is a distinct novelty and will be of value to the numerous Philatelists who take a keen interest in the literature of the hobby. Mr. Marsh has been fortunate in obtaining literary contributions from such well-known men as Herr Suppantstitch, Dr. Thebussen, and others. We wish him good fortune with his novel undertaking.

A Philatelic Rothschild.

By the sudden death at Monte Carlo of Baron Arthur de Rothschild we lose a distinguished philatelist and writer on postal matters. It was Baron Arthur, as "M.A.P." reminds us, who wrote that exhaustive and authoritative work, "The History of the Letter Post from its most Ancient Origin to the Present Day."

To Those Who Give up Philately.

THE "Manchester Guardian," in the course of an editorial reference to Mr. Melville's "A.B.C. of Stamp Collecting," has been poking fun at philatelists, but so gently and so amiably that many might not think it was poking fun at all. We give a few characteristic extracts:

Stamp collecting is not what it used to be. It has become too difficult, like writing dictionaries; there is too much to do. Or should we rather say too easy—to easy for the humble soul who is content to be putting together something, no matter how much he leaves by the way; too difficult for him who woos perfection and insists on sweeping clean?

Thus it has come about that many have lost heart and given up the struggle. Yet in this it seems to us that they do foolishly, for one may be rich in stamps and well content, and yet not of perfect wealth; and they are like the man in the fable who said that he would have to give up the attempt to eat in view of the hopeless variety of biscuits. They should give thanks that stamps are given to them, and make good haste to stick them in. There is, however, another thing that they may do to appease the craving for complete possession.

Stamps, too, are more beautiful than they used to be, in spite of our own new issue with its dilapidated-looking head. What better stamps than the new French ones have there ever been? But it is true that in collecting one does not much consider that. A French stamp is always French, and of little profit to the collector of it.

Messrs. C. Nissen and Co. report that they have been robbed of a block of 30 imperf. 1d. red 1841, in mint condition. Any dealer or collector having same offered would oblige by communicating with Messrs. Nissen, at 77/78, High Holborn, W.O.

* Description to be found in "The London Philatelist" of November, 1900, in an article written by myself.

† Not to be confused with the Fuchian Provisionals surcharged 5 pf. and issued in August, 1900, vide "The London Philatelist," Nov. 1900.

The Perfect Stamp.

A PLEA FOR ORIGINAL GUM.

FROM the various opinions that have been expressed in the controversy as to the value (or otherwise) of original gum, we may gather that it is most unlikely that an unanimous verdict will be given on the question. A reason for this may be found in the fact that collectors and dealers regard the matter from totally different standpoints.

The collector's object is to secure for his collection of stamps the most perfect copies obtainable, and in doing this he is bound to recognise the fact that an unused stamp without gum is imperfect. To be perfect it must be in the same condition as when sold by the post office authorities. Now, with possibly one or two exceptions, the rule obtaining in all countries, is that the adhesive matter on the postage stamps is not affixed by the purchaser, but is provided ready for his use by the authorities, and is an essential part of the whole, for without it the stamp cannot be attached to a letter.

Besides this, the original gum will often, by its colour or character, determine the genuinely unused condition of a particular stamp, and may be taken as an assurance that a cleaned stamp is not being falsely described as unused. The dealer, on the other hand, finds himself in this difficulty: that the supply of unused stamps with original gum is decidedly limited, especially those of issues prior to about 1880, up to which date the custom of sticking in stamps in a solid manner was in vogue. When dealers, therefore, purchase collections of old stamps they find the unused stamps in such a condition that an expert hand will find difficulty in removing them with even part gum. As dealers are largely dependent on these old collections for their supplies, they naturally advocate the doctrine that unused stamps without gum are almost as good as those with it.

Toucing on the question of false gum, it should be borne in mind that stamps are not gummed singly. The adhesive matter is applied to the paper either in webs or in sheets by a machine which spreads very evenly.

The difficulty of applying gum to single stamps, so as to produce the same effect, is very great, as those who have tried to perform the operation are aware. Paper may be gummed before printing, but as a rule, the gum is applied to the sheets afterwards, and this fact constitutes a safeguard against the operators who endeavour to palm off printer's waste upon the unwary as genuine unused copies. Not long since some fine copies of an early Colonial issue—imperf. rarities—were offered the writer at prices from 10s. to 40s. each, but while the stamps were undoubtedly genuine, the absence of original gum led him to enquire more closely into the matter, with the result that it was clearly proved that the printer had himself disposed of these thrown out sheets at a nominal price.

The question of original gum has therefore yet to be finally decided, and the only rational solution seems to be that adopted by Gibbons with regard to Hamburg, viz., a separate price for stamps with and without gum, although why they only apply this rule to this particular country is an unexplained mystery.

H.W.

MAJOR EVANS ON THE "O.G." FETISH.

In striking contrast to "H.W.'s" contribution is an editorial article in the "Monthly Journal" of December. "We have always maintained," writes Major Evans, "that, *other things being equal*, the unused copy is in every case the better specimen, but we have never argued that a poor unused copy is better than a fine used one."

These be the words of philatelic wisdom. Pursuing the subject the editor of our contemporary writes:

Without, however, in any degree abandoning our belief in the superiority of the fine unused stamp, we are glad to see signs of a revolt against the worship of the fetish (for a fetish it is) entitled Original Gum! We have protested before now against the too exclusive cult of the unused, but we always admitted that there was great excuse for it, provided that the term "unused" implied that the specimen was unaffected by usage of any kind, and not merely that it had never been postmarked. To state that it retains its original

gum is to go a step further, and implies that it is not only an immaculate copy, but has never even been soaked in water, and therefore is in all its original freshness. If the presence of the gum does not carry this with it, we cannot see that it possesses any value whatever. A poor, soiled, unused stamp only possesses one advantage over a used one, namely, that if still available for postage, it can be employed for that purpose; if it has gum on the back it has the further advantage that it can be stuck on a letter without recourse to the gum-bottle—and, in our opinion, these are its only advantages. To gravely discuss the difficulty of distinguishing genuine gum from false really seems to us a *reductio ad absurdum*; if the stamp is a beautiful mint copy, it matters nothing what sort of gum it has on the back; if it is a poor copy the gum can make it no better. It should be remembered also that there are cases in which the gum is absolutely injurious to the stamp, and likely greatly to shorten its life.

Our New Prize Competition.

FOR
PHILATELISTS!

THE CLOSING DATE IS JANUARY 25th.

To encourage our readers to commit their philatelic knowledge to paper we offer the following prizes for

The Best Essays on the Stamps of any particular Issue or country or group of countries

A First Prize of £3 in Cash.

A Second Prize of £2 in Cash.

A Third Prize of a Free Subscription to the *FORTNIGHTLY* for Ten Years.

A Fourth Prize of a Free Subscription to the *FORTNIGHTLY* for Five Years.

The choice of a subject is left entirely to the individual competitor, because we wish every *Fortnightly* essayist to write about something whereof he has special knowledge. The one condition we make is that every paper submitted for competition shall deal in a scientific philatelic way with the stamps of some particular country or issue. General papers on "The Advantages of Stamp Collecting," "What Philately Teaches," etc., etc., are not required.

The competitor may be either a collector or a dealer. We wish to make as few restrictions as possible. The papers will be judged on their merits, without regard to the personality of the writer or the subject chosen.

Although literary style must necessarily count for something in a competition of this kind, we shall not allow an undue proportion of marks to elegance of diction, but rather endeavour to award the prizes to those competitors whose papers betray the greatest amount of philatelic thought and knowledge.

Attempts may be sent in as early as the competitor pleases—the earlier the better.

The latest date for receiving manuscripts will be Monday, January 25th, 1904.

All should be clearly addressed: The Editor, The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 63-64 Chancery Lane, London, W.C., and marked "Prize Competition," on the envelope.

We make no rule whatever as to the length of the manuscript submitted, but every competitor must bear in mind one important condition—*Only one side of the paper should be written on.*

SPECIAL NOTICE re COPYRIGHT.

It need scarcely be said that the contributions which carry off the four prizes mentioned above will become the property of the proprietors of the "S.C.F." It may happen that among the unsuccessful manuscripts are many which we may wish to publish in the *Fortnightly*. We reserve the right to publish all or any of them, but in each case that we do so, we shall pay the non-winners for the essays at the usual rate for contributed matter.

Those essays which are unsuccessful and which the Editor of the *Fortnightly* does not desire to publish, will be returned to their authors, provided a stamped and self-addressed envelope be sent for that purpose.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

LONDON, JANUARY, 2, 1904.

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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A Happy New Year to All! This number of the "Fortnightly" is smaller than usual, owing to the dearth of philatelic news and happenings in the time immediately following the Christmas festivities. The next issue will be larger and will contain much interesting matter—notably our deferred review of the new Gibbons Catalogue, with some further interesting letters we have received concerning the same.

The Article on Orange Fiscals, commenced in the last *Fortnightly*, will be concluded in our next number. The first portion of the article, by the way, has drawn an interesting reply from one of our most enthusiastic "Fiscalists," Mr. A. B. Kay. This we must also hold in reserve until the completion of Mr. Yaar's paper.

From the Postmaster General of the Australian Commonwealth, Messrs. Hamilton, Macrae, Limited, of Perth, Western Australia, have received the following letter which speaks for itself:

With reference to your letter of the 29th ultimo, asking whether the sale of unused Commonwealth postage due stamps is authorised by this Department, I have the honour, by direction, to inform you it has been approved that complete sets of postage due stamps, lightly postmarked, may be sold, at their face value, at the various General Post Offices in the Commonwealth. The stamps can not be sold singly, nor unless postmarked."

It appears, therefore, that this "privilege" of cancelling postage due stamps for the purpose of selling them in sets to the public is enjoyed in common by all the States of the Commonwealth, and is not, as a correspondent of the *Fortnightly* has already pointed out, the particular offence of any one individual colony. The pity 'tis 'tis true! When the Commonwealth of Australia was first established there were golden hopes that postal affairs "down there" would be better and more honestly managed, and that the postmarked-to-order dodge would no longer find a place in the political scheme of the country.

Just a Reminder to those who intend entering for our Essay Competition: the time is now fast approaching for the close of the contest. We have decided, however, to extend the time by a week or so, as many people are in a state of muddle during the opening weeks of the New Year. We are not suggesting a too liberal indulgence in Christmas cheer—far from it! But it is a fact that the average person finds the first weeks of the year exceptionally busy ones. It is the season of good resolutions, and these have to be adhered to—for a time. The last day for receiving manuscripts, therefore, is now fixed at January 25th. Those who have driven the matter over Christmas will thus have ample time to complete their work, and we hope a largely increased entry will be the result of this extension of time. The full particulars of the competition are repeated in this issue of the *Fortnightly*.

Fiscal Notes and Chronicle.

Contributed by A. PRESTON PEARCE.

It was an unexpected pleasure on opening the last number of the "S.C.F." to come across a lengthy instalment of an article dealing with the early issues of the Orange Free State, our knowledge of which is still very fragmentary. A hasty perusal shows that some points have been raised that invite comment, but as the conclusion has yet to appear, I had better defer my remarks until the end of the month.

It may, however, be well to point out that instead of referring collectors to the lists in "Morley's Journal" (Vol. III., by the way), compiled by Mr. Emil Tamsen, who had not the advantage of knowing what varieties were contained in collections other than his own, a more useful reference would be to the later list—No. 19 of the Colonial Catalogue—prepared by the Fiscal Philatelic Society, and issued to all its members.

It not infrequently happens that the exigencies of the postal service, or the necessity of keeping collectors of postage stamps adequately supplied with novelties, brings to our knowledge some humble revenue stamp that might otherwise have quietly performed its proper function for a few years longer before coming to light. As typical instances of the phenomenon referred to, various emissions of the little island of Fernando Po may be cited, and a moment's reflection will suffice to show that these are by no means isolated ones.

The matter has been brought to mind by the recent descriptions in the postage stamp chronicles of a certain provisional hailing from one of the Colombian Provinces, and formed by disfiguring a revenue stamp that does not find a place in the catalogue of the fiscals of the neighbourhood that appeared in the last number to hand of "Morley's Journal." It will be found listed below.

An extremely interesting monograph dealing with the postal issues of Finland, from the pen of L. Hanciau, is now appearing in the "Monthly Journal," and we cannot help wishing that this gentleman, who is so well qualified for the task, would supplement it by according similar treatment to the fiscal issues. I notice a reference to our division of the hobby in last month's instalment, and I reproduce it, not only for its intrinsic interest, but because the description of the stamp referred to does not quite coincide with the specimen in my collection, and the point arises as to whether there is more than one variety.

M. Hanciau, speaking of the little lever press of most primitive description used for printing the first rude postage stamps, says:—

The machine described above is still in existence; it is employed for impressing upon playing-cards (which are subject to a tax) a stamp, in colour, of a design showing the Arms and an inscription "STAMPEL KRONO KORT."

My specimen differs from this in that the word "STAMPEL" comes last, and as I do not see a description of the stamp in the last published catalogue I give it below.

Finland.—Playing-cards. Small band, about 116 x 31mm., with design 105 x 23mm. On a lined and chastely-ornamented background appear the words, "Finland," and "Suomi," in large colourless semi-script characters, the space between them being broken for the insertion of an oval bearing the Arms on a crowned shield, which latter is almost encircled by the inscription "KRONO KORT STAMPEL," in Roman caps. Printed in light brown, with overprint in carmine, on white wove calendered paper, imperf., and gummed only at the ends. The gum, like that on some of our own labels, may be unofficial.

Santander.—From the description of a Post Office Provisional chronicled in the "Monthly Journal," and illustrated in the current number of "Le C. de T. P.," it appears that there exists an oblong label exhibiting the arms of Colombia at the left, and inscribed in four lines at right "REPUBLICA DE COLOMBIA—TIMBRE—Departamento de Santander—CINCUENTA 50 CENTAVOS." Printed in carmine on white paper, and apparently imperforate, like all the other known fiscals of this province.

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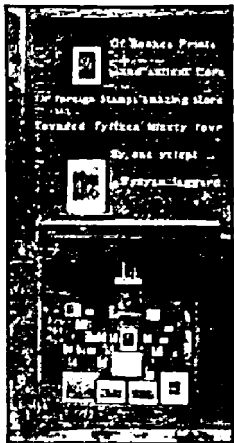
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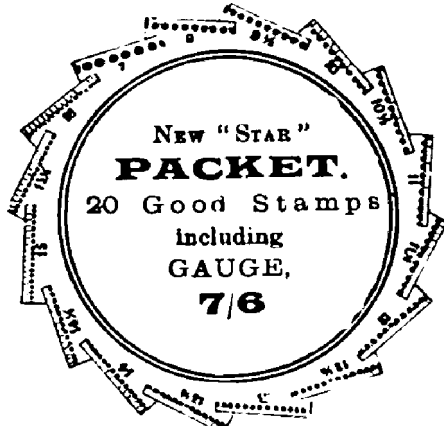
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New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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.

Austrian Levant. Mr. W. H. Earl supplies with an interesting mystery in connection with the current stamps of Austrian Levant. He sends us three pairs of stamps, the values being respectively 10 paras, 20 paras, and 1 piaster, and all of them bear a kind of transparent overprint of diagonal bands. To give a clearer idea, we may say that the stamps have the appearance of having been painted over with gum in diagonal stripes, although the overprint does not seem to have any adhesive property. Mr. Earl draws our attention to the fact that one of the bands on the 20 paras stamp value seems to have taken the colour from the face of the stamp at the point where it crosses the Emperor's head.

The 10 paras stamps sent by Mr. Earl gauge 12½ x 13; the others are perf. 13 all round.

Cape of Good Hope — We omitted to chronicle the 3d. stamp of the King's Head series, received some little time ago from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. This is rather a muddled looking stamp, suffering badly from too much design.

King's Head: 3d. mauve.

Ceylon — The 6 cents King's Head is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Chil. — A particularly unlovely surcharged stamp is sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. This is the 30 centavo stamp surcharged in large ornamental type, "Diez Centavos."

Cyprus — Another addition to the King's Head list:

King's Head series: 6 piastres, grey-black and green.

France — What are our specialists of France thinking about? Mr. W. H. Earl complains that no one has yet attempted to answer the question he addressed to the readers of the *Fortnightly* some time ago—to be exact, in our issue of November 7th. What Mr. Earl wishes to know is, do the 20 and 30 centimes exist with Millesime I?

Great Britain The Rev. P. E. Raynor has something curious to impart regarding the Control letter on the bottom margin of the sheets of halfpenny stamps.

"On December 12th," he writes, "I bought two sheets of the current halfpenny green at the Ipswich Post Office. They bore the control letter C, but this letter is now placed in the left lower corner of the sheet instead of the right; and the letter is of a different type, having a "serif" (C instead of C.) Ten days later (December 23rd) I was supplied with the old letter 'B'!"

Admiralty Official.—"On looking over some of these stamps" (says Mr. W. H. Earl in a letter to the *Fortnightly*) "I find there are two distinct settings of the type for the word 'Admiralty,' one being 16½ millimetres long and the other 15½ millimetres. The long setting I find on the halfpenny only, all the other values bearing a 15½ mills, surcharge. I have not seen this noted before and thought it might be of interest to readers of the *Fortnightly*."

Hungary - The new "Unpaid" stamps have appeared, and we must thank Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. for an early supply. The set consists of nine stamps of the values of 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 12, 20, 50, and 100 filler, and all are printed alike, the only point of difference being the numerals of value in the centre. An illustration of the design has already appeared in our pages.

Italy — It appears that two new Unpaid Letter Stamps of the values of 50 and 100 lire have been issued, although we have not yet seen them. The stamps, we read in a contemporary, are of a rather large size (23 x 29 mm.) and bear the portrait of King Victor Emmanuel.

*Postage Dues: 50 lire yellow,
100 lire blue.*

By the way, what on earth is the meaning of the values these stamps bear? Is there ever a legitimate call for an Unpaid Letter stamp of 100 lire (about £4 British money),

or is this yet another dodge to raise revenue from the philatelic community? It seems incredible that there should ever be such a sum as £4 to collect upon any one postal package on account of unpaid or excess postage!

Jamaica — The "Monthly Journal" extracts the following official notice regarding the issue of two new Jamaica stamps from the "Daily Telegraph" of that Colony:—

Stamp Office, November 14th, 1903.

The following is a description of a new design of 2½ and ½ Postage Stamps which will be put in circulation on the 16th inst.

The design of the 2½ Stamps is denoted by the Arms of the Colony in black, set in a ground of drab, and in a frame of blue.

The design of the ½ Stamp is denoted by the Arms of the Colony in black, set in a ground of dark drab, and in a frame of pale green.

The respective face values of the above Stamps are shown in numerals, on either side of the word 'Jamaica' at the top of the stamp, and in words at the foot thereof.

E. JORDAN ANDREWS,
Stamp Commissioner

"The articles in question," comments the "Monthly Journal," "are not fractions of stamps, as a literal interpretation of the Commissioner's description might lead one to suppose, but are ½d. and 2½d. "Postage and Revenue" stamps in a new design, with the Arms of Jamaica in the centre. The so-called "ground of drab" is simply a background of horizontal lines in the same colour as the Arms. Watermark and perforation as usual."

½d. Arms black, frame dull green.

2½d. .. grey-black, frame ultramarine.

Liberia —By the courtesy of Mr. H. L. Hayman we are able to chronicle and describe three new surcharged labels of this Republic. These are the 16c., 24c. and 32c. of the 1892 issue, surcharged "ten cents," "fifteen cents," and "twenty cents" respectively.

Mr. Hayman explains how it has all happened. In 1892, when the stamps now surcharged first made their appearance, the Liberian rate for letter postage was 8 cents the half ounce. Naturally stamp values were arranged in multiples of 8, but a few years later came a reduction in the rate to 5 cents the ½ ounce, and the stamps then current were altered to suit the new tariff. There was, however, a supply left over of the 16c., 24c. and 32c., and these have now been used up by the overprinting already described.

Surcharged on 1892 issue: 10c. on 16c.
15c. on 24c.
20c. on 32c.

New South Wales—A leading article in the current "Monthly Journal" is devoted to a curious "find" recently described in an Australian contemporary. The matter is one of exceptional interest, and we take leave to reproduce Major Evans' article, *verbatim*:

Mr. Basset Hull describes in the November number of the "Australian Philatelist," a discovery that might well make some of our departed brethren turn in their graves, or even rise to protest. It is nothing less than a *mirabile* pair of the two pence "Sydney View," with horizontal lines in the scandrals! The pair is a vertical one, the tops of the stamps are next to one another, and the foot of one points to the north, while that of the other lies in the opposite direction.

It is true that there is an abnormal amount of space, some three-eighths of an inch, between the two stamps, and this furnishes a clue to the mystery, but at first sight it appeared as if all the previous ideas as to the arrangement of the plate were to be upset. Examination showed that neither of the stamps was an unknown variety of type, one of them being No. 1 on the sheet, the left-hand stamp of the upper row, and the other No. 12, the right-hand stamp of the same row, and this conclusively proved what had happened. In an official letter, quoted in Dr. Houston's "History of the Post Office in New South Wales," allusion is made to a sheet of forty-eight 2d. stamps; we know that the plate contained only twenty-four, it is therefore evident that in some cases two impressions were printed upon one sheet of paper, and it is more than likely that these usually faced in opposite directions, the paper being turned round to receive the second impression. The two were no doubt separated, as a rule, before issue, but, in any case, the fact that there was a distinct space between the impressions would render it very unlikely that unsevered portions of two impressions would be used upon the same letter. Possibly these were closer together than usual, at any rate we do not suppose that the official who used them (the pair was on the cover of an official letter) had any intention of startling philatelists half a century later.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

Secretaries are requested to assist the Editor by sending in their reports not later than the Monday preceding publication.

ENTERPRISE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The December Meeting of the above Society was held on Friday, 18th inst.

Owing to a combination of unfortunate circumstances, the display for the evening has been postponed till the February meeting.

The following new members have been elected: A. C. Constantines, Highgate; J. E. Heginbottom, B.A., Rochdale; H. J. Hill, Manchester; E. J. Turnbull, Tottenham. The programme for the remainder of the season is as under:

January: Notes on Forgeries and Fakes, with display. H. W. Westcott.

February: A few Notes on the Stamps of Chili, with display. A. H. Harris.

March: Display of British Colonials, with notes. F. W. Lake.
April: Display with Notes, a selection of South American countries. E. A. Klaber.

May: 6 p.m., General Sale and Exchange. 6.30 p.m., Annual General Meeting.

If members attending meetings would bring with them their own stamps of the country displayed, they would add considerably to the evening's entertainment.

There are still several vacancies for medium collectors. Rules and full particulars post free from the Secretary, A. H. Harris, "The Library," Buckhurst Hill.

LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, held on Monday, December 14th, 1903, Mr. Heginbottom exhibited a portion of his collection of African stamps, upon which some very interesting comments were made by Mr. Burrows.

A hearty vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Mr. Heginbottom for his kindness and courtesy.

Members are reminded that another Display of the Stamps of Tasmania and Western Australia will be given by Mr. Heginbottom on January 25th, 1904, upon which occasion it is hoped, not only members but many others who are interested in Philately will be attracted 24, Daisy Road, Liverpool.

THE COLLECTORS' CLUB NEW YORK.

The following is the Club's programme of Exhibitions for the remainder of the 1903-1904 season:—

January 11: U.S. TELEGRAPH STAMPS. Silver and Bronze Medals, donated by Mr. Alex. Holland.

February 8: PORTO RICO. Silver and Bronze Medals. Donated by Mr. J. N. Luff.

March 14: U.S. POSTAGE, OFFICIAL, DUES, NEWSPAPER AND REVENUES. Gold, silver, and bronze medals, donated by Scott S. and C. Co.

April 11: STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. Silver and Bronze Medals, donated by Mr. Jos. S. Rich.

May 9: U.S. PROOFS AND ESSAYS. Silver and Bronze Medals, donated by Collectors' Club.

PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

The December packets of the above Society started punctually, and carry a good assortment of very useful stamps. Members are requested to send in at once good sheets for the January packets, which will start on or about the 6th inst. R. T. Morgan, Secretary, 11, High Street, Selhurst.

Junior Branch (Secretary, C. A. Squire Cox, Woodbine, Cambridge Road, Anerley). Rules may be had free on application. There are no fees or subscriptions connected with this Society.

CALEDONIA STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

The October packet has now returned from circuit, value of packet £296 17s. 6d. from which stamps to the amount of £18 16s. 1d. have been sold. The sheets have all been returned to their several owners, and all cash balances paid. The November and December packets are now circulating among the members, value £183 5s. 0½d. and £173 19s. 9d. respectively. This Exchange now commences its 4th year, which it is hoped will be a prosperous one.

The Secretary will be pleased to forward Rules and any other information to Collectors, but only those who can give the highest references can be admitted. As the packets are not delayed after returning from circuit, members can, as a rule, depend on having their sheets returned within three months after date of sending out the packet. It is requested that all members send in good sheets regularly by the 7th of each month. Please note British Colonials, either used or unused, command the readiest sales if priced moderate.

John Johnston, Moss Side, New Deer, Aberdeenshire, Secretary.

THE FISCAL STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

The sales from the September packet were very satisfactory, being £11 out of a total of £238; and the average was about the same with the October packet, the takings being £31 from sheets amounting to £195. During 1893, sheets to the total value of £2525 have been circulated, which surely proves that there is "something in Fiscals," even from a monetary point of view.

At present, Revenues of Great Britain and Colonies are in most demand, and sales from sheets of these are very good. Any thinking of taking up fiscal collection should communicate with the Secretary, who will be pleased to furnish any information possible, and arrangements could be made for seeing a Club packet. Sheets can be enclosed for cash sales only, if desired.

Secretary, A. B. Kay, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London, W.

"STAMPS" EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

Again two good packets have been despatched for December (Colonial £35, General £158), and as the next packet will be the commencement of the new year, it will be an excellent time for collectors to join. The subscription, 3s. per annum, includes a copy fortnightly of the "S.C.F." post free.

New members admitted: Messrs. Hardy, Parloe, Michell and Rev. F. M. Vokes.

September accounts were sent out on December 22nd, and all credits have also been paid.

The European packet will not be sent out this month, but sheets will be kept for next month's packet.

Members are advised to instruct the Secretary which packets they require during the coming year.

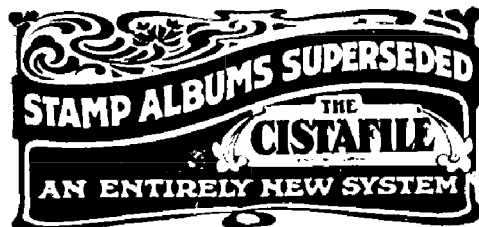
Secretary, Thos. B. Widdowson (Member of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society), Lincoln Street, Leicester.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

There was a large muster of members on December 17th, to meet an old member, Major R. L. Mullins, who was formerly stationed in Sheffield with his regiment.

In the unavoidable absence of the president, Mr. G. H. Hunt occupied the chair. He said how pleased the members were to see Major Mullins amongst them again in good health after his arduous campaigning in South Africa, and he congratulated him upon his promotion.

Major Mullins thanked the members for their kind reception, and said that although he had been away for several years he had not forgotten either the Society or the hobby. Owing to his military duties when in the Orange River Colony he had not had much time to devote to stamp collecting, but in his spare moments he had been



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FOR OTHER COLLECTIONS, SEE SPECIAL LIST.

able to get hold of a few of the surcharged stamps, and he had brought these for the inspection of the members. He then showed a magnificent and valuable collection of the stamps referred to. They were not only in single stamps, but in blocks and in panes, and comprised practically all the known varieties, and also some varieties which are not catalogued. Major Mullins interspersed his remarks with a few reminiscences of his experiences on active service, and at the conclusion of the meeting a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded him.

THE LADIES' STAMP EXCHANGE.

The September packet contained twenty-eight sheets, value over £100, of which about £24 worth was sold. Among the good things were superb pence Ceylon, the Is. Gibraltar, first issue, used, 18k. Wurtemberg, orange, rouletted; St. Lucia 4d. used, Mafeking Besseized used, French 10c. Emperor rouletted, Hamburg, 9 perf., used, U.S.A., 1861, 5c. unused, first issue Straits and India unused, Zanzibar surcharged 2½ used.

A new feature of the Club is the Auction sheet now included in each packet, to which members may send stamps with reserve prices, and the highest bidder above the reserve gets it. This is taking well. Several good collectors have joined lately and this winter bids fair to be a record season. One vacancy only, either for a lady or a gentleman.

Rules, etc., from the Hon. Secretary, Miss L. Haynes, Westwood House, Wood Lane Shepherd's Bush.

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The Stamp Collectors' Annual. Edited by PERCY C. BISHOP
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Br. East Africa and Uganda, 2a. mauve	3	Sierra Leone, 5 - green and red	6 3	Queensland Commonwealth, 9d. stamp	1 0
" " " " 2r. "	3 2	" " " " £1. lilac on red	21 0	S. S. W. " " 9d.	1 0
St. Lucia, 1 - green and black	1 3	Chamba State, 4a. green	1	Victoria, 1 - (new die, orange)	1 3
Ceylon, 12c. green and red	3	" " " " 1a. red	2	Br. Guiana, 6c. green and red	3 0
" " 25c. ochre	6	British Levant, 12 piastres	2 7	Ecuador, 1c. on 25c. yellow fiscal stamp sur-	
India, 3a. orange	4	Juind State, 4a. green	1	charged for postage	2
Sierra Leone, 1d. lilac and green	1	" " " " 3p. grey	1	Honduras Republic, 1903, 1c. green	1
" " " " 1d. carmine	2	" " " " 1a. red	2	Costa Rica, 1c. mauve, 1903	2
" " " " 1d. black	2	" " " " 2a. violet	3	" " " " 6c. stone	3
" " " " 2d. orange	3	" " " " 3a. orange	4	" " " " 25c. lilac	1 0
" " " " 2d. blue	4	" " " " 4a. green	5	Trinidad, 3d. green and blue on cream	5
" " " " 3d. grey	4	" " " " 5a. mauve	10	Soudan, surcharged O. S. G. S., 5m.	2
" " " " 4d. lake	5	Br. Somaliland, 4a. green	1	" " " " 1 plus	4
" " " " 5d. black	7	" " " " 1a. red	2	" " " " 2 " "	9
" " " " 6d. violet	8	" " " " 2a. violet	3	" " " " 5 " "	1 8
" " " " 1/- green and black	1 3	" " " " 3a. orange	4		
" " " " 2 - blue	2 6	" " " " 5a. mauve	10		

RECENT PURCHASES.

The well-known General Collection formed by Mr. J. N. MARSDEN, of Lisbon.

THIS fine lot contains many of the first-class rarities, and is also particularly rich in varieties, errors, etc., many of which are seldom to be found except in collections of this age and magnitude.

The fine Collection of COLONIAL STAMPS made by the late Rev. W. BELL, of Cork.

THIS Collection contains a very large number of old issues in mint state, the condition generally being very fine.

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TELEGRAMS & CABLES
" PECKITT, LONDON."

Incomplete Collecting.

MR. J. N. LUFF WRITES IN SUPPORT OF OFFICIAL STAMPS AND
"POSTAGE DUES."

We find in European philatelic journals the signs of a growing tendency among philatelists, more especially among our English cousins, to limit the scope of their collecting. The tendency is even more marked among philatelists than among generalists. For many years specialists have not, as a rule, collected envelopes, wrappers and post cards, but have confined their attention to adhesive stamps; now, many of them appear to be desirous of placing further restrictions upon their chosen fields,—they are seeking excuses to abandon the collecting of official, newspaper and postage due stamps. They are willing—nay, anxious—to fill pages with a few stamps on the plea of shades, pairs, blocks, imprints, fine copies, etc., etc., but at the same time, they are not willing to give space to stamps, which many consider to be equally interesting and desirable and which are certainly issued under the same authority and serve equally to pay postal charges.

Official stamps, so far as our knowledge goes, are always paid for, either directly or by being debited to the department using them and credited to the Post Office Department. Such stamps are essential for the franking of letters as ordinary postage stamps for the letters of the general public. In most countries the newspaper stamps are affixed to papers in transit through the mails. In our own country we had for many years a series of stamps which was retained in the Post Office; but, unless these stamps were purchased, attached to the blank and cancelled, the package would not be transported by the Post Office Department. The stamps franked the package, though they did not actually accompany it on its journey.

Postage due stamps represent the postage on letters exactly as do ordinary postage stamps. They represent the fee paid to the Government for transporting mail matter, and the fact that this fee is paid by the recipient of the letter, instead of the sender, does not alter the character of the service nor make the stamp anything but a postal one. The two varieties of stamps indicate payment in advance for a service and payment on delivery, but the service is identical. It cannot be denied that each represents postage paid by someone. Why should they not, then, have a place in collections of postage stamps?

It has been urged against those official stamps which are made by surcharging stamps with "Official," "O.S.," etc., that the surcharge does not alter the essential nature of the stamp, but merely restricts its use, and that we should be content with the unsurcharged stamp. The overprint "British East Africa" limits the use of stamps bearing it to that State; the overprint "Official" limits the use of the stamps to certain departments. Each is essential within its own sphere. Carrier stamps likewise, are only used in certain cities, but we have not heard that this makes them uncollect-

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Admiralty Official. 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d.
Board of Education. 2½d., 5d., and 1/-.
O.W. Officials, 1901. ½d., 5d., 10d. 1902. 2d., 2½d., 10d.
R.H. Official ½d., 1d.
Government Parcels, I.R. Official, and Army Official, wholesale parcels of the commoner values of all Departments. Used.

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able. If we are to decline the surcharged official stamp, because we already have in our collections its unsurcharged brother, shall we also refuse the early stamps of Zululand because we have the British stamps from which they were created? Even if we refuse the surcharged official stamps, what are we to do with those which have the word "Official" engraved in the design and with those of special designs which are not employed for stamps intended for the use of the general public?

Lastly, we come to the subject of stamps perforated by initials, etc., to indicate their restriction to official use. These are condemned off-hand by many of our English contemporaries as being in the same class with stamps perforated by the initials of firms and, therefore, entirely unworthy of consideration. We confess that we do not quite follow this argument. Firms used their initials in this way to prevent theft of the stamps; firms have also printed their names on the faces of stamps and their advertisements on the backs. But we do not for these reasons, cease to collect surcharged stamps. The perforating of the initials "O.S." in a stamp is not designed to prevent theft, but to indicate that it is intended for a specific use. We have not heard of any collectors of Luxemburg refusing to take the stamps perforated "Officiel," and those who collect Tunis usually want the stamps perforated with a large "T," which serve as postage due stamps. Why not, then, collect the stamps perforated "O.S." for Victoria and "O.S.—N.S.W." for New South Wales?

It seems to us that collectors who throw out the several classes of stamps which we have been discussing do so to the detriment of their collections, which are thus left incomplete, unfinished and lacking some of the historical and instructive features which are supposed to be part of philately.—"American Journal of Philately."

King Edward on the new Hong Kong stamps, remarks a writer in the "Otago Witness" (N.Z.) looks like a medalion in a tea house.

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Moldavia, 54 paras. fine.

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And a very fine lot of "Remainders" of all countries. ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE READY.

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 May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8; Sept. 27 and 28; Oct. 11 and 12, 25 and 26; Nov. 8 and 9, 29 and 30; Dec. 13 and 14.

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Collections of any magnitude, and Single rare stamps, for which
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We are *especially* in want of **any specialised collections** of countries,
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(This being the only Award given for Permanent Philatelic Albums
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We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 231. — Vol. IX

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1904.

ONE PENNY.

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co.,

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MEDALS,**

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(Close to the Philatelic Society's Rooms and the Temple Station on the District Railway.)

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their DATES of SALES for the ensuing Season are as follows:

1904.—JANUARY 21st & 22nd. FEBRUARY 4th & 5th, and 18th & 19th. MARCH 3rd & 4th, and 17th & 18th. APRIL 7th & 8th, and 21st & 22nd. MAY 5th & 6th, and 19th & 20th. JUNE 16th & 17th.

By Order of the Administratrix of the late E. C. H. STOLLE, Esq.

January 21 & 22

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER will sell on the above dates

The remaining portion of the collection formed

by the late E. C. H. STOLLE, Esq.

CATALOGUES of all Sales may be obtained of

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TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19 & 20,

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AND

Will include **TWO FINE COLLECTIONS OF COLONIALS,**

Broken into lots; also a number of rarities

and Entire Collections and Wholesale Lots.

CATALOGUE FREE—NOW READY.

FUTURE DATES—1904—Feb. 2, 3 & 4 (extra date); 16 & 17.

March, 1 & 2; 15 & 16; 29 & 30. April 19 & 20. May 2 & 3; 17 & 18; 31, and June 1; 15 & 16.

Settlements within 14 days after sale.

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With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Paisline Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange, The Northern Stamp Exchange Society, The Stamp Exchange Protection Society, The Enterprise Philatelic Society, The One and All Stamp Club, The Palace Philatelic Exchange Society, The British Empire Stamp Exchange Club.

No 231.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1904.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

The Prince buys the "P.O." Mauritius.

The great stamp—the unused 2d. "Post Office" Mauritius—was sold at "Puttick's," on Wednesday evening last, for £1,450. It was knocked down to "Mr. Crawford" but, in reality, the purchaser was H.R.H. The Prince of Wales.

Re-appearance of Richard Wolle.

We learn from Mekeel's Weekly and the "Philatelic Era" that Richard Wolle, released from the Missouri Penitentiary, is again at his old tricks of doctoring stamps. "Mekeel's Weekly" gives very tersely the history of this precious individual, of whom, by the way, a portrait was given in an early number of the Fortnightly.

In 1898, Richard Wolle, alias Herman Kaiser, alias Paul Fischer, etc., was successfully prosecuted by the "Weekly," assisted by a number of stamp dealers. Judge Elmer B. Adams, St. Louis, sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of \$500.00, and to be confined at hard labour in the Missouri Penitentiary for a period of eighteen months, the maximum punishment allowed by law. Wolle was an artist by profession and in 1898 appeared to be about 26 years of age. The trial attracted widespread attention, and at its conclusion philatelists congratulated themselves on the good riddance to the hobby. Wolle pleaded guilty and threw himself on the mercy of the court, but the judge said that the prisoner had, according to the evidence, "a dreadful character," and that there was no point that would mitigate against the severest sentence.

The meshes of the law (we are told in conclusion) will very shortly encircle Mr. Wolle, as a number of persons are hot on the trail.

Burgled Stamps at Hackney

From Mr. Surry, of Church Crescent, South Hackney, there was an extensive burglary of stamps. We are informed that the following are the principal items of Mr. Surry's loss:

1. Pocket Stock Book, contained 350 English stamps.
 2. Ditto, ditto, ditto
 3. Pocket Stock Book, contained old U.S.A., 1851, etc.
 4. Pocket Stock Book, contained unused Cuba, Italy (Eritrea).
 5. Pocket Stock Book, contained 1850 Belgium, Turkey, etc.
 6. Pocket Stock Book, contained 8 Americans, some Bolivia, 1897.
 7. Blue covered Book, about 11in. by 7in., containing stamps, marked separately; some unpaid Dutch.
 8. Exercise Book, mottled cover, contained only Asia and African stamps, with a torn copy of triangular Cape, Id. and Ceylon Pence.
 9. A large quantity of loose stamps, mostly common, but some rare, British Columbia, 5c., No. 29 S.G., unused.
- Large quantity of English 1d. red and 3d. plate numbers. Many thousands of Trinidad, 1896, Penny.

Needless to say, the victim of the burglary will be obliged for any information likely to lead to the recovery of the whole or part of his property.

Since the above was sent to the printers, we learn that the burglars have been caught. The following account of the police court examination is extracted from the "Islington Gazette":—

James Edwards, 30, tailor, of Rowton House, Whitechapel, and James Taylor, 20, market porter, were charged at the North London Police Court on the 9th January with being concerned in a burglary at the residence of Frederick Robert Surry, schoolmaster, of 18, Church Crescent, Hackney, and stealing 50,000 British and foreign stamps, valued at £20.

The prosecutor said he was engaged on the 5th and 6th insts. in arranging his collection of stamps, and the books were laid out all over the furniture of his drawing-room. In the early morning of the 7th inst. his house was broken into and the whole of his collection taken. Other property had been packed for removal, but nothing besides the stamps taken.

Chief Detective-inspector Fox, of New Scotland Yard, said that from what he heard he and two other officers went to Whitechapel on Friday night in search of the prisoners. He saw them in Brick Lane, and they, recognising him, ran away, Taylor at the same time throwing away a brown paper parcel, which was subsequently found to contain nearly the whole of the missing stamps. The prisoners were caught by Detectives Brown and Wilder, and as they struggled violently and a disorderly crowd assembled the prisoners were bundled into cabs and driven to the Bethnal Green police station. When Edwards was searched some loose stamps were found upon him.

Edwards: He has got it up pretty well for me.

Mr. Fordham: He generally does. (Laughter.)

Detective Fox: And when those loose stamps were found Edwards said: "I am done now."

The prisoners were remanded.

The "Evening News" on Gumpaps.

It is a delightful change to find a London evening paper writing quite sanely and sensibly on the subject of Philately. Witness the following editorial paragraphs in the London "Evening News":

The action of the Postmaster-General of Panama in issuing a "freak" set of surcharged stamps is regarded by all true stamp collectors as an outrage upon their body throughout the world. Of course, it frequently happens that surcharging is done in a hurry, and in the case of the Orange Free State and Transvaal Republic stamps which were surcharged "V.R.I.," there were certain small differences, such as the omission of a full stop or the use of a thick "V," which were recognised by collectors, but this is a very different matter from deliberately using about forty different varieties of surcharge on each variety of stamp.

As a matter of fact, the Central American republics have long been in the habit of fleecing the stamp collector, as a reference to any pictorial stamp album or catalogue will show. Nicaragua, for instance, has made the issue of an entirely fresh series of stamps an annual affair, the enormous orders from dealers not only paying for the cost of the issue, but leaving a handsome profit. There has often been a talk of a league among philatelic societies to stop this form of extortion by refusing to recognise these obviously fraudulent issues; but so many wealthy collectors are determined to have every stamp that has been printed, that they play into the hands of the enterprising republicans.

Explorers' Portraits on Stamps.

Only ten explorers seem to have been honoured by having their portraits placed on postage stamps, remarks the "Weekly Philatelic Era," the list being as follows:—

John Cabot; Newfoundland, 1897, 2 cents.

Jacques Cartier; Canada, 1855, 10d.

Christopher Columbus; Chile, all issues (except 1898, postage due). Cuba, 1899, 1c. (Statue), and envelopes of 1899-1900. Dominican Republic, 1899-1900, ½c., 1 peso. Honduras, 1892. Nicaragua, 1892. Porto Rico, 1893, 3c. Salvador, 1892; 1893, 2, 5, 10 pesos; 1894, 2, 5, 10 pesos; 1896 and 1897, 100c. United States, 1869, 15c.; 1893, stamps and envelopes. Trinidad, 1898, 2d. Venezuela, 1892, 25c.

Captain James Cook; N.S.W., 1888, 4d. and registered envelope, 5d.

John C. Fremont; United States, 1898, 5 cents.

Vasco da Gama; Azores, 1894, Macao, 1898; Madeira, 1898, Portugal, 1894, 1898; Portuguese Africa, 1898; Portuguese India, 1898; Timor, 1898.

Prince Henry of Portugal; "the navigator," Portugal, 1894.

Pierre Jacques Marquette; United States, 1898, 1 cent.

Francisco Pizarro; Peru, 1896, 5, 10, 20c.; 1897 and 1899, 5c.

Vincente Yanez Pinzon; Honduras, 1892, stamps and envelopes.

We are informed that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has been pleased to accept a copy of Mr. W. E. Ameson's book, "The Stamp Fiends' Raid."

The well-known town of Puerta Principe, on the island of Cuba, especially well-known on account of the multitude of its provisionals, has changed its name to Camaguez.

The "Mail and Express," New York, says that a room in the home of the late Elizabeth Cady Stanton was found to be papered with cancelled postage stamps.

Mr. E. W. Wetheroll asserts that there is a sprinkling of forgers among the native stamp dealers in India. "A few of them," he remarks sententiously, "ought to be 'doing time.'"

From the Auction Rooms.

SALE OF THE "POST OFFICE" MAURITIUS.

As expected the presence of a copy of the 2d. "Post Office" Mauritius in the catalogue of their sale drew a record attendance to Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's rooms on Wednesday afternoon last. One could almost have heard the proverbial pin fall when the auctioneer put up this "star" lot of the sale. The bidding rapidly rose to 1200—1300—1400 pounds sterling. Mr. Hugo Griebert seemed determined to have the stamp, but at £1420, his last bid, he threw up his hand, and in the end Mr. Crawford was declared the purchaser at the record price of £1450. Mr. Crawford, it was understood, was purchasing the stamp for the Prince of Wales, and this superb copy of the 2d. "Post Office" is destined to take a place in the fine Colonial collection of our future King.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales.

Nov. 24th 25th, and 26th, & Dec. 8th and 9th, 1903.	
Great Britain: 1841, 1d. red-brown, rouletted, a mint pair...	10 0 0
Do. 1854-57, wmk. large crown, perf. 16, 1d. red-brown, mint ...	3 0 0
Do. do. 2d. blue, * ...	7 0 0
Do. wmk. large crown, perf. 16, 1d. rose-red, mint ...	3 7 6
Do. 1855-57, wmk. small garter, 4d. carmine, imperf. on deep blue, * ...	13 10 0
Do. 1862, 1/- plate 3, with hair lines, imperf., mint	4 0 0
Do. 1872-80, 2½d. lilac-rose, plate 2, the error "L.H.F.L.," ...	1 9 0
Do. 1880-83, 1/- lilac, plate 14, * ...	14 0 0
Do. Ditto, the same stamp, plate 13, imperf. mint	2 12 6
Do. 1881, 1d. lilac, printed both sides, a pair, and same stamp printed on the gum; and 1887, 3d. brown on yellow, imperf. mint ...	3 5 0
Do. 1883-84, 2/6 lilac, on bluish, mint ...	3 7 6
Do. 5/- rose, on bluish, mint ...	2 15 0
Do. 1883-84, 5d. green, the very rare variety with value in different type * ...	9 0 0
Do. Ditto, wmk. Orbs, £1 brown-lilac, ditto ...	7 5 0
Do. Telegraphs, £1 brown-lilac, * ...	3 17 6
Malta, 1860-61, no wmk. ½d. buff on bluish, imperf. * ...	3 15 0
Ceylon, 1855-59, imperf. 1d. blue on bluish, * ...	1 10 0
Do. Ditto, 6d. deep claret ...	5 5 0
Do. Ditto, 1/- lilac, * ...	7 0 0
Do. 1863-67, wmk. CC., 2d. yellow-green ...	2 0 0
Do. Ditto, 5d. purple-brown, * ...	1 18 0
Do. 1872-80, wmk. CC., perf. 12½ x 14, 2c. brown, * ...	2 2 0
Hong Kong, 1863-71, wmk CC., 96c. yellow-brown, * ...	5 0 0
Puttilla, 1885, 1 rupee slate, the error "Auttialla," mint ...	2 10 0
Do. Service, 1887, ¼a. green, surcharge all in red, the error "Puttilla," unused with gum ...	6 0 0
Straits Settlements, 1867, "2" in MS. on ½c. blue ...	3 3 0
Do. 1868, wmk. CC., 96c. grey, perf. 12½, mint	5 12 6
Do. 1892-94, 32c. carmine-rose, error without surcharge, unused in mint state, very rare ...	12 0 0
Perak, 1878, 2c. brown, unused, in mint state ...	1 10 0
British Bechuanaland, 1896, ½d. black, with overprint in red and in black, mint ...	2 10 0
British East Africa, 1897, Jan., 1a. blue, the very rare variety with overprint in red * ...	2 2 0
Mauritius, Post paid, 1848, 1d. bright orange, a pair., early impressions ...	40 0 0
Do. Ditto, 2d. blue, early medium impressions, a vertical strip of 3, centre stamp being the error "Penoe" ...	35 0 0
Do. 1859, large Fillet, 2d. dark blue ...	12 10 0
Do. 1859, small Fillet, late impression, * ...	2 8 0
Do. 1859, Greek border, 1d. blood red ...	4 4 0
Do. Ditto, 4d. blue, the variety "Pence" ...	1 4 0
Do. 1899, 6 cents in red on 18c. green, with inverted surcharge ...	2 10 0
Natal, 1862, wmk. Star, 1d. rose, imperf. ...	3 3 0
Niger Coast, 1892, 1d. lilac, the rare variety with "Oil Rivers" above "British Protectorate," mint	2 2 0
Do. 1850-94, ½d. in red on half of 1d., surcharge sideways, and Half Penny in violet on 2d. se tenant, mint ...	10 0 0
Do. Ditto, same surcharge diagonally, and Half Penny in violet on 2d. se tenant, mint ...	9 15 0

Niger Coast, 1833-94, same surcharge in vermilion on 2½d., diagonally inverted in centre of strip of 3 stamps at either side being of the type Half Penny, mint ...	10	0	0
Do. Ditto, same surcharge in black on 2½d., mint	10	0	0
Do. Ditto, same surcharge in verm. on 2½d., mint	18	0	0
Do. Ditto, same surcharge in violet on 2½d., mint	12	10	0
Do. Ditto, Half Penny in violet on 2d., mint	2	6	0
Do. Ditto, same surcharge in blue on 2d., mint	19	10	0
Do. Ditto, same surcharge in carmine on 2½d., ditto	3	0	0
Do. Ditto, One Shilling in violet on 2d., a pair, one with inverted surcharge, mint	8	15	0
Do. 1894, ½d. in violet on half of 1d. vermilion	3	0	0
Do. ½ in blue on half of 1d. vermilion	3	7	6
Do. Ditto, One Half Penny on 2½d. blue, the error "OIE," mint	2	8	0
Sierra Leone, 1862, imperf. 6d. violet, mint	2	10	0
Do. 1894, wmk. C.A., Half Penny on 1½d. violet, the errors "Penny" with the inverted surcharge, mint	1	14	0
Transvaal, 1869, German Printing, imperf., 1d. deep lake, mint	3	3	0
Uganda, 1895, 10 cowries black, altered in MS. to "15"	12	10	0
Do. 1895, 25 cowries black, *	3	0	0
Do. 1895, 30 cowries black, on original, postmarked "Kampala, 1898."	1	8	0
Do. 1895, 40 cowries black, *	1	14	0
Do. 1895, 50 cowries black, on original, postmarked "Kampala, 1898."	1	8	0
Do. 1895, 60 cowries black, *	4	0	0
Do. 1895, 5 cowries violet, on original, postmarked "Kampala, 1898."	1	10	0
Uganda, 1895, 45 cowries violet, one of the rarest of these stamps; only about 8 copies are known	18	0	0
Do. 1896 (June), 10 cowries violet, on original, postmarked "Kampala, 1898."	2	0	0
Do. 1896, 15 cowries violet, ditto	2	4	0
Zanzibar, 1896 (June), 1a. carmine with double surcharge	1	18	0
British Columbia, 1861, no wmk., imperf., 2½d. brown-rose, a pair, *	30	0	0
Canada, 1851-57, wove paper, 6d. purple-black on thin paper, *	9	10	0
Do. 1851-57, 7½d. green	2	12	6
Do. 1857, perf., half of 6d. purple-brown used as 3d., on original	1	0	0
Do. 1859-61, 1c. rose, an imperf. pair, *	1	1	0
Do. Ditto, 2c. rose, a ditto, ditto	1	0	0
Do. Ditto, 12½c. blue-green, a ditto, ditto	1	1	0
Nova Scotia, 1851-53, 6d. yellow-green	1	2	0
Antigua, 1862, perf. 11½, 6d. blue-green, *	1	10	0
Do. Ditto, perf. 11½ x 15, 6d. blue-green, mint	3	3	0
Do. 1863, wmk. star, imperf., 1d. rose, *	2	6	0
Do. Ditto, 1d. vermilion, ditto	1	10	0
Do. Ditto, 6d. blue-green	4	10	0
Bahamas, 1861-61, no wmk. rough perms. 11½ to 12, 4d. rose *	2	0	0
Do. Ditto, 6d. grey-lilac, *	3	0	0
Do. Ditto, 4d. rose, *	2	4	0
Do. Ditto, 6d. lilac, *	2	2	0
Do. 1882, wmk. C.A., perf. 14, 4d. rose, *	1	10	0

The Cleverest of all.

By E. C. WARNER, IN "MEKEEL'S WEEKLY."

I've just been cogitating on
The methods bad and good,
People are using nowadays
To gain a livelihood.

You've all heard of the spinster with
"The Ladies' Weekly Truth,"
Who writes the "Hints to Mothers on
The Training of our Youth."

And then there's Madame Meredith
(Her right name's Molly Green),
Who tells each woman how she may
Become a peacherine.

There's lots of money to be made
In educating bears,
By teaching elephants to dance
Or raising Belgian hares.

To me the clev'rest in the scale,
From millionaires to tramps,
Are those who sell waste paper in
The form of postage stamps.

On Postal Cards and Covers.

By A SPECIALIST.

Upon taking up one's pen for a re-commencement of the calendar there is always a feeling—which may be described as a combination of satisfied relief and energetic restraint—that takes possession of the sense—the collective sense of the true collector. This peculiar feeling is accounted for by the fact that, in the first case, the collector, like the big company trusts and the like, is both satisfied and relieved at having acquired, as we trust he has, a good many welcome additions to his treasures, and to find, after balancing up his accounts for the year, that these have been obtained at such a small cost, a mere minimum of outlay. Supposing this, then, to be the case, we do not wonder he rather resents the restraint on his energy occasioned by the intervention of the festive season, and is anxious to resume. The readers of this column will the better understand, by this preliminary cantor, my feelings when making my bow. I cordially wish them good health, prosperity and many additions to their collections of "Postal Cards and Covers" during 1904.

In the above paragraph I made a reference to the small outlay necessary to obtain many additions to a collection. This is true, in fact, a very representative collection of postal stationery may be got together for a few shillings, owing to the fact that cards, envelopes and wrappers have been slightly unpopular for a time, and prices consequently low. Signs, however, are strongly manifest that this state of things has been but temporary, and since the close of the South African War (which was the means of a "boom" in all kinds of philatelic matter concerning the two former States) collectors of "entires" have increased.

"LET us, then, be up and doing," and to the novice, or those about to begin, this should serve as an impetus, and as a partner in a well-known firm of dealers recently told me, his firm had received more orders and enquiries for "rarities" from abroad—especially America—this past year, than ever previously, we can depend upon it, our friends, the Yankees, know a "good thing" when they get the chance.

NOTES AND NOVELTIES.

Canada—A new 1c wrapper of the King's Head type, stamp design same as the current 1c. postcard, is now to hand.

Wrapper: 1c. green on buff

Ceylon—We have received the new 5c, King's Head letter card. Similar in style to last issue, inscription and stamp in black, the design of the latter is the same as the current 3c. adhesive. Instructions at foot and on reverse. Perf B.

Letter Card: 5c. black on blue. 88 x 139

Costa Rica—"E.W.S.N." chronicle a new postcard of the 2c. value. Inscription in ornamental capitals, "Tarieta Postal." Stamp new design head of Columbus on right, four dotted lines for address, the whole setting decorative in character.

Postcard: 2c. carmine-red on chamois.

New Zealand—Varieties of the 1d. King's Head letter card are already appearing. In point of colour, the second printing shows the design in deeper shade of brown than those first to hand.

Letter Card: 1d. deep brown on green.

In a recent letter from Perth, Western Australia, Messrs. Hamilton, Macrae, Limited, inform us that they have just received news of the present whereabouts of the man Sherman, whose exploits were recently described in the *Fortnightly*. He is on the Continent, managing a photographic business.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

LONDON, JANUARY, 16, 1904.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays. Hereafter 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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The Next London Exhibition.

Referring to the rumoured possibility of a London Philatelic Exhibition in the near future, and to the fact that such an exhibition has not been held for seven years, the editor of the "London Philatelist" remarks that the Berlin Exhibition obviously holds the field for 1904, and that a *ten* years' interval, i.e., 1907, may perhaps satisfy the exhibitory aspirations of those who have not yet shared in the labors of promoting and carrying out a philatelic exhibition. "Those who have fulfilled those arduous tasks," concludes Mr. Castle (writing, one may guess, with a smile about his lips) "will with greater grace resign themselves to a further probation of masterly inactivity."

"a Berlin!"

Meantime, the cry is "a Berlin!" Or, rather, it will be the cry in August next. The exhibition will open its doors on August 25th, and will remain open until September 4th. There should be a goodly contingent of English visitors, and we hope also a fair representation of Great Britain and Ireland among the exhibitors. As to this question of exhibits, we invite our readers to peruse the highly-sensible remarks made by the editor of the "London Philatelist," and which are quoted elsewhere in this number. Mr. Castle rightly argues that as British and Colonial issues comprise, roughly, a third of the world's catalogued stamps, some solid inducement should be held out to prominent specialists in this country to exhibit their treasures at Berlin. Some "international" stamp exhibitions we could mention have been international in name only—that is to say, the scheme of classes and awards has been so planned as to allot all the "plums" to the home exhibitor. Our friends in the Fatherland, however, are among the most broad-minded of the world's philatelists, and we feel that we can safely count upon them to make this, their first great international exhibition, a fair and open test of the philatelic "quality" of all comers.

The Luck of "Philip B."

Mr. W. E. Hewes sends us the following excerpt from the Correspondence page of a popular penny periodical:—

Postage stamps are so valuable nowadays that one ought to be very careful before destroying them. Philip B. tells us that the other day he was rummaging among some old letters which had been sent to his father forty or fifty years ago, when he came across an envelope with about forty used stamps in it. "As I saw they were all English stamps I thought they were probably worthless, but before throwing them on the fire I thought I would show them to a philatelic friend of mine. I did so, and was amazed—and, you may be sure, delighted—to learn that they represent quite a small mint of money. Among them are eight twopenny blue stamps, which alone, I am told, are worth something like £130. Why, it's even a better stroke of luck than finding one of your cylinders of sovereigns!"

"It would be interesting to hear the end of this," comments our correspondent—"whether 'Philip B.' has put the 'rare' stamps up to auction and what they realised!"

Our Review of Reviews.

This Year's Stamp Exhibition at Berlin.

Dealing with the forthcoming International Philatelic Exhibition at Berlin, the editor of the "London Philatelist" writes:—

Great Britain has already held three International Philatelic Exhibitions, and others similar in character and scope have taken place in Austria, America (Chicago), France and Italy. Of the other great Powers of the world, Germany and Russia are the only two that have not followed suit, and Germany will now be free from that reproach. The philatelists of the other great countries will therefore heartily welcome the fact that Germany has fallen into line, and we are convinced that the utmost goodwill and co-operation will be forthcoming from this country in order to ensure every success for our *confreres* in Berlin. We shall be pleased to use our humble efforts in this direction, and intending exhibitors or inquirers will be afforded in these columns every information that may reasonably be expected.

In order, however, to ensure competition from this country, it is requisite that—as we have done in our own exhibitions—good and solid inducements to compete should be held out. It should be remembered that, from a philatelic point of view alone, Great Britain and her colonies represent about one-third of the stamps of the globe in number, and that in importance, value and interest combined they would probably represent two-fifths. There should therefore be given both number and variety of competitions or classes under this head, in which case we imagine there will be no lack of eager aspirants for the honour of winning the gold and silver medals of the Berlin Philatelic Exhibition.

The date fixed (Aug. 25th. to Sept. 4th) is a singularly appropriate one, when the world and his wife are holiday-making, and when the summer heat is waning. Under such conditions Berlin will be found to be a charming rendezvous; there will be a cosmopolitan and interesting philatelic life in that handsome capital, and those of us who are enabled to pass a week there will undoubtedly have a very pleasant experience to look back upon.

THE FRENCH STAMPS OF 1849-1900.

In the same issue of the London Philatelic Society's official organ there is a very able paper by Mr. Franz Reichenheim, on the French stamps of 1849-1900. Mr. Reichenheim, we read in an interesting biographical sketch in the "Philatelic Record," recently sold his very fine German collection, and has since devoted himself exclusively to the stamps of France. Of these he has a magnificent showing, richly recruited by his purchases from the well-known Marconnet collection. His paper on the issues of 1849-1900 in the "London Philatelist" is a tribute to Mr. Reichenheim's philatelic thoroughness. It is illustrated by some excellent photographic reproductions, and some idea of the extent of his researches may be gleaned from the fact that his article occupies over seventeen pages of the "London Philatelist's" space.

The Importance of being Perfect.

The "Philatelic Record" draws attention to the great philatelic interest of proofs, trials, essays, etc.

"The description of Lord Crawford's Collection of the United States, shewn at a recent meeting of the Philatelic Society, London, and particularly of the scheme which is carried out in it, must have called renewed attention to the question of essays, proofs, etc.," remarks our contemporary. "Time was when these were highly esteemed, and when every collection of importance contained a fair sprinkling. They are always more or less difficult to procure, and, perhaps, partly for that reason, and partly owing to the increasing quantity of new issues in the later seventies and early eighties, stamps of this class gradually fell into disrepute, and have, until recently, been wholly disregarded. But times are again changing, and we think the trend in this respect is in the right direction.

"A specialised collection to-day ought, we maintain, to be a full historical illustration of the postal service of the particular country chosen, and in this the essays, trials, proofs, etc., must play a prominent part. In many cases these stamps constitute an interesting study in themselves, and are often of material assistance in the due appreciation of the regular issues."

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"BRITISH EMPIRE" EXCHANGE. Two packets monthly. References. Prompt settlements monthly. Reports in this Paper.—Secretary, H. BEAN, 161, Loughborough Park, S.W.

OTTERDALE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.—Gross sales during present financial year to date, exceed £220 per month. Bona-fide philatelists (not dealers) especially those with good duplicates, invited to join. First rate references essential. Nominal charges. Last report, rules, etc., on application to Secretary and Founder, G. HERBERT DANNATT (Member "Stamp Exchange Protection Society.") "Lyndale," Blackheath, S.E.

"STAMPS" EXCHANGE SOCIETY. Established 1886.—Packets, 1502, £9396, sales, £858. Colonial General and European sections. Foreign and Colonial collectors invited.—Rules from Secretary, THOS. H. WIDDOWSON, (Member S.E.P.S.), Lincoln Street, Leicester.

ADVERTISER offers a large number of British Colonial Stamps, each country in separate books. Specimens priced singly below half Gibbons. Nearly all the old and rarest issues complete, many mint. Also small approval books of mixed Colonials at one-third to two-fifths Gibbons. Finest copies only. Any book on approval in Great Britain or abroad. References.—Box 134, c/o Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

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WANTED early Transvals for cash or in exchange for other Colonials. High prices paid for red and inverted surcharges, wide spacings, errors and curios. J. WESTHORN, 13 Regents Park Road, London.

10,000 Various Stamps, assorted values, collected from Africa, America, Asia, Australia, Europe, West Indies, Bargain 4/6 the lot. N. HILLIER, Horamonden.

HAMPSHIRE STAMP EXCHANGE. Few good collectors wanted. No subscription. Secretary, S. H. TOOLE, Arthur Rd. N., Southampton.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE. The Editor of the Fortnightly desires to add to his collection of philatelic works (English language only). Lists with lowest cash prices invited. Address P.C.B., Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly Office, 63 and 64 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

PRIVATE Collector is selling English Foreign Colonial used and unused Envelopes, Postcards, etc. Half to twentieth catalogue (Bright). Please correspond letter only. PARRY, 35 Parade, Pontypridd, Glamorgan.

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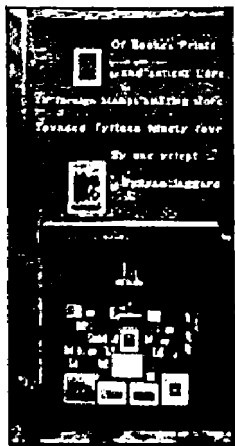
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" " Board of Education 1d. King	0 5
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Jamaica 2: Queen's Head, Mint	2 4
" " " " " "	5 8
Zanzibar, 1896, 5 rupee	3 6
12 Bavarian, 1891, 1901, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 60 pf. and 1 and 2 mark	0 6
7 German, 1890, "Reichspost," 25, 30, 40, 50, 80 pf. 1 and 2 mark	0 6

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We have just issued a List of Stamps, in which every line quoted bears a Discount of 50%, and all Purchasers of 2/6 worth nett from same will receive a New Zealand Stamp catalogued at 1/6. **SPECIAL OFFERS, NETT—**
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Stanley Gibbons' Colonial Catalogue.

A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE 1904 EDITION.

Some opinions by "Fortnightly" readers as to Prices.

In the introduction to their Catalogue (Part I.), Messrs. Stanley Gibbons state that the prices are in every case based upon *stock in hand*, and add: "We do not believe in "guess-work prices," or those based upon the averages of other catalogues."

If the catalogue were issued solely as a list of prices at which the publishers sell stamps, the sentence we have quoted would obviously have been unnecessary. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, are, of course, well aware that the majority of dealers, as well as collectors, in this country at least, use their catalogue to a greater or less extent as a *standard* list of prices. If it were not so, we should not fill columns of the *Fortnightly* with detailed criticisms of their prices.

Let us examine this statement of Messrs. Gibbons that their prices are based upon "stock in hand."

It is obvious that we must not take it as literally correct. What it means is that, in many cases, the number of copies in stock is one factor in determining the price at which a stamp is listed. In the case of current issues, clearly the number of copies in stock has nothing to do with the price. To take an extreme instance: the current British £1 green, unused, is priced at 20s. 3d. The price of this stamp is determined by two facts only. The first is that the stamp may be bought in unlimited quantities for £1 per specimen at the Charing Cross post-office—a couple of hundred yards from the firm's offices. The second fact is that the firm is willing to oblige a foreign client by forwarding the stamp at practically cost price.

In the case of obsolete unused and all used stamps, the number actually in stock is no doubt one of the facts which guide the managing director of the firm in fixing his price. We are perfectly certain, however, that he knows (perhaps better than any one else in the trade) how, and at what price, he will probably be able to replenish the stock of any ordinary variety of which the firm may happen to run short. It is this knowledge of the managing director which is the *main* factor in determining prices. If the stock of a stamp is becoming exhausted and the director thinks he cannot easily replenish it, then, of course, up goes the price. Sometimes he makes a mistake, puts up the price, and then—a year or two afterwards—finds that there are plenty of copies of the stamp on the market which the firm can buy cheaply. And down the price comes again!

One or two examples will illustrate this process. Take the Gold Coast 2/- yellow-brown and 2/- dark brown, Nos. 18 and 19. Their prices in six editions of the catalogue appear as follows:—1897, 10s., 3s.; 1899, 8s. 6d., 4s.; 1900, 8s. 6d., 8s. 6d.; 1902, 12s. 6d., 8s. 6d.; 1903, 12s. 6d., 8s. 6d.; 1904, 15s., 6s. These prices are worth studying. In 1897 the yellow-brown had just become obsolete and was raised to 10s. In 1899 the price of 10s. was found to be excessive and was cut down. Precisely the same happened with the dark brown variety which appeared in 1900 at 8s. 6d. In this case, however, four years elapsed before the firm discovered that their price was too high, having regard to the number of copies on the market. As a second example, we take the Sierra Leone 2d. mauve, wmkd. CA. The prices for this stamp from 1890 onward run (unused): 2/6, 2/6, 2/6, 7/6, 10/6, 10/6, 15/6, 17/6; (used): -/6, 2/6, 2/6, 7/6, 1/6, 1/6, 1/6, 1/6. The prices for unused fairly reflect the condition of the market, the stamp having steadily increased in value during the years which have elapsed since it became obsolete. The 7/6, which appears as the price of a used copy in 1897, must be regarded simply as a blunder! Our third example is of a case in which the reverse mistake has occurred. In pricing the Victoria 4d. mauve with solid background, No. 202, the firm paid regard for some years neither to their own stock of used copies, nor to that of other dealers, but adopted a guess-work price. In the later editions the error has been rectified and the stamp, which was in '97 and '99 priced far too low, is

now, perhaps, rather too high. The prices from 1900 run thus: 2d.; 4d.; 6d.; 3d.; 3d.; 6d.; 2/-; 3/6; 7/6.

We could multiply our examples almost indefinitely, but it would be, perhaps, waste of space, and there are other points about the catalogue to which we must refer. We continue to regret the multiplication of minute varieties such as occurs in the list of New South Wales. If minute varieties must be priced for the benefit of the specialist, would it not be a great advantage if they were separated from the ordinary varieties, as is done with the British plate numbers? The "Scott" catalogue, of New York, sets a commendable example in this respect. Therein the minor variety (or varieties) of each particular stamp is set in much smaller type.

The offer of supplements gratis to all who write for them in an ingenious method of obtaining names and addresses of active collectors. We have no doubt Messrs. Stanley Gibbons will find it a remunerative advertisement.

We can congratulate the publishers on the care with which their proofs have been read. It is most difficult to avoid printers' errors in a work of this class, and the present edition of the catalogue appears to be remarkably free from them. We no longer have the Montserrat 4d. blue CA, offered at 6/-; nor do we find chronicled any such rarity as the Falkland Isles, 2d. pale ultramarine, which found a place in the 1903 edition.

SOME READERS' OPINIONS.

Some most interesting letters from *Fortnightly* readers have been received as a consequence of our call for opinions on the 1904 Gibbons' catalogue.

"W. B." (Downham Market) suggests a number of revisions of price:

OVER-PRICED STAMPS.

Great Britain	63*	500 0	should be	400 0
" "	180*	30 0	" "	20 0
Antigua	30*	30 0	" "	20 0
Bechuanaland Protec.	52*	120 0	" "	80 0
British South Africa, 1st issue, unused, should be about face value.				
Cape of Good Hope	56*	10 0	" "	7 6
" "	50*	7 6	" "	4 0
" "	61*	10 0	" "	5 0
" "	67a*	17 6	" "	7 6
" "	70*	30 0	" "	15 0
" "	73*	4 0	" "	1 6
" "	87*	12 6	" "	7 6

Gambia, issue of 1886-7 (except No. 33) should be a little over face value.

Gibraltar	12*	17 6	should be	5 0
" "	22*	45 0	" "	30 0
Gold Coast	31*	2 6	" "	1 6
" "	32*	4 0	" "	3 0
Leeward Isles	8*	10 0	" "	7 6
" "	14*	8 6	" "	6 6
" "	15*	12 6	" "	7 6
Seychelles	36*	10 0	" "	5 0
" "	52*	10 0	" "	5 0

UNDER-PRICED STAMPS.

Great Britain	98*	40 0	should be	65 0
" "	181*	9 0	" "	11 0
" "	211*	2 6	" "	3 6
Bermuda	22*	7 6	" "	20 0
Gambia	19*	50 0	" "	70 0
" "	20*	55 0	" "	75 0
Gold Coast	1*	45 0	" "	75 0
" "	2*	30 0	" "	45 0
" "	9*	30 0	" "	45 0
" "	10*	140 0	" "	200 0

This last stamp, Gold Coast No. 10, our correspondent believes to be much rarer, in mint condition, than No. 24, which

always sells for £7 at auction. The Canadian stamps of 1859-76, he adds, are all very hard to get in mint state.

It is necessary to add, in connection with "W.B.'s" communication, that he bases his suggested values on the supposition that catalogue prices represent twice the true values of the stamps.

"A Collector" (Great Yarmouth), after expressing the opinion that "this is the best catalogue ever issued by any firm," ventures a few estimates as to stamps under-priced or over-priced in the book, as follows:

OVER-PRICED STAMPS.

An asterisk (*) in all cases indicates unused.

Great Britain	58*	160	0	should be	120	0
" "	189*	7	6	" "	5	0
" " Id. pl.	225	10	0	" "	7	6
" "	0.85	5	0	" "	4	0
" "	0.105	4	0	" "	2	6
Niger Coast,	62*	7	6	" "	5	0
S. Australia	292*	8	6	" "	6	0

UNDER-PRICED STAMPS.

Gt. Britain, 2½d. pl.	17	4	0	should be	5	0
" "	185	17	6	" "	20	0
" "	0.72	4	0	" "	5	0
" "	0.81	15	0	" "	20	0
Ceylon	57*	4	6	" "	6	0
Mauritius	137*	1	3	" "	2	6
N. S. Wales	61	16	0	" "	20	0
S. Australia	290*	5	0	" "	7	6

WHAT DO GIBBONS' PRICES REPRESENT?

Yet another reader, "H.M." (Leicester) writes interestingly on the subject of the real significance of catalogue values:

In your Christmas issue you addressed a general invitation to your readers to favour you with a list of stamps which, in their opinion, were underpriced in Gibbons' latest catalogue. The subject of my letter may, for all I know, have been frequently ventilated in your columns, but, to the best of my belief, it has not been mentioned during the last year or two, and that is:—

What do Gibbons' prices represent?

I am especially interested in the early stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, and recently I had an opportunity of looking through Messrs. Gibbons' stock books. Needless to say, in point of numbers it was a marvellous display, but one does not judge a collector's Capes by their number, but by their condition.

On looking at the catalogue we find Nos. 5 and 6 priced at 1/6 (2/- last year), but although it is true there were here and there specimens marked at that price, they were mostly stamps which would have been dear at any price, while the really good specimens were nearly all marked at 4/-!

But No. 4 quite put this in the shade, for the price—4/6—was faithfully adhered to in the case of a large number of poor ones. The great feature of their stock, however, to my mind, was a number of these stamps in most brilliant condition, but these were priced at 9/- and 11/- each, and in one case, I noticed, at 13/-!

I suppose every collector who has tried to study and acquire these beautiful stamps has a very fair idea of their real value, but if any novices are sometimes puzzled as to why it is they cannot acquire decent triangulars at the usual rate of half catalogue price, they may find the explanation here.

We have given our readers' views on prices, and we present them entirely without comment. In the next *Fortnightly* we shall say our own say on the subject.

It is announced that the Chilian telegraph stamps are about to be retired, owing to the discovery of extensive frauds in connection therewith.

The "Philatelic Record" is to be congratulated on having arranged with Dr. Diena to re-write (in English) his great study of the stamps of the Duchy of Modena incorporating therein a mass of fresh material.

A COLLECTOR warns us, in "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News," that extreme cold has quite as disastrous an effect on original gum as extreme heat. In a lot of a dozen unused stamps that he recently exposed to the cold weather, three or four were ruined by the deep cracking of the gum.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

The January packet of this Society started punctually and carries a total value of £215 1s. 7d. Some fine pence Ceylons and other desirable stamps are to be met with in this packet. Members are requested to send in good sheets for the February packets as early as possible. Rules free. No fees. R. T. Morgan, Secretary, 14, High Street, Selhurst, S.E.

JUNIOR SECTION.—The packet of this section also started promptly and carries a very useful assortment to the value of £47 3s. 3d. New members will be welcomed to this and also to the Senior Section. Rules free. No fees. C.A. Squire Cox, Secretary, "Woodbine," Cambridge Road, Anerley, S.E.

THE JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Society was held in the Wheatsheaf Institute, 67, South Lambeth Road, on Saturday, January 2nd.

An interesting paper, entitled "The New Collecting," was given by Mr. R. Halliday, after which Mr. E. Heginbottom's collection of Hong Kong was displayed.

The next meeting will be held to-night (January 16th), when Mr. W. Schwabacher will give a paper and display of Fiscals. On the following Saturday a special afternoon meeting has been arranged to visit the Tapling collection at the British Museum.

Hon. Secretary, H. T. Johnson, 9, Lorne Terrace, South Lambeth Road, S.W.

FEDERAL STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

The first packet (October, 1903) started with a list of 20 members, and was valued at £15 13s. 3d. nett, from which stamps to the value of £2 15s. 8d. nett changed hands.

The second packet (November) had a list of 30 members, and was valued at £19 2s. 4d. nett. From this packet stamps to the total value of £6 9s. 3d. nett changed hands (over one-third).

The third packet (December) had a list of 34 members, and contained 32 sheets, valued over £52 nett, which packet is still in circulation.

So far, all "Federal" members have remitted their purchases promptly, and have obeyed the rules with reference to despatching the packet promptly. Full particulars of the Federal Club may be obtained from the Secretary, Mr. J. C. Long, 7, Salcott Road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

THE FISCAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Meeting held Thursday, January 7th, 1904. Present: Mr. Schwabacher (chair), Messrs. Fulcher, Kohler, Marsh, Morley, Thompson, Thomson and Kay.

Messrs. L. Greenberg, H. P. Harris, W. E. Loy, and H. B. Phillips, were duly elected members.

The resignation of M. E. S. Anscher was accepted with regret.

The fiscals of Peru (Tabaco) and Marine Policy stamps of Great Britain were discussed and catalogued.

Received for library: "Filatelia" (Aug. and Sept.); "Sterling Monthly" (Nov.); "Revista S. F. Argentina" (Nov.).

The Continental exchange packet will in future be made up in London and then circulated among foreign members only. All sheets (priced in francs, nett) for inclusion in the next packet, should be sent direct to Mr. Kay, before the end of January. Continental members wishing to receive packets should also communicate with the Secretary.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 4th, 1904, at 6.30 p.m., at 65, Bishopsgate Street, Without, London, E.C., when the English municipal stamps will be taken.

Rules, monthly catalogue lists, and any information respecting the Society can be had from the Hon. Sec., A. B. Kay, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London, W.

"UNUSED" STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

November packet has returned; sheets returned to members and all credits paid. Result, £16 2s. 6d. sold out of £97 10s. 7d. H. Bean, Secretary.

BRITISH EMPIRE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

November Colonial packet returned. Result: £18 14s. nett sold; £126 15s. 5d. sent in. January Colonial packet started on January 1st, value £108 16s. 8d. General packet sent off on the 11th, £162 17s. 6d. value. One or two members can be admitted. Secretary, H. Bean, 164, Loughborough Park, London, S.W.

THE STAMP TRADE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

A business and social meeting for the purpose of sale and exchange of stamps amongst members, and general interchange of views, will be held at the Inns of Court Hotel, High Holborn, W.C., on Monday next, January 18th, at 6 p.m.

There is a strong movement on foot to make these meetings a success, and at least 15 prominent dealers and members of the Association have promised not only to attend, but to bring stock with them for the transaction of business. It is confidently hoped that all members will use every possible endeavour to attend and greatly assist the Secretary by doing so.

If the results of the meeting prove satisfactory, these gatherings will be continued throughout the season, once a fortnight, on alternate Mondays, at the same place and time.

Country and foreign members are earnestly urged, if in London, to attend the meeting. Non-members are also cordially invited to attend.

All particulars will gladly be sent on application to the Secretary, J. Stanley Telfer, 63 1/2, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

BRISTOL & CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The annual meeting, fixed for January 14th, will have been held ere this number of the *Fortnightly* is published, and the question whether a Bristol Philatelic Exhibition shall be held will have been decided. A report will appear in our next issue. Meantime, there are a few vacancies for members. The subscription is only 2s. 6d. per annum, and this includes a free subscription to the *Fortnightly*. Address the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Henry Alsop, at 2, Archfield Road, Cotham Park, Bristol.

TRAVELLERS' STAMP EXCHANGE.

October packet returned, showing very satisfactory sales, 50 members having seen it. The January packet started punctually, and contains 31 sheets, value £587 1s. 10d. Many rare stamps of the early issues in fine condition, are to be found on members' sheets. The last year has been a very successful one. The Secretary makes a point of returning and settling all sheets within a week of the return of a packet.

Hon. Secretary, Leicester A. B. Paine (Member of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society), Longson, near Stoke-upon-Trent.

Great Britain Stamps,
WHOLESALE OFFERS.

2d. blacks 4/6 doz ; 1d. red imperf. 4 - 1000, ditto, worn plates 3 - doz ; ditto, with numbers in Maltese Cross 3 6 doz. ; ditto, a fine lot of 2,000 all on the entire; var. shades and postmarks, for only 15/- ; 1d. blue imperf. 6/6 100 ; 1/2d. red, plate numbers, 2 - 100 ; 1d. red plate numbers guaranteed unassorted in bundles 2 - 1,000 ; 17 6 10,000 ; 2d. blue plate numbers 3 6 100 ; 2d. blue, wmk. small crown perf. 16 5 - doz ; 2d. wmk. large crown perf. 16, 50 - doz. ; 2d. wmk. large crown perf. 14 1 9 doz. ; 1 1/2d. red, 1870, 2 - doz. ; 4d. plate numbers 8/- 100 ; 6d. no letters 7/6 100 ; 1d. venetian red 1 - 100, 6 6 1,000 ; 1887, 1 1/2d. to 6d. assorted (without 4 1/2d.) 4 6 1,000 ; 4 1/2d. 3 6 100 ; 1/2d. green 1900, 3 - 1,000, sets of 35 different £20 per 1,000 sets ; Officials, Queen's head, 1 R. 1/2d. vermilion, 8 6 1,000 ; 1d. lilac, 5/- 1,000 ; 1/2d. green, 1901, 10/- 100 ; Army Official, 1/2d. vermilion 6 - 1,000 ; 1/2d. green, 17 6 1,000 ; 1d. lilac 6 - 1,000.

KING'S HEAD:—1/2d., 1/- 1000 ; 1 1/2d., 1/- 100 ; 2d., 1/6 100 ; 2 1/2d., 6d. 100 ; 3d., 1 - 100 ; 4d., 3 - 100 ; 5d., 3 3 100 ; 6d., 2 6 100 ; 9d., 1/- doz. ; 1/-, 1/- doz. R H Official, 1d., 2 1/2d. doz. Admiralty, 1/2d., 3/- doz. ; 1d., 9d doz. ; 1 1/2d. and 2d., 1/- each. I. R. Official, 1/2d., 2/9 100 ; 1d., 1/- 100, 8/- 1000. Govt Parcels, 1d., 3/- doz. ; 2d., 4 6 doz. ; 6d., 4/6 doz ; 9d., 7 6 doz. ; 1/-, 18 - doz.

The Stamp Collectors' Annual. Edited by PERCY C. BISHOP Post-free, 1/-.

CHAS. NISSEN & Co.,
77/78, High Holborn,
London, W.C.

W. H. PECKITT, Dealer in Rare Stamps,
47, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW KING'S HEADS, etc. (Unused).—

Price.		Price.		Price.	
s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Br. East Africa and Uganda, 2s. mauve	3	Sierra Leone, 5 - green and red	6	Queensland Commonwealth, 3d. stamp	1 0
St. Lucia, 1 - green and black	3 2	" " £1 lilac on red	21	N. S. W., 2d.	1 0
Ceylon, 12s. green and red	1 3	Chamba State, 1/2d. green	2	Victoria, 1 - (new die) orange	1 3
" " 25c. ochre	6	" " 1s. red	2	Br. Guiana, 6s. green and red	3 0
India, 3s. orange	4	British Levant, 12 piastres	2 7	Ecuador, 1c. on 25c. yellow fiscal stamp sur-	
Sierra Leone, 1/2d. lilac and green	1	United State, 1/2d. green	1	charged for postage	2
" " 1d. carmine	2	" " 3p. grey	1	Honduras Republic, 1903, 1c. green	1
" " 1 1/2d. black	2	" " 1s. red	2	Costa Rica, 1c. mauve, 1903	2
" " 2d. orange	3	" " 2s. violet	3	" " 6c. stone	3
" " 2 1/2d. blue	4	" " 3s. orange	4	" " 25c. lilac	1 0
" " 3d. grey	4	" " 4s. green	5	Trinidad, 4d. green and blue on cream	5
" " 4d. lake	5	" " 8s. mauve	10	Soudan, surcharged O. S. G. S., 5m.	2
" " 5d. black	7	Br. Somaliland, 1/2d. green	1	" " " 1 piast.	4
" " 6d. violet	8	" " 1s. red	2	" " " 2 " "	9
" " 1/- green and black	1 3	" " 2s. violet	3	" " " 5 " "	1 8
" " 2 - blue	2 6	" " 3s. orange	4		
		" " 8s. mauve	10		

RECENT PURCHASES.

The well-known General Collection formed by Mr. J. N. MARSDEN, of Lisbon.

THIS fine lot contains many of the first-class rarities, and is also particularly rich in varieties, errors, etc., many of which are seldom to be found except in collections of this age and magnitude.

The fine Collection of COLONIAL STAMPS made by the late Rev. W. BELL, of Cork.

THIS Collection contains a very large number of old issues in mint state, the condition generally being very fine.

LISTS OF WANTS WILL RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION. SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL.

TELEPHONE :
3204
GERRARD.

A Fine Selection of Stamps always on View, ranging
from New Issues to the greatest Rarities.

TELEGRAMS & CABLES
"PECKITT, LONDON."

Sale by Auction.

Messrs. JAGGARD & Co., will hold in Liverpool during February, 1904, an Auction Sale of
RARE BRITISH, COLONIAL & FOREIGN STAMPS

The property of a well-known collector, including a collection of over **Eighteen Thousand** varieties, and other attractive items.

Catalogue now preparing, post free when ready. Philatelists and Dealers desiring a copy should apply immediately. Mention "S.C.F."

The Advertisers invite contributions of any good surplus lots and duplicates for the Sale. These should be submitted as early as possible to ensure inclusion in Catalogue.

The lots will be on view in London, Birmingham and Manchester, prior to sale.

Usual Terms.

Prompt Settlements.

JAGGARD & Co.,

STAMP AUCTIONEERS,

13, MOORFIELDS, LIVERPOOL.

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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 Somaliland.—Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co. have received the Queen's Head stamps of the denominations of 2½, 6, 12, annas, and 1, 2, 3 and 5 rupees, with the surcharge at the foot instead of at the head of the stamp.

Cuba.—Some particulars are given in the "Weekly Philatelic Era" of the new set of stamps suggested some months ago. The issue will be commemorative of the proclamation of the republic. They will only be current in the island, and the number to be printed indicates that they will not be rare. There will be printed 1,000,000 copies of the values 1c. to 50c., 500,000 of the 1 peso and 200,000 of the special delivery. Particulars are lacking as to the design. The values will range from 1 cent to 1 peseta, and there will be the usual 10 cents "Special Delivery" label.

India.—(Sirmoor) An interesting discovery is announced by Mr. D. P. Masson, who has found that there are several distinct types of the 6 pies of the Sirmoor issue of 1885-88.

Guadalior.—Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co. have received the 1 anna Queen's Head with the official surcharge for this State.

Jamaica.—From Messrs W. and A. Prince, of West Bromwich, we have received the first of the promised Jamaican novelties—the ½d. stamp, bearing the arms of the colony.

Arms issue: ½d. green and black.

Sudan.—Mr. Edward de Z. Kelley informs "Mekeel's Weekly" that the 5 millimes Soudan provisional, chronicled in many of our contemporaries as having been used only in Khartoum, was used in other places, as he has one on the original cover from another town.

Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co. inform us that the 5 millimes and 1 piastre stamps have arrived with the crescents and stars watermark.

Seychelles.—Mr. G. C. Hodgson writes:—"There is one variety of the Seychelles surcharges which Mr. Harrop does not mention in the list given in your last issue, and that is the 12 on 16c., with the 12 7½m. over the cents, instead of 2½m., as in the normal surcharge."

Victoria.—It appears that the 3d. stamp of the current issue has existed, perf 11. We say "has existed" advisedly, for Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co. inform us that this variety is already obsolete.

United States.—Mr. Ferdinand Wahrer, of Chicago, informs "Mekeel's Weekly" of the existence of an error in the revised type of the 2 cents stamp, showing a "C" instead of the "G" of Washington.

As to the promised St. Louis World's Fair issue, the newspapers give the following list of values and portraits:—

One cent, Robert R. Livingston, Minister to France, who conducted negotiations for the Louisiana Purchase.

Two cent, Thomas Jefferson.

Three cent, James Monroe, who, with Livingston, conducted the negotiations.

Five cent, President McKinley.

Ten cent, Map of the United States, showing the territory purchased from France.

The designs are now being made at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The colours will be those used for like denominations in general use. The stamps will be about the size of the "Columbus" stamps of the 1893 issue.

MARTIN, RAY & Co.,

Stamp Auctioneers and
Commission Agents,

Lonsdale Chambers,

CHANCERY LANE, W.C.

— HOLD —

STAMP AUCTION SALES

- FORTNIGHTLY. -

Monday	...	Jan. 18th
Monday	...	Feb. 1st
Monday	...	Feb. 15th
Monday	...	Feb. 29th

Stamps to be included should reach our Offices 14 days prior.

Commission 10%. Minimum Charge 1/6 per lot

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

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

47, Leicester Square, LONDON, W.C., make the sale of
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS A SPECIALITY.

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson

beg to announce that their next Sale will take place on

January 26th and 27th, 1904,

When they will offer

A Fine Selection of all Countries, including many Scarce Stamps.
Catalogue Ready.

DATES of SALES for 1904:—

1904.—January 26 and 27; February 9 and 10, 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27
 May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8; Sept. 27 and 28; Oct. 11 and 12, 25 and 26; Nov. 8 and 9, 29 and 30; Dec. 13 and 14
 Clients wishing to include Collections in any of the above Sales are requested to make early arrangements with regard to their disposal,
 as some of the earlier dates are already allotted. Liberal advances made pending realization if desired.

For Terms and Full Particulars Address: Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,
 Telephone No. 1561, Gerrard
 Established 1794. **47, Leicester Square, London, W.C.**

D. FIELD, 4 and 5, THE ROYAL ARCADE,
 OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.
 (Telephone: No. 4809 GERRARD.)

Wanted To Purchase, Immediately

(To Complete a Collection).

GREAT BRITAIN, 1865=1867
10d. WATERMARK EMBLEMS *i.e.* **FOUR FLOWERS. (S.G. No. 99)**

English Fiscal Postals Wanted.

S.G. No. 426, 2/- imperf.; 1871, perf., no wmk., 9d., 1/-; 1872, perf., blue paper, wmk. anchor, 2d., 2/6; 1882, perf., white paper, wmk Orbs, 2d., 9d.

Telegraphs.

LONDON DISTRICT TELEGRAPH CO.

1862, S.G. No 2, 4d. blue; No 4, 3d. greenish blue; No 5, 6d. vermilion.

UNITED KINGDOM TELEGRAPH CO.

1862, S.G. No 1, 3d., No 2, 6d., No 3, 1/-; 1863, int under control number, S.G. No 14, 1/6 green, No 15, 2/- brown.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH CO

1854, S.G. No 1, No 2, No 3; 1854-7, No 5, No 9, No 10, No 11, 3d., 1/6, 2/- perf. 14 to 15½.

Offers of the above (used or unused) will oblige. State price required.

Any really rare varieties in English WANTED, used or unused.
TRANSVAAL, S.G. Nos. 56, 57, 170. (And anything fine in British Colonials).

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 are desirous of purchasing for SPOT CASH,

Collections of any magnitude, and Single rare stamps, for which we are prepared to

Pay Highest Possible Prices.

We are *especially* in want of **any specialised collections** of countries, particularly unused

"Interchangeable Philatelic Albums."

We have much pleasure in announcing that we have received

A MEDAL WITH DIPLOMA

(This being the only Award given for Permanent Philatelic Albums alone) at the International Philatelic Exhibition, held in Mulhausen, Alsace, last Summer.

.....

We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 232.—Vol. IX

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30 1904

ONE PENNY.

MESSRS. GLENDINING & Co.,

Fine Art, Numismatic & Philatelic Auctioneers,

THE ARGYLL GALLERY,

7, ARGYLL ST., REGENT ST., W.

(Adjoining Oxford Circus Station)

Telegraphic Address: "NULLIFIED," London

Telephone No. 4424, GERRARD

Our next Sale of POSTAGE STAMPS



*Will be held on Thursday & Friday,
February 11th & 12th, 1904.*

SUPERB UNUSED Collection of ENGLISH STAMPS, (INCLUDING PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING) The finest ever offered at Auction.

Following Sales:

FEBRUARY 25th & 26th.

And every alternate THURSDAY and FRIDAY throughout the Season

MARCH 14th and 15th A FINE COLLECTION OF CARDS AND ENVELOPES.

Fine Art and Bric-à-brac Sale—17th & 18th February.

English Coins and War Medals—22nd, 23rd & 24th February.

COLLECTORS who intend to DISPOSE OF COLLECTIONS are advised to make early arrangements to secure advantageous dates of Sale.

**COINS,
MEDALS,**

**FINE ART PROPERTY,
JEWELLERY, ETC.**

**PAINTINGS,
ENGRAVINGS,**

**MINIATURES,
CHINA, ETC.**

**Promptly Catalogued
and offered for Sale.**

Liberal Cash Advances.

Prompt Settlements.

PERIODICAL SALES BY AUCTION OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

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

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY).

At the TEMPLE HOTEL, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.

(Close to the Philatelic Society's Rooms and the Temple Station on the District Railway.)

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their DATES of SALES for the ensuing Season are as follows:

1904.—FEBRUARY 4th & 5th. and 18th & 19th. MARCH 3rd & 4th and 17th & 18th
APRIL 7th & 8th. and 21st & 22nd. MAY 5th & 6th, and 19th & 20th.
JUNE 16th & 17th.

FEBRUARY 4th. & 5th. Very Fine Selection of British, Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps, also a few Collections.

MARCH 3rd & 4th.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that they have received instructions to sell by auction **A FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION** including the following rarities—

Western Australia, 1st issue, 4d. blue with inverted centre, an extreme rarity, only 7 or 8 specimens being known.
New South Wales, Sydney Views, 1d. red plate I, a superb unused block of 5, in mint state, unique.
Ceylon, wmk. Star, clean-cut perforation, 4d. and 8d. unused with gum and very fine, and many others.

CATALOGUES of all Sales may be obtained of

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

Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM, LONDON." Telephone Number. 3392 CENTRAL. ESTABLISHED 1761.

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.,

(Partners: H. W. PLUMRIDGE & J. H. TELPER).

STAMP AUCTIONEERS — AND —
COMMISSION AGENTS,
64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

OUR 189th. 190th. & 191st. SALES WILL BE HELD on
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY FEB. 2, 3, & 4,
In the Arbitration Room, 64, Chancery Lane, at 4.45 p.m. sharp.

Will include **A GOOD GENERAL COLLECTION,**
also a number of Wholesale Lots and Entire Collections.

The Following Sales on February 16 & 17 will include—

A Superb Collection of Colonials, in exceptionally fine condition.

CATALOGUE FREE—NOW READY.

FUTURE DATES—1904—March, 1 & 2; 15 & 16; 29 & 30. April 19 & 20 May 2 & 3; 17 & 18; 31, and June 1; 15 & 16.

Settlements within 14 days after sale.

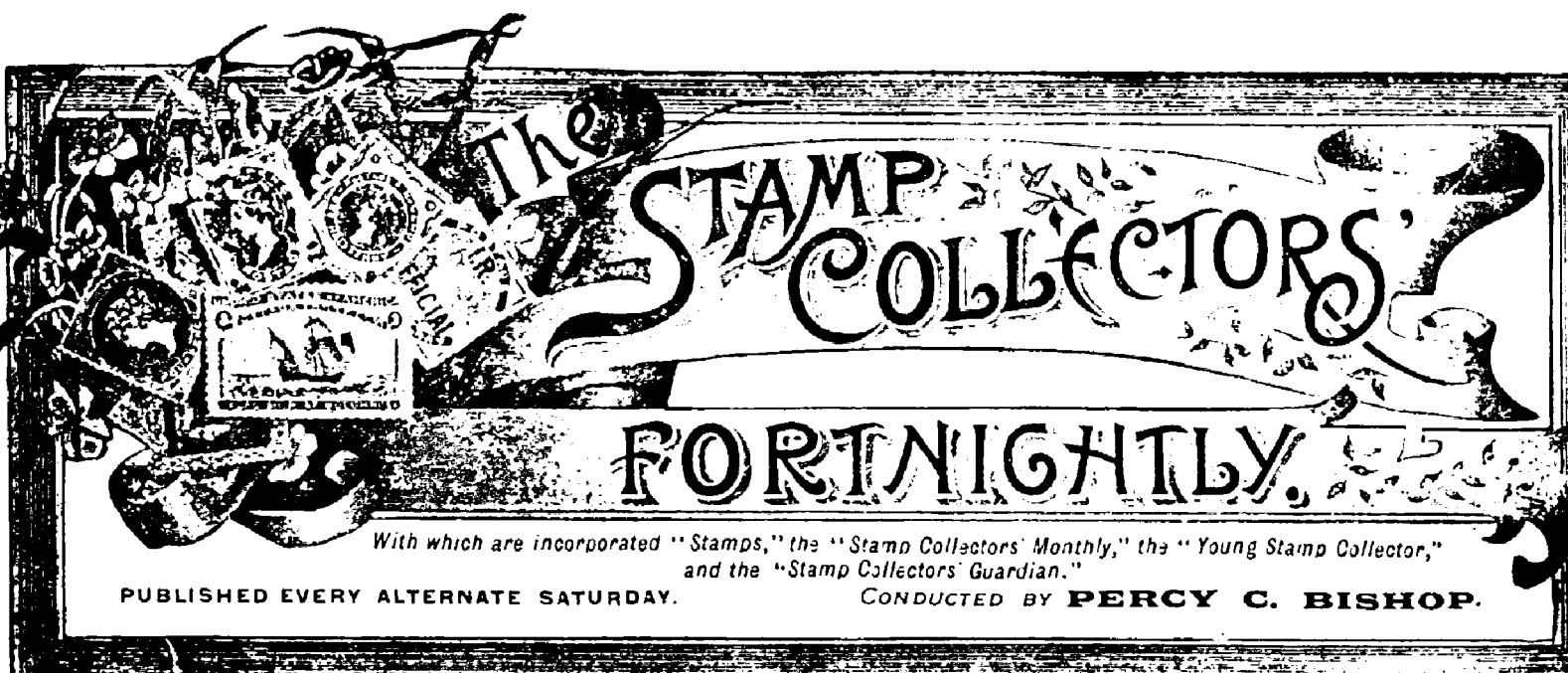
Commission 10 per cent. IMMEDIATE AND LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES.

Commissions executed for Clients unable to attend the sales WITHOUT charge and as much BELOW LIMITS as possible.

COMMISSION DEPARTMENT.—We can now accept buying commissions for all London Stamp Sales. Inclusive terms 5%.
All lots can fully examined previous to purchase.

Telegraphic Address: "PLUMVERE, LONDON."

Telephone: 3473, CENTRAL.



The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange, The Northern Stamp Exchange Society, The Stamp Exchange Protection Society, The Enterprise Philatelic Society, The One and All Stamp Club, The Palace Philatelic Exchange Society, The British Empire Stamp Exchange Club.

No 232.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1904.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

Hopeful Mr. Henniker Heaton.

One of the features of the colossal Twentieth Birthday Number of the "Financial News" is an article by Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., on "Postal Progress." In a paragraph relating to Imperial Penny Postage, Mr. Heaton indulges in a prophecy as to the early inclusion of Australia in the British Postal Zollverein.

"To-day," he writes, "all parts of the Empire, with the exception of Australia, are enjoying the blessings of Imperial Penny Postage, and while I write postal authorities and the Postmaster-General of England are using every effort to complete this work, which I believe will be accomplished in a few weeks."

The italics are ours.

Penny Imperial "Marconigrams" Next.

Mr. Henniker Heaton goes on to tell us of the things he thinks should still be done to make our postal system an ideal system. The central thought, he argues, is to annihilate distance as between the Mother Country and the various Colonies, and he hopes and believes that, with Marconi's aid,

we shall very soon speak to New Zealand as cheaply and quickly as we can to Ireland. "As we have penny postage we must have penny telegrams to all parts of the Empire."

Some New Catalogues and Lists.

Messrs. Bright and Son have issued a "Supplement to 5th Edition of the "A.B.C. Catalogue," bringing that valuable handbook quite up to date. The price of this interesting and well-illustrated addendum is 6d., or by post 7d., and every owner or user of an "A.B.C. Catalogue" should secure a copy forthwith. The illustrations are especially good.

From Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., comes a similar supplement to the Ipswich firm's well-known "Universal Standard Catalogue," of which, we believe an entirely new Edition may be expected in the course of the 1904-1905 season. The price of the Supplement in this case is three-pence.

An enterprising firm at Southport, Messrs. Spowarts and Co., are sending out a handy little price-list, quoting rates for Albums, Accessories and packets and sets of stamps. The "long cheap sets of stamps" listed in Messrs. Spowarts' price-current should be particularly attractive to the philatelist commencing and who desires to get together the common stamps quickly and in a convenient and comprehensive way.

The "Juniors' " Trip to the Museum.

Members of the Junior Philatelic Society will have to-day (January 30th) a change from the ordinary stamp society's meeting. Their scheme, in fact—and an excellent scheme too!—is to descend in a body on the British Museum, and enjoy a special view of the Tapling Collection of Stamps at that place. The visit is to be made at a quarter to three, and as there will be several distinguished philatelists present to show members and friends round, the occasion should prove most interesting and instructive. Visitors will be welcomed to join the members in the King's Library, British Museum from 2.15 to 3.30 p.m. The rarities (which are not usually on view) will be displayed to the members on this occasion. After the visit to the British Museum there will be a special meeting of the Dulwich Branch of the Society in the Imperial Hall, Grove Vale, East Dulwich, at eight o'clock.

The Philatelist's "Reasonable Motive."

The "Yorkshire Telegraph" devotes a whole editorial to "The Philatelic Hobby." Commenting on Mr. James Bonar's good fortune in selling a 2d. Mauritius stamp for £1450, this Sheffield journal very shrewdly writes:—

It is all very well for those who have never been infected with the philatelic germ to jeer at the hobby as fit only for babes and suckings, but the scoffers would be reduced to silence by a similar stroke of such extreme good luck.

Fortune of this character is so rare as to be almost unique, but from a casual glance at a stamp dealer's catalogue, it may be inferred that philately is one of the few hobbies which may be pursued not only for the pleasure which incontestably is derived from it by many persons, but also with a keen eye to the main chance.

That present day issues, and stamps which to-day possess so low a commercial value as to be inconsiderable, will ever reach the standard of the values attained by by-gone issues, is, in the highest degree improbable, but according to the evidence of an expert an album may be expected to double its value in ten years. That means a very handsome return upon investment, and the philatelist can show, at any rate, a more reasonable motive for his attachment than can be pleaded by the majority of hobby-hunters.

Stolen Stamps Restored.

A Paragraph in No. 231 of the *Fortnightly* appears to have pricked the conscience of "some person or persons unknown." We announced that a large block of penny reds had been stolen from Messrs. C. Nissen and Co's. premises in High Holborn, and shortly afterwards the stamps were pushed into the firm's letter box by some unknown hand—just the stamps themselves in a blank envelope, without a word of comment or explanation.

An Example to be followed.

Apropos of the above Messrs. Plumridge and Co., are wondering whether the example set by this repentant thief will be followed by the person or persons who 'attached' certain auction lots without waiting to go through the formality of having them knocked down to them by Mr. Auctioneer Teller. The lots in question (Nos. 534 and 535 in the sale catalogue) consisted of two books, containing 136 various Colonials, in mint pairs, cataloguing up to £13 12s. 3d., and the other a similar book containing 134 Colonials of the catalogue value of £12 16s. 4d. Messrs. Plumridge, we need scarcely say, will be obliged for any clue as to the present whereabouts of the missing stamps.

An "Annual" for Exchangers.

Something big in the way of an Annual Report is projected by Mr. R. T. Morgan, Secretary of the Palace Philatelic Exchange Society. In addition to the usual routine contents of an annual report, we are to have personal sketches of the various members of the "Palace" Society and a variety of articles on subjects calculated to interest exchange club members, such as our dear old friend, "Generatism v. Specialism," and so on. We wish the experiment all success.

Fiscalist and — Forger?

The police of Jersey City have arrested one Alfonso W. Castellano on charges of forgery. Whether or not Castellano is a member of "a well-known band of forgers," as the police assert, we cannot say, but the man is certainly known to philatelists both here and on the Continent: we hear that there are many dealers on this side who have been expecting rather anxiously to hear from this particular New Jerseyman. Castellano dealt extensively in Fiscals, we understand.

Bristol Philatelic Exhibition.—1904.

The members of the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society have resolved to hold a philatelic Exhibition at the Fine Arts Academy, Queen's Road, Clifton, Bristol, on March 7th, to 14th inclusive. A circular on the subject has been printed to send out to all members of that Club.

Space will be reserved for a limited number of Exhibitors outside the members of the Society.

It is confidently hoped that this, the first exhibition held in this City, will be a success and will arouse a greater interest in Philately in the West of England.

All communications relating to the Exhibition should be addressed to the Hon. Sec. of the Exhibition, Mr. G. Harrington, 139, Redland Road, Bristol.

From the Auction Rooms.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales.

Nov. 24th 25th, and 26th, & Dec. 8th and 9th, 1903.

Barbados, 1852-58, imperf., half of 1d. dull blue on bleute used as 3d. on original ...	1	0	0
Do. 1861-70, no wmk., rough perfs., 1/- blue, error, only nine copies believed to exist ...	23	0	0
Do. Ditto, imperf., 4d. dull vermilion, a pair, *	5	5	0
Do. 1870, wmk. large star, rough perf., 6d. orange-vermilion, mint ...	3	3	0
Do. Ditto, 1/- black, mint ...	2	12	6
Do. 1878, Provisionals, 1d. on half of 5/- rose, a pair, numeral 7mm., reading downwards ...	9	10	0
Do. Ditto, a single copy reading upwards, *	10	0	0
Bermuda, 1874, Three Pence in fancy capitals on 1d. rose, *	3	3	0
Grenada, 1881, wmk. broad-pointed star, 4d. blue, mint ...	2	8	0
Do. 1891, 2½d. on 8d. grey-brown, with double surcharge one inverted ...	2	17	6
Montserrat, 1884, wmk. CA., 4d. blue, * ...	3	3	0
Nevis, 1861, perf. 13, bleute paper, 1/- green, * ...	9	9	0
Do. 1878, perf. 15, lithographed, 6d. grey, mint ...	5	5	0
St. Vincent, 1861, perf. 11-12½ x 14-16, 1d. rose-red ...	2	15	0
Do. 1871-80, wmk. star, perf. 11 x 12½, 1/- claret, mint ...	2	17	6
Do. 1883-84, wmk. CA., perf. 12, ½d. orange, mint ...	7	10	0
Tobago, 1880, 1d. in MS. on half 6d. orange ...	2	2	0
Turks Island, 1893, ½d. on 4d. grey, mint ...	2	0	0
British Guiana, 1853, 1c. vermilion, * ...	6	0	0
Do. Ditto, 4c. blue, white line above value, * ...	4	0	0
Do. 1856, 4c. magenta, ...	14	0	0
Do. 1860, perf. 12, thick paper, 24c. deep green, *	12	0	0
British Honduras, 1888, 50 Cents on 1/- grey, *	2	2	0
Fiji, 1874-75, V.R. in fancy capitals, 2d. black on 12c. on 6d. rose ...	7	0	0
New South Wales, 1885-98, 10/- carmine and violet, with black surcharge, perf. 12½-13, mint ...	3	0	0
New Zealand, 1855, imperf., London print, half of 1/- green, used as 6d., on entire original ...	5	5	0
Do. 1856, blue paper, half of 1/- green, used as 6d., on entire original ...	5	5	0
Do. 1862-63, pelure paper, imperf., 1d. vermilion, *	4	12	6
Do. Ditto, 2d. lilac-blue, * ...	2	12	0
Do. 1862, Ditto, 6d. black-brown, ditto, ...	2	15	0
Do. 1864, wmk. N. Z., rouletted, 1/- green ...	2	0	0
Do. Ditto, 2d. orange, imperf. ...	1	0	0
Do. 1872, wmk. N. Z., 2d. vermilion, * ...	2	13	0
Queensland, 1864-79, wmk. Q. and crown, 2d. blue, perf. 13 x 12 ...	8	10	0
South Australia, 1871, perf. 10, wmk. V. and Crown, 4d. purple, * ...	15	0	0
Do. 1887-93, perf. 10, £10 bronze, mint state ...	8	0	0
Tasmania, 1853, 4d. red-orange, * ...	4	4	0
Do. 1856-58, no wmk., 1d. brown-red, pelure paper *	4	12	6
Do. 1864-70, rouletted, 2d. yellow-green, ...	2	7	6
Do. Ditto, 6d. grey-lilac, ...	2	5	0
Do. Ditto, 1/- vermilion ...	1	0	0
Victoria, 1850, 1d. pale-red, type a, a pair, * ...	4	5	0
Do. Ditto, 2d. lilac, type a, with fine background ...	3	10	0
Do. 1857-63, wmk. star, rouletted, 1d. yellow-green ...	3	0	0
Do. 1862, wmk. words, 6d. orange ...	6	6	0
Do. 1864, 2d. lilac, wmk. 6, * ...	1	10	0
Do. 1867-82, 4d. rosine, * ...	2	0	0
Do. 1901, without "Postage," 5/- carmine and blue, a block of 4, mint ...	2	2	0
Do. Fiscal Postals, 1884-85, £5, £6, £7, £8, £9 and £10, all postmarked ...	3	17	6
Do. Ditto, £25 green, ditto ...	1	11	0
Do. Ditto, £50 purple, ditto, ...	1	14	0
Do. Ditto, £100 carmine, ditto ...	2	2	0
Western Australia, 1861, wmk. swan, rough perfs., 6d. purple on bleute, * ...	4	4	0
Do. Ditto, 1/- dark green, * ...	6	0	0
Do. Ditto, semi-rough perfs., 4d. vermilion, * ...	2	2	0
Do. 1865, wmk. CC., perf. 12½, 2d. mauve, error, * ...	10	15	0
Do. 1875, One Penny, in green on 2d. yellow, with triple surcharge ...	2	15	0

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co's Sales,
December 10th and 11th, 1903.

Siam, 1 tical (Gibbons 8) ...	1 9 0
Straits Settlements, 8c. on 12c. blue (Gibbons 69). *	1 3 0
Niger Coast, 1/2d. on 2 1/2d. (Gibbons 13) ...	1 2 0
Do. 1/2d. on 2 1/2d. (Gibbons 15). mint ...	1 7 0
Do. 1/- on 2d. (Gibbons 28) ...	1 9 0
Dominican Republic, 1902. 50c. black and brown, with inverted centre, mint ...	1 4 0
New Zealand, 1862, 3d. mauve ...	1 10 0
Tasmania, 1864-69, serrated perf. 19, 1d., *	1 5 0
Victoria, 1862, 2d. slate, wmk. figure 2. *	1 2 0

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.'s Sales,
December 15th. and 16th., 1903.

British Central Africa, 1891. £10 brown, ...	2 0 0
British Guiana, 1852. 1c. magenta. ...	2 17 6
Canada, 1852, thick paper, 10d. blue, ...	1 6 0
Ceylon, 1861, star, rough perfs, 8d. yellow-brown, ...	3 0 0
Do. 1863-67, CC. 12 1/2. 4d. rose, a mint block of 4 ...	1 6 0
Do. Ditto, 8d. red-brown, a mint block of 4 ...	1 18 0
Mauritius, 1877, One shilling on 5/-, ...	1 0 0
North Borneo, 1886-89, perf. 12. 1c. orange (S.G. 37), fine used, rare ...	1 5 0
Orange River Colony, 1900. V R 1., First print, 3d. figure of value omitted in block of 6. mint ...	2 4 0
Do. Ditto, ditto, 6d. value omitted, in strip of 3 ...	2 4 0
Do. Ditto, ditto, 1/- value omitted, mint ...	2 6 0
Do. Ditto, ditto, 1d. purple, letter I omitted, in mint pair, with normal stamp ...	2 2 0
Do. Ditto, ditto, same variety in strip of three, mint ...	2 0 0
Victoria, Postal Fiscals. £50 and £100 postal cancellations...	3 17 6
Virgin Islands, 1899. 3d. green, the two errors two copies of each, on entire ...	1 10 0
Do. Ditto, 3d. the error HALF, 2 copies, and the rare error Four PENNY, on entire ...	5 10 0

Messrs. J. SCOTT & Co.'s Sale
of the "W. A. SMITH" Collection, (U.S.A.)
Oct. 26, 27, 28 & 29. Nov 30. Dec. 1, 2 & 3, 1903.

United States, St. Louis, 1846. 10c. grey-lilac, type III ...	16 16 0
Do. do. U.S.A., 1847, diagonal half of 10c. black, used as 5c. on original ...	7 16 0
Do. do. 1851, 24c. lilac, * ...	10 1 0
Do. do. 1851, 5c. red-brown, horizontal strip of 3 on original ...	4 16 0
Do. do. 1857, 5c. brown, type II., a block of four, *	3 0 0
Do. do. 1867, 3c. rose, grilled all over, a block of 4. *	14 4 0
Do. do. 1868, 5c. indigo, imperf. block of four, *	4 6 0
Do. do. 1894, no wmk. 3c. purple, imperf. block of 4 *	4 12 0
Do. do. 1894, no wmk. 4c. brown, imperf. block of 4 *	5 8 0
Do. do. Ditto, ditto, 6c. red-brown, imperf. horizontally, strip of 3. *	6 12 0
Do. do. Ditto, ditto, 10c. green, imperf. block of 4. *	6 16 0
Do. do. State, 5d. green and black, * ...	16 0 0
Do. do. New York, 1846, 3c. blue, wove on original ...	3 13 0
Do. do. Newspaper, 1879, 9d. orange, * ...	2 0 0
Do. do. Ditto, ditto, 12d. green, * ...	2 8 0
Do. do. Envelopes, 1863, 2c. black and buff, small figure 2, entire, * ...	10 12 0
Confederate States, Athens, Ga., 5c. dull purple, pair showing both varieties on original ...	9 16 0
Do. do. Ditto, 5c. dull purple ...	4 8 0
Do. do. Baton Rouge, 5c. green on carmine, on original ...	9 0 0
Do. do. Salem, N.C., envelope, type 1. 5c. black on buff, entire ...	6 0 0
Antigua, 1862, no wmk., 6d. yellow-green, pair, imperf., *	3 2 0
Argentine Republic, Official, 1884, 3c. brown, *	2 1 0
Do. do. Official, 1884, red 90c. blue ...	1 12 0
Austria, Newspaper Tax stamps, 1850, 4kr. brown ...	1 0 0
Azores, 1868, imperf. 5r. black, * ...	8 8 0
Do. 1868, imperf. 80r. orange, * ...	3 12 0
Bavaria, Delivery Tax Stamps, 1876, perf. 11 1/2, 10pf. grey, pair, the left hand stamp is the variety "Zahlbar" ...	2 13 0
Benin, 1892, 75c. on 15c. blue, red surcharge ...	2 0 0
Bermuda, 1874, Fancy type, 3d. on 1/- green, * ...	2 3 0

Bolivia, 1871, 500c. black, * ...	3 17 0
Brazil, 1843, 90r. black, * ...	2 0 0
Do. 15r. black ...	2 2 0
British East Africa, 1893, 50r. lilac ...	3 5 0
British Guiana, 1862, rouletted 1c. pink, pearls, roulette ...	6 16 0
British Honduras, 1888, perf. 14, 10c. on 4d. violet, small type, surcharge inverted ...	10 6 0
British Bechuanaland, Protectorate, 1889, 3d. green and black, double surcharge ...	3 8 0
Brunswick, 1863, perce en arc, 3/4gr. black, * ...	5 9 0
Do. 1863, 3/4gr. rose, pair, * ...	4 2 0
Canada, 1859, imperf. 17c. blue, a pair, * ...	1 17 0
Cape of Good Hope, 1873, the ce pence on 4d. blue...	2 0 0
China, 1897, 1d. on 3c. red, both types, * ...	2 6 0
Colombian Republic, 1863, 50c. red, error of colour ...	15 0 0
Do. do. 1870, laid batonne paper, 2 1/2c. violet, unused pair, showing both types, * ...	2 10 0
Antioquia, 1868, 2 1/2c. blue ...	8 8 0
Do. 5c. green ...	8 14 0
Do. 1878, 10c. violet ...	2 13 0
Do. Tolima, 1887, imperf. 2 pesos violet, error without numerals in corners, and diagonal half of the regular 2p. stamp * ...	2 11 0
Do. Ditto, ditto, 5 pesos orange-red, * ...	1 14 0
Congo, 1895, 10c. blue and black, inverted centre, * ...	2 2 0
Do. Postal Packet stamps, 1867, 3f. 50c. lilac, inverted surcharge * ...	4 4 0
Do. Ditto, 1888, blue surcharge, 3f. 50c., pair *, one with inverted, the other with double, surcharge ...	2 10 0
Cuba, 1856, yellow paper, 2 1/2p. orange-red, a pair, *	5 6 0
Danish West Indies, 1873, 14c. lilac and green, * ...	1 16 0
Dominican Republic, 1883, 5c. on 2c. red and 5c. on 5c. blue, * ...	2 0 0
Do. do. 10c. on 5c. blue, 50c. on 5c. blue, types A and C, all * ...	2 2 0
Falkland Islands, 1873, 3d. dark grey, * ...	1 12 0
Fernando Po, 1868, 20c. brown ...	1 8 0
Do. do. 1884, 50c. on 5c. blue ...	2 0 0
Fiji Islands, 1871, laid paper, 1sh pink, on original cover with U.S. 10c. 1872 ...	3 4 0
France, 1849, 10c. bistre, pair tete beche, used on cover, with 20c. orange ...	13 12 0
Do. 1849, 20c. blue, error, * ...	1 10 0
Do. 1853, perf. 1f. lake, tete beche ...	26 0 0
Do. Zanzibar, 1891, 2 1/2a. on 4c. claret, *	1 6 0
Do. Ditto, 5a. on 20c. red, * ...	1 11 0
Do. Ditto, 10a. on 40c. red, * ...	2 1 0
French Colonies, 1879, 25c. red, a pair ...	5 4 0
Gabon, 1886, 25c. on 75c. carmine ...	1 16 0
Germany, Alsace and Lorraine, 1870, inverted network, 1c. olive-green, * ...	1 16 0
Great Britain, 1882, Anchor, 45 orange ...	2 1 0
Do. do. 1893, 2 6 lilac on bluish, * ...	3 2 0
Do. do. Levant, 1893, 40p. vermilion, * ...	2 16 0
Grenada, 1888, 4d. on 2sh. orange, pair, showing both slanting and upright D, * ...	6 0 0
Do. Unpaid, 2d. on 6d. red-lilac, * ...	1 8 0
Guinea, 1899, 200R. orange ...	1 8 0
Hanover, 1859, 10gr. green, a pair, * ...	7 4 0
Hawaiian Islands, 1853, thin bluish wove paper, 5c. blue, *, a pair ...	2 1 0
Do. do. 1893, black surcharge, 12c. red-lilac, a block of 4 ...	8 0 0
Do. do. 1d. rose-red, a block of 4 ...	2 4 0
Do. do. Errors, 1c. green, double surcharge, block of 4, * ...	2 8 0
Do. do. 1c. green, a pair, 1 without surcharge, * ...	7 4 0
Do. do. 5c. ultramarine, inverted surcharge, * ...	4 2 0
Do. do. 15c. brown, double surcharge, * ...	1 10 0
Heligoland, 1879, perf. 11 1/2, 5m. blue-green and rose-red, pair, imperf. between, * ...	6 2 0
India, 1866, 2a. violet, black surcharge ...	2 9 0
Gwalior, 1885, 1R. grey, * ...	2 18 0
Jhind State, 1886, red surcharge, 1R. grey, * ...	2 6 0
Do. do. Black Surcharge, 5R. violet and blue, * ...	1 17 0
Italy, 1851, 5c. black, a pair, * ...	2 2 0
Do. 1851, 40c. rose, a block of four, * ...	5 16 0
Jamaica, 1890, 2 1/2 on 4l. orange-brown, strip of three, double surcharge, * ...	2 8 0
Lahuan, 1880, 8c. on 12c. carmine, original value obliterated by pen, * ...	3 6 0
Lagos, 1885, 5/- blue, * ...	5 0 0
Do. 10/- brown-violet, * ...	11 4 0
Liberia, 1860, imperf. 6c. red, * ...	2 2 0
Do. 12c. blue, * ...	2 2 0
Luxemburg Official, S.P., 1883, 5fr. brown-orange, * ...	3 2 0

(To be continued.)

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

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Who Bought it? Do you know?

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, it now appears, was not the purchaser of the £1450 Mauritius; but it was purchased by "a prominent and wealthy member of society for presentation to the Prince." This is a distinction without being much of a difference, for the stamp will still go into the splendid Colonial Collection of our future King. Like many other periodicals and newspapers, the *Fortnightly* was led into making a definite statement that the Prince was the purchaser by the very positive assertions of one of the halfpenny morning papers. Mr. Justice Jeune once defined journalism as "literature in a hurry." It is literature in a sight too much of a hurry in the case of these "enterprising" halfpenny sheets, and it will be some time before we are caught trusting to their information again!

Our Essay Competition has reached its time limit, and we hope soon to announce the result, and the awards of prizes. It would be idle to pretend that the results come up to our expectations—they do not. We had hoped to receive a great many more manuscripts. On the other hand what the attempts lack in quantity they do most certainly make up in quality, many very meritorious manuscripts having reached us in connection with the competition.

Neither Used or Unused is a description that sounds puzzling, but if it be stated that the words are used in a strictly postal sense the riddle is readily solved. The Rev. C. H. Lowe, in an interesting letter to the *Fortnightly*, writes on the subject of the stamp that is bank-cancelled or otherwise obliterated in a non-postal manner. The matter, as our correspondent deals with it, is one of no small interest:

On the sheets of Stamp Exchange Clubs one now and then comes across a scarce variety of stamp, neither unused nor postally used, but which has been stamped with the receipt stamp of some bank or business firm. If the stamp were a common one, I suppose most people would let it alone, but it seems to be another matter when it is the case of a stamp that is not often turning up.

Perhaps an illustration will best explain. On one of the sheets of a certain Exchange Club, sent to me, there was a 2 - Queensland (Stanley Gibbons, No 131), perf. 13, stamped with a printed receipt stamp dated Sept. 1, 1883, and priced at 3.6 (gross). I took the stamp at that price, because it seemed to me better to have such a specimen than no representative at all of this variety; but what the real worth of such a stamp is, is another question.

A short article on this subject would be of much value to me, and possibly to many of the *Fortnightly's* readers, as there must be many beginners who find it difficult to know what to do in such cases, or how to price such stamps.

Theoretically, we suppose a bank-cancelled stamp, or a stamp that is obliterated otherwise than by the post office, is of no value whatever to a postage-stamp collector. But to such a rule there must be exceptions. The 2d. "Post Office" Mauritius, sold the other day for £1450, would undoubtedly be an exception. No one will attempt to deny that any specimen of that extremely rare stamp, in whatever manner it might be obliterated, would be accepted by the most fastidious philatelist. Descending from this obvious exception where shall we draw the line? At what level of catalogue value does a stamp become so very desirable that almost any sort of specimen will content us? The matter is one which must, in the nature of things, be regarded differently by different people. What do readers of the *Fortnightly* think?

The Perfect Stamp.

TWO VOICES IN THE "MONTHLY JOURNAL,"

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly's* reviewer, whose paragraph follows my contribution on the "The Perfect Stamp" in the issue of January 2nd, has not dived quite deeply enough into his "Monthly Journal." His extracts from Major Evans' article are pertinent enough, but further on, there is one equally important note by Mr. Phillips, the Managing Director of Stanley Gibbons' Limited. For purposes of comparison I append extracts from both, placing them side by side:—

Major Evans in Editorial on Mr. C. J. Phillips in Notes and Original Gum, page 110. News, page 124.

We are glad to see signs of a revolt against the worship of the fetish (for fetish it is) entitled ORIGINAL GUM. We have protested before now against the exclusive cult of the unused . . .

A poor unused stamp possesses one advantage over a used one, namely, that it is still available for postage, it can be employed for that purpose; if it has gum on the back it has the further advantage that it can be stuck on a letter without recourse to the gum bottle, and in our opinion these are its only advantages. To gravely discuss the difficulty of distinguishing genuine gum from false really seems to us a *reductio ad absurdum* if the stamp is a beautiful mint copy it matters nothing what sort of gum it has on the back.

"A superb investment." We have for sale a Collection of British and Colonial stamps quite unique in its nature, and offering in our opinion, one of the best opportunities of a really first class investment that we have come across for many years. This collection has been made by one who set himself the following rules:—

1st. Every stamp must be mint, with original gum . . . The stamps are in the finest possible condition. We are quite unable to give a list of them but there are such little gems as 1/- Nova Scotia; 1/- New Brunswick, etc. Not bad things in this extra mint condition . . . The appreciation of condition is telling more every year . . . In a Collection such as the one I describe above where every single stamp is a thing of beauty and a joy for ever one cannot lose; it should return its owner in a few years a very handsome profit.

Here, then, we have the ounce of fact versus the pound of theory, and in this matter, as in others, facts will prevail. Mr. Phillips knows his market and what will sell to his clients, who are keen buyers of interesting stamps that as an investment, also justify the collector in acquiring them—stamps that will gratify a taste for collecting without a hopeless sinking of money. These stamps rarely come on the market and are rapidly taken up, for the reason pointed out in my previous article—viz., that earlier collectors invariably stuck their stamps right in the albums.

On one other point I join issue with Major Evans, and that is, that by describing a stamp as "mint, o.g" we do not mean a "poor soiled unused stamp" that has reposed in a waistcoat pocket for many days, but one bright and clean—in fact in the condition of its original issue from the Post Office.

H. W.

The Post Office authorities in Paris have now placed in circulation a new reply-paid pneumatic card. These letters, which are sent by pneumatic tube to the post-office nearest the address, are at once delivered by the telegraphic messengers. With the reply-paid petits bleus the messenger will, if necessary, wait and take back the answer to the post-office, whence it will be sent by pneumatic tube to the office nearest its destination.

There has been a further hearing of the charges against James Edwards and James Taylor, the two men charged with the "philatelic burglary" at the house of Mr. Frederick Surry, at Hackney, as a result of which Mr. Fordham, the North London Magistrate, committed them for trial and specially commended Chief Inspector Fox for his cleverness in arresting the men.

Our Busiest Exchange Club Secretary.

A CHAT WITH MR. F. A. WICKHART, OF THE "NORTHERN."

Philatelist, Journalist, and Printer—The Work of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

We think there are few Philatelists who are not familiar with the name of Mr. Frederick A. Wickhart, Secretary of that most successful organisation, the Northern Stamp Exchange. Some idea of the importance of the Northern Club as a factor in Philately may be gleaned from the round figures of Mr. Wickhart's monthly packets. These at the present time average £2900 per month, and the sales therefrom are from 15 per cent to 25 per cent of the total. The January 1904 packets total in the aggregate to £2859. There are three sections:—Colonial £1533; General £924; Medium £402.

The "Northern," however, is not Mr. Wickhart's only sphere of philatelic activity. He is also Secretary of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society, an association not so well known—publicly—as the "Northern" Exchange Club for the good and sufficient reason that the chosen work of the S.E.P.S. is to check the career of the philatelic wrong 'un and to protect Exchange Secretaries throughout the three kingdoms against the dirty machinations of that most contemptible trickster, the Exchange Club substituter.

As a journalist, Mr. Wickhart edits "Spare Moments," one of the oldest and most reputable of penny periodicals, and as every reader of the *Fortnightly* must be aware, he is also a philatelic printer.

"The 'Northern' members now number 270," said Mr. Wickhart, in the course of a recent chat. "Not bad, I think? But this number, I must tell you includes many members living abroad who contribute sheets."

"No"—anticipating a question on this point—"the packets are never sent out of the United Kingdom, so there is no danger of their being lost or tampered with abroad."

"Have you ever lost a sheet or a packet, Mr. Wickhart?"

"No; although we have been next door to it. When the October Colonial packet left London on the 8th December it contained 31 sheets. It reached a Bradford member on the 10th and he despatched it to the next on the postal list—a gentleman at Cork. This member on opening the parcel discovered 30 sheets only—one sheet of the value of £139 odd (No 31 in the parcel when it was in London) being found missing. Notwithstanding the great value of the Northern packets, neither the London nor the Bradford member appeared to have checked the sheets before and after purchasing, so that the whereabouts of the missing sheet remained a mystery up to the middle of January, when it was found by the Bradford member, tucked comfortably away with some law papers in a Deed Box. It seemed that the member examined the packet at his office while the Deed Box remained open, and in replacing the legal documents in the box he included the £131 sheet of stamps; of course had he checked the sheets before he posted the packet the trouble would not have occurred. His neglect to do so has mulct him in the expenses incurred in making enquiries (£1 2s. 6d) so it is to be hoped this Bradford member will be more careful in future."

"Is that the only experience of the kind you have had?" we asked.

"No," replied Mr. Wickhart, "a similar thing happened about 8 years ago. A sheet was missing when a packet reached a Birmingham member, but was fortunately found by the preceding member in one of his albums, where he had placed it temporarily when comparing some stamps upon it with a corresponding series in his own collection."

"You still adhere to the 50 per cent system of pricing in your Exchange packets, Mr. Wickhart?"

"Yes, and I believe it to be the best, both for vendors and purchasers," was the emphatic reply. "The only real objection I have to the net system is that members are tempted to price their stamps at about 90 per cent of Gibbons' quotations with the result that few sales are made. To price stamps at Gibbons' prices *net* when the vast majority can be bought at considerably less, simply spells "Finis" to an Exchange Club; and as I am determined to maintain the reputation of the 'Northern' as being the best Exchange in the country—perhaps in the world—I am going to stick to the 50 per cent system."

"It is, I admit, farcical to price an article at double the figure

one asks for it, but it has the effect of keeping prices to a reasonable basis, bearing in mind the condition of the market. Mind you, there is no compulsion on a member to price at Gibbons' or at anybody's prices: all he has to remember is that the prices marked on the sheets are *Exchange* prices. If he wants cash for his stamps he must bear in mind that 50 per cent. is deducted from those prices. Some collectors run away with the idea that 50 per cent. means *half* of Gibbons' prices. Nothing of the kind. If it did, it would imply that a collector would only get about 3/3 for a mint 5/- stamp of Lagos, or some other Colony. In such cases a member of course prices such a stamp at a figure that will give him a fair profit over the face value, *after deducting the 50 per cent.* I wish you could make that point clear, once and for all!"

We next sought Mr. Wickhart's opinion on the best class of stamps to buy—those with the most promising future.

"Old Colonials," was the emphatic reply. "These in my opinion will always hold first place in the collector's affections. There are far too many stamps in existence of the issues since about 1800 for them to become rare. Up to that time collectors were satisfied with one unused and one used (if they could get them), but since then blocks and sheets have been the "order of the day" with the well-to-do collectors, and as the stamps are constantly cropping up at auction and elsewhere, their chances of ever becoming as valuable as the older Colonials are, in my opinion, very remote. For my own part I take more interest in West Indian and West African Colonials than in any other group, because a complete collection of most of the Colonies in those parts can be got together, and they certainly make interesting pages for "show" purposes."

"West Indians' will, I feel confident, return to their former favourite position when the collections thrown on the market, owing to the deaths of Officer-Collectors during the recent war, have been absorbed. Then it will be found that collectors who have been filling up gaps in their collections during the past 3 or 4 years have made good investments. Other favourite pages with me, are the early issues of Straits Settlements, especially the figure engravings, (which I think are much scarcer in unused condition than Gibbons' catalogue would lead collectors to imagine); Indian Native States overcharged on Indian stamps; and Ceylon. This latter possession certainly requires several pages all to itself but the beauty of the peace issues, particularly in mint condition, is much to be preferred to the stereotypes of the Rue de la Rive des Saussaies.

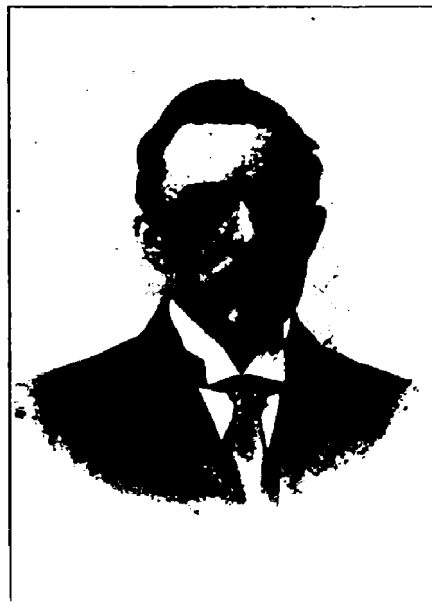
"In 'Stamps' about three years ago, if you remember, I contributed a series of articles on stamps which I considered were then worth more than Catalogue value and which would, I thought, prove a good investment at the prices then ruling. If you compare my lists with the present day quotations you will see how far my predictions have been verified. The question as to whether it is wise for collectors to buy heavily obliterated stamps is one, I think, that must depend upon the position of the collector. Of course lightly postmarked copies are the best investment, but to a person of small means, I say a heavily post-marked specimen is better than none at all. Damaged stamps are hardly worth buying at any price. Although I collect only unused stamps myself, a collection of superb used copies is probably more interesting, because the stamps have performed the service for which they were issued.

"Which do you think is really the best way of disposing of duplicates, Mr. Wickhart?—Exchange Clubs or Auctions?"

"For immediate realization, and provided the auctioneers pay up promptly, why of course the auction sale; but if the collector who is selling off is in no hurry for his cash, but wishes to sell to the best advantage, then Exchange Clubs are better, even for fairly good stamps. There are always plenty of buyers in the "Northern" for good stamps at reasonable prices. So there are at auction, but the auction room is, broadly speaking, the dealers' mart—the Exchange Club is the Collectors'. See?"

"What about the work of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society?" we asked, going off at a tangent. "Is that 'going strong' also?"

(Concluded on page cxii.)



MR. F. A. WICKHART

Our Review of Reviews.

Some West Indian Place-Names.

The derivations of the principal place names in the West Indies, as given in a recent issue of "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News," are of some interest to stamp collectors:

"St Christopher, or St. Kitts, as it is now generally called, was named (remarks our contemporary) after the Christian name of Columbus. Dominica carries in its name an illusion to the fact that it was discovered on a Sunday (dies Dominica). St. Vincent was named because of its discovery on the day devoted to that saint; Guadeloupe was so called after the famous monastery of that name in Estremadura, and Grenada is merely the French form, Granada. The Virgin Isles were so named in honour of the 11,000 virgins commemorated by the Roman Church, the number, smallness and beauty of the isles probably having suggested the fanciful name. The Island of Trinidad plainly suggests the Holy Trinity, and carries the reader of to-day back to the violent storm in which Columbus was tossed in 1498, and his vow to name the first land that he sighted in honour of the Holy Trinity."

WHAT IS AN "INTERVERTED" SURCHARGE?

In a later number of "Mekeel" we find an interesting note on what is described as an "interverted" surcharge.

A French paper (we read) calls our attention to an interverted surcharge. If we mistake not, this will prove a new term to the average philatelist. It may be well to give a definition that will impress itself upon the reader's mind. Accordingly, we quote our contemporary: "An interverted surcharge is one in which the words of the surcharge are placed in wrong order, and may arise either through carelessness of the compositor, or, more probably, through 'off-center' printing. Similarly a stamp watermarked 'C. A. over Crown,' instead of Crown over C. A., is an interverted watermark." Though not quite so catchy in its meaning as "mint," the new word will no doubt find a permanent place in our dictionary.

The British "Express Delivery" Label.

Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, in his always readable "London Letter" for the "American Journal of Philately," has been asking why certain British stamps or labels are entirely neglected while their exact counterparts in foreign countries are collected with avidity. He refers specially to the scarlet label used for British "Express Delivery" letters, and to the "Paid" stamps impressed upon mail matter that is prepaid in bulk.

A good deal of attention in a quiet way has lately been called to Express Delivery stamps (writes Mr. Nankivell). You have on your side an elaborate Special Delivery label. It is collected as a postage stamp, and it is, of course, catalogued and illustrated. Other countries have Special Delivery or Express Delivery stamps, and they, too, are chronicled and catalogued and collected, but I have never heard of any one dreaming even of collecting or cataloguing our English label for Express Delivery of letters and parcels by post. It is not it is true, a thing of beauty when placed alongside your own Special Delivery stamp. But I should like to know where the difference lies in the claims to catalogue rank.

ALSO THE BRITISH OFFICIAL "PAID" OBLITERATIONS.

Again (goes on the same writer), if "officials" are collectable and entitled to catalogue rank, why are the official "paid" stamps omitted? I refer to the dated postmarks with the word "Paid" and the amount, 3d. or 1d. added thereto. They may be regarded as only envelope stamps, but they are as much an acknowledgement of postage paid as an adhesive stamp. Still, I never heard anybody collecting them or dreaming of adding them to our bulky catalogues. I do not hold a brief for their inclusion, on the contrary, I would omit all their kind, or, what is better, relegate them to a separate catalogue.

But, apart from any question of catalogue rank, it has often struck me that our dated postmark "paid" stamps are full of interest and variety. Most towns seem to have their own variety of the circular stamp. In some the figures are small, in others they are large. In some the word "Paid" is in bold letters across the centre, in others it is in a curve at the bottom. I suppose some day some enthusiast will start booming these labels, and then we shall wonder why they were ever neglected. They are plentiful enough, for whenever a large firm sends out a few thousand circulars it pays the postage in

bulk, and the post office officials stamp on each packet the amount paid and the date of posting. And there are many varieties even in each town, but the date on each stamp tells its own history of each change of type. There are also some labelled "Official paid." I enclose you one of these latter for reproduction as a curiosity, since it is an official paid stamp. If all official stamps were of a similar character, some of our friends would not have gotten into such trouble as they have recently.

Plymouth Philatelic Exhibition.

"A COMPLETE AND UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS"

One of the occasional philatelic exhibitions organised and arranged by the Plymouth Philatelic Society, was held on Wednesday, January 13, in the rooms of the Traders' Association, Bedford-street, Plymouth, and attracted numerous visitors.

The society is to be congratulated upon an exhibition which was from every point of view a complete and unqualified success. Those congratulations are the more deserved in that all the expense connected with the exhibition falls on the members of the society, admission being by complimentary tickets. Major D. H. Hailes, R.M.L.I., the hon. secretary of the society, and Mr. H. Scott Tucker, who acted as Exhibition Secretary, are to be felicitated on the results of their endeavours to popularise Philately in the West Country.

Baron de Worms exhibited his fine collection of Ceylon; Mr. E. Heginbottom, B.A., sent down his British Africans—a remarkable display—and also a fine exhibit of English, including Officials. Mrs. Livingston, a Torouay member of the society showed her collection of Shanghai, and Dr. C. E. Russell Rendle exhibited small but fine selections of mint Colonials, comprising Newfoundland, Canada, British East Africa and British South Africa.

Special Christmas Postmarks.

BY E. HEGINBOTTOM, B.A.

Readers of the *Fortnightly* will remember that, at Christmas, 1902, my own town of Rochdale was singled out as the scene of an interesting experiment in the delivery of Christmas Cards. Letters posted in advance for delivery on Christmas morning were dealt with in a special manner, and the stamps thereon were given a special obliteration.

This last Christmas the area of the scheme was extended to Manchester, Bolton and other important centres.

The postmark used in Rochdale for Christmas 1903 varied from those employed at Christmas, 1902. For instance, inside the oval frame of the obliteration appears the letters "RO." Other towns also used letters indicating the place of use, such as "MR" for Manchester.

Another change is in the colour. Last year all the 1d. red stamps were obliterated in black, and the 1d. green in red; but at this last Christmas there was one uniform postmark—in red, strangely enough for both 1d. and 1d. stamps.

At Manchester, on the other hand, all the obliterations were in black. One of these Manchester Xmas postmarks in my possession can only be called a "freak," because it appears on a letter which was addressed to Rochdale, whereas under the rules the special Xmas obliterating stamp was not meant to be used for any address outside certain boundaries of the city of Manchester. This doubtless escaped the notice of the stamper during the extremely busy times they had in the P.O. at the festive season. Hence he evidently first stamped the letter with the special obliteration, then finding out that the letter was for Rochdale, he again obliterated it with the ORDINARY Manchester obliteration. The first or special obliteration ought clearly never have been affixed at all.

The White Star liners in future are to carry sea post-offices and postal staff. The mails will be sorted ready for delivery on reaching port. The first vessel equipped is the *Oceanic*, which sailed this week.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

Rate : 3 Words a Penny.

6 insertions for the price of 5.
12 insertions for the price of 9.
26ins. (whole year) for price of 18

FISCALS.—Those wishing to sell, purchase, or exchange Revenue Stamps should communicate with SECRETARY, Fiscal Club, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London.

ANY single stamp at wholesale price. Selections, priced low; sent on approval. Discount and handsome present to purchasers.—L.VY, 38, Gracechurch street, London.

"BRITISH EMPIRE" EXCHANGE. Two packets monthly. References. Prompt settlements monthly. Reports in this Paper.—Secretary, H. BEAN, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

ADVERTISER offers a large number of British Colonial Stamps, each country in separate books. Specimens priced singly below half Gibbons. Nearly all the old and rarest issues complete, many mint. Also small approval books of mixed Colonials at one-third to two-fifths Gibbons. Finest copies only. Any book on approval in Great Britain or abroad. References.—Box 134, c.o. *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

"UNUSED" STAMP EXCHANGE. For unused stamps exclusively. Rules, particulars on application. Secretary, H. BEAN, 164 Loughborough Park, London.

WANTED early Transvaals for cash or in exchange for other Colonials. High prices paid for red and inverted surcharges, wide spacings, errors and curios. J. WESTHORN, 13 Regents Park Road, London.

10,000 Various Stamps, assorted values, collected from Africa, America, Asia, Australia, Europe, West Indies, Bargain 46 the lot. N. HILLIER, Horsmonden.

HAMPSHIRE STAMP EXCHANGE. Few good collectors wanted. No subscription. Secretary, S. H. TOOLE, Arthur Rd. N., Southampton.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE. The Editor of the *Fortnightly* desires to add to his collection of philatelic works (English language only). Lists with lowest cash prices invited. Address P.C.B., *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* Office, 63 and 64 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

PRIVATE Collector is selling English Foreign Colonial used and unused Envelopes, Postcards, etc. Half to twentieth catalogue (Bright). Please correspond letter only. PARRY, 35 Parade, Pontypridd, Glamorgan.

COLLECTOR offers a fine selection of Colonial and Foreign stamps, all moderately priced. Also British Colonies arranged in separate countries. Approval books sent to reasonable collectors. References required. Box 215, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 63/4 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

WEST Indians and Africans, a large quantity of; very cheap for cash or exchange. Box 252, c.o. *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

TRANSVAAL, Orange River Colony, Swaziland, &c., &c.—To responsible collectors and after receipt of Want List, I offer fine copies from my South African collection at reasonable prices. Have also large stock of unused entires of all countries.—J. DEIJVEN, Ramstreet 15, Utrecht, Holland.

SOMALILAND King, British East Africa, Bechuanaland, Fritrea, Fiji, Admiralty Official, Guatemala, Nabha, Patiala, Newfoundland, Inhambane, Penrhyn Island, Russian Levant, Shanghai, Travancore, &c. 50 genuine varieties. 11.—CHARLES SMITH, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey.

5000 Continentals, splendid assortment and 20 used and unused entires, all different, 16, 75 entires all different 110.—THURSTON, 626 St. Helens Road, Bolton.

WANTED to Buy Postage, Fiscals, and Railway Letter Fee Stamps, also Old English, including Officials, 1d. blacks. Send on approval. Reference given.—CHARLES J. PRAYNER, Dealer in English, Colonial, and Foreign Stamps, 13, George Street, Bath.

APPROVAL selections old issues, especially Australasians and United States.—WEBB, Walpole, Halesworth.

J. C. Auf. Der. HEIDE, S.N.D. P.O. Box 479, Amsterdam. (References—Mr. C. T. Reed, London, William Stamp Company, London, etc., etc.) For only 18 in unused stamps or by money order, I send post free 50 all different postage stamps of Holland, Dutch Indies, Curacao and Suriname. Every buyer receives my new price list, 144 pages, thousands of bargains.

ENTIRES, 100 different unused cards, no rubbish. Catalogued 50/-, to clear 76, 25 ditto 2.—BRIDGER, 65, Bishopsgate Without, London, E.C.

COLLECTORS' DUPLICATES. All countries on approval, references.—REID Junr, 19 Chiswell St., Finsbury, London, E.C.

GOOD price paid for good Collections, early English, loose lots.—HAWLEY, Brookfield House, Swinton, Rotherham.

INDIAN Native States stamps. 25 varieties for 1-; 50 for 3-; 75 for 6 8; 100 for 12- and 125 for 21 Cash with order.—C. S. IYER, Attungal, Travancore, India.

THE CITY PHILATELIST—Send for specimen copy free.—BICKERS, Richmond Terrace, Cork.

APPROVAL SHEETS.—Fine copies a speciality. Many bargains Good discount.—F. MEGGY, Carlton Road, Romford, Essex.

FOCION SOTO U.—Apartado 106—Bogota (Colombia Exchange relations desired.—Sell 1000 Colombian assorted 10-., postage free.

80 Colonials, all different, wonderful value; 14 post free.—A. G. HARRISON, 1, Crawford Street, London, W.

BRITISH COLONIALS, at Bargain prices.—Bahamas Penny, 1882, C.A. 14, 5-; Gibraltar 1-, 1886, 2nd issue mint, 17.6. Straits, 4c. brown, 1883, mint, 1 3 (Cat. 3-) British Central Africa, 6d. 1897, 1.3. Large variety equally cheap. Approval, against deposit or references.—A. G. HARRISON, 1 Crawford St., London W.

OBsolete West Indian and African stamps for sale or exchange.—A. FRANCOIS, 12 City Chambers Birmingham. No callers.

DEALERS' PARCELS. Discontinued issuing wholesale list and clearing out in 5-, 10-, 21 (21 British Colonials only; returnable), giving great satisfaction, on "Bazaar" Reference.—WILLIAM LEWTHWAITE, Printer, Egremont, Cumberland.

FREE! 19 Pocket Duplicate Book to buyers of 11 stamps from these advertisements.—LEWTHWAITE, above.

DEALERS' MIXTURES. 500 British Colonials, 120-130 varieties, good 7.6, 1000 stamps to sell 1d. to 4d., used and unused, splendid variety, 7.6; 500, 4 3.—LEWTHWAITE, above.

PHILATELIC ACCESSORIES.—Sample set Approval Books, Sheets, Envelopes, Gauges, &c &c., 8d.; abroad 9d.; post free. Established 1884.—LEWTHWAITE, above.

R. H. OFFICIAL.—4d., 1d., used, 4/- pair, (half Gibbons'), special offer.—BUCKNELL, 103, York Rd., East Ham, E.

1d. on 4d. Barbados, used, in blocks, 13 per four stamps, 3.6 per dozen. Selections of all kinds sent on approval, exchange entertained. The Curate, Igham, Sevenoaks.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND, 1886, 1d. used, 9d. 2d. used, 1.3. British East Africa, 1896, 3 rupees, used 3-, Gold Coast, 1901, 1d. on 6d. unused 6d., Trinidad, 1882, 1d. surcharged, used 3d.—Box 170, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

WANTED. Old English Stamps. SPRAGUE, Llan-drinded Wells, Radnorshire.

SPECIAL List of large and small wholesale lots free, A lot of cheap approval sheets at Give-Away prices while they last. Offers for cash solicited.—LACY & Co., (Estd. 1871), Lower Rd, Rotherhithe, England.

"STAMPS" EXCHANGE SOCIETY. Established 1886.—Packets, 1902, £0 39s. sales, £858. Colonial General and European sections. Foreign and Colonial collectors invited.—Rules from Secretary, THOS. B. WIDOWSON, (Member S.E.P.S.), Lincoln Street, Leicester.

REPORT (1903) OTTERDALE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB now ready and post free on application.—Gross sales last year £1,681. Advanced philatelists invited to join; substantial references essential. Nominal charges. No dealers see packets.—Secretary and Founder, G. HERBERT DANNATT "Lyndale," Blackheath, S.E.

THE DESPISED ENGLISH HALFPENNY and Penny are our Specialities; 12,000 mixed stamps 18, 1,000 14d. to 6d. no 4d. Queens and Kings 3-; SANTOS COMPANY, 35, Alwyne Villas, Canonbury, London.

WANTED. Agents in Schools and Colleges, to sell stamps on approval, albums, etc. Write for particulars, HEFFENSTALL & DAVIS, 4, King Street, Rockferry, Cheshire.

APPROVAL SHEETS and packets for beginners. Great variety, good discount, sample packet 7d. foreign or British Empire—Miss L. COUSMAKER 10, Clondesley Road, S. Leonard-on-Sea.

APPROVAL SHEETS, picked copies, low prices—ASHBY, 13, Eaton Street, Mapperly, Nottingham.

WANTED BY LADY, situation in dealers office, thoroughly understands working of agency branch, also approval trade.—L. 22, Pearl Road, Walthamstow.

WANTED BY LADY, situation in dealers office, thoroughly understands working of agency branch, also approval trade.—L. 22, Pearl Road, Walthamstow.

BEGINNERS and MEDIUM COLLECTORS send for my approval sheets, fine specimens from 0 a penny, no bogus discounts.—W. A. SPICER, 36, Goswell Road, London, E.C.

COLLECTION 300 different good stamps 13; 200 7d.; 250 duplicates 2d.; Picture Post cards 7d. doz. COLLECTOR, 5, Wilton Road, Colliers Wood, Merton, Surrey.

WATERLOO STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB. A few vacancies for bona-fide collectors only. No fees. Rules from Hon. Secretary, J. ROBINSON, Bonavista House, Seaford, Liverpool.

SPECIAL ALPHA PACKET containing 25 good stamps, used and unused, for 6d. usual price 1s., catalogue value over 4s. Holland, 1886 50c., 1899 20c., 25c. and 50c. 3d. the set. Honduras, 1891, 50c. unused, cat. 6d., 1d. each, 9d. dozen postage extra—STREATHAM STAMP COMPANY, Cadewick, Natal Road, Streatham.

10/- VIOLET Niger Coast 15-; first issue British South Africa 8d. rose, 11d., cat. 2-; 2 6 purple 3 6, cat. 7 6, 4- grey 5 9, cat. 10-; St. Vincent 5-, lake 7-; all mint; pairs and blocks same price. Superb British Colonial 31, to 5- each at 65 per cent to 75 per cent off Gibbons catalogue. Booklets on approval.—Proprietor, "Uplands," Swanwick, Hampshire.

APPROVAL SHEETS. 25-50 per cent discount, fine copies.—H. WATTSWELL, "Belmont," Shakespeare Road, Worthing.

2d. BLUE BRITISH. The following is a special offer of first-class varieties, (no damaged or heavily cancelled copies) accumulated for plating purposes, and when sold out cannot be repeated. 1840 issue, red cancel 2 6 each, 27 9 per doz., black cancel 1 6 each, 17- per doz.,—1841 issue, 9d. per doz.,—1854-57 issues, small crown perf 16, 6d. each, 5- per doz., small crown, perf. 14, 1- each, 10- per doz., large crown, perf. 16, plate 6, 5- each; large crown, perf. 14, plate 5, 1 9 per doz., plate 6, 2 6 per doz., also 6d. purple octagonal issue 2 0 each. Cash with order, returned if not approved.—ROBERT KERR, 81, Comely Bank Avenue, Edinburgh.

LOOK! SPECIAL during February only; 33 1/2 per cent discount off approval sheets.—JESSEY CREE, Stamp Dealer, 62, Trafalgar Street, Nottingham.

BREAKING up practically complete collection V.R.I. errors and varieties. Shall be pleased to receive want lists and to send selections on approval.—J. S. ROE, 81, Harpur Street, Bedford.

Our Busiest Club Secretary. (Concluded from p. cix.)

"Very. There are now nearly 100 members. Mr. Semple, by the way, has recently resigned his post as a committee member owing to pressure of work in other directions. His successor has not yet been elected. Our president, as you know, is the Rev. G. H. Raynor; our Vice-president, Mr. Hubert F. Lowe, and on the Committee we have Mr. W. G. Hawkins and Mr. H. A. Slade, the energetic Secretary of the Herts Philatelic Society.

"Now tell me of any recent doings of the S.E.P.S.—anything that you care to make public of course."

"Well, the most recent case we took up was in connection with a Lancashire Club where the Secretary had been holding the sheets of some of the members for more than 18 months. We succeeded in recovering stamps to the value of about £50 and are now trying to arrange for proceedings against the Secretary for the recovery of the cash paid to him for stamps sold, but which the said Secretary is chary of parting with. In fact, the man seems to have been existing on the monies obtained from various people on approval—in one case giving bills which were not met."

One case the S.E.P.S. took up some months ago showed how Mr. Wickhart's knowledge of paper-making came in handy. It will also be remembered that the successful prosecution of the student Bulmer in 1900 was mainly due to his initiative.

"Is the work of the S.E.P.S. generally appreciated," we next asked Mr. Wickhart?"

"Most certainly it is—by the members who seek information, but unfortunately for himself the stamp collector is so confiding that he usually sends his duplicates to all and sundry applicants and Exchange Clubs first, and when he experiences difficulty in getting back his sheets, or a settlement of credit balances, he comes to the S.E.P.S. for information! Much anxiety and trouble might be saved if members would seek information *before* sending off their sheets.

"What generally happens is this: A collector who may be a member of a good club, thinks he might run an exchange satisfactorily. With the aid of a little stationery, he canvasses for members and perhaps succeeds in getting a few collectors to join. Lacking experience he accepts every applicant for membership, and with a few sheets in hand, he proceeds to make up a packet. When it returns, he is delighted with the sales, but experiences a rude shock when he sends out accounts, to find that his best buyer is a man of straw or as often happens a "youth" of straw who cannot pay his debit! The unfortunate contributing members wait patiently for their cash

which, not being forthcoming stops further contributions and the "new" club dies off. I have known a Secretary never to return sheets at all. When applied to for them, he politely informed the members that he had "bought all the stamps himself" but owing to misfortune, he was unable to pay for them! It is when matters reach this stage that the contributing members remember that there is a Stamp Exchange Protection Society in existence.

An application for membership follows, with a request to "get back all my stamps." In some cases the results have been satisfactory, but in others (and very many others too) the Solicitor finds that "the Secretary" is under 21 and being an "infant" is not liable in the Civil Courts. To institute a prosecution means the expenditure of money and as it generally happens that the defrauded collector does not wish to spend more than half a crown, the thieving Secretary escapes scot free."

"The moral," added Mr. Wickhart, "is never join a club which is conducted by a person under 21, and never send sheets until you are quite satisfied that the members are honest."

We could fill a great deal more of the *Fortnightly's* space with our impressions of a most interesting interview with an interesting man, but we have to remember that space (in the *Fortnightly*) is not exactly infinite.

Mr. Wickhart is 38 years of age, but does not look it. He is active, energetic, genial—a popular man with all who know him. Apart from his editorship of "Spare Moments," and his connection with the Northern and S.E.P. Societies, he finds time to run a fairly extensive printing works at Islington, where are produced the catalogues of various auctioneers and other philatelic stationery.

Most of his work is done at his residence in Highbury New Park where with the aid of the telephone (1805 Dalston) he is brought into touch with his city office, while an extension to his Works enables him to follow the routine of his printing business. Mr. W. enjoys a game of billiards and is generally able to hold his own at chess. He likes to take a spin on his bicycle when he can find the time. He has a hankering for Municipal affairs, but up to the present he has not been able to indulge his tastes in that direction.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

Secretaries are requested to assist the Editor by sending in their reports not later than the Monday preceding publication.

ENTERPRISE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the twelfth ordinary meeting held at 47, Finsbury Square, E.C., on 20th January, 1901, the following new members were elected:—Mrs. K. C. Duncombe (Easingwold), Mr. E. C. Domaine (Forest Gate), Mr. M. H. Horsley (West Hartlepool), Mr. J. Leslie Tee (Buckhurst Hill).

There was a good attendance which was accounted for by the extremely interesting paper subsequently delivered by Mr. Westcott, entitled "Notes on Forgeries and Fakes." This was accompanied by a display illustrating a large number of types, and rendered more instructive by having, in numerous cases, the genuine and the forged stamps mounted side by side.

The proposal that the Society should keep its own Black Book met with approval and a number of forgeries were promised. These are, at present, in the keeping of the Secretary, who will be glad to receive others.

There are still vacancies for medium collectors with good references. Full particulars free from Hon. Sec., A. H. Harris, "The Library," Buckhurst Hill.

THE JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

On Saturday, the 16th inst. Mr. Schwabacher, member of the London Philatelic Society and Chairman of the Fiscal Society, delivered an interesting address to the members of the Junior Philatelic Society in the Hall, at 67, South Lambeth Road. The presence of a member of the senior society always draws a large attendance of juniors, and the audience which greeted Mr. Schwabacher was a numerous and warmly enthusiastic one. The subject under treatment was the "Fiscal Question in Philately," and Mr. Schwabacher illustrated his remarks by showing his very fine collection of the Fiscal stamps of Mexico and Peru.

H. F. Johnson, Secretary, 9, Lorne Terrace, South Lambeth Road, S.W.

PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

Members are requested to send in at once good sheets for the February packets of both junior and senior sections.

The society contemplates issuing early in March, a report of its past doings, in book form, with special features and brief interviews from its members. Further information will be in the hands of members by the time this is in print. In the meantime the secretaries will be pleased to hear from any who may be interested in the matter.

General Secretary: R. T. Morgan, 14, High Street, Selhurst, S.E.
Assistant Secretary: C. A. Squire Cox, Woodbine, Cambridge Road, Anerley, S.E.

A SUPPLEMENT to the 4th. edition of the
Universal Standard Catalogue
OF THE
POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD
is NOW READY. Price 3½d. Post Free.

It comprises all postage stamps known to be issued since the catalogue was published, down to the end of 1903, with the prices at which they can be supplied.

CATALOGUE and SUPPLEMENT
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Some Notes on the Fiscal Stamps of the Orange Free State.

BY N. YAAR.

(Concluded from Page xcvi.)

1876. Issue II.—Type II.

The second issue of 1876 is a somewhat oblong label, also embossed on coloured paper, with name of country "ORANJE VRIJ STAAT" on a label divided into three parts, with coat of arms in centre, and value in Gothic letters at bottom.

In connection with this series there is no reason whatever why we should not chronicle all the 13 values, as several gaps have been filled up since.

1877 (?) Issue III. Type III.

Mr. Tamsen says of this issue, "All I know of this stamp is found on page 2, February 1903, of 'Morley's Philatelic Journal.'" I doubt however if other values exist. Moens gives for issue II, a life of a little over one year only. I do not see why another issue should be required in this short time, but perhaps the die of the 1/- value of Issue II got damaged and was replaced by Issue III."

Now we think Mr. Tamsen's conclusion in regard to Issue III is entirely wrong. We would sooner describe this as Issue II and the other Issue III. Our opinion is arrived at as follows:

We think the design of Type III a sort of improved Type I. When comparing Types I and III, we were struck with the similarity of the design. In the first place the upper label, bearing the words "ORANJE VRIJ STAAT" is nearly alike in both designs; the lettering also is of the same character. Below we find the same crossed branches in both types, although in Type III they are worked somewhat more upwards. The chief improvement is in the coat of arms on a shield, which replaces the value in the first type, this being placed in the bottom of the label. The lettering of the value is also similar to the first type.

Type II is again an improved design of what we will continue to call type III. The workmanship being much finer and better finished.

We cannot accept Mr. Tamsen's conclusion that the 1/- of Issue II got damaged and was replaced by Issue III. How does he explain the 1/- rose, chronicled on the authority of Mr. Kay? If the 1/- blue were damaged, surely the same design would not have been used for the 1/- rose? The best explanation in our opinion, is that after Issue I was used for a certain time, an improved design was made, mainly to have the coat of arms brought in, this being used for a very short time as Type III, and this again being displaced by an improved design more elegant in appearance, this being the design known as Type II.

Coming to the article referred to in the above, we notice that Type III is described, and after illustrating a receipt, dated 14th June, 1877, we read the following comments:—

"It seems, therefore, as if the stamps thus employed paid the fee on registered letters, the minimum fee being apparently 1/-. A point which requires to be cleared up, is whether the letter referred to in the receipt bore a postage of similar value, and if so what is the significance of the stamp affixed to the form?"

We have been to the trouble of looking up "Le Timbre Poste" of August, 1877, and we read therein, some of the Postal Regulations of the Orange Free State, translated into French by M. Schmidt de Wilde.

In Art 41 of the Postal Regulations we read:—

The charge for letters, will be calculated according to weight without any restriction of distances of the addressee in the State, to wit;

For every letter not exceeding ½oz. in weight, 6d.

Letters exceeding ½oz. but not exceeding 1oz., one shilling.

Every half oz. more or fraction thereof 6d.

The charge for Registering is One Shilling above ordinary postages.

Art 74, reads:—These postage stamps will serve to pre-pay postage on letters, books parcels and packets in this State.

Art 54-62. Only speak about "Registering letters."

It is a pity this part has not been translated in full. We, however, think that the above is sufficiently clear for our purpose.

We conclude from the above that the letter in question bore a postage stamp, according to weight, but had a 1/- fiscal label attached to the form, being the receipt of the fee paid for the Registering of the letter according to the Postal Regulations. Moreover this circular cancellation described, being a postal one, proves that as the postage stamp affixed to the letter was cancelled in this way, the form for registering with fiscal label attached was also cancelled, proving that the registration fee had been duly paid.

We hope to have expressed some new views and opinions upon an interesting subject, and we shall be only too happy to hear what others say, even though they prove our conclusions to be utterly wrong.

N. YAAR AND CO.

A CRITICISM BY MR. A. B. KAY.

To the Editor of the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

As a collector of Fiscal stamps, it was with pleasure I found that a page of the last issue of your paper was devoted to an article on the fiscal stamps of the Orange Free State. However, upon reading the same I was grieved to find that so much valuable space had been given to such a small amount of information.

All the notes consist of, is merely a transcription of an incomplete article in 'Morley's Philatelic Journal' with the one useful piece of information that 'zegel' means 'stamped paper.'

Had Mr. Yaar given study to the subject he would not have dismissed the really important part of the article, i.e.—the different values and issues, in such few words.

To say that all the fourteen values noted exist on all the different coloured papers given, is a very simple way of disposing of a vital question. Not only is there another value, viz.—£4: but also another paper, a blue green, quite distinct from the dark green, given as green.

The members of the Fiscal Philatelic Society have carefully studied all countries catalogued by them, and their list of the early Orange Free State revenue issues, at present stands as follows:

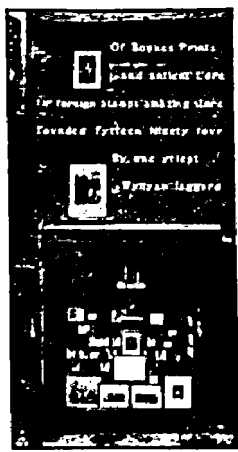
- 1857, embossed on azure laid paper, 6d., 1/-, 2/-, 3/-, 5/-, 10/-. £1.
Ditto, on white laid paper, 6d., 9d., 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 3/-, 4/-, 5/-, 10/-. £1. £2. £3.
1868, ditto, on dark green wove paper, 9d., 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 3/-, 4/-. £1. £2. £3. £4. £5.
Ditto, on blue green wove paper, 1/-, 2/-, 3/-, 4/-.
Ditto, on yellow wove paper, 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 3/-, 4/-, 5/-, 10/-.
Ditto, on dark blue wove paper, 6d., 1/-, 2/-, 3/-, 4/-, 5/-, 10/-. £3.
Ditto, on rose wove paper, 1/6, £1. £2. £3. £4. £5.

Certainly other values most probably do exist, and information of them would be gladly welcomed; but as almost all important fiscal collections have been examined in compiling this list, it is rather rash to say that all values exist on all papers. A strong argument against such an assertion is that apparently the different colours were in use at the same time. Most likely the stamps (as with Swaziland) were struck off as required on the first paper that came to hand, and no regular issue was made.

A. B. KAY.

(Secretary, the Fiscal Philatelic Society.)

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Jamaica 2 - Queen's Head, Mint		2 4
" " " " " "		5 8
Zanzibar, 1890, 5 rupee		3 6
12 Bavarian, 1891, 1901, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 80 pf. and 1 and 2 mark		0 6
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REVIEW OF PRICES IN PART I.

In our last number we published some criticisms sent in by two or three of our readers as to the prices in the catalogue. While agreeing in the main with the criticisms of "W. B." we must join issue with him when he states that he assumes that catalogue prices represent twice the true values of the stamps. Obviously, on this assumption all unused current stamps should be doubled in price or very nearly. That "W. B." himself does not intend his statement to be taken literally is evident from his remarks about B.S.A., first issue, and Gambia, 1886 issue. Undoubtedly, most common used stamps can be bought at a good deal below catalogue price. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Co. themselves allow nearly 25 per cent discount on stamps priced from 1d. to 4d., under certain conditions, and even on the rarer stamps they allow 10 per cent to customers making substantial purchases. Any dealer with a smaller stock and with a less extensive *clientele* naturally tries to sell somewhat cheaper. If he did not, why should anyone buy from him?

We do not propose in this article to give a list of all the stamps that can frequently be bought at half catalogue price, nor on the other hand to enumerate those that can only be bought at Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' price, or something approaching it. To do either would be a lengthy task. What we propose to do is to call attention to those stamps that we think overpriced or underpriced relatively to others of the same class. We shall also point out stamps which, although not perhaps underpriced at the present time, are in our opinion likely to rise in value in the course of the next few years.

To begin with Great Britain, the first important change of price that we notice is the raising of No. 22, 1d., small crown, perf. 14, die I. This stamp is, we think, no rarer than No. 24 or No. 24a. The 2d. blue, No. 23, is, relatively, very cheap at 3/6. No. 126 has been raised to 1/6 while the

three preceding stamps remain at 1/3, in our experience, the grey stamp is much the commonest of the four. Nos. 152 and 153 remain at 3/6 and 2/6 respectively. We think the vermilion stamp should be put at twice the price of the green one. No. 158, 3d. rose, wmk. crown, seems overpriced at 2/6. The green stamps of the 1884 issue are all difficult to get in good condition; we should be inclined to price the 4d. higher than the 5d., of the 1887 issue, good copies of the 4½d., 9d., 10d. and 1/- are worth keeping, as also is bicoloured 1/-, of 1900. We cannot spare the space for a lengthy criticism of the lists of plate numbers, but as one of our correspondents has instanced the 2½d. pink, plate 17 as underpriced, we will not ignore them altogether. We quite agree that this stamp is comparatively rare, and if the collecting of plate numbers were more popular than it seems to be at the present time, this variety would rise in price. So would many others, particularly some of the other plate numbers of the same 2½d. pink. In the last catalogue, all the numbers from 4 to 16, were put at the same price—1d. In the present edition, Nos. 5 and 10 are raised to 2d. A year or two ago we happened to sort some copies of these stamps and kept a record of the numbers we found of each variety. These are:—

4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
59	64	74	53	15	33	4	31	11	28	26	39	55	6

If the batch of 500 that came into our possession is anything like a fair sample of the number in existence, plate 10 ought to be priced at several shillings, and plates 8 and 12 certainly should not remain at 1d. Of the stamps surcharged I.R., we should recommend O.14 and O.15 as worth investing in. Of the Government Parcels stamps, O. 62 is scarcer than O. 63; O. 68 is likely to rise in the future, and so are O. 70, O. 71, and O. 72. The 1/- Board of Education with Queen's Head is already a rare stamp, and the 5d. will probably become rare. Of the Levant stamps, the 4 piastres, 47, has been raised to 2-, both used and unused. It is likely to rise further in the course of a few years, though perhaps the next catalogue may not mark any advance.

(To be continued.)

CITY STAMP SHOP FOR SALE.

BLUETT & Co. beg to announce that in consequence of the resignation of their Shop Manager—who is starting business on his own account—they are disposing of the lease and fittings of their premises in the City. They comprise:

SHOP.—12ft. x 12ft. fitted-up in best style with elegant plate-glass window case 8ft. x 5ft. x 2ft. with three plate-glass shelves and metal standards; three plate-glass wall cases; ebonized counter; and two of Milner's 38 guinea special fire and burglar proof safes 36in. x 26in. x 26in. with cabinet stands.

COMMODIOUS BASEMENT.—42ft. x 12ft. The larger part, 32ft. x 12ft. fitted-up in Shop-style with fine plate-glass and metal counter 9ft. x 2ft. x 9in. with mirrors at back; an ordinary counter with plate-glass counter case 9ft. x 1ft. 3in. x 9in. on top; two side counters with solid mahogany tops; three plate-glass wall cases, one 7ft. 6in. x 5ft. 10in. x 9in., and full size 5ft. American roll-top desk. The other part petitioned off as a private room.

The entire premises lighted by electric light and all the floors covered with high-class linoleum. Gas stoves.

⇒ PRICE £500. ⇐

Further particulars on application.

BLUETT & Co. (The Oldest City Stamp Dealers).

15, CROOKED LANE (Corner of Cannon Street),
LONDON BRIDGE, E.C.

Fiscal Notes and Chronicle.

Contributed by A. PRESTON PEAROE.

The issue of "Mekeel's Weekly" bearing date December 19th, 1903, contains several items of special interest to collectors of fiscals. In addition to the usual advertisements of U.S., Canadian and Cuban revenues found in each number, there are two that present novel features. One offers, with a guarantee of genuineness, old documents stamped to the value of 5 cents each by means of two and one half 2c., orange, revenues. The other draws the attention of collectors of U.S. Match stamps to the fact that one entire sheet of 210 F. Mansfield and Co., Inc., blue, on watermarked paper, is for sale at the price of \$87.50. This variety was not listed by Scott until somewhat recently, and it is now priced at \$2.50. An affidavit is tendered to the effect that only three sheets were found, two of which were secured by a prominent collector.

From a review in another part of the journal it appears that a demand is being made for the publication of a special Album for the Match and Medicine stamps of the United States, and in connection therewith one consideration that should not be lost sight of is that there would be a certain demand for such a work from collectors in Europe. Despite the difficulty of obtaining this class of stamp outside the locality in which it is used, some remarkable collections have been formed both here and on the Continent, and their owners would doubtless be glad to house them in a book specially designed for their reception. Whilst writing upon this topic I may as well point out that there is a very great need for an illustrated catalogue of these private proprietary stamps. Presumably this could not be produced in the States as such illustrations are not allowed to appear in local printed works, but that difficulty might be got over, and I fancy that any American dealer enterprising enough to arrange for the production of such a work on this side of the ferry would find himself well repaid in both coin and *kudos* for the effort.

Every now and then one sees a reference to the overprint of "D.P." (the initials of the "Daily Press") upon certain low value postage stamps of Hong Kong, and, occasionally, stamps so treated are offered as fiscals by those who either do not know better or who trust that prospective purchasers are more ignorant than themselves.

I have also seen ordinary revenues of the Straits Settlements bearing the letters ^BOC offered as something rare and special at commensurate prices, and, having received an enquiry for information on the subject, it may be useful to state that the mystic letters are merely a form of cancellation employed by some branch of the Oriental Banking Corporation.

Cuba. — *Documentos de Policia.*—From Mr. A. M. South I have received a portion of a *Pagos al Estado* form bearing a 1 peso non-adhesive, and by its side a diagonal half of the 6½ c.d.e.p. *Policia* stamp of 1882 (No. 555 in our catalogue), pink on white. The cancellation, which is an official one of the Province of Matanzas, covers both stamps.

Cuba Matanzas. — From the same gentleman there reaches me a small poorly lithographed label lettered "CONSEJO PROVINCIAL MATANZAS" in Roman caps., above what appears to be a view of the harbour with the bust of a man in the foreground. The value "UN CENTAVO" is on a narrow solid panel at the base. Printed in green on soft white wove unwatermarked paper, roughly perf. 12.

Norway. — Of the new type recently described in this column I have now seen the 10 ore. It is printed in carmine, on white wove paper, perf. 13½ x 14½, and there seems to be a watermark of considerable size, the precise form of which I cannot trace; but perhaps some Scandinavian philatelist can assist.

Russia. — Mr. E. Cornish is informed by a correspondent in this country that the Passport stamp (P of St. Petersburg) will in future be impressed on those documents.

Communications in respect of this department should be addressed to Mr. A. Preston Pearce, 12, Edgoumbe Street, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

Surcharges of Zanzibar.

A REPLY TO A REPLY.

BY WILMOT CORFIELD.

I noticed a letter in the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, of December 5th, headed "Mr. W. V. Morten replies to Mr. Wilmot Corfield's attack on the surcharges of Zanzibar" and have turned to my article in the July number of the "Philatelic Journal of India" to find out what I did to elicit your correspondent's attention.

I may remark that I wrote (in connection with a philatelic prosecution then before a London Court) on the subject of the "Surcharge" as an institution inimical both to morality and philately, and suggested the introduction of a stamp of uniform design for all "emergency issues" of the British Empire with a space at top and bottom left blank for the insertion of the name of the country and the value. It was by a mere accident that I cited Zanzibar and British Somaliland as cases to point my argument,—the Seychelles, Mauritius, Ceylon, or the Straits Settlements would each and all have equally served my purpose.

The following is absolutely all I wrote about Zanzibar:—
"Could the Government but take to heart the harm done by forged Zanzibars alone, for instance, in all parts of the world, a harm that will if anything increase rather than lessen as time goes on, we would soon see the operations of this insidiously mischievous postal institution ("the Surcharge") reduced to a minimum. Manipulators of Zanzibars have been doing their worst for years, and the present Government shuts its eyes to the evil in progress, caring for none of these things."

That is all I wrote, and this perfectly fair statement has been magnified into a special attack on Zanzibar surcharges. Mr. Morten girds at me in a series of assertions and manages to mix his meaning so strangely that any chance reader who had not had the opportunity to peruse my article would most naturally infer that I had re-raised "amply disproved" charges of a serious kind "brought against an honourable gentleman—Mr. Remington"—and he goes on to say that "Mr. Corfield's special attack must cause pain and annoyance to a gentleman who is probably Mr. Corfield's senior in the department to which he belongs."

It will be seen that while I refer to "forged Zanzibars" I no-where hint even at any official of any Post Office as having been responsible for the forgeries. This robs Mr. Morten's remarks of all justification and leaves them open to the charge of being utterly unwarranted and uncalled for. Until I read Mr. Morten's letter I had never heard of Mr. Remington—and my article never refers to him or any other government official. Further I am not in the government's service, nor have I ever been in the government's service. The profession to which I belong does not as a rule possess "departmental seniors" and I have every right to resent Mr. Morten's reference to myself in the character of a causer of pain and annoyance to a mythical superior officer.

The *Fortnightly's* correspondent asserts that he has only met with fifteen Zanzibar forgeries. Surely even fifteen forgeries possibly "planted" to the great profit of their creators in hundreds of Collections in many lands are enough to point to the necessity of at least the consideration of the change I have suggested! All the future is before us. Into how many may not the fifteen be converted in the course of time? My own experience both as a private collector and as Secretary of the Philatelic Society of India's Expert Committee has been far more unsatisfactory than Mr. Morten's, and I find that no less an authority than Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' new catalogue goes to confirm it. If your correspondent will turn to page 289 he will find the following note after the 21st stamp of Zanzibar. "The above are *very common* with forged overprints and apparently used." (The italics are mine.) After this note there are specified more than 30 stamps made up of varieties of the normal provisionals, and varieties of the provisionals. Now if forgeries of 21 normal stamps are "very common" that term can surely be applied with at least equal truth to those of the remaining labels which make up the 155 of the full issue on Indian stamps? It is both easier and more profitable to forge the provisionals than the normal stamps.

The other points raised by my critic are beside the mark as his letter purports to be a reply to my article, and my article has been made the excuse for its appearance.

Story of a Registered Letter.

AUSTRALIAN AND PARISIAN DEALERS AT LOGGERHEADS.

MESSRS. HAMILTON, MACRAE, LIMITED, DESCRIBE AN EXCHANGE TRANSACTION.

Under date, Perth, Western Australia, November 29th 1903, Messrs. Hamilton, Macrae, Limited, write us as follows:

In view of the threats made to us by a Paris dealer—Mr. Jacques Wortman—we shall be glad if you will give publicity to the following facts, which should be of interest to the stamp-dealing fraternity generally.

Mr. Jacques Wortman sent us (unsolicited) a parcel of stamps, value £6, against exchange. Although his stamps were not of the class required by us we retained 28/- worth, in order not to make the transaction altogether abortive (no return postage being enclosed) and returned the balance by Registered letter together with (at his request) a selection of Australians value £5 odd. Through some bungling of the Post Office (where or by whom we cannot ascertain) our Registered letter was treated as a "Registered Sample" and as such delivered (according to French Postal regulations) to the door-keeper of the building in which Mr. Wortman occupies premises, and who in turn (according to the Official statements made to us by the Post Office) "states positively that he handed it to Mr. Wortman on the day he signed for it." This Mr. Wortman denies and at his request and on the distinct understanding that we disclaimed all liability in regard to the matter and on the contrary held him liable for the value of the goods sent by us less the amount accepted from him, made a claim on the Postal Department for the loss (as alleged by Mr. Wortman) of our Registered letter; but the Department after due inquiry informs us that the registered letter "was duly delivered to the addressee" and that having fulfilled its obligations it is in no way liable.

Without entering into the question as to whether the Postal Department has fulfilled its obligations or otherwise the question

arises whether, on the facts as narrated, we are liable to Mr. Wortman either morally or legally or he to us. Remember, Mr. Wortman sent his stamps to us unsolicited—ours were sent to him at his invitation and request. Speaking from a legal point of view the fact of an unsolicited parcel of stamps having reached us, imposes no obligation on us at all—not even the return of them in the absence of return postage—and that being so how can we be held liable when out of good nature we pay return postage on such parcel out of our own pocket—take the utmost precaution—send it at letter rate and register it—should it be lost, as alleged, during transit? On the other hand we maintain—our selection being sent at his request—that there is a moral as well as a legal obligation cast on Mr. Wortman and which by the way becomes ever so much firmer in view of the proofs adduced by the P.O. that he actually received the package.

We wrote Mr. Wortman some time ago that we would be quite content to abide by the ruling of any competent authority in the trade—or outside of it for that matter—in regard to the subject matter of dispute, but this apparently does not suit him, for he has just notified us that unless we settle his alleged claim by the 31st Dec., he will write an article on the subject in French, English, American and German philatelic papers.

Well, we are not to be scared in this manner, and think our reputation for fair dealing will compare favourably with that of Mr. J. Wortman. We have incurred an immense amount of work in connection with this matter and have accumulated quite a big pile of correspondence. We are at present in communication with the Federal Postmaster-General, to whom the whole case has been submitted by the Deputy Postmaster-General here and we think—to say the least—it is rather ungenerous of Mr. Wortman to take up this stand—and deliver attitude and threaten to expose us as defaulters, when there is strong presumption that the boot is on the other foot.

We trust that in the interest of clean Philately you will see your way to insert this rather lengthy letter.

In a reference to Kishengarh in one of his Indian letters to the "American Journal of Philately," Mr. E. W. Wetherell draws attention to the inscription, "Revenue and Postage." He thinks this the only instance of the reversal of the usual order, "Postage and Revenue."

W. H. PECKITT, Dealer in Rare Stamps, 47, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW KING'S HEADS, etc. (Unused).—

Price.		Price.		Price.	
s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Br. East Africa and Uganda, 2s. mauve	3	Sierra Leone, 5s. green and red	6	Queensland Commonwealth, 9d. stamp	1
St. Lucia, 1/- green and black	3	" " 5s. lilac on red	0	N. S. W. 9d.	1
Ceylon, 12c. green and red	3	Chamba State, 1/2s. green	2	Victoria, 1/- (new die) orange	3
" 25c. ochre	6	" 1s. red	1	Br. Guiana, 60c. green and red	3
India, 3s. orange	4	British Levant, 12 piastres	7	Ecuador, 1c. on 25c. yellow (fiscal stamp sur-	0
Sierra Leone, 1d. lilac and green	1	Jhind State, 1/2s. green	1	" charged for postage	2
" 1d. carmine	2	" 3s. grey	1	Honduras Republic, 1903, 1c. green	1
" 14d. black	2	" 1s. red	2	Costa Rica, 4c. mauve, 1903	2
" 2d. orange	3	" 2s. violet	3	" 6c. stone	3
" 21d. blue	4	" 3s. orange	4	Trinidad, 4d. green and blue on cream	1
" 3s. grey	4	" 4s. green	5	Sudan, surcharged O. S. G. S., 5m.	5
" 4d. lake	5	" 8s. mauve	10	" " " 1 piast.	4
" 5d. black	7	Br. Somaliland, 1/2s. green	1	" " " 2 " "	9
" 6d. violet	8	" 1s. red	2	" " " 5 " "	1
" 1/- green and black	1	" 2s. violet	3		
" 2/- blue	2	" 3s. orange	4		
	6	" 8s. mauve	10		

RECENT PURCHASES.

The well-known General Collection formed by Mr. J. N. MARSDEN, of Lisbon.

THIS fine lot contains many of the first-class rarities, and is also particularly rich in varieties, errors, etc., many of which are seldom to be found except in collections of this age and magnitude.

The fine Collection of COLONIAL STAMPS made by the late Rev. W. BELL, of Cork.

THIS Collection contains a very large number of old issues in mint state, the condition generally being very fine.

LISTS OF WANTS WILL RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION. SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL.

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A Fine Selection of Stamps always on View, ranging from New Issues to the greatest Rarities.

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"PECKITT, LONDON."

UNRESERVED SALE BY AUCTION.

Messrs JAGGARD & Company have pleasure in announcing that their forthcoming Liverpool Auction on Thursday and Friday Feb. 25th & 26th, 1904, will include many important lots: viz.—

New Brunswick, 1s., superb copy. **Newfoundland**, 1s., orange-verm. **Cape of G. H.** woodblocks, 1d. pale blue, 4d. deep blue. **Mauritius**, Post paid. **Gambia**, imperf. 4d. and 6d. no wmk., and wmk. CC. **New S. W.**, Sydney Views. **Ceylon**, imperf. 8d. 9d. and 1s. 9d. **Tobago**, 6d. stone CA. **Turk's Island**, surcharges. **Gr. Britain**, £5 on blue paper, *I.R. officials*, several high values. **Nevis**, 6d. green, mint. **Brit Cent Africa**, no wmk. 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., 20s., mint. **Zululand**, 5s. and £1, mint. **Niger Coast & Southern Nigeria**, mint stock of a private investor, in suitable lots, together with a great variety of other good things, the property of a private collector relinquishing the pursuit.

The Collections to be submitted embrace an unusually attractive assemblage of over 12,000 varieties, in five large albums, besides several smaller gatherings of merit.

The Lots will be on view in the following cities on dates named—

Birmingham, Wednesday Feb. 17, 10.45 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Colmore Gallery, Messrs. Davis, 2 & 3, Livery Street.

London, Friday Feb. 19, 10 to 4, Sat. Feb. 20, 10 to 2, Mansion House Chambers, Messrs. John Edwards & Co.

entrance 29, Bucklersbury, E. C.

Manchester, Monday, Feb. 22, 10.30 to 4, Mr. D. Ostara, 24, Corporation Street.

Liverpool, at any other time, 10 to 6 daily at the Offices of the Auctioneers, Messrs. JAGGARD & CO., 13, MOORFIELDS, from whom detailed Catalogues and all other information can be had.

New Issues and Varieties.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and variations 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 Central Africa—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., have received various higher values of the King's Head set, as follows:

2s. 6d. green and grey.
4s. mauve and purple.
10s. black and green.
£1 carmine and grey.

The King's Head is in the second colour in each instance.

Great Britain.—Messrs. C. Nissen and Co., have received a used specimen of the 10d. "O.W." King's Head—the first used copy seen.

Admiralty Official: Mr. W. H. Earl writes: "I find now that the penny values also have a different setting of overprint like the halfpenny. The principal difference being in the "A."

Jamaica—Apropos of the statement that the new Jamaican ½d. and 2½d. stamps would not be in circulation until the 16th, Messrs. W. and A. Prince, of West Bromwich, send us a specimen of the 2½d. postmarked the 13th—a very effective confutation of an unfounded statement!

Labuan—Two additions have been made to the list of the current set, specimens being sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

1 cent, mauve and black.
3 cents, brown and black.

Mangaia—A correspondent of "Ewen's Weekly" writes that the New Zealand authorities intend to issue stamps surcharged, "Mangaia," similar to those for Aitutaki.

Mangaia is the most southerly of the Cook group and is 116 miles southeast from Rarotonga. It has an area of about 30 square miles and a population of 1541, including 10 Europeans. Previously the administration of the Island has been in native hands but a European magistrate, who will also act as customs officer and postmaster, has just been appointed by the New Zealand Government.

Morocco Agencies.—The 5 centimos (King's Head) of Gibraltar has been given the usual overprint, "Morocco Agencies" in black. A specimen is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Paraguay—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., send us specimens of a new series of "Unpaid" stamps. These are of a uniform design with numeral in centre, and inscriptions at head and foot—pretty much the usual design for the "Dues" of a South American Republic. So far, all the values are in the same colour—green.

Postage due: 2 centavos, green.
1 " " "
10 " " "
50 " " "

Straits Settlements—Messrs. S. T. Piow and A. R. Mahmond, of Dickson Road, Singapore, send us the new 1c. Straits stamp, with the head of King Edward VII.

King's Head: 1 cent, grey-green.

MARTIN, RAY & Co., Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents,

Lonsdale Chambers,
CHANGERY LANE, W.C.

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Monday ... Feb. 1st

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Monday ... Feb. 29th

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Commission 10%. Minimum Charge 1/6 per lot

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**Literary,
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Philatelic Auctioneers,

47, Leicester Square, LONDON, W.C., make the sale of

RARE POSTAGE STAMPS A SPECIALITY.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that their next sale will take place on **February 9 & 10** and will include **A Fine Private Collection of Colonials**, mostly unused, and containing many fine and scarce stamps, amongst others:—

Great Britain, 1d. black, V.R.
Gibraltar, 1st issue, unused, complete, both in pairs and in singles.
Cape, woodblocks, etc.
Gold Coast, 1d. blue, wmk. C.A. and 2/- red and green, mint.
Sierra Leone, 4d. blue, C.A., mint, etc.
Canada, a fine collection of, including 7½d. green and 10d. blue; and perf. 8d. purple-brown, mint.

Nova Scotia, 1/- purple.
Nevis, 6d. litho and 6d. green, mint, etc.
Grenada, a fine collection.
Trinidad, a very fine lot of the early issues, unused, etc.
Australia, a nice lot of the various Colonies, including a number of good Sydney Views, etc.

CATALOGUE READY.

DATES of SALES for 1904:—

1904.—February 23 and 24; March 8 and 9, 22 and 23; April 12 and 13, 26 and 27
May 10 and 11, 24 and 25; June 7 and 8; Sept. 27 and 28; Oct. 11 and 12, 25 and 26; Nov. 8 and 9, 29 and 30; Dec. 13 and 14.
Clients wishing to include Collections in any of the above Sales are requested to make early arrangements with regard to their disposal, as some of the earlier dates are already allotted. Liberal advances made pending realization if desired.

For Terms and Full Particulars Address: Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,
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Wanted To Purchase, Immediately

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GREAT BRITAIN, 1865=1867
10d. WATERMARK EMBLEMS *i.e.* **FOUR FLOWERS. (S.G. No. 99)**

English Fiscal Postals Wanted.

S.G. No. 426, 2/- imperf.; 1871, perf. no wmk., 9d., 1/-; 1872, perf., blue paper, wmk. anchor, 2d., 2/6; 1882, perf., white paper, wmk. Orbs, 2d., 9d.

Telegraphs.

LONDON DISTRICT TELEGRAPH CO.

1862, S.G. No 2, 4d. blue; No 4, 3d. greenish blue; No 5, 6d. vermilion.

UNITED KINGDOM TELEGRAPH CO.

1862, S.G. No 1, 3d., No 2, 6d., No 3, 1/-; 1863, int under control number, S.G. No 14, 1/6 green, No 15, 2/- brown.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH CO.

1854, S.G. No 1, No 2, No 3; 1854-7, No 5, No 9, No 10, No 11, 3d., 1/6, 2/- perf. 14½ to 15½.

Offers of the above (used or unused) will oblige. State price required.

Any really rare varieties in English WANTED, used or unused.
TRANSVAAL, S.G. Nos. 56, 57, 170. (And anything fine in British Colonials).

G. Hamilton-Smith & Co.,

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Collections of any magnitude, and Single rare stamps, for which we are prepared to

Pay Highest Possible Prices.

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We have much pleasure in announcing that we have received

A MEDAL WITH DIPLOMA

(This being the only Award given for Permanent Philatelic Albums alone) at the International Philatelic Exhibition, held in Mulhausen, Alsace, last Summer.

.....
We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.

Next Number—Special Spring Issue, 24 Pages & Cover, Price One Penny, as usual

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

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

No. 233.—Vol. IX

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1904.

ONE PENNY.

MESSRS. GLENDINING & Co.,

Fine Art, Numismatic & Philatelic Auctioneers,

THE ARGYLL GALLERY,

7, ARGYLL ST., REGENT ST., W.

(Adjoining Oxford Circus Station)

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*Will be held on Thursday & Friday,
February 25th & 26th, 1904.*

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**A Fine Collection of
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MARCH 24th and 25th and every alternate THURSDAY and FRIDAY

throughout the Season.

Fine Art and Bric-à-brac Sale—17th & 18th February.

English Coins and War Medals—22nd, 23rd & 24th February.

COLLECTORS who intend to DISPOSE OF COLLECTIONS are advised to make early arrangements to secure advantageous dates of Sale.

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FINE ART PROPERTY,
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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 TEMPLE HOTEL, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.

(Close to the Philatelic Society's Rooms and the Temple Station on the District Railway.)

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their DATES of SALES for the ensuing Season are as follows:

1904.—FEBRUARY 4th & 5th. and 18th & 19th. MARCH 3rd & 4th and 17th & 18th.
APRIL 7th & 8th. and 21st & 22nd. MAY 5th & 6th. and 19th & 20th.
JUNE 16th & 17th.

FEBRUARY 19th.

Very Fine Selection of British, Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps, also a few Collections.

MARCH 3rd & 4th.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that they have received instructions to sell by auction **A FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION** including the following rarities—

Western Australia, 1st issue, 4d. blue with inverted centre, an extreme rarity, only 7 or 8 specimens being known.
New South Wales. Sydney Views, 1d. red plate 1, a superb unused block of 5, in mint state, unique.
Ceylon, wmk. Star, clean-cut perforation, 4d. and 8d. unused with gum and very fine, 4d., 8d., 9d., 1/9 and 2/- imperforate, superb specimens and many others,

CATALOGUES of all Sales may be obtained of

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, (Philatelic Department),

35, Old Jewry, LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM, LONDON." Telephone Number, 3392 CENTRAL. ESTABLISHED 1761.

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Partners:
H. W. PLUMRIDGE
& J. H. TELFER.

STAMP AUCTIONEERS — AND —
COMMISSION AGENTS,
64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

OUR 192nd. & 193rd. SALES TUESDAY, and WEDNESDAY FEB. 16, & 17,
WILL BE HELD on

In the Arbitration Room, 64, Chancery Lane, at 4.45 p.m. sharp.

AND WILL INCLUDE

A VERY FINE LOT OF TRIANGULAR CAPES,

including large blocks of all values, and fine woodblocks; Queensland, imperf 1d., a pair, 2d. & 6d. very fine;
Tasmania £1 yellow and green, mint. New Brunswick 1/-. Newfoundland 1/-.
West Australia "not so clean cut" mint, etc., etc.

And a very fine Collection of Colonials, in superb condition,
(A Large proportion mint), broken into lots.

(For the convenience of our clients unable to view the lots the catalogue value of many is stated).

CATALOGUE FREE—NOW READY.

FUTURE DATES—1904—March, 1 & 2; 15 & 16; 29 & 30. April 19 & 20 May 2 & 3; 17 & 18; 31, and June 1; 15 & 16.

Settlements within 14 days after sale.

Commission 10 per cent. IMMEDIATE AND LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES.

Commissions executed for Clients unable to attend the sales WITHOUT charge and as much BELOW LIMITS as possible.

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All lots carefully examined previous to purchase.

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Telephone: 3473, CENTRAL.

(Specimen Page.)

Price 3d. Post Free.

PEMBERTON'S PRICE LIST

OF

British and Colonial Stamps 1904.

All Stamps priced are in Stock at time of publication.

P. L. PEMBERTON & CO., 229, High Holborn, London, W.C.

GREAT BRITAIN.

We only price Used Stamps of Great Britain, the two prices being for very fine copies and for ordinary used ones. Fine copies are perfect stamps with light cancellations, ordinary copies are also perfect but with the usual obliterations.

The prices of other countries in this List are for used and unused.

		Fine Used.	Ordinary Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
<i>Surcharg, in red.</i>			
102	3d. lilac	1 0	0 9
103	6d.	1 0	0 9

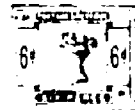


		Fine Used.	Ordinary Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
<i>1880. Wmk. Crown.</i>			
101	3d. pale green ..	0 1	0 4
105	3d. deep green ..	0 2	0 1
106	1d. venetian red ..	0 1	0 4
107	1 1/2d.	0 2	0 1
108	2d. carmine	0 5	0 3
109	5d. indigo	0 5	0 3



		Fine Used.	Ordinary Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
<i>1881. Wmk. Crown</i>			
110	1d. lilac, 14 dots ..	0 3	0 2
111	1d. .. 16	0 1/2	

Great Britain—continued.		Fine Used.	Ordinary Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
<i>1883. Blue Paper.</i>			
112	2 6 lilac	17 6	10 6
113	5/- carmine	17 6	12 6
<i>White paper.</i>			
111	2 6 lilac	0 4	0 3
115	2 6 deep lilac	0 4	0 3
116	5/- carmine	0 6	0 4
117	10/- blue	3 0	2 0
118	£1 brn. p'ple. 3 Crowns	15 0	12 0
119	£1 .. 3 Orbs..	21 0	16 0



<i>1883.</i>			
120	3d. deep slate	0 1	0 4
121	1 1/2d. lilac	0 3	0 2
122	2d.	0 6	0 4
123	2 1/2d.	0 2	0 1
124	3d.	0 5	0 3
125	4d. dull green.. ..	0 9	0 6
126	5d.	0 8	0 6
127	6d.	0 4	0 3
128	9d.	7 0	4 6
129	1	1 3	0 10



<i>1887. Wmk. Crown.</i>			
130	4d. vermilion	0 4	0 3
131	1 1/2d. purple and green	0 1	0 1/2
132	2d. green and carmine	0 1	0 1/2
133	2 1/2d. purple on blue ..	0 1	0 1/2
134	3d. brown on yellow ..	0 1	0 1/2
135	3d. .. on orange ..	10 0	
136	4d. green and brown ..	0 1	0 1/2
137	4 1/2d. .. and scarlet ..	0 2	0 1
138	5d. blue and blue	0 1	0 1/2
139	6d. purple on red	0 1	0 1/2
140	9d. .. and blue	0 2	0 1

SPECIMEN PAGE.

22 P. L. Pemberton & Co., 229, High Holborn, London, W.C.

Brit. S. Africa—continued. *Unused.* *Used.*
s. d. s. d.



	1898.			
54	½d. green	0 1	0 1	
55	1d. carmine	0 2	0 1	
56	2d. brown	0 3	0 2	
57	4d. sage-green	0 6		
58	6d. lilac	0 8	0 5	
59	1/- ochre	1 3	0 8	
60	5/- orange	6 0		
61	7/6 black	8 9		
62	£1 dull lilac	24 0		
	1902.			
63	2½d. pale blue	0 4	0 3	

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.



	1853. <i>Blued paper.</i>			
1	1d. red	6 0	3 0	
2	4d. blue	60 0		
	1855. <i>White paper.</i>			
3	1d. rose-red	12 0	3 0	
4	4d. blue	12 6	1 6	
5	6d. lilac		3 0	
6	6d. grey-lilac		17 0	
7	1/- yellow-green	12 6		
8	1/- deep green		15 0	
	<i>Blued paper.</i>			
9	6d. slate lilac	55 0	20 0	
	1863. <i>De la Rue printing.</i>			
10	1d. brown-red	15 0	8 0	
11	4d. deep blue		4 0	
12	4d. slate-blue		4 0	
13	6d. bright mauve	30 0	20 0	
14	1/- emerald-green		21 0	



	1864.			
15	1d. rose-red, CC, perf. 14	5 6	1 6	
16	4d. light blue	15 0	1 3	
17	4d. blue	13 6	0 5	
18	6d. violet	13 6	2 6	
19	6d. mauve	7 0	0 5	

Cape of Good Hope—continued. *Unused.* *Used.*
s. d. s. d.

20	1/- light green, CC., pf. 14	12 6	1 6
21	1/- dark green	30 0	3 0
22	4d. on 6d. violet,	25 0	3 6

	1871-80. <i>Without outer line.</i>		
23	½d. black, CC, perf. 14	1 6	1 6
24	1d. red	1 6	0 1½
25	4d. blue	16 6	0 3
26	4d. ultramarine	22 6	0 4
27	5/- orange		6 0

	1874-82. <i>Surcharges.</i>		
28	1d. in red on 6d. violet	45 0	20 0
29	1d. in black on 1/- green	5 6	6 0
30	3d. in red on 4d. blue	7 6	1 3
31	3d. in black on 4d. lilac-rose	5 6	1 0
32	3d. on 3d. lilac-rose, thin figure	21 0	3 6
33	3d. on 3d., thick fig.	3 0	0 6
33a	" inverted surch.		12 0

	1880-81. <i>Type of 1871, wmk. C. & CC.</i>		
34	3d. lilac-rose	40 0	3 6
35	3d. claret (81)	7 6	0 8

	1882.		
36	½d. on 3d. claret, CA, pf. 14	5 6	3 6
37	½d. black	2 0	0 2
38	1d. red	5 0	0 1½
39	2d. ochre	7 6	0 1½
40	3d. claret	1 0	0 2
41	6d. mauve		1 6
42	5/- orange-yellow		32 6

	1868-90.		
43	½d. black, Anchor wmk.	0 3	0 0½
44	1d. red	0 3	0 0½
45	2d. ochre	0 4	0 1
46	4d. blue	2 0	0 1
47	6d. violet	0 9	0 1
48	1/- green	22 6	0 4
49	5/- orange-yellow	16 0	0 10
50	2½d. on 3d. magenta	0 5	0 2

	1893.		
51	1/- green, without outer line	5 6	0 6
52	2½d. sage-green	3 0	0 2
53	2½d. blue	0 4	0 1
54	1d. on 2d. ochre	0 9	0 1½
54a	" " no stop	30 0	7 6



	1893.		
55	1d. carmine	0 2	0 0½
	1896-98. <i>Re-issue in new colours.</i>		
56	½d. green	0 1½	0 1
57	2d. red-brown	0 7	0 2
58	3d. magenta	0 5	0 2
59	4d. pale green	0 7	0 2
60	1 - pale yellow	1 6	0 2
61	5 - brown-orange	10 6	0 9

The next issue of the "Fortnightly" will be our Special Spring Number, consisting of 24 pages and cover. Many new features. Price one penny as usual.



Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club, The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange, The Northern Stamp Exchange Society, The Stamp Exchange Protection Society, The Enterprise Philatelic Society, The One and All Stamp Club, The Palace Philatelic Exchange Society, The British Empire Stamp Exchange Club.

No 233.—Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1904.

ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

Strangest Offer to Date.

One of the best known City dealers, Mr. Willy Jacoby, tells us the story of the quaintest offer he ever received. He advertised for stamps in one of the Sunday papers, and this was among the answers he received:

Seeing your advertisement, *re* old stamps, I have 1 that I wish to dispose of; it has the name of "Escuelas" on the Top, and "Centimos" on Bottom. The centre has a man in Military Uniform, and in each of 4 corners is the figure 5. It is fixed inside a silver watch and to detach it would no doubt spoil it as it is of a great value to collectors. I will sell it and watch combined; the value of watch is £3, please state the amount you will give for it.

The idea of buying a £3 watch to get a halfpenny stamp reminds us of a good story we once heard, but we forget what it was all about just now. Possibly it will come back to us in time for the next *Fortnightly*.

A Schoolmaster on Philately.

Mr. J. L. Paton, M.A., the headmaster of an important educational establishment at Manchester, believes with Pestalozzi and Froebel that the child is being educated in the playground as well as in the Schoolroom.

Carrying out this idea, he holds, as he told the members of the Manchester Branch of the Teachers' Guild on January 20th, that the schoolmaster should encourage his lads to have some hobby or another. If teachers took the right

view of hobbies they would exploit them for educational ends.

Stamp collecting appeared to be the hobby that Mr. Paton favoured. It is not in his opinion, a mere craze or fad, but an educational agency. Stamp collecting, he claimed, developed patience, perseverance, order, neatness and classification, and helped in the teaching of geography and contemporary politics.

Berlin's Big Philatelic Exhibition.

From a detailed preliminary prospectus of the Berlin Philatelic Exhibition, to be held in the German capital in the autumn, we gather that the divisions and classes will be as follows:

- Division I—*General Collections*. 4 classes and 5 sub-sections.
- Division II—*Specialised Collections*. German Empire and Colonies, 4 classes and 3 sub-sections. B. Great Britain and Colonies, 2 classes. C and D. Europe, including Colonies, 14 classes and 1 sub-section. E. Non-European countries: United States, 2 classes; other American countries, 1 class; countries other than included in foregoing, 1 class. F. Stamps on letter: German States, 1 sub-section; other countries, 1 sub-section. G. Rarities, 3 classes. H. Various, 2 classes and 10 sub-sections.
- Division III—*Literature, &c.* 3 classes and 6 sub-sections.

Many philatelists will think that Europe has too great a preponderance in this scheme of classification, and that the British Empire, philatelicly considered, is entitled to a greater showing than two classes out of 36.

The Hon. Secretary of the Exhibition, to whom we are indebted for particulars, is Dr. H. Lux, 8, Hauff-Strasse, Fridenau, Berlin, to whom all communications should be addressed.

Wanted, a British Commissioner.

One of our readers, a Nottingham philatelist, writes: "Could you kindly give me the name and address of the English Commissioner for the Berlin Philatelic Exhibition, as I intend sending an exhibit?"

We are sorry we cannot. There is no British Commissioner, but it would certainly be an excellent idea in connection with international philatelic exhibitions for each of the chief philatelic nations to appoint a Commissioner—some person of repute and well-known to philatelists—who would

organise his own country's exhibits, superintend their safe transit to the scene of the exhibition, and attend to all matters of entry, insurance, etc.

Philatelists under a Cloud.

Mr. Frederick Boone, of Newmarket, has reason to regret having entered into dealings with one C. Duncan, styling himself "Secretary of the Montpelier Stamp Exchange," and living at 49, Albany Road, Montpelier, Bristol. Some British stamps were sent to Duncan, and no settlement can be obtained. Mr. Boone is in correspondence with the Bristol police on the subject.

As to Alfonso Castellano, now under arrest in Jersey City, U.S.A., his creditors in this country have scant prospect of receiving payment. An American correspondent of the *Fortnightly* reports that he is in debt all round the New York stamp trade.

A Stamp Show in Paris.

Mons. Th. Lemaire, of Paris, announces a public exhibition of a special collection of French stamps on March 3rd to March 7th next, at 16, Avenue de l'Opera. Admission will be free by ticket, and readers of the *Fortnightly* who may be resident in, or visiting Paris on the dates mentioned should apply to Mons. Lemaire for a *carte d'entree* to what promises to be a very interesting little philatelic show.

A Warning from Russia.

Mr. Charles J. Hill, who is British Vice-Consul at Libau, Russia, sends this warning to Stamp Collectors to the "Standard" and other newspapers of January 27th:

Permit me by means of "The Standard," to bring before the notice of philatelists in general, and stamp dealers and collectors in particular, the following warning. A certain Mrs. A. Seeborg of this town, giving a fictitious address at No. 8, Kurhaus Boulevard—the best street in this town—has been writing to various stamp dealers and collectors in London and other places in Great Britain and on the Continent for the purpose of getting them to send her stamps for selection, and has been using my name as a reference—the individual in question being a total stranger to me. In my replies to those who have asked for information regarding Mrs. Seeborg's respectability, etc., and whether she could be entrusted with stamps to the value of several hundred pounds for selection, I have replied to the effect that she was perfectly unknown to me, and had no right to give my name as a reference, and strongly recommended that no stamps should be sent her without valid security.

From information received, I have ascertained that Mrs. A. Seeborg does not reside at the address given, but in quite a different and low part of the town, where, if you call, she is either not at home or on a journey. I trust that in the interests of my fellow-subjects, you will consider this warning of sufficient importance to bring before the public, and that the various Philatelic journals may likewise notice the same, in the interests of those who make the collecting of postage stamps either a trade or a hobby.

A Post Card and a Moral.

One of the latest testimonies to the merit of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* takes the form of a post-card, reading as follows:

Please stop advertisement for a short time. I have so many replies to same! I will write you again when to re-insert.

The post-card can be seen, if desired, at the "S.C.F." offices. It is only one of many similar tributes we have received, but our advertisement manager thinks it quite a gem, and talks of having it framed and hanging it up in his bedroom.

The moral we think will be obvious to all.

The Postage Stamp Dance.

There is promise of a large attendance at the Fifth Annual Dance of the Junior Philatelic Society, in Raleigh Hall, Saltoun Road, Brixton. This dance which has always been an enjoyable and well attended function is an important feature of the social side of the Junior Society's work.

The sale of tickets is unusually brisk this year and as the accommodation is limited, any members and friends who would like to be present should write the Secretary, Mr. H. F. Johnson, 9, Lorne Terrace, South Lambeth, S.W.

From the Auction Rooms.

Messrs. Jaggard's Sales in Liverpool.

A very fine Collection of British, Foreign and Colonial stamps is to be dispersed at auction by Messrs. Jaggard and Co., of Liverpool, on February 25, 26 and 27, the scene of sale being the Alexandra Hotel, Dale Street, Liverpool. There are some fine Capes, Ceylons, Canadians, New Brunswicks, Mauritius "Post Paid," Nova Scotians and Sydney Views. Philatelists who have not yet seen a catalogue, can obtain one, post free, from Messrs. Jaggard and Co., 13, Moorfields, Liverpool, by mentioning the *Fortnightly*.

Messrs. J. SCOTT & Co.'s Sale

Oct. 26, 27, 28 & 29. Nov. 30. Dec. 1, 2 & 3, 1903
(Concluded.)

Martinique, 1886, 5c. on 20c. green, *	...	...	...	1	8	0
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 1864, 4/8s. red	...	...	...	4	0	0
Mexico, 1892, 5p. blue-green,	...	...	...	2	2	0
Do. 1892, 10p. blue-green, *	...	...	...	4	11	0
Natal, 1858, 1d. rose	...	...	...	5	6	0
New Brunswick, 1857, 7½d. (two 3d. and half of 3d.), on orig.	...	...	...	3	9	0
New Caledonia, 1892, perf. imperf. 10 on 1fr. bronze-green, *	...	...	...	5	0	0
Newfoundland, 1857, 2d. scarlet-vertimilion	...	...	...	6	0	0
Do. 4d. scarlet-vertimilion	...	...	...	5	8	0
Do. 8d. scarlet-vertimilion, a block of 10, *	...	...	...	10	4	0
Niger Coast Protectorate, 1892, ½d. on half of 1d., violet and red surcharge, block of 4	...	...	...	10	8	0
Do. do. do. ½ on half of 1d., red surcharge, block of 8	...	...	...	7	12	0
Do. do. do. 1894, ½d. on half of 1d. red	...	...	...	3	4	0
Do. do. do. violet surcharge, 5/- on 2d. green and carmine, *	...	...	...	9	0	0
Do. do. do. 10sh. on 5d. lilac and blue, *	...	...	...	9	16	0
Do. do. do. blue surcharge, ½d. on 2d. green and carmine	...	...	...	4	0	0
North Borneo, 1887, 10dol. brown, a pair, *	...	...	...	2	18	0
Nossi Be, 1889, 25c. on 10c. red	...	...	...	3	8	0
Do. do. Unpaid, 1891, 20c. on 1c. lilac-blue, *	...	...	...	2	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1851, 3d. blue, pair, and half of 3d., used as 7½d., on original	...	...	...	2	14	0
Obock, 1894, 50frs. brown-violet and green, *	...	...	...	2	0	0
Oldenburg, 1860, 1g. orange, a block of 4, *	...	...	...	3	4	0
Persia, 1878, 5k. violet, a block of 4, *	...	...	...	2	0	0
Peru, 1862, 1d. green, arms embossed, inverted	...	...	...	3	8	0
Philippine Islands, 1854, 1r. blue, *	...	...	...	5	0	0
Do. do. 1r. slate-blue, block of 8	...	...	...	17	16	0
Do. do. 2r. green, *	...	...	...	5	4	0
Do. do. 1863, 1r. violet, *	...	...	...	6	0	0
Do. do. Habitado, 1868, 2r. blue, *	...	...	...	9	12	0
Porto Rico, 1878, 10c. red-brown, *	...	...	...	2	17	0
Portuguese India, 1891, 600r. deep red-violet, *	...	...	...	2	12	0
Prince Edward Island, 1865, 9d. violet, 1868, 4d. black, both in pairs, imperf. between, *	...	...	...	5	4	0
Prussia, 1857, 2sg. dark blue, a pair, *	...	...	...	17	4	0
Do. 3sg. orange, a pair *	...	...	...	3	4	0
Roumania, 1854, 27pa. rose	...	...	...	40	0	0
Do. 54pa. blue, on original	...	...	...	16	0	0
Do. 108pa. blue on rose, on original	...	...	...	33	0	0
Do. 1869, 15ba. vermilion, laid paper, a pair	...	...	...	3	12	0
Russia, 1890, 2k. green, imperf. pair	...	...	...	2	6	0
Do. Levant, 1864, 6k. dark blue, *	...	...	...	2	0	0
Do. Levant, 1865, 2k. brown and blue	...	...	...	5	10	0
Do. Levant, 1865, 20k. blue and red	...	...	...	5	12	0
Do. Levant, 1866, vertical network, 20k. blue and rose, *	...	...	...	2	8	0
St. Christopher, 1887, 1d. on ½d. green, surcharge inverted	...	...	...	3	18	0
Do. 1d. on 2½d. blue, inverted surcharge, *	...	...	...	5	0	0
St. Helena, 1863, imperf. 1d. red (surcharge 19mm.), a pair, *	...	...	...	2	2	0
St. Pierre Miquelon, 1891, 15c. on 35c., small type	...	...	...	2	5	0
Saxony, 1850, 3p. red, on piece	...	...	...	4	10	0
Do. 1855, 10ng. blue, a pair, *	...	...	...	3	16	0
Seychelles, 1892, 12c. on 16c. brown and blue, inverted surcharge, *	...	...	...	3	4	0
Somali Coast, 1894, 50frs. blue and rose, *	...	...	...	2	2	0
Spain, 1851, 2r. orange, *	...	...	...	26	12	0
Do. 1851, 10r. green, *	...	...	...	2	10	0
Do. 1852, 2r. red	...	...	...	15	0	0
Do. 1852, 5r. green	...	...	...	2	10	0
Do. 1853, Madrid, 3c. bronze, *	...	...	...	19	4	0
Do. 1854, 1r. light blue	...	...	...	8	0	0
Do. 1865, 12c. blue and rose, frame inverted	...	...	...	5	5	0

Stellaland, 1888, 2d. on 4d. blue, *	...	...	...	4	0	0
Straits Settlements, 1867, 12c. green and rose, double sur-charge, *	...	...	...	5	0	0
Selangor, 1882, C.A. 2c. brown and red, with inverted surch., *	...	...	...	3	16	0
Do. 1882, 2c. brown, capital S in black	...	...	...	4	12	0
Switzerland, Geneva, 1843, 10c. yellow-green	...	...	...	14	16	0
Do. Zurich, 1843, vertical lines, 4r. black on large piece	...	...	...	9	0	0
Do. Zurich, 1843, horizontal lines, 4r. black	...	...	...	9	0	0
Do. 1849, 4c. red and black (Vaud)	...	...	...	16	0	0
Tasmania, 1853, 1d. blue	...	...	...	4	11	0
Transvaal, 1878, 2/- blue, *	...	...	...	2	4	0
Trinidad, 1832, lithographed 1d. blue, early impression	...	...	...	3	8	0
Turkey, 1867, 25pi. orange-red, *	...	...	...	2	11	0
Tuscany, 1851, 2s. brick red, pair	...	...	...	13	0	0
Do. 1852, 60c. brown-red, on original	...	...	...	12	0	0
Naples, provisional govt., 1860, ½t. blue	...	...	...	11	0	0
Uruguay, 1857, 120c. blue, *	...	...	...	2	18	0
Do. Official, 1880, 1 peso blue, pair, *	...	...	...	2	0	0
Victoria, 1861-6, 6l. orange	...	...	...	3	12	0
Do. 1868, 5/- blue and carmine, *	...	...	...	2	3	0
Western Australia, 1860, 2d. vermilion, a block of 1, *	...	...	...	2	8	0
Do. do. 1861, 1/- green, imperf. pair, *	...	...	...	2	6	0
Do. do. 1861, 6l. violet, imperf. pair, *	...	...	...	2	4	0
Do. do. 1865, 2d. lilac, error of colour	...	...	...	11	11	0
Do. do. 1865, 1/- green, imperf. pair, *	...	...	...	2	4	0
Wurtemberg, 1869, 70kr. violet, *	...	...	...	3	1	0
Do. 1875, 2m. vermilion, *	...	...	...	7	8	0
Do. 1881, 2m. black and orange, imperf. pair, *	...	...	...	3	4	0
Zululand, 1880, ½d. green, double surcharge, *	...	...	...	2	0	0

Messrs VENTOM BULL & COOPER'S Sale
January 7 and 8, 1904.

Great Britain, 1847-54, 1d. red plate No 225 *	...	...	...	1	18	0
Do. 1867-83, wmk Maltese Cross, 10s. grey-green, strip of three...	...	...	...	3	3	0
Do. Telegraph Stamps, 1876-81, £1 brown-lilac, a pair	...	...	...	1	4	0
Do. Do. £5 Orange	...	...	...	1	10	0

Our Special Spring Number.

THE Special Spring Issue of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY this year will be a big thing of 24 pages and cover. Some of the features of the number may be indicated in advance:

1.—THE "FORTNIGHTLY'S" PRIZE ESSAYISTS.

The Awards in our Competition will be given, and the chief Winning Essay will be published.

2.—THE GREAT "NEW ISSUES" QUESTION.

A mass of interesting views and opinions as to the hoarding of unused Colonials of new and recent emissions, and also as to the hoarding of New Issues by the speculatively-inclined.

3.—AUCTIONS AT THE ARGYLL GALLERIES.

An interesting "Fortnightly Chat," the subjects this time being Messrs. Glendinning & Co., the well-known Auctioneers of Stamps, Coins and Curios.

4.—"ASKED AND ANSWERED.

An old and popular feature of the *Fortnightly* revived.

5.—SOME RECENT FORGERIES ILLUSTRATED.

6.—CATALOGUE PRICES.

A continuation of our Articles on Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' British Empires Catalogue.

ETC., ETC., ETC.

The Number will consist of 24 pages and cover, but will remain at its usual price—ONE PENNY.

On Postal Cards and Covers.

BY A SPECIALIST.

The place of honour in my Chronicle this month I give to a new and unique specimen now before me, issued by the Johore Post Office, which Messrs. Pio and Mahmoud of Singapore have kindly sent for notice. It bears in centre of inscription, the arms of the State in orange relief, with POST on left, CARD on right, and JOHORE in slightly smaller type below the arms, the instructions are given in both English and native characters, printed in black on a deep buff cardboard. The peculiarity of this card is that whilst it is quite correctly an *official* issue it bears no stamp of value.

Postcard:—Orange and Black on deep Buff. No value.

Antigua — The "M.C." chronicle new stationery, bearing the latest pictorial type of stamp as follows:

- Envelopes. 1d. carmine on white laid.
2d. blue on white
- Registered Envelope. 2d. blue, size G.
- Wrapper. ½d. green on buff.
1d. carmine on buff
- Postcards. ½d. green on cream.
1d. carmine on cream.
1d. and 1½d. carmine on cream.

Bechuanaland — A Provisional Registration Envelope — the King's Head type of Great Britain, surcharged, is to hand.

Reg. Env. "Duty ½d." on 3d. brown.

Ceylon — The King's Head series for this Colony have been added to by the issue of a letter card, and two envelopes:

Letter-card:—5c. brown on blue.

Envelope.—(1) 2c. dark blue on green, the inscription reading "District Letter Envelope, price 2½ cents—This envelope will not pass through more than one Post Office, will only be delivered when called for, and will not be redirected."

(2) 6c. brown on white—value in words

Dominica — The "M.C." announce new pictorial stamp stationery as follows:—

- Envelopes:—1d. carmine on white.
2d. blue on white.
- Reg. Env.:—2d. blue, size G
- Wrappers:—½d. green on buff.
1d. carmine on buff
- Postcards:—½d. green on cream.
1d. carmine on cream.
1 and 1½d. carmine on cream

Montserrat — "E.W.S.N." chronicle a new set of stationery, which like the latest issues of Antigua etc., have a stamp of pictorial design, date of issue given as September, 1903.

- Envelopes:—1d. carmine on white.
2d. blue on white.
- Reg. Env.:—2d. blue, size G.
- Wrapper:—½d. green on buff.
1d. carmine on cream.
1d. x 1d. carmine on cream.

Seychelles — A King's Head type, Registration Envelope is announced.

Registered Envelope:—12c. blue on white.

Siam — New Postcards of the value of 6 and 12atts. are being prepared to replace the current 4 and 8att. issue.

The Auction advertised by Messrs. Glendinning for March 14-15th, will, apparently be the finest chance ever offered to collectors of Postal Cards and Covers, as we understand from the catalogue, there will be at least 4000 varieties on view, many items not being priced in Gibbons. The lots average about 100 pieces each, and the arrangement of them caters for every class of collector; judging by what we have seen of other sales, it would pay a new collector of these pieces to buy up all the small lots, as he could secure a good collection of one to three thousand varieties at less cost and trouble than he would spend in a year or two trying to get together such a variety.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

LONDON, FEBRUARY, 13, 1904.

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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New Zealand's "Disgrace."

A remarkable article appeared in a recent number of the "London Philatelist," entitled "The Disgrace of New Zealand." In it the Government of New Zealand was taken severely to task for the too frequent variations in its recent postal issues, and the organ of the London Philatelic Society did not scruple to suggest that, in ringing the changes on perf., and printings and watermarks, New Zealand considered rather the philatelic "market" than the exigencies of the public service. A certain sympathy with the writer of the article, both in his arguments and in his conclusions, prompted the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* to reproduce the greater part of the article. It thus happens that the sequel—in the shape of two letters, defending the action of the New Zealand authorities interests the readers of the *Fortnightly* quite as much as those of the "London Philatelist."

These two letters, written respectively by Mr. A. T. Bate and Professor A. Hamilton, stoutly protest that the postal authorities of New Zealand are quite above such sordid considerations as the creation of frequent unnecessary varieties of postage stamps as a means of raising revenue from collectors. Well, we hope they are. Mr. A. T. Bate, in particular, declares that in a further letter (his first being written hurriedly in time for the mail) he will be able to prove conclusively that the "London Philatelist's" article was founded on a total misconception of the position. Well, we hope that he will!

Professor A. Hamilton, on the other hand, writes: "Any philatelist in New Zealand could have told the authorities how to increase their revenue from the sale of stamps, but no suggestion of this kind would even be considered in either of the Departments concerned." Again we hope so! But why a Professor at the Otago University should be able to speak with such certainty as to the attitude of the New Zealand Government is a thing that passes our comprehension.

The Philatelic Investor's Standpoint.

Whether these gentlemen, Mr. A. T. Bate and Professor A. Hamilton, are going to prove all they say, or whether they "do protest too much," time will decide. But we shall welcome any fair and open discussion of the subject; and in saying that we feel sure that we are only echoing the inmost wish of every collector of British Colonial stamps.

Of late there have been significant head-shakings among buyers of Colonial stamps. After a generation of steady belief in the stability and the absolutely unimpeachable character of the postal issues of our Colonies, there has crept into the mind of the British Empire specialist a feeling of uneasiness with regard to the future. Why? Recent performances on the part of Seychelles, St. Helena, the Leeward Islands, New Zealand, etc., surely supply an adequate answer?

For some years we in this country have said nothing. We have been amiably quiescent. "Oh yes," we have said, in effect—"a new issue by a British Colony? Certainly! Beautiful designs aren't they?" Never a word as to whether

the new stamps were strictly necessary. Oh, dear no! They were from a British Colony—wasn't that enough?

Is it enough? We used to think so, but now we begin to fear that possibly the fact of a stamp emanating from a British Colonial postal department is not an absolute guarantee that the stamp is a genuinely necessary issue. In the past we have shrunk from saying or writing anything against British Colonial issues, because we were old-fashioned enough to be patriotic, and we like to think (if we cannot always be quite sure) that our own country and our own country's Colonies are right in all they do.

A murmur of discontent is rising from the ranks of the collectors of Colonials, and it behoves us all to see to it that no stone is left unturned to check any tendency on the part of the postal administrations of any of our Colonies to sink to the level of a Seebeckised South American Republic. Those of us who hold valuable collections of British Colonial stamps would speedily begin to think our holdings a less secure investment if the methods, say, of the British North Borneo Company in postage-stamp flotation were to become common to all parts of the British Empire. New Zealand might become another Nicaragua. Canada might fall to Ecuador's philatelic level. Who collects Nicaragua now? Who specialises Ecuador? These States were "Seebeckised"—and, philatelically, ruined. Let us see to it that no hanky panky game is played with the issues of the British Empire.

Some may think we have spoken too freely. Well, we have spoken just as we feel. The cloud on the Colonial specialist's horizon is at present only "the bigness of a man's hand," but who shall say how soon it might completely overshadow us if no steps were taken to thwart the projects of the common enemy!

We await the further explanations of New Zealand's champions, Mr. A. T. Bate and Professor Hamilton, with interest, almost with anxiety. In our eyes, and in the eyes of many thousands of philatelists who are able to read aright the lessons of the past, New Zealand is on her trial before a jury of philatelists. We hope she will come out of it with flying colours. It would be a pity indeed if one of our finest and fairest Colonies should be adjudged guilty of that greatest sin, in the stamp collectors' estimation, "gumpapism"!

Concerning New Issues.

What we have said on this subject of New Zealand leads us naturally to the broad question of New Issues as a whole. There seems to be a consensus of opinion that new issues are not so generally collected as formerly, and when one asks "Why?" the usual answer is, "Because New Issues are being 'overdone.' The average collector cannot afford to keep pace with them." But there is another side to the question. Unwise counsels, as we judge them, have led many philatelists into a habit of hoarding newly-issued Colonials in blocks and panes and sheets, in the hope, of course, that their "investments," as they are pleased to call them, will one day yield them a handsome return. Now an opportunity is given us of publishing a number of most interesting opinions on the points we have set forth. The following letter from Messrs. Chas. Nissen and Co., publishers of the "Stamp Collectors' Annual" will explain:

77, High Holborn, W.C., 30 January.

Dear Mr. Bishop,

As you are aware, a number of prominent philatelists were invited to give their views in the "Stamp Collectors' Annual," as to the New Issues question; but unfortunately we were unable to find room for the many interesting replies received, despite the fact that we increased the number of pages from 112 to 136. It is a very far cry from one "Annual" to another, so we venture to suggest that you publish the opinions in the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* with such comments as you may see fit. This will avert the loss, or at any rate the postponement, of a most interesting article, and will also, we feel sure, provide an attractive topic for discussion by *Fortnightly* readers.—Yours Very Faithfully,

C. NISSEN AND CO.

We had at first intended to publish the letters referred to in this number of the *Fortnightly*, but have decided that it would be wiser to hold them over until the next issue, which will be our Special Spring Number, consisting of 24 pages and cover, at the usual price of one penny. Readers of the "S.C.F." who may wish to express their views on New Issues are cordially invited to do so, and their letters also will be added to the symposium so far as space permits.

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SEYCHELLES, 1890, set of 8, Die 1, 22 - Cat 29 3, set of 6, Die 2, 2, 10, cat. 13, 1893, set of five, 16 10, cat. 22 5. Free list of Seychelles for 1d. stamp Army Official 1 x 1d., 10d., 100.—EDMUND RONDEL, St. Clements, Jersey.

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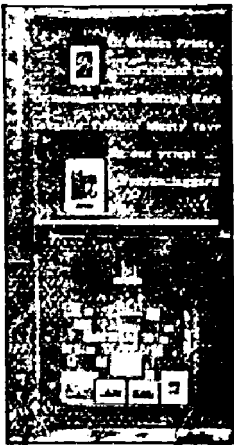
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25	Uruguay	2 0
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" " " " 2 1/2d. blue	0 6	
" " " " 4d. brown	0 8	
Dominica, 1883-90, 1/2d. green	0 3	
" " " " 1d. rose	0 5	
" " " " 2 1/2d. blue	1 0	
" " " " 4d. grey	1 6	
Montserrat, 1879-83, 1/2d. green	0 6	
" " " " 1d. red	0 8	
" " " " 2 1/2d. blue	2 0	
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" " " " 1d. rose	1 3	
" " " " 2 1/2d. blue	2 0	
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" " " " 1d. red	0 5	
" " " " 2 1/2d. blue	2 0	

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B. C. Africa, 1895, no wmk. 1d., 2d., 1d., 6d.	4	7	6
1898, C.A., 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 5	11	9	0
B. E. Africa Co. 1891, 4s. to 1 rupee, (set of 10)	3	9	0
B. So. Africa, on Cape. 4d., 1d., (set, 2 6)	pair	1	3
£1 black on green	...	3	0
Cyprus, 1886, Die II, set of 7 complete	...	15	0
1894-6, set of 10	...	15	0
12, 18, 45 piastres (3)	...	12	0
Dominica, 1d. grey, 6d. orange	...	7	6
1 on half 1d. S.G. 1s. pair (cat. at 12)	...	50	0
Falkland Islands. 4d. C.A. sideways (cat. 20)	...	7	6
Ecuador, 1895, Jubilee set of 7	...	0	8
Fiji, 1878, 1d. surcharged V.R. imperf.	...	2	0
2d. on 3d. green	...	2	6
4d. on 3d. mauve	...	4	0
1879, 3d. on 3d. green, perf.	...	1	0
Gibraltar, 1890 (surcharged) set of 7	...	7	6
British Colonies. 50 varieties used	...	0	6
Ditto ditto 100 do. do.	...	1	9

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This Weeks Bargains.

Postage Extra.	My Price.
Gt. Britain, Army Official, 4d. Queen, error "OFFICIAL"	7 6
" " " 2½d. Queen	0 3
" " Board of Education 1d. King	0 5
Gold Coast, 1894, 2 - green and carmine	0 9
Jamaica, 2 - Queen's Head, Mint	2 4
" " " " " " " "	5 8
Zanzibar, 1890, 5 rupee	3 6
12 Bavarian, 1841, 1901, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 80 pf. and 1 and 2 mark	0 0
7 German, 1800, "Reichspost," 25, 30, 40, 50, 80 pf. 1 and 2 mark	0 6

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VOL. VIII.

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List of Bargains for the next fortnight.

SIERRA LEONE. 1881, 5 - on 1 - green, cancelled by red line ... 3 6.
Ditto ditto ditto reversed surcharge ... 10.

GREAT BRITAIN. Control Letters, unused.			
Stamp.	Con. Letter.	Perf. margin.	Imperf. margin.
4d vermilion	H.	1s.	2s.
"	J.	4d.	3d.
"	K.	2s. 6d.	
"	L.	2s.	3s. 6d.
"	M.	3d.	4d.
"	N.	9d.	2s.
"	O.	2s.	1s.
"	P.	6d.	1s.
4d. green	R.	6d.	9d.

GREAT BRITAIN (unused)

2 1/2d. purple on blue, Head of Queen, no marginal outer line	..	2 6
3d. pale brown on yellow	Do. do.	2 6
6d. purple on rose-red	Do. do.	2 6
1d. lilac, Inland Revenue, large	..	6d.
1d. Do. payable on demand or receipt	..	6d.

(Used.)

4d. red plate 9. ... 3 6.

Oxford Union Society.

1d. red, surcharged O.U.S. ... 1 6.
1d. " " (on original cover) ... 2 6.

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1890: 1 cent on 1, 2, 3 & 4 dollars used, catalogued at 2 2, our price 1 - the set.
1888-89. Surcharged series, used.

	cat. price.		cat. price.
1 cent purple	.. .. 4d.	8 cents purple	.. .. 8d.
2 " "	.. .. 2 -	2 " "	.. .. 2 -
3 " "	.. .. 3d.	red & black surcharge	.. .. 4d.
4 " "	.. .. 5d.		
6 " "	.. .. 1 8		
		Total	5 6

Our price for the lot. 2 6 only.

Persia, 10 francs (large) 1882-84 used, 1 3.
Mauritius, Gibbons' 108, May 1865, 2c. on 38c. lilac, used, cat. 6 - Our price 3 -
Italy, six Parcelstamps surcharged VALEVOLE, etc., cat. at 1 - our price the set 5d.
A few of the stamps as advertised in last issue still for sale.

Look out for fresh bargains next issue.

Sheets sent on approval on receipt of satisfactory references.

Try our Stamp Mounts 5d. per 1,000, post free.

Great Britain Stamps.

2d. Blue no lines, Irish obliterations...	...	8 6
" " Scotch " ...	...	8 6
" " " a strip of 3 ...	...	20 0
" " English " ...	...	5 0
" " Towns " ...	...	7 6
2d. " 1841 Irish in blue ...	...	8 6
" " English " ...	...	5 0
1d. black, double letter in corner, on envelope	...	7 6
1d. red, 1841, worn plate, pair mint ...	...	8 0
2/- blue, unused ...	...	60 0
£1 green, I.R. Official, very fine ...	...	45 0
5d. O.W. Official, fine ...	...	50 0
12 piastres on 2 6 (Queen) block of 6 very fine	...	17 6
2 1/2d. Error, I.H. F.L.	...	
1 - Queen's Head, I.R. Official, red and green	...	17 6
1 - Board of Education.	...	
10d. O.W. Official. King's Head.	...	
2d. blue 1840, wmk, inverted.	...	

The Stamp Collectors' Annual. Edited by PERCY C. BISHOP
Post-free, 1/-

CHAS. NISSEN & Co.,
77/78, High Holborn,
London, W.C.

Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue.

REVIEW OF THE PRICES IN PART I.

(Continued from S.C.F. No. 232.)

We have received an interesting letter from "W.E.W." re our criticism of prices for Great Britain. He considers the 1/- of 1887 underpriced in an unused condition and points out that it went out of circulation suddenly, few collectors knowing beforehand that it would be replaced by the bi-coloured shilling in 1900. Many dealers and collectors therefore who make a practice of putting away for future use a few copies of stamps about to go out of issue, found that it had disappeared from the Post-offices.

We quite agree that fewer copies of this stamp have been hoarded in this way than of the later stamp in two colours, and, in time, unused copies may become relatively scarce. At present, the market is fairly well supplied and the stamp can be had retail for about 1/9, while the later 1/- can readily be purchased at about 1/3. As the earlier stamp was in use for 13 years and the other for about 2 years, used copies of the latter will appreciate more than used copies of the former. In a few years time we may find No. 211 catalogued at 5/- unused, 9d. used, and No. 214 priced at 3/- unused, 2/- used.

We must now pass on to the Colonial stamps. In ANTIGUA we find Nos. 5-9 all raised considerably. Nos. 5, 6 and 8 perhaps too much. No. 9, the 6d. yellow-green, we have always had a good opinion of; it may be expected to rise further. We notice that the 1d. is now catalogued imperf. in all three colours; we think it extremely improbable that imperforate specimens of three different printings were put into circulation.

The last half dozen editions of the catalogue show that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Co. change their opinions with regard to these stamps at frequent intervals. Perhaps next year they will catalogue the 6d. imperforate again and omit one or more of the 1d. values. We ourselves have seen copies of some of these stamps with fair margins but we are not disposed to express confidence in them in the absence of pairs. Of the stamps with CC. watermark, we think No. 18 likely to rise further. No. 19 is, of course, a good stamp, but copies not infrequently change hands at auction at a great deal below catalogue price. No. 23 is not rare, but is relatively cheap at 1/6. Of the 1884 set, the 4d. unused can be bought in quantity at a good deal less than three times face value, and there are many copies of the 1d. (unused), in existence somewhere although we have not heard of large quantities being offered recently at auction.

Concerning the first stamp of BAHAMAS, we regard the status of the remainders on thin paper as debatable. Should they be classed with stamps prepared for use but not issued? If so, how should we deal with the early issues of Barbados and Trinidad? The unused copies of these on the market are mostly remainders, and, in some cases, they cannot be distinguished from the stamps issued. In other cases, Barbados No. 9 for example, there is a distinct difference between them. Of the perforated Bahamas without watermark it is difficult to pick out one stamp as more likely to rise than the others; they are all scarce in good condition. Of the next issue, No. 17 has been reduced to 12/6 unused, though there are a few copies on the market at present, we expect it will rise again in a year or two. No. 27 is a stamp that has come down and should rise again. Great care should, however, be exercised in buying it unused as there are a fair number of pen-marked copies in existence, and it requires considerable skill to detect copies that have been faked by cleaning. Nos. 28 and 29 are likely to rise. Nos. 33 and 36 are priced too high for used copies.

The stamps of BANGKOK are better worth buying in unused condition than used. The advanced collector generally prefers unused stamps, while the less experienced collector is likely to postpone filling up the spaces provided in his Album for these stamps for fear of being taken in by forgeries.

Of the stamps of BARBADOS, Nos. 1 and 2 are scarce. No. 9 is well worth buying unused at 15/- or more, if of the same colour and on the same paper as those that were used. Nos. 11, 12 are both very rare in mint condition

and should be worth more than catalogue price thus. We don't know why No. 44 should have come down; there is no doubt that it is very scarce. No. 57 is a stamp that might rise and also No. 60. Nos. 63 and 64 are good stamps, but having regard to the prices they make at auction, the reduction of quotations for them is perhaps justified. No. 79 should go up in the next catalogue, if the commonest shade of the 1/- is put at 1/6, the commoner of the shades of the 6d. should not be less than half that amount. We still think the 4d. grey, No. 97, too cheap at 6d. used, we should be very glad to take copies of this stamp in exchange for used specimens of No. 104 which is priced 33 per cent higher.

The early issues of BECHUANALAND show a decided advance; in the case of No. 8, used, the rise is perhaps too great; Nos. 11, 12 and 15, which have remained stationary, should rise in the future. Either No. 14 is too high at 2/-, or No. 15 too low at 8d. No. 24 has been rightly raised but we see no reason for lowering No. 25, which is a stamp we should buy. Nos. 41 and 42 have risen and will, we think, rise more in the future. Nos. 50 to 59 are all good stamps to buy, and so perhaps are the next four for anyone with capital to spare. No. 67 unused at 1/- seems very cheap.

Of the stamps of BERMUDA, No. 6 is scarce both unused and used. No. 15 we should be inclined to price higher than No. 13, with which at present it stands on a par. No. 20 is dear at 6d. used. Nos. 22 and 23 are both scarce unused. Used copies of 26, 28 and 29 are worth buying if offered at half catalogue, but they will have to be kept for some years before they yield much profit. Considerable stocks of all the values which have recently been superseded by the new issue are in the hands of dealers, collectors and speculators and it will be a long time before there is any great rise in the market values of unused copies, and used copies will not probably be priced higher, even if actually scarcer.

(To be continued.)

A Stamp Exhibition in Liverpool.

In connection with the first Colonial Produce Exhibition opened in St. George's Hall, Liverpool, by the Duke of Marlborough, there was a fine exhibit of Colonial stamps by Messrs. Jaggard and Co., being the Colonial Section of a general collection of 18000 varieties. Each of the fine stamps shown was a distinct variety, no attention having been paid by the Collector to shades or perforations.

The stamps were artistically arranged on large sheets framed and glazed.

The following rarities, in superb condition, formed part of the exhibit:

Bermuda. Complete set of surcharges.
 B.E.A. Gibbons' Nos. 1, 2, 3, mint, and 1895, complete.
 Ceylon. 8d., 9d. and 1/9, imperf.
 Cape of Good Hope. Woodblocks.
 Gambia. Imperfs. and 1/- CC., mint.
 Mauritius. Four Post Paid.
 New Brunswick. 3d., 6d. and 1/-
 Newfoundland. 1/- orange- vermilion, thin paper.
 New South Wales. Nine Sydney Views and 1853, 8d., unused.
 St. Lucia. 1860, 1d., 1d. and 6d. and 1882, complete, unused.
 Tasmania. 1853, 1d.; 1855, 1d.; 1856, 1d. and 1870, 4d.
 Tobago. 6d., C.A., mint.
 Turks Islands. Gibbons' Nos. 23, 30, 33, 34, 41, and 42, all unused.
 Zululand. Gibbons' Nos. 1 to 11, 16 and 20 to 28, mint.

Colonial Picture stamps were distributed free to visitors by Messrs. Jaggard and Co., including the Canadian Map Stamp, which won universal admiration from non-collectors and will no doubt induce many of them to become Philatelists.

Some of the inscriptions and exhortations on Messrs. Jaggard's show frames are good enough to repeat:

Stamp collecting develops a taste for, and knowledge of Fine Art, Colour, Design, Portraiture, Engraving, Watermarks, etc.

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Philately is the Schoolmaster's greatest friend.

The linking up of the Motherland and her Colonies has been influenced more by Stamp Collecting than any other hobby or pursuit.

Stamp Collecting is a sound investment because a steady increase takes place year by year in the better classes.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' REPORTS.

Secretaries are requested to assist the Editor by sending in their reports not later than the Monday preceding publication.

BRISTOL & CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting was held at 2, Archfield Road, Cotnam Park, on January 11. There was a good number of members present, with Mr. P. J. Lloyd in the chair.

The Hon. Sec. read his report which showed the Club was in a very flourishing condition, that the meetings held were well attended, and that the displays of various countries had been of great interest. The Exchange Packet, which is circulated monthly, is well supported and the sales have been quite up to the standard of former years. The commission charged is 5 per cent on nett balances.

It was again resolved that the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* should be the official organ and be free to members.

The Officers and Committee were elected.

President: Mr. P. J. Lloyd; Vice-President: Alderman Gardner, J.P.; Committee: Messrs. R. Dalton, J. H. Reynolds, J. W. Stoke, J. Perrett, D. H. McPherson, G. Harrison.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. Henry Alsop, 2, Archfield Road, Cotnam Park, Bristol.

It was resolved to hold a Philatelic Exhibition in Bristol in March, particulars of which were given in the last number of the *Fortnightly*.

LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

On Monday, January 25th, Mr. J. E. Heginbottom very kindly exhibited his stamps of Tasmania, Western Australia, and Queensland. A hearty vote of thanks was unanimously accorded Mr. Heginbottom for providing the Society with a most interesting exhibition.

We are pleased to be able to announce that Mr. Burrows has promised to read a paper on the stamps of Hayti, to be illustrated by means of specimens, on Monday, February 22nd.

Official address, 28, Darcy Road, Liverpool.

OXFORD STAMP EXCHANGE.

This Exchange is about to undergo an experience of re-construction. After an active life of twelve years, it has been found that the majority of the members have seen on approval most of the duplicates of the other members, and thus it has come about that the greater proportion of those left are desirous of selling rather than buying. Fresh blood, fresh supplies of stamps, fresh buyers are desirable.

The Secretary proposes to enlarge the number of members by admitting during 1904 a few reliable collectors, specially those who desire to acquire the better stamps and unused Colonials.

The Exchange is one of those where net prices prevail. An advertisement will be found in another column. Rules may be obtained from the Secretary, Rev. H. Cummings, Littlemore, Oxford.

BRITISH EMPIRE EXCHANGE.

November General packet has returned and all credits paid; over £23 sold out of £200 sent in. The January General packet was started punctually on the 11th (19th being Sunday), gross value £162 17s. 6d. February Colonial packet is a good one, containing 36 sheets, nett value £155 5s. 0d.

H. Bean, Secretary, 164, Loughborough Park, London S.W.

"UNUSED" STAMP EXCHANGE

December packet has returned and results are good. Over £12 sold out of £80 sent in. January packet sent out, January 15, containing 18 sheets, gross value £156 15s. 11d. There is still room for a few more active members. H. Bean, Secretary, 164, Loughborough Park, S.W.

BLACKPOOL STAMP EXCHANGE.

The Exchange is now in its third year, and has been very successful. Membership is limited to about 30, and there are vacancies for 3 or 4 reliable medium members, with first-class philatelic references. The December packet has returned and is being settled up as quickly as remittances come in. Secretary, W. Warburton, 53 Waterloo Road, Blackpool.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND STAMP EXCHANGE.

The November packet returned to the Secretary, January 20, and all debtor accounts were sent out on the 23rd.

The January Packet contains 45 sheets, nett value over £126. There are, however, still too many common stamps. Will all members please send good selections by March 2nd, if possible. There are still a few vacancies for reliable Collectors. Rules for 3d. stamp from the Secretary, Miss Florence E. Smith, Winfrith, The Crescent, Bedford.

BEGINNERS' STAMP EXCHANGE.

The November packet returned January 12, and the debtor accounts were sent out the same day. In all probability the credits

will be paid by this date. The January packet contains only 27 sheets, value £39 nett—a very poor packet; but probably the Xmas holidays are to blame. There are 5 vacancies. Rules for 3d. stamp from the Secretary, Miss Florence E. Smith (Member S.E.P.S.), Winfrith, The Crescent, Bedford.

THE LADIES' STAMP EXCHANGE.

The October packet has just been settled up. There were thirty-two sheets, value just over £100, of which £24 worth were sold.

There is only one vacancy at present in the club, for either a lady or a gentleman. Rules and all particulars from the Hon. Sec., Miss L. Haynes, 1, Westwood House, Wood Lane, Shepherd's Bush.

THE PALATINE STAMP EXCHANGE.

The November packet of this amateur exchange has returned, showing excellent sales. All sheets returned, with payment, to owners within 5 days. The Secretary will be pleased to forward rules and any other information to collectors, but only those who can give the highest references will be entertained. No dealers admitted.

Hon. Secretary, Leicester A. B. Paine, Longsdon, near Stoke-upon-Trent.

PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

The February packets started circuit on the 9th inst., and each carry a good selection of old and useful stamps priced at very low figures. The total value of the Senior packet is £276 0s. 8d. The Junior being a fine packet of £72 15s. 0d. in value. Members are requested to note that the annual report is now in the press and will be published as soon as possible. Those that have not yet returned their voting papers are requested to do so at once. Vacancies occur in both sections for good members. Rules free. No fees. R. T. Morgan, Gen. Sec., 11, High Street, Selhurst, S.E.

Junior section: C. A. Squire Cox, Woodbine, Cambridge Road, Anerley, S.E.

THE STAMP TRADE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

The month of January proved a fairly successful one for the Association. 3 new members joined and the Secretary has to thank several dealers for their kind assistance in bringing cases of questionable transactions to the notice of the Association.

Debts in Cash and Goods amounting to £53. were recovered through the auspices of the Association, during the month.

Full particulars of the Association can be obtained on application to the Secretary, J. G. Telfer, 63/4, Chancery Lane, W.C.

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Universal Standard Catalogue
 OF THE
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WEEKLY TRADE LIST (for wholesale buyers only), sent every Monday on payment of the postage only, 2/6 per annum; this contains quotations for all the newest issues, also special bargains which we are enabled to offer from time to time. No dealer should miss seeing this every week

Books of stamps of any Colony or Country sent on approval on receipt of satisfactory references.

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 IPSWICH.

Established 1869.

The Disgrace of New Zealand.

Some time ago the "London Philatelist" printed an article, "The Disgrace of New Zealand," drawing attention to the many unnecessary issues and varieties of New Zealand stamps during the past three years. The *Fortnightly* reprinted the article, or, at any rate, the greater part of it.

In Maoriland it has caused weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. Two gentlemen—Mr. A. T. Bate, a well-known philatelist, and Professor A. Hamilton, of the Otago University—have taken up the cudgels for the vilified Colony.

Mr. A. T. Bate, dating his letter, Wellington, December 2nd, 1903, writes as follows:

An article headed "The Disgrace of New Zealand," appearing in your September issue makes a severe attack on the Postal Administration of this country in connection with recent issues, and goes so far as to accuse the Post Office of deliberately creating varieties in order to increase the revenue.

Other writers beside myself have from time to time combated similar charges made by the "Australian Philatelist," but your trenchant article, published in one of, if not *the* leading philatelic publication in the world, calls for an authoritative refutation.

This I hope to give in a further letter, as the official files have been placed at my disposal, not, however, in time to admit of my placing the real facts before your readers by this mail.

I can only beg them to suspend their judgment for a short while, when I trust I shall be able to prove conclusively that your article is founded on a total misconception of the position, is much exaggerated in certain particulars, and on the whole unwarranted.

So much for Mr. Bate. The other champion of New Zealand, Professor A. Hamilton writes at far greater length:

In the September number of the "Philatelist" appears an article reflecting very seriously on the postal authorities of New Zealand in the matter of the issues of stamps since 1898. I do not wish in this letter to reply at any length to the points in your article, but I wish to call your attention to an article which was to appear in the

"Monthly Journal" of Messrs Stanley Gibbons, giving details, from official sources, of the history of the London prints of 1898. This article will be followed in due course by details, supported by extracts from official documents, of the history of the endeavours of the Printing Department to obtain a paper suitable for the aim that they keep steadfastly in view, which is the production of the best article. In order to produce paper that suits the requirements of the printer, several changes have been made. These are, however, after all, of real interest to a comparatively small number of collectors and dealers.

To those who are acquainted with the circumstances attending the manufacture of New Zealand stamps, it is quite apparent that nothing has been done by either of the three Government Departments, the Post Office, the Stamp Department, or the Printing Department, to create any particular issue or variety, notwithstanding anything that has been said by you or any stamp paper.

It is admitted that the issue of 1898 was designed to advertise the Colony, and I have yet to learn why any objection should be raised to this course. It is widely different from a Central American Seebeck issue. To say that the Government of a country like New Zealand should not please itself in such a matter as the question of the paper on which it prints its stamps is manifestly absurd. A Postal Department which has led the way in an extension of cheap postage, to the convenience of thousands, deserves commendation and not constant and unwarranted attacks from writers who parade the interest of Philately, but whose motives are at least open to suspicion.

Any philatelist in New Zealand could have told the New Zealand Postal Department how to increase their revenue from the sale of stamps by very large amounts, but no suggestion of this kind would even be considered in either of the Departments concerned.

All I would suggest is that you should wait the issue of the extracts from the official correspondence, and I feel sure that you will then be in a better position to make effective criticisms. I do not say for one moment that there will be nothing to which you will object. Very likely you will think that many mistakes have been made, but with a full knowledge of the facts I do not think that you will defend the charges which you have made against the Departments concerned in the issue of New Zealand stamps.

The Editor of the "London Philatelist" makes no reply yet. "In view," he writes, "of the information that is to be forthcoming we refrain from any present comment."

CITY STAMP SHOP FOR SALE.

BLUETT & Co. beg to announce that in consequence of the resignation of their Shop Manager—who is starting business on his own account—they are disposing of the lease and fittings of their premises in the City. They comprise:

SHOP.—12ft. x 12ft. fitted-up in best style with elegant plate-glass window case 8ft. x 5ft. x 2ft. with three plate-glass shelves and metal standards; three plate-glass wall cases; ebonized counter; and two of Milner's 38 guinea special fire and burglar proof safes 36in. x 26in. x 26in. with cabinet stands.

COMMODIOUS BASEMENT.—42ft. x 12ft. The larger part, 32ft x 12ft. fitted-up in Shop-style with fine plate-glass and metal counter 9ft. x 2ft. x 9in. with mirrors at back; an ordinary counter with plate-glass counter case 9ft. x 1ft. 3in. x 9in. on top; two side counters with solid mahogany tops; three plate-glass wall cases, one 7ft. 6in. x 5ft. 10in. x 9in., and full size 5ft. American roll-top desk. The other part partitioned off as a private room.

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GRATIS ON APPLICATION.

UNRESERVED SALE BY AUCTION of an unusually fine collection of
BRITISH, FOREIGN & COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS, by
Messrs. JAGGARD & Co., at the **Alexandra Hotel, Liverpool,**
 on **Thursday, Friday & Saturday Feb. 25th, 26th. & 27th. next.**

The lots will be on view in the following Cities on dates named—

Birmingham, Wednesday Feb. 17, 10.45 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Colmore Gallery, Messrs. Davis, 2 & 3, Livery Street.

London, Friday Feb. 19, 10 to 4, Sat. Feb. 20, 10 to 2, Mansion House Chambers, Messrs. John Edwards & Co.

entrance 29, Bucklersbury, E.C.

Manchester, Monday, Feb. 22, 10.30 to 4, Mr. D. Ostara, 24, Corporation Street.

Liverpool, at any other time, 10 to 6 daily at the Offices of the Auctioneers, **Messrs. JAGGARD & CO., 13, MOORFIELDS,** from whom detailed Catalogues and all other information can be had.

Good lots invited for the next Sale, which takes place in April.

Pretoria Philatelic Exhibition.

THE FIRST EVER HELD IN THE CAPITAL OF THE
 TRANSVAAL.

Under the auspices of the Pretoria Philatelic Society, a most successful stamp exhibition was held in the Pretoria Museum, on the 2nd and 5th of December last. This was the first exhibition of stamps ever held in Pretoria, and it was very well supported by collectors of the Capital and the surrounding towns. In fact, it was a success in every way, and the interest shown was most gratifying to the promoters. The exhibits were too numerous to be described in detail. The "Monthly Journal" mentions the following:

Mr. H. P. DE BOOM.—A complete set of Vryburgs in blocks of four (used) and several nice varieties in Pietersburg and Transvaal.

Mr. J. CLARK.—A specialised collection of surcharged stamps of the later issues of Transvaal, including a complete set with "V.R.I." inverted (used). Also a complete set of Rostenburg, Mafeking, and Schweizer Renecke (used).

Mr. A. FAURE.—A very nice lot of Ceylon and Persia.

Mr. E. H. L. GORDON.—A really superb show of triangular Capes. Very strong in wood blocks, including a block of four 1d., red, on entire, and several pairs of the 4d., blue.

This exhibitor also showed unused pairs of 6d., slate, and a beautiful pair of the 1s., emerald-green (mint). Under the later issues was noticed a mint copy of "THREE PENCE."

Mr. J. J. HURR.—A very fine collection of the first Transvaal Republic, used, unused, and on entire; also a very fine show, almost complete, of all the varieties of the later surcharges.

Mr. OTTO KUHN.—A complete set of unused Pietersburg, showing all varieties; also some very fine specimens of Transvaal, including some rare errors. The feature of this exhibit was undoubtedly the show of the stamps of the New Republic, which included blocks of several values *tit-bêche*, and a couple of pairs in the same condition.

Mr. M. L. LEVEL.—A specialised collection of British South Africa, showing many minor varieties and shades; also a very nice lot of Egyptian stamps, including the early issues.

Mr. C. C. MAYNARD.—Full sheets of unused Transvaal of the later issues.

Mr. C. P. MATHEWS.—A very representative lot of Canada and Newfoundland.

Mr. W. E. OLDFIELD showed complete panes of "V.R.I." Orange-River Colony, all values; also a block of nine of the 6d., pink, the centre stamp showing the error "figure omitted." The 1s., brown, and 6d., blue, also appeared in strips in the same condition.

Mr. K. H. REYNES.—The feature of this exhibit was that the specimens shown were all in blocks of four (mint), and included many of the earlier issues of Transvaal and Orange Free State; amongst the best of the former being a block of four "Halve penny" on 1s., green, *tit-bêche* (mint), and a pair of the 2½ pence on 1s., green, inverted surcharge, showing the error "2½."

This exhibit also included a very nice lot of triangular Capes, used, unused, and in pairs. Very interesting, also, were the reconstructed sheets of the Pietersburg issue, only a few of the values being incomplete.

Mr. E. TAMSEN.—This gentleman came specially from Nylostroom to attend the exhibition, and brought with him what was, no doubt, one of the finest lots shown, representing as they did too many

rarities to give in detail. The following however, may be specially picked out:—

Transvaal, 1s., green, "V.R. TRANSVAAL" in red; no dot (mint).

A complete set of 1 penny on 6d. Queen's Head, with both red and black surcharges.

A nice block of four Queen's Head "Halve penny," in red, on 6d. (mint).

Zululand, 5s. (mint), and £1 and £5 (used) in splendid condition. Swaziland, 10s. (mint) and several of the rare inverted surcharges, including error "Swaziland" on 2d., inverted (unused).

Mr. V. YONKE-HARR.—A really fine lot of picked specimens of Swaziland, showing the double surcharge on ½d., grey (pair), errors "Swaziland" ½d. and 2 pence, and a unique pair of the ½ penny, grey, overprinted in red, one stamp showing surcharge omitted (used).

Dr. J. W. B. GUNNING.—A really interesting and remarkably complete collection of British Colonials, dating from 1900 up to present date. All in mint condition.

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We shall be pleased to forward Illustrated Prospectus of the above on Application.

Our Special Spring Number—ONE PENNY.

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 234. —Vol. IX

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1904.

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Fine Art, Numismatic & Philatelic Auctioneers,
THE ARGYLL GALLERY,

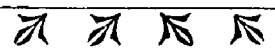
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MAY 5th & 6th, and 19th & 20th. JUNE 16th & 17th.

MARCH 3rd & 4th.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that they have received instructions to sell by auction **A FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION** including the following rarities—

Western Australia, 1st issue, 4d. blue with inverted centre, an extreme rarity, only 7 or 8 specimens being known.

New South Wales, Sydney Views, 1d. red plate I, a superb unused block of 5, in mint state, unique.

Ceylon, wmk. Star, clean-cut perforation, 4d. and 8d. unused with gum and very fine, 4d., 8d., 9d., 1/9 and 2/- imperforate superb specimens,

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Commission 10 per cent. IMMEDIATE AND LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES.

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The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

With which are incorporated "Stamps," the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," the "Young Stamp Collector," and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY. CONDUCTED BY PERCY C. BISHOP

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Junior London Philatelic Society, the Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, the Cardiff Philatelic Exchange, the Oxford Stamp Exchange, the Palatine Stamp Exchange, the "Caledonia" Stamp Exchange, the South of England Stamp Exchange, the Ladies' Stamp Exchange, the "Unused" Stamp Exchange Club and the Travellers' Stamp Exchange Club. The Beginners' Stamp Exchange, the Imperial Philatelic Society, the Imperial Stamp Exchange, The Northern Stamp Exchange Society, The Stamp Exchange Protection Society, The Enterprise Philatelic Society, The One and All Stamp Club, The Palace Philatelic Exchange Society, The British Empire Stamp Exchange Club.

No 234.—Vol. IX. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1904. ONE PENNY.

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Philately at Home and Abroad.

Two Shilling Victorians Wanted.

Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, of Rothsay, Weybridge, asks us to say that he is endeavouring to plate the 2/- blue on green, 1864, Victoria, and will be happy to hear from other *Fortnightly* readers having duplicate specimens. Mr. Hausburg is particularly anxious to get copies of all the types in unused condition.

Philately in Manchester.

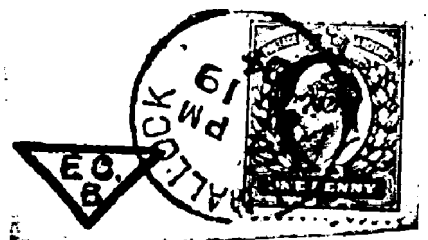
It is surely somewhat remarkable that Manchester is so meagrely supplied with stamp shops! One would have expected in a city of such size and wealth to see many more shops and offices catering for the numerous philatelists who live in and about Manchester.

Few as they are, the Manchester dealers are certainly active, alert, and well versed in Philately. A representative of the *Fortnightly*, on a recent visit to "Cottonopolis," had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Isaac Cassino, Mr. Bernstein, Mr. D. Ostara, and Messrs. H. H. Ashworth and Co., and had an enjoyable chat with each. At Mr. I. J. Bernstein's offices in Albert Square, Manchester, our representative saw the

finest and largest lot of British officials—used, of course—it had ever been his good fortune to gaze upon. Some very big collections have recently changed hands in Manchester, and business generally is brisk. During his stay, our representative met Mr. G. Fred H. Gibson, of the Manchester Society, who spoke in the highest terms of the Society's progress and present position.

What does "E.C.B." mean?

A correspondent of the *Fortnightly* would like to know the particular use and meaning of the "E.C.B." and triangle shown in the accompanying illustration. The letter bearing it came, as the photograph shows, from Kilmallock.



The "Stamp Collectors'" Annual.

Much delay in publication (for reasons which the Publishers, Messrs. C. Nissen and Co., fully explain) the "Stamp Collector's Annual" will, we hope, be deemed worthy of a place among the things that come "better late than never." To review the "Annual" in the *Fortnightly*, is a task of some difficulty and delicacy, for to the Editor of the "S.C.F." was entrusted the literary supervision of this new "Year Book for Philatelists." Thus we cannot very well belaud it, and, on the other hand, we should need to be something more than human to pass any severe criticism upon it. Quite apart from our personal wishes with regard to the book, we believe it to represent a want that has long been felt by philatelists, and, in time, when experience has shown just what shape the scheme should take, we firmly believe the "Annual" will become one of the institutions of our small stamp collecting world. For the rest, it may interest those

who have not yet seen the "Annual" to know that the contents comprise articles on Fiscal, Entire, and Postmark collecting, all written by experts, a Guide to Values of British Stamps, by Mr. C. Nissen, an illustrated exposure of the fakes and forgeries offered for sale at Brighton, an illustrated review of the London and Provincial stamp trade, and, among other features, a full list of Philatelic Societies and Exchange Clubs, with all necessary particulars.

Values of British Stamps

Comparisons, of course, are odious, but it must be remarked that the feature of the "Stamp Collector's Annual," which appears to have appealed to the greatest number of philatelists is Mr. Nissen's Guide to Values of British Stamps. This is the most ambitious attempt we have ever seen to price all the stamps of our own country. There are hundreds, perhaps, thousands, of collectors who have long been in the dark as to the real values of certain minor British varieties; and to these the boon should come as a boon indeed. The list we have mentioned is in no sense a catalogue of British stamps, but simply a guide to values based on Mr. Nissen's knowledge of prices actually paid and received for specimens.

Brighton Fakes and Forgeries.

A word more before we leave the subject of the "Stamp Collectors' Annual." Great prominence is given in that publication to the faked and forged stamps so extensively offered in the small newsagents' shops at Brighton. The following list of the frauds actually seen by the publisher of the "Annual" during his visit to Brighton will bear reprinting:

- Great Britain, 40 paras on 2½d. lilac, forged overprint.
- Do., R. H. Official (King's Head), ½d. green.
- Do., Government Parcels, all values.
- Do., Board of Education (King's Head), 2½d.
- British Bechuanaland surcharged on Capes.
- British East Africa surcharged on Indian.
- Cape of Good Hope, Mafeking bicycle stamp.
- Canada, 3c. inverted surcharges, Gibbons' Nos. 135 and 136. Remarkably well imitated.
- Congo State, 5 francs.
- Indian States, Cashmere, etc., used and unused.
- Mexico, all issues, including surcharges.
- Moldavia, reprints sold as originals.
- Newfoundland, first issue.
- Nova Scotia, 6d. green and 1/- violet, on pieces of original, and nicely postmarked.
- Switzerland, 1854 2 rap. with silk thread (so well done as to almost deceive any dealer).
- Turkey, 25 piastres, used and unused.

Brightonians who read the "Fortnightly" must be wary of purchases of these stamps, for in many cases the fakes and forgeries are made with infinite cunning and cleverness, and are well calculated to deceive even a moderately advanced collector.

Before long it is probable that we may be in a position to publish further news regarding the fakery now so rampant at Brighton.

From Croydon to the City.

Mr. J. T. Bolton informs us that he has opened a Stamp Shop at 75, Little Britain. He will make a specialty of a fine range of Stamps of all Countries, at most moderate prices.

Stamps for the Hot Spell.

It comes as news to many of us to learn from Washington that the United States Government issued differently-gummed stamps for summer and winter. The extremes of temperature over there are very intense, and some difference in the gum is essential.

An order has just been issued from Washington instructing postmasters to put away the summer stamps and save them until the warm months. The reason is that the gum on the summer variety is very hard and of special composition, so that it can stand all warm temperatures without softening, whereas a winter stamp has a softer gum that will not harden even if exposed to the coldest weather. The order, it appears, was made necessary by a large supply of summer stamps having been issued by mistake.

We ought to add that the above is an American newspaper story. But it may possibly happen that it's true.

The Newest Priced Lists.

Messrs. P. I. Pemberton and Co. have produced a list of British and Colonial stamps which does them infinite credit. Running to 96 pages, well printed on thin and nicely surfaced paper, and well illustrated with half-tone illustrations, the list is certainly one of the finest we have ever seen. Many of the prices strike us as being most moderate. As we have already stated, the list is not given away, but is sold at threepence a copy; and we think that every philatelist purchasing it will feel that he has secured ample value for money. Though styled a price list, it is really a British Colonial catalogue in all but name.

From that enterprising provincial firm, Messrs. Butler Brothers, of Clevedon, comes a very comprehensive 72-page price list of packets, sets, albums, and accessories. By steady, persistent work, and continuous enterprise, Messrs. Butler have established their business on a secure foundation. As publishers they are equally well known, and we can personally vouch for the excellence of their "Excelsior" Albums. The firm inform us that a copy of this new price list will be willingly sent, free of postage, to any reader of the "Fortnightly" applying for same.

Quite a bulky book is the latest "Briefmarken Preisliste," issued by Mr. Philipp Kosack, of Berlin, well known to "Fortnightly" readers as one of the leading dealers of "the Fatherland." Mr. Kosack reckons that his list quotes 50,000 prices, and after a moment's deliberation we have decided not to verify the statement by an actual count, but to take his word for it.

A Stamp Business Ready Made.

As will have been seen from our advertisement columns, the oldest city firm of dealers, Messrs. Bluett and Co., owing to their manager being about to launch into a commission business on his own account, are relinquishing their present convenient and comfortable premises in Crooked Lane, thus affording an opportunity to some enterprising dealer in stamps to avail himself of a first-class business in a most central position.

We hear that Mr. E. G. Bluett will still carry on his business in stamps by correspondence, and he informs us it is with great regret that he finds himself obliged to leave the city, where he has so long and so successfully dealt, both as buyer and seller.

We shall be curious to know who will be the fortunate philatelist to avail himself of this chance of securing a business in stamps practically ready made, and including first-class fittings, a portion of the ordinary stock, accessories, and the lease of the premises.

All about Stamp Literature.

Mr. Victor Marsh sends us an early copy of his promised "International Directory of Philatelic Literature, Collectors, Dealers, and Publishers"—a handy book of some 66 pages, whose title speaks for itself. Herr Victor Suppertschitsch, of Vienna, and Dr. Thebussem, "of Spain" (we believe that is ample address for the good doctor), are among the contributors to what is unquestionably a most interesting and useful little book. Mr. Marsh is his own publisher, apparently. The price of the directory is 1/3 post free.

REVISED RATES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY."

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Whole Page ...	£4 0 0	£3 10 0	£3 0 0	£2 10 0
Half Page ...	2 2 0	1 15 0	1 12 6	1 10 0
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The Speculator in Philately.

IS IT WISE TO HOARD NEW ISSUES FOR THE RISE?

Some Interesting Opinions.

We now publish the interesting opinions collected by the publishers of the "Stamp Collector's Annual" on the question of the hoarding-up of great quantities of new and recent British Colonial issues by philatelic speculators.

Messrs. Bright and Son:

We think that speculating in quantities of new issues, both Colonial and Foreign, by collectors, is bad business for them, and equally bad for the dealer. Taking into consideration the enormous quantity of any new issue which is now bought by this class of philatelist (?), we feel certain that they will, in the majority of cases, reap no profit on their investment, but will have to sell at a loss if they wish to realise, even if they hold their purchases for some years. It is also bad business for the dealer, because his profit on these goods is of the smallest, and he finds that many of his customers have no money left to spend in the older and more interesting stamps, of which he has, however, to carry a big stock. Furthermore, the rage for new issues is to a large extent creating the supply of these articles. It is our firm belief that many of the new issues and provisionals of the past few years would not have made their appearance if it was not for this craze on the part of collectors and speculators.

Mr. Frederick R. Ginn:

I do not consider the accumulating of new issues to be Philately in the best and truest sense. True philately necessarily involves some amount of study and investigation. Where do these come in, as the weekly supply of something fresh is taken and devoured? As a speculation, in my opinion, it is foolishness. Money put in the Post Office Savings Bank will show a better result.

Mr. Ernest Heginbottom, B.A.:

As to the practice of "hoarding-up" large quantities of newly issued Colonials, I prefer not to express a too decided opinion. Every one, I think, has a right to collect or "hoard up" what he or she thinks well, and although such "hoarding" is generally done with a view to remunerative investment, I cannot venture either to praise or blame such methods. Personally, I don't attempt to "hoard" stamps at all; I collect many of them in a postally used condition, and there I stop. In high values I contend that it is far harder to get British Colonial stamps used than in mint state at the present time, and even in the future the former will never have become what we term "common." If, therefore, I went in for "hoarding" at all, I should tackle present high values in a used condition. But, *chacun a son gout?*

My own private feeling is entirely against hoarding lots of unused present issues in mint state, as I firmly believe the remuneration expected by the "investor" will not be realised; at any rate, for a long time. To a certain extent, it tends to make our science one of investment, but I doubt if it tends, on the other hand, to really harm it, as collectors ought to be wary enough to know what to invest in. I am not one myself who only collects for pleasure. I do so in the first case, but I could not afford to spend money on stamps entirely regardless of whether I am to gain or lose by the transaction.

Mr. F. A. Wickhart:

My opinion is that collectors who are buying sheets of Colonials "for the rise" will find they are pursuing a "Will o' the Wisp," and in neglecting the older stamps, they are doing an incalculable amount of harm to their "nest eggs." Taking a sheet as containing 240 stamps, and assuming that only 100 collectors have bought a complete sheet of a particular stamp, we have 24,000 specimens. What earthly chance is there of anything like a rise, even if only 24,000 copies are in existence? Add the dealers' stocks and the "accumulator" will see how poor are his prospects of even a 5 per cent. interest on his capital; more likely than not he will make a loss. As an example— I bought five sheets of each value of V.R.I. on Transvaal (except 5/-) at 25 per cent. over face, and these stamps can now be had in the auction room generally at much below face. My experience has been that the varieties that went out suddenly were the very ones of which I had neglected to get a sheet!! There is not the least doubt that the older issues provide a much safer investment and a certain rate of interest, because no dealer or collector has a stock to unload, consequently, they only turn up "in single file," instead of in battalions.

Messrs. Margoschis Brothers.

In considering this question the stamp collector should remember that the value of a stamp is principally governed by the rule of supply and demand, than from a collector's point of view; most of the denominations in a particular set of current Colonials up to one shilling are of equal value, for the simple reason that these Colonials are imported and sold in sets, therefore the one shilling stamp is no scarcer than the sixpenny, and the threepenny no commoner than either of the others. Though stamps are in a way a sort of paper money, they are not coin of the realm that everybody is bound to accept at its nominal value, and it is a well-known fact that in many countries and colonies this paper money will not be taken back at any price. Wherefore, then, can current unused stuff be claimed as "the best possible investment?"

Messrs. J. Boulton & Co.:

As regards the New Issue craze, we believe that it is against the true interests of philately. That it interferes with the relative and proper adjustment of market values. That as an investment it is immeasurably inferior to the collection of general issues, which always have a fixed and certain value, and are far more readily realisable. That any possible ultimate profit will probably go the dealer.

Mr. W. T. Wilson:

I consider the collection—in moderation—of the new issues of respectable countries to be a legitimate and interesting branch of philately, particularly when taken in conjunction with the older issues, but it must be evident to every thinking philatelist, who considers the present-day enormous importations of unused stamps, that only a very, very small percentage indeed can ever become valuable.

The collector or accumulator who amasses large blocks and sheets of new issues for speculative purposes will, I feel sure, be a heavy loser, if he desires at any time to realise, as most dealers have sufficient of their own importations left to supply for years the ordinary demand, which, of course, falls off very much when the novelty of an issue has worn off. In conclusion, I am of the opinion that one of the most fallacious arguments ever used by the sellers of new issues is "that a given sum invested in this class of stamps at the present time will necessarily show a like increase of value in the future to what has taken place in the past." It must be particularly borne in mind that for every single stamp imported in the early days, 1,000 of a kind would probably now be somewhat nearer the mark.

Messrs. Kerr & Lanham:

As we do not touch new issues, we are afraid that our opinion on the subject is not unbiased. It is simply a question of supply and demand. So long as collectors can be found to purchase new issues, so long will they be produced, whether it be by English or other colonies, or South American Republics. As for hoarding new issues, the best comment is to be found in the case of the 2 dollar stamp of the U.S.A. "Columbus" issue of 1893.

Mr. A. Boucard:

There is no harm in collecting new issues, as a collector should—that is to say, only one of each; but I find that most of the collectors nowadays are speculators, and would not collect at all if they thought that they would not "make a bit" when they wanted to sell.

There is no doubt that the best way to collect now, for any one with a limited purse, is to specialise in one or a group of countries, and get them quite complete. This way of collecting will give great pleasure, and no loss when the time comes to sell out.

Messrs. Edward Cooper & Co.

Recent issues of British Colonies are now imported and sold in such large quantities that it must necessarily be very many years before they increase in value.

Messrs. Winch Brothers:

Personally, we think it a great pity that an interesting hobby and pastime should be turned into a "gamble" in which the inexperienced operator is likely to be left. The stocks absorbed by speculators will in many cases to be sold at a very moderate profit (if any), and

the operator lose his interest on capital that is locked up for five or ten years or longer.

The multiplication of new issues we consider an abomination and a danger to philately. The remedy, we consider, is for the collector to make a general collection of what comes in his way, and devote special attention to one or more special sections or countries.

Messrs. Cuthbertson and Co.

It is against all common-sense reasoning to apply the conditions governing the importation of new issues in the period 1870-80 to the present day. Then it was a tedious and vexatious process, and one to which few dealers were given, hence the present and increasing prices of unused stamps of that date. In our opinion the only parties likely to benefit by the "speculative" accumulation of new issues, are the stamp dealers who originally supply them.

Mr. J. W. Jones :

As an investment by the philatelic speculator, I consider current unused stamps a delusion and a snare, for the production can be unlimited, the market limited. In some few cases, of course, handsome profits can be made, but often there is a loss on forced realisation.

This class of investment constitutes a real danger to bona fide collectors who may wish or need to realise their holdings.

Messrs. P. L. Pemberton & Co.

We have always held that the practice of "hoarding-up" large quantities of current Colonials is harmful to philately, as it fosters an unhealthy spirit of speculation, and causes prices to go up and down like stocks and shares, to the detriment of serious collectors. We believe that the matter will right itself when collectors find that old issues are better for investment; but in the meantime, philately will have received a serious blow.

Mr. M Giwels :

My opinion is that the bona fide general collector has nothing to fear. As for the speculator, he has a perfect right to invest his money in stamps, just the same as in stocks and shares of any description, but just as anyone who speculates in stocks and shares, and knows nothing about them is sure to lose his money, so the speculator in stamps (who mostly knows little or nothing of the difficulties of that business) is almost sure to lose, and almost always does lose. I therefore say again that the safest investor is the general collector.

Mr Bertram Poole :

I consider the genuine collector, who is satisfied with a single copy (or, at most, a block of four), will not lose anything, considering the present-day very low prices at which current Colonials may be obtained. Collected sanely, they are a safe investment, though one not likely to yield a fortune at any time.

On the other hand, the practice of accumulating large quantities of new issues as a speculation is to be condemned. It will do philately no good, though, again, it will do no such great harm, as some writers would have us believe.

Messrs. Bridger and Kay :

New issues are all right when limited to copies for collection, but very unsatisfactory when held for speculation. Small speculators are not able to hold long enough, and unused Colonials can often be purchased under face. Very few issues are made in small enough quantities for the stamp to become rare, and even then the small speculator, buying through a dealer, doesn't get them!

Mr. L. S. Charlick :

I recently accepted payment of an account in unused stamps of Australia, which had been obsolete for ten years. I took them at face; the person who gave them to me being a well-known London dealer. I have since sent them to the colony to be used for postage.

I think no better fate is in store for the vast majority of new issues now being imported into England. I can buy in London many unused Colonials at 5 to 10 per cent. under face.

Messrs. Butler Brothers :

We think that the more business there is in stamps, whatever the form of trading may be, the better for philately generally. We think anyone has a right to speculate, but we know that many who do so have to sell at a discount, instead of a premium.

Of course, it is wise to buy all new issues, whatever one may say.

Mr. W. Lacey :

I have only condemnation for the so-called collector who hoards up large quantities of stamps, all precisely similar, in the hope of a future rise of price. Such people can scarcely be called collectors at

all, and I am confident that the genuine collector, who takes, say, one or even a block of four of every stamp he can obtain, with one each of any minor variety, will in the long run reap a much richer reward, as such a collection is always of interest, and will command a ready sale.

Mr. E. A. Turner :

I am of an opinion that the "hoarding-up" of unused stamps cannot fail to be detrimental to the best interests of collectors and dealers alike, causing unnecessary speculation, and keeping out of many small collectors' hands a number of desirable stamps.

Messrs. Lawn and Barlow :

We prefer not to express any opinion on this matter.

A Philatelist's Conscience.

By the Editor.

The news of a recent theft of a block of penny reds from a stamp dealer's office, their strange restoration by the unknown thief, and the occurrence of other thefts of a like nature within the past few weeks, prompts me to re-tell a story which was originally published over my signature in "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp Collector" some two years ago. Some people will deem it no drawback that the story is strictly true:—

There was a dramatic little scene in a stamp dealer's office the other day. I shall describe it without mentioning any names. "X," a young Philatelist—a youth just home from college; "Y," a dealer; "Z," a friend of the dealer. These were the actors. Scene, the dealer's office. Z, the dealer's friend, was seated at a table writing a letter; X, the collector, sat opposite him selecting stamps from a priced stock-book. The dealer, meantime, was walking up and down the office, and once or twice as he passed the table he saw Master "X" nonchalantly extract a stamp from the book and slip it into his pocket. This occurred several times, while other stamps taken from the book were laid on the table—to be duly paid for.

At last the book was closed, and "X" rose to go. "I'll take these!" said he; but "Y's" only answer was to close the door of the office and put his back against it.

"Now then," said he—"what were those stamps I saw you putting in your pocket?"

"X" made a gallant attempt to brazen things out. "Oh, this?" he asked, and showed a small book of stamps—"this is a book I've just bought!"

"No, no, the loose stamps you have in your pocket!" persisted "Y," while "Z," the dealer's friend, began to feel mightily uncomfortable because he had noticed absolutely nothing and was sorely afraid that the dealer had made a serious mistake.

"Z,"—said "Y" to clinch the matter, "would you be kind enough to step out and fetch a policeman?"

That did it. "X" immediately owned up, offered to pay for all the stamps he had taken, and begged the dealer not to let the matter go any further.

"That's all very well," said "Y," "but I'm not at all sure this is the first time you've taken stamps. I missed a specimen of the _____ the last time you came. When you get home you had better turn up any previous stamps you've bought for nothing from me."

Thereupon the matter dropped. "Y" concluded that he would probably see or hear nothing more of "X." Indeed of his surprise, not unmixed with amusement, when an early mail brought him an envelope containing a number of rare and medium stamps which "X" had purloined at various times. Accompanying them was a half sheet of note paper on which "X" had written the two words, "conscience compels."

There is no need to comment on the conduct of this foolish and rather despicable young man, but one cannot help thinking that the compelling conscience he speaks about was a little late in getting to work!

The American postal authorities have been informed by indignant philatelists that on the new 2 cent. stamps the eyes of George Washington are not horizontal—the right is higher than the left! Can it be that this is a polite way of saying that George is winking?—perhaps at the recollection of that old hatchet story!

*The Winning Essay in the "S.C.F." Competition.***NEW ZEALAND STAMPS OF 1882.****VARIETIES OF WATERMARK.**

The following notes, made some years ago, before the issue of the Pictorial series of 1898, may be of interest to some of those who collect minor varieties; but the very limited material available for investigation necessarily renders them incomplete.

Having noticed a considerable difference in the appearance of these stamps, and in the spacing of the watermark, I took the first opportunity of examining several thousands of the 1d. and 2d. and a number of the 2½d. to 1/- values, from which it appears there are three kinds of paper, each of which has a slight difference in the size and spacing of the letters and star forming the watermark. For convenient reference I call them numbers 1, 2, and 3.

No. 1 is a thin wove paper, apparently the same as used for the 1878 set; the watermark has thick outline, is regular in shape of letters, star and spacing, and measures 17½ mm. from top of N Z to bottom of star, the N Z being small. The stamps on this paper have a more or less rough and indistinct appearance, which immediately arrests one's attention. The values 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1/- have been seen; but not the 2½d., 5d. and 8d.

No. 2 is a coarse wove paper, which can at once be detected by being thicker and harder than either No. 1 or No. 3; the watermark has thin outline and the letters, star and spacing are very irregular, the space between N and Z varies from 3 to 4½ mm., and the star being much nearer to N Z than in the other two papers, the measurement is only 16½ mm. The variety with 5½ mm. between N and Z—No. 190 in Scott's Catalogue for Advanced Collectors—is found on this paper, my copy being dated "13-6-'91." I have called this paper No. 2 because (although apparently No. 3 was being used at the same time) it could have been in use only a short time. All the values, except the 5d. and 8d. have been seen.

No. 3 is a soft and very white wove paper, more surfaced than the others; the watermark has thick outline, is regular in shape and spacing, and the N and Z are closer together, but further from the star, than in either No. 1 or No. 2, thus giving a measurement of 19 mm., which leads to its easy identification. All the values have been seen.

This watermark is illustrated in Scott's catalogue as star over N Z, and has been so in S. Gibbon's catalogue until the last edition, where it is now given as N Z over star—the normal position, from which the following measurements in mm. are taken; the varieties being numbered 1, 2, and 3, in order to correspond with the papers on which they are found.

	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.
A.—Height of letters N Z ...	4½	5	5
B.—Space between N Z ...	3½	3—4½	2½
C.—Space between N Z and star...	5½	2½—3½	6
D.—Height of star ...	7½	8	8
E.—From top of N Z to bottom of star ...	17½	16½	19

All three are perforated 12 by 11½, but apparently only No. 3 is perforated 10.

The questions naturally arise, at what date was paper No. 2 issued? How long was it in use? And why was it discontinued?

All the dated copies seen on this paper have been used in 1890 and 1891 (the earliest being 1d. with —2.90), with the exception of a pair of Life Insurance 1d., with 3-5-92. I have a pair of 2½d. dated 7-1-'91, the date of issue being given as 1-1-'91, so that it was being used by the printer when this value was prepared in 1890. I have not seen a copy (on this paper) perforated 10, and as paper No. 3 with this perforation was issued sometime in 1891 (my earliest date being a 1d. with 9 or 29-7-'91—Scott gives the date 1892 probably the supply was exhausted before this perforation came into use.

Paper No. 3, with perforations 12 by 11½, appears by the dated copies seen (the earliest being a 2d. with —2.89) to have been in use either before or at the same time as No. 2.

Of the Life Insurance stamps issued in 1891, I have on No. 2 paper the ½d., 1d., 2d. and 6d. (the earliest date being the ½d. with 28-7-'91); on No. 3 perforated 12 by 11½ the 1d. and 2d., and on No. 3 perforated 10 the ½d., 1d. and 2d.

Of other stamps issued on paper with this watermark, of which I have seen too few to be of any assistance in forming an opinion, those of the Cook Islands issued in 1893 are on No. 3 paper, Samoa, issued in 1887, are on all three papers, and Tonga, issued in 1886, are on Nos. 1 and 3.

From these dates, and in the absence of other information, one must infer that the use of paper No. 2 was commenced sometime in 1890 and discontinued in 1891, so that it was in use for only a few months.

It is just possible that the differences noticed in the paper are such variations as may occur from time to time during the process of manufacture; but this can hardly be so with the varieties of watermark. Probably some one, whose facilities for obtaining information have been greater than mine, may be able to elucidate some of these points.

A gauge being necessary for the rapid measurement and identification of these watermarks, I marked on the edge of a strip of white paper the height of N Z, space between them and the star, and height of star, which together make the total length of watermark. These were placed in order 1, 2, and 3, with a space between each. Then, by cutting away to the depth of 1-16th inch, the edge of paper between the portions representing N Z and the star, these are left projecting, and were then stuck on a piece of black card, with the edge of the uncut portions of the white paper level with its edge. This placed beside the watermark afforded an easy test of its length.

There are several flaws to be found on the penny value, which occur in one or more perforations.

A slanting groove 3½ mm. long, through ear into hair, perfs. 12 by 11½, 10, 10 by 11, and 11.

Small irregular shape in left top scroll, upwards through border, perfs. 12 by 11½, 10, 10 by 11, and 11.

Almost square shape, about 1½ by 2 mm. in left top scroll, from line of oval over N D of Zealand upwards through border; it is always accompanied by a break in border lines on right side near bottom, perfs. 12 by 11½, 10, 10 by 11, and 11.

Small triangular, in hair above ear, perf. 10.

Vertical groove, 5 mm. long, opposite nose, perf. 11.

Also worn plate, white forehead and base of bust, perf. 11.

Considerations of eyesight have prevented me from attempting to separate the perforations of the retouched dies of the 1d., 2d., 6d., and 8d. (see note on page 181 of S. Gibbon's catalogue); but as perforation 10 was in use before 11, I should have expected to find more original plates in the former than in the latter (as stated there).

"N.Z."

Fiscal Notes and Chronicle.

Contributed by A. PRESTON PEAROE.

In the brief summary of the arrangements for the Philatelic Exhibition to be held this year in Berlin that appeared in the last issue of the "Fortnightly," it does not actually state that there will be a section devoted to revenue stamps. Such, however, is the case, and its number is Class 33 (b). It is greatly to be hoped that the present activity of fiscalists will result in a strong measure of support being given to this particular section, and I sincerely trust that our Editor's excellent idea of getting some prominent philatelist to act as a British Commissioner will be carried out. Failing this, I would urge the Fiscal Philatelic Society to appoint one or two of its members to receive and forward such exhibits as other members may desire to send—a course that would greatly facilitate the whole business, and save each exhibitor a good deal of expense.

The accompanying illustrations of the two lowest values of the Jersey set, recently chronicled, are from blocks kindly lent by the publisher of "Morley's Philatelic Journal." The full text of the regulations governing the employment of these stamps, with the scale of charges, appeared in that paper, and after carefully studying them I find myself quite unable to account for the inclusion of the 1s. value in the set. The lowest duty is an ad-valorem one of 2s. per cent. on certain contracts, and I cannot find a single duty that might not be discharged by the use of this 2s. and the higher values of the



set. Perhaps some philatelist resident in Jersey can furnish the desired explanation.

Some time ago, when comparing my collection of the diamond-shaped Document stamps of the Province of Sante Pè with the catalogue of South American fiscals now running in "M. P. J." (vide March and April, 1902), I found that I had a number of additions, and, perhaps, one or two corrections to make, and as it also struck me that the points of difference between the various issues might profitably be stated at greater length, I thought I would bring forward the whole subject here instead of merely notifying my unlisted varieties to the compiler.

The design of the first issue—1879—is clearly engraved, all the letters of the two inscriptions are properly formed, there is a dot half-way up between the two words of the name, the word of value is followed by "Fts" ("Fts" in the case of the 1 peso), the value when denoted by a single figure is in a neatly ornamented circle, and when a double figure is enclosed in an octagon, and there is a well-marked dot in the centre of each of the four corner circles. All known specimens are rouletted, and usually gauge about 14.

Turning to the catalogue, I find that the 9 pesos is listed as green, whereas my copy is a sort of pale claret, corresponding to the *groseille* of Moens and the *magenta* of Roussin.

To the two denominations catalogued with wide roulette (about 8), I can add a third—the 2 pesos, vermilion.

The second issue, given as 1883 in the catalogues, is described by all three compilers referred to above as being the same as the first, except that it is perforated. As a matter of fact, the design has been redrawn, and less skilfully engraved: the letters of the inscriptions are smaller, the last letter of "SANTA" has no crossbar, the ornaments on both sides of the circle containing the figure of value are quite dif-

ferent, and so is the shading of the left and right corner circles.

The first value of this issue listed is a 5 cent., as given by Moens, but in Roussin it appears as 4 cent., and this seems more likely to be correct, though not having seen either I cannot controvert the statement. The second value, 37½ cent., should, however, come out and go with two others into a separate division, coming, presumably, immediately after the one now under consideration. Of the values above 2 pesos I only possess the 6 pesos, and that is printed in a brown lake instead of the bright violet of the catalogue.

There is a further modification of the design, in which the words and figures of value are larger, and the figures are not enclosed in a frame. Three values are listed by Roussin, all of which are now before me: 37½ cent., vermilion; 50 cent., pale blue; 5 pesos, bronze green.

Next comes a variety that was contained in my display at the Leeds Fiscal Exhibition, but does not appear to have been chronicled before. It is the 1 peso, orange-yellow, of the second issue, overprinted upwards, in three lines, in black block letters,

SETIEMBRE
24
1883

The issue of 1884 shows the introduction of a national currency, the letters "Fts" after the value disappear, and the letters "M N" are substituted, being placed one on each side of the figures of value. The general production is still poorer; there is neither dot nor hyphen between the words "SANTA" and "FE"; the final letters of "PROVINCIA" and "SANTA" are without cross-bar on all the values (I haven't the 4 cent.) below 3 pesos, and the cross-bar of the first "A" in "SANTA" is generally missing; all have large dots in the corner circles.

One value of this issue, the 1 peso, is catalogued by Morley with overprint of "1884" in blue figures, but two others, the 38c., and 9p., have since been chronicled in his Journal. I can add one more, the 3p., grey blue, and I see that Roussin lists the whole set thus treated.

I can also show the 50 cent. fts., light blue, of the preceding issue, perf. 12½, with large figures, bearing the same date overprint.

Finally, we have a considerable number of values listed under the heading "Type as before, but retouched." These may be distinguished by the name appearing in thicker letters, all properly formed, and showing a plain hyphen between the last two words. To the list I can add the 5 cent. m.n. blue green, and the 1 peso. m.n. yellow (dated 5.1.86), and I find it advisable to make two divisions, one containing varieties showing a more or less substantial dot in the corner circles, the other with dot entirely removed.

I still have two varieties of the 50 cent., ultramarine, that do not come under any of the foregoing emissions, and that seem to belong to a separate retouch. The letters are not thicker, but one shows an attempt to form the word "SANTA" correctly, and the other has all three "A's" right; the hyphen appears on both.

In the *Fortnightly* for January 30th, Mr. A. B. Kay so effectively summed up the article on the early fiscal stamps of the Orange Free State, recently contributed by Messrs. N. Yaar and Co., that I need not go over the same ground. I can, however, explain why M. Moens altered the date in his catalogue to which reference is made on page xcvi. In the Fiscal Chronicle in "Stamps" for January, 1899, I wrote under Orange Free State:—

M. Moens states that he has seen of the 1897 issue the 5/- deep yellow, and the .£4 green. Following his catalogue, he doubtless wrote "1867 issue," of which, however, I have seen a specimen dated 4th April, 1864. I can confirm the 5/- yellow, and can add the 1/6 red, and the .£2, dull rose.

The first number of the handsome new journal published in Paris by the Fédération Philatélique de France, contains an interesting little article entitled "Curiosités Fiscales," which is illustrated by excellent reproductions of the 25c., 1878, *Documentos* of Mexico, the 0.01 *Catatale* of Italy with centre inverted, and the design of the lozenge-shaped 5c.,

1837, *Documentos* of the Argentine Republic without figures of value.

The article is not signed, but has evidently been written by the Editor, and it is pleasant to note his testimony to the fact that the collection of revenue stamps is becoming more and more popular. He even goes so far as to say that this is only right and reasonable, and that perhaps the day may arrive when the fiscal will be more highly esteemed than the postage stamp.

By the way, is not the annual subscription—20 francs—the stiffest yet asked for a stamp paper?

* * * *

Germany's first fiscal stamp journal, "Die Stempelmarke," was born with the New Year, and can be obtained from Herr Edmund Susemihl, Herwarthstrasse, 14, Munster i W., the subscription being 2 marks per annum (12 numbers).

* * * *

That witty scribe "Philologos," of the "Monthly Journal," is responsible for the following dig at our hobby, which will be enjoyed by every reader:—

ON THE ENTIRE—It appears that the advanced collector of fiscals will require something more than an album to contain his treasures. According to the papers, one enthusiastic fiscalist has already secured a specimen of the Hat Tax stamp on the entire hat, and we may expect to hear of Hut Tax labels (from South Africa) on the complete hut, Poll Tax stamps on the original poll, and Horse Tax on the entire horse. With Income Tax on the entire income we are only too familiar, but it is always collected by someone else.

Communications in respect of this department should be addressed to Mr. A. Preston Pearce, 12, Edgcombe Street, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

The Perfect Stamp.

ANOTHER CHAMPION OF ORIGINAL GUM.

I am pleased "H.W." carries up the argument as to original gum on unused stamps. "Mint unused" should certainly apply to specimens with original gum; if we can do without the gum—well, we must do away with the prefix "mint."

The excuse given for the collecting of stamps, and the oft told definition of philately is the "practical record of a state's postal traffic," and although original gum cannot (and should not?) be retained on used stamps, yet if this definition be applied to the collection of unused specimens, it is itself an evidence of the importance of having all the features of the stamp exactly as issued. Notwithstanding this we hear of an argument almost approaching a protest as to why one of the most important factors of the stamp is of consequence to the philatelist. While the gum is not intended as an ornament or something for philatelists to study, that is no reason why the original gum should be regarded by collectors as a kind of disinterested subject.

Of course, it is absurd to give more preference to the condition of the gum than to that of the stamp, or to believe that bad gum is a detriment to the general condition of a good stamp.

What if, in some cases, original gum does injure the stamp? Let the stamp be collected just as issued; there is no reason why we should disregard the adhesive matter any more than we should the colour of the stamp itself! It is only a case of faking more or less if one of the factors of the stamp is to be condemned.

To any real enthusiast of philately, the question of gum is as wholly important as any other original factor, especially if he has a yearning for scientific research, the adhesive matter upon imposing a severe task upon the philatelist's patience. Is this a reason why original gum is ridiculed? Surely *science* is not impatient! Original gum is as incumbent on the name of scientific philately as original perforation, and a stamp without original gum should, I think, be regarded as imperfect. It is curious that the contradictory notes in the "Monthly Journal" should both mention original gum!

W. G. INKPEN.

"R. P. J." AND THE "VIA MEDIA."

Our attention has been called to a readable and reasonable article on this subject by "R.P.J." in the "Bazaar."

The philatelic press (he writes) is more or less full, nowadays, of heretical articles calling in question one or other of the particular whims which, to some of us, are causing much weariness. Minute questions of watermarks, of perforations, hair-lines, and gum have so long been hugged to the breast of the specialist, that many of us not a wit the less earnest philatelists are inclined to revolt.

Original gum has, however, been a subject upon which numerous collectors have had "shaky views for some long time past. Others have made phylacteries of their declarations in favour of "o. g." Of course, it must not be forgotten, in the first place, that the very essential distinction between postage stamps, as we now understand them, and the old franks is one of mere adhesiveness. It follows therefore that *some* attention to the adhesive matter must be paid, especially when the question of mint condition is raised. That attention should, however, in my view, be limited to the one interrogation—absence or presence of full gum. In the case of certain of the issues of the British South African Company, the public were left to supply their own adhesive matter, and "mint state" would naturally mean an ungummed label. Certain enthusiasts, however, have gone further. They have attempted a catalogue of colours, particularly in the case of some of the De la Rue Colonials; whilst others again have attempted to distinguish between the age of the respective stamps of an issue by differentiating the mucilage under the headings of "Original gum," "Old gum," etc. Indeed, in one case, it is related that a despairing auctioneer, having exhausted his descriptive vocabulary, came at last to "prehistoric gum."

On the other side, just as many absurdities have been perpetrated. As an instance, I may mention the French collector who advocated sponging off of all gum, on the ground that its presence was useless and even dangerous to the preservation of the label! I can well understand the latter point in the case of the Seebach States and some other countries, whose gum is even more abominable than the other parts of their stamps, but it is obviously going too far.

As usual, the *via media* will prove to be the best course. Varieties of gum should be ignored—that is kinds, brands, or colours. "Faked" gum should be tabooed; while in the collection of unused issues, full gum should be sought after. The presence of full gum should not, however, be allowed to rank before other requirements. It must, it seems, be the final consideration only; otherwise we run the risk of attaching too much importance to what is, after all, but a minor point.

Asked and Answered.

PRIZE PROBLEMS FOR PHILATELISTS.

"Asked and Answered" is a feature of the *Fortnightly* that has twice been allowed to lapse from lack of support. This, possibly, has been due to the fact that the problems propounded have been of too scientific, too technical a nature. In re-opening this column we shall endeavour to make it of a more generally interesting character.

Questions are invited from all, and Prizes will be given for the best answers. Either a Cash Prize of 2s. 6d., or a free year's subscription to the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* will be given for each Answer deemed worthy of insertion; and the choice of the prize will rest with the Competitor.

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED.

- 1:—What stamp or stamps may be considered the most interesting, having regard to the circumstances under which they were issued or requisitioned? *C.F.J.*
- 2:—Should not Stamp Dealers be taxed or licensed? *C.F.J.*
- 3: In what order of importance would you class the various points of perfection in a stamp, such as perfect centring, good margins, and brilliancy of colour? *P.C.B.*
- 4:—I possess two United States Stamps, the 2c. of 1862 (head of Andrew Jackson) and the 3c. "Department of the Interior," both unmistakably cancelled with a skull and crossbones! I had the two stamps from entirely different sources. Can anyone explain the origin of these weird obliterations? *H.M.C.*

Replies to the above questions are invited from *Fortnightly* readers. If desired only the initials of the prize-winners will be published. Replies should be sent in by the earliest possible post to the Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

LONDON, FEBRUARY, 27, 1904.

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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Between Ourselves

Our Special Spring No., now in the reader's hands, contains a variety of special contributions, which we hope will prove of general interest to *Fortnightly* readers. These articles are an earnest of what we propose to do in the forthcoming now volume of the "S. C. F.," opening with our next issue.

With No. 235 of the *Fortnightly*, our tenth volume begins. Also (and this is the important point in our manager's opinion) a large number of postal subscriptions expire. It is hoped that all subscribers, on receipt of the usual reminder, will promptly renew, and thus ensure continuity in the service of the journal.

In our Essay Competition the first prize is awarded to "N. Z.," for an excellent little paper on the varieties of the New Zealand stamps of 1882. The article is published in this number of the *Fortnightly*, and what we are sure, he read with much interest by all collectors of British Colonial stamps. The full awards in our competition will be published in the next "S. C. F."

Pruning the Philatelic tree is a policy that has been steadily pursued for some years past by our premier stamp-dealing firm, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited. First went "Entires" of all descriptions, then Locals, and now, with another slash of the pruner's knife, Messrs. Gibbons are cutting away certain classes of Colonial official stamps. "We have decided," say the firm in their current catalogue, "to cease pricing any unused stamps of any British colony which have not, to the best of our belief, been on sale to the public in the country of issue. This will apply to such stamps as the Ceylon 'Service' South Australia 'O.S.,' Australian Commonwealth, Trinidad 'O.S.,' India 'H.M.S.,' etc. Many of these have been on the market for twenty years or more; but as they are, we believe, not sold to the public, and may originally have been illegally obtained, we have finally decided to cease to handle this class of goods in an unused condition." In a letter to an Australian contemporary, the "Australian Journal of Philately," Messrs. Gibbons put this decision in a still more emphatic form. "We shall cease to price and to sell (they declare) any of the unused O.S. stamps of New South Wales, South Australia, etc., etc. We are taking this step after mature consideration, and it is one that is strongly advocated by the authorities here. The decision has been made after the recent action in the English law courts in reference to the stolen official stamps of Great Britain. It is quite probable that similar actions may be taken in the near future in reference to stamps stolen or improperly obtained in other colonies. As we ourselves have no wish to handle stolen property, or any that might be considered by the authorities to have been stolen originally, we shall cease to stock any such things. Amongst the stamps barred will be the unpaid letter stamps of New South Wales, unless at some future time the Government sell them openly over the counter." Well, there will be divided opinions as to the course the firm have seen fit to adopt. No one can deny that Messrs. Gibbons, Limited, have a perfect right to

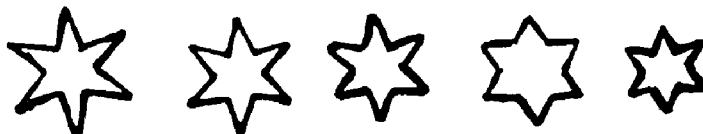
sell or not to sell just what they choose. For our part we think that they have acted wisely and well in thus exercising that unalienable right. Many of the Colonial "O.S." and "Unpaid" issues are, to say the least, under a cloud, and it may well happen that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' action, especially if it be followed by other leading cataloguers and dealers, will have the effect of inducing the postal authorities to place such issues on a more regular and reputable footing.

Queensland Star Watermarks.

BY W. S. WEBB.

THE descriptions usually given of the three various types into which the earlier watermarks of Queensland stamps are divided have, no doubt, belogged many a beginner in the study of these beautiful issues. The writer used to wonder why he could never find that oft-quoted variety, the "truncated star"—especially as stamps of that particular issue did not appear to be unattainable, judging by comparative catalogue values. But every beginner will soon find, as I did, that there really is no such watermark as the "truncated star"—literally, a star with its points cut off. That term is more than a misnomer, it is an anomaly, for a star so treated would cease to deserve the title, and become a figure for which geometry, let alone astronomy, has no name. I think it high time that a more concise and exact set of terms should be adopted, and the object of this paper is to suggest such terms and define their application.

Taking the first issue of 1860, we have two sets of 1d., 2d. and 6d. stamps, imperf. and clean-cut perf. respectively, all with the large "star" watermark, 16 mm. across. So far, good; "large" is the right term here. Next, in 1861, the second variety of star, measuring 13 mm. across, appears in all values and with various styles of perforation. I propose that this is called the "medium" star—a term which I have



I. LARGE.
16 mm.

II. MEDIUM.
13 mm.

III. SMALL (Varieties).
12 to 10 mm.

not yet seen in print applied to it, but which appears to me to be the only means of avoiding confusion with the smaller type of 1868, which we will now proceed to consider. Neither of these two sorts, large and medium, show any appreciable deviation from their respective stated measurements; but the case is very different with the real "small" star, which is supposed to measure 11 mm. across, and which has been alleged to be "truncated." As a matter of fact, it not only varies from 10 to 12 mm. in size, but varies also in the breadth or openness of centre, and consequently in the breadth and angle of its points. In very open examples with broad points (but still angular) the notion of calling it truncated no doubt had its "source of origin"; and this furnished yet another argument against the use of that term, for a large proportion of the watermarks of this period have narrow rays, approximating in shape to that of the foregone medium star, and when they also measure quite or nearly 12 mm., the resemblance is further enhanced. Such specimens show so great a contrast to the "open" varieties, that most tyros would imagine them to belong to a different issue, did not the style of paper and perforations easily prove that these variations of the small star exist concurrently in most if not in all the values of this issue. The very small variety—10 mm.—is seldom found, but it might be possible to make up sets of two sizes, and two shapes in each, of this—

Tricky, twinkling little star,
How I wonder which you are!
You've puzzled me, and many more,
Since 'sixty-eight to 'seventy-four.

Why not, then, Queensland "large," "medium," and "small" stars? Surely there is a good *raison d'être* for these terms of distinction here as in the case of the garter watermarks of great Britain, which time has so long honoured (though they, too, are capable of revision—but that is another story).

Auctions at the Argyll Galleries.

A Chat with Messrs, Glendining & Co.

THE BIGGEST ROOM FOR STAMP SALES IN LONDON
AN "ALL-BRITISH" AUCTION—SALES OF COINS AND MEDALS—BIG PRICES FOR THE GOLD AND SILVER
MEDALS OF NELSON'S DAY.

Messrs. Glendining and Co., of Argyll Galleries, Argyll Street, Regent Street, can boast of having what is certainly the largest philatelic auction room in London, and must be one of the most spacious apartments devoted to auction sales in the metropolis. This handsome rendezvous for buyers of stamps, coins, medals, and curios, has a floor space measuring about 65 ft. by 48 ft. It would make a capital dancing room, and in its time has been used for that purpose. Nowadays, however, it is solely dedicated to the more prosaic purposes of the auctioneer.

But, are they more prosaic? After all, there is a good deal of romance and historical interest in the varied articles that Messrs Glendining accumulate for the purposes of their sales. Apart from stamps—the newest, but not the smallest section of their business—the firm conduct sales of coins, medals and curios from all parts of the world.

The firm consists of Mr. W. Glendining, its founder, and his partner, Mr. S. E. Gwyer. In a recent chat with these gentlemen on behalf of our readers, the conversation was of a triangular description and it may be as well to state at the outset that while Mr. Gwyer was mainly responsible for the remarks associated with stamp collecting, Mr. Glendining supplied many interesting facts as to the coin, medal and curio department.

"Since we started here," remarked Mr. Gwyer, "we have enjoyed a large and constantly increasing amount of patronage, both from buyers and vendors. It is a little over a year—in fact, a year last November—since we came to the Argyll Galleries, and we have every reason to congratulate ourselves upon obtaining such an excellent centre for our sales. You have seen, I suppose, the priced catalogue of the splendid sale of British stamps we have just held. This was unique among London stamp auctions as being the first entirely devoted to British stamps."

"In coins and medals" (Mr. Glendining was now the speaker), "we are perhaps better known than in stamps. In military and naval medals we can certainly claim to be the best known firm, and to sell the finest things."

"There is a good deal of money in medals?"

"Oh, yes! And the hobby is one that is steadily increasing in favour. Single lots of medals sometimes run to as much as £600 at auction. We have a nice little lot to be offered shortly—all medals and honours presented to one General, including his Order of the Bath. I have no doubt that this will fetch about £500."

"What is the highest price you have ever realised for one medal, Mr. Glendining? Can you say, off-hand?"

"Let me see—yes; I can. Our record price was £251. At that figure we knocked down a very finely preserved captain's medal from the Battle of Trafalgar. Practically the rarest are the gold naval medals of the Nelson period."

"Medal collectors have their lucky finds and deals," proceeded Mr. Glendining, "just the same as stamp collectors. Recently we encountered a case in which a number of medals pawned for £10 fetched over £600 at auction. Again, a Victoria Cross was bought five years ago in the Cattle Market, at North London, for 6d., was sold to a dealer for five shillings, and afterwards knocked down in the auction room at £54."

"Here is a beautiful collection of medieval seals which have been placed in our hands for early disposal. As you see, they are the original seals—matrices, they are technically called. These are very old indeed—in fact," added Mr. Glendining, with a smile, "the most juvenile of the lot dates back to Henry VIII. Some of them go back as far as the eleventh century. It is expected that these will fetch a thumping price when they are offered in the sale room."

"Do coins go well at auction?"

"Coins? I should almost say that coins go better than anything, at auction. The coin collecting hobby is now certainly in a stronger position than it has been for many years. There are two very strong numismatic societies which are working hard in the interests of the hobby. Coin collecting has not quite such a popular hold on the public as stamp collecting, one reason for that being that it is not so well supplied with literature. There is little doubt that the literature of a hobby does much to extend and increase the interest of that hobby."

"Of course there is trickery and fakery in everything. You need not suppose that stamp collecting has a monopoly of that kind of thing. There is just as much of it in all other hobbies, but the fact is not so much talked about, because, as I have said, there is not the same number of journals devoted to those other hobbies as to philately."

"The stamp sales have been good—very good," said Mr. Gwyer, taking up the running on behalf of philately. "One specially satisfactory feature of our stamp department is the fact that we get a great number of country bids, and we do this by employing special means to interest the leading philatelists of the Provinces in the contents of our philatelic sales. In one sale recently, consisting of 450 lots, we had no less than 909 country bids. Of course, our catalogues are always published a fortnight ahead of the sale—that is another important point."

"You, personally, are responsible for these stamp catalogues, I suppose?"

"Unfortunately, yes," said Mr. Gwyer, with a resigned air. "I sometimes work as much as fourteen hours a day at that delightful task. I may tell you," he went on, brightening up a little, "that we have two big stamp collections coming along—two very, very big ones, I mean—something that will make the philatelic community sit up. Whether it will be possible to disperse these collections this season, I do not quite know. I think it likely that we may reserve them for an early sale in the autumn."

"Owing to the large number of country

bids, we could almost hold a philatelic auction with an empty room. I don't suppose the necessity for that will ever arise, but it would be almost possible to conduct a stamp sale here to an audience of empty chairs, because of the great number of postal bids we receive. Often and often somebody present at one of our sales, imagining that a certain stamp has not sold, will approach Mr. Glendining at the close of the sale, saying, 'That stamp didn't sell; I'll have it—if you like,' little dreaming that it had gone to somebody in the provinces, probably at a very satisfactory price."



MR. W. GLENDINING.



MR. S. E. GWYER.

"As regards reserves, a matter that has been much talked about lately," proceeded Mr. Gwyer, "I should like to say that we fight against these most strongly, and do all in our power to discourage them. For instance, there wasn't a single reserve in our recent British sale. One thing that operates against the imposition of reserves is the fact that our scheme of terms is so arranged that it comes cheaper to sell a lot than to buy it in. Now, this will sound like a paradox, but it is nevertheless a fact that stamps will generally sell to better advantage if no reserve is placed upon them. I could give you many instances of this, but it is a state of affairs generally recognised among the best informed London philatelists, that reserves of stamp lots are, as a rule, a mistake from the point of view of the vendor."

"Just as we devoted one entire sale to British stamps, so on March 14th and 15th we are going to have an auction consisting exclusively of 'Entires.' This will be one of the finest accumulations (you can hardly call it a collection) of postcards, envelopes, etc., ever gathered together. I may say that out of the sale it would be possible to get a collection of 3,000 distinct varieties, or two or three smaller collections of, say, 1,000 varieties. There never has been a sale of 'Entires' alone—at any rate, not in this country—and we expect to get a large and interested attendance of those philatelists who remain faithful to this class of collecting."

A glance through the pricecatalogue of Messrs. Glendining's British sale, referred to above, held at the Argyll Galleries, on February 11th and 12th, shows the following interesting realisations for some British stamps that are seldom met with. All the items quoted are unused.

	£	s.	d.
1840.—Strip of six 1d. black	13	10	0
1840.—1d., black, "V.R."	6	0	0
1840.—2d., blue, without lines	5	0	0
1840.—Do. do. large crown	7	10	0
1870.—1½d., lake red, with error of lettering...	5	5	0
1847-51.—One shilling green	7	10	0
1847-51.—6d. mauve, a pair	10	0	0
1855-6.—4d. pale carmine	18	10	0
1862.—3d., with secret dots	18	0	0
1865-7.—9d. green, emblems	35	0	0
1867-80.—2/- brown	5	10	0
1867-83.—10/- grey green, Maltese Cross	12	10	0
do. £1 brown lilac do.	21	0	0
do. 5/- watermark anchor	6	15	0
do. 10/- green watermark anchor	20	0	0
do. £1 brown lilac do. do.	75	0	0
do. 5/- rose watermark anchor	9	0	0

Before leaving Messrs Glendining we had the pleasure of making a tour of inspection of the commodious premises they use. In addition to the main sale room, already referred to, there are numerous smaller apartments used as offices, a very capacious store room, and a remarkably handsome entrance hall from Argyll Street.

The firm sell a vast variety of knick-knacks dear to the heart of the collector and connoisseur, in addition to those special lines to which we have paid special attention. We saw some very fine pieces of antique furniture, some exquisite examples of old British pottery, trays, and other articles from Japan, showing a rich and lustrous lacquering that is conspicuously lacking in the cheap Japanese jinn-crackery that one sees in the West End shops, a Brahma or two from the Heathen East, some rare old glass, and, in short, something of everything that is calculated to interest the cognoscenti.

On a sale day, or when a sale day is imminent, Messrs. Glendining's gallery is something like a museum, an old curiosity shop, and an Oriental bazaar rolled into one, and the one common ground on which these diversified wares are linked together takes the form of a small gummed label, with its inscription of "Lot so-and-so."

Philatelic Burglars Punished.

James Edwards and James Taylor, the two men charged with "breaking and entering" the dwelling-house of Mr. Frededrick Robert Surrey, schoolmaster, Church-crescent, South Hackney, and stealing 50,000 British and foreign stamps were convicted and sentenced at the Old Bailey. Warder of Nicholls, of Brixton Gaol, proved a long list of previous convictions against Edwards. Taylor had also been several times convicted. Chief Inspector Fox informed the court that Edwards was a most notorious and dangerous criminal, who for years had been living on the proceeds of robbery. The Common Sergeant said that society must be protected from such a man as Edwards, and ordered him to be kept in penal servitude for ten years. Taylor was sentenced to five years penal servitude.

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Set of 40 different 1840 to 1903 (Queen and King issue)	0	1	9
Sets of plate numbers, ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1/-, 260 different Plate numbers	3	0	0

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	Cat. price	Our price		Cat. price	Our price
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Barbados 1882-86, ½d. green .. 1d.	1d.		Natal, Jan. 1885, one halfpenny on 1d. rose, used ..	4.6	1.6
1d. rose .. 1d.	1d.		O. F. State 1868-78 &c. 1d. brown 1d.		
2½d. ultramarine 3d.	3d.		2d. mauve .. 3d.		
4d. grey .. 6d.	6d.		3d. ultramarine 1.6		
4d. brown .. 3d.	3d.		4d. blue .. 6d.		
Total: ..	1.2	6d.			
Cape 1801, 2½d. on 3d. magenta 3d. 1d.	3d.	1d.	Queensland 1d. yellow 1868-79 10. 5.-	10.	5.-
Dominica 1877-79, 1d. lilac, C.C. 2.-	10d.	10d.	4d. buff ..	7.6	3.9
G. Coast 1884-89, ½d. green 1d. rose-carmine 2d. grey 2½d. ultramarine and orange } 1.- 5d.	1.-	5d.	Scinde Dawke & anna white 15.- 7.-	15.-	7.-
Grenada 1883, ½d. dull green .. 1d.	1d.		Trinidad 1883-84 ½ green .. 1d.		
1d. rose .. 6d.	6d.		1d. carmine .. 1d.		
2½ ultramarine .. 2d.	2d.		2½d. blue .. 2d.		
4d. slate .. 6d.	6d.		4d. grey .. 3d.		
	1.5	8d.			

The foregoing sent on receipt of cash or satisfactory references. Postage 1d. extra for purchases under 1s.

Look out for fresh bargains next issue, and refer to previous numbers for other bargains of which we have a few left.

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Try our Stamp Mounts 5d. per 1,000, post free.

Societies and Clubs.

Secretaries are requested to assist the Editor by sending in their reports not later than the Monday preceding publication.

THE FISCAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Meeting held February 4th, 1904. Present, Mr. Schwabacher (chairman), Messrs. Fulcher, Marsh, Morley, Thompson, Thomson, South and Kay.

A vote of thanks was accorded to W. Corfield for his notes of new varieties of Small Cause Court, Calcutta, fiscals.

Mr. Schwabacher showed a Gold Coast Judicial .£1 Queen's Head, and the 2 dol. grey and 5 dol. green, Maranhao (Brazil). A forgery of a 150 dol. Hong Kong fiscal was submitted by G. W. Pepper, and A. B. Kay showed a 50c. blue and black, 2nd issue, U.S.A., pin perf. 11, with good margins.

The English municipal stamps were discussed and catalogued.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 3rd, at 6.30 p.m., at 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C., when the fiscals of Switzerland will be taken.

The list of Colonial revenues is now ready for the press, and any members having additions or corrections to the issued MS. lists should send same to the Secretary without delay.

The Home Exchange packet for February amounted to £72, and the contributions to the Continental section to nearly 1,200 francs nett. Sheets for circulation should be sent in before the end of the month.

M. G. Gilbert remains Continental Secretary.

Applications for rules and information respecting the Society should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, A. B. Kay, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London, W.

The February packet lately sent out consisted of 28 sheets, valued at £172. Although the total amount was not large, there was a fine selection of medium class fiscals at very moderate prices, and the sales should be good.

New members are constantly joining, and the present postal list contains thirty-five names, whilst a number of sheets are sent in by those who do not see the packets.

Good finds can be made, though members do not frequently speak of what they get cheap. Lately, one member, over half-way down on the list, purchased from the packet two stamps, one at 6d., which he disposed of for 20/- the same day, and the other at 3d., the market value of which is 10/-; whilst another member, nearly at the end, has, much to his delight, purchased several scarce errors at the price of normal specimens.

Any desiring to take up revenue stamp collecting, or having fiscals to dispose of, should communicate with the Secretary.

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC UNION.

On Wednesday, February 10th, the I.P.U. had one of its popular and interesting philatelic lantern displays, the subject chosen being "Some Novel and Interesting Stamps."

Among those present were the President (Mr. H. R. Oldfield) in the chair, Mr. and Mrs. Schwabacher, Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Pemberton, Major J. de C. Laffan, R.E., R. Meyer, A. B. Kay, L. W. Fulcher, H. Thompson, J. C. Sidebotham, H. Frenzel, W. S. King, Miss Casals and friends, Fred J. Melville, M. Giwelb, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace, Cecil E. Davis, Mrs. Hayward, Mrs. Snelling, Mr. Stern, and many other visitors.

The programme commenced with some picturesque stamps showing illustrations of landscape and allegorical pictures and pictures of public buildings, animals, etc., by the President.

Some recent forgeries were then exhibited by Mr. Kay, and descriptions given by Mr. Fulcher.

Mr. P. L. Pemberton followed with an exhibition of stamps showing religious emblems, with interesting descriptions of the same.

Major J. de C. Laffan contributed a very interesting item in philatelic portraiture, including a number of South American statesmen and soldiers, and concluding with the great American Federalist, Alexander Hamilton, giving interesting biographies of the portraits shown. Mr. W. Schwabacher followed with a display of interesting and rare fiscal stamps, including New Channel Islands issues, and the Hon. Sec. concluded the programme with a short paper and display of the stamps of China and Korea, including portraits of the Empress Dowager of China, Sir Robert Hart, and the Emperor of Korea.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman and Sub-Committee, who gave the display and carried out the arrangements, was proposed by Mr. Sidebotham and responded to by the President, this concluding a very interesting evening.

THE COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

The 101st meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the club on Monday evening, December 14th, 1903.

Present: Messrs. Andreini, Bruner, Dewing, Luff, Morgenthau, Rich, Scott and Perrin.

The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance of \$413.10, exclusive of reserve fund, was approved as read.

The judges appointed to award the medals for the competitive exhibition of the stamps of Siam gave the silver medal to Mr. Alex. Holland, and the bronze medal to Mr. John N. Luff.

The 102nd meeting of the Board of Governors was held on Monday, January 11.

Mr. Oney K. Carstarphen was reinstated as the resident subscribing member of the Club.

The Treasurer's report showing a cash balance on hand of \$306.65, exclusive of reserve fund, was approved as read.

Mr. Alvah Davison presented to the Club 57 vols. of stamp catalogues and papers for which a vote of thanks was tendered him.

Mr. Erik Euquist's name was dropped from the membership roll for non-payment of dues.

The judges appointed to award the medals for the competitive exhibition of the U. S. Telegraph Stamps, gave the silver medal to Mr. Joseph S. Rich, and the bronze medal to Mr. H. E. Deats.

The 103rd meeting of the Board of Governors was held on Monday, February 8th.

Present: Messrs. Andreini, Bruner, Dewing, Morgenthau, Luff, Rich, Scott and Perrin.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read. A number of communications were read by the Secretary.

There being a few members who have failed to pay their dues for the current year it was resolved that unless they have remitted them before the next meeting of the Board their names will be stricken from the membership roll.

The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance on hand of 282.21 dollars, exclusive of reserve fund, was read and accepted.

Moved, seconded, and carried that the lease of the Club House be renewed for one year, and the Treasurer be authorised to sign the lease for one year, beginning May 1st, 1904, at a rental of 1,300 dollars per annum.

The judges appointed to judge the exhibits in the competitive exhibition of the stamps of Porto Rico made their awards as follows:— Mr. F. H. Tows, silver medal; Mr. W. H. Sussdorf, bronze medal; Mr. Geo. L. Toppan, honourable mention.

The report of the judges was accepted with thanks.

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Universal Standard Catalogue
 OF THE
POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD
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It comprises all postage stamps known to be issued since the catalogue was published, down to the end of 1903, with the prices at which they can be supplied.

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WEEKLY TRADE LIST (for wholesale buyers only), sent every Monday on payment of the postage only, 2 1/2 per annum; this contains quotations for all the newest issues, also special bargains which we are enabled to offer from time to time. No dealer should miss seeing this every week.

Books of stamps of any Colony or Country sent on approval on receipt of satisfactory references.

WHITFIELD KING & Co.,
 IPSWICH.
 Established 1839.

The following judges were appointed to award the medals of the next competition (U.S. Postage, Official, Dues, Newspaper and Revenues), to be held on March 14th:—John Luff, W. W. Dewing, P. F. Bruner, W. S. Scott, P. H. Tows.

Geo. D. Morse and Edward H. Mason were elected subscribing members.

Albert Perrin, Secretary, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

THE PALACE PHILATELIC EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

The members of this society are requested to send in as early as possible good sheets for the March packets. Chiefly wanted, British Colonials, and English. Vacancies occur in both sections for good members. Rules free. No fees. Application should be made to R. T. Morgan, 14, High Street, Selhurst, for particulars of the Senior section, and to C. A. Squire Cox for the Junior section. Annual report will be ready about 10th March, and will be sent free on receipt of a p.c. It contains very useful information as well as full particulars of the society.

ENTERPRISE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The February meeting was held on the 17th inst., at 6.15 p.m. There being no business to transact, Mr. Harris proceeded with his display with notes on the stamps of Chili. These were well received, and at the conclusion a vote of thanks was passed to the Secretary.

The February exchange packet started on the 6th inst., carrying a good general selection, including many bargains. This packet will be specially attractive to collectors of Argentine, Brazilian and Mexican stamps.

The Secretary will be glad to hear from those members who have not settled their January accounts.

There are still a few vacancies, and all medium collectors are recommended to apply, in their own interests. Official organ, this paper. Rules and full particulars post free from Hon. Sec., A. H. Harris, "The Library," Buckhurst Hill.

IMPERIAL-FEDERAL STAMP EXCHANGE SOCIETIES.

The February packets of the above societies are good ones, containing a fine assortment of old Colonial stamps, including Great Britain, in mint blocks; Nova Scotia, 8½c. green mint; Falkland Islands, collection nearly complete; Bahamas, including 5/- olive, used, etc., etc.

The February packet of the Federal was valued at £53 14s. 6d.

Since the society started not a month has passed without enrolling new members. Full particulars may be obtained on application to the Secretary, Mr. J. C. Long, 7, Salcott Road, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

THE ONE AND ALL STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

September packet, being delayed on its journey by a few members, only arrived back Tuesday last, and the sales consisted of 891 stamps, value £26 7s. 6d., changed hands. Very good result, being about 28 per cent. of the total amount of the packet. Accounts are sent out and by the time this is in print all sheets will be returned and accounts paid out. Since October no less than about 20 persons have joined the club, and three have resigned. The postal list being rather long, the same has been divided and two packets are now sent out monthly; this will mean at least five weeks' saving in the circuit.—J. G. J. Stevens, Secretary.

On February 15th the February packet, "A" section, containing 34 sheets, value £162 18s. 6½d., was dispatched on its journey, and will be seen by 48 persons before it returns. The "B" packet for February was also dispatched same day, and contained 24 sheets, value £46 2s. 1d., and will go to 29 persons. A few earnest contributing and buying members can be admitted. Rules, etc., on application, from the Secretary, J. G. J. Stevens, Stanley House, Redruth.

CARDIFF PHILATELIC EXCHANGE.

The January packet has started out with 28 sheets, of the total gross value of £200.

The November packet has not yet returned from circuit, but is expected back shortly.

Good collectors are invited to join. References required. W. A. Jutsum, 371, Cowbridge Road, Cardiff, Secretary.

"WATERLOO" STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.

The November packet of this amateur club has been returned, and out of a total of £235 17s. 9d. circulated, sales have been made to the extent of £51 5s. 11d.

The January packet started punctually on the 1st, and carries stamps to the value of £357 3s. 1d.

The December packet having completed its round, the sheets have been returned to owners, and all credits paid.

Hon. Sec.: James Robinson, Bonarista House, Seaforth, Liverpool.

CALEDONIA STAMP EXCHANGE.

The November packet has now returned from circuit, value £183 4s. 11½d. gross, from which has been sold £15 15s. 6½d. All sheets and cash due to members sent on at once. Two or three members are still due their accounts to the club. These should be paid at once.

The December and January packets are still circulating, and the February packet, value £227 0s. 7½d. gross, has now also started off. Would members kindly stamp the post cards this month, as through an oversight they were enclosed in the packet unstamped.

The Secretary will have pleasure in forwarding rules, and any other information, to collectors, but only those who can furnish satisfactory references can be admitted as members. Hon. Sec., John Johnston, Moss-side, New Deer, Aberdeenshire.

LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting of the above society, held on Monday, February 22nd, Mr. Burrows gave a very interesting reading on the stamps of Haiti. A hearty vote of thanks being unanimously accorded to Mr. Burrows for his kindness.

Official address: 28, Dacy Road, Liverpool.

TRAVELLERS' STAMP EXCHANGE.

November packet of this amateur exchange returned, showing excellent sales. All sheets returned with payment to owners within seven days. The February packet started circuit on the 2nd inst., containing 45 sheets, value £792 1s. 1d.: 50 members will see it. This packet is rich in early issues of British Colonials, many being in mint condition. The Hon. Sec. is a member of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society, and suggests that all his members should join this excellent association. The subscription being only the small sum of 2/6 per annum, which means about ½d. per week. "The Travellers'" is entering upon its 14th year.

Hon. Sec., Leicester A. B. Paine, Longsdon, near Stoke-upon-Trent.

OTTERDALE STAMP EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

Mr. G. H. Dannatt, the Secretary, sends us his annual report for 1903. The document discloses a very satisfactory state of affairs, the past year having been a record one for the Otterdale, with gross sales, £1,631 in Section "A," and gross sales, £916 in Section "D." The Secretary's address is Lyndale, Blackheath, S.E.

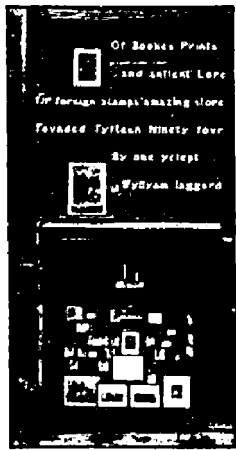
JUNIORS' JOURNEY TO THE MUSEUM

The visit of some forty members of the Junior Philatelic Society to the British Museum, to view the Taphug Collection, on January 30th, was a distinct success, and it was obvious to the sprinkling of "seniors" present that the members of the J.P.S. were enjoying themselves hugely. A writer in "The Bazaar," for some reason or another, is rather disposed to sneer at the function. Witness this paragraph:—

The hearts of those forty members of the London Junior Philatelic Society must have sunk to abysmal depths as they gazed on the Taphug Collection in the British Museum a few days ago. So much has been written on postage stamps that the literature of the subject would form a large library, and so every collector has the opportunity of acquiring close and accurate knowledge of different phases of the great subject should he care to do so. He often reads and reads, and measures and draws distinctions, and then goes to view some noted collection like that formed by the late Mr. Taphug. To return after that and gaze upon his own miserable assortment is indeed a painful experience. Let him have a pet stamp, for which he paid a good sum; he will find it in whole sheets, "with original gum," in the Taphug collection, which is one of the finest in the world, and worth at least £100,000.

We have no idea what thought or motive can have inspired this questionable paragraph, but it is certainly in questionable taste. The members of the Junior Philatelic Society, as we happen to know, study Philately in a sincere and earnest spirit, and there are many members of this society of beginners who own collections that certainly could not be fairly described as "miserable assortments." It is strange to read such comments in a journal whose philatelic department is commonly supposed to be conducted by such a good and earnest philatelist as the Rev. R. B. Earle.

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8 Greece, Olympia, 11. to 1dr. ... Per set, 9d.
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50 Spain, 1855/1900, all different ... 1-
10 Zanzibar, 1896, 1/2 anna to 8 anna ... 3/6
Several other Cheap Sets always on view.
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NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
For Fine British Colonials,
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"PHILATELICAL AN INVERT MENT," a brochure on the signs of Philately from the collector's standpoint; treats of condition, used versus unused, special in versus generalism, forgeries and gauges, and indicates what countries are over-rated in the catalogue and those which are undervalued. Free on request.
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Inventor of the
Star Perforation Gauge, the only single set of Gauges that can be inserted under the side, as well as the bottom of a stamp while hinged.



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An immense stock of rare and medium stamps to be cleared out at extremely low prices.
Dealers and Members of Clubs will find this an exceptional chance, as really large buyers will be liberally treated.
Satisfactory references required.
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SALE BY AUCTION OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS including
Transvaal, No. 21, unused; Samoa, Express, 5 and 2- unused; Heligoland, No. 3, mint; Nevis, perf. 13, superb; Fiji, 6d. rose, perf. 10 by 12 1/2; St Vincent, 1/2 grey; Trinidad, S.G. No. 40; Dominica, S.G. No. 16; early issues Queensland; Victoria and West Australia; Ceylon, pence issues; Great Britain, all issues; South Australia, S.G. No. 9; Gibraltar, 25c. on 2 1/2d. mint, &c

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THESE ARE CHEAP!
Gt. Britain, King, 2 1/2, very fine, used ... 0 4
" " 5 - ditto ditto ... 0 9
" " 10 - ditto ditto ... 2 3
" " 20 - ditto ditto ... 5 6
B. E. Africa, 1890, 5 rupees, perf all round, used very fine ... 6 0
Ceylon, 9d. star, perf, very fine ... 12 6
Holland, 1863, 15cts, orange, mint ... 7 6
Hanover, 10 gros, green, superb ... 27 6
Victoria, 1901, 5 - blue and rose, used ... 2 3
" " 20 - carmine, ditto ... 5 0
Wurtemberg, 18kr, blue, perf 13 1/2, superb ... 15 0
Cash with order. Postage extra.
Fine selection at 50 per cent under Gibbons.
References required from collectors unknown to us.

CUTHBERTSON & CO.,
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1d. black on bleute paper, V.F.	4	0
1d. rose-red, large crown, perf. 16 V.F.	1	0
4d. carmine, small garter	2	0
1856-7, 4d. rose-carmine, medium garter	2	0
4d. rose-carmine, large garter	2	0
4d. rose, large garter	1 1/2	0
6d. lilac, no letters	2	0
1/- green	9	6
1862, 3d. rose, set 3 shades (also singly)	7	6
4d. bright red... 2d. | 4d. pale red	1 1/2	0
4d. bright red, hairlines	2	0
4d. pale red, hairlines	1	0
4d. plate 17, large garter, superb	5	0
Also many 2 1/2d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1/- plates		
Block 12, 1d. red, plate 125, cat. 1/- each	4	0
1/- plate 4, postmarked B.O.1	1	6
6d. lilac, No. 162, error slanting dots	2	6
Block 4, 1d. lilac, inverted watermark	2	0
Gov. Parcels, 1 1/2d. purple and green, dot to left	2	6
Gov. Parcels, 1/- green, no dot	10	0
Gov. Parcels, 1 1/2d. purple & green, no dot	2	6
Strip 12, 1/2d. vermilion, Army Official, control letter P	2	6
Gov. Parcels, 9d. purple & blue, mint	7	6
Board of Education, 3/4d. green	6	0
" " " 1d. scarlet	4	0
" " " 2 1/2d. blue	2	6
Army Official, error official, fine	8	0
1d. red, imperf., double letter M over A		

POSTAL FISCALS :

1d. lilac, No 416, mint, block 4	1	0
3d. pink, No. 424, mint	38	0
1/- vermilion, No. 429, dated 14 6 81, mint	7	6
2/6 " " 430, " 8.3 80, mint	22	6
2/6 " " 430, " 3.8.81, mint	22	6

BRITISH P.O. in CONSTANTINOPLE.

80 para, lilac and blue Queen VF.	1 1/2	0
4 pias. purple and scarlet	1	0
12 pias. two shades	2	0
12 pias. block of 3, very fine	6	0
40 para on 1/2d. vermilion	15	0

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1/- green, M 36, mint	8	0
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2d. blue, CC. 14	3	0
3d. red-brown, CC. 14	3	3
6d. green, CC. 14	1	6
1/- orange, CC. 14	12	0
4d. carmine, CA. 14	3	6
4d. bright lilac, CA. 14	1	6
3d., 7 1/2d., 10d., 1- 1887-94, mint	3	0

CEYLON :

1d. pale blue, No. 3	1	9
5d. chestnut brown, No. 23, very fine	2	6
1d. no watermark	3	0
2d. sea green, CC. 3 0 | 2d. yellow, CC.	2	0
4d. rose, CC.	3	6
5d. yellow-green, CC.	3	6
5d. myrtle green, CC.	12	0
9d. black-brown, CC.	3	6
10d. orange-red, CC.	10	0
1/- mauve, CC.	3	6
6c. on 4c., No. 137, 138, the two	17	0
10c. on 24c., No. 147	1	3

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Cash with order.

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36 lbs. old London Philatelist, Monthly Journal, Fortnightly; Exchange, South Australia and Queensland.—E. JENKINS, Pier Terrace, Lowestoft.

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*Unused. All others used, but in fine or perfect condition; Neither common nor damaged.

Numbers of Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue.

Antigua, 13*, 14, 18, 22, 28*; Bermuda, 6*, 10, 12; Bahamas, 14, 14*, 15a, 16, 19*; Barbados, 3, 11, 17, 22*, 44, 46, 47, 52, 56, 65, 66, 71, 75, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 94*, 96, 122*, 123*; British East Africa, 16*, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70*, 72, 76; British Central Africa, 4, 22, 27, 45, 46; British South Africa, 3*, 4, 4*, 30*, 47*; British Guiana, 28, 31, 33, 77, 88, 95, 121; Cape Triangular, 1, 4, 5, 11, 23, 24, 26, 33, 36, 39, 42*, 44, 52, 63, 68a*; Ceylon, 19, 41, 48, 56, 58, 63, 65a*, 67, 75, 76, 114, 120, 136, 147*, 151*, 156*, 157; Cyprus, 1*, 2, 19, 21, 31; Fiji, 42*, 45*, 47, 48, 53, 55, 59*, 60, 61*, 61, 62, 63, 67, 68, 69*, 76* 82*, 86*, 87*, 88*, 89*, 90*, 91*, 92, 13*, 14*, 15, 18, 24*, 25, 26*, 27, 28, 30, 33*, 34*, 36*, 37*, 38*, 40*, 41, 46a, 47, 48, 49, 54, 60*, 101*, 102; India, 5, 7, 27*, 44*, 48*, 61*, 68*, 88*; Lagos, 2*, 2, 3, 10*, 10, 11, 14, 15, 18, 19, 29, 24, 24*, 26, 26*, 31*, 38*, 42*, 42; Mauritius, 29, 33, 63, 70, 83, 85, 88, 89*, 92; Natal, 11, 12*, 15, 15*, 19, 20, 21, 54, 61, 65, 75, 81, 85*, 90*, 92, 103, 124, 204*; New South Wales, 44, 46, 66, 78, 89, 101, 101a, 101b, 102, 103, 103a, 107, 108, 119, 130, 133, 134, 137, 139, 140, 151, 161, 183*, 189, 190, 215, 221, 252*, 255, 292*, 352, 404*, 446, 506, 507 691a; New Zealand, 7, 43, 49, 51, 52, 69, 72, 78*, 82, 86, 89, 99, 99, 101, 116, 117, 119, 126, 321*, Orange, 13, 38, 40, 41, 199* 200*, 201*; Queensland, 1, 6, 16*, 19, 24 pair, 27, 28, 32, 34, 35, 42, 45, 59, 66, 70, 75*, 79, 80, 81, 82, 98, 108, 109, 111, 112, 113, 114*, 116, 131, 305, 316, 317, 318, 320, 322, 324; St. Lucia, 9*, 14a, 18, 24, 25, 107; St. Helena, 2a, 9, 13*, 23*, 29, 30, 32, 35, 35*, St. Vincent, 3*, 15*, 16, 17a, 22, 25*, 39, 44, 44*, 51*, 53*; South Australia, 3, 5, 7, 12, 27, 29, 30, 32, 36, 48, 53, 62, 71, 79, 112, 117, 118, 123, 127, 142, 147, 148, 150, 151, 155, 156, 164, 164, 164*, 177, 202*, 217*, 220, 221, 223, 234, 508, 510, 546; Trinidad, 2*, 22*, 30, 56, 60*, 62, 63, 64, 68, 70, 71, 72, 74, 76*, 78, 79, 80, 81, 87*, 88, 101; Victoria, 1, 3, 5, 7, 17, 23*, 24, 29, 33, 35, 39, 40, 41, 42, 45, 47, 49, 55, 64, 66, 68, 69, 71, 72, 77, 95, 96, 97, 121, 129, 130, 132, 148, 150, 151, 155, 156, 159, 160, 161, 173, 173*, 174, 178*, 178, 179*, 181, 184*, 188, 189, 199*, 200, 221*, 413, 415, 416, 418a, 419, 421, 424, 425, 427; Western Australia, 2, 3*, 10, 31, 37, 38, 39, 41*, 41, 44, 46, 49*, 50, 52, 56, 57, 58, 59, 61, 78, 81*, 96*, 97; Tasmania, 7, 8, 19, 23, 27, 61, 63, 64, 68, 70, 84, 85, 86, 87a, 88a*, 95*, 99, 100, 109, 118, 119, 120, 122, 125, 126, 127, 155*, 308; Zanzibar, 4, 6, 8, 8*, 11, 15, 18, 82*, 83, 108, 109, 112*, 113. And many others, unless sold.

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B. C. Africa, 1895, no wmk. 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d. (4)	7 6
1896, C.A., 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 1s. (5)	11 0
B. E. Africa Co. 1891, 1/2, to 1 rupee, (set of 10)	3 9
B. So. Africa, on Cape, 1/2, 1d., (cat. 2/8) pair	1 3
£1 black on green	30 0
Cyprus, 1886, Die II. set of 7 complete	15 0
1891-6, set of 10,	15 0
12, 18, 45 piastres (3)	12 0
Dominica, 4d. grey, 8d. orange	7 6
1/2 on half 1d. B.C. 10, pair (cat. 12/-)	50 0
Falkland Islands, 4d. C.A. sideways (cat. 20/-)	7 6
Ecuador, 1891, Jubilee set of 7	0 8
Fiji, 1876, 1d. surcharged V.R. imperf.	2 0
2d. on 3d. green,	2 0
4d. on 3d. mauve,	4 0
1879, 2d. on 3d. green, perf.	1 0
Gibraltar, 1889 (surcharged); set of 7	7 6
British Colonies, 50 varieties used	0 6
Ditto ditto 100 do. do.	1 9

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" " " " 4th Queen	0 5	
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Jamaica 2 - Queen's Head, Mint	2 4	
" " "	5 8	
Zanzibar, 1893, 6 rufee	3 6	
12 Bavaria, 1891, 1891, 2, 3, 6, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 80 pf. 4 id 1 and 2 in 1/2	0 6	
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Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue.

REVIEW OF PRICES IN PART I.

(Continued from S.C.F. No. 233.)

THE stamps of the first issue of British Central Africa are not likely to rise much at present. The 3/- and 4/- are the scarcest, and will be the first to move upwards. The issues of 1895 and 1896 show a tendency to appreciate in value steadily. No. 49 is now priced at 20/-, and will probably be put higher in future catalogues; at any rate, unused.

Turning to British Columbia, we notice that the 10c. perf. 14, is catalogued again, possibly the 1 dollar perf. 14 will ultimately be re-instated. A few years ago Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Co. not only listed these stamps, but quoted prices for both of them used!

Of the stamps of British East Africa, the Provisionals of 1891 are, perhaps, the best to buy for investment. Nos. 42 and 43 are scarce, and not overpriced at 15/- each unused. Of the July 1895 surcharges, we should pick No. 60 unused at 12/6 as the cheapest, though, no doubt, many of the rarer ones will advance. The late issues do not call for much comment.

Of the earlier stamps of British Guiana, we think No. 24 overpriced compared with, say, No. 4 and No. 8. Of the 1860 to 1875 sets, we think Nos. 57, 62, 65, and 66 the cheapest. 91 to 96 will probably go on rising, as will many of the rarer surcharged stamps. Copies of 131 and 133 are worth accumulating while they can be bought cheap. Of the 1888 issue, all the values above 10c. are scarce, the higher values of the 1889-90 issue are also worth buying.

From the British Honduras list we pick out No. 29 as underpriced at 3/- unused, it is rarer than No. 40, which is put at 5/-. The more recent stamps, say, from 59 down to 77, all seem scarce. One seldom sees them on exchange sheets or even in dealers' approval books. Nos. 62 to 65 in particular should prove a remunerative investment.

We do not agree with our correspondent, "W.B.," that the B.S.A. of the first issue should all be priced a little over face value. The shilling brown, for instance, is scarce in mint state. Both this stamp and the 6d. deep blue are overpriced used. The stamps surcharged on Cape of Good Hope should rise further. The higher values of the 1898 issue should be secured before they go up.

Of the earlier stamps of Canada, we think the 16d. on thick paper should be twice the price of that on thin paper, instead of about one-and-a-half times. The large stamps of 1868 are attractive stamps which seem to be on the rise, the 1c. in deep orange is very rare, and is well worth buying at 20/- unused. We fancy, however, that the stamp sold as No. 49 is not in the deepest shade, as there are two others which might be called orange and orange yellow. We have the same difficulty as to the nomenclature of colours with regard to the 15 cents; if No. 61 is in the shade which we should call dull purple, it ought to be 10/- instead of 1/6. The large 5c. included in the next issue should go on rising. The higher values of the Jubilee issue are stamps worth buying unused. The 6c., 8c., and 10c. of the 1897 issue, and the same values of the 1898 issue should be worth keeping, also the 20c. of 1900 and the 7c. of 1902.

The prices quoted for triangular Capes are in some instances lower than those in the previous edition. We cannot assign any particular reason for this, as the market value has not declined. As regards these stamps, it must be borne in mind that really fine copies are sold at higher prices than the catalogue quotations. In the case of Woodblocks, especially, the values depend entirely on condition. In the issues of 1864 onwards we notice that many prices have raised, some of them excessively. No. 58, for instance, is very high at 7/6 unused, and No. 63 is dear at 2/- used. The 5/- orange, No. 71, and 5/- brown orange, No. 87, are worth buying used, and the threepennies, No. 84 and 89, are likely to go up. Many of the Mafekings are brought down in price. We are inclined to think that they are worth buying unused, as with the exception of the bicycle stamp, they are scarce in that condition.

The early Ceylons have not changed much, but there are a good many advances in the later issues. No. 138 is overpriced at 8d. used, as it is very common. Good copies of 104 and 155 are worth securing while they are cheap. Nos. 212 to 214 should rise in the future.

The stamps of the first issue of the Cook Islands are scarce, and are likely to rise. No. 24 has gone up from 2/6 to 4/-, and should rise further.

Of the first issue of Cyprus, the two higher values are scarce, but we do not think they are specially likely to go up. The 6 piastres wmkd. C.C., is a good stamp to buy unused. We are rather surprised to find it still priced at 30/-. The 6p. C.A. die I. is priced low at 6/-, it should be worth more than 6p. of die II. The latter and the 12p. of die II. have been rightly lowered, as there are plenty of unused copies on the market.

The red-brown 2½d. of Dominica, both C.C. and C.A. are likely to rise further. The 4d. blue C.C. is cheap at 2/-, while the 1/- values Nos. 3, 9, and 26 will all rise in time.

The addition to the price of No. 10 of the Falkland Isles meets with our approval, and the price for it unused might be still higher.

The 1/- green of Gambia, Nos. 19 and 20, has come down a little. We think there should be more difference between the prices for used and unused. Considering the stock of unused stamps of the 1886 issue on the market, the prices for the commoner shades of each value are too high. The 1898 issue is worth buying, as there seems to be comparatively few about.

In the case of Gibraltar, we think the 4d. and 6d. of the second issue too high compared with the same values of the first issue. No. 16 of the 3rd issue is cheap unused, and so are Nos. 19 to 21. Nos. 34 and 36 are worth buying, also, perhaps, 41 and 43 to 45.

Of the Gold Coast stamps Nos. 22 and 23 unused might rise. Nos. 31-34 are worth buying.

Of the Grenadas we think No. 19 priced cheap, both used and unused. No. 24 unused is cheap at 70/-.

Griqualands are scarce, but all the better varieties are priced high, and there are none we can recommend as bargains at catalogue price.

Heligolands do not seem to be a good investment, as they are difficult to find purchasers for, if one wants to get rid of them. No. 31, however, should be worth taking at 10/-.

Unused Hong Kong stamps generally are worth buying if they can be got at half or two-thirds of catalogue quotations. We cannot pick out any as bargains at full catalogue rates. No. 6 is dear at 2/6 unused, and so is No. 61 at 3/- used. No. 63 might be bought, and also 68 to 72, which were not in use for long.

In the case of an old issue, the lowest value is generally the easiest to obtain unused, but the Indian half anna blue is certainly scarcer than the 1 anna red of the same issue. Copies with gum are well worth buying at five or six shillings. The subsequent issues seem reasonably priced. Nos. 64 and 70 are worth buying unused. Good used copies of 92, 93, and 94 should prove a satisfactory investment. Nos. 100, 101 might rise, also No. 551. The Native States stamps surcharged on Indian are in demand now, the rarer varieties and higher values should go up. We consider Chamba Nos. 16 to 18, Faridkot No. 114, Jhind 212 to 218c and 231 to 234, Nabha 5, 6, 24 to 26, and 415, and Puttialla 5, 6 and 46 to 48 to be stamps worth acquiring. The native issues of the Feudatory States can hardly be recommended as an investment. We like to fill up the spaces in our album with those stamps when we can get them at a few pence apiece, but we are not prepared to exchange three golden sovereigns for No. 1 of either Bamra or Bhopal!

(To be continued.)

Mr. Chamberlain must be a philatelist. Like most collectors, he has shown a decided preference for "British Colonies."

From the Auction Rooms.

Messrs. Glendining and Co., having had an "all British" auction, are next going in for a sale entirely devoted to "Entires." This will be held on March 14th and 15th, and those who remain faithful to envelopes and post cards are looking forward to the event with keenest interest.

A sale containing many Colonial varieties will be that held at "Puttick's" on March 8th and 9th. Included in the sale will be a fine specialised collection of Victoria. Messrs Plumridge and Co.'s next sale is for Tuesday and Wednesday, March 1st and 2nd. Messrs. Martin Ray and Co. sell on Monday, February 29th, and it is safe to say that they will not hold another auction on just that date for at least four years to come. Messrs. Ventom Bull and Cooper's sale on Thursday and Friday next, March 3rd and 4th, at the Temple Hotel, Arundel Street, Strand, should attract a good attendance, for there is a good sprinkling of choice Colonials in the programme.

Our Newest Auctioneer—

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London has yet another addition to the ranks of its stamp auctioneers in the person of Mr. J. Louis, well-known hitherto as a prosperous and popular City dealer. Mr. Louis has satisfactorily disposed of his very successful stamp business in Broad Street, and is going to specialise in the "Going! Going!" business. He is popular, energetic, enterprising, and—lucky! All who know Mr. Louis will cordially wish him a continuance of the last-named very useful attribute.



* Denotes UNUSED.

Messrs VENTOM BULL & COOPER'S Sale

January 7 and 8, 1904.

Finland, 1889-90, 5 and 10 marks, both mint...	1 0 0
Oldenburg, 1861, 3gr. pale yellow mint	1 5 0
Ceylon, 1883-84, wmk. C. and C.A., 24c. purple-brown, mint	5 10 0
" 1885 provl., 5c. on 96c. drab*	1 12 0
Hong Kong, 1867, wmk. C. and C.C., 18c. lilac, mint	3 5 0
" 1892, 10c. blue-green, mint	1 8 0
India, first issue, ½ Anna red*	7 6
Perak, 1895-99, 1, 2, 3, 5 and 25 dollars, all mint	5 0 0
Federated Malay States, 1900, surcharged on stamps of Perak, 1, 2, 5 and 25 dollars, all mint	8 10 0
British Central Africa, 1896, £10 vermilion, mint	25 0 0
Do. £25 green, mint	60 0 0
British South Africa, 1897, £1 black and red-brown on green, mint	1 10 0
Griqualand, large G in red on 1s. green, type 2*	1 6 0
Natal, 1877-79, 1d. on 6d. rose, surcharged four times, mint	4 0 0
Sierra Leone, first issue, 6d. purple, imperforate *	3 0 0
Uganda, first issue, 20 cowries violet, used, on piece	1 10 0
Zanzibar, on Indian, 2 annas blue with double surcharge, mint	2 18 0
Zululand, 1894-96, £1 purple on red, mint	2 2 0
British Columbia, first issue, 2½d. brown-rose imperf.*	6 7 6
Nova Scotia, half a 3d. blue used on piece	0 15 0
Barbados, first issue, half a 1d. blue used on entire as ½d.	1 12 0
Do. 1873, 5s. dull rose, a pair	3 5 0
British Guiana, 1853, 4c. blue	1 1 0
Do. Official stamps, 1875, 8c. rose, mint	4 0 0
Do. Do. 12c. lilac, mint	6 0 0
British Honduras, 1899, surcharged "Revenue," 50c. grey	1 1 0

St. Lucia, fiscal stamps used for postage, 1881, "Shilling Stamp" orange*	1 0 0
Virgin Islands, 1899, 1d. brown, error, "FOURPENCE" mint	4 6 0
Columbia, 1861, 2½c. black*	1 10 0
Hawaiian Islands, Interisland Postage, 1c. black on thin bluish paper, mint	1 13 0
Tasmania, first issue, 1d. blue, a pair*	11 5 0
Do. 1856, No. wmk. 1d. brown-red on pelure paper*	2 2 0
Do. 1857-70, 2d. sage-green, a mint block of six	5 10 0
Do. 1867, oblique roulette, 1d. vermilion*	1 0 0
Victoria, first issue, 3d. blue rouletted, a pair	2 4 0
Do. 1861, 1d. green, 3 specimens, wmk. "One Penny," double-lined 1 and single-lined 1 respectively*	2 4 0

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.'s Sale

January 5 and 6, 1904.

Antigua, CC. 14, 2½d. red-brown, mint	1 9 0
Barbados, 1878, 1d. on half 5/-, ...	4 10 0
British East Africa, July, 1895, 1 auna, variety double surcharge, mint	2 8 0
British Guiana, 1850, 8c. green	10 0 0
Cape of Good Hope, 1855-8, on white, 1/- yellow-green, a pair	2 1 0
Do. do. Ditto, ditto, 1/- dark green, a mint pair	6 0 0
Do. do. Ditto, ditto, 1/- dark green, a pair	2 0 0
Do. do. 1861, Woodblock, 1d. scarlet	4 15 0
Do. do. Ditto, 4d. dark blue	5 5 0
Do. do. Ditto, 4d. pale blue, *	4 12 6
Do. do. Ditto, 4d. pale blue	3 0 0
Great Britain, 1862, 9d. straw, variety with hair lines	9 0 0
Do. do. O.W. Official, Queen, 10d. scarlet and purple	5 5 0
Nevis, 1883-90, CA., 6d. green	3 10 0
Zululand, 1894-6, £1 purple on red, mint	1 16 0
Do. On Natal Revenue, 1d., 6d., 5/- and £1, mint, surcharged "Specimen"	1 7 0
Do. Ditto, £5 mint, "Specimen"	1 5 0
Do. Ditto, £20, mint, "Specimen"	2 0 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales.

January 12th and 13th, 1904.

Cyprus, 1892, wmk. C.C., ½ piastre emerald, type 9	1 6 0
France, 1849, 20c. blue, *	2 15 0
Do. 1877-97, 1c. black on Prussian blue, mint	1 17 0
Do. Journal Stamp, 1868, imperf., 2c. rose, mint	2 10 0
Bonin, 1894, 75 in black on 15c. blue, mint	1 12 0
Guadeloupe, 20 on 30c. brown, Gibbons' type 2	1 1 0
Madagascar, 1891, 5 francs lilac and black *	1 15 0
Do. St. Pierre et Miquelon, 1885, 5 on 2c. brown on buff, type 3, with inverted surcharge	1 0 0
Do. Tahiti, 1882, 25c. on 35c. black on yellow	1 3 0
Do. do. 1884, 5c. on 20c. red on green, mint	1 0 0
Do. do. 10c. on 20c. red on green, with inverted surcharge, mint	1 10 0
Do. do. 25c. on 1 franc olive-green, with inverted surcharge, *	2 10 0
Cape of Good Hope, 1861, woodblocks, 4d. dark blue	7 7 0
Lagos, 1884-86, 10/- lilac-brown	9 17 6
Mauritius, 1848, Post Paid, 1d. orange, early medium impression, a pair	30 0 0
Do. 1848, 2d. deep blue, early medium impression, the error "Penoe."	11 11 0
Do. 1848, 2d. deep blue, early medium impression...	16 0 0
Do. 1848, 2d. pale blue late impression, the error "Penoe"	5 5 0
Do. 1891, Two Cents on 38c. lilac, with double surcharge, mint	2 12 6
Do. 1891, Two Cents on 38c. lilac, with double surcharge, one inverted, mint	4 4 0
Do. 1899, 6 cents in red on 18c. green and blue, with inverted surcharge, mint	3 3 0
Seychelles, 1893, 12 cents on 16c. carmine and green, with inverted surcharge, mint	2 0 0
Do. 15 cents on 16c. brown and blue, ditto, ditto	2 12 0
Bahamas, 1894-98, £1 venetian-red, mint	1 6 0
Grenada, 1888, 4d. on 2/- orange, a strip of 3, the centre stamp being the very rare variety with upright "d," mint	7 15 0
Montserrat, 1884-85, wmk. CA., 4d. blue	2 0 0
Tonga, Service, 1893, 8d. blue, mint	4 5 0
Do. Service, 1/- blue, ditto	3 0 0

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co's Sales,

January 14th and 15th, 1904.

Oldenburg, 1859, 1/2 gr. black on green*	2 0 0
Do. 1861, 1/2 gr.	2 0 0
Geneva, 1849, 4c. black and red	11 10 0
Wurtemberg, 1858-60, perf. 13 1/2, thick paper, 6kr. green (Gibbons 35)*	2 12 0
Seychelles, 1890, 96c. mauve and carmine, mint block of four	2 12 0
Do. 3c. on 4c. surcharge inverted, a mint block of four	6 12 6
Do. 12c. on 16c., surcharge inverted, mint	2 10 0
Do. 15c. on 16c., surcharge inverted, mint	2 8 0
Bahamas, 4d., no wmk., perf. 11 1/2 to 12*	3 17 6
Do. 6d., no wmk., perf. 11 1/2 to 12*	5 12 6
New Zealand, 1860-2, no wmk., pelure paper, 2d. lilac blue... ..	1 17 0
Victoria, 1857-63 4d. rose, imperf., wmk.*	1 3 0

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co's Sales,

January, 19th and 20th, 1904.

Ceylon, 1872-80, 14 x 12 1/2, 8c., orange-yellow, mint	1 9 0
Do. 1888-90, 5 cents on 15c. error without "Revenue" very fine * with gum	3 3 0
Great Britain, 1810, 1d. black on bluish, *	2 0 0
Do. 1858, large crown 14, 1d. rose-red, a pair, imperf., mint	3 5 0
Do. 1857, Medium garter on white, 4d. rose-carmine, mint	6 15 0
Do. 1862, 1/- green on plate 3 paper, with hair lines, a mint imperf pair	5 0 0
Do. I. R. Official, 1892, £1 green,	1 11 0
Do. O. W. Official, 1902, Queen, 5d	3 0 0
Labuan, 1891, 6c. in red on 8c., surcharge inverted	1 10 0
Mecklenburg, 1864, 4 1/2 sh. red, rouletted, *	4 1 0
Seychelles, 1893, 3c. on 4c., surcharge inverted, mint	1 12 0
Do. 1893, 12c. on 16c., surcharge inverted, cancelled by red bar	1 7 0
Swaziland, 5/- slate, surcharge inverted	3 0 0
Transvaal, 1900, V.R.I., £5 green	5 5 0
Trinidad, 191, 10/- green and blue, mint	2 2 6
Do. O.S., 5/- mint	2 0 0
Virgin Islands, 1899., 3d. green, a block of 6, showing both errors, mint	1 6 0
Zululand, 1888-92, 5/- mint	2 10 0

Messrs. GLENDINING & Co's SALE,

January 28th and 29th.

Bavaria, 1849, 6kr. brown*	4 6 0
Portugal, first issue, 100 r. lilac, a strip of four	3 15 0
Saxony, 1850, 3pf.	3 3 0
British Guiana, 1861, 24c. green perf. 12, mint	1 4 0
New South Wales, 1850, 1d. pale red, *	3 5 0
Western Australia, 4d. vermilion, mint	1 5 0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULLS & COOPER'S Sale,

February 4th and 5th.

Great Britain, 1811, 1d. red rouletted	2 4 0
Do. 2 1/2d. rose, plate 2, error of lettering "L H F L"	2 2 0
Do. 1883-84, 5/- rose on blued paper, mint	3 12 6
Do. "Board of Education," Queen's Head, 1/- green and scarlet	2 12 0
Ionian Islands, 3d. orange	1 0 0
Holland, first issue, 5c. milky blue, mint	1 1 0
Russia, 1883, 7 kopecs blue, error, imperforate, mint	1 0 0
Finland, 1860, depth of tooth 1 1/2 mm., 5k. blue on bluish, and 10k. rose on pale rose, both *	2 2 0
Do. 1882, compound perf., 20p. ultramarine *	1 18 0
Labuan, 1893 provisional, 6c. on 16c. grey with inverted surcharge, and the word "Cents" omitted	1 15 0
Phillipines, first issue, 1 real blue *	1 16 0
Do. 2 reals green *	1 12 0
Perak, 1883, 1c. on 2c. rose, Gibbons' No. 30, twice surcharged, mint	1 1 0
Do. Service stamp, 1894, 5c. blue *	3 0 0
Azores, 1882-85, 150 reis blue	1 17 0
Fernando Po, first issue, 20c. de esc. brown, error "Fernando" mint	1 2 0
Mauritius, small fillet, 2d. blue, early state of plate *	5 0 0

Transvaal, 1877, surcharged "V.R. Transvaal," 3d. dull mauve with fine roulette *	3 15 0
Do. 6d. blue with fine roulette *	3 18 0
Do. 1/- green with fine roulette *	5 0 0
Do. 1877, surcharged "V.R. Transvaal," 6d. blue on blue, twice surcharged	7 7 0
Do. 1d. red on orange with compound roulette	8 8 0
Do. 1d. red on orange with wide roulette	3 0 0
Do. 6d. blue on blue with wide roulette	6 0 0
Sierra Leone, 1894, provl., "Half-penny" on 1 1/2d. lilac, wmk. C. and C.C., mint	2 4 0
Zanzibar on Indian, 2s. ultramarine, error, "Zanzidar"	2 18 0
Jamaica, 1890 provl., 2 1/2d. on 4d. orange-brown, twice surcharged and showing the "Penny" error	1 4 0
South Australia, 1894, perf. 12 1/2 by 15, 3d. yellow-brown, a block of four, mint	3 0 0
Victoria, 1857, wmk. Star, 4d. rose imperforate *	2 0 0
Do. no wmk., 2d. lilac rouletted	3 0 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sale,

January 26th and 27th.

Cyprus, 1891, 30 paras on 1d. red, plate 217, a pair	2 2 0
Federated Malay States, 1900, 25 dollars green and orange (on Perak) unused in mint state, very scarce	6 0 0
Vryburg, 1899, Z.A.R. on Transvaal, 1d. carmine, the rare variety with italic Z	1 13 0
Canada, 1899, 2 cents, on 3c. rose-carmine, with inverted surcharge, unused in mint state	1 12 0
Mexico, Chiapas, 1867, 2 reales black on rose	2 2 0
Queensland, 1864-65, wmk. small star, 6d. yellow-green, imperf	1 6 0
Tasmania, 1892-99, £1 green and yellow, mint	8 5 0

Messrs PLUMRIDGE & Co's Sale,

February 16th and 17th.

Barbados, 1870, large star, rough perfs., 4d. vermilion *	2 8 0
Do. 1873, 5/- rose	1 6 0
British Columbia, 1867, C.C. 14, 1 dollar green, mint... ..	1 16 0
Cape of Good Hope, 1863-4, De la Rue, 6d. bright mauve, a mint pair	3 7 6
Do. 1853, on blued, 1d. a block of 4	1 3 0
Do. Paper slightly blued, 1d., a block of 8	2 6 0
Do. 1855, on white, 1d. rose-red, a block of 4	1 1 0
Do. Do. 6d. lilac, a mint pair	3 10 6
Do. Do. 6d. lilac, a block of 8	3 12 6
Do. Do. 1s. yellow-green, a block of 5	5 5 0
Do. Do. 1861, Woodblock, 4d. pale blue	3 0 0
Do. Do. 4d. dark blue	4 17 6
Do. Do. 1863-4, De la Rue print, 1d. carmine-red, a block of 4	2 12 0
Do. Do. 1892, C.C., Halfpenny on 3d.	2 4 0
Canada, 1852-7, 6d. green	1 12 0
Ceylon, 1863, C.C., 1d. blue, variety perf. 11 1/2	2 8 0
Gambia, 1869, No wmk., 4d. pale brown	1 9 0
Do. 1880, C.C., 1/- deep green	1 6 0
Great Britain, 1811, 1d. on Dickenson paper	1 15 0
Do. 1862, small letters, 1s. green, variety with circle round K	1 12 0
Do. 1867-80, 2s. brown	2 4 0
Natal, 1857, 1s. buff	4 0 0
New Brunswick, 1s. violet	6 6 0
Newfoundland, 1857, 1s. scarlet-vermilion	8 10 0
New South Wales, Sydney View, 1d. bright red, plate 2	2 12 6
New Zealand, 1872, no watermark, perf., 4d. orange	2 1 0
Queensland, 1860, imperf., 1d. carmine-rose, a pair	3 7 6
Do. Do. 6d. green, on entire	2 18 0
Tasmania, 1892, £1 green and yellow, mint	7 0 0
Tonga, 1896, Halfpenny on 7 1/2d. on 2d., inscription reading downwards	1 16 0
Transvaal, 1879, 1d. in red on 6d. black, the rare type (S.G. 16)	3 0 0
Do. V.R.I., 1s. a pair, with normal and diagonal surcharge in addition, very fine and scarce	2 0 0
Trinidad, 1-59, imperf., 6d. green, on original	2 12 6
Victoria, 1864, 1d. green, watermark 4, mint	1 4 0
Western Australia, 1860, rouletted, 2d. orange-vermilion*	1 11 0
Do. 1902, £1 brown, a mint pair	2 9 0

Some Recent Forgeries.

TWO GERMAN ISSUES RECENTLY IMITATED.

We are able to give interesting illustrations of two recent forgeries of German stamps. The first a stamp of the



GENUINE.

FORGERY.

"eagle" issue of 1872. From the comparative illustrations we publish it will be seen that the differences between the genuine stamp and the forgery are not such as would be readily detected. In fact, this is a forgery that would, at first glance, deceive nine persons out of ten. The most salient difference lies in the total size of the stamp, for it will be seen that the forgery is slightly smaller than the original stamp. Otherwise the principal differences are to be found in the central embossing.

In the second case the German stamp selected by the



GENUINE.

FORGERY.

forger was the common 10 pfennig stamp of the "Germania" type. To suppose that anyone would undertake to imitate such a very common stamp for the purpose of deceiving and defrauding philatelists would be absurd on the face of it. The stamp was forged simply and solely to defraud the Imperial revenue the genuine and the spurious stamps.

According to Mr. C. A. Howes the issue of the 3 cheun orange Jubilee stamp of Corea consisted of only 8,000 specimens.

"Countries that live on Postage Stamps; How Impecunious Natives have Raised the Wind." So run the headlines of an article in a recent copy of "Pearson's Weekly," kindly sent us by Mr. E. Rondel.

Mauritius can boast of three philatelic "records." It was the first British Colony to issue adhesive postage stamps; it was the first British Colony to indulge in a surcharge, and, finally, it is a Mauritian stamp that has shattered all records in the matter of prices paid for stamps at public auction.

Some British Odds & Ends.

"EXPRESSES DELIVERY" STAMPS, "PAID" OBLITERATIONS, PARCELS POST LABELS, ETC.

I was much interested in Mr. E. J. Nankivell's remarks about British "Express Delivery" and "Paid" Obliterations on stamps.

Some years ago I drew attention to the collection of "Parcel Post Labels" and was quite surprised to find that there was a large number of philatelists who were interested in them and had collected them from the very beginning.

I myself have always kept any "Express Delivery" or "Paid" stamps that have come my way and I believe that a fair number of stamp collectors do the same, as these "Obliterations" form a sort of supplement to a collection of ordinary adhesives. This led me on to collecting other varieties of impressions made by hand stamps and as they accumulated their interest became more apparent.

Firstly, the most interesting are those indicating various amounts of postage due, and as these are perhaps the fore-runners of an adhesive "Unpaid" or "Postage Due" issue they seem to me to have some claim to the attention of the British specialist.

There are many varieties of type in the numerals, plain and fancy, in frames and without frames, with numbers of the post office and without, altogether quite an interesting display. And being (at present) of no value they are not difficult to obtain.

On foreign letters insufficiently paid are many varieties of the letter T (taxe) either alone or enclosed in various frames and with the amount to pay.

Again, there are the various legends stamped on covers by the postal authorities, which though they do not indicate anything of a philatelic nature are yet of interest and form a little side-show to a collection of British stamps.

Below is a list of those that have come my way in the ordinary course:

- "—More to pay above—oz."
- "Above—oz.—more to pay."
- "Over—oz."
- "—Postage due for return to sender."
- "Postage prepaid in cash."
- "Gone no address."
- "Insufficiently addressed."
- "Undelivered for reason stated."
- "To be returned to sender at address shown on cover."
- "Of the nature of a letter."
- "Found at London without contents"
- "No such street"

For this last I am indebted to the *Fortnightly*, as it appeared on the cover of my copy of the "S.C.F." wrongly addressed to Leith instead of Perth. (But it reached me all right by the next post!)

There must be many more of these stamps used, and I am inclined to think with Mr. Nankivell that some day certain of them, such as the "Paid" and "Postage Due" varieties will be considerably sought after.

J. F. C. S.

Somebody appears to have had the temerity to put a question to "Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal" on the subject of stamp values, for the Editor, in his most sardonic vein, writes in the Correspondence Column: "We cannot answer questions as to values of stamps, a subject on which we are profoundly ignorant."

That well-known American Philatelist, Mr. George L. Toppan, has been seriously ill, but is now, happily, convalescent.

Large as this Number is, we have to hold over until our next issue a great many interesting letters and notes that have been sent in by readers of the "Fortnightly." As the opening number of the Tenth Volume the next "S. C. F." will be remarkable for a re-modelling of some of the features of the journal that will probably commend itself to the majority of our readers.

LOUIS & CO.,
STAMP AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS,
37, CHANCERY LANE, W.C.

NEXT SALE WILL TAKE PLACE ON

MONDAY, 7th MARCH, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.,

And will comprise a fine collection of BRITISH, FOREIGN, AND COLONIAL STAMPS, including some very scarce varieties of Great Britain and Colonial Stamps.

SALES WILL BE HELD FORTNIGHTLY throughout the season, Catalogues of which will be sent on application. Lots to be included should reach our offices 14 days prior to Sale.

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W. H. PECKITT, Dealer in Rare Stamps,
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NEW ISSUES.

All King's Head stamps in stock and special arrangements can be made by which an effective and consistent supply of New Colonial stamps, as they come out, can be assured. Circular on application.

1d. black for plating purposes; several reconstructed plates of these have been made up; the stamps are priced separately at very moderate figures.

RECENT PURCHASES.

The well-known General Collection formed by Mr J. N. MARSDEN of Lisbon.

THIS fine lot contains many of the first-class rarities, and is also particularly rich in varieties, errors, etc., many of which are seldom to be found except in collections of this age and magnitude.

The fine Collection of COLONIAL STAMPS made by the late Rev. W. BELL, of Cork.

THIS Collection contains a very large number of old issues in mint state, the condition generally being very fine.

LISTS OF WANTS WILL RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION. SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL.

Notes on Northern Nigeria.

BY BERTRAM W. H. POOLE.

NOWADAYS every stamp collector is more or less of a specialist. Even the most ardent "generalist" usually has some country, issue, or type he particularly fancies and to which he devotes no little time and trouble in making as complete as possible. Unfortunately unless one is the possessor of a long purse the choice of countries that may be thoroughly specialised is limited, and in British Colonies the selection is smaller still. The stamps of Northern Nigeria are one of the exceptions, for the two issues that have appeared may be obtained complete without a great deal of expenditure, and, to the collector who is keen on shades, it forms a very interesting little country to specialise. Its two issues are quite straightforward and it boasts of no watermark perforation, or surcharge varieties. The territory occupied by the Royal Niger Company was taken over by the Imperial Government on December 28th, 1899, and this, with Lagos and the Niger Coast Protectorate, was divided into two administrative districts named Northern and Southern Nigeria respectively. Lagos still uses its own special stamps. Southern Nigeria used those of Niger Coast until 1901, while the district of Northern Nigeria issued its own special stamps in 1900.

THE FIRST ISSUE.

The first set was issued sometime in April, 1900. (I have been unable to ascertain the exact day) and consists of the following values:

- ½d. lilac and green.
- 1d. lilac and carmine.
- 2d. lilac and yellow.
- 2½d. lilac and blue.
- 5d. lilac and brown.
- 6d. lilac and violet.
- 1/- green and black.
- 2/6 green and blue.
- 10/- green and brown.

The body of the stamp is in the colour first given and the value and name in the second. They are of the De la Rue general "Postage and Revenue" type with Queen's head in an octagonal frame, are watermarked Crown C.A. and perforated 14. All values were issued in sheets of 120 arranged in two panes of 60 (10 rows of 6) placed side by side each surrounded by a "jubilee" line. The marginal plate number 3 appears above the second stamps from the end of the top row and below the corresponding stamps of the bottom row on each sheet. Various supplies were ordered from time to time and all were printed from the same plate 3. As this plate was in general use and stamps for several of the other Colonies using the same type were printed from it, it became somewhat worn as time went on and a good deal of difference will be noted between early and late impressions produced from it. I fancy this plate 3 was new, or had not been long in use, when the first lot of Northern Nigerian stamps were printed. How many printings there were altogether I do not know but several interesting sets might be made showing the gradual change in the clearness of details as the plate became more and more worn. Compare a stamp from the first printing with one from the last and it will be seen that the difference is by no means trivial. In the early impressions all the lines about the head and background are clear and well defined; in later ones the ends of the lines of shading across the neck and face have a tendency to join at the ends, the lines between the ear and back of the head are blurred, and the band on the hair and the lines of the hair itself are not very distinct; while in later printings still many stamps have blotches of colour where there should be separate lines. Again there are some fine shades to be had in this set. The values from ½d. to 6d. may be formed into two sets consisting of pale and deep lilac and in most of them one or more intermediate shades may be found. The higher values, too, may be had in varying shades of green. Then there are tints in the colours in which the name and values are printed. In most of them it is possible to obtain

at least two separate shades. It will thus be seen that in this issue alone a thorough specialist can find plenty of variety and if, as he ought to, he also endeavours to get the various values and shades with control numbers attached, he sets himself a task that will require a vast amount of care, patience and intelligent study. The beauty of specialising on these lines is that one's collection may be termed complete at almost any time or additions can be made indefinitely at the sweet will of the owner.

THE SECOND ISSUE.

The second set, the one now current, was issued on July 1st, 1902, and consists of the same values and colours as the previous one. The type is that of Messrs. De la Rue and Co's. general "Postage and Revenue" design with King's head as a solid background of colour in octagonal frame. The watermark and perforation remain unaltered and the size of the sheets is the same with plate number "1" four times on the margin. Up to the present the impressions seem to be uniform in clearness and I have, as yet, seen no striking difference in the shades of any of the values. As plate 2 of this type is already in use for the stamps of some of the Colonies it is possible that future printings for Northern Nigeria may be from this later plate. Plate 1, however, shows no signs of wear yet and it may be some time before it is discarded. Owing to the big demand for King's head stamps all coming at once it is probable that Messrs. De la Rue had two identical plates, numbered 1 and 2 respectively, made at the same time.

Luck in Stamp Collecting.

THERE are two sorts of luck in the science of Philately—good and bad, but mostly bad.

I have had no reason to complain of mine, but some collectors seem to be born unlucky. Poor chaps! they buy stamps advertised as "good specimens, used," only to find them badly centred and *used*, to say the least, the stamps having seemingly been dipped in the ink-pot.

I live near Poole, in Dorset, and often go out in search of rare Newfoundlands.

On the Quay at Poole one day I got into talk with an Ancient Mariner and casually mentioned stamps, enquiring if he had any.

"Wha' do'ee want 'em for?" asked he.

"I collect them," said I.

"Ah I ha' got some 'woldish' (oldish) uns t'whoam (at home)," said he, in good broad "Dorset."

I asked to be shown them, and he accordingly led me to a low wall near the Customs' House, and said, "Bide there till I coome agin."

Presently the old man returned with four envelopes, which contained, to my surprise and delight, the Newfoundland 12 cent, orange vermilion used, the 5 cent, brown 1866 unused, and 13 cent, orange 1866 unused, and about 40 commoner specimens.

He said he would sell them, and enquired what I would give him. I asked what he would sell them for, and after much thought he answered—a *shilling*!

I gave him two shillings, and he then remarked what a very dry day it was. Taking the hint, I handed him another sixpence, and still got my Newfoundlands dirt cheap. Now, what better luck could one want than that?

My set of Queensland, 1861-62, watermark star and perforated 14½ to 16, all complete, used and good specimens, were purchased in a pawn shop in the Isle of Wight for a mere song. More luck!

As an example of the other sort of luck, I spilled a pot of green enamel over a sheet of note paper with a 4 dollar Columbus issue United States stamp stuck on it, and then, trying to clean the stamp with turpentine, took most of the carmine colour out of it, and finally sold the thing for 5/-!

But whatever luck I may have in the future, I rather think I have had my share of the best sort.

P. R. NEWMAN,

CITY STAMP SHOP FOR SALE.

BLUETT & Co. beg to announce that in consequence of the resignation of their Shop Manager—who is starting business on his own account—they are disposing of the lease, fittings, etc., of their premises in the City. They comprise :

SHOP.—12ft x 12ft. fitted-up in best style with elegant plate-glass window case 8ft. x 5ft. x 2ft. with three plate-glass shelves and metal standards; three plate-glass wall cases; ebonized counter; and two of Milner's 38 guinea special fire and burglar proof safes 36in. x 26in. x 26in. with cabinet stands.

COMMODIOUS BASEMENT.—42ft. x 12ft. The larger part, 32ft x 12ft. fitted-up in Shop-style with fine plate-glass and metal counter 9ft. x 2ft x 9in. with mirrors at back; an ordinary counter with plate-glass counter case 9ft. x 1ft. 3in. x 9in. on top; two side counters with solid mahogany tops; three plate-glass wall cases, one 7ft. 6in. x 5ft. 10in. x 9in., and full size 5ft. American roll-top desk. The other part partitioned off as a private room.

The entire premises lighted by electric light and all the floors covered with high-class linoleum. Gas stoves.

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The place is practically sold as a going concern, as Part of the Stock-in-Trade, consisting of Sets, Packets, Albums, and Philatelic Accessories, and a large lot of Wholesale stuff, together with other Items too numerous to mention here, are included in the price. *Further Particulars on application.*

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If there is anything in the philatelic line you wish to buy, sell or exchange, fill up the above form and send it, with remittance, to

The Manager of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*,

63/64, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON, W.C.

Servant Girl Steals a Stamp Collection.

There has been a curious stamp stealing case at Torquay, as the result of which a domestic servant has been sentenced to four months hard labour. We append details of the case:—

At the Torquay Police Court, before Magistrate E. T. Harrison (in the chair), Dr. E. Smith, and Mr. W. H. Lord, on Friday, February 12th, Jessie Drake, domestic servant, was charged with stealing a collection of stamps, value £200, the property of Mr. A. W. Cowdell, solicitor, of Fontambleau, St. Luke's Park, Torquay.

Mr. J. Carter prosecuted, and stated that it had taken the owner of the stamps many years to get the collection together. The stamps were in two albums, hinged to the pages. The last time he actually saw the stamps, as far as he could recollect, was about eleven months ago, when he took out some loose stamps and put them away. The albums were generally kept on the table in his back drawing-room. In 1899 or 1900 they were looked through, and the value, according to catalogue, was £500. He, however, valued them at £200. There were 3,000 stamps, and some of them were very old issues. On Wednesday last his attention was called to the fact that the albums were missing. He made enquiries, and saw accused, who had recently been discharged from his employment as cook. He asked her about the stamps, and she said she had sold them to three people—a few to Mr. Davis, of London, some to Miss Langford, of Torquay, and the bulk to Mr. Edwards, tobacconist, of Fleet Street, Torquay. He made enquiries, and saw a Mr. Campbell, who handed him twenty-six stamps, two of which he could swear to as being his own.

Mr. W. C. Edwards, the tobacconist mentioned, stated that he bought stamps on commission. He identified accused, who first came to his shop about last March and offered stamps for sale. They were loose, but there were hinges attached, showing that at some time they had been in an album. For the first lot £1 was offered and accepted, and the stamps were handed to his client, Mr. Campbell. Accused came three or four times with stamps. He thought he had paid her £10 or £12 altogether.

In reply to the Chairman, witness said he asked accused if the stamps were her own property, and she replied in the affirmative.

Alex. Campbell, stamp dealer, of Belgrave Road, Torquay, said he recognised the stamps produced. He had paid Mr. Edwards £10 or £12 for stamps which he had received from accused.

Miss Mary Langford, 2, Cary Place, Torquay, also gave evidence of purchases from the accused.

Detective Northey told how he arrested the girl on Wednesday, the 10th, and on the way to the police station she said, "I got into money difficulties. I took a few stamps first, and as it was not found out I took the lot afterwards."

She now pleaded guilty.

Mr. Cowdell said he prosecuted as a matter of public duty. Accused was young, and came from a very respectable family, and he asked the Bench to deal leniently with her. Mr. Edwards, Mr. Campbell, and Miss Langford had aided him to their utmost, and the two latter had promised to do all in their power to make restitution. He thought it only fair to say that publicly.

The Bench sent prisoner to four months' imprisonment with hard labour.

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GREAT BRITAIN. USED.

Admiralty Official. 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d.
Board of Education 2½d., 5d., and 1/-.
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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 their next sale will take place on **March 8 & 9** and will consist of **A Fine Private Collection**, containing a number of good stamps including:—

Gibraltar, 1st issue, complete.
Ceylon, 1/- imperf mint.
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