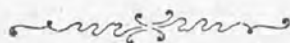


# The "A1" Philatelist.

A Journal for beginners as well as for advanced  
Collectors.



**EDITED & PUBLISHED BY**

**M. P. FORD,** 94, HALL ROAD,  
HANDSWORTH,  
**BIRMINGHAM.**



*The Official Organ of the "A1" Foreign Stamp Exchange.*



SUBSCRIPTION--1/6 PER ANNUM, POST FREE.

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No. 1.                      *JANUARY, 1898.*                      *Price 1d.*

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Wanted Collectors everywhere to introduce the  
"A1" Philatelist to their friends.

# What is the H. P. C.?

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A number of Philatelists who have Large Collections and are constantly buying Stamps, have agreed to send out all their duplicates in books, and as there is a large Number of Collectors there is a good show of duplicates.

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**WE ARE NOT DEALERS. Send at once for a Book, to**

**H. P. C. 53, Hall Road,  
HANDSWORTH, BIRMINGHAM.**

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## **The "A1" FOREIGN STAMP EXCHANGE.**

Entrance Fee, 1/- NO SUBSCRIPTION.

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**THE PACKET IS SENT ROUND,  
ONCE A MONTH.**

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Write for Particulars to the Secretary.

**M. P. FORD, 94, HALL, ROAD, HANDSWORTH,  
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# The "A1" Philatelist.

A Journal for beginners as well as for advanced Collectors.

Subscription 1/6 per annum Post Free.

No. 1.

January 31st, 1898.

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## Why this Magazine was started.

YOUNG collectors have for a long time felt at a loss when they come to such words as Imperf., Perf., Specimen, wmk., &c., but that is only natural if they have no way of finding these things out. We have often come across collectors in a similar difficulty, and have heard them say that they would take in a Philatelic Paper and find out what they desired by that means, but as soon as it is opened they come across the very abbreviations they want to know the meaning of, and then they give up Philately as a bad job.

Our aim is to help collectors in every possible way, and we shall be glad if they will write to us and we will reply in the "Answers to Correspondence" in the following month, or if they prefer it and enclose a stamp, we shall reply by post. We shall also undertake to examine any doubtful stamps for subscribers only, free of charge, if the following rules be adhered to.—

1.—Stamped addressed envelope to be enclosed.

2.—A full list of stamps forwarded must be sent with them and space left for remarks.

3.—All adhesive stamps to have a clean back, *i.e.*, no paper adhering to it.

Again, we will only accept advertisements from reliable dealers, so that no subscribers may be defrauded in any way.

We shall have every month a short paper on stamps of various countries beginning with Jamaica, which will appear this month followed by Japan next month.

There will be a column for new issues of adhesive stamps, *i.e.*, stamps which have to be stuck on envelopes and if desired will publish the new issues of entire envelopes, postcards, and wrappers.

Another thing that should not be forgotten is the "Exchange," wherein all subscribers may advertise any stamp they want to buy or sell free. See rules on p. 7.

Do you want any more stamps for your collection? If so look at our prize column on page 6, where you will see valuable prizes offered for things very easily done. We have also made arrangements to supply our readers with all new issues as soon as they can be got in England and the prices will be marked at the end of each notice of the various new issues.

If you can persuade any of your friends to subscribe to this paper do so, and if you are not successful in winning a prize you will not go unrewarded, if you ask him to mention your name.

## Notes and News.

**A**LL intending subscribers ought to send in their subscriptions at once, if they desire to obtain the Greek "Olympian Games" Stamp free.

—: o :—

This magazine cannot be obtained in any other way than direct from the publisher, unless say, six copies of each number are sent to one address, when the subscription would only be 1/2 per annum, so if you can get five friends or more to subscribe, you can obtain the 4d. rebate for yourself, making 2/- for the six.

It has been suggested that ½d., 1d. and 2½d. stamps all over the world should be issued in one colour for each value., viz.: all ½d. stamps to be green, 1d. stamps, red; and 2½d. stamps, blue; so that postal clerks would be able to see the value at a glance. Almost all the Australasian colonies would have to change their stamps or the colour of the stamps.

A very large number of our small colonies such as, Sierra Leone, Zululand, St. Helena, and Grenada, have issued stamps of the same type, i.e., that of the Leeward Isles. Among the colonies which have not yet changed to that type may be mentioned the Falkland Isles, which present issue makes a very pretty set, and if you have not got them you should do so at once. I have a few in hand belonging to H.H.H. and you will see by referring to "The Exchange," on p. 7., the colours are—

Watermarked Crown, C.A.

½d. Green	1d. Bright Claret
2d. Mauve	2½d. Blue
4d. Grey-Black	6d. Yellow
9d. Vermillion	1/- Olive

—: o :—

If you are a collector of Foreign Stamps (or British ones only) you most likely have a large No. of duplicates and wish to know how to get rid of them, either by selling them, or in exchange for other stamps. If that is so, why not join the "A 1" Foreign Stamp Exchange

which costs you 1/- entrance fee and expenses, NO SUBSCRIPTION. But if you have a collection or a few good stamps only, for sale and do not care to buy any, just read the rules of "The Exchange," on p. 6, where you can advertise free.

—:0:—

This paper will increase in size as the circulation increases, therefore be wise and get your friends to subscribe at once and it will not be long before there are 12 pages exclusive of the cover, instead of eight.

Yours faithfully,

THE EDITOR.



## The Stamps of Jamaica

By M. P. Ford.

FOR any collector who wishes to specialise the stamps of one country, Jamaica is as well suited as any.

For a start, there are 28 different stamps, leaving shades alone, 5 Fiscals used for postage, and 3 Official stamps, making a total of 36.

Even when you get more advanced, and go in for the various shades, double surcharges, etc., there are only 55 stamps.

Only seven used stamps are cat. above 5/-, while there are at least two dozen at 6d. each and less.

The first stamps of this colony—a set of five—were issued in 1860, watermarked a "pineapple," and perf. 14.

1d. blue      2d. rose

4d. red      6d. lilac

1/- brown

Three years later a 3d. stamp was issued, same wmk. and perf. as before.

3d. green

In 1867 a  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp was found to be required, and while the design was being prepared, the 1d. stamp (blue) was bisected, and the halves were used as  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps. The first record we have of this is that it was authorised by a decree in the *Officias Gazette* of Jamaica in February 1867!

In 1871 the paper on which the stamps were issued, was changed to that watermarked Crown C.C., and the next year (1872), a  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp was issued, same perf. and paper.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. maroon

In the year 1875 it was found that the postal service required some stamps of higher value as two new stamps were issued, viz., the 2/- and 5/-, but though on the same paper, the perf. was 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

2/- red-brown      5/- lilac

The year 1883 reminds us that the paper was again changed, this time to Crown CA, but in 1885 not only did the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. appear on Crown CA paper, but its colour was also changed.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. green

In the same year the 1d. and 2d. were also changed to rose and grey respectively, to be followed next year by the 3d.

1d. rose      2d. slate-grey  
3d. sage-green

In 1889 the 1d. and 2d. stamps appeared in entirely new designs, to be followed by a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. in 1891, but before this, the 4d. stamp had been surcharged "Two-pence half-penny" in black, and the 6d. changed to deep yellow, wmkd. Crown CA, perf. 14.

1d. lilac and mauve  
2d. green  
\* $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 4d. orange-brown  
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. lilac and ultramarine  
6d. deep-yellow

\*This stamp is also found doubly surcharged.

The revenue stamps used for postage were the

1d. carmine       $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue  
3d. purple      1/- rose  
5/- lilac

In the year 1890 the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green was surcharged "Official" in thin, and the following year in thick type. In 1890 the 1d. and 2d. stamps,—type as 1889—were issued in rose and grey respectively, and surcharged "Official" in thick type.

\* $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green, thin type

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. ——— thick type

1d. rose ———

2d. grey ———

Surcharged in black.

\*This stamp is also found with inverted surcharge and double surcharge, but these errors are very rare.

—:o—

Japan will be the next country treated in this way.

—:o—

Will any subscribers let me know of any country they would like an article on in this magazine and let me know as much about your stamps of that country as possible, if you have any errors, &c., or better still, if you could send on your collection of that country. See our "Prize Column," on page 6, for rewards offered for articles of about 400 or 500 words in length.

If you go in for competitions of this kind, be sure and write distinctly or else it will come out wrong.

If any subscribers have some of the following stamps please let me know your price.  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green double surch. Official and also inverted surcharge Jamaica.

—:o—

Join the A1 Foreign  
Stamp Exchange.

# All about the "A1" F. S. E.

BY THE SECRETARY.

THIS Society was started in May, 1897, in quite a small way, but as it was never advertised in any way it did not grow very fast. We lost some of our oldest and best members about Xmas time, chiefly because they were so very busy, but we hope they will see their way clear to join again in a month or so.

We send a packet out on the 1st of each month and at present allow each member to keep it for three days at the most, if less, so much the better for everybody concerned. All stamps are now marked at nett prices, no discount being allowed. Remittances for stamps taken to be sent *immediately* the stamps are bought, to the Secretary, which will save you postage, and must be sent in P.O.'s and  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps. Settlements in full every month.

Sheets must be sent in by the 22nd of the month, to go the next month's packet and no member may send in more than one sheet per month.

The packet must be registered and postage fully prepaid by each member.

There is no subscription required to join this Exchange, but only a small entrance fee of 1/-.

Printed sheets for mounting the stamps on will be sent post free for  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per doz. (cost price).

Only subscribers to this paper are admitted to the "A1" Foreign Stamp Exchange, and can share in its benefits.

All matters relating to new issues, novelties, errors, &c., will be discontinued, as they will appear in this paper.

Members will much oblige the Secretary if they will kindly let him know of any change of address, &c.

The success of the Exchange depends as much upon the members as the Secretary, and members can help him, best by getting their friends to join. Prizes will be given as follows:—

$\frac{2}{6}$  worth of stamps from my sheets to the person who obtains the most new members from now till April 20th. All you have to do is to ask your friends to give you the 1/- (or send it direct to me mentioning your name). If you want a few copies of the rules send me a P.C. and I will let you have them at once.

Five per cent's worth of stamps added to the person who buys the most stamps from all sheets in our packet from February till end of July, *i.e.*, if you buy £1 worth of stamps from the packets you will be allowed to take an extra 1/- worth free from anybody's sheets and I will pay for them.

Join the A1 Foreign Stamp Exchange at once.

## OUR PRIZE COLUMN.

### RULES.

1.—All articles, &c., must be written on one side of the paper only.

2.—All communications must be addressed to "The Editor of the A 1 Philatelist," 94, Hall Road, Handsworth, near Birmingham, and marked "Prize" in left-hand top corner.

3.—Competitors must give full name and address, and any person not a subscriber to this journal will be disqualified.

4.—All M.S.S. sent in for competition shall become the property of the editor.

A prize of a handsome Victoria Album (containing 94 pages, with diminutive illustrations of the stamps of the various countries *at the side*, and also the face-values of those stamps, each page measuring 9 by 6½ ins., and bound in leatherette), as well as a collection of 250 different stamps will be given to the person who obtains the largest number of new subscribers, between now and April 18th. If preferred the winners of this prize may have a set of Falkland's unused, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., and 6d., catalogued 3/.

For the best article on the stamps of any country (one with few stamps preferred) not exceeding 500 words, will be given a packet of 13 "Zoological" stamps, which have in the designs, Lion,

Tiger, Tiger's Head, Dog's Head, Emu, Stag's Head, Swan, Bornese Native, Bird, Fish, Elephant, Sheep, and crowned Lion, all of which are used stamps.

A prize of 1/6 worth of stamps from "The Exchange" will be offered for the best advice on "How to improve the 'A 1' Philatelist."

The Inland Revenue Authorities have at last allowed illustrations of English stamps to appear in Philatelic Magazines, Catalogues, Albums, &c., provided they are executed in black and that the officials shall have free access at all times to the premises where the blocks are kept.

We learn that two of the "Post Office" Mauritius stamps, one used, and the other unused, were sold in Paris a short time ago for £1,920. There are only eight copies of the 1d. and nine of the 2d. known at present.

A Postmaster in a small town in Canada thought that when the 8c registered stamp was withdrawn it would rise in value as it was rarely used, so he did not send them to Ottawa when they were recalled. But he did not want to risk the value of the stamps (over £3 as there was over 200 of them), so he entered them in his stock book and kept them with the others in his safe. When inspector mentioned to his son that so-and-so had some 8c registered stamps his son who was a collector, gave his father a hint and he bought them all at 8c each for the postmaster dare not refuse them to the Crown, as they ought to have been sent back a long time back.

These stamps are now worth about 10/- each.



## THE EXCHANGE.

THIS page is devoted to collectors who have duplicates (either single stamps, sets, or a collection) for sale, and all subscribers may advertise herein FREE.

All goods to reach us by the 15th of each month, with a stamped addressed envelope for return of the goods or the money.

No lot will be advertised more than twice.

No person may send in more than 4 lots at one time.

Purchasers must enclose stamped addressed envelopes and the cash accompanying each order which should be marked on the outside with the words "The Exchange."

When goods are sold we deduct 1d. per 1/- only, for expenses. No sales no pay.

All stamps are average copies, unless specially mentioned.

H.H.H. Unused Falkland Isles, duplicates ½d. for 1½d., 1d. for 3d., 2d. for 5d., and 2½d. for 6d., only nine left altogether. Set of six Japanese Fiscals only 8d., set of 11 Honduras, 1c to 1 peso 1890, 1/6, Columbian Issue, U.S.A. 30c. only 2/-

L.R.I. 1c. and 10c. Bolivia Jubilee 3d. each, set of 3 Haiti (Palms) 5d., Peru with Llama and Ship, 10c. 5d., 1s and 2 anna Holkar, 11d. the pair. Wanted B.C.A., B.E.A., and B.S.A.'s.

E.A. Canda Jubilee 1c. yellow, 2d., 2c. green, 3d., c 3c. red, 1½d. each. Wanted Newfoundland's

A.S.F. Collection of 208 different stamps, only 1/. New album, never been used. 78 pages, pictures at side, only 6d.

G.B. Wanted stamps of Great Britain

on approval to the Editor, as I can call and see them, with lowest prices or will exchange U.S.A. Argentine or Brazil.

C.N.W. Jubilee 5c. Canada, 6d., 2. 2d. New South Wales, 2d., 2c. Newfoundland unused, red 2½d. Book of duplicates on application.

### Answers to Correspondents.

As this is the first number of a new magazine there is extremely little to fill up this page with, but as there has been such a lot of new issues lately, we shall continue the list on the next page. However, we have to reply to two subscribers, who "got to know the 'A 1' Philatelist was coming out"—so here goes.

A.P.T. wishes to know what is the best way to start a collection, as he has tried to collect once by buying single good stamps first, but found it was a very expensive way.—The cheapest and by far the best way is to buy a packet of as many varieties as you can afford (you can buy 500 different for about 5/-), from some respectable dealer, and then add to the number by buying stamps from approval sheets, such as C.N.W. offers and in that way you will soon get a nice collection.

As to the Album, you can get them at any price, from 6d. to £6, or even more, and as we have been asked to open a supply department, like some other papers, you should wait till next month and see what we have for sale.

H.U.R. An 8c. Columbus U.S.A. is worth about 5d., but a 6c. is not worth 8d., in fact I have one among my duplicates, a fine copy, which I will willingly sell for 6d., if you care to have it. Yes, you got the £1 English stamp very cheap at 3/9.

### NEW ISSUES, &c.

Austria.—It is said that there is to be a new set issued this year.

Barbadoes.—A "Jubilee Set" has come out. The colours are as follows:—watermarked Cr. C.C. and perf. 14.

½d. Grey and Carmine

1d. Carmine

5d. Olive-brown

8d. Orange and Blue

½d. Bronze-green

2½d. Ultra-marine

6d. Purple and Carmine

10d. Green and Carmine

2/6 Blue-black and Orange.

Bolivia.—A new value has been added—2 bol. black.

Canada.—A new ½c stamp has been issued, which is larger than the last issue, and very much prettier, and is perf. 12.

China.—A new set is coming out, and the last issue will be destroyed as soon as the new one arrives.

Ecuador.—A new set has appeared, and are as follows:—1c., 2c., 5c., 10c., 20c., 50c., 1s., 5s.

German South West Africa.—These stamps are the present issue of the German Empire, surcharged. The values are 3pf., 5pf., 10pf., and 20 pf.

Negri Sembilan.—The following stamps have been added to the last lot, issued in two colours, having a tiger's head in the middle:—5c., lilac and olive; 10c., lilac and orange; 20c., green and olive.

Newfoundland.—The new permanent issue as far as it has come out yet, contains 1c. carmine, with head of the Queen, and 2c. orange, with head of the Prince of Wales. We have one or two of these to spare—1c. at 2d. each; 2c. at 3d. each.

Niger Coast.—The 2½d. has now appeared w mkd Cr. C.A.

St. Vincent.—A new value has appeared, viz., 3d. in black on 1d. light lilac. This is to take the place of the 3d. Revenue, and to pay postage and registration to Grenada and St. Lucia.

Salvador.—This country has again brought out a new issue as follows:—1c. blue; 2c. brown; 3c. green; 5c. brown; 10c. yellow; 12c. blue; 15c. violet; 20c. carmine; 24c. vermilion; 30c. orange; 50c. black-brown; 1 peso. carmine.

Sierra Leone.—The 3d., 4d., and 6d., have now come out in the "Leeward" type—3d. purple and blue; 4d. purple and carmine; 6d. purple and violet.

Sweden.—The 30 öre brown stamp is being changed to yellow.

Uruguay.—Change of colours. The 7c. now appears in brown-red; 10c. in brown carmine; 20c. in violet and black; 25c. in carmine and red; 50c. green and chestnut; 1 peso. blue and chestnut; 2p. ochre and carmine; 3p. lilac and carmine.

Victoria.—A 1½d. stamp is reported from this country, which is oblong in shape (similar to the ½d.), but the colour is green, and w mkd V. Crown sideways.

Canada.—I have also seen a 2c. violet, and 5c. blue, on pale blue paper, and of the same design as the ½c. before mentioned, of which I have four copies to spare at 2d. each.

Space for Greek "Olympian Games" Stamp for all Subscribers who have sent in their Subscription for 1898.

Before finishing I should like to call your attention to the advertisement (facing this page) of Mr. FELIX POWELL'S new composition for the Pianoforte, called "The Balmoral March," of which I have already bought a copy. As you see the price is reduced 1d. to all readers of the *AI Philatelist*, if you mention this paper.

If you have any duplicates of Gt. Britain, Queensland, or Jamaica, kindly let me have a sight of them with lowest cash prices, or will exchange duplicates.

# IN COURSE OF PREPARATION.

---

An entire List of the Cancelling Numbers of the POST (MARKS of England and Wales as well as a few Colonies.

If you want to secure a copy of this work, book one (or more) at once.

The price will be 6d. or to members of the "A1" Foreign Stamp Exchange and Subscribers of this Paper the price will be 5d.

---

## MUSIC.

---

If you have not already ordered the popular "Balmoral" March by Felix Powell do so at once, direct from the composer.

The demand is enormous. the supply limited.

Price only 1/5 post free.

HANDSWORTH HOUSE,  
CT. HAMPTON STREET,  
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*Send to above address for Approval Sheets.*

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- Salvador.—This country has again brought out a new issue as follows:—1c. blue; 2c. brown; 3c. green; 5c. brown; 10c. yellow; 12c. blue; 15c. violet; 20c. carmine; 24c. vermilion; 30c. orange; 50c. black-brown; 1 peso. carmine.
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# DUPLICATES FOR SALE,

(OR WILL EXCHANGE).

	S.	D.
Br. Bechuanaland 3d. lilac used, cat. 3/6	1	6
New Brunswick 17c. black, unused	1	6
U. S. A. Columbus issue 6c., violet, used		6
Sweden 50c., grey, unused		9
U. S. A. Coulmbus issue, 15c., green, used	1	0
St. Kitts, Nevis Revenue, 1/- olive, (cheap)	1	8
Bulgaria 50c., green		4
Canada Jubilee, used, 5c., blue		6
Gold Coast, 1/-, violet, fine copy		8
Labuan 10c. on 1 dollar, fine, used copy, RARE	1	2
Congo 1 fr, superb copy, "Hunting Elephants"	2	0
Niger Coast, 1d., blue, first issue, used	1	0
Sungei Ugong, 1c., on 5c., green unused		2
Switzerland, 3 fr., yellow, used		2
Haiti, 1c. 2c. 5c., used, each		3
Hong Kong, 20c. on 30c., green, used		2
India 1 rupee, green and carmine		2
Jhind State "Service" ½ anna on Indian		2
Straits Settlements, 3c. or 32c. Pink		2
" " " Violet fine		2
Mauritius, 8c. blue, unused, now obsolete		2
Bahamas, 2½d., blue unused		6
Tasmania, 2½d., violet used		1
W. Australia 2½d. blue		1
Belgium, 5c., Brussels Ex. very large		2
Curacoa, 5c. rose		2
Spain, 1 peseta, pink used rare		1
Azores Centenary, 15 reis, chocolate used		1
Monaco, 3 unused, 1c., 1c., 2c.		
Norway 60 ore blue		

*And many other at 2d. and less.*

**M. P. FORD.**