

More notice is being taken of our science now than ever before ; nearly every week an article relating to Stamp Collecting appears in some of the leading papers. There is nothing that will give it such a high standard, as to let the great mass of nonphilatelists know that it is something more than mere child's play.

Mr. A. Dunning, San Fernando, Cal., sends us a list of prices paid for used U. S. stamps, revenue, locals, and others. His prices are very fair, and parties having large quantities on hand would do well to send them to him.

To all who subscribe now, as well as to all who have already done so, we will give any one of the following splendid stamp premiums :—

- a. One set of four Newfoundland stamps.
- b. Two varieties Philippine Island stamps.
- c. Three varieties Strait Settlements stamps.
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This offer will only remain open for a very short time, so now is the time to subscribe if you want one of the above, also please mention which premium you want when sending in your subscription. Nothing less than 200 new subscribers will do us for this month.

Publishers of philatelic papers will please send us two copies of their papers, a favor which we will be glad to reciprocate.

The secretaries of the different philatelic societies would confer a favor on us if they would occasionally send us a report of the proceedings that take place at some of their meetings, also any other late philatelic news.

It is astonishing of what a large amount the different governments are cheated out of by unprincipled people using stamps a second time, especially in the United States and Canada.

A great many of the smaller post offices obliterate the stamps very lightly and it then becomes no very difficult matter to clean them.

There has been quite a number of systems proposed for destroying the stamps, but as yet no one has invented a system that can be found to work successfully. Some of the plans suggested are very good, but are not considered by the postal authorities as in any way superior to the one in present use. One of the ways proposed is to have only one half of the stamp gummed and then for the clerks at the post offices to tear off the ungummed portion. This would no doubt effectually destroy the stamp, but would hardly be practicable where there was much posting. Another idea is to have sharp knives protruding minutely from the obliterator, which would cut the stamp in two, but as this would also cut the envelope it would hardly suit. For the same reason an acid to be mixed with the ink is objectionable, but we think this last idea about the best and have no doubt that with a little experimenting upon it could be made perfect.

One thing is plain to be seen and that is that if the powers that be, could get some method whereby they could prevent