

**Random Jottings.**

VEDA.

Among the earliest of telegraph franks were those issued early in the fifties by the Electric Telegraph Co., of London England and instead of franking to any stated money valuation they franked a message to a certain distance, being issued for messages for fifty miles or under, one hundred miles or under, or over one hundred miles.

On some values of Austrian stamps may be found what is known as complimentary stamps, which consist of a block of color the size of the stamp crossed by a St. Andrew's Cross. These are used to fill the sheet out to an even monetary value without causing irregular shaped blocks or sheets.

I recently saw a Bermuda stamp (two pence value) fraudulently surcharged "Gibraltar." The surcharge is the least trifle larger than the genuine. We would advise purchasers to ascertain by using an accurate measure, if the surcharge is 15mm. long and no longer.

For the specialist in perforations, careful search among the stamps of the Roman States will develop specimens perforated only on two and three sides, the outside stamps on the sheets not being perforated on the outer margins.

Searchers after the curious may find "tete beche" specimens in the 9c China both surcharged and unsurcharged, but only in the first printing as the "placing" was corrected as soon as convenient after discovery.

Among recent discoveries is a 3 baj Romagna printed in light yellow, the color of the 2 baj. The specimen is

held by a New York firm at fifty dollars.

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It is said that the French Minister of Commerce, Telegraph and Posts will soon suppress the 75c postage stamp, the 5c envelope (large), the 1c envelope (small), the 3c newspaper wrapper and the 60c and 1fr due stamps as being unnecessary.

One of the most interesting places to visit at the National Capital is the the museum of the Postoffice Dep't. The things of most interest to the collector are the postage stamps shown in large quantities. Many countries being represented. Full sheets of all the issues of U. S. stamps are not the least of the curiosities. Collectors who visit Washington and see this collection will go away with increased admiration for our beautiful national stamps, as well as for these beautiful samples of works of art, for that is what many of them are.

**Remember the D. P. A. convention and Jubilee Band Tournament at Berlin, Ont., July 21 & 22. Everybody welcome.**

"While off on a summer vacation be on the lookout for stamps. Investigate the country postoffices. There is many a snap yet waiting for someone in many of them. Ask the acquaintances you make if they have any old correspondence filed away. Visit the drug stores, the court houses and do not let anyone laugh you out of the notion of getting a stamp if it is gettable, remembering 'he laughs best who laughs last.'"—Evergreen State Phil.