

Manilla.

Correspondence coming from Manilla arrives bearing the odd cancelling marks: "Philippine station, San Francisco, Cal." "U. S. Military P. O. Sta., San Francisco, Cal., U. S. A., No. 1 Philippines."

A stamp printed in brown and resembling the 10 cent orange of the 1869 issue, bearing the inscription "Army Frank" has been seen and has created quite a talk. It appears that it was created by some U. S. army official, who is interested in stamp collecting, for the money there is in it. Washington Post Office officials deny that any sanction was given the stamp and say that it is illegal. So it is of no value whatever except as a curio.

Postal Reform.

The postoffice is not a means of taxation. On the contrary, it is "a public service, a machine to be put in motion and run to its capacity wherever communication and transportation, which are among the necessities of modern life, are required by the people." The postal service comes so close to every family, that it can readily be made one of the greatest agencies for promoting civilization, advancing progress and even for preserving peace among the nations. To this end, the postoffice should afford daily mail with free collection and delivery in country as well as city, a parcels post, a convenient and cheap means for transmitting money, and insurance of registered matter. Worked on this liberal basis the postal revenues would soon warrant one-cent letter postage at home and an international two-cent rate. The parcels post should in time do for 10 cents

what the express companies now charge 25 cents for, and if the postoffice "took over" electric communication, Wanamaker's dream of 3 cent telephones and 10 cent telegrams would be realized in less than ten years. All this is what the new American postal league (Box 2361, Boston, Mass) aims to secure.—*Farm & Home.*

Wants an International Postal Stamp.

From *Inland Printer*.

Madison, Wis., September 7, 1898,
To the Editor:—

The current number of the *Inland Printer* contains a communication from a London firm of type foundry concerning the discourtesy—to put it mildly—of some of their American correspondents in neglecting to prepay sufficiently foreign mail.

The fact has come to me—it is somewhat relevant to the above, and was prompted by it—that if an American wanted to correspond with an Englishman and desired to enclose a stamp for reply, he would find his own stamp was "unavailable for prepayment of foreign mail from England," to quote from my source of information.

It is probable that this state of affairs comes up quite frequently in the commercial world. It is not a very profitable thing to buy an international money order for 5 cents and pay 10 cents—2 cents for revenue—for the order. Yet that is what one has to do if one wants to be strictly "white" toward his correspondents.

We have International Money Orders, why not International stamp, to be available throughout the Postal Union.

There is certainly merit enough in the question to deserve attention from Congress or someone who has a "stand in widd de Union." Otto Kney.