

orange and pink respectively. I have heard of the 1 cent bill stamp having been used for postage, as also one-half of some of the postage stamps. There are a 2, 5, and 8 cents registered letter stamps; the 8 cents value was soon withdrawn, which accounts for their scarcity.

—b;o—

British Columbia and Vancouver's Island.

—:—

In 1861 the first stamp, a 2½ pence, pink, was issued, both perforated and unperforated. The next was in 1865, 3 pence, blue; this was perforated and water-marked C C and crown. There are forgeries of these stamps. The best way to detect is by the number of parts in the crown. In the genuine there are four in the centre and six in each side, while in the forged stamps there are three in the centre and five on each side. In 1868 the next stamp was issued of the same type as the 1865 issue, 2 cents, black on brown; 1869, 5 cents, black on red; 10 cents, blue on rose; 25 cents, violet on yellow; 50 cents, red on violet; and \$1, green on green. The different values were surcharged on the 3 pence of 1865. Each value was surcharged in a different color and were water-marked C C and crown. At the same time as this issue four stamps appeared from Vancouver's Island, the 5 cent rose, and 10 cents blue, both perforated and unperforated.

The best way to detect the counterfeit 1 dollar of the 1868 issue is in the spelling of the value. The counterfeit is spelled 1 doller in place of 1 dollar.

—o:o—

Indian Mail Runners.

—o—

In some of the mountainous parts of India the mail is carried by Indian runners. The letters being put into the split end of a stick, and thus delivered as clean as when received. These runners are so honest that money is entrusted to them which they will carry for days, and then deliver it into the right hands. As they come and go, and while waiting for their missives the runners are always spinning, a bundle of loose short wool being carried by them in the breast of their blouses. At one time a woman who was prostrated by illness off in these mountain regions had sent her by a party of English travellers some pills, which were put, one by one, into the cleft of a stick in the same way as letters are carried.

W. H. V.

—o:o—

Postage Stamps and their Value.

—:—

"Well, Bub," replied Bijah, as he finished hanging up the broom, "This stamp question bothers many besides you, though its clear enough to me. You see that fifteen-cent stamp don't you?"

The boy remarked that he did, and Bijah placed it on the window-sill, weighted it down with a Peach-stone and continued:

"That bit of paper is marked '15 cents,' but is it fifteen cents? Is it anything more than a piece of paper?"

"I dunno," solemnly replied the boy.