POSSIBILITY.

BY WM. C. KNIGHT.

V's road in a recent number of a prominent Philatelic Journal, a list of the three largest collections in the world, the first being the collection of Herr Von Ferrary, of Paris, who spent 24 years of his life in enlarging his collection, and it is now valued at a million and a half. Think of that ! Some of our large Corporations feel solid with less backing and capital than that, and here is a million and a half spent and nothing to show for it but a classified collection of stamps.

The next on the list is the Taplin collection, valued at \$500,000, and the third on the list is Sterr Breitfuss, of St. Petersburg, Russia. He has devoted 40 years to acquiring stamps, adding patiently and faithfully to his collection, so that now it is valued at \$300,000. Many will smile at the fortune invested in these bits of paper. and probably the remark follows that after all it is only a form of madness. but philatelists know different. They all have the same instincts and ambitions, and that is to have a collection that they must be proud of, and if-it were possible we would all be Von Ferrarys, Tapplins, and Breitfusss, philatelic honours. but when we consider that 24 years and 40 years in the other instance just now, more especially in the higher were spent in collecting stamps even values, 6d, 1s, 2s 7d, 5s, and 10s. under ordinary conditions and circumstances that most every modern philatelist is master of, why cannot time produce a like valuable collection. Think of the value of any fair sized collection of today 40 years from now. The young philatelist, as he looks at his collection, which numbers 3000 or more, is often discouraged, and thinks "What is the use of the whole thing, anyway." Well, there is a use for it. When one has spent a year or two within the realm of philately he thinks too much time has been wasted, and without fruit or reward of any kind. Some noted writer has said that man is just chucked full of possibilities, and why can't this apply equally as well Just to introduce ourselves we offer in the realm of philately as in anything else. The man with a hobby is blessed, has been written time and again, and he that has the sticking qualities to add day by day to his collection, and whose interest is always The U.S. and Colony Packet awakened and refreshed, never lagging and purposeless, to him all is possible in the realm of Philately.

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LONDON NOTES.

BY W. F. DICK.

It is reported that very large quantities of the 1896 Venezuela are being offered for sale by certain doalers, all of which are forgeries.

The supplement of the Exchange & Mart gives an interesting illustration of a Board of Trade stamp. It is an ordinary 212d. adhesive English, perforated, with a large crown and the letters B.T. It appears that they are only used for franking letters to British consuls abroad.

It is now definitely settled that on lst January next the 12d. & 1d. English are to be printed in green & red respectively to conform with Postal Union requirements.

We may very shortly expect a new picture issue for Chili, and consequently the termination of the long reign of Christopher Columbus. This Subscription :-South African republic has so far been very kind to us, the current stamp having been in use for over 20 years.

The 400th anniversary of the discovery of Brazil takes place next year, and will no doubt be celebrated with

There is a great boom in Transvaal Everybody seems to be buying, coasequently dealers are keeping the prices up, and as one may reasonably expect a new issue before long, it is very advisable to keep what you have and I venture to say you will make money by so doing.

For the 6d and 1s, 4c. each is easily obtainable, the 2s 6d costs 16c each, 5s costs 42c each, whilst the 10s sells easily at 84c each, one well known London dealer asking for this value \$1.56, asserting that stock of this value is very low indeed.

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