

the 1894 24 8c. gray, which is a shade of the same value issued in 1892-93, and both of which shades were printed in the years 1889 and 1892-93 respectively. If they are again to be included in the catalogue they must come under the heading of minor varieties, which they undoubtedly are.

The 1891 10c. claret is a stamp that will probably decrease instead of rise in value within the next few years. Some years ago, soon after it was issued, good copies were sold from 50 cents upwards. Now the price has dropped to 10 cents; and furthermore I hear that a large quantity of remainders of this stamp—many thousands it is said—were recently sold to dealers and collectors in Manila. This should have the effect of reducing the price still more.

The 1896 8c. rose is a very scarce stamp, missing in many of the larger dealers' stock. The 58th priced it at 15c. unused, not priced in used condition. The 59th fails to price it in either state, and if as I believe none at all or only a small quantity of remainders were among those lately sold in Manila, the stamp is bound to be a rare one, and if you see one offered at Scott's 58th prices it is a bargain and worth buying.

The quantity printed of each denomination and sent to the islands of the 1898-99 Spanish issues is as follows: - 1 mil orange brown 900,000, 2 mils orange brown 700,000, 3 mils orange brown 400,000, 4 mils orange brown 50,000, 5 mils orange brown 600,000, 1 centavo black violet 500,000, 2 centavos blue green 500,000, 3c. centavos dark blue 4,000,000, 4 centavos orange 20,000, 5 centavos carmine 200,000, 6c. centavos dark blue 100,000, 8 centavos gray brown

500,000, 10 centavos vermilion 100,000, 15c. centavos, slate green 100,000, 20 centavos maroon 100,000, 40 centavos dark lilac 60,000, 60 centavos black 50,000, 80 centavos red brown 40,000, 1 peso yellow green 50,000, 2 pesos slate blue 20,000.

The usual method of determining the value of a stamp according to the amount issued is as follows: If one copy only of a stamp has been issued, then the stamp would be worth \$50,000; if, however, fifty thousand specimens of the said stamp had been printed then each would be worth \$1.00, and so on. On this basis each denomination of the 1898-99 Spanish issue would be worth individually as follows:—The 1 m would be worth 5 2-9c, 2 m 7 1-7c, 3 m 12 1/2c, 4 m \$1.00, 5 m 8 1-6c, 1c 10c, 2c 10c, 3c 15c, 4c \$2.20, 5c 25c, 6c 50c, 8c 10c, 10c 50c, 15c 50c, 20c 50c, 40c \$1.46 2-3c, 60c \$1.00, 80c \$1.10, 1 p \$1.00 and 2 p \$2.20.

RANDOM NOTES.

BY E. R. ALDRICK.

From an old number of L'Union Postale I learn that the number of post-offices in 1885 in operation under the Russian Postal Administration was 4836 as against 4764 the preceding year, and 4458 in 1880 and 3751 in 1876. In 1885 these offices were divided into several classes as follows:

84 control offices in capital of governments, 19 frontier offices, 706 post offices at district chief towns, 534 postal agencies, 1832 postal stations, 83 railway branch offices and 1578 railway stations empowered to receive and deliver ordinary mail only. Only about one half—2609—had daily mail service while two—Gishiginsk and