

There are two dies of the current 5c. envelope of Ceylon.

The Columbian set complete is now being sold at \$20. A year ago it brought \$27 to \$28. It pays to wait, sometimes.

The Gambia 4d. brown, CC watermark, perforated, unused, is the popular stamp in England at the present time.

Three years ago the market price of the Justice Department stamp was \$4. Now it is \$60. When the price was \$4 many collectors hesitated to buy, deeming it too high.

There is perhaps no other country in the world where the people are so generally interested in stamp collecting as in the Hawaiian Islands. Nearly every one there collects stamps.

The fact that 1,200 stamps sold at auction for the sum of \$11,000, in New York recently, does not indicate any falling off in the value of rare stamps. This is an average of nearly \$10 per stamp.

A bureau for collecting debts and ascertaining the reliability of collectors has recently been established in England. We have had one in this country for some time, located at Detroit, Michigan.

A Western Collector possesses a block of eight 12-cent, 1885 issue, United States, unused. This stamp catalogues at \$25, so the collector in question has something valuable, and of which he may well feel proud.

A collector, who got an opportunity to look over 10,000 letters, written between 1846 and 1860, found only one stamp of any value

—a 5-cent Franklin. That's the way it goes: sometimes you strike it, and sometimes you don't.

If it is reported that the colors of the 50-centimes, 1 franc and 2-franc stamps of Belgium are to be changed.

China entered the Postal Union February 2nd, and issued a set of stamps on that day—provisional, made by surcharging the series already in use. It consists of eight values. The local post-offices closed February 2nd.

The stamps of the Scandinavian countries, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland, are having a boom in Europe. The boom is extending to this country, and prices are rising. Next year's catalogue will see these stamps away up yonder.

A 20-cent St. Louis Postmasters' Provisional, badly cut—small portions being missing—brought \$300 in an auction sale in New York recently. A 10-cent, do., brought \$131, and a 5-cent, \$175. Good stamps will always find buyers at good prices.

The 1 lire stamp of Modena has the initial "A" as a watermark. This is the initial of the manufacturer of the paper, his name being Amici. Some of the stamps of this country bear the letters "B. G.," which means "Bollo Gazette"—newspaper stamps.

Occasionally a Department stamp is found bearing as a cancellation mark a mule kicking up its hind legs. This does not increase the value of the specimen, but it gives the stamp such an odd look that one would naturally wish to preserve it, as a curiosity.