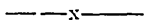


I honestly believe that the patriotic impulse and whole-hearted sympathy of those entrusted with the management had as much to do with the system during the Civil War as during the Spanish-American war.



## Our Eye

BY PURITAN

Mr. C. A. Howes, of Boston, has shown me a set of the Philippine Islands' stamps issued by the Aguinaldo band of insurgents. There is a regular postage stamp, 2c carmine with the word "Correos" at top and "Filipinas" at bottom, with the sun burst in centre and the mystic "K. K. K." at the three points of a triangle. These letters represent a secret organization known as the Katipunan Society that the revolutionists have membership in. In this same design is a "Telegraphos", 2c mauve. The newspaper stamp 1 mil black, and the receipt stamp 10c de peso brown have the same central design of the sun burst, but there is an inscription around the sun burst "Gob'no Revolucionarios Filipinas." The 8c green Registration stamp differs from these last two in the central design of a star. The stamps all bear the "K. K. K." and the date 1898-1899.

Mr. Howes has made the Indian Native States a special study and has in preparation an exhaustive article on the area, government and rules of the different states. He has settled the Punch question for me at least with this statement: Poonch or Punch is one of the principal divisions of Kashmir, there being three, viz: Kashmir proper (the "vale of Cashmere"), the former

principality of Jammu (Jammoo) and the rajaship of Punch. There is a number of smaller divisions also.

The rajah of Punch, Moti Singh governs a district the area of which is 1600 square miles with a population of 80,000. The capital and chief city is Punch.

I have seen a 1c Canada, current issue, mailed at Toronto and used to prepay postage upon a circular. The cancellation seemed to be of the pre-cancelled type. It consists of three lines, a wavy line between two others, all horizontally across the face of the stamp. There is no lettering, but perhaps some Toronto philatelist can tell us whether there is any method in this cancellation.

We have been once more been made acquainted with the delightful uncertainty connected with the sale of a provisional issue. A Chicago dealer has been advertising sets of the "V. R. I." surcharged on Orange Free State from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 6d for \$1.00. These stamps have been selling for twice that sum and I venture the assertion that many, many sets have been sold "O, that I had waited!" exclaims the purchaser who got in on the ground floor. My friend be not dismayed. The next time you are among the first to respond you may be well repaid for your promptness. I do not doubt you have been many times in the past. Now, what are the facts in this particular case? Your dealer received the "V. R. I.'s" from a wholesaler, who in turn got them from an agent to whom he no doubt paid a commission for his trouble in buying and forwarding these provisionals. In other words, the stamps passed through three agencies ere you received them. Again when these came on the market there was no surety that a second