

they will not do after the question is asked.)

ART III. If an expected letter or paper does not come, ask the postmaster what he thinks is the reason?—(Of course the postmasters are not possessed with supernatural knowledge, but they should know where the letters are after they have been in the business a little while. 'Tis well to tell the postmaster all about expecting a letter, where from, who from, and what about. This story is apt to render him good-natured if he is busy, and you once in a while hint that it must be in the post-office somewhere.)

ART IV. If the man of the house does not get any mail, it is well for him to send the rest of the family to the office one at a time. They may have better luck. (He must tell each to ask the postmaster if he is sure there ain't nothing?)

Our Black List.

CHARITY begetteth love, 'tis said, well we purpose testing its magic powers of generation, by giving certain of our friends, unable to requite us, a free advertisement under above heading. If our generosity should meet with their approbation, or inspire within them feelings of tender regard for the "Chronicle" and a determination to aid us to the best of their ability, it is all the remuneration we ask. We shall give precedence in this highly honorable Roll, to

Engelhardt Fohl, Riesa, Saxony.

If we may judge from the vast consignments of forged stamps received by us from this counterfeiter, (invoiced at about \$300) he is a wholesale dealer, and must do an immense trade in these manufactured articles, on the continent and in Great Britain,—we are pleased to state that but comparatively few of them find their way into the albums of our Anglo-American collectors. The most perfect *faç*

similes offered for sale by this swinder, are those of Hamburg, New Granada, Bergedorf, Shanghai and Luzon. The close resemblance those forgeries bear to the originals, deceive many an amateur collector, and in fact many advanced collectors have much difficulty in distinguishing them. We do not know of E. Fohl doing business under any other name than above, therefore it is not necessary for us to go into details. The next beneficiary in our list is the firm of

Sidney, Simpson & Co., George Yard, Hull.

The extensive tradings of this firm are thus noticed in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine*: "These unmitigated thieves are sending out stamps by the hundred, each one alike, description and price being all *printed*, and the specimens the same. They are sheets of tinted paper, one side being ruled, and containing 98 labels in seven rows of fourteen, and have the following legend at top in *one line*:

"Foreign Postal Stamps for collectors, all at 1d. each. No."

That the trade in forgeries is a lucrative one may be judged from the fact that Messrs. Sidney, Simpson & Co. can offer their penny counterfeits at tenpence a dozen, and still allow a commission of *five-pence in the shilling*, to all persons who are foolish enough to act as their agents; in other words they can afford to sell them at 6d. per dozen, *net*, and still realize a handsome profit. In their packets the same forgeries are quoted as on the sheets. For a shilling they offer stamps of Bolivia, Paraguay, Hayti and Ecuador, "and other equally rare varieties;" and the bait by which unsophisticated buyers are attracted is the obliteration of all the specimens.

It cannot be too often repeated that obliteration, in itself, offers no guarantee of genuineness; and there is another equally important fact which requires to be impressed on young collectors, which is, that no stamp which is