

I have never seen the 1886 issue catalogued other than as perforated, but specimens of all the values exist imperforate, and from the prices obtained at auction sales, we must conclude that they are either very common or that collectors take very little interest in British North Borneo stamps of any description.

There are several circumstances which seem to indicate that certain surcharges and errors owe their existence to a desire on the part of the British North Borneo Company to accommodate collectors. In April, 1887, there was issued from the General Post Office at Sandakan, a printed circular signed by the Postmaster General, which was sent to the principal stamp dealers, informing them that certain stamps therein mentioned, could only be had in small quantities at the office of the Company in London. These were evidently such as had not been sent to Borneo nor intended for use there, but which could be sold to better advantage at home, having apparently been prepared with the latter purpose in view.

If the very low prices which these supposed scarce stamps bring are the result of a general distrust among collectors, that the surcharging was not done to meet the requirements of the postal union or the collection of revenue in Borneo, then it is an encouraging sign for philately, and it is to be hoped that philatelists will in every possible way cause it to be understood that those stamps which are made especially for them are the very ones they will have nothing to do with.

E. E. K.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the "Halifax Philatelist":

SIR,—In the last No. of the *Dominion Philatelist*, there appeared an article by 'Acadia,' in which he reflects strongly on myself as a member of the C. P. A. His allusions to me are too mean to take any serious notice of, but when he drags my name in as being in conflict with Halifax members and those whom I have always found to be gentlemen, it is time to call a "halt!" Let anyone read my note in the *June Stamp World*, (written two months ago) and then read *Acadia's* remarks, and I think the least I am entitled to after it is an apology. As for being a "kicker," I will give \$50 to the C. P. A. Library if "Acadia" can prove, before three members of our Association, where I have ever stated or caused to be printed any reflection other than good, on any officer in the C. P. A. or concerning its work. My rule has always been, as far as the C. P. A. is concerned, if I could not speak good I would not say evil, and the writings of "Canadensis" prove this. When in the wrong I am gentleman enough to acknowledge it; now let us see if "Acadia" will give the C. P. A. his proper name or does he want me to do it, and let the members judge. Mr. Hechler can prove I was in favor of the Sec'y being a Haligonian, and Mr. King was my choice, if any, and Mr. Goodrich can prove if I inspired the note in the *Eastern Philatelist*, and also what I wrote to him about it, disagreeing with his conclusions.

JNO. R. HOOPER,

Ottawa, July 2, '89.

C. P. A. No. 1, A. P. S. No. No. 42.

[As this is a matter concerning a number of C. P. A. members, an explanation from "Acadia" is in order.]