

instance, straw and vermilion, which are the colors of two of our prettiest United States sets, agricultural and interior department stamps. We find typical roses in the early issues of Siam, or the 10-reis Brazil, and also in many of the stamps of the Argentine Republic, while Baden, the Bahamas and Germany each contributed roses of slightly variegated hues. To find the golden sun flower we have only to turn to Switzerland, or to the sun-like stamps of Peru's 1874 issue. To carry further the imagery, we may find beautiful violets in Honduras, Hungary or Peru, or if, perchance, we wish to have a pure white lily, we have only to apply a little "life given water" to the stamps of Russia. We find that the various rose-colored stamps with their embossing and perforations remind one sensibly of the beautiful moss roses of the flower gardens. To find philatelic weeds in almost every collection is not a difficult task. The varied colors of the so-called Hamburg locals render the position of the album in which they are situated perfectly obnoxious. But it would seem that in point of colors, philately has the advantage of the natural world. We have green stamps, but hardly ever do we see a green flower; we have black stamps, but black flowers are oddities which are never found in nature. In point of variegation also, the philatelic flower gardens are considerably in the lead. Where in nature, do we find more beautiful two-colored flowers than the 1869 issue U. S. stamps. Where in nature is there a more successful combination of colors than is found in the 2½g. Dutch Indies?

But not to tire the reader with more extended comparison, the whole may be summed up in the fact that nature and philately are very similar as to colors, and while the scientist may pore over the pages of botany, which treats of the work of the Almighty, it cannot be but beneficial to study in our leisure stamps, or rather into the secrets of philately, which is merely a scrutinous examination of art, the product of men's genius. The majority of the later issues are stamps of bright hue, and those which, in color, resemble the early official locals of these countries, are seldom seen. Even our postal card was changed to the more attractive brown, the bright vermilion and green and yellow please the modern eye more than does the dull black, although when stamps are finely engraved, as, for instance, the ½r. 1878 issue of Honduras, the unattractive color is lost sight of in admiration of the engraving. Following the dictates of the eye, stamp collectors, and especially ones, are apt to pay most attention to the stamps that are fair to gaze upon; but "all that glitters is not gold," and while we may have a beautiful collection of colors, its intrinsic value is almost inevitably lower than a less beautiful collection, for some of our ugliest stamps are the most valuable. The evident improvements in colors which are being wrought annually in our science, are indeed encouraging. In future years our albums, decked with philatelic roses and garlands, will not be to appearance a mere collection of "trash," but rather "a thing of beauty and a joy for ever."

"So you're going to travel all around the world?"

"I am."

"Then mind you write me often."

"I am much flattered, but I can hardly believe that you'll really care to hear from me."

"Oh, indeed, *indeed I shall*—I collect postage stamps!"



MR C. WHITFIELD KING.

C. WHITFIELD KING, ESQ., of Ipswich, England, occupies a prominent position among the leading English dealers. The business conducted by this gentleman is both wholesale and retail, and his offices are among the finest in the trade. Mr. King has been fortunate in his acquisitions of Government remainders, he having obtained all of the Honduras, 1st issue; Servia 1869; Peru, unpaid; Stella Land, etc. In his private residence he has a room that is papered entirely with unused stamps. We have pleasure in presenting his portrait to our readers.

Written for the CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

NOTES AND NEWS.

BY NAUTILUS.

An editor of an amateur paper recently advertised for a stamp collector to take charge of a philatelic department. We wonder how many applications he got.

There are a certain number of stamp dealers who have a very loose mode of transacting business. During the past year I have received no less than seven selections of approval sheets that I did not apply for. The sheets aren't from small dealers either, two selections being from a company who claim to be the largest stamp dealers in the world, and one from a gentleman, who, if we are to believe his advertisements, will not send out sheets without references. Stamp dealers should understand that if unsolicited approval sheets are sent, the receiver cannot be held responsible for their safe return, or to their equivalent in cash.

When is a boy like a postage stamp? When he is licked and stuck in the corner.