

**Thos. S. Futcher.**

Our present Vice-President of the D. P. A. although residing in the far West, where there is not one quarter of the collectors or members of the D. P. A. has done more work than any former vice-president.

Mr. Futcher was born in 1847, some fifty-two years ago, and about 1862 made a collection of postage stamps, revenues, entires and postal cards, but, like most of our best collectors, gave up collecting until 1887, when he took up collecting with increased interest beginning as a dealer in that year doing a store business only, not doing any mail trade whatever.

He wishes to exchange revenues and bill stamps for British Columbia law stamps.

### **Orange River Colony.**

*Even's News* contains the interesting information that the 2<sup>d</sup> blue, Cape of Good Hope, has been surcharged in three lines:

ORANGE  
RIVER  
COLONY.

It is reported that minor varieties exist, consisting of letters slightly above or below the rest of the word. A correspondent states that he has seen the surcharge with the period after "COLONY" missing. Are we now to be favored with an entire new set of surcharges on Cape stamps?—*Weekly Era*.

**Information.**

BY CHAS. F. ROBINSON.

In plate 262 of the one cent periodical the division lines meet in a focus over V in the word "Engraving" in the imprint; also in plate 269 of the two cent periodical while on plate 100 the point of focus is between A and V.

The reprints of 1875 were perforated 12, notwithstanding the fact that the reprints of 1856-61 were 15.

The first year that International money orders were sold to British Guiana, 84 were drawn for a total value of \$1249.57 and 279 paid for \$2724.56.

The U. S. has a post office in China, at Shanghai. Five cent stamps are the ones most used. For shipment there the stamps are placed in specially constructed tin boxes to keep them from sticking and becoming ruined.

I recently saw a copy of the 3c, 1870 with the grill covering the entire stamp.

700,00 of the 5 sen and 14,300,000 of the 2 sen Japanese Silver Wedding stamps were issued.

The manufacture of letter sheets was discontinued on August 30, 1894 by the order of the Postmaster-General.

Postmasters in the United States are not permitted to arrange for fictitious canceling of stamps, thereby gaining personal profit for themselves and the purchaser at the expense of the department.

I have several copies of envelopes addressed to me with only the post mark upon them. They were mailed in a small town where I spent the summer by an employe of the P. O. and put in my box without a postage stamp of any kind. If they are of any value I would be pleased to hear from any one interested in them.