

world, the "Jack of all trades" never learns as much useful knowledge as he who has the application to apply himself studiously to one thing. Mr. Bernstein states that "it is my belief that specialism is growing." It is here that he shows most stupendous ignorance of Philately at the present day. It is possible Mr. Bernstein has been under a spell the last few years, as in Edward Bellamy's "Looking Backward." One would think he had been absent from the field of Philately since darkened ages of Philately that have past. Specialism is on the increase; every department of Philately at the present day proves it. Has Mr. Bernstein ever attended a meeting of our great English or the large American local Societies? If so he would not have made such a statement. It is to the meetings of these Societies where the cream of our collectors resort; it is there it can be seen how large a following specialism has. Again, take the numerous publications that are being constantly published, dealing with the stamps of a special country *only*, this also shows the great and rapid increase of specialism. Before closing, Mr. Editor, I should like to cite one more example which shows Mr. Bernstein's great ignorance of this matter, and the increase of specialism. A publication of a large series of specialist's albums, numbering some hundred different books, for the use of the specialist. Could a firm attempt such a large undertaking if specialism were not on the increase? No! There are other remarks made by Mr. Bernstein, but none of them bear enough weight for me to waste your space, Mr. Editor, and my time in their criticism. I trust no one has been led astray by the thoughtless statements of Mr. Bernstein.

Thanking you Mr. Editor for having allowed me to so encroach on your valuable space I will close, trusting that this will reach you in time for your April issue.

From Panama Star and Herald, Feb. 27.

IMPORTANT TO PHILATELISTS.

Panama, Feb. 4, 1892.

My attention having being directed to the fact, that certain postage stamp dealers in America and Europe, are offering or sale surcharged Stamps of the Department of Panama; and I hereby warn the public in my official capacity, as National Postmaster for Panama, that although the said stamps are themselves genuine, the alleged surcharge is unauthentic, this department never having issued same, and they are consequently rendered valueless.

EDUARDO B. GERLEIN.

MONTREAL NOTES.

BY SANA.

Efforts are being made by one of us to have a Stamp Lottery in Montreal some time next autumn.

SIR Adolphe Caron, by refusing to reduce the rate of postage, has lost his chance to go down to posterity as the two-cent Minister.

The splendid collection of Mr. W. J. Trenaman, of Three Rivers, Que., containing about 3,000 varieties of stamps, issued prior to 1876, altogether with a few duplicates, was sold for the small amount of \$17.00 to Mr. Ant. R. Vallee, of this city. Mr. Trenaman offered his collection to well known American dealers, but none of them desired to make an offer. The whole is catalogued at \$600.00, and a part of it was sent lately to Mr. A. R. Rogers, to be sold by auction.

At the fire which recently occurred in the offices of the Great North-Western Telegraph Company in this city, a quantity of the Company's FRANKS, of last year, which had been set aside for a certain Stamp dealer, whose name is withheld pending inquiries from other dealers, was completely destroyed. These franks have always been scarce, and hard to procure, and in consequence of the loss referred to above, the value of those in circulation will be much increased. The new color of the franks for 1892 is olive green.

THE PHILATELIC PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

Feb. 24th, 1892.

DEAR SIR,—The Association hereby warns philatelists against the following forgeries, which have been brought under their notice:

JAPAN.—1 sen. brown, no syllabic character and "branches crossed"; 4 sen. rose, syllabic character; 1d.; 30 sen. gray; no syllabic character.

INDIA.—First issue, 4 annas with head inverted, the red portion of the stamp being forged.

NOVA SCOTIA.—6 pence green, a dangerous forgery.

NEW SOUTH WALES, VICTORIA and BR. GUIANA.—Various early issues, poor copies of unperforated stamps, cut close and falsely perforated.

MAURITIUS.—6d. green, (Gibbons type 1410), value altered to 1s. green but with Cr. and C. C. watermark.

BORNEO.—1863, 8c. black and brown, (Gibbons type 1631), with forged surcharge.

Yours truly,

CHARLES PHILLIPS,

Hon. Sec.

Nous enverrons ce journal franco pour un an à quelque collectionneur d'Amérique du Sud ou Central, qui nous enverra 100 timbres bien assortis de son pays. Ecrire aujourd'hui à L. M. STÄEBLER, London, Ontario, Canada.