

ma, Sardinia, Modena, Roman States Naples, Sicily, Romagna, and Tuscany.

Later we find what at first was confined to the stamps of Sardinia, the head of Victor Emmanuel on a series of stamps issued for use in all Italy, with one exception, the Roman States (States of the Church) using their stamps for years after united Italy.

The stamps of Spain are equally historic, Isabella gives way to Liberty-Liberty to Amadeus, he to Liberty again her to Alphonso. Surely nothing could speak history plainer than these stamps.

Take Geography, how few of us would remember such names as Corea Deccan, Sirmoor, and Alwur, had we not had some peculiar reason for impressing them on our memory. Or even had we remembered the names, would we have had any idea as to their location? We might so continue quoting almost all countries in connection with the study of Chronology, History, Government, and Geography, but space will not permit.

As aids to the study of Finances and Philology, the sphere of stamps is, perhaps somewhat limited but still considerable information may be gathered therefrom. With scarcely an exception the stamps of all countries have their valuation expressed. Turn to Bavaria for instance, we have the cardinals *Ein, Drei*, etc, representing our units One, Three, etc. Or turn to Italy and find *Cinque, Dieci, Venti*. Nearly all stamp collectors can enumerate the cardinal

numbers in several languages after a few months collecting.

Or as to currencies; For Austria and the Southern German States we find the *kreuzer* as the unit of value. The States of Northern Germany have the *groschen*.

The uniform currency of France, Italy, Switzerland and Belgium can be learned from their stamps, all the values being expressed in centimes and francs.

The fact that a decimal currency is rapidly becoming more general may be gathered from postage stamps. A large portion of the colonies of Great Britain whose early issues bore the values in pence, have since changed their currency to dollars and cents as Canada, Ceylon, Mauritius, Hong Kong, Singapore British Honduras, etc.

Some of the early Canadian stamps are records of the transition state, the values expressed in pence and equivalent in cents.

As to the Fine Arts, it must readily appear to anyone, that the study of postage stamps acquaints the collector with lithography and engraving in all its stages. What a contrast indeed is there between the early issues of forty years ago in most countries compared to the present issues. Take the fine productions of the American Bank Note Co and various other first-class engravers, they illustrate on stamps the perfection of the engravers art, and the more one studies them the more he becomes to appreciate minuteness of detail and finish.