

of Monterey, Mexico, and Ernst Harmson & Co., of Hamburg, Germany.

There is some dissatisfaction at the action of the government in declining to redeem the obsolete revenue stamps in less amounts than \$2, but after all, this is a reasonable minimum. The documentary stamps are still available to some extent and can be disposed of in almost all cases, while the proprietary stamps should be in the hands of druggists mostly and these can turn them over to the wholesaler. Banks are almost always willing to take over the stamps and forward them for redemption, as an accommodation.

In the standard catalogue there are a number of entireties of the stamps of one country used in another country. The stamps of Chile used in Peru, the C. E. F. stamps of India, Antigua stamps used in St. Kitts, and many others. To this list should now be added the stamps of the United States used in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. Of course this does not refer to the overprinted stamps, but to the regular United States stamp, the only proof of the peculiar use of which is in the postmark. Of necessity these stamps must be collected on the original cover, or at least so much of it as will show the postmark. War was declared with Spain on Apr. 21, 1898, and the armies of the United States landed in Cuba June 22, in the Philippines June 30, and in Porto Rico July 11. As the administration of each postoffice was changed from Spanish to American control with the forward march of the invaders, the Spanish stamps gave place to the stamps of our own men. On August 1898, the peace protocol was signed, and about this time, or a little before, the use of the overprinted stamps

was begun. The plain stamps still continued in use, however, and at no time from the landing of our army to the date when the islands were formally transferred from Spain (this of course applies only to Porto Rico and the Philippines) has there been a time when the ordinary stamp of the U. S. would not frank a letter. The use of them during the two months between the invasion by our troops and the signing of the protocol, while the islands were Spanish property, and the following period to March 1899 while we held the land by possession, entitle the stamps of the United States used during that period to be entered in the catalogue under the headings of "Porto Rico" and "Cuba" and "Philippines," in the same as the stamps of various South African colonies are listed under Cape Colony by reason of their use in Mafeking besieged. The land belonged to Spain, Spanish stamps were not available, and United States stamps were used, not only by our men, but by everyone, native or foreigner, who desired to use the mails.

The varieties of stamps used in this way are many, and stamp available for postage in the United States seems to have been used here, the Omaha issue is quite plentiful and the writer has seen the 2 cent of 1890. The "Coamo" stamp, issued in default of United States stamps, is listed properly. Why not these?

Somewhat the same line of reasoning may be applied to the use of United States stamps by our troops in China, which correspond to the C. E. F. stamps of the British troops in China.

The sensation of the month in philatelic circles here is the passing of the Scott Stamp & Coin Co. as the leading stamp