

The Montreal Philatelist.

A Monthly Magazine devoted to the Science of Philately.



We come from Montreal, and go to all Parts of the World.

VOL. 3. No. 2. AUGUST, 1900. Whole No. 26.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, BY W. James WURTELE.

118 St. James Street, - - - - MONTREAL.

AGENTS WANTED.

Next month is September.—The busy season in the Stamp business begins schools are open.

We want to hear from a boy or girl in every school in Canada and the United States to sell stamps for us on commission at from 33¼ to 50%. Good references must be furnished.

To the boy or girl who sells the largest amount, for us, from now to December 20th 1900, we will present a handsome Christmas gift and cash prizes will be given to every one selling for \$5.00 or over.

We also want to hear from **serious and advanced collectors**, specialists. We always have on hand stamps ranging from 1c to \$500.00 of all countries but specially a large and varied assortment of Australian stamps, splendid selections from Messrs Stanley Gibbons Ltd, London, whom we represent in this country. Remember we are the oldest dealers in Canada and have the finest stock of cheap, medium and rare stamps.

At present we have on hand some choice selections of British North American, including Canada 12 pence, Nova Scotia 1 shilling etc. A magnificent lot of St. Vincent, Old and recent issues of Ceylon, Portugese Colonies etc. Those interested will please write.

A FEW "END OF THE DULL SEASON" BARGAINS

Orange Free State-Surcharged "V. R. I."

	½ and 1 penny, the two for	- - - - -	15c
3	varieties Orange Free State, old issue	- - - - -	05
3	“ Transvaal	- - - - -	05
50	“ British North American Stamps	- - - - -	\$1 00
60	“ Canada Revenues	- - - - -	1 00
25	“ “	- - - - -	25
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	Album for Canada Revenues	- - - - -	75
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- 3c Carmine Red
- 3c Bright Orange
- 3c Red
- 5c Grey
- 5c Green Grey
- 6c Rich Brown
- 10c Carmine Red
- 15c Blue Grey

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Can. 1859 1c per 100	\$3.00
" 5c " "	3.00
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" 1882 3c red per 1000	.30
" 1882 ½c black per 100	1.50
" 1897 ½c Jubilee per 10	.75
" 1897 ½c maples per 100	.30
" 1898 3c num. per 100	.30
" 1898 2c maps per 100	.40
" Envelopes 3c 1897 cut sq per 100	.60
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Lord Robert's issue on ORANGE FREE STATE

SURCHARGED V. R. I.

	Unused.	Used.
¼d orange.....	.06c	.08c
1d purple.....	.10	.12
2d ".....	.30	.36
2½d blue very rare.....	\$2.50	.44
3d ".....	.30	.44
4d ".....	.80	.90
6d ".....	.66	.72
6d rose very rare.....	4.00	
1sh brown.....	1.25	1.50
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Important. Every UNUSED stamp is in mint condition. USED stamps are genuinely and postally used, in perfect condition, and bear interesting postmarks showing progress of the British Arms.

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each. Black on yellow. Used on British Territory. \$3.00

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Small stamp, 3d blue,..... \$10.00 each
Large stamp, 3d blue of very highest
rarity..... \$50.00 "

CYCLIST POST.

1d blue..... \$ 6.25 "

**CAPE AND BECHUANALAND ISSUES SUR-
CHARGED MAFEKING BESIEGED
AND NEW VALUE**

	each
3d on 1d red, Cape of G. Hope.....	\$ 5.00
1d on ¼d green, ".....	4.00
6d on 2d green, Bechuanaland Protectorate	9.50
1sh on 4d brown, ".....	12.50
3d on 1d lilac, ".....	7.50
6d on 3d lilac, 1887 issue of British Bechuana- land.....	10.00
6d on 3d yellow, Bechuanaland Protectorate.	
One of the rarest of the set.....	40.00
6d on 3d Cape of G. Hope a rarity.....	20.00

All used, and mostly on pieces of original envelopes. Every stamp fully guaranteed.
Not more than 1,000 of any one of the surcharged stamps were issued, as few as 50 to 250 of some.
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FREDK. R. GINN,
143 STRAND LONDON, ENGLAND

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The Montreal Philatelist.

A Monthly Philatelic Magazine.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE LEAGUE OF CANADIAN PHILATELISTS

Subscription 25 cents a year to Canada and the United States, 50 cents to all other countries.

Entered at the Montreal Post Office as second class mail matter, April 23, 1893.

VOL. 3. No. 2

AUGUST, 1900.

Whole No. 26

NEWS OF THE MONTH.

The greater part of our space is taken up with philatelic news from Africa. The facts in regard to recent issues of "war stamps" are now coming to light. The first wild quotations for "V. R. I." surcharges are giving place to more reasonable figures, as can be seen from our advertisers' announcements. Australian Federation is assured by the Queen's signature to the act passed by the British Parliament. The colonies have now to take action and get their new system of government into working order. When the elections are held and the Government organized we may expect new stamps from the Commonwealth of Australia.

ENTRANCES AND EXITS.

BAVARIA.—(*Provisional 5 pf. cards*). In order to use up the stock of obsolete 3 pf post cards, they are to be impressed with an additional stamp of the new 2 pf type in slate. Both the single and reply cards are to be so treated making them 5 pf cards.

BELGIUM.—(*Change of color 10c cards*). To correspond with the recent change in color of the 10c stamp, the post cards single and reply and letter cards of that value are to be in future printed in carmine.

BOSNIA.—(*10 h Reply cards*). The 10 heller cards reported in our June number come as reply cards as well as single, as there stated.

BRITISH HONDURAS.—(*Surcharged 10c.*) The current 10c mauve and green has been issued surcharged with the word "Revenue" like the 5c, 25c and 50c. This surcharge does not indicate, as has been surmised by a correspondent, that these are simply revenue stamps, but it means that they can be used for fiscal purposes as well as for postage.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—(*Mafeking Locals*). The *bona fides* of these "siege stamps" has been questioned by some of our English contemporaries, and quite a controversy is now raging over them in *Evening W. S. News*. We reproduce in another column an interesting report on the issue, which is endorsed by the eminent authority of the great house of Stanley Gibbons, Limited. The principle point made against these stamps was—why surcharge an *increased value* instead of using two or more low value stamps to make up the required amount. This is explained by the small supply of stamps, of any value, obtainable. *Evening W. S. News* maintains that the issue was entirely unnecessary, as letters arriving from Mafeking during the siege would have been delivered free of charge in any part of England, whether stamped or unstamped and it considers the stamps as merely patriotic labels commemorative of the gallant defence of the beleaguered town, intimating that they did not really frank the letters despatched by native runners through the Boer lines. It seems to us that if the stamps represent the charge made by the military authorities, for despatching private letters along with despatches conveyed by runners employed by military authority, it is immaterial whether the charge was sufficient to pay the cost of the runner or not. The stamp indicated that the charge, whatever it was, had been prepaid and that is all that is necessary to constitute them veritable *bona fide*, postage stamps. Whether it was absolutely necessary that such prepayment should be indicated by stamps, has "nothing to do with the case." That could be said about any postage stamp, and we might go back to the system of prepaying every letter over the counter, but think of the inconvenience. Without guaranteeing their authenticity the complete set of these stamps so far as known is as follows :

I. Surcharged on Cape stamps —

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| 1. 1d on ½d green 1897, | (Scott 52) |
| 2. 1d on ½d green 1898, | (" 57) |
| 3. 3d on 1d red 1893, | (" 53) |
| 4. 6d on 3d violet rose 1898, | (" 59) |
| 5. 1/- on ¼d olive 1898, | (" 60) |

II. Surcharged on British Bechuana-land stamps —

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| 6. 6d on 3d lilac 1887, | (Scott 13) |
| 7. 1/- on ¼d brown & green '91, | (" 35) |
| 8. 1/- on 6d red, '91, small type, | (" 36) |
| 9. 2/- on 1 green '94, | (" 37) |

III. Surcharged on Bechuanaland Pro-terstrate Stamps —

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 10. 1d on ½d vermilion 1898, | (Scott 1) |
| 11. 3d on 1d lilac 1898, | (" 2) |
| 12. 3d on 1d lilac, '98, small type, | (" 2) |
| 13. 6d on 2d green & red 1898, | (" 3) |
| 14. 6d on 2d gr., r. '98, sm. type, | (" 3) |
| 15. 6d on 3d yellow 1898, | (" 3A) |
| 16. 1/- on 6d red 1898, | (" 5) |

IV. Stamps for delivery within the lines of investment.

17. Boy on bicycle 1d light blue.
 18. Portrait Baden-Powell (small head)
 3d blue on blue (shades) pf 12
 19. " Baden-Powell (large head)
 3d blue on blue (shades) pf 12

It will be noticed that to make No. 15 a stamp has been used, the existence of which has been doubted, certainly none have heretofore been procurable either used or unused.

CEYLON. — (*New 6c envelopes*). Last February we listed a series of 6c post and letter cards which have since come into use together with an envelope impressed with a 6c stamp in brown on white of the same type (Scott E 10).

CHILI. — (*New envelope*). We illustrate the 5c envelope stamp chronicled last month.



CRETE. — (*Rumored Unpaid letter stamps*). A French contemporary states that a set of unpaid French letter stamps: 1, 5, 10, 20, 40, 50 lepta, 1 and 2 drachmae, have been ordered from England. The design to consist of a post horn, with figure of value in its centre, surmounted by the crown of the reigning prince. This design and the color—a bright red—to be common to all values.

COLUMBIA. — (*1c Revolu-*

tionary Government.) We notice by the Press despatches that after a sanguinary battle the revolutionary army has been finally defeated and suppressed, before this event however a stamp of another value 1c black on green had been put in circulation. The other values of this set 5, 10 and 20c, are reported by *McKeel's Weekly* with the name of the commander of the revolutionary forces surcharged with a hand stamp.

FERNANDO PO. — [*Provisional 5 & 50c.*] *McKeel's Weekly* reports on the authority of a German contemporary 5 and 50 centavos surcharged on the current 20c maroon. (Scott 58).

FRENCH CONGO. — [*Corrected list of colors.*] There is a universal note of condemnation heard in regard to the execution and colors of the new stamps, that were heralded with such gusto and which it was promised were to rival the pretty pictures of the Congo Free State set. The designs and watermarks are as given in our June number but the colors do not correspond, we therefore give a corrected list.

1c claret & pale brown	20c rose red and yellow
2c brown and yellow	40c brown & pale green
4c vermilion and grey	50c violet and lilac
5c green and pale green	75c claret and orange
10c red and pale red	1 fr grey and olive
15c lilac and olive green	2 fr carmine and brown
20c green and orange	5 fr orange and grey
25c blue and pale blue	

The colors are difficult shades to describe and no two reports that we have seen agree on the color-names. The stamps are perforated 11.

GERMANY.

— [*New 2 pf. cards. The 2 mks stamps.*] A post card of the 2 pf. Germania type, slate on greenish blue single and reply is reported. The new 2 marks stamp in steel blue is now in use, it reproduces Von Werner's painting representing allegorically the union of the Northern and Southern German tribes. In order to prevent clipping off and joining together for fraudulent use, uncanceled portions of these large sized stamps, the



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German post office clerks are instructed to cancel them at both ends, and in consequence all used specimens are heavily obliterated with two and even three post marks.

GREAT BRITAIN.—[*Ish. change of color.*] The new bi-colored shilling carmine and green is now in use, having been issued July 11th, water marked crown, as before.

GUATEMALA.—[*loc. in new color.*] From our Guatemala correspondent Mr. Fleischhauer we have received the new 10c in a greyish brown, not grey as reported in an advance notice last month. The others of the set, except the 5c come, in shades of the colors as there listed.

HONG KONG.—[*Adoption of U. P. U. colors. New cards.*] As all British Colonies have been requested to conform to the colors adopted by the U. P. U. without further delay, we may expect quite a few changes soon; Hong Kong has just issued its 2c in green and 10c in blue and the 4c in rose may be looked for we presume. The following post cards are also announced in changed colors.

2c green	5c lilac
4c carmine	10c blue

The old 3c. reply cards after being separated and surcharged for use as single 4c cards, now come entire surcharged 4c reply cards.

INDIA.—[*Reported changes of colors.*] The *Phil. Journal of India* now states that the stock of the 2 a. 6 p is not so large as was surmised, and that that value as well as the others in changed colors may be expected before the end of the year.

NEW ZEALAND.—[*Colonial printing, Watermarks, etc.*] Envelopes, of white wove paper, were put in circulation, according to the *Australian Philatelist*, on March 20th impressed with ½d, 1d and 2d stamps from the new, re-engraved dies, in the same colors as the adhesives of those values viz: green, carmine and purple. We have not yet seen these envelopes, but according to reports, they are very poorly printed. From Mr. H. Bolitho of Auckland, we have received specimens of the colonial print of the 6d adhesive in its new color, a pretty shade of rose pink, perforated 11. It is of the same design and size as the 1898 6d green, but unlike other recently issued colonial prints, comes on unwatermarked paper, of a thick heavy texture, yellowish in shade. It is stated that the water-

marked paper was not made in sheets of sufficient size to print from the plates as originally made, hence the modified size of the ½d, 1d, 2d and 4d. It is probable that a future printing of the 6d, will also come on the watermarked paper when made in large sheets, and the present printing will in that eventuality become scarce; the same may be said for the colonial print 6d green and any others that may have appeared on the unwatermarked paper. Collectors interested in watermarks will notice that the "N. Z. and Star" in the new stamps are in double line instead of single as in the old issue of 1882, and it appears that this paper has been used to print the temporary supplies of the old type that were required and printed pending the issue of the colonial print of the pictorial set. Readers who have followed our Australian news, will recollect, that we reported in January, that not having a supply of the proper ink to print the pictorial stamps in the colony, the low value stamps of the o'd type would be re-issued. Some if not all of these re-issues are on the new paper, they will doubtless, be much sought after by collectors of varieties. Only the ½d and 2d have so far been noticed, but other values on the double-lined watermark paper may be in existence.

The latest arrivals, by mail to hand since the above was written are specimens of the ½d in a darker shade of green than that listed in May and the announcement of the 3d yellow brown, Colonial point, re-engraved, perforated 11, on watermarked paper. The 1 shilling is also announced in red and the 5 sh. in vermilion unwatermarked, completing the set of Colonial prints, unfortunately our correspondent has omitted to enclose specimens. We announced the colonial printing of the 2½d, 4d, 5d, and 2sh last Dec, and during the month of March we received from Wilcox Smith & Co., of Dunedin the 3d brown, 6d green, 8d blue and 9d violet all unwatermarked and perforated 11, but by some oversight we omitted to announce them at the time.

NORTHERN NIGERIA.—[*New 10 shilling stamp.*] The 10d stamp listed in June should read 10 shillings green and brown. There is no stamp of the value of 10 pence.

NORTH BORNEO AND LABUAN. [*Speculative issues?*] It is stated that the 4c stamps, reported as issued for these

countries by us last January, have never been in use, but are merely supplied cancelled or uncanceled from the Company's office in London, and that the 4c carmine and black listed last month is the only stamp of the monkey type that will be supplied to post offices. It is undeniable that stamps of all denominations are sold cancelled to order in sheets, with original gum intact, at the London office of the British North Borneo Co., in fact nearly all the cancelled specimens in the market are of this class. The *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly* has started an investigation which may result in placing the entire issues of these countries in the speculative class. Present appearances seem to indicate that that is where they belong. The *Era* reports a 5c orange and black surcharged "Postage due" vertically. And there is no reason why we may not be inflicted with surcharges in every possible shape and posture, if this enterprising company continues to find stamp collectors gullible enough to purchase its wares.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.—[*Minor varieties.*] Our English contemporaries chronicle quite a formidable list of the "V. R. I." surcharges. Three different "settings" of the surcharge are reported, comprising quite a number of misplaced points, wrong case letters and other printer's errors. As these varieties are of minor importance, we do not think it necessary to take space to list them in detail.

RUSSIAN LEVANT.—[*Surcharged cards.*] Several of our contemporaries supplement the list of adhesives given last month, by 4 kop single and reply cards surcharged 20 paras, and 10 kop letter cards surcharged 1 piastre.

SALVADOR.—[*Surcharges.*] *Mexico's W. S. News* reports the issue of the following surcharged stamps "1900-3 centavo," on the 12c green of 1899, "1900-2 centavo" on the 13c brown red of 1898 and "1900-1 centavo" on the 13c lake of 1899. The 2c of 1899 has been issued for some time with the surcharge "1900-1 centavo" and it has been stated that the unpaid letter set of 1899 has been surcharged "1900" for use during the current year. The surcharges on these stamps are less interesting and more confusing than the old time Seebecks. Just as we go to press comes the 5c on 26c carmine rose.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—[*Ad and 2d O. S.*] The new ½d green (G. P. O. Adelaide) and the 2d violet now have the "O. S." surcharge in tall thin type.

SWITZERLAND.—[*Commemorative set.*]

While our July number was in press we received from Mr. Doeniker specimens of the commemorative issue reported in that number. We illustrate the design common to the three values, we presume the scared looking female in gauzy apparel, clinging to the top of a telegraph pole, represents Miss Helvetia, but why she has clambered into this uncomfortable position to scatter her bundle of letters is not explained. The values and colors are 5c green, 10c carmine rose, and 25c blue and post cards with an enlarged copy of the same picture on the left side 5c green and 10c red. Used copies of the cards have been kindly supplied by Mr. Huguenin. The stamps are printed on paper watermarked twice to each stamp "cross in oval" and are perforated, 11½.



TRANSVAAL.—[*Surcharges.*] *Ewen's Weekly* reports the issue of the full set of South African Republic ½d to 10 shillings surcharged, horizontally in the centre "V. R. I." From a correspondent at Pretoria we have received the ordinary S. Af. Rep. ½d green post card, *unsurcharged*, but with an additional ½ vermilion Great Britain, to make up the 1d rate, postmarked "Field Post office, June 10," which proves that the post office accepted the Boer cards without the "V. R. I." over print. Correspondence of a later date giving full details of the issue, will be found in another column.

TASMANIA. [*New letter card.*] A new letter card has appeared impressed with the recently issued 2d stamp, view of Hobart, in purple on blue card. The reverse side is utilized to advertise a celebrated fishing resort in the colony.

VENEZUELA.—[*Change of colors.*] In our April number we reported the prospective issue of a new set ordered by a decree dated Jan. 15th. The authorities are not waiting for the new designs, which were to be made by the American Bank Note Co., but are having stamps printed from the old plates in the colors ordered by the decree mentioned. They have begun with the high value "Instrucciones"; the 3 bolivares now coming in brown, the 10 b in red, and the 20 b in violet, all surcharged "1900" in black.

AN UNPLEASANT INCIDENT.

An action for damages has within the past few days been taken out in the Superior Court at the instance of Mr. C. A. Needham against Mr. A. R. Magill for a libel published in the *Weekly Era*, reflecting upon Mr. Needham's financial standing. We learn from the plaintiff's solicitors, that the affair has been settled by Mr. Magill paying a nominal amount of damages, the costs of the action and making a complete retraction of his statements with an apology to Mr. Needham. The *Era* has also apologized and we trust everything is now settled.

We hope this young man will profit by this unpleasant incident, and be more careful to investigate the rumors he may hear in future before publishing gossip as news. To publish one's portrait in the papers together with a romantic biography, to be eulogized as a bright specimen of a philatelic journalist, may be flattering to youthful vanity, but it will not make a journalist of the object of this fulsome adulation, but rather tend to make him the laughing stock of all sensible men.

We have criticized news items coming from this source on various occasions, thereby incurring the wrath of the young gentleman referred to and his admirers who have thereupon made us the object of several spiteful attacks in the columns of the *Era* and elsewhere. It is surprising to us that a paper of the standing of the *Era* would have published such stuff, knowing as it did that its Montreal correspondent was but an amateur reporter, without journalistic training, deficient in judgement and utterly incapable of separating street gossip from authentic fact. It has certainly injured its reputation amongst Canadian philatelists, by the character of its Montreal news, and it has now to suffer the humiliation of making a retraction and apology to a well known stamp dealer whom it has slandered.

One of the painful incidents of this affair, is the fact, that for the past six weeks, Mr. Needham has been obliged to neglect his business interests watching beside the bedside of his sick wife, whose life has been despaired of, but who thanks to his devoted attention is now, we are happy to say, convalescent. We hope soon to hear of her complete recovery, and of Mr. Needham's return to business.

NOTES FROM THE TRANSVAAL.

By our special correspondent with the Canadian troops.

Pretoria, June 29th 1900.

On June 5th, after a short and sharp scrap we entered Pretoria, the supposed invincible fortress, the Capital of the S. A. R.

On June 12th, the Imperial Government issued to the public the Transvaal stamps, surcharged V. R. I. in black ink. The denominations issued were :

½d green	3d violet and green
1d rose & green	4d olive
2d brown	6d violet
2½d blue	1/- bistre.

A tremendous rush ensued, officers, men and civilians endeavoring to secure them. A cancelling stamp and pad were on the counter, and those who cared to cancel their stamps could do so. As soon as it was known that a large stock was on hand, the rush ceased. Ten shillings worth is the largest amount sold at a time.

Next day there were issued :

2sh 6d violet and green
5sh blue
10sh red brown.

The quantity of these surcharges is said to be fairly large.

A large trade in stamps and coins is done here. Nearly every shop has stamps on sale. The prices as a rule, are about six to ten times catalogue, regardless of condition. The £5 stamp old issue sells for £2 postally used.

The 1d commemorative sells for 1sh each new or used. 5 varieties current used 2sh 6d. 5 varieties old issue, used 5sh

In coins the pennies, crowns and 1892 gold are bringing high prices.

I would caution collectors against paying fancy prices for S. A. R. stamps, alleged to have been used in Dundee, Elandslaagte and Glencoe, Natal. The first day I arrived here I went to the P.O. to see what could be had, and the P. M. showed me a nice lot of S. A. R. various issues, all pasted on a sheet of paper and cancelled Dundee. He then produced the cancelling stamps and offered to cancel a set on envelopes for 3sh 6d the set, the stamps costing extra of course.

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SCRIPTION.

To Canada and the United States, 25 cents a year To all other countries 50 cents, a year; postage paid with 1/2c. stamps.

W. James Wurtele, Publisher.
F. W. Wurtele, Editor.

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1 inch.....	\$0.50
2 inches.....	90
Half column.....	1.50
1 column or half page.....	2.75
1 page.....	5.00

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PLEASE RENEW If this paragraph is marked, your subscription has expired. A prompt renewal is requested. If a renewal is not desired please notify us at once, otherwise the paper will be sent to you, and payment of subscription expected.

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Harold W. Thompson, Brigus, C. B.
Point St. Peter, P. Q.—Jack Fauvel.
More agents wanted in Canada and United States, Good commission. Write for particulars.

Editorial.

Next Number out Sept. 15th
All Copy must be in by Sept. 4

THE ALBUM DIFFICULTY.

Ever since stamp collecting became a popular hobby the question of albums has been discussed. If we consult our libraries we find in the correspondence columns of the journals of 1866-67 and

to a lesser extent at an even earlier date, innumerable communications on the subject. Those of us who have been collectors from the early days will remember what a burning topic of discussion this has ever been. The publishers of albums settled the matter to their own satisfaction by adopting the alphabetical plan with its constant re-arrangement for new issues, and the consequent necessity of ever recurring new editions, which no doubt was a very profitable arrangement to the Album maker. Stamp collectors, that is the great majority of them who are not students, have ever been content to accept things as they found them, to adopt the follow-my-leader style of collecting, and consequently no serious effort has ever been made, to change for something of a more scientific nature, this alphabetical arrangement, by which many of the benefits of collecting are obscured or altogether lost sight of. The more advanced collectors collect in blank albums, adopting an arrangement to suit their individual tastes, but those who have not the time nor the inclination to make a collection in accordance with their own ideas, have been forced to accept the album maker's dictum, with the result that losing much of the charm arising from the scientific study of stamps, far too many drop off one by one from our ranks, which if it were not for the constant army of new recruits would long since have been decimated. The new comer purchases the latest edition of some album and starts to fill its pages hap hazard, till convinced of the enormity of the task before him and the hopelessness of ever making a fair showing in his printed book, he either discards stamp collecting in disgust, or becomes a specialist, confining himself to some two or three countries of his predilection.

The Album maker, however, in now face to face with a difficulty that has been foreseen years ago by old time philatelists. The albums are getting too large, and consequently too expensive. Their bulk and expense frightens off the new begin-

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ner and if the income from recruits ceases, what is to become of the album trade.

In the *American Journal of Philately*, the Scott Stamp Co., who are the principle album publishers in America, make the announcement that in order to cut down the bulk of their work—*The International Album*—they intend to eliminate from the 1900 edition all envelopes and wrappers except those of the U. S. Why this distinction is made is not clear as U. S. envelopes take up about as much space as the envelopes of all other countries combined. It is a course that has no scientific *raison d'être*, it follows no principle, except that of convenience and the hope to maintain a demand for printed albums arranged in the absurd alphabetical order. We are not far wrong when we say that not one page in fifty of these albums will ever be filled and that not one page in ten will ever be graced with more than one or two stamps, and a great many of the pages will always remain in their primitive state of blankness. Yet to purchase one of these bulky books, in ordinary cloth binding, costs enough for the beginner to invest in quite a large and respectable assortment of stamps, which would do as much to chain his interest to philately, as a bulky volume of blank pages, will sooner or later tend to disgust him.

We want to keep our recruits, not dishearten them and drive them away, but how is this to be done? The answer is simple. Encourage them to collect on scientific lines, and thus interest them in the study of stamps.

Our readers well know our views on scientific philately. It is not the study of minor varieties, watermarks, paper and perforations. All these have their uses, as they are subordinate to the end in view; but we insist again and again, that the chronological and historical aspect of stamps, is what gives them a position deserving of the attention of serious men and women. The Scott Co., by hinting at the possible future publication of an album, arranged by dates of issue, is

beginning to see where their true interests lie. When we have such an album and catalogue in popular use, arranged in small volumes by dates of issue the future stability of philately commercially as well as scientifically, is assured.

Our own private chronological catalogue has been in manuscript for years and in this journal we hope soon to begin its publication for the benefit of our fellow students, and the furtherance of our glorious cause.

OUR CRITICS.

Our friend the *Adhesive* at last ventures from its covert, to make a positive statement; but alas for its worked up courage! It has only led its editor into another blunder. Its "brilliant six" have blundered on philately, its editor-in-chief has blundered on grammar and now blunders on Spanish translation and geographical spelling. If the porous plaster only sticks long enough it may succeed in upsetting all the sciences. It states in its July number that our translation of the Spanish words "Republica de Colombia" is wrong because the word "Colombia" is spelt with an "o" on the stamps of that country! Oh learned sage! Why do you not write "Argentina" for "Argentine", "Chile" for "Chili", "Belgique" for "Belgium", "Bayern" for "Bavaria", "Sverige" for "Sweden", etc., etc., etc.? And tell us, oh tell us from the profound depths of thy mystic lore how we benighted philatelists ought to write "Punch" after the fashion of its stamps!

We are well aware that in the United States, invariably, and to a great extent in Great Britain and the colonies, the Spanish spelling "Colombia" is retained when naming the South American Republic, but does the *Adhesive* know the reason why? If not, it would do no harm for its editor to find out and instruct his readers, instead of treating them to the ridiculous idea, that it is spelt that way

because it is so on the stamps. If he is unsuccessful in ascertaining the reason, we shall be glad to enlighten him. Meanwhile "Columbia" is good English and perfectly correct, the *Adhesive* to the contrary notwithstanding.

The *Adhesive* also accuses us of intending "a thrust" at its editor, because we gave a truthful and correct answer to a correspondent from Hartford who wrote us for information; at the time we penned this answer we were not aware that the aforesaid editor had ever expressed an opinion on the subject under discussion, if he did it is not surprising that some Hartford friend overhearing his blunders should write to us for the facts, knowing they would be given correctly. The same paper, in language that is not parliamentary, attributes to us knowledge which we altogether disown; we do not know if that paper possesses one or a dozen editors, in fact we are completely ignorant of how its editorial department is conducted, and as it is not our business we don't care. We are glad to see that it now admits it has no philatelic editor, we thought as much, when we said it lacked one, and as usual we were correct. We would be sorry for the philatelist, that in the capacity of editor would father the blunders of the *Adhesive*.

NOTES FROM COOK ISLANDS.

By RALPH W. GOSSET.

Rarotonga, C. I.

A great change is likely to be wrought in this place soon, in connection with the Postal affairs.

A week or two ago the New Zealand Government Steamer "*Tutanikai*" arrived having on board the Right Hon. R. J. Seddon, P. C. L.L.D. etc Premier of New Zealand; while he was here he advocated many changes and reforms, which, when accomplished will mean much difference in the prosperity of the place. One of the chief things he did was to inaugurate a Postal Convention between this Federation and New Zealand, and authorised Lieut. Colonel W. E. Gudgeon the British Resident to sign same, the following is the authorising Gazette, viz:—

V.  R.

THE COOK ISLANDS GAZETTE

Published by Authority.

RAROTONGA: SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1900.

No. 7.

ORDER IN COUNCIL

WE, the undersigned Arikis of the Cook Islands, hereby AUTHORISE the British Resident, LIEUT. COL. W. E. GUDGEON, to sign the CONVENTION between the COLONIES of the COOK ISLANDS and NEW ZEALAND concerning the exchange of MONEY ORDERS as our Agent.

Approved, MAKEA ARIKI,

Chief of the Federal Government.

TINOMANA ARIKI,

Vice Chief of the Federal Government.

KARIKA ARIKI,

NGAMARU " "

PA " "

KAINUKU " "

Approved, W. E. GUDGEON,

British Resident.

The outcome of the signing of the Convention will mean not only the establishment of a system of Exchange of money orders and a post office savings bank, the same as they have at present in New Zealand, but in all probability will mean far more important changes, in a direct line with the postal service. It must be remembered that the "Postal Union Colors" are not yet observed in the ½d, 1d and 2½d values, and if their colors are changed to bring them into line, it will of course mean changes of color in some of the other denominations.

All the letters that have lately passed through the Post Office here from Sydney N. S. W.; although bearing the full amount of postage, ordinarily required, have been taxed 5d in the chief Post Office Sydney N. S. W., before leaving that colony. I can see no apparent cause for this action on the part of the Sydney postal authorities. The only reason I presume they have been thus taxed, is on account of the "*Bubonic Plague*" at present ravaging that city. These extra charges may be for "*Fumigation*", or some other such thing.

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THE MAFEKING SIEGE STAMPS.

The following interesting account of the Mafeking Siege Stamps is posted in the window of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, where all the nineteen stamps which were issued are also on view:—

"We have received a visit from Mr. E. J. Ross, of the firm of Messrs. Aldred and Ross, general merchants, of Mafeking, who brought with him a complete set of all the stamps made and used during the memorable siege, the set being signed by Lord Edward Cecil, chief staff officer, as a guarantee of their genuineness. The necessity for over-printing the stamps, which were in the hands of the Post Master, has been questioned by the incredulous, but after hearing all that Mr. Ross has to say on the matter, which opinion has been confirmed from other sources, all doubts are completely set at rest.

"It appears that Mafeking was formerly, for Postal purposes, in British Bechuanaland, but some four or five years ago, was transferred to the Cape of Good Hope, and at the time of the siege, the post office possessed various odd stamps, not only of the Cape Colony, but of two or three issues of British Bechuanaland and British Protectorate.

"The total face value of the stamps in the Post Office did not exceed about £350. The desire to communicate with the outside world was not confined to the military authorities for their own despatches, but all the inhabitants and civilians were as eager as possible to get letters to their friends and relations. The only method available was, of course, by means of native runners, who were paid as much as £25 to undertake the risk of running the gauntlet of the ever alert enemy. Two or three of these runners were despatched South, endeavouring to get round Kimberley and so to our forces, but the great bulk of them were sent up North towards Colonel Plumer's column, and letters that got through were forwarded *via* Salisbury and Beira to their destination. These runners concealed letters, written on thin paper, not only about their clothing, but also even in the soles of their boots, which were manufactured and made hollow on purpose, no bags being allowed to be carried, as they would have impeded their progress. Unfortunately, as was found out later on, a number of the runners were caught and killed, and in some cases despatches,

such as those from Lady Sarah Wilson to the *Daily Mail*, were found afterwards, but with the postage stamps removed by the "slim" Boer.

"In order to pay for this postal service, it was found necessary to practically double the ordinary rates, and the military authorities bought up all the stamps in the Post Office, and handed them to the printer of the *Mafeking Mail* to overprint with higher denominations. Letters that were then written were taken to the Post Office, and the military postal officials stamped them with various denominations according to the weight or bulk of the letters. No stamps were sold to the public, and no person was allowed to send more than two, or at the most three letters by any one runner.

"In addition to the ordinary stamps, for the purpose above named, it was found necessary to make stamps for use within the lines, and a local post was organized with special stamps. These consisted of two kinds:—

"*First*.—A boy on a bicycle, inscribed, 'V.R., Siege of Mafeking' in a scroll above, and "Local Post Id." below. The boy on the bicycle is Sergeant Major Goodyear, of the Cadet Corps, which was created to do duty as orderlies and messengers.

"*Second*.—A front-faced portrait of Colonel Baden-Powell inscribed 'Mafeking, 1900, Siege,' in a scroll above, and 'Postage 3d.' in a scroll below.

"Both stamps were produced by a Mr. Taylor by means of the ferro-prussiate process, on paper specially made and manufactured during the siege. The portrait type consisting of two varieties, differing only in size to the ordinary stamp, were made in blocks of 12, and are blue on blue, differing much in color, and are perforated 12. Of no single stamp over-printed were there more than 1,000, and of some of them not more than 30 copies, being on old varieties, of which only a few remained in the Mafeking Post Office.

"It is satisfactory to know that the "printers' forms" for over-printing have all been broken up, and the negatives and dies of the local stamps destroyed."

Mr. Chs. Baillard Girard, of Switzerland, has sent the publisher, some beautiful samples of view-cards. These cards are printed in water colors, and are well worth having. Mr. Girard's ad. will be found in this number.

NOTES FROM SOUTH AFRICA

BY H. RUDD

Oudtshoorn, C.G.H. July 16th, 1900.

The Transvaal stamps have been surcharged V.R.I. in black. They differ from the O.F.S. "V.R.I." by not having the face value surcharged.

During the occupation of Dundee, Natal by the Boers, Transvaal stamps were used and were obliterated with the Dundee Post Office date stamp. There are two varieties of date stamp. Very few of these stamps are obtainable on the whole of the original envelope. A gentleman who showed me specimens of them told me he was taken prisoner by the Boers and in order to save his stamps he cut them off the envelopes and put them in the lining of his coat.

The new issue Cape stamp (view of Table Bay) caused great indignation among the loyal people of this colony on account of it not bearing, especially at this time, the likeness of the Queen.

Besides the "V.R.I." issue of the Orange River Colony, English and Cape of Good Hope stamps are now used there.

The annual meeting of the Capetown Philatelic Society took place in Capetown on July 9th, Mr Sydney Cowper occupying the chair. The following exhibits were on view Mr Bell collection of Spanish stamps. Mr Gorges collection of Cape triangles including numerous wood blocks, sets of Mafeking and V. R. I. stamps were also on view.

I have seen several Transvaal stamps surcharged V. R. with an india rubber hand stamp. It is done with purple colored ink.

The Mafeking Siege stamps have gone down considerably in price. It is probable they will not be so valuable as at first anticipated.

Stamp collecting is becoming a great craze in Cape Colony now, on account of the many new issues that have lately appeared.

AVOID THESE.

In future, for the protection of our readers, all those who wish to use this paper as an advertising medium and who are unknown to me will have to furnish first class business references. The "cash with copy" rule, enforced by several publishers, only protects themselves and may fill up the paper with undesirable advertisers. We want advertisers whom

we can recommend to our readers and who will treat all customers in an honorable way. Those advertising in this number are amongst the most reliable stamp firms in the world, but unfortunately in the past some advertisers have obtained access to our columns, who should never have been admitted. The following fail to pay the advertising bills for which they have signed contracts and should be shunned by stamp buyers as well as publishers.

1st. J. T. Handford, Paterson, N. J.
2nd. Chas. F. Frey, Ottawa, Ohio.
This Mr Frey is the Secretary-Treasurer of The Philatelic Literature Society. Its President Mr A. G. Allison to whom we reported the case fails to answer our letters. This looks bad for the Society.

3rd. Hy. F. Snow, St. Johns, Nev'd. Several complaints have been received, that money had been sent to him, but he failed to fill orders. This case is being looked into by responsible parties in St. Johns' and proper steps will be taken as soon as we hear from our attorneys.

4th. L. H. Reed of Flagler, Iowa. Many complaints have been received against this party. The case is now under careful investigation, and all those who have sent money to him or to any of the others mentioned above without getting proper returns are specially requested to send us a statement of such transactions and the matter will be placed in the P. O. Inspectors' hands. Publishers are requested in the interests of their readers, to give full publicity to the above.

W. JAMES WURTELE,
Publisher M. P.

WITH OUR ADVERTISERS.

Mr. Fred. R. Ginn of London, England is out with a new announcement. This time they are eager to let every body get a chance to obtain the South African Provisionals, at a very low price, before they become obsolete. They also carry a very fine line of other kinds of stamps. It will pay you to write to them.

We felicitate ourselves on having secured Messrs Stanley Gibbons Ltd. as one of our regular advertisers. Messrs S. G. Ltd. are always pleased to make new acquaintances. Their Catalogue, Part II is indispensable to all American collectors. United States being fully illustrated. Let them hear from you, even if you only write for their price lists.

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something to tell you in this number, read their ad on the front cover.

The Canada Stamp Co., are offering something this month, so cheap that you would feel inclined to spend your last half-dollar, in order to secure their bargains.

T. S. Clark, the "Bargain House" of Canada, has removed from Kingston to London. Removal sales are usually held before vacating former premises, but Mr. Clark is offering unusual bargains after moving away. Write him.

Fair and honest treatment, and bargains galore is what is in store for you when you start dealing with Mr. A. C. Roussel of this city. M. Roussel has a magnificent stock of Great Britain France, New-Zealand, etc. These being his specialty since he started collecting years and years ago.

Go to Hall of Peterboro, for the prettiest stamp Canada has ever issued in the shape of the new weights and measures 50c.

THE LEAGUE OF CANADIAN PHILATELISTS.

ORGANIZED SEPTEMBER 16TH, 1898.

PRESIDENT.....W. KELSEY HALL, Peterboro, Ont.
 VICE PRESIDENT.....W. RUSSELL BROWN, Port Arthur, Ont.
 ".....for U.S..HENRY A. CHAPMAN, Rocky Hill, Conn.
 SECRETARY-TREASURER.....H. SMITH, 42 Dudley St., Medford, Mass.
 SALES SUPT.....J. S. DALTON, 488 MacLaren St. Ottawa, Ont.
 AUCTION MGR.....A. R. MAGILL, Box 1019, Montreal.
 LIBRARIAN.....GEO. F. DOWNES, Palmerston, Ont.
 ATTORNEY.....

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OFFICIAL ORGAN.....THE MONTREAL PHILATELIST.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Members admitted :—

- No. 136 Fred. B. Filsinger.
- No. 137 Henri Lionais.
- No. 138 M. Tausig.
- No. 139 Juan A. Vodesta.
- No. 140 Chas. L. F. Arden.
- No. 141 Edwin T. Leach.
- No. 142 Frank Burnett.
- No. 143 W. R. Gowie.
- No. 144 N. Huguenin.
- No. 145 A. C. Roussel.
- No. 146 W. Patterson.
- No. 147 F. W. Wurtele.
- No. 148 E. W. Stanton.
- No. 149 Col. A. E. Labelle.
- No. 150 G. W. Cornish.
- No. 151 Jas. Sutherland.
- No. 152 E. Barbeau.
- No. 153 J. B. Ouellet.
- No. 154 Lachlan Gibb.

Members will greatly oblige by forwarding their dues, when Membership Cards will be sent.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

- No. 155 Ralph G. Wayth Gosset, Rarotonga Cook Islands. Col. of Customs and Chief Rev Officer. Ref. A. R. Magill, H. Smith.
- No. 156 J. D. Cox, Upper Stewiache, Col. Co. Nova Scotia, Postmaster. Ref. W. K. Hall, H. Smith.
- No. 157 C. S. Woodling, Sydney. C. B., Nova Scotia, Plumber Ref. W. J. Wurtele, International Stamp Co.
- No. 158 B. F. Dobranich, Professor, Godoy Cruz. 2439. Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep. Ref. W. K. Hall, H. Smith.
- No. 159 P. M. Wolsieffer, Publisher, 75 State St., Chicago, Ill. Ref. W. K. Hall, H. Smith.
- No. 160 Hubert A. Croll, D.D.S. (Dentist), Palmerston, Ont. Ref. Geo. F. Downes, H. Smith.
- No. 161 Horace R. Keay, Surveyor, 671 Massachusetts Av., Cambridgeport, Mass. Ref. H. Smith, F. A. Dodge.

H. SMITH,
 Sec.-Treas.

42 Dudley St., Medford, Mass.

Exchange Notices.

Every Subscriber has the right to insert a thirty word exchange notice free. Notices offering articles for sale will not be inserted in this column. All notices must be written on a separate piece of paper. Regular rates, 5 cents per line of seven words. No advertisement of less than 15 cents taken. All ads. set in Nonpareil, no display.

WANTED.—Back numbers of this paper, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, will give good stamps, or advertising space in exchange. Address the PUBLISHER.

WANTED.—To exchange advertising space with all first class philatelic papers. Address the PUBLISHER, Montreal Philatelist.

Manitoba Law Stamps to exchange for other Canadian revenues or for foreign adhesives. S. A. BEDFORD, Brandon, Manitoba, Canada. 7-10-4

Exchange wanted all over the world. Rare for rare, common for common. Send 50-200 stamps, and receive same number and value old U. S. Columbian, Omaha, department, and postage due. Exchange by sheets preferred. Want Canada Maple Leaf and numeral 5c up, and Jubilee in quantity for foreign stamps from sheets, your selections by Scott's catalogue 59 edition. V. MARTIN H. BITTL, 86 Berry St. Brooklyn N. Y. p 3-1-3

EXCHANGE.—Anyone who sends me better class stamps, duplicates if possible, will receive equal value in new and used stamps of Austria, Hungary, Bosnia, etc., by return mail. EMERICH KOHN, Wien 9½ Autriche. 2-1-2

Exchange desired with all the world. Whoever sends 50-100 different English colonies, Newfoundland, Canada, Barbados etc., etc., will receive same number of South American. Letters registered; prompt satisfactory answers. C. HANS SEIFERT, Casilla Correo 305, Buenos Aires, Argentine Republic. 2-2-3

Exchange.—The undersigned is always pleased to exchange none but better postage stamps of all countries with serious collectors. He does not send first. Trash sent to him will be returned unfranked. Address REV. R. VON PIRCH, Berlin, Canada. 4-2-5

W. L. Turner, Great Falls, Montana, U.S.A., will exchange U. S. envelopes, new, entire cat. 10c and 50c for good stamps. p 1

Address separately to me the different entities of your country, and you will receive South American stamps or entires. Desire also exchange in stamps. WALDEMAR HOFFMAN, Buenos Aires, Rodriguez Pena 128, Argentine Rep. 8-3-2-4

To exchange 5c, yellow 1c; (Jefferson), Alsace 25 cent, New York hand stamp red and black, fine cancelled copies, against U.S. 1869, and Canada 12½, 17 cent. THEO. KOERNER, Zapp, Texas. 8-3-2-4

Souvenir Cards, used or unused, exchanged with collectors in Canada and U. S. Can give also addresses of foreign collectors. A. ANTON, 14 Florence Street, Yonkers, N. Y., (U.S.A.) 8-3-2-4

WANTED.—U. S. unpaid and adhesive postage, current type, on cover showing post mark 1894. Will give greater value in exchange. THEODOR C. MANN, 1416 Hickory St., St. Louis, Mo. 8-3-2-4

WANTED:—To exchange with collectors of all countries: Australia, South Africa. British colonies preferred. Send 100 to 200 and receive same value in U. S. Canada revenues wanted, also Canada coins. ERWIN Q. WARD, Supt. Truant School, Springfield, Mass., U.S.A. 8-3-2-4

I have U. S. British colonies and foreign to exchange for Haiti, S. & C. America, Omahas, Newfoundland, Columbians & Br. colonies, etc. Correspondents wanted in all countries. Send stamps. E. M. ATMORE, Parkhill, Ont. 8-3-2-4

Wants and Offers.

A column for Dealers and Collectors. All kinds of ads. can be inserted under this heading. Buy, sell or exchange. All ads. taken at the uniform rate of 15c per word. No ad. under 15c taken. 3 insertions for the price of 2. Cash in advance.

For sale back numbers of this paper. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 out of print; No. 15, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 3c each. Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18; price 10 cents each. Address, THE PUBLISHER

Exchange wanted with collectors in all countries. Send me 50-500 postage or revenue stamps of your country and I will send in return same value in U. S. and Canadian. Please register all letters. CHAS. F. HUNT, First National Bank, Worcester, Mass.

ENRIQUE DE MARCA, H. S. A. Curaçao, W. I. Approval Sheets of rare stamps wanted, exchange given in Curaçao, Venezuela S. & C. America stamps. Common stamps refused. 4-11-2

For 10c, we will send new bargain list, and one of following sets:—14 Var Roman States, 14 Hungary, 10 Argentine, 14 Japan, 10 Greece, 15 Canada, any 3 sets for only 25c, postpaid. G. P. LE GRAND, Paspheira, P. Q. 3-12-2

WANTED.—One of each unused perfect specimen of Canada from 1858 to 1872. On approval or name lowest price. If stamps and prices are right I will remit by return mail. B. F. GOTTLING, 70 W. Franklin St., Baltimore, Md. 3-1-3

SPOT CASH for several good stamp collections. What have you? Also sell and exchange, Member E. S. P. S. WM. A. SCOTT, 221 Woodworth Ave., Kansas City, Mo., U. S. A. p 3-2-4

At your own price. Stock of 8000 stamps and post-cards, including collection of 1200 varieties, must be cleared out this month. Complete list for 2c stamp. M. D. MACKENZIE, Box 12, Petrolia, Ont. p 1

UNITED STATES POSTAL CARDS

ALL UNUSED, MINT STATE.

1873 1c brown, large watermark	.08
" " " " small "	.05
1875 1c black (with the Address & c.)	.03
1879 2c blue	.04
1881 1c black (nothing but the Ad.&c.)	.03

COLONIAL SURCHARGES

CUBA. 1 and 2c de peso	.07
PORTO RICO. 1c, two varieties	.06
PUERTO RICO. 1c	.03
PHILIPPINES. 1c, 2c, 2x2c. Set	.15
Postage extra (2c for 5 Cards.)	

A. LOHMEYER,

922 N. Gilmor St., Baltimore Md.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

STANLEY GIBBONS' CATALOGUE

PART II.

NOW READY

Price 2/3 post-free.]

[Price 2/3 post-free.

PARTICULAR ATTENTION

has been given to the production of enlarged illustrations of many minor varieties, which can more easily be distinguished from a large print, but which are difficult to describe, especially to the younger collector, such as the two dies of **Argentine** 5c. ; the **Bulgaria** unpaid 5st ; **France**, two dies of the 1876 issues ; **Bremen**, three types of the 3 grote ; **Greece**, enlarged heads of the Paris and Athens prints ; **Portugese Colonies**, the various dies of the Crown issues.

OWING TO THE CONTINUAL PRESSURE ON SPACE

it has been found necessary to exclude entirely all "Official Seals." These are not stamps at all, but merely gummed labels applied by officials to close packets that have come open or broken while in transit.

MANY IMPORTANT COUNTRIES

have been thoroughly revised and rewritten, such as **Belgium**, 1869-81 issues ; **Brazil**, 1894-99 ; **Dominican Republic** ; **Ecuador** ; **Dutch Indies** ; **Japan**, 1876-99 ; **Liberia** ; **Luxemburg** ; **Portugal and Colonies** ; **Roumania**, etc., etc.

Orange River Colony (late Orange Free State) and **Transvaal** (late South African Republic) have been rewritten and brought up to date, and removed from the body of this volume and placed at the end as a SUPPLEMENT to PART I., BRITISH EMPIRE, to which volume it will be transferred in the next edition.

The **Mafeking Seige Stamps** have also been included in this Addenda, with the prices at which we supply many of the varieties.

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