

Stories About Stamps.

Every stamp, like every picture, tells a story. Some of the most interesting ones are connected with the commonest, and most familiar stamps, which any of you may have in your collection.

For example, the prettily coloured map-stamp of Canada tells us not one story, but many. It tells of an Empire the like of which has never before been seen. It shows a map of the world on which the parts belonging to the British Empire are coloured red.

Of course, to print such a tiny map of the world in colours is a difficult task; and some of the specimens of this stamp have not been so well printed as others. So that on some of them we find that Canada has taken up the greater part of the United States, while England has invaded France, and the Cape of Good Hope has gone out to sea. We must be careful, therefore, in taking our geography of the world from such a minute picture, though it is a useful and instructive stamp, which every boy and girl collector ought to possess.

Two other stamps tell a curious little story. Hayti is an island in the West Indies; and some years ago the President of the Haytian Republic was a negro named Salomon. He did not want to put his own portrait on the stamps of Hayti (most rulers have their own portraits on their stamps), but he used a design showing the figure of the Goddess of Liberty.

After a time, when Salomon, was not quite so popular with his subjects; they objected to the picture of Liberty, and declared that it was not "Liberty" at all; but a portrait of Mrs Salomon, the President's wife. They grumbled that

"the President would not have his portrait on their stamps, but he had put his wife's on instead."

It so happened that there was some resemblance between the picture and Mrs Salomon; and so the President had to give way, and put his own portrait on some new stamps. But in a half-civilised Republic like this the President rarely holds his office for long. Salomon had to flee from his enemies, and reached Cuba and finally Paris. His enemies did not want to continue using the stamps with his portrait, but there were many in stock, and the expense of getting new ones was heavy. So they decided to use the Salomon stamps, but to order that all letters henceforth must have the stamps stuck on the letters upside down as a mark of disrespect to the ex-President.

A Dish of P.'s.

First in pride stands the letter P, though little to be proud of. He is also present in poverty, prejudice, and presumption. Placed at the head of philosophy, he is silent, make a physician of him he is the same. He has mean tricks, too. Play with him and he'll plague you and pinch you, and prowl around your peach, pear, and plum trees and be the first to pick them, and when pounced upon pleads provocation by the pears, peaches, and plums being placed in so prominent a position, preventing him from passing without peeping at them. Then he prints on paper paragraphs of plans proposed and plots prepared. In appearance he is one of too many, in dress, plain; in temper, passionate; in complexion, pale. His nose is pointed and shows signs of port. In manner, he is puffed up, his brow is puckered; he has a pipe in his mouth and a press in his hand, he is poor in pocket and is known to the police. He often pawns things, but won't take the pledge. He will, no doubt, become a pauper and die in a parish poor house.

Pierpont Morgan and "Au d Lang Syne."

It seems that although Mr. Pierpont Morgan has not secured Lord Rosbery's valuable Burns manuscripts he will carry over the pond a valuable collection of the poet's autograph poems. In London the American financier purchased a collection of which he believes to be one of the best, if not the best, in the world. It contains, among other things, an autograph copy of "Au d Lang Syne," but whether it is the "only original" is open to doubt. Burns was in the habit of writing copies of his songs at the request of friends, and thus it is difficult to say of this, as well as of many other manuscripts, that it is the only copy in existence. It is interesting to note that at Messrs. Sotheby's the autograph manuscript of "To Mary in Heaven" was to be sold just before the last mail left. The manuscript is the property of Miss Murphy. The song, consists of four stanzas of eight verses each, and is printed on two quarto pages. The edge is frayed and slightly torn, but the manuscript itself is in excellent condition.

Professor William Stirling has been enlightening his audience at the British Royal Institution on the subject of the comparative value of certain beverages as stimulants to the brain. Tea, coffee, and cocoa, it appears, are "intellectual" drinks; alcohol—in all its various forms—is merely a paralytic. When the champagne circulates at a dinner party, and the strings of men's tongues are loosed, as if by magic, the real truth is that the guests have all been smitten with sudden paralysis of the inhibitory nerve centres which preserve the habitual dignity of the first-class season-ticket holder behind his morning paper. We are not sure, says the "Pall Mall Gazette," however, whether an occasional stroke of this mild paralysis is not a good thing for mankind in general; it is possible to be too intellectual. The House of Commons, for instance, is a much more entertaining place when the Irish party are grievously sick of palsy (in the Professor's sense) than it is when every member is in a state of abject sobriety and consequent intense intellectual activity.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS.

[The charge for inserting announcements of births, marriages, or deaths in the "Graphic" is 2/6 for the first 14 words, and 1/6 for every additional 7 words.]

BIRTHS.

- BROWNE.—On May 14, at their residence, Takapuna, to Mr and Mrs Jasper Browne, a daughter.
- CUNNINGHAM.—On May 15th, at her residence, Calloped-rd, Devonport, the wife of L. Cunningham, a daughter.
- HERBERT-JONES.—On May 21st, at their residence, "Opuru," Shelly Beach-rd, Ponsonby, the wife of A. Herbert-Jones, of Waiuku.
- KATTERNS.—On May 20, 1906, the wife of W. Katterns, a son. Both doing well.
- McGOWAT.—On May 15th, at Macky-street, Thames, the wife of John George McGowat, of Auckland, a son. Both doing well.
- BEACH.—At Auckland, to Mr and Mrs W. T. Beach, a daughter; both doing well.
- SMYTH.—On Monday, May 28, 1906, at her residence, Auckland, the wife of Robert S. Smyth of a son.

MARRIAGES.

- CROSS — FISH. — On April 23th, 1906, at the Mt. Eden Wesleyan Church, by the Rev. W. H. Tuck, Alfred Samuel Cross, youngest son of W. H. Cross, Architect, to Mabel Hannah, youngest daughter of J. H. Fish, engineer, both of Auckland. Home papers please copy.
- FRENCH — CREAMER. — On May 2nd, 1906, at St. John's Wesleyan Church, by the Rev. W. H. Tuck, assisted by the Rev. G. W. J. Spence, Charles Arthur, third son of Robert French, of Olive, second daughter of I. Hill Creamer; both of Auckland.
- KENNEDY — PEPPEP. — On April 25th, 1906, at the Hoping Hand Mission, by the Rev. Rothwell, James Albert, only son of the late George Kennedy, of Auckland, to Minnie Violet, eldest daughter of Richard Pepper, of Hastings, Hawke's Bay. Southern papers please copy.
- OSWALD — BROWN. — On April 30th, at All Saints' Church, Ponsonby, by the Rev. Aedeacon Calder, Albert Ernest, eldest son of H. G. Oswald, to Jessie, second daughter of the late Robert Brown.
- RODGERS — TILLER. — On March 28, 1906, at Auckland, by the Rev. B. F. Rothwell, David, fourth son of David Rodgers, Esq., Pine Hill, Paumotu, Bay of Islands, to Mabel Rebecca, youngest surviving daughter of Captain Josiah Tiller, Coronandel.
- SOPPET — THOMPSON. — On April 23th, 1906, at the residence of the bride's father, Auckland, by the Rev. Joseph Clark, William Henry, youngest son of John Soppet, to Ada Florence, youngest daughter of G. A. Thompson; both of Auckland.
- TONKIN — BLOMFIELD. — On April 16, 1906, at St. John's Wesleyan Church, Ponsonby, by the Rev. J. A. Luskford, Arthur Charles Tonkin, third son of the late J. Tonkin, Paikow, Cornwall, to Olive May, eldest daughter of A. J. Blomfield, chemist, Ponsonby, Auckland.
- WALLIS — CRAWFORD. — On April 24th, at St. David's Church, by the Rev. Gray, Eliza, William Fletcher, youngest son of W. H. Wallis, of Hamilton, to Ann Elizabeth (Ann), only daughter of Captain James Crawford, Auckland.
- WARDELL — ROWE. — On March 27, by the Rev. W. W. Walker, at St. Andrew's Church, Epsom, Robert, the eldest son of Robert Wardell, to Florence, the eldest daughter of Thomas Henry Rowe, both of Epsom, Auckland.

SILVER WEDDING.

JOAN — WILCOX. — On May 21, 1881, at St. Matthew's Church, by the late Rev. Tobias, Andrew Joan to Susan Louisa Wilcox, of Auckland.

DEATHS.

- ALBERTON.—On May 18th, 1906, at Kaitiaki, Bay of Islands, Charles Alberton (I.L.M. 45th Regiment), late of Renouera; aged 98 years.
- BAILEY.—At Abbott's-rd., Mt. Eden, on the 25th May (suddenly), Christopher Bailey, in his 78th year.
- BENNINGTON.—On Saturday, May 19, suddenly killed at Mount Roskill, Leslie Arthur, the dearly beloved son of John and Ellen Young; aged 5 years.
- BRIGHAM.—On 19th May, at her late residence, "Marino," York-street, Parnell, Elizabeth Dines, the beloved wife of J. M. Brigham.

- DAVIES.—On May 25th, 1906, at her late residence, Howick, "Strawberry Hill," the beloved wife of Dr. A. J. Davies; aged 30 years.
- ISAACS.—On May 19th, at her residence, Eden Crescent, Diakon, widow of the late Edward Isaacs, in her 80th year.
- LUKE.—On Monday, May 25th (suddenly) (suddenly), the dearly beloved husband of Lucy Elizabeth Luke, of (Hathly) and Royston, Hertfordshire, England, in his 74th year.
- MCDOWELL.—On May 25th, 1906, at the Auckland Hospital, Thomas John, dearly beloved infant son of Emily Rose and the late Thomas John McDowell; aged 6 months.
- MORROW.—On May 23, 1906, at his residence, Shaddock-street, Eden Terrace, Charles James Morrow, aged 36 years, dearly beloved husband of Mary Morrow, and oldest son of the late Adam and Elizabeth Morrow, and beloved father of Adam Morrow.
- RIX.—At Lawrence, on the 20th inst., Mrs S. Rix, the beloved wife of Mr Jas. Rix, of Kaitiaki, Otago, in her 85th year. She died as she lived, true to her motto.
- SWANN.—At Cambridge, 20th May, Rosie, dearly beloved wife of Ed. Swann, and youngest daughter of James Fagan, Manungatwhiri, aged 28 years. Deeply mourned. R.I.P.
- WALKER.—At his residence, The Port, Nelson, Alexander Christie, the beloved husband of J. E. Walker; aged 46 years.

Why Sir F. Burnand Resigned.

Sir Francis Burnand, in an interesting letter to the "Observer" (England), explains the circumstances under which his resignation of the editorship of "Punch" took place.

"I had intended—but my intention was a secret from everybody save one confidant, entirely unconnected with journalism and literature," he writes—"to retire from the editorship of 'Punch' at the beginning of the next year."

"I was meditating on the question as to what time would be most convenient for my friends, the proprietors to receive from me the first intimation of my purpose—a rather delicate and difficult matter after forty-four years' service, including twenty-five years and a-half editorship—when unexpectedly, the proprietors, who had thought to be struck by the same happy thought that had occurred to me, wrote me a most laudatory expressed and kindly toned letter, anticipating my design, of which they had no knowledge, by the space of one year.

"It was in effect, 'Don't stand upon the order of your going, but go—as soon as you can conveniently manage it.'"

"The case seems to me to bear some resemblance to that of a guest in a country house who, without informing his host, has determined on leaving by a late train in the afternoon of next day, and who is somewhat upset by his hospitable host genially telling him overnight that the carriage will be ready to take him and his luggage to the station at 8 a.m. 'Breakfast 7.30 sharp, my boy!'"

"The guest demurs, but finally, falls in with his host's plan (amended by guests) of leaving at 9.30 instead of 8.0, and thereby breakfasting, rather more comfortably than he otherwise would have done, at 8.30. The guest does not 'voluntarily' select his own hour for leaving, but he does accept his host's proposal modified by the amendment.

"The mutual attachment that exists, and that has always existed, between my conferees and myself, would at any time have prevented me from severing myself from them willingly. So also, but, of course, in a slightly inferior degree, I can honestly express my good feeling towards the proprietors, much as I fancy the imaginary guest in the foregoing fable would have palliated to himself and friends the unexpected ronge given him by his genial and otherwise kindly disposed host."

BABY COVERED WITH SORES

Would Scratch and Tear the Flesh Unless Hands Were Tied—Wasted to a Skeleton—Grew Worse Under Doctors—Skin Now Clear.

WOULD HAVE DIED BUT FOR CUTICURA

"My little son, when about a year and a half old, began to have sores come out on his face. I had a physician treat him, but the sores grew worse. Then they began to come on his arms, then on other parts of his body, and then one came on his chest, worse than the others. Then I called another physician. Still he grew worse. At the end of about a year and a half of suffering he grew so bad I had to tie his hands in cloths at night to keep him from scratching the sores and tearing the flesh.

"He got to be a mere skeleton, and was hardly able to walk. My Aunt advised me to try Cuticura Soap and Ointment. So great was her faith in them that she gave me a small piece of Soap to try and a little of the Ointment. I took it home without any faith, but to please her I tried it, and it seemed to dry up the sores a little.

"I sent to the drug-store and got a cake of the Soap and a box of the Ointment and followed the directions, and at the end of about two months the sores were all well. He has never had any sores of any kind since.

"He is now strong and healthy, and I can say that only for the Cuticura Remedies my precious child would have died from those terrible sores. I used only one cake of Soap and about three boxes of Ointment. Mrs. Egbert Sheldon, Woodville, Conn., April 22, 1905."



The original of the above testimonial is on file in the office of the Foster Drug & Chemical Corporation, 117 Broadway, New York, N. Y. Complete External and Internal Treatment for every form of Skin Disease, from Itch, to Eczema, to Acne, consisting of Cuticura Soap, Ointment, and Resolvin Pills (if these are used in trial of Ointment, be sure to get the Genuine, and not a cheap copy. Sole Proprietors, Foster Drug & Chemical Corp., 117 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

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