

Stamp Collecting.

BY PHIL ATELIC.

Mafeking War Stamps.

In the annual report the Postmaster-General of the Cape gives an interesting account of the special issue of stamps during the siege of Mafeking. After referring to the well known causes of the stamps being issued, the report concludes:—

It is evident from specimens which have from time to time been submitted to this department that extensive forgeries of the overprinted stamps have taken place; the fraud consisting in the unofficial overprinting, surcharging, and, in many cases, the date-stamping of genuine Cape Colony stamps. The matter was taken up by the police authorities, but up to the present it has not been possible to bring the charge home to the perpetrators.

The following is a list of the stamps overprinted and the quantities issued:

Face value, 1d; description, Cape of Good Hope (old design), overprinted and surcharged "Mafeking 1d. Besieged"; number issued, 7680.

Face value, 1d; description, Cape of Good Hope (new design), overprinted and surcharged "Mafeking 1d. Besieged"; number issued 5280.

Face value, 1d; description, Great Britain overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate"; surcharged and overprinted "Mafeking 1d. Besieged"; number issued, 6000.

Face value, 1d; Great Britain, overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 3d. Besieged"; number issued 1800.

Face value, 1d; Great Britain, overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and surcharged "Mafeking 3d. Besieged" (smaller type); number issued, 1800.

Face value, 1d; Cape of Good Hope, overprinted and surcharged "Mafeking 3d. Besieged"; number issued, 6000.

Face value, 2d; Great Britain, overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 6d. Besieged"; number issued 1200.

Face value, 2d; Great Britain, overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 6d. Besieged" (smaller type); number issued, 1200.

Face value, 3d; Cape of Good Hope, overprinted "Mafeking 6d. Besieged"; number issued, 840.

Face value, 3d; British Bechuanaland (lilac series), overprinted "Mafeking 6d. Besieged"; number issued, 3000.

Face value, 3d; Great Britain overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and Mafeking 6d. Besieged"; number issued, 1440.

Face value, 4d; Great Britain overprinted "British Bechuanaland" and "Mafeking 1/2. Besieged"; number issued, 2320.

Face value, 4d; Cape of Good Hope overprinted "Mafeking 1/2. Besieged"; number issued 1440.

Face value, 6d; Great Britain overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 1/2. Besieged"; number issued 240.

Face value, 6d; description, Great

Britain overprinted "British Bechuanaland" and "Mafeking 1/2. Besieged"; number printed, 1440.

Face value, 1/; description, Great Britain overprinted "British Bechuanaland" and "Mafeking 2/2. Besieged"; number issued, 570.

Face value, 3d; description, local postage stamp with photograph of Lieut.-General Baden-Powell's bust (small size); number issued, 6072.

Face value, 3d; description, local postage stamp with photograph of Lieut.-General Baden-Powell's bust (large size); number issued, 3036.

Face value, 1d; local postage stamp with photograph of Sergeant-Major Goodyear on bicycle; number issued, 9476.

+ + +

"Iric-a-Brac" states that the first stamps to be issued by the Government bearing the imprint of King Edward VII. will be a complete set for use in the Transvaal. The pattern is understood to be a profile of His Majesty on a background of deep carmine.

+ + +

The 1, 2, and 5 dollar United States have been surcharged "Philippines."

+ + +

Transvaal 2d, cream and green, have been surcharged "E.R.L. Half-penny."

Incidents and Accidents on Last Coronation Day.

Queen Alexandra's coronation robes will, it is expected, soon be in course of preparation.

So many years have passed since a Queen Consort was crowned that records and precedents have had to be consulted in regard to the type of robe a Queen Consort must wear.

Quite recently the robes of Queen Adelaide, Consort of William IV.,

were brought up from Scotland for the Queen's personal inspection. These robes, which are of black velvet trimmed with gold, with large sleeves, became a perquisite of the Duchess of Gordon, who was Mistress of the Robes in 1831.

They were kept for some years at Gordon Castle, and afterwards at Huntly Lodge, and when the Duchess died she left them as an heirloom to her relative, Brodie of Brodie. The robes have since been preserved at Brodie Castle.

The eight ladies who attended to bear Queen Victoria's train at her Coronation were dressed in white silk with pink roses.

The Coronation procession left Buckingham Palace at 10 a.m., and reached Westminster Abbey at 11 o'clock.

One of the traces of the carriage broke on the way.

The ruby Coronation ring had by mistake been made to fit the little finger, but the Archbishop insisted that it must be put on the next. The finger was so swollen after the ceremony that it had to be bathed in iced water before the ring could be removed.

When the Crown was placed on the Sovereign's head, the peers and peeresses put on their coronets, the bishops their mitres, and the heralds their caps.

Returning to the palace, Queen Victoria wore her Crown, and all Royalties, peers and peeresses, taking part in the procession, their coronets.

The Coronation, and the various ceremonies connected with it, lasted nearly five hours.

Thousands of people waited in the streets of London the whole of the preceding night, so that they might be quite certain of getting a good view of the procession.

Her Majesty presented an altar-cloth to the Abbey, and an ingot of gold to the Archbishop.

The Prime Minister, Lord Melbourne, presented the Sword of State to Her Majesty, and then, according to custom, redeemed it with a hundred shillings.

A Coronation fair was held in Hyde Park, which lasted four days. Theatres in London were thrown open free, and all the schools were closed.

Paris
Exhibition 1900
British Awards.

The ONLY
Grand
Prix
for
Toilet
Soap

The Highest Award for Toilet Soap at the Paris Exhibition, in 1889, was a Gold Medal, and the only one awarded *solely* for Toilet Soap was gained by

Pears

Again, at the 1900 Exhibition at Paris, The Highest Award obtainable for anything is the GRAND PRIX, and that also has been awarded to Messrs. Pears and is the *only one* allotted in Great Britain for Toilet Soap.