

they were doing, and I took them and left town with ninety-eight sets of these stamps a face value of \$18,314.14. In other words my friend kept two sets and gave me the balance. The authorities sent him one hundred sets instead of one for his money.

"I immediately sent them out, or most of them, around the country to my stamp customers, but I hadn't more than done so when the mistake was discovered and they were after me, and the Assistant Postmaster himself caught me in Quincy. Just as soon as I found that he was to be held for them I assured him, of course, that he would get them all back or their equivalent. But either he wasn't satisfied or for some other reason I was nabbed in Kansas City, by an Inspector, and asked to turn over the stamps, which I refused to do, but agreed to make it good to my friend from whom I had received the stamps. That evening there came trooping up to my hotel, the Chief Inspector, his Assistant, and the United States Marshall, with a writ of replevin and a summons that Wm. McKinley, President of the United States, commanded my appearance in the United States Federal Court, for wrongfully and illegally taking away from me — P. O., ninety-nine sets of Newspaper stamps to the value of \$495.00, etc. They didn't get any of them, however, but as I tell you, Doc., I had felt before, it wasn't exactly right to keep the stamps, and have made it good to the satisfaction of all concerned.

"I admit right here I was hasty in taking them in the first place and should not have done so. But I felt this way, perhaps the Government are going to sell these stamps at any old price; they represent nothing of value to the Government: they are not redeemable: they are, in fact, only worthless bits of paper, and it is still a question before the law if I could be held liable for the fictitious value placed on them by the United States authorities, with the circumstances under which they came into my possession."

Recent Philippine Surcharges.

Madrid Filatelico presents in its most recent number a reproduction of an entire sheet of surcharges of the 1897 issue which is indeed wonderfully and fearfully made. The sheet is composed of the 25c. brown stamps of the 1890 issue, which were surcharged with various values in 1897. This particular sheet shows a number of inverted surcharges, the varieties being mixed on every line. The sheet is composed of the following:

| |
|---------------------------------------|
| 58 stamps with surcharge 20 centavos. |
| 12 " " " 20 " inverted. |
| 10 " " " 15 " |
| 10 " " " 5 " |
| 10 " " " telegraph surcharge. |

The *American Journal of Philately* surmises that this sheet is in the nature of a trial. Let us hope it may prove to be so and that the trial has been confined to one sheet.

British Guiana.

MR. B. O. SMITH, an employee of the Post Office, has sent the *American Journal of Philately* a number of varieties of the recent surcharges—2c. on 10c. and 2c. on 15c., indicating the quantities issued of each kind.

| | No. issued. |
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| 2c. on 10c., inverted surcharge, | 60 |
| Small "E" in "CENTS," | 500 |
| No period and narrower "C" in "CENTS," | 1,600 |
| "GENTS," instead of "CENTS," | |
| no period after "CENTS," | 500 |
| 2c. on 15c., comma between "T" and "S" in "CENTS," | 2,000 |
| Dash between "2" and "CENTS," | 2,000 |
| Comma between "N" and "T" of "CENTS," | 1,800 |
| Double surcharge, | 50 |
| No period after "CENTS," | 2,100 |

