

THE
AUCTION —
— EPITOME,
1888-1889,

BY
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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC
UNION.

ENTERED STATIONERS' HALL.

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AUCTION EPITOME FOR 1889,

COMPILED BY

S. C. SKIPTON,

Assistant Secretary of the International Philatelic Union,

BEING

An Index to the Auction Catalogues

GIVING

THE PRICES REALIZED

AND A LIST OF VARIOUS

ERRORS, CURIOSITIES, ETC.



WM. BROWN,

*WHOLESALE AND RETAIL FOREIGN STAMP
MERCHANT,*

115, CASTLE STREET, SALISBURY,

ENGLAND.

1890.



PREFACE.



This Epitome was compiled for my own private use, and it was at the request of Mr. Brown, that it has been published.

It has been looked through by Mr. Garth, and several suggestions of his have been carried out. Still I am afraid there are mistakes and omissions, which I hope will be overlooked.

Next year I hope, all being well, that the Epitome will be ready earlier.

S. C. SKIPTON.



INTRODUCTION.



It will probably be well known to many who peruse this little work that Auction Sales of Postage Stamps and Envelopes were (with one previous exception in 1872) first introduced at the latter end of 1868. The scheme was proposed by MR. DOUGLAS GARTH in a letter published in the *Philatelic Record* of August in that year, and the first Sale by Auction was held in November following, under his direction and at his financial risk.

His choice of an Auctioneer was not an easy matter, as considerable Philatelic experience was absolutely essential to the proper guidance and conduct of a regular series of such Sales in the future, especially having regard to the extreme importance of accuracy in cataloguing the specimens submitted for Sale.

The selection of MR. THOMAS BULL of the firm of MESSRS. VENTLOW, BULL, AND Co., has proved a remarkably happy one, and although one or two rival Auctioneers have, as was to be expected, entered into friendly competition with him, and held periodical intervening Sales, by far the most important of the collections and specimens which have come into the market have been sold under MR. BULL's hammer.

The first Sale, held in Chancery Lane on the 11th November, 1868, was necessarily to some extent an experimental one, and it was found that the room selected was far from satisfactory both as regards light and accommodation. The Sale was well attended, the prices realized were on the whole good, and the general approval expressed by Philatelists in the result of the trial fully convinced the Auctioneer that he might with confidence carry MR. GARTH's scheme of periodical Sales through the winter months into effect. He carefully studied the defects above referred to, and noted several inconveniences which were apparent especially in the mode of showing the specimens at the time of Sale, and the second Sale held at The Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, on the 19th January, 1869, shewed a marked improvement in such matters of detail.

The room selected at the Mart is admirably adapted for the purpose, and has almost invariably been utilised in subsequent Sales. Large windows at each end of the room give ample light, and the arrangement of benches facing each other at right angles to the Auctioneer's desk affords facilities for showing the specimens as each Lot is put up for Sale. The exhibition of the specimens in each Lot is now made in a glass hand case, which precludes any handling of the stamps at the time of Sale, but gives ample opportunities of view. Thorough examination of the specimens is of course allowed on the day before the Sale, under the supervision of the Auctioneer or his Assistants.

The principal Collections which have been sold under the hammer of MR. BULL are those of the late MR. SHEPHERD, DR. HOUSON, of Australia, and a portion of MR. CASTLE'S Collection; and he has also disposed of many small lots of extreme rarities entrusted to him. The amount realized at his Sales has reached a daily average of £514.

Other Sales have been conducted by MR. CHEVELKY, of Abergavenny, and by MR. DAVIES of the firm of MESSRS. PHILLIPS, LEA, AND DAVIES, of London, and the first-named gentleman has been extremely successful, although his Sales have not at present included objects of so important and interesting a character as it has fallen to the lot of MR. BULL to offer.

The total amount realized at the first nineteen Sales has been £11,913. of which MR. CASTLE'S Collection contributed £1,550. These figures include Lots bought in by the Vendors on some few occasions, but not Lots on which a reserve was declared and not reached. The largest amount realized in one day was £850, namely on the 3rd March, 1909.

As a rule Lots have been sold without reserve, the main exception being at the third Sale when a reserve was named by the Auctioneer on each Lot, a system which, while it certainly saved time, prejudiced the disposal of the Lots to some considerable degree and found little favour.

If the Sales have had no other use they have brought both Dealers and Collectors into personal acquaintance with each other, and promoted intercourse between Philatelists, to, I would submit, their mutual advantage. Most of the principal Dealers and London Collectors are regular attendants at the Mart. Amongst the former I may mention Messrs. Wilson, Phillips, Buhl, and Giwelb, who have during the year had many sharp tussels in their competition for rarities, also Messrs. Ginn, W. Brown, Caff, Brozman, and many others, including Mr. Calman, of America, and Messieurs Barbarin and Astruc, of Paris, who have occasionally put in an appearance. Amongst Collectors the faces of Messrs. Philbrick, Tapling, Garth, Bacon, Castle, Thornhill, Colman, MacKenzie, Elett, Evans, and Herr Von Ferrary have been prominent.

In conclusion, I will only briefly draw attention to the special rarities which have been offered at these Sales during the past year, viz.: The British Guiana, in Sales II., V., VIII.; The Mauritius, in Sale IV.; The Swiss, in Sale VIII.; and the Colonial Stamps in MR. CASTLE'S Sale. The highest individual price realised was £50 for the 4c. blue, 1856, provisional British Guiana, unused.



LIST OF THE SALES.



REFERENCE NUMBER.	DATE.	AUCTIONEER.	TOTAL REALISED.	REMARKS.
I.	November 11th, 1888.	Mr. T. Bull ...	£409 2 0	Promoted by Mr. Garth & members, P.S.
II.	January 19th, 1889.	Mr. T. Bull ...	£780 4 6	
III.	February 16th ...	Mr. S. Neville...	£397 18 0	A Collection Catalogued by Mr. Phillips, of Birmingham.
IV.	March 2nd ...	Mr. T. Bull ...	£348 16 6	
V.	March 16th ...	Mr. T. Bull ...	£513 2 0	Mr. Shepherd's Collection.
VI.	March 23rd ...	Mr. Davies ...	£456 18 0	Instructed by Messrs. Cheveley & Co.
VII.	March 30th ...	Mr. T. Bull ...	£671 9 0	Dr. Houston's Collection and New South Wales.
VIII.	April 12th ...	Mr. T. Bull ...	£694 13 0	
IX.	April 25th ...	Mr. Davies ...	£318 7 6	Instructed by Messrs. Cheveley & Co.
X.	April 27th ...	Mr. T. Bull ...	£689 4 0	
XI.	May 2nd, 3rd, 4th ...	Mr. T. Bull ...	£1552 13 6	Mr. Castle's Collection of Colonial except Oceania.
XII.	May 29th, ...	Mr. Bailey ...	£258 13 0	Instructed by Messrs. Cheveley & Co.
XIII.	May 31st, June 1st.	Mr. T. Bull ...	£870 16 6	
XIV.	October 5th ...	Mr. T. Bull ...	£619 18 0	
XV.	November 1st, 2nd.	Mr. T. Bull ...	£338 17 0	
XVI.	November 12th, 13th.	Mr. Cheveley ...	£535 15 0	
XVII.	December 7th. ...	Mr. Davies ...	£353 14 6	
XVIII.	December 14th. ...	Mr. T. Bull ...	£736 0 0	
XIX.	December 20th, 21st	Mr. Cheveley ...	£467 1 0	

17th Sale.

GT. BRITAIN, 2d., plate 6, large crown, perf., 16, £8 18s 6d. (Ferrary).
A number of CEYLON, 1s 9d., perf., were also sold.

18th Sale.

B. GUIANA, 1856, 4c., majenta, £8 15s.
BOLIVAR, 1863, 10c., green, £3 15s.
FIJI TIMES EXPRESS (s), £10 15s. (Wilson).
MAURITIUS, Fillet, £9; 1d., Greek border, unused, £7.
N.S.W., laureated, sheet of 50, 8d., blue proofs, £20; 5d., imperf., pair, unused,
£7 15s.
PERU, medio peso, rose, +13, £13 10s.
PHILIPPINES, 1854, 1r., slate blue, error; CORROS, unused, £8 10s.
Also several 1d. BAHAMAS, imperf., unused.
COLLECTIONS, 1d., G. BRITAIN, plate numbers, £7 10s. AUSTRALIA,
528, £13 10s.; 209, U.S.A. and CANADA, £27; PERU, 100, surcharges,
£7 7s; AUSTRALIA, 1528, £13.

19th Sale.

B. GUIANA, 1856, 4c., carmine, £10 10s.
BUENOS AYRES, 4p., red, unused, £11 15s.
MAURITIUS, Fillet, £8 10s.
NATAL, 1st issue, 1s., £5.
RUSSIAN LOCALS, 263, £5 5s.
VICTORIA, 2d. on throne, plate of 50, engraved, £7.
N.S.W., laureated, 2d., unused, sheet of 50, £17 10s. (Brown).
VICTORIA, beaded, oval, 4d., pair, imperf., £7.



- LEVANT, VIII., 178; X., 136-8.**
LIBERIA, I., 173; V., 165; VII., 194; IX., 82-4; XVI., 126; XIX., 120.
LIVONIA, II., 164-5; X., 129-32; XII., 66; XIV., 126; XV., 296; XVI., 127.
LUBECK, I., 16, 174; II., 14; III., 234; V., 166-70; IX., 85; XVIII., 132; XIX., 131.
MACAO, I., 175-6; II., 156; V., 172-3; XV., 297; XVI., 129.
MADAGASCAR, X., 134; XVI., 130
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MECKLENBURG SCHWERIN, II., 14, 16-20; III., 147; V., 37-8; VI., 84; VIII., 293; IX., 89-93; XIV., 135-7; XV., 316; XVI., 143; XVIII., 156-7; XIX., 141-2.
MEXICO, I., 194-7; II., 171-6; III., 148-59; IV., 129-32; V., 151-7; VI., 155-6, 185-92; VIII., 105; IX., 94-101, 145; X., 135-140b.; XII., 76-81; XIII., 498; XIV., 138-154; XV., 79-87 317, 327, 262lm.; XVI., 113, 145-6; XVII., 130-7; XVIII., 148-55, 301; XIX., 143-8, 338-42.
GUADALAJARA, I., 196-7; II., 173-5; III., 156-7; IV., 130-2; V., 157; VI., 155-6; VIII., 105; X., 137-40; XIV., 154; XV., 82, 317; XVI., 113; XVIII., 154-5; XIX., 144.
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MONTEVIDEO (see Uruguay).
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NABHA, XI., 428; XIX., 263.
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NATAL, I., 202; II., 179-82; III., 160-1; IV., 134-42; V., 164; VI., 195-6; VII., 43-5; VIII., 107-12; IX., 106-8; X., 220-1; XI., 205-34; XII., 83-6; XIII., 155-8; E., 321-3; XIV., 156; XV., 320-4, 262p.; XVI., 161-3; XVII., 139-40; XVIII., 159-60; XIX., 152-7.
NEVIS, II., 184; III., 162; IV., 213-4; V., 165; VII., 197; IX., 109-14; XI., 282-7; XII., 87-8; XIII., 223, 327-9; XIV., 225-6; XV., 80-3; XVI., 164-5; XVII., 174; XVIII., 185, 295; XIX., 158-9.
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NEW SOUTH WALES, I., 207-35; II., 195-205; III., 170-204; IV., 153-206; V., 170-9; VI., 204-18; VII., 48-190; VIII., 118, 139-54; IX., 121-36; X., 162-219, E.; XII., 90-3; XIII., 164-206, 330-90, 453, E., 600, 518-20; XIV., 164-215; XV., 93-127, 135j.v., 262a., 236, 329-68; XVI., 181-90, 381; XVII., 148-61; XVIII., 168-84; XIX., 165-70, E.
NEW ZEALAND, I., 236; II., 207-9; III., 205-10; IV., 207-12; V., 189-5; VI., 220-2; VII., 198-203; VIII., 166-71; IX., 136-42; X., 229-31; XII., 96; XIII., 391-5, E.; XIV., 219-23; XV., 135a., 356, 364-71; XVI., 192-201; XVII., 162-73; XVIII., 188-90; XIX., 171-7.
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PART II.

PRICE LIST

Giving the prices that the various Stamps fetched.

In a few cases where very many of the same Stamps were sold, only the highest and the lowest amounts realized are given, together with the average.

In other cases all the prices are given in order—first sale, first ; last sale, last.

The prices of miscellaneous lots or lots not fully described are not given, otherwise the List is, I believe, complete.

When lots with a reserve failed to obtain a bid, they are omitted as a rule, a few however are mentioned, as (50s. reserve).

Unless mentioned with a * Stamps are used.

ABBREVIATIONS.

* unused ; † on original envelopes ; § on part of original envelopes ; p., pair ; b., block ; figures in (), number of specimens of the particular Stamp ; perf., perforated ; imperf., imperforated ; roul., rouletted ; wmk., watermark.

AFGHANISTAN (unused).

1871, 8a., mauve, 5s.

1876, 8a., purple 3s.

1872, 8a., 23 1s.

1874 (1291), 4, 8, 16a., 22a. ; 8, 16a., black, 22a. ; 4a., mauve, 14a.

1876, set of 5, 12a., 20a. ; 1a., eleven various colours, 18a.

1876, small size, slate grey, sheet of 40, 27a. ; red-violet, 1a., sheet of 25, 17a.

1872, 1a., sheet of 15, 30a.

1870, 1, 2, 4a., 53a. ; 2a., 12a.

1872, 1a., seven shades and types, 18a.

1873, 1a., no corner ornaments, 15a. ; 8a., 15a.

ANTIGUA (unused).

6d. (the supposed no wmk.) (block 60), 44a. ; (b. 12), 25a. ; (b. 8), 5a.

PERSIA.

1881, Litho, 25c., green, *24s.

PERU.

1858, mediopeso, yellow, 40s., 24s., 65s., 35s., *42s., *20s., 47s. 6d., §52s. 6d.

„ mediopeso, rose, £20, £13, £13, £10.

„ mediopeso, yellow, surch. in blue, 4r., 90s.

1862, 1d., red, arms in centre sideways, 6s.

Surcharged stamps, 50c., pink, Chili Arms inverted, 6s.

„ „ unpaid set of 5, triangle closed, ditto, triangle open, 22s.

Arequipa, 1882-3, 25c., carmine and black, 30s. (used) *5s ; *21s. (figure inverted in left corner).

„ 1881-3, cinco soles, 10s. ; ditto yellow, 10s.

„ 1881-2, surch. 1883, 25c., yellow, 10c., blue, 20s.

1881-2, 25c., carmine, surch. Puno, 10s. (used), ditto not surch. Puno, *15s. (b. 4).

PHILIPPINES.

1854, 5c., orange, 21s., 26s., 30s., 34s., 55s., 30s.

„ 10c., 36s., 42s., 30s., 23s., 20s.

„ 1r., blue, *12s., 14s., *32s., *31s. 6d. (p.), 20s., 28s. (p.) ; CORREOS, 70s.,
*£8 10s.

„ 2r., green, 30s., *36s., 14s., *20s.

„ 1r., 2r., 37s. ; 10c., 1r., 2r., *35s. ; 10c., 2r., 28s. ; 5c., *10c., *10c., *1r., *2r.,
*£5 5s.

„ 1r., blue, surcharge, H. P. I. N., *57s. 6d., 46s.

1855, 5c., red, 27s., 21s., 48s., 22s., 32s.

1859-63, 1r., violet, *51s., 36s. ; surcharged, *36s., 32s.

„ 2r., blue, *26s., *45s., 30s. ; surcharged, 23s.

„ 5c., sheet of 56, *90s. ; double lined frame, *20s. (b. 4), *15s. (b. 4).

„ 1r., green (2), *7s. ; 5c., 2r., *34s. ; 10c., *2r., 26s.

„ 10c., surcharged, *12s. (b. 6) ; *14s. (strip of 3).

1881-89, Provisionals, U. N. R. in green on 8c., brown ; U. N. R. in green on 10c., *brown,
16s.

„ „ D. O. S. R. in black on 250m., blue, *21s. ; U. N. R. in red on 1p.,
green, 18s., 20s.

„ „ 2r. in red on 2r., blue, *40s. ; 1r. in red on 12½c., blue
(*25s. reserve).

„ „ 20c. in yellow on 250m., blue (45s. reserve) ; 1r. in red on
10p., brown (*60s. reserve).

„ „ 20c. in black, U. N. R. in red on 250m., blue, ditto U. N. R.
inverted, 20s.

„ „ 20c. on 8c., brown, ditto surch. inverted (40s. reserve), 10s.

„ „ 20c. on 8c., brown, surch. inverted 11s. ; 1r. on 1p., green,
1r. on 10p., brown, *34s.

„ „ 1r. in black on 12½c., blue, 1r. in red on 12½c., blue, 9s.

„ „ 12c. in black on 25m. (b. 100), *23s. ; ditto in blue (b. 100),
*21s.

„ „ 2c. on 2½c. (b. 28), *9s. ; 2c. on 200m. (b. 27), *16s.

POLAND.

Local envelope for Warsaw, entire, small size, 8s. 6d.

PORTO RICO.

1881, Set of 14, *4s.

LIST OF UNCATALOGUED STAMPS, CURIOSITIES, ETC.,

OFFERED FOR SALE BY AUCTION, 1888-9.

The Catalogues I have taken as my standards are Evan's "Handbook," "The Stamps of Oceania," and "The Stamps of Spain," the two latter the publications of the Philatelic Society.

No doubt many of the Stamps following will be found in other Catalogues, as Pemberton's, Lockyer's, Moen's, etc., or scattered through the various Philatelic Journals.

I am sorry I cannot give a List of the Shanghai (inverted surcharges) and the Transvaal, of Sale XI., but unfortunately I lost my notes of these.

I am afraid the List is rather bare, and at the same time not very complete; still, I hope it may prove in some degree interesting to those who may make Errors and Curiosities their hobby, and enable them to look out for some they knew not of. Anyhow, here it is, with all its imperfections.

The prices have not been given, as so many were sold with other Stamps in a lot.



- ANTIOQUIA, 1883, 10c., red, tête bêche.
- " 1886, error, 50c. on plate of 10c., red on buff.
- AZORES, 1868, 20r., perf., surcharge, inverted.
- " 1876, 15r., ditto.
- " 1883, 2½r., small type "
- " 1884, 25r., brown, small type, **ACOPES**.
- BAVARIA, unpaid, 3k., perf., on wove paper.
- BELGIUM, 1833, 1c., **BELGIQUE**.
- " " 5c., **BEIGIQUE**.
- BERMUDA, 1d., rose, imperf.

- NEPAUL, blue, tête bêche.
- NEVIS, imperf., 1d. on blue, 1d. on white.
- „ ½d. on ½ 1d., double surcharge, in violet.
- NEW BRUNSWICK, 12½c., blue, imperf. (proof ?).
- NEWFOUNDLAND, 5c., black, perf., 14.
- NEW or BOER REPUBLIC, 3d., 4d., lilac on yellow, embossed arms, reversed.
- NEW SOUTH WALES, 1870, 2d., large, N.S.W. wmk., imperf.
- NEW ZEALAND, 1d., wmk., star, imperf., bright orange.
- NORTH BORNEO (British), 1c. on sheet of 4c., rose.
- NOWANUGGUR, ½a., blue, tête bêche, imperf. and perf.
- ORANGE FREE STATE, postcard, provisional, 1d., black on rose.
- PARAGUAY, 1881, 10c., green, imperf.
- PERAK, one cent. on 2c., pair, surcharge inverted on one.
- PERU, 1c., green, triangle, double surcharge.
- „ 50c., rose, surcharged, Chili Arms, inverted.
- „ 1s., blue, horseshoe, in black; Chili Arms, in red, inverted.
- „ provisional, 1881-2, Gothic, 25c., carmine, figure 2 in left upper corner, inverted.
- PHILIPPINES, provisionals, inverted surcharges 20c. on 8c., 1r. in black on 12½c.
- „ 12c. on 25m., pair, surcharge on one, inverted.
- „ 1r., in red, 20c., in black, on 250m., ditto red, surcharge, inverted.
- (For a complete list of provisional surcharges see "Stamp News," Jan., 1890.)
- PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLE, imperf., 2d., 3c., 4c., 6c.
- „ „ „ 9d., pair, imperf. vertically.
- QUEENSLAND, 1882, 1d., brown.
- REUNION, 40c., eagle, surcharged 52c., ditto 5c., inverted.
- ROUMANIA, 1862, 6p., strip of three, double tête bêche + † +
- „ 1869, 50b., blue, no centre.
- „ 1876, 5c., blue, error, imperf. (proof ?).
- „ 1876, 5b., olive brown, printed on both sides (Moens).
- SANDWICH ISLES, 1853, 13c., surcharged 5.
- „ „ 1863, figure, 1c., black on yellow.
- SHANGHAI, 1st issue, 12c., brown (described as error by Mr. Castle).
- „ „ 6c., red (for 16c.)
- „ „ 2c., spelt CANDAREE S (N not printed).
- „ 1866, 2, 4, 8, 16c., perf. 13 (Pemberton, Evans, perf. 13).
- „ 1873, 1c. on 4c., grey, surcharge inverted.
- SIAM, 2 types of the 1 tical, on blue.
- ST. VINCENT, 1d., wmk. star, pair, imperf. horizontally.
- SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1869, 1d., pair, rosetted all round, imperf. between.
- „ „ 1869, 1d., pair, large perf. all round, small perf. between.
- „ „ 1867, 4d., small perf. on 3 sides, large perf. on the 4th side.
- SPAIN, 1856, 4 CUAPTOS.
- „ 1856, 4c., pelure paper.