

Indian Philatelist

Vol. 1. No. 1. Aug 1920.



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THE INDIAN PHILATELIST

An Independent Monthly for all classes of Philatelists devoted entirely to the Hobby. No dealer has any interest, voice, or control in its Publication. World-wide circulation.

EDITOR: Y. RAMA SESHAYYA, B.A.,
MAMBALAM, (P. O. SAIDAPET),
Madras, (INDIA).

Subscription, 4/-
(Rs. 2)
per annum.

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Vol. I.

AUGUST 1920.

No. I.

BRITISH COLONIALS.

We have a fine stock of Colonials, including many old issues, used and mint, in pairs, blocks etc., Send for our price-list, 1/1d. post free. We have also a fine stock of Foreign Stamps. Any stock book which may interest you can be forwarded on application. Persons unknown to us should furnish usual references.

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"	" Re. 1, Rs. 2, Rs. 3, Rs. 5	...	...	34/6
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"	" Block of 4	...	...	20/-
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	and many others.			

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A Free Advertisement of 16 words with address is given once to all subscribers. Rates for renewals and for non-subscribers:—

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All payments should be made in cash only, either by Money Order, or Postal order or Draft etc. Stamps are not accepted in payment.

Exchange desired with British Colonials only. I require good specimens catalogued over 6 d. for Indian High values, Ceylons, Straits, and others. Basis: Gibbons.

E. BETREEN, East Parade,
1-Dec. '20. ST. THOMAS MOUNT: (INDIA.)

For Sale:—Mint "G. E. A." I. c.—25. c., 2/6 d.; I. c.—50. c., 3/6 d.;

"East Africa" also same price. East African agent for "The Indian Philatelist," and for "Hemming's Stamp News" 9 d. a year (six numbers).

G. B. TALBOT (J. P. S.), P. O. Naivasha,
2-Oct. '20. BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

Exchange desired with beginners in all countries. No Catalogue basis. Send some of yours, and receive same number from me.

A. SRINIVASAN, Mambalam,
3-Oct. '20. P. O. Saidapet, MADRAS, INDIA.

Exchange wanted with collectors and dealers of all countries. Send 500-1000 mixed Stamps of your country and others; and in exchange I send you 500-1000 mixed Stamps of Peru and other South Americans. Exchange also on catalogue basis: Gibbons, Scott, Senf, and Yvert. References:—the Editor "The Indian Philatelist," and best references in Europe.

JULIO. L. RACHITOFF,
4-Oct. '20. Apartado, 1083, Lima, (PERU.)

Exchange wanted with collectors any-where but British and French colonials. Preferred. War, Armistice, New Europe, Aerial Post and new issues. Basis, Gibbons 1919. Register sendings.

J. ROBERTSON: P. O. Box 5826,
5-Oct. '20. JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA.

Beginners, send postage 2d. (Foreign 3d.) for 25 to 30 different common Asiatics. I have an accumulation, and I give them free to beginners sending postage.

Y. RAMA SESHAYYA,
Mambalam, P. O. Saidapet,
6-Sep. '20. MADRAS, (INDIA.)

Exchange desired with Ceylon, Straits and South Africa. Basis: Yvert.

F. de SALES SOUZA, Box 69,
1-Aug. '20. L. LOURENÇO MARQUES,
(Portuguese, EAST AFRICA.)

Desires exchange relations with serious Collectors. I offer Stamps of Chili, Peru, and Bolivia. Rare for rare. Basis, Yvert, Gibbons. I do not send first. Register all sendings. Reference:—the Editor "The Indian Philatelist."

ENRIQUE de la FUENTE R.,
8-Nov. '20. Casilla, 3074, Valparaiso, (CHILE.)

Exchange desired with serious collectors. I give Roumania, new issues, occupations, etc., etc. I exchange Stamps to the value of Fr. 300.00 to Fr. 1000.00 at a time. Basis Yvert. Rare for rare, and common for common. Selections below Fr. 300.00 not desired.

J. ODOR, No. 8, Rue Tudor Vladimirescu,
9-Aug. '20. BUCAREST (ROUMANIA.)

Exchange desired with British Colonies in the East. Common Stamps below 6d. catalogue Value not desired. Basis, Gibbons.

H. COOKE,
10-Sept. '20. BOX 282, KINGSTON, (JAMAICA.)

Exchange desired with medium Collectors in British West Indies, West Africa, Mauritius, French Colonies, Belgian Congo, Greece, and Crete. Basis: Gibbons, Yvert. Below £ 2 or Fr. 50.00 not desired.

Y. RAMA SESHAYYA,
MAMBALAM, P. O. SAIDAPET,
11-Oct. '20. MADRAS (INDIA.)

Exchange desired with beginners in British Colonials only.

JOHN D. THOMPSON,
P. O. Box, 49, KRUGERSDORP,
12-Sept. '20. TRANSVAAL (SOUTH AFRICA.)

Approval Selections of Stamps of Neuroppe, India, and Native States. Write for selections early.

LOUIS, E. MILLS,
8, Shalamar Road, P. O. NAULAKHA,
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14-Oct. '20. (ENGLAND.)

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TH. ALLARD,
15-Aug. '20. LIKOPING (SWEDEN.)

Exchange:—Send me 200 Stamps of your country valued as per Yvert and receive in exchange Hungary, Austria, and other Stamps of Neuroppe at the same value. Send registered.

EMIL MONORI,
Visegrad-utca, 40: BUDAPEST
16-Sept. '20. (HUNGARY.)

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F. HUGH VALLANCEY,
89, Farringdon Street, Ludgate Circus,
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46—October, '20.

The Stamp Lover.

Published Monthly on behalf of the Junior Philatelic Society.

Editor: FRED. J. MELVILLE.

Bussiness-Manager:—H. F. JOHNSON.

Subscriptions to the Junior Philatelic Society, which include the regular receipt of the Stamp Lover, should be sent to the Hon. Secretary of the Society, Mrs. H. P. Terry, 22, Kempshott Road, Streatham, London, S. W. 16. The Annual subscription is 2/6 d. entrance fee for Gentlemen over 21 years of age, 2/6 d.

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47—Oct. '20.

THE INDIAN PHILATELIST

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British East Africa:—Mr. G. B. TALBOT, PHILATELIST, Naivasha P. O.
Spain:—Sr. D. JOSE RAMON MURGA, Colon de Larreategui 3—2°, BILBAO.
South Africa:—J. ROBERTSON: P. O. Box 5826, Johannesburg.

Address all communications to:

Y. RAMA SESHAYYA, B.A.,
Mambalam, P. O. Saidapet, MADRAS (INDIA).

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Vol. I.

AUGUST 1920.

No. I.

We exchange copies, and advertising space, with all good philatelic and hobbies Journals.

All payments should be made in Cash, either by Money Order, or Postal Order, or Draft etc.,

Please send all matter for publication so as to reach us on the 1st of every month.

OURSELVES.

OWING to some unavoidable delays in the Press, and other reasons, we were not able to start the Magazine in the month of July; and we regret that all matter sent to us for insertion in the first issue has been delayed. But, from the next issue, arrangements have been made to publish the Magazine regularly on the 15th of every month. All matter for publication should reach us on the 1st of every month to be inserted in that month's issue.

CURRENT TOPICS.

Ever since the commencement of the War there has been a frequent fluctuation in the Rate of Exchange in India. The value of the £ came down from 15 Rs. to 13 Rs. 5 annas, gradually to 12 Rs. 8 annas, Rs. 10, and so on, till the lowest figure of 6 Rs. 14 annas was reached in last February with the result that the whole stock of British Postal Orders was exhausted. For the first time the Government have raised the rate of commission in the month of March, on all Foreign Mopey Orders and Postal Orders, and there have been fluctuations in that too according to the existing circumstances, till the maximum (Rs. 3 per £) was reached on the 17th of June. At present the Postal Exchange stands at 10 Rs. a £, with a commission

of 1 Re. 8 annas; and the Bank rate, roughly, between 21 d. and 23 d. (?) a Rupee.

Increased Rates of Postage.

We hear from "The Philatelic Magazine" and other sources that from the 1st of June, Postage rates in Great Britain have been raised. Great Britain. The present rates are: Inland, 2 d. for three ounces, and ½ d. for each extra ounce; British Dominions and Possessions and U. S. A. 2d. per ounce, and 1d. for every additional ounce, and so on.

We learn from "The Union Philatelist" of Johannesburg that from "the 10th May 1920, the postal rates for sealed

letters and postcards were altered as shown on the following table:—

Class of mail matter.	Old rate for Union of S.A., Bech Prot., S.W.A. Prot., Rhod. and Mozambique.	New rate for the same countries and for any part of the British Empire.
LETTERS	1d. per ½ oz.	1½d. per 1 oz.
POSTCARDS	1d. each.	1d. each.

The rates for foreign countries remain unaltered.

These charges are both cheaper and more expensive than the previous rates, since 1½d. will now carry a letter of 1 oz. in weight, where previously 2d. would have been required. On the other hand there are always more letters weighing up to ½ oz. than above ½ oz.

Owing to insufficient notice many correspondents did not put the extra halfpenny on their letters, with the result that the receivers had to pay the surcharge tax of 1d. This double and correct surcharge was in force on the 10th."

Our Spanish correspondent, Sr. D. Jose Ramon Murga, informs us that from the 15th of May the inland Postage rates in Spain have been raised "In lieu of 15 c. for inland letters, we have to pay now 20. c., and so on."

From the columns of the Philatelic Magazine, we hear about the pest of unsolicited approvals, and find a list of the parties that sent them to the editor. Recently, our friend, Mr. E. Betreen, has received from one of the parties mentioned therein a nice selection on approval worth about 1,000 to 1,500 Marks. How generous are these dealers to trust so many people in the world, with 'scraps of paper' worth thousands of Marks!

Our Australian correspondent, Mr. J. G. Murphy, writes to us:—"The Western Australians and South Australians are becoming very scarce as English and American buyers are taking them whenever any are offered. Three large collections of South Australian Stamps have recently changed hands here one at £ 1100, one at £ 1350, and one at £ 1500. Old South Australian Stamps are going up in value very rapidly and are selling at prices much in advance of catalogue rates."

Our Hungarian correspondent, Mr. Emil Monori, writes to us that since Monarchy has been restored, the Republican Stamps inscribed "Magyar Posta" would be done away with, and replaced with those inscribed "Magyar Kir Posta."

Our Hungarian correspondent, Mr. Emil Monori, writes to us that since Monarchy has been restored, the Republican Stamps inscribed "Magyar Posta" would be done away with, and replaced with those inscribed "Magyar Kir Posta." To put an end to the stamp-speculation and numerous issues, the postal authorities have decided not to prepare a new issue, but to make use of the last royal series, i.e. the "Sower and Parliament" types of 1916-17, with the same colours. The only difference would be that some values will be omitted, especially the lower values, 2, 3, 4, 6, filler, and some new values will be added while some will have colours changed, "5 filler red brown, and 10 filler violet."

Our East African correspondent, Mr. G. B. Talbot, has written to us stating that he will leave East

Africa for England by the end of this month, and that he will communicate with Mr. G.B. Talbot. us about his address after his arrival. Any persons desirous of corresponding with him may send their letters to us which will be sent to him after we hear from him.

At the time of our going to the press, we hear the sad news of the death of Mr. Henry, F. Thompson, J. P. of Chevy Chase Ranch, P. O. Shagari, S. Rhodesia, from his son Mr. J. H. F. Thompson. The deceased was a keen Philatelist, and we had pleasant and courteous exchange relations with him, and feel his loss keenly. He was one of those who rose to a good position through persistence and honest work, and is well-known in his country in connection with agriculture, and possessed about 4000 acres of land. May God grant his soul "Peace and Rest."

Obituary.

FROM HERE AND THERE.

"One of the strongest characteristics of Philately is that even though one may tire collecting and lay away his album for a year, two years, or even ten years, upon being reminded of his collection, he may bring forth his stamps, now enhanced, very probably in value, and pursue his hobby with renewed vigor," (The Collectors' Journal).

"Interesting Text Books:—A school in Italy uses Stamp Albums to teach Geography and History. Each student has his own collection, while the school owns a larger and more complete one.

The boys and girls are a great deal more devoted to their studies with such novel text books to attract and instruct them than they would be with just common pink and blue maps." (The Collectors' Journal)

"A stamp requires a combination of special conditions which have little in common with the art which produces a painting, a decoration, a statue. It is comparatively simple to astonish the natives with a canvas of 10 by 8 meters, but on 2 centimeters square, it is not so easy. Reduce the *Wedding of Cana* by Paolo Veronese or the *scare of David* to the dimensions of a stamp and see whether you can understand a single thing." (The Albemarle Stamp Collector.)

CAN POSTAGE STAMPS SPEAK?

Perhaps it may sound somewhat curious to our readers to hear that Postage Stamps can speak. When poets and philosophers are able to find "Books in running brooks," what wonder is there in the fact that Philatelists are able to hear the Stamps speak? There is no exaggeration and figure of speech in this statement. If one is keen about his collection in the proper direction, and not for mere speculative purposes of 'buying cheap and selling dear' and makes an earnest attempt to understand the Stamps well, he is sure to find that they will not only speak of the various incidents that they might have witnessed as silent spectators, but will also assist us in remembering events worthy of record, and in making life more hopeful and pleasant. To put it in plain language, just as all other things bear testimony to the work of their maker, so also Stamps possess the impress of the nation or the country to which they belong, betraying consciously or unconsciously the various state of circumstances at the time of their birth.

Entering into the Stamp-World, we find some that are modest and shy and convey their message in soft whispers, some that speak in allegories, figures, and riddles, while others proclaim to the world with a trumpet voice. Again we find some richly attired in bright dress, some adopting the motto "Costly be thy dress, but never gaudy," while there are also others dressed in rags. Next we meet with some that will bring to our memory past events, some that will tell us stories, and others with long history behind them. There are also some engaged in peaceful pursuits of agriculture, some in the busy manufactures where "Time is money," and some in state affairs collecting "War Taxes," declaring the independence of certain states, sending out contingents abroad, establishing new constitutions and so on. Further on we proceed, and in some places we hear the din of the big howitzers, and find thick columns of smoke (poison gas?), which would terrify us and wake us from our reverie and in another quarter "Peace and Prosperity" reigning. Lastly we must not forget the impostors, and forgers, who roam about in assumed airs, and borrowed feathers. In short, we find in these small pieces of paper all the activities and specimens that we find in the human society.

The "Red cross" issues of France and colonies, Dutch East Indies, and other countries, may be mentioned as the modest speakers. These are the stamps that are surcharged with only a red cross, or with a figure also by the side of the same. They make a silent appeal to our heart, bringing to our mind the events of the day, and imploring for a little kind assistance to our fellow creatures by purchasing them either at the face value, or at a little extra as per figure specified therein, as the case may be. We may also mention the "Charity Stamps" of Roumania (1905-1907), Greece (1914), Switzerland, and other countries, and the *Orphans of the war* issue of France, under this class.

Next we have the *Spinx and Pyramid of Egypt*, the *Coat of Arms of Mauritius*, the *Salt-raking and Cactus fruit* of the Turks and Caicos Islands, *Fishermen offering presents to Britannia* of Newfoundland, *Peace and Justice* of St. Vincent, the *Hermes* type of Greece, the *Sower* type of France, and a host of others that speak in allegories and figures. The *Servian Coronation issue of 1904* is the best example of those that speak in riddles. The German Colony of "Kamerun" Surcharged with "C.E.F.", "Togo" with "Anglo-French Occupation", and a number of others provide us with specimens of those that proclaim to the world with a trumpet voice. So also is the case with the *Servian issue of 1903* surcharged with the coat of arms on the face of the murdered King, Alexander; and the "Republica" Surcharged stamps of King Manoel, of Portugal and Colonies.

Our attention is next drawn towards those that are dressed in gay colours. We must be cautious about this class, for appearances are often deceptive, and should not hastily arrive at the conclusion that all these belong to higher grades of society. We must distinguish between coxcombs and those that are really worthy of the apparel that they wear. First of all we must eliminate the members of the "Seebek Society", and those issued by irresponsible Governments. These would generally be the first friends of every new-comer into the Stamp-world, and pass off for clever people till it is discovered that they have no solid worth or virtue behind them. Most of the

Twentieth Century issues of French Colonies, the Commemoratives of Roumania, Olive Blossom of Barbados, The Pitons of St. Lucia, and various others, are really specimens of exquisite workmanship, and they deserve the rich hues that they wear.

Amongst those that wear the necessary official dress with trim neatness and decency, may be mentioned those of the British Colonies, where we do not find an unnecessary display of bright colours. Under this class, we may also reckon the specimens of all those who are members of the Universal Postal Union, maintaining uniform colours, green for all those valued at about ½d., red for those at about 1 d., and blue for those at about 2½d., (To be continued.)

NEW ISSUES.

British Empire.

Bhamas:—A new series, known as the Peace Commemorative has been issued; and the values are ½d. green, 1d. red, 2d. grey, 3d. brown, and 1/- deep green. The Stamps are oblong in shape, with the profile portrait of K. G. in an oval frame with a crown over it, and the words "Peace" in small letters on either side of the Crown. The arms of the colony are in the top right-hand corner, and the value in the lower corner. Watermark, Multiple Crown and CA, perf. 14.

Cayman Islands:—A new War Stamp, the current 2d. surcharged "War Stamp 1½d." in two lines black, has been issued. (The Stamp Lover.)

Jamaica:—We learn from The Philatelic Journal "The new 10/- postage stamp of Jamaica was officially issued on May 6th. It bears a profile portrait of King George in an oval frame, supported by two winged figures, and the quaint inscription **George V of Jamaica, Supreme Lord.**"

Malta:—A new value, 3d. has been added to the series of K. G. Stamps.

Union of South Africa:—We hear that on account of the increased rates of Postage from May 10th, a new value 1½d., may be issued.

Foreign Countries.

Belgium:—has issued a Commemorative set, Olympic Games, consisting of three values, 5 c. (Discus thrower), 10 c. (Quadriga), and 15 c. (Runner); and they are sold at a premium of 5 c. each. The colours are green, red, and brown respectively.

Hungary:—Mr. Emil Monori has kindly sent us copies of the new issue 5 filler, red-brown, "Sower Type" inscribed 'Magyar Kir Posta'; and we await 10 filler violet.

Iceland:—In order to commemorate the entry of this country into the Universal Postal Union, she has issued a new series with the head of King Christian in a decorated circle with the monogram of the King in the upper corners (The Madrid Filatelic).

Montevideo:—A Commemorative issue of Jose Enrique Rodo, consisting of three values, 2, 4, and 5 centimes, has been issued for a period of 15 days.

Peru:—A new 5 centavos, with the inscription "Patria Nueva" to commemorate the Constitution of 1919, has been issued.

Spain:—Our correspondent, Sr. D. Jose Ramon Murga has informed us that 5.c, 10.c, 25.c, 50.c, and 1 Peso Stamps of Postage have been surcharged with the words "Correo-Aereo", ("Aerial-Post"); and that these are only provisional, and a special issue is in course of preparation.

VARIETIES.

Bermuda:—We thank our correspondent, Mrs. John Chiappa, for sending us 1d. "War Tax" surcharged in smaller letters than before, S. G. No. 58.

Ceylon:—Mr. G. B. Talbot has kindly pointed out to us two varieties, one with a small 'c' and the other with a larger 'c' in 3 'c' War Tax.

Jamaica:—We notice two shades of colour in the recent 1½d. Commemorative, one being deep green, and the other yellow green.

Natal:—Mr. J. D. Thompson has kindly sent us two varieties of over print "Half", one thicker than the other in Natal S. G. No. 125.

St. Helena:—Our thanks are due to Major H.G. St. G. Morgan for kindly sending us a mint block of four (with Control number 1), of S.G. No. 88. in black and pale carmine. [The catalogued variety is black and scarlet.]

Our friend, Mr. E. Betreen, has kindly shown us the following Stamps from his collection:—

- (1) Mesopotamia: ¼ Anna (IRAQ) with no tail to "Q" in the word "IRAQ".
- (2) " : ½ Anna, with broken figure of "1½".
- (3) Mosul: 1 Anna, with broken "F" in "I.E.F. 'D" as "C".
- (4) Mauritius: 2d. blue: with inverted wattermark of "Crown. C.C."

(We shall be pleased to hear from our readers any new varieties that they may come across in their Collections).

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

I. "Will you, or any of your readers please enlighten me for what special Postal purposes were the "Eight Pies," "Six annas Eight Pies," and "Nine Pies," stamps of India (Queen Victoria) were used? A. S.

"Eight Pies" and "Nine Pies" stamps were used on letters of British Soldiers in India to the United Kingdom, and "Six Annas Eight Pies" for such letters Registered which were sent via Marseilles. Full particulars concerning these can be had from "The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of British India" By L. L. R. Hausburg, and others.

REVIEWS.

[We have pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of the following Philatelic Journals, during the month of July.]

"Il Bollettino Filatelico" (15th May 1920), conducted by Signor Roberto Palmieri of Naples. It contains an interesting article by Signor Mario Robatto on the forged stamps, with special reference to certain issues of Belgium, Borneo, France, Gabon, French Guiana and others.

"Madrid Filatelico" (May 1920), conducted by Sr. D. Miguel Galvez Jimenez of Madrid. The prominent feature of it is that it is profusely illustrated, showing the various new issues of the Central European powers after the War, and the rare and early issues of Spain and Portugal.

"The Philatelic Magazine" (June 17th & July 1st 1920), edited by Mr. Albert, H. Harris of London. 'Edwardian Stamps of the British Empire' by Mr. Douglas, B. Armstrong is very instructive giving a check-list of issues under each colony; and till now the article has proceeded upto Gold Coast alphabetically. "Arms and the Postage Stamp" by Mr. A. G. Boyles has been partly published, and the rest will appear in next issues.

"The Union Philatelist" (May 1920), editor Mr. J. Robertson of Johannesburg. From the beginning this Magazine has taken an independent course in publishing articles of original research by such eminent collectors as Messrs E. Tamsen (Order of Philatelic Merit), Chas. Hand, Alec. Kaplan, N. Galli, and others. It is a very useful journal to those who wish to improve their philatelic knowledge. Happily it has chosen the right direction, and we wish it every success.

Gibbons Monthly Circular (June 1920), edited by Mr. Stanley Phillips. The article on 'Symbolism in Stamp Designs' is really instructive, and also "The 'Stunts' of Lettland." There is a just complaint against the contemporary stamp journals of the present day regarding "the absence of contributions giving the results of serious philatelic research", which should be borne in mind by the editors of all philatelic journals.

I desire exchange with Stamp collectors in all parts of India.

J. G. MURPHY, 9, John Street:
HINDMARSH, ADELAIDE,
18-Aug. '20. (AUSTRALIA.)

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"ODDS AND ENDS FROM MANY LANDS."

One often hears of quaint items from other lands which are usually worth narrating. Perhaps the country that yields the most interest in this direction is China, where the old men fly their kites whilst the children fold their arms and smoke.

The old women, instead of the young, are the idols of society.

The loftiest ambition of a Chinaman is to have a nice coffin and a grand funeral.

The boats are drawn by horses whilst the carriages move by sail.

And the dead are buried in the best parts of the land procurable.

We may say that Somoa ranks second as a country of curious customs. If there is one thing of which the Samoan boasts it is his mats, which are really excellent specimens of art; in fact the people esteem them more highly than any article of European manufacture, and the older they are the more they are regarded. The possession of a mat of extra antiquity gives its owner great power, and is a title-deed to rank and property.

When a child dies in Greenland the natives bury a living dog with it, supposedly to guide it into the other world. If

questioned about their strange custom they say: "A dog can find its way anywhere."

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(The Indian Post & Telegraph Magazine)

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36, Oct. 20.

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32 Oct. 20.

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REVISTA DU FILATELISTI D'ITALIA.

Edited by:—ROBERTO PALMIERI,

Vico Berio, 4 p. p.,
33, Aug. '20. NAPOLI (ITALY).

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