

stamp, etc. (as described above), and on the face an invitation to the conversazione of the Sydney Philatelic Society (received, alas! a few weeks too late!) signed by Mr. A. F. Basset Hull, the President, and Mr. T. H. Smyth, the Hon. Sec., and posted (*and registered!*) with the 5d. stamp itself in the latest phase of its existence. We congratulate the Sydney Philatelic Society upon its happy appreciation of this time-honoured stamp, and, with them, doubtless, we earnestly hope that the future stamps of the Australian Commonwealth may be worthy of their predecessors.

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*THE FUTURE PRINTING OF THE AUSTRALIAN STAMPS.*

**T**HE Legislative Assembly is in deadly earnest in its watchfulness of the inroads that federation has from time to time made on the prerogatives and conveniences of New South Wales, says the *Sydney Morning Herald* of 8 November, 1905. Hardly a sitting passes but a question is put to the Premier to urge him to expedite discussion on the Federal capital site. Answering one of these questions last night, he said that he had made a rejoinder to Mr. Deakin's last letter, and would give the House an opportunity at the earliest possible moment of discussing the position of the State in relation to the Commonwealth. Almost immediately afterwards Mr. W. Anderson moved the adjournment of the House, to refer to the stated intention of the Federal Government to establish a postage-stamp printing works in Adelaide. He and many members of the House, who cordially endorsed his action, based their main argument on the question of cost, and declared that the estimate of the rate that the work could be turned out at in South Australia was absurd, because it was lower than England could do the work for, and as a matter of fact it was not quite the cost of the paper on which the stamps would be printed. The Premier was very emphatic in his condemnation of the proposal, and he ridiculed the idea that the new department should be set up in the small State of South Australia, when both Victoria and New South Wales, the latter particularly, had very special facilities for doing the work. The House was agreeable to leaving the matter in the hands of the Premier.

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*BOOKS DESIRED BY THE EARL OF CRAWFORD.*

**W**E have received from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., a list of the numbers of Philatelic Journals wanting in the library of the President of the London Philatelic Society. There are no less than seventeen pages of these requirements, and some idea may be hence gathered of the colossal difficulty of forming a *complete* philatelic library. We should add that for all the journals wanted by the Earl of Crawford, K.T., offers, with the prices asked, should be made to Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.