

THE
London Philatelist:

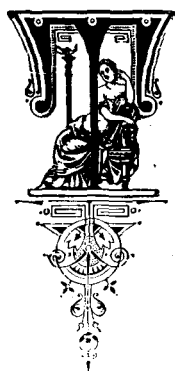
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**Bequest of Lord Crawford's Philatelic Library
to the Nation.**



THE announcement that this unique Philatelic Library has been bequeathed to the nation will be received with profound satisfaction by every one connected with the pursuit. We had ventured in our last issue to indulge in the anticipation, having some inner knowledge of the late Earl's public spirit and munificent instincts, and to many who personally knew Lord Crawford the intimation will hardly be a surprise. If it is true, as stated in the public Press, that the magnificent Lindsey Library at Haigh Hall is to be dispersed, it is another significant proof of Lord Crawford's devotion to Philately that he should have especially singled out the philatelic section for preservation.

The terms of the bequest are not yet divulged, but it is anticipated that the Library will be housed at the British Museum, and we sincerely hope that adequate provision will be made both for the proper display of the books and for the continuation of the collection. As the British Museum receives copies of all printed matter published in the United Kingdom, the latter condition should not be difficult of fulfilment. As regards the philatelic works published abroad, the continuation of Lord Crawford's system for their acquirement should entail but slight expense and labour. We trust, therefore, that the Museum authorities will see that the collection is kept up to date, so that it may remain for all time as a unique collection of philatelic literature.

This splendid bequest to the nation is only a fitting corollary to the great qualities and character of the Earl of Crawford which have done so much to elevate Philately, and have left an indelible record in the annals of the Royal Philatelic Society.

The nation has benefited by two priceless bequests from members of the Royal Philatelic Society, possessing as it does the finest public collection of stamps in the world, and the most complete library of its literature; and the outside world will recognize in these donations a vindication to the prestige and honours enjoyed by the Premier Society of Philatelists.