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***Attempt at a Bibliography of the Foreign-Language Philatelic Literature of Europe
to the End of 1891***

***[Versuch einer bibliographie der fremdsprachigen philatelistischen zeitungsliteratur
Europas bis ende 1891]***

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**ATTEMPT AT A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE FOREIGN-LANGUAGE PHILATELIC
LITERATURE OF EUROPE TO THE END OF 1891**

I published a paper under the above title in the year 1893 in **Die Postwerthzeichenkunde**, A. Larisch's journal of Munich, which has since, unfortunately, ceased publication. I may assume that this attracted quite a lot of notice and I have also found that it was the only work published on this topic for quite a considerable time. Since then John K. Tiffany, the man of letters who died far too soon and came from St. Louis in the United States of America, published a similar treatment of philatelic literature of Great Britain under the title "English Stamp Publications" in **Stamp News Annual** for 1894. I know no other work in this field worth mentioning, as far as philatelic literature of other countries is concerned.

Anyone who has tried to deal with the European specialist literature will know how exceptionally hard it is to get full and accurate data in this field. If I may assume that I have at least come near to this, I have only to thank the fact that I have not limited myself to investigating the literature, but have tried to deal with it directly, so that my own library has enabled me to check the accuracy of data supplied to me.

I know very well that there is a large number of loners and collectors of literature in Europe but very few of them make it the object of their research and none study it in the detailed, and dedicated manner as the author of these lines.

I have called my work an "attempt", by which I mean I do not look on it as finished, and recognise that my results need supplementing and correcting in many respects. Moreover if I undertake this work, I assume it will be of interest to all the people who welcomed my paper of the year 1893.

My numerous publications on the topic of philatelic literature have not, moreover, disappeared so completely within the philatelic world as one might be tempted to assume.

They have not only inspired many active collectors to set up a philatelic library, but have also moved the societies to pay more attention to their libraries, to make sure valuable items were safe, catalogue them etc. Hence the circle of those taking an interest in our specialist literature in the present day is much wider than it was in the year 1893, and there is much more justification for publishing the present work than there was in 1893.

However, I ask any respected readers of this paper who can take no interest in this article to simply pass over it and not complain to the editor because he has published an article of no interest to them instead of a scientific article on philately, since the present article represents a plus and the reader will not find that the philatelic value of this journal has been in any way reduced.

Before I go on to the actual text, I beg leave to ask every philatelist who reads these lines to check whether or not they own any older philatelic journals - German or foreign-language - even if they are only single issues, and be good enough to send them to me.

As for the supplements and corrections, I will point out that I have followed the sequence used in my 1893 article and that the Roman numerals correspond to those in the earlier article.

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In conclusion may I point out that the fifth volume of the journal **Guida Illustrata del Timbrofilo** contains not 11, but 12 issues, the last of which appeared in December 1880. I managed to get hold of this issue (12) myself not long ago.

The many supplements to the English literature can be explained by the fact that at the time when my 1893 article appeared there was chaos in the region. Even in England practically no attention was paid to the minor journals, so that even people actually working in the country had only meagre information available, most of it unreliable and some of it out and out incorrect.

Also, I have made discoveries in the older German periodical literature which have enabled me to correct some of my earlier data and I hope to report on these at another time.

END

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Please us letters and any kind of postal packet to the editor or publisher of "Austria-Philatelist" at the following address: 18 Karlsgasse, Prague.

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