

**SOETEMAN, Corneille**  
**The Corneille Soeteman Library Part III**  
**La Philatélie Corneille Soeteman, Postal Auction, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2004, Brussels, Belgium,**  
**n.pp. [1p.]**  
**{Translation of the introductory text only}**

---

Translation produced by Lucien Joel for Brian J. Birch  
33 Boar's Head Avenue, Standish, Wigan, WN6 0BH, UK  
March 2005

---

**The Corneille Soeteman Library Part III**

I herewith present the third and final part of my philatelic library.

It should not be surprising that some titles were presented for sale before, because sometimes I bought up to six copies of the same work. The very small number of unsold titles from the two previous sales are re-listed in this new catalogue.

A few totally new Sections are also presented, like thematic works, annual catalogues, newspapers and periodicals and numismatic works.

There remain no more than 600 works that never will be presented in an auction again. Piece by piece these interesting works are regrouped in several lots and made available for direct sale for attractive prices, These are mainly works of which I own several identical copies.

This means the end of a beautiful passion already replaced by two new loves which also have to do with collecting. On top of that the philatelic literature has also given me answers to the many puzzles that the science of postage stamps and postal history contains. I also found a lot of pleasure searching for and buying the works that were missing from my collection.

I also enjoyed choosing hundreds of books and having them rebound artistically by Belgian and French master binders. Skilled craftsmen are rare and in high demand. Sometimes it takes months of patience before the finished product is delivered, so it is not hard to imagine the intense joy when the end result is received.

Finally there is also the feeling of satisfaction, even though somewhat nostalgic, to leave a souvenir of my collection after thirty years of intense hunting. I hope that the three volumes that I have been able to publish will be used as a faithful guide for collectors who are just as passionate as I ever was.

Corneille Soeteman

**END**