



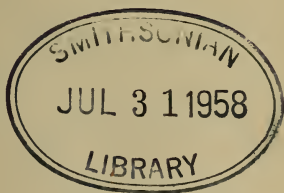
SAPPHIRE

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FEBRUARY.

1880.



E Gladly welcome the appearance of another volume of M. Moens' *Bibliothèque des Timbrophiles*, which is as carefully compiled and sumptuously printed as are its eight predecessors. The present volume treats of the stamps and envelopes of the Thurn and Taxis postal administration. An introductory historical account of the princely house of Thurn and Taxis, which is of Italian origin, tells us that its first postal venture was a post established by Count Roger I., in the Tyrol, in 1450. To his descendant, Count Francis IV., the Emperor Maximilian confided the direction not only of the posts in his own dominions, but also in those territories which he might later acquire. At the period when the Thurn and Taxis administration first issued postage stamps, although it had ceased to control the posts of Austria, Würtemberg, Holland, Saxony, and some other States, it still had the direction of those of Hesse, Saxe-Weimar, Reuss, Lippe, Saxe-Meiningen, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Schwartzburg-Rudolstadt, Nassau, Hohenzollern, Hesse-Homburg, Hesse-Darmstadt, and the free towns of Hamburg, Bremen, Lubeck, and Frankfort-on-Main. In 1867 the Prince of Thurn and Taxis ceded his rights to the administration of these posts, by treaty with Prussia, for a sum not quite equal to £500,000.

The first thing of the nature of a stamp issued by this administration was a stamped envelope, in Würtemberg, shortly prior to its relinquishing its claim to control the posts of that country for a sum of 1,300,000 florins. The use of this envelope, of the value of 1 kreuzer, was at first restricted to the city of Stuttgart, but was afterwards extended to the towns of Tübingen, Ulm, Heilbronn, Ludwigsburg, and Reutlingen. The stamps consist of the words,

Price 2d.

2s. 6d. per Annum.

Abroad, 3s.

in two lines of German type, "FRANKIRTER STADTBRIEF," printed in red within a double-lined oblong frame of the same colour, voided at the angles. The decree announcing its emission is dated the 23rd September, 1847, and that intimating its withdrawal, owing to the cession to Württemberg of the right to administer her own postal affairs, bears the date of 6th October, 1851. The first adhesive stamps were issued in 1853, and are well known to all collectors. In addition to the cost of postage from town to town, a further charge for delivery had to be taken into account and prepaid. This charge amounted to $\frac{1}{4}$ groschen (or the equivalent in kreuzers); and thus a letter, the mere postage on which amounted to $\frac{3}{4}$ silber groschen, had to be franked with a stamp of the value of 1 silber groschen. The succeeding issues were printed on white, instead of on coloured paper, because it was supposed that the process of obliteration was more successfully performed upon the former than upon the latter. Down to 1864 the stamps and envelopes were prepared at the Royal Printing Office at Berlin; and from 1865 the rouletted stamps and later envelopes were furnished by Messrs. Naumann and Dondorf, of Frankfort-on-Main. For further interesting details we must refer our readers to the work from which we have already freely borrowed.

The *Wiener Illustrierte Briefmarken Zeitung*, now in its fifth year of publication, has changed its name, with the January number, to that of *Die Weltpost*, under which cognomen we wish it every success. It appeals to the English public thus: "This gazette, which circulates in the circle of considerable persons because of its special tendency and its distinguished contents, and which has numerous subscribers in every land of the earth, suits particularly to the advertisement the most efficacious for dealers of stamps, antiquities, coins, and for such who are occupying themselves in objects of collections. The "Gazette Illustrated of Stamps," published only once a month, does not soonly disappear to the reader's eye, but, on the contrary, because of its interesting and instructive contents, it is being collected and bound, and in this manner it is used for ever as a book of reference. For that reason its advertisements produce an enduring effect." It is sad to reflect that, as compared with the *Weltpost's* English, our German is probably faulty.

We have received *The Philatelist's Gazette* for this month. Its contents, apart from a list of watermarks borrowed from Moens

and Pemberton (by a contributor whose *nom de plume* is a not unsuccessful imitation of a cough) may be roughly classed into "Comicalities!" Novelties, and Information. Under the first heading we find the following quite too brilliant scintillation: "Our new penny postage stamps are, like a warlike and brave soldier, still determined to be ready (reddy)!" As a novelty, we have the announcement of the Bosnian adhesives!! And, finally, the editor says: "We do not know the meaning of perforated 'La Susse,' unless it is meant for 'La Suisse,' which would mean the Swiss mode of perforation"!!!

Novelties, Discoveries, and Resuscitations.

Cape of Good Hope.—We are already cognisant of one error amongst the provisional 3d. stamps, which we described in December. It consists of the word three being printed thus, THE.EE. We have only seen two or three specimens, and do not know how many there may be on each sheet.

Christiansund.—We have little doubt that Messrs. Andresen and Co. sell more of their stamps to collectors than for the purpose of franking letters. They have favoured the world with a new issue of six adhesives and two post cards, which Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. have sent to us. Following the example of some of the conductors of Local posts in America, the head of the firm, we presume, has adorned the new issue with his own portrait, and he appears to have had his nose curled for the auspicious occasion. The adhesives are of one type, each value being printed in two colours. In an oval centre is the portrait, within another oval of colour, inscribed in white letters, with the words "KRISTIANSUNDS" above, and "BYPOST" beneath, a small ornament on each side separating them. Above and below the coloured oval is the value in words. To the right of the oval is "M. ANDRESEN & CO.," reading upwards, and to the left the same inscription, reading downwards. Circles of colour in the four corners bear the numerals of value in white, and the whole stamp is enframed by a single line, broken into small ornaments at the angles. The design of the post cards is not unlike the governmental ones. There are two lines of inscription—"BREV-KORT" and "PAA DENNE SIDE," &c. In the stamp we find the same portrait on solid ground of colour; but the enframing oval is white, inscribed, as in the adhesives, with coloured letters. Above is a straight label, with "M. ANDRESEN & CO.," and below an ornamental label, with the value in words. The remainder of the stamp has a lozenge decoration, and the whole is enframed by two plain lines. The border of the cards is a coloured arabesque.

<i>Adhesives.</i>	1 öre, red, violet, and black	} Rectangular, col. imp. on white, perf. 9½.
	2 „ purple and black	
	4 „ red „	
	5 „ yellow „	
	7 „ green „	
	10 „ mauve „	
<i>Post Cards.</i>	2 „ red on white card	} Size 135 × 69½ mm., or 5⅝ × 2¾ in.
	4 „ blue „	

Cuba is issuing a new set of adhesives for 1880. We have only seen, as yet, three of the values, kindly sent to us by Mr. W. Clifford. Like the new Luzon and Porto Rico stamps, they are of the type of Spain, 1878. In the upper label is “CUBA, 1880,” preceded and followed by a small floreated ornament. The values we have seen are—

25 CENT PESETA, ultramarine	} perf. 14.
50 „ „ sepia	
1 PESETA, red-brown	

Gold Coast.—A ½d. adhesive is now in circulation of the same type, watermark, and perforation as the other three values. Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. send us the new Postal Union post card, which strongly resembles the rest of our new Colonial red-brown and buff issue. The stamp is of the same type as the adhesives.

Adhesive. ½d., olive-brown.

Post Card. 1½d., red-brown on buff. Size 122 × 86 mm., or 4⅞ × 3⅞ in.

Great Britain.—On the 5th inst. the new 2½d. stamp was issued to the public. It differs from the one which it supersedes only in respect of the colour, which is blue. The plate number is 17.

2½d., bright blue. Same paper, wmk. and perf. as before.

India.—The new soldiers' and seamen's envelope bears really a very pretty, well-engraved stamp. The head of Her Majesty is embossed on a pointed oval of solid colour, enframed by another oval of like shape, with embossed reticulations, the words “INDIA POSTAGE” and “NINE PIES” occupying respectively the upper and lower curves. The following are the type inscriptions upon the envelope: Above, “SOLDIERS' AND SEAMEN'S ENVELOPE,” underlined; then “ADDRESS;” below, “SENDER'S NAME AND RANK” and “REGIMENT, SHIP, OR OFFICE.” On the left-hand side, reading across the envelope, is “COMMANDING OFFICER OR HEAD OF DEPARTMENT,” “SIG. AND RANK,” and “REGIMENT, SHIP, OR OFFICIAL DESIGNATION.” The envelopes are sold in packets of sixteen, enclosed in a band, upon which is printed “16 SOLDIERS' AND SEAMEN'S ENVELOPES. DUTY: 9 PIES.” They are sold to commanding officers only, at the rate of 14 annas per packet of sixteen; that is, 10½ pies per envelope. Plain flap.

Envelope. 9 pies, bright rose, on white paper, type inscriptions.
Size 141 × 72 mm., or 5½ × 3⅞ in.

Madeira.—The new 25 reis of Portugal, which we shall describe in its place, has reached us with the usual surcharge for this island.

25 reis, blue-grey, black surcharge.

Newfoundland.—We are indebted to Messrs. Ridpath & Co. for two new adhesives for this colony—a 1 and a 3 cents. Both values have been re-engraved; and whilst they bear a strong general resemblance to the values lately current, which they supersede, they present many differences. In the 1 cent the Prince of Wales is represented as looking up instead of down, and the feather in his cap has assumed larger proportions, and changed sides. The value in words occupies the upper curve of the oval instead of a distinct scroll. The ornamentation is different, and the letters “N F” each occupy a circle in the left and right-hand upper corners. In the 3 cents the portrait of Her Majesty has likewise been re-engraved, as in the 1 cent, on a larger scale. Above the portrait the word “NEWFOUNDLAND” is upon a more abruptly-curved label, and the value “THREE” is only represented by the numeral in a circle at each upper corner. Below is the value in words upon a straight label rounded at the ends. The two side ornaments in the new stamp remind us vividly of as many femoral bones. Both stamps are perforated instead of being rouletted.

1 cent, violet-brown	}	<i>perf. 12.</i>
3 „ deep blue		

Persia.—The new issue with coloured borders, but with the same portrait of the Shah as before, has been in use since the 1st January last. The two highest values were, we believe, issued earlier.

1 shahi, black, vermilion border	}	<i>perf. 13.</i>
2 „ „ yellow		
5 „ „ green		
10 „ „ purple		
1 kran „ brown		
5 „ „ blue		

Porto Rico has issued a new set of adhesives, comprising seven values. Like the new Luzons, they are of the type of Spain, 1878, and bear the date of the present year.

5 CENT PESETA, sea-green	}	<i>Col. imp. on white, perf. 14.</i>
10 „ „ carmine		
15 „ „ red-brown		
25 „ „ ultramarine		
40 „ „ lavender		
50 „ „ sepia		
1 PESETA „ stone		

Portugal.—A new stamp of the value of 25 reis has been issued, and is perhaps the precursor of a new set. It is simply printed in colour, and not embossed. The head of the King is on an oval of solid colour within a second white oval inscribed, “PORTUGAL—CONTINENTE—25 REIS 25.” A Grecian key-pattern decorates the spandrels. From the word “CONTINENTE” in the legend we were led to anticipate that at last Madeira and the Azores would have stamps of a type peculiar to themselves; but, as will be seen under the proper heading, this new stamp has already been surcharged in the usual way for Madeira.

25 reis, blue-grey, col. imp. on white, *perf. 13.*

Turkey.—The *Timbre Poste* announces as being about to appear very shortly two stamps of the current type, one being the 20 paras, changed in colour to black and bright rose, and a new value (1 piastre), printed in black and dark blue. In the latter stamp the value is given as 1 piastres instead of piastre. The engraver must have had “evil communications” with the Messrs. De La Rue, and have got his grammar corrupted.

Venezuela appears, as we anticipated, to be about to present us with a new series of postage stamps. We have only seen one value as yet. Upon an oval of solid colour is the head, to left, of General Bolivar, engraved by a second narrow oval of white. “VENEZUELA” is printed in block letters in a curve above, and “CENTS,” in ordinary type, on a scroll beneath the oval. Two square blocks at the bottom corners bear the numerals of value. The remainder of the stamp is filled in with vertical lines.

25 cents., orange-yellow, rectangular, col. imp. on white, *perf.* 11½.

THE STAMPS OF MAURITIUS.

By CAPT. E. B. EVANS, R.A.

PREFATORY AND INTRODUCTORY.

A CONSIDERABLE portion of the information contained in the following papers has already been published in French, but not, to the best of my belief, in English; and as I believe I am justified in saying that most of the fresh facts regarding these stamps were derived from information sent home by myself, I hope that I shall not lay myself open to a charge of plagiarism in now republishing those facts, with a few observations upon them. Besides, after sending to the Philatelic Society of London a paper on the earlier issues, the contents of which have been published on the Continent, I continued my researches almost down to the time of my leaving Mauritius, in March 1879, and was fortunate enough to make some discoveries respecting the more recent issues which will, I think, turn out to be novelties. I have also had further opportunities of examining and studying specimens of the early issues, and I hope that some of the results of my studies may be interesting even to those collectors who have read all that has hitherto been published on the subject. One of our most learned philatelists remarked to me, not long back, that “the postmarks alone would form an interesting subject for study;” and the examination of these unappreciated disfigurements was certainly not the least interesting part of the work.

I have found it advisable to divide the history of the stamps of Mauritius into three distinct parts—Part I. comprising the stamps engraved or lithographed in the island; Part II., the stamps engraved and printed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., or the “figure of Britannia” issue; and Part III., the stamps and envelopes engraved and printed by Messrs. De la Rue and Co., the various designs of which are for the most part well known. In Parts II. and III. will be considered the various stamps surcharged at different periods, either in the island or elsewhere.

I have also thought it necessary, at the risk of lengthening out my story, to allude to some of the earlier notices and conjectures published relating to the history of these stamps. Most of them are curious and interesting, as showing how difficult it is to obtain accurate information on the subject of the early issues of out-of-the-way places. I do not wish to claim any great

credit on account of the facts that I was enabled to unearth; what I did any one else might have done who had the same opportunities. I would rather draw attention to the fact that there are other places the histories of whose early issues require investigation, and that there is hardly a country in the world where research into the history of its stamps would not repay the philatelist. When I commenced my researches in Mauritius, I was not very sanguine as to the result. I thought it impossible that there could be much information to be obtained. I took it for granted that the dates given for the various issues were correct; I knew that there had been doubtful points, but I imagined that they had been cleared up as satisfactorily as they were ever likely to be, and I was astonished both at the amount of fresh information I obtained, and at the fact that so much of the information was fresh.

I had supposed that there must have been at some period collectors in the island who would have discovered anything that there was to be discovered, or that the officials, who must frequently have been asked for information, would know everything that there was to be known. The postmaster had certainly been applied to for information over and over again. He took an interest in the matter, and gave me all the information in his power; but that did not amount to very much, and he was quite unable to tell me where I could get any more. On the subject of the stamps lettered "POST OFFICE" he was altogether sceptical, stating it as his opinion that *they had been made in Europe for the benefit of collectors*. Fortunately a specimen was discovered while I was in the island, and he then allowed himself to be convinced of their genuine nature!

I may add that I was more than a year in the island before I discovered where the information I wanted was to be found. In fact that was my principal difficulty. When I had made that discovery, it became merely a matter of time and trouble. A good deal of my leisure for some months after that was spent in one particular office; I made occasional raids upon other departments, but that was my head-quarters. The office I allude to was that of the Colonial Secretary, to whom my best thanks are due for his very great kindness and courtesy. He allowed me every facility for examining the official correspondence preserved in his office; gave me permission to copy or take notes of anything I wanted; and offered to have copies made of any letters I wished for in full. All the Government officials I appealed to—and I troubled a good many of them—were most kind in their endeavours to assist me; but my special thanks are due to the Colonial Secretary, because his assistance was so far more valuable to me than that of any of the others.

PART I. THE STAMPS ENGRAVED AND LITHOGRAPHED IN THE ISLAND.

The earliest notice of these stamps that I can find in any English magazine is at page 110 of vol. ii. of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* (I do not possess vol. i., so I cannot say whether they are alluded to in it), where a quotation is given from Mount Brown, who accounted for the varieties to be found by saying that "as the old block became worn out, a fresh one was cut," &c., and gave, nevertheless, a general date of 1858 as that of their issue. In the next volume (that for 1865), at page 17, is an article by Mr. Overy Taylor, in which the native-made stamps are said to have been a provisional issue, manufactured to meet a temporary exhaustion of the "Britannias;" and at page 56 of the same volume is a further description of these stamps, accompanied by an illustration which has been reproduced in various publications since; it is to be found in the most recent edition of *Dr. Gray's Catalogue*. This illustration is a very remarkable one, being a combination of the two rarest twopenny stamps of Mauritius. Its principal features are those of the twopence, "large head with fillet, on ground of diagonal lines crossed" (a very scarce stamp, the existence of which as an issue quite distinct from the better-known "natives" is hardly recognized by the great majority of collectors); but whereas the real stamp is lettered "POST PAID," the illustration is lettered "POST OFFICE!" In none of the above-mentioned articles is any mention made of the fact of there being a

variety inscribed "POST OFFICE;" on the contrary, in spite of the illustration, Mr. Overy Taylor says that it is curious that the stamps should be inscribed "POST PAID," as well as "POSTAGE," from which it would appear that "POST OFFICE" was a mistake on the part of the engraver of the illustration. I do not know whether the existence of the real "POST OFFICE" natives was known in England at that time; certainly no detailed description of them had then been published.

In the same volume of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, at page 94, is a letter from Mr. Pearson Hill, in which it is stated that the copper-plates from which the old Mauritius stamps were printed contained several heads, all engraved separately by hand, and this gives the real origin of the *minor* varieties. But it says nothing as to the different distinct issues; while on page 95 is a letter from Mr. Pemberton, which rightly states that the number of varieties on each plate was twelve, but is in error when it goes on to state that eleven of them were lettered "POST PAID," and the twelfth "POST OFFICE."

In vol. iv. of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* there is no special mention of the "natives;" but in the fourth edition of *Dr. Gray's Catalogue*, published in the same year, their date of issue is given as 1858, and they are placed after the "Britannias." A twopence "POST OFFICE" is described, but as a variety of the 2d. head with fillet; evidently the description is taken from the engraving alluded to above, which is reproduced in the *Catalogue*.

Until 1868 collectors who derived their information mainly from *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* and *The Philatelist*, can have known but little about the "POST OFFICE" stamps, and cannot have been aware of the existence of more than the one value given in *Dr. Gray's Catalogue*. But in that year arose the celebrated "Pendragon," who caused light to be thrown on various dark spots in Philately, though he did not throw much of that light himself. In *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* for that year it was mentioned (I think for the first time in an English magazine) that this variety existed in both values; that one of each was in the collection of the philatelist who wrote under the *nom-de-plume* "Amateur," and that these were supposed at that time to be unique.

In 1870 a quotation is given from the *Timbre Poste*, by which it appears that Dr. Magnus, having examined three specimens of each value, came to the conclusion that the "POST OFFICE" type was not one of the twelve of which the sheets of the "POST PAID" stamps were composed, but that it was a distinct variety, printed from plates containing only one die of each value. He argued from this that they were probably proofs of the original designs submitted by the engraver, some specimens of which had passed through the post by mistake; and this seems to have remained the more generally-received theory down to the present time.

So much for the stamps lettered "POST OFFICE," the use of which was ascribed, even by the highest authorities, to some accident, and which by the majority of English collectors were, I fear, not very thoroughly understood as a distinct variety. Let us now consider the theories on the subject of the "POST PAID" issues. The date usually given, in the more recent catalogues, to those most nearly resembling the "POST OFFICE" (viz., those bearing a diademed head of her Majesty) was 1850; to the "TWO PENCE" bearing a large head with fillet, on ground of diagonal lines crossed (to which I have referred above as a very scarce stamp), 1852; and to the "TWO PENCE" bearing a small head with fillet, on ground of vertical, horizontal, and diagonal lines, 1853; while to the "ONE PENNY" and "TWO PENCE" with Greek border the date 1858 or 1859 was assigned. So that to the "ONE PENNY" head with diadem a life of nine or ten years was given; to the "TWO PENCE" resembling it, two years only; to the next twopence, one year; and to the third twopence, five or six years—periods which the relative rarity of the various stamps would not bear out, except in the case of the second twopence, which no doubt was in use for a short time only.

(To be continued.)

Proceedings of the Philatelic Society of London.

THE fifth meeting of the season was held at 14, South Square, Gray's Inn, on the 17th January, 1880; Mr. T. K. Taping in the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed. The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society:

Lieut. W. F. N. Noel, R.E. Proposed by the Secretary, and seconded by Mr. de Ysasi.

J. J. Kern, Esq. Proposed by the Secretary, and seconded by Mr. Wilson.

Thomas St. L. Stephenson, Esq. Proposed by the Rev. P. H. Newnham, and seconded by Mrs. Tebay.

Before proceeding to the business of the day, the Secretary drew attention to two corrections called for in the list of Spanish colonial stamps, compiled at the meeting of the 29th November, 1879. First, as regards the Porto Rico 10 cs. de peseta, red-brown, of 1878, which it was supposed did not exist save as an imperforate proof or essay. The Secretary showed a perforated and postmarked specimen, kindly sent to him for the inspection of the Society by Mr. Maycock, and Mr. de Ysasi mentioned the existence of another copy. Secondly, as regards the Philippine 50 mils de peso, lilac, of 1878. Mr. de Ysasi showed a perforated specimen, but it is still unknown, even to him, to have been used for the prepayment of postage.

The business of the day was the compilation of a list of the postage stamps of Tasmania, which was proceeded with as follows:

TASMANIA.

ISSUE I. OCTOBER, 1853.

Two Values.

Engraved *taille douce*; colour on thick and thin white paper; gum; no watermark. Profile of Queen Victoria to right. Initials of C. W. Coard, the engraver, on the cut of the neck.

A. Bust in oval disc, in white inscribed outer oval, on shaded ground. Frame voided at angles.

B. Bust in circular disc, in white inscribed outer circle, upon an octagonal frame of reticulated groundwork.

T. VAN DIEMEN'S LAND. B. VALUE IN WORDS.

1d. . . blue, light blue

2d. . . bright and dull orange-yellow, orange-red

Sub-variety 2d. . . orange-red, on vertically laid paper

Both the 1d. and 4d. contained 24 stamps on the plate; and as these were separately engraved by hand, there are 24 varieties of each value. The differences are minute, and no errors exist. The issue was printed in the colony by Messrs. A. and C. Best, and the paper varies in thickness, some almost *pelure* in substance was used.

ISSUE II. OCTOBER, 1855.

Three Values.

Engraved *taille douce*; colour on thick white paper; watermark, *six-rayed star*; gum, thickish. Three-quarter portrait of Queen to left in engine-turned oval, with engine-work in spandrels, and small blocks in lower corners. VANDIEMENS LAND in curve above head; POSTAGE in coloured letters on small white label, and value in words in white letters on coloured label below head.

T. VAN DIEMEN'S LAND. B. VALUE IN WORDS.

1d.	.	.	dull carmine, verging on brick-red
2d.	.	.	deep green
4d.	.	.	blue (shades)

The stamps of this issue were engraved and printed in London by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., of Fleet Street.

ISSUE III. 1856-7.

Three Values.

The same in every other respect as the preceding issue, but without watermark.

1d.	.	.	.	brick-red, carmine
2d.	.	.	.	emerald-green
4d.	.	.	.	blue (shades)

ISSUE IV. JANUARY, 1858.

Three Values.

The same in every other respect as Issues II. and III., but watermarked with double-lined numeral of value.

1d.	.	red, orange, brick, carmine
2d.	.	dark and light green, olive and yellow-green, bottle-green
4d.	.	blue (shades)

Many shades of all values of this issue are to be met with.

ISSUE V. 1ST JANUARY, 1858.

Two Values.

Engraved *taille douce*; colour on thick and thin white paper; watermark, double-lined numerals of value, 6 and 12.

A. Portrait of Queen, as in last issue, on solid background of colour, within inscribed fancy, reticulated, octagonal frame.

B. Same portrait, on lined background of colour, within inscribed elongated, reticulated, octagonal frame.

T. TASMANIA. B. VALUE IN WORDS.

6d.	.	violet, mauve, lilac, grey, slate-blue, and many intermediate shades
1s.	.	red-vermilion, bright and dull.

1860.

1d.	.	brick-red	} Sub-varieties of preceding issues, rouletted unofficially.
2d.	.	green	
4d.	.	blue	

The 1s. vermilion has also been chronicled by M. Moens (Catalogue No. 43) as *percé en ligne*; but a specimen has not been met with by any of the members of the Society.

ISSUE VI. 1864.

Five Values.

Same engraving; paper; gum and watermark as in Issues IV. and V., but *perf. 13*.

1d.	.	.	carmine (shades), brick, orange-vermilion
2d.	.	.	yellow-green, bottle-green
4d.	.	.	blue (light and dark)
6d.	.	.	same shades as in Issue V.
1s.	.	.	" "

ISSUE VII. END OF 1864.

Five Values.

Differs from last issue only as regards perforation, which is 10½. The same shades in each value are to be found.

1863 (*end*). *Varieties of perforation, unofficial.*

1d.	. carmine	} Serrated, very fine and close teeth.
2d.	. green	
4d.	. blue	
1d.	. carmine	
2d.	. green	} Pierced with an instrument which makes oblique cuts, and leaves when the stamps are severed a ragged, irregular edge.
4d.	. blue	

ISSUE VIII. 1870.

Four Values.

Profile of Queen to left, on horizontally-lined disc, within beaded oval, scrolled framework with curved inscriptions above and below. Engraved surface printed; colour on medium smooth paper; white gum; watermark, single-lined numerals; *perforated 12*.

T. TASMANIA. B. VALUE IN WORDS.

1d.	. carmine (shades); watermark, small slanting	10
2d.	. green " " large	2
4d.	. blue " " small	4
10d.	. black " " "	10

VARIETY. MARCH, 1871.

One Value.

1d.	. red	watermark, small numeral 4
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ISSUE IX. MARCH, 1871-2.

Six Values.

Same type, engraving, paper, perforation, &c., as last; watermark, *TAS*.

1d.	. red (shades), vermilion, rose
2d.	. green, very dark to pale
3d.	. dark purple-brown, maroon, brown, chocolate, brown-pink
4d.	. blue? (chronicled by M. Moens, but not known to the Society)
9d.	. blue and bright blue
5s.	. mauve and bright mauve

Varieties.

1d.	. red; imperforate
2d.	. blue; error for green
9d.	. blue; imperforate

ISSUE X. 1876.

One Value.

Same type, paper, watermark, and perforation as the 4d. of 1870, but changed in colour.

4d.	. . . yellow ochre (shades)
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ISSUE XI. 1879.

Two Values.

Same type, watermark and perforation, as preceding issues.

1d.	. . . bright rose on glazed paper
2d.	. . . " green "
8d.	. . . violet-brown "

REPRINTS. END OF 1879.

On plain paper; machine perforation 11½; white gum.

One penny.	Type 1855	. . . dull red
Twopence	"	. . . green
Fourpence	"	. . . blue
Sixpence	Type 1858	. . . violet
One shilling	"	. . . vermilion

REPRINTS. CURRENT SERIES. END OF 1879.

On plain paper; machine perforation 11½; white gum.

1d. . rose	8d. . . violet
2d. . deep green	9d. . . blue
3d. . mauve-brown	10d. . . black
4d. . deep blue, ochre-yellow	5s. . . deep violet

It is recorded in *Le Timbre Poste* for December, 1879, that the two values (1d. and 4d.) of 1853 have been reprinted in their original colours, and perforated 11½. These reprints have not been seen, but there appears to be no reason to doubt the fact.

THE sixth meeting of the season was held at 14, South Square, Gray's Inn, on the 7th February, 1880; the Secretary in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Owing to the inclemency of the weather the attendance was small, and the show of the recent issues which were appointed to be studied was much below the usual mark. The new issues of the following countries were, however, shown, and compared and noted for insertion in the respective lists: Cuba; Porto Rico and Luzon, 1880; Portugal and Madeira, 1880; Gold Coast; Great Britain, 2½d., and Christiansund, 1880; Newfoundland, 1880; Antigua; Dominica; Montserrat; Nevis; Tobago; Cape of Good Hope; Bosnia, 1880.

Notes and Queries.

DROCCER.—The 5 cents. United States current type, which you send us as a novelty, is merely a chemical changeling.

G. B.—We use Glenfield starch dissolved in warm water until it is of the required consistency. Add a few drops of Eau de Cologne, or any other spirit. This, in our opinion, keeps the mucilage from turning sour.

J. M.—Declined with thanks. We could have cribbed your contribution ourselves from the same source that you did.

R. G.—S. L. NEMO.—See our answer to "Droccer."

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1. Antioquia and Argentine.	19. Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Jamaica, and Liberia.	36. Portugal.
2. Antigua, Bahamas, Bolivia, Bermuda, and British Honduras.	20. Greece.	37. Queensland.
3. Baden.	21. Griqualand.	38. Sandwich Isles.
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13. Confederate.	31. New Granada and Honduras.	48. Two Sicilies, Tuscany, and Papal States,
14. Dominican Republic.	32. Parma.	49. United States.
15. East India, Deccan, Persia, and Sarawak.	33. Peru.	50. Victoria. Part I.
16. Egypt and Ecuador.	34. Philippines.	51. Do. Part II.
17. Finland.	35. Prince Edward Island, Sierra Leone, and St. Lucia.	52. Venezuela and La Guaira.
18. France and Colonies.		53. Western Australia, Shanghai, and Virgin Isles.
		54. Würtemberg.
		55. Nevis, Nicaragua, and Salvador.

Any of the above we shall be pleased to send on approval to our customers.

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The Philatelic Record.

Vol. II. No. 14.

MARCH.

1880.



THE Editor of Messrs. A. Smith and Co.'s *Monthly Circular* refers, in the January number of this year, to the ephemeral additions to philatelic literature in the shape of stamp magazines, which during the past twelve months have appeared and disappeared in bewildering profusion; and, taking up his theme, we feel inclined to prose upon it for a moment. The small magazines in question, badly printed upon wretched paper, and offering, perhaps fortunately, a minimum of trash in the way of information as compared with a maximum of advertisements, would not live so long as they do were it not for the latter source of support. Whether this promotes business or not we are unable to say; but we know that the small boys, who constitute the majority of the advertisers, do not ask for more interesting reading than that which their own advertisements, inserted at the modest cost of 4d. to 6d., supply them with. Amongst the many pleas advanced in favour of stamp collecting, we do not remember to have heard it claimed that it instils into early youth the principles of commerce. And yet it is so. Nine-tenths of the "*firms*" advertising in these little papers are composed of boys of from twelve to fourteen years of age, who in the exercise of their petty trade must, to a certain extent, acquire habits of business, and become precociously accustomed to rely upon their own judgment in investing their tiny capital to advantage. On the other hand, it may be objected that, occupied as they mostly are as errand boys in the city, their daily hunt for stamps must cause them to defraud their employers of a portion of their time. One of the advertisements we refer to, better worded than usual, induced us to apply to a certain firm for a sample of their wares. We were, in due course, supplied with a book containing

Price 2d.

2s. 6d. per Annum.

Abroad, 3s.

some hundreds of common current stamps, marked at very moderate prices. On the first page of the book attention was “*craved*” to the signature of the firm, and to that of the gentleman who was authorized to sign for it “per procuration.” A day or two later, at one of the places in the city where stamps are sold on commission, three boys were pointed out to us as comprising the members of the firm and the procurist. We feel sure that their united ages would not amount to thirty-six years. Although many of these youngsters are, no doubt, honest according to their light, some of them are accomplished little rascals. We heard of a promising band of four who had clubbed together for the purchase of an indiarubber stamp with the letter G, for the purpose of manufacturing “Griqualands.” Others again make up for sale carefully-sealed packets containing a fabulous number of stamps at as fabulously low a price. Now it is a queer thing that boys do not like to confess to having been “done;” and therefore when one purchases a packet, feeling no doubt somewhat doubtful as to the result, he is seldom known to open the packet then and there. He reserves his disappointment, at finding the larger number of the stamps to consist of torn and useless specimens, for a moment of seclusion, when the poignancy of his regret is, at least, not aggravated by the heartless jeers of onlookers. In the future he holds his tongue as to his own deception, and grimly chuckles when he sees others similarly taken in.

Novelties, Discoveries, and Resuscitations.

Antigua.—Messrs. Whitfield, King and Co. send us the new Postal Union card for this island. Save for the name, it is an exact reproduction of the St. Kitts and Dominica cards.

Post Card. 1½d., red-brown on buff.

Cashmere. The *Timbre Poste* announces two more values of the current type, which probably complete the set. They have additional ornamentation in the corners.

4 annas, red }
8 ,, ,, } on thin white wove paper; *imperf.*

Danish West Indies.—A 50 cent. value is now in circulation. It is of the same type, watermark, and perforation as the rest of the series, but, unlike them, is printed in one colour only, the border and inner coloured portions of the stamp being alike mauve.

50 cents, mauve.

France (Colonies).—A correspondent sends us specimens of the

25 cents yellow and the 30 cents brown, imperforate, for use in the colonies. We had not seen these stamps before, nor have we ever seen the recently obsolete 25 cents red, used as a colonial stamp.

Gold Coast.—We have another adhesive, value 2d., increasing the current set to five. It is of the same type, watermark, and perforation as the others.

2d., green.

Great Britain.—To avoid the 2s. value being mistaken for the 2½d., a mistake which was hardly likely to occur, the colour of the former has been changed to a kind of red-brown, a reminiscence of that of the obsolete 10d. In all other respects the stamp remains unchanged, and continues to be printed on the original plate, No. 1.

2s., red-brown.

Java.—A correspondent calls our attention to a current 5 cents, which is perforated 12 instead of 14. On referring to our own collection, we find the 2 and 2½ cents with the same perforation, which had escaped our notice.

2 cents, brown	}	<i>perf. 12.</i>
2½ „ yellow		
5 „ green		

Mauritius.—Capt. Evans calls our attention to certain Mauritius “provisionals,” notably the one penny on the 4d. rose, with forged surcharges. The principal difference between the genuine and the forged surcharge is, that the latter has a stop after the word penny which does not exist in the former. We refrain from mentioning the source whence these falsifications have emanated, and content ourselves with barking. Another time we shall bite as well.

Montserrat has added a 2½d. adhesive to its current set. It is of the same type as the Nevis of similar value.

2½d., red-brown; *wmk. C.C. and crown; perf. 14.*

Persia favours us with a Postal Union card of “gay and festive” appearance. It bears the inscription, “UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE,” “CARTE POSTALE,” “DE PERSE,” in three lines, followed by what is probably the equivalent, in Persian, in one line. There are four lines for the address, the first headed by the prefix “A” in script type. At the bottom is “CE CÔTÉ,” &c., and a line of Persian. In the left-hand corner are the arms (lion and sun), with tiara above and post-horns beneath, and in the right-hand corner the stamp. This bears the Shah’s portrait in an oval. On a label above are the words “DEUX” and “DEMI,” and the Persian equivalent. On a curved band above the oval is “POSTE PERSANE,” and on a similar one below it a Persian inscription. Two irregular octagonal blocks in the two lower corners bear the figures of value 2½ in ordinary and in Persian numerals. The ornamentation of the sides and spandrels is indescribable, and so is the border which enfames the card. Reverse side plain.

Post Card. 2½ shahi, carmine and black on buff card. Size, 138 × 82 mm., or 5½ × 3¼ inches.

Peru.—The postal authorities of this belligerent state are showing signs of restlessness. They have placed upon the current adhesives a surcharge, presumably of a "*contra sello*" nature, and have changed the colours of two of the values. The surcharge consists of an open oval, nearly as large as the smaller stamps, containing the words, printed in the curves, "UNION POSTAL UNIVERSAL PERU." In the centre of the oval is the word "PLATA," with a — above and beneath it. The colour of the lately issued 1 centavo is changed to green, and the 2 centavos to carmine-red, exactly like the 20 centavos. The 5 centavos with the surcharge (and those which immediately preceded it) is ultramarine, instead of bright blue as formerly.

1 centavo,	deep green,	red surcharge	
2	„	carmine,	blue „
5	„	ultramarine,	red „
10	„	(?)	
20	„	(?)	
50	„	dull green,	red „
1 sol.	„	red,	blue „

Roumelia.—Messrs. Whitfield, King and Co. kindly send us a postal card which has been issued for use in Eastern Roumelia. It is almost entirely type set, and the inscriptions on the back and front being all in that language, or dialect, which it is the unhappy lot of Eastern Roumelians to speak and to write, we are quite unable to do more than advise collectors to get the card for themselves and make much of it. The prospect of post-card collectors discovering minute varieties in this card and future editions of it makes us wince. We may mention that the card starts with an error, as we are informed that the value expressed upon it is 15 paras, whereas it is sold for 10 paras.

Post Card. 10 paras, type set, black on white card. Size, 153 × 108 mm., or 6 × 4¼ inches.

South Australia.—We have the surcharged 8d. with the further departmental surcharge "o.s." We believe that it has only just made its appearance.

Straits Settlements.—We have had frequent enquiries respecting certain values of these stamps surcharged with a star and crescent, and others with the letter "P." We never saw any of them, but the following information, kindly sent to us by Messrs. Whitfield, King and Co., is of interest: "We lately saw a letter from the European private secretary to the Maharajah of Johore, in which he states that there never were any Johore stamps, but that for a short time 2 cents Straits Settlements stamps were used, surcharged with a star and crescent, and are now discontinued. The same stamps were also used for a short period by Perak and some other Malay native states."

Venezuela.—Another value, of the same type as the one which we described in our last, has been issued—

50 centavos, chocolate-brown.

We gather, from the letter of a correspondent in Venezuela, that these two stamps, with the portrait of General Bolivar, are only used for prepayment of letters to countries in the Postal Union, 25 centavos being, we suppose, the single, and 50 centavos the double rate. He says: "Venezuela entered into the Postal Union on the 1st January last, and in consequence they issued a new stamp, till now only used for the letters that leave here by the packets to the exterior, or those countries associated in the Union." Referring to the fiscal "Escuelas," recently employed for postal purposes, he remarks: "The word Escuelas really means school, because the produce of the stamps is in favour of the public schools;" meaning, no doubt, that the tax collected by the sale of these stamps is devoted to the object specified.

Wurtemberg.—In No. 199 of the *Timbre Poste*, M. Moens treated of the use of the 70 kreuzer stamp, and of the 2 marks value, which on the change of currency replaced it. He gave extracts from an official circular, showing that these stamps were intended for the use of the post-office officials only, and were on no account to be sold to the public. In cases where the amount of postage to be paid on a letter was so large, that plastering both the front and the *back* of the envelope with the ordinary stamps would not suffice to cover it, the letter in question was to be enclosed in an official envelope, franked by these exceptionally high values, and addressed to one of the chief offices, either Stutgardt, Ulm, or Heilbronn. Arrived there, it was, in obedience to printed directions upon the official envelope, to be immediately taken out of the latter and duly forwarded. Since M. Moens favoured us with this information, the colour of the 2 marks stamp, which was yellow, has been changed to vermilion, and on the back of the stamp is now printed the word "*Unverküpflich*," which signifies, not saleable.

2 marks, vermilion; type and perforation unchanged.

THE STAMPS OF MAURITIUS.

By CAPT. E. B. EVANS, R.A.

PART I.—*continued.*

LET us now turn from conjecture, which is always more or less interesting, to facts and documentary evidence, which are usually dry.

The earliest allusion to postage stamps which I can find in any official document of the colony is in Ordinance No. 13, of 1846, which was passed in Council on December 17th of that year, published in the *Government Gazette* of December 26th, and, by a proclamation dated December 28th, was to come into force, with the exception of certain Articles referring to the delivery of letters in Port Louis, on January 1st, 1847. This Ordinance completely reorganized the postal system of the island, and the issue of stamps resulted directly from it. It appoints certain rates to be charged on all letters, &c., arriving from "beyond seas," and to be charged on letters,

&c., received for transmission "beyond seas"; it also fixes the rates of inland postage, on letters "for transmission between the town and country, or between any two branch offices," at 2d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce; and the town postage is fixed by the following regulation:

"The charge for town postage shall be as follows: On every letter, &c., if received from beyond seas or from a branch office, one penny in addition to any other postage chargeable thereon."

(So that there was a charge of one penny for delivery of each letter or packet irrespective of weight.)

"On the same, if posted at the central office for delivery within the said town, and not exceeding one ounce, one penny; and for every three ounces, or part thereof, beyond that weight, one penny additional."

With regard to stamps we find as follows:

"Article 9. Every letter, newspaper, or packet of any kind liable to postage under this ordinance, if posted within the colony and its dependencies, and having a stamp or stamps affixed thereto, and appearing on the outside, such stamps being provided by the Government, and being of the value or amount required in each case according to the preceding tariff, and not having been used before, shall pass by the post free of postage."

The regulations also make the above rates of inland postage chargeable in addition to the rates laid down in the tariff for letters posted for transmission beyond seas, and according to Article 9, the whole of this could be prepaid by stamps, when issued, if the sender so desired. It does not however appear from this ordinance that prepayment of any portion of the postage was compulsory, but among some regulations made in virtue of it, dated 13th January, 1847, is the following:

"No. 5. The postage on inland letters if not prepaid by stamp may be paid for at the post office where the letter is first put in, or left to be paid for on delivery, but both the inland and sea postage on letters intended for transmission beyond seas must be prepaid by the sender, otherwise they will not be forwarded."

This regulation is still in force, letters for Europe or elsewhere unprepaid, or insufficiently so, being detained, to the delight of their writers, who find them advertised in the newspapers after the mail has left.

Mention is made of stamps in the articles quoted, but they were not in existence at that time, though arrangements were being made for their manufacture. I have before me, dated November 12th, 1846, an estimate, signed by Mr. Barnard, for certain engraving work for the Mauritius General Post Office, the first two items of which are—

"Letter labels for One penny and Twopence, per tho.	0	10	0
Engraving Plates for do.	10	0	0"

There are also other items for date and obliterating stamps. This is not very important, perhaps, but it shows that the making of stamps was contemplated at that date, and that steps had already been taken for that purpose. The arrangements were probably left to the Colonial Postmaster; for I find no advertisement in the *Government Gazette* calling for tenders or estimates for this work. Probably also Mr. Barnard was the only person in the colony at the time capable of doing it.

Before leaving Ordinance No. 13 of 1846, it may be worthy of mention that it contains the following article:

"Every deputy postmaster shall, when required, give a receipt marked with the post office stamp, for any letter or packet posted at his office, noting the postage thereon if prepayment be made, provided that the party demanding such receipt present a book or slip of paper containing, ready written, the date and address of such letter or packet; and for such receipt payment of one penny shall be made."

This was not registration, which was provided for in another article, and for which the charge was 6d. This was precisely the same kind of receipt which has recently been advocated in England, and for which a form was issued as an experiment some time back.

We now come to two very important letters from the Colonial Postmaster to the Colonial Secretary. The first is dated 20th September, 1847, and runs as follows:

“To the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, &c., &c., &c.

“Sir,—With reference to Articles 9 and 10 of Post Office Ordinance No. 13 of 1846, I have the honour to report for His Excellency the Governor’s information, that the necessary postage stamps are now ready for issuing, 700 having been struck off. And as the regulations of the service may require the supervision of some other government officer besides myself to attest to the number of stamps furnished to this office, I respectfully await His Excellency’s instructions before having any further number of stamps struck off.

I have, &c.,

“(Signed) J. S. BROWNRIGG, *Colonial Postmaster.*”

Attached to the above is the following:

“Report 312-47. According to the regulations, government stamps are struck off at the Colonial Secretary’s office, and issued upon requisitions from the collectors. It is recommended that the same course be pursued in the present case, and that the stamps be kept in the Colonial Secretary’s office.

“It is probable that the simplest, and at the same time the safest, check over the issue of post office stamps would be attained by procuring the quantity necessary for the annual demand from the stamp office in London, upon a requisition from the Colonial Secretary to the Colonial Agents.

“(Signed) W. W. R. KERR, *Auditor General.*”

“Audit Office, 25th September, 1847.”

The second is dated May 2nd, 1848:

“To the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, &c., &c., &c.

“Sir,—(1) I have the honour to report for His Excellency the Governor’s information, that improved plates containing twelve impressions of each postage label (one penny and twopence) are now finished and ready to be worked whenever it shall please His Excellency to favour me with his instructions.

“(2) Some delay in their delivery, it is true, has unavoidably occurred, in consequence of the engraver having been for some time under medical treatment for his sight, which had become impaired. This delay would not, however, have occasioned any inconvenience or disappointment to the public had I been permitted to use in the meantime the original plates, the only objection against them—as I understand—being, that as there was only one impression of each label, too much time would be occupied in working off any large number. This objection cannot, however, apply to the new plates, as the engraver assures me that he can, within the hour, take off from 1000 to 1500 impressions.

“(3) When first these labels were introduced 1000 were struck off, and so desirous were the public of availing of them, particularly for town letters, that in the course of a few days they were all disposed of.

“(4) It was mentioned to me a few days ago that letter labels were ordered from England; but as considerable time must elapse before, agreeably to that order, any supply can be received, I cannot but most respectfully represent, for His Excellency’s consideration, the expediency of recommencing, with the new plates, an issue of postage stamps so frequently applied for by the community in town and country.

“(5) In my letter of 20th September last, I respectfully suggested (as a control) the nomination of some other public officers, in conjunction with myself, to superintend the process of working the plates (a press for that purpose having been erected in this office), and to take account of the number of stamps struck off.

“(6) To this suggestion I would add, that the plates be enclosed in a box

with two locks, each officer having a key, so that except in the presence of both the box could not be opened.

"With these few observations, which I hope will meet His Excellency's notice,
I have, &c.,

"(Signed) J. STUART BROWNRIGG.

"P. S.—The engraver asks ten shillings for one thousand stamps."

From these letters it appears that a small number (700 according to the first letter, and 1000 according to the second) of stamps of two values (original plates are alluded to in the second letter, therefore there were more than one) was printed, and probably issued in September, 1847; that these stamps were printed from plates bearing only one type upon each, and that no further supply was printed from these plates on account of their being only capable of producing one stamp each at a time. Nothing is said as to the designs or colours of the stamps, but still, even if we had no further evidence that such was the case, I think we should be justified in concluding that they were the stamps lettered "POST OFFICE," which have been proved to have been printed from single type plates, and whose rarity would show that only a small number were ever issued. But happily we have further evidence. A specimen of the "TWO PENCE" of this type has for some time been known which bears a date stamp of January, 1848, at which time the twelve-type plates were not ready; and I am fortunate enough to possess a specimen of the "ONE PENNY," which was found in the island during my stay there, and which is obliterated with a date stamp of September, either the 21st or the 24th, probably the latter, 1847. We are therefore enabled with certainty to assign to the first issue a date and description as follows:

Date of issue, September, 1847.

Values and colours, one penny, orange-red; twopence, dark blue.

Design, head of Queen Victoria to left, with diadem of alternate Maltese crosses and *fleur-de-lys*, on ground of rather coarse vertical lines crossed by fine oblique ones sloping downwards, in the "ONE PENNY" from right to left, and in the "TWO PENCE" from left to right. The face and throat are shaded with rows of small dots, producing an effect somewhat similar to that caused by a severe attack of small-pox; the back of the neck is shaded with coarse lines. The inscriptions are in white on a solid ground of colour—at the top "POSTAGE," at the bottom the value, on the left "POST OFFICE," and on the right "MAURITIUS," the two last both reading from below upwards, the first letter of each being nearest the bottom label. The upper left and lower right-hand corners contain each a hollow, multi-rayed star, with a dot in the centre, the two remaining corners contain each a minute circle, with four pear-shaped lines radiating from it, dividing the corner into a species of Maltese cross, somewhat resembling the ornaments in the upper corners of the earlier English stamps of the same values; indeed the Mauritius stamps were no doubt copied from those in use in England at the time, and, if the side labels of the former were removed, they would be rude imitations of the latter. The word "MAURITIUS" was a necessary addition, in order that collectors in future ages might know whence these artistic productions emanated; and the words "POST OFFICE" balanced it on the other side. The artist also engraved his initials, J. B.,* on the edge of the neck of the figure, but in such microscopic letters as to imply that he was not very proud of his work. In conclusion, these stamps were engraved on copper in what is termed "*taille douce*" (the portions which appear in colour in the impression being those cut into the copper plate), and printed on a thickish paper, which was probably originally white, but is now of a yellowish hue in the "ONE PENNY," and a bluish hue in the "TWO PENCE."

No proofs, essays, or re-impressions of these stamps are known, and I have never met with any forgeries of them; but M. Moens advertises imitations, so I presume they exist.

* Both the "Post Office" and the first issue of "Post Paid" stamps were engraved by Mr. J. Barnard, a watchmaker and jeweller.

THE OFFICIALLY ISSUED STAMPED ENVELOPES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

BY H. E. SCHMIDT DE WILDE.

IN submitting the following list of these envelopes for publication, I do not profess to consider it complete; but my object will have been attained if it challenges the criticism of English collectors, and elicits from your readers generally any additions to our knowledge of the subject.

I. ISSUE OF 29TH JANUARY AND ? APRIL, 1841.

Envelopes with two silk threads in the paper (*Dickinson paper*). Stamp of the first type; without date.

A. *Pointed flap, without seal or device; without gum; white paper.**

- | | | | |
|----------|--|----------------|--------------|
| 1. a. | Size $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in. (101 × 63 mm.), | value 1 penny. | |
| 2. b. | „ $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ „ (119 × 71 „) | 1 | |
| 3, 4. c. | „ $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ „ (133 × 88 „) | 1 | and 2 pence. |

B. *Tongued flap, without seal or device; on white paper.*

- | | | | |
|-------|--|----------------|--|
| 5. a. | Size $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in. (101 × 63 mm.), | value 1 penny. | |
| 6. b. | „ $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ „ (119 × 71 „) | 1 | |

C. *Tongued flap, with circular seal; on white paper.*

- | | | | |
|--------|---|----------------------|----------------|
| a. | Size $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in. (101 × 63 mm.), | size of seal 12 mm. | |
| 7. | 1. With pink seal, | } | value 1 penny. |
| 8. | 2. „ uncoloured seal, | | |
| 9. b. | Size $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ in. (119 × 71 mm.), | size of seal 16 mm., | value 1 penny. |
| 10. c. | „ $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ „ (133 × 88 „) | „ „ | „ „ |
| 11. | „ „ „ „ | „ „ | 15 mm. (?) „ |

D. *Tongued flap, impressed with private arms in white relief; white paper.*

- | | | | |
|--------|--|----------------|--|
| 12. a. | Size $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in. (101 × 63 mm.), | value 1 penny. | |
| 13. b. | „ $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ „ (119 × 71 „) | 1 | |

E. *Envelope on Dickinson paper. Stamp of the first type; with date. Die number 95. Tongued flap, with seal, size 12 mm.; on white paper.*

- | | | | |
|--------|--|----------------|--|
| 14. a. | Size $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in. (101 × 63 mm.), | value 1 penny. | |
|--------|--|----------------|--|

II. ISSUE OF ? ? 1855.

1. Envelopes without silk threads in the paper. Stamp of first type; with date. Tongued flap; circular pink seal.

* I have also the following envelopes on *yellowish-tinted paper* :

- | | | | |
|----|---|---------------------------|-----|
| a. | Size $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ in. (116 × 68 mm.), | number of die on neck, 2. | |
| b. | „ $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ „ (133 × 88 „) | „ „ | 16. |

As to these, I can only say that I believe the *yellowish-tinted paper* was the earliest in use; and this belief is corroborated by the low die numbers. A third size, $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in. (101 × 63 mm.), has been mentioned in the *Timbre Poste*, and I know of a second copy of the $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ in. size in a Parisian collection. I shall be glad to hear what English collectors have to say about these envelopes, which appear to be very rare, as I have never seen them mentioned in any English journal of Philately.

A. *On white paper.*

15. a. Size $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in. (101 × 63 mm.), value 1 penny.
 16. b. ,, $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$,, (119 × 71 ,,) 1

B. *On bluish paper.*

17. a. Size $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ in. (133 × 88 mm.), value 1 penny.
 2. Same as preceding, but with stamp of the second type.*

A. *Tongued flap, with seal; on white paper.*

18. a. Size $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in. (101 × 63 mm.), value 1 penny.
 19. b. ,, $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$,, (119 × 71 ,,) 1
 20. c. ,, $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3$,, (133 × 76 ,,) 1

B. *Tongued flap; on bluish paper.*

21. a. Size $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3$ in. (133 × 76 mm.), without seal, value 1 penny.
 22. b. ,, $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$,, (133 × 88 ,,), with ,, ,,

C. *Pointed flap; on white paper.*

23. a. Size $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ in. (119 × 71 mm.), without seal, value 1 penny.
 24. ,, ,, ,, with ,, ,,
 25. b. ,, $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3$,, (133 × 76 ,,), without ,, ,,
 26. ,, ,, ,, with ,, ,,
 27. c. ,, $4\frac{3}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{4}$,, (119 × 95 ,,), without ,, ,,
 28. ,, ,, ,, with ,, ,,

D. *Pointed flap; on bluish paper.*

29. a. Size $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ in. (133 × 88 mm.), without seal, value 1 penny.
 30. ,, ,, ,, with ,, ,,

E. *Pointed flap with rounded end; on bluish paper.*

31. a. Size $5\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ in. (133 × 88 mm.), without seal, value 1 penny.
 32. ,, ,, ,, with ,, ,,

JAPANESE POST CARDS.

(TRANSLATED FROM "LE TIMBRE POSTE," No. 197.)

1st December, 1873.

Sheet of paper folded at the right side (size, when open, 155 × 165 mm.). Stamp, type adhesive 1873, in upper left-hand corner. Both outside and inside sheets have fancy frames. The interior left-hand page has, within frame, five columns for the message. Both frames printed in red-orange.

$\frac{1}{2}$ sen, bistre, red-orange frame. | 1 sen, blue, red-orange frame.

Second Issue.

Same as above. The first sheet only has fancy frame. Beneath stamp a perpendicular inscription. The interior right-hand page contains thirteen columns of instructions; the left-hand page is surrounded by a plain double-lined frame, and divided into five columns for message.

$\frac{1}{2}$ sen, orange. | 1 sen, blue.

Varieties.

$\frac{1}{2}$ sen, Var. A. and C., both syllabic sign *i*.
 1 ,, ,, A., both syllabic sign *i*.

* Judging from the envelopes in my collection, those with the stamp of the second type came into use between the 7th December, 1867, and the 22nd April, 1868; but I am unable to determine the exact date of their issue. I shall be glad to receive information on the subject.

April, 1874. Third Issue.

Similar to second issue 1873. No inscription below stamp. The characters in middle of stamp signify "Postal Card" instead of "Postage Stamp." The interior is printed in red-orange, and the outside in the same colour as stamp.

$\frac{1}{2}$ sen, orange.

| 1 sen, blue.

In the second and third issues two types are to be found. In instructions given in interior, on seventh column from right, the ninth sign is to be found in first type, and not in the second. These two types are subdivided into two others, according to position of the two signs in first column (see design), thus making four varieties.

Of third issue the following varieties are to be found with syllabic signs:

- $\frac{1}{2}$ Sen. Var. A.—*ro, fa, ni, fo, to, tsi, ri, nou, rou, wo, wa, ka, yo, ta, re, tsou, fe, to.*
 ,, ,, B.—*rou, ta, tsou, yo, hou.*
 ,, ,, C.—*fa, ni, nou, rou, wa, ka, yo.*
 1 Sen. Var. A.—*fa, fe, tsi, ri, nou, rou, wo, wa, ka, yo, ta, re, so, tsou, ne, na, ra, mou, ou, no, o, kou, ya, ma, ka, fou, ko, ye.*
 ,, ,, B.—*nc, na, ra, no, o, kou.*
 ,, ,, C.—*fa, tsi, ne, ra, mou, ou, no, o, kou, ma, ke.*
 ,, ,, D.—*re, so, tsou, na.*

Proceedings of the Philatelic Society of London.

THE seventh meeting of the season was held at 14, South Square, Gray's Inn, on the 28th February, 1880; the President in the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved. The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society:

W. A. S. Westoby, Esq. Proposed by the President, and seconded by Mrs. Tebay.

W. F. Harvie, Esq. Proposed by Mr. Stephenson, and seconded by the Secretary.

The stamps of Ceylon had been appointed to be studied; but as it appeared that a list of these had already been prepared, and is in the hands of the late Secretary, any further study was postponed in the absence of the said list, and the meeting resolved itself into a *conversazione*. Mr. Castle exhibited a fine collection of the stamps of New Granada. The Secretary showed the new 2s. Great Britain and 50 centavos Venezuela. Some Deccan stamps of the skeleton type, surcharged "SUR KARREE" in red and in black, which were not forthcoming when these stamps formed the subject of study last December, were shown. The general feeling of the meeting appeared to be that, although they were unsatisfactory, they escaped condemnation. Sundry points in connection with the stamped envelopes of Great Britain were discussed, and the President reported that the MS. of the Great Britain catalogue was progressing.

In the list of Tasmanian stamps, published in the Proceedings of the Society last month, the second value of the first issue is printed in error 2d. instead of 4d.

Notes and Queries.

T. B.—All forgeries. About 5s.

J. W.—Yes; we have seen some lately.

QUERIST wants to know to what purpose certain Danish post cards, plastered with adhesives, and with what seem to be registration tickets, have been applied. Usually they have no written communication on the back. Can any of our readers help him?

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
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The Philatelic Record.

Vol. II. No. 15.

APRIL.

1880.



OUR readers will, no doubt, eagerly accept our excuses for not inflicting upon them any prefatory remarks this month. The information we have collected, and the report of the Philatelic Society's Proceedings, do not even leave us the space to moralise upon the elections from a philatelic standpoint. Whatever our leanings as politicians may be, as philatelists we may safely comfort ourselves with the reflection that under no possible change of Government are we likely to get uglier stamps than the current one penny, and it is just barely possible that Lord John Manners' successor may have some feeling for art even as applied to so humble a vehicle for its exposition as a postage label.

Novelties, Discoveries, and Resuscitations.

Argentine Republic.—A lately-issued newsband makes us acquainted with the features of another of the great men of this country. We learn from the *Timbre Poste* that the gentleman depicted is Don Julian Segundo de Agüero, who, commencing as a priest, became agitator, politician, orator, and finally president of the legislature and minister of state under Rivadavia, whose downfall he shared. He died in 1851. The portrait, a three-quarter face turned towards the right, is within an oval with ground of vertical lines. Curved round the upper part of the oval are the words "REPUBLICA ARGENTINA," and below, in two lines, "CUATRO CENTAVOS." The numeral of value divides the inscriptions on either side. The rest of the stamp is a rectangle with rounded corners, filled in with a species of engine-turning.

Newsband. 4 centavos, blue, on buff paper.

The current Postal Union reply-paid card contains an error which the authorities appear to be in no hurry to correct. On the reply side it bears the inscription "RÉPOUSE," instead of "RÉPONSE PAYÉE."

Price 2d.

2s. 6d. per Annum.

Abroad, 3s.

Azores.—The 25 reis of the new type is now in use for the Azores, as well as for Madeira, with the usual surcharge.

25 reis, blue-grey.

Bavaria.—A correspondent sends us two varieties of the 5 pfennig postal card, violet on buff, to compare. The difference between the two is in the arms, which are placed between the words "KÖNIGREICH" and "BAYERN." In No. 1 the arms are blazoned on an escutcheon of the ordinary type, which rests upon a straight plinth, of three steps, with scroll-like ornaments beneath the plinth. In No. 2 the arms are blazoned on an oval shield, which is supported upon scrolls (no plinth intervening) which terminate underneath in an ornament somewhat resembling an inverted *fleur-de-llys*. No. 2 card seems to be about 2 mm. longer than No. 1.

Bulgaria has issued a Postal Union card. There are two lines of inscription above: 1. "UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE—Bulgarie." 2. "ОТБОРНО ПИНСМО," and two lines, in small type, of Bulgarian below. In the left-hand upper corner is a double-lined frame, with ornaments in the corners, containing the arms upon a mantle, surmounted by a crown, and with crossed post-horns beneath. The stamp in the right-hand upper corner is of the same type as the adhesives. The whole is enframed by a border containing the two words of the second line of inscription, repeated *ad nauseam*. Reverse side plain. We are reminded that we have omitted to chronicle the 50 cents adhesive, which was issued later than the other values of the series, with which it corresponds identically in type.

Post Card. 10 centimes, carmine on buff card. Size, 140 × 90 mm., or 5½ × 3½ inches.

Adhesive. 50 centimes, blue and black.

Cape of Good Hope.—Another provisional 3d. has superseded the one which we chronicled in December. This time the authorities have employed the fourpenny die, as before, but have printed the stamp in a colour resembling that of the 1d. value, with a tinge of violet in it. The words "THREE PENCE," in thin block capitals, cover the original value.

3d., violet-rose, black surcharge.

We have also heard (but we impart the information "with all reserve") that the 5s. stamp has been met with surcharged three shillings.

Ceylon.—A new value, the 2 rupees 50 cents, is figured and described in the *Timbre Poste* for March. The stamp is of large size, like the 5s. of several of our colonies. It bears the head of Her Majesty, to left, on ground of horizontal lines, in an octagon enframed within an irregular oval. On the upper curve is "CEYLON POSTAGE," and on the lower one the value in words, in coloured letters on white. The spandrels are filled in with pearl-like ornaments.

We have also to chronicle a registration envelope, which is an exact copy of our own save for the stamp, which is printed in rose. The circle, in which the head of Her Majesty is placed, is relieved by a sort of church-window arrangement, and the legend consists of the words, "CEYLON REGISTRATION—TWELVE CENTS."

Registration Envelope. Rose, and blue on white.

Adhesive. 2½ rupees, red-brown; rectangular, col. imp. on white; *wmk.* C.C. and crown; *perf.* 14.

France.—We have received a reply-paid telegraphic, or pneumatic card. Save for the stamp, it differs but little from the single card which we described in October last. In the stamp we have a female personage representing Lutetia, the Goddess of Plenty, or anyone else one's fancy may light upon, seated upon a throne, with one foot on the ground and the other upon a stool. The left elbow rests upon a shield bearing the numerals 50; in the left hand is a sceptre terminating in a hand; and in the right is a cornucopia. The words "REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE" curve over the head, and there are two small stars in the upper corners. On a label below is the word "TELEGRAPHE," and below the stamp the engraver's name—Chaplain.

Telegram Card. Reply Paid. 50 × 50 centimes, carmine on buff.

Hong Kong.—We are in receipt of several novelties from this colony, which in the matter of provisional issues and surcharges has rather strained the attention of philatelists of late. First we have two provisional adhesives, called forth, we presume, by some fresh change in postal rates. These are a 5 and a 10 cents surcharged upon the 18 and 12 cents respectively. The surcharge is in two lines—first the numeral, and then the word "CENTS," punctuated. The lower value must not be confounded with the 5 cents which was used on the provisional post cards described in our November number. The numeral in those was a heavy block 5; in these it is of ordinary type, and smaller. All the post cards which we have previously described appear to be now obsolete, and we have three others, all of one design, to take their place. The first line of inscription is "UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE," in thin block letters. Then come the royal arms, and "HONG KONG" beneath them. To the left, in small type, is, "WRITE NOTHING BUT THE — ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE," in two lines; and the space for the direction is headed by the prefix "TO." The 4 cents card has the additional inscription in the left-hand lower corner, "Via BRINDISI AND LONDON." The stamps are of the same type as the current adhesives, save that the 1 and 3 cents have a sort of rosette in each of the four corners instead of the usual square key-pattern. The whole is enframed in a neat Etruscan border, and the card is of unusually stout quality.

Adhesive. 5 cents, surcharged in black upon the current 18 cents.

	10 "				12 "		
<i>Post Card.</i>	1 cent, blue-green.	} On	} buff card.	} Size	127½ × 89 mm., or		
"	3 " brown.						5 × 3⅞ in.
"	4 " slate.						
15*							

One of the cards sent to us has the following verses printed on the reverse :

A POST OFFICE SONNET.

Stout Marco Polo, sailing slowly home,
 With silver hair, and weary of the sea,
 Did chance divert thy southward course, to roam
 Where these wild peaks and barren headlands be ?
 Couldst thou foresee by such a desert strand
 Gathering of masts from every far-off clime
 With letters, from the unknown Western Land,
 From thy beloved Venice, yea, in time,
 From Sturt's Australia, and from high Cashmere ?
 Ah ! no such vision passed the boldest seer :
 Where wild winds whistled o'er the empty bay
 Are messages of love from lands long barred,
 Japan to rich Nyassa, and the card
 That furthest Thule sends to old Cathay.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, HONG KONG, 16th February, 1880.

German Empire.—The *Timbre Poste* calls attention to the fact that the current issue are now perforated 15, instead of 14 as formerly. Another change to be noted in these stamps is the omission of the final "E" in the word "PFENNIGE." At present this change has only come into operation in the 3 pfennig news-band and the 10 pf. adhesive ; but it will no doubt be extended to the other values.

Luzon.—The 200 mils de peso, rose, hitherto only known (in a perforate and imperforate state) as a proof or essay, has lately been used for the prepayment of letters, and may henceforth be looked upon as being every inch a postage-stamp. Of the new issue another value, of the same type as the 2½ c. de peso described in our January number, viz., the 2 c. de peso has come to hand. It will, no doubt, supersede the 2 c. green, with the surcharge, which has been in use for some time.

200 mils de peso, dull rose ; type of 1877-79 (without quatrefoils) *perf.* 14.
 2 cents de peso, carmine ; type of 1880 (Spain, 1878), *perf.* 14.

Mauritius.—Nearly all the values of the new issue, described by us in September, appear to be now in circulation. A correspondent sends us a copy of the 9d. lilac, surcharged "HALF PENNY" in two lines, with the surcharge inverted.

Newfoundland.—In addition to the two values, described in February, we have a third, the 5 cents, of the altered type. In this stamp the seal has been entirely re-engraved, and is quite a different animal. In the upper part of the stamp is the word "NEWFOUNDLAND" only, and below the value in words, and the numeral 5, in a circle, in each lower corner. The 2 cents Postal Union card is also quite changed. The inscriptions read the same, and are, as before, in three lines ; but they are printed in different type, and are differently arranged. The stamp bears no inscription save the words "TWO CENTS" on a label at the bottom. The portrait, in a circle, is that of Her Majesty in widow's weeds ; three-quarter face to left, the chin supported on the hand. An

irregular sort of shield projects beyond the circle. There is a highly ornate border. This is a very well-executed card, and even surpasses its immediate predecessor, which we described in July, and which was the work of the American Bank-note Company, New York. The card before us issues from the *ateliers* of the British American Bank-note Company, Montreal.

Post Card. 2 cents, vermilion on yellow card; size $126 \times 81\frac{1}{2}$ mm., or $4\frac{1}{8} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Adhesive. 5 cents, blue, oblong; col. imp. on white; *perf.* 12.

New South Wales.—The current 1s. of this colony has reached us, with what we suppose is a departmental surcharge, consisting of the letters "o.s." in red block letters, $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in height. The surcharge probably means On Service, and will be common to all the government departments.

Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Co. inform us that they have received a New South Wales registration envelope. The design is similar to that of our own; but the lines, inscriptions, and stamp are printed in carmine. The stamp bears the embossed head of Her Majesty to left, in an oval, upon a ground of horizontal lines, enframed in a second oval containing the legend, in coloured block letters upon white, "REGISTERED, NEW SOUTH WALES, FOUR PENCE."

Registration Envelope. 4d., carmine on white paper.

Official Adhesive. 1s., black, surcharged "o.s." in red.

Roumania.—A correspondent sends us a strip of four of the locally-printed 5 bani bistre, of the 1872 type, postmarked and imperforate.

5 bani, bistre, *imperforate.*

Roumelia.—We made a mistake in describing the post card last month, which Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. are good enough to correct. We said that the value expressed upon it is 15 paras, and that it is sold for 10 paras. The reverse is the case. The value, printed four times upon the card, is 10 paras, and it is sold, and we presume counts, for 15 paras.

Straits Settlements are in sad straits, judging from the way in which they have recourse to provisional issues. Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. send us the 30 cents adhesive, surcharged 10 cents. The word cents is printed in small italics, and punctuated, and does not seem to vary; but the numerals of value above it are in three or four different types.

10 cents, surcharged in black upon the 30 cents.

Venezuela.—In addition to the values of the new issue which we have already described, the 5 and 10 cents are now in use. As is generally the case with lithographed stamps, this issue already presents a multitude of shades. The "BERLINER I.B.Z." chronicles a high value—1 Bolivar (corresponding in worth, we suppose, with a peso), green. We have not seen this stamp.

2 cents, deep, light, and chalky blue.

10 ,, deep and dull carmine.

Virgin Islands.—Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Co. send us a new adhesive and post card for these islands. They are of precisely the same type as most of those which have lately been issued for our West Indian possessions.

Adhesive. 2½d., red-brown; *wmk. C.C. and crown; perf. 14.*
Post Card. 1½d. „ on buff.

NOTES ON THE STAMPS OF PORTO RICO.

BY V. G. DE YSASI.

THE following notes, in the compilation of which I have been kindly assisted by a gentleman of high position in the island, who is an ardent philatelist besides, cannot fail to be of interest to collectors.

Until the year 1873 the same postage stamps were used in Porto Rico as in Cuba. In the course of that year, however, the Porto Rico Government observed a falling off in the revenue derived from the sale of postage, as compared with telegraph stamps, and a secret investigation brought to light the fact that many of the Porto Rico merchants were in the habit of selling the stamps below face value. Further enquiry resulted in the discovery that Cuban merchants frequently remitted stamps to Porto Rico in settlement of small balances, as the stamps could be bought in Havana for paper currency, whilst in Porto Rico they could only be purchased for gold, and thus the remitters gained a percentage upon the transaction. Criminal proceedings were instituted, but had no other result than to establish the fact that the suspicions entertained as to the genuineness of the stamps which had been resold in Porto Rico, under face value, were unfounded. The plan adopted to put an end to these exchange transactions, which were so detrimental to the revenue of the post office, was to surcharge the stamps with the *paraphe*, or ornamental portion of the signature of the chief authority of the island. This was done about the middle of 1873, the stamps issued in the earlier part of the year having no *paraphe*.

In 1874 the stamps were surcharged with two *paraphes*, one being the Governor-General's, and the other that of the Intendente. My friend informs me that the set consisted of three values, the 25 and 50 cents, and the 1 peseta; but neither he nor any one else, so far as I am aware, ever saw the two higher values, with or without the *paraphe*, bearing the Porto Rico post-mark; so that even if they were prepared for use, they were not issued, and have probably been destroyed.

In 1875 three values of the Cuban stamps—the 25 and 50 cents, and 1 peseta—were adorned with the same *paraphes* as in the previous year, and used in Porto Rico.

In 1876 the Porto Rico stamps again consisted of the three highest values of the Cuban emission for that year, surcharged with two *paraphes*—differing, however, in pattern from those upon the preceding issue. About the month of June the official to whose charge they were entrusted stole about 45,000 dollars worth of the 25 cents and 1 peseta postage stamps (325,800 of the lower, and 19,100 of the higher values), besides a great number of telegraph stamps and a large quantity of fiscal stamped paper. But the thief was bested, and his booty rendered valueless, by an order in council, dated the 22nd June, 1876, which ordained that the 25 cents and 1 peseta postage stamps should bear a *triple* surcharge—that of the Governor-General being repeated, horizontally, across the previous two—and the telegraph labels were also adorned with a surcharge which they had not before.

In 1877 were issued the first stamps peculiar to the island. The emission consisted of five values (*viz.*, 5, 10, 15, 25, and 50 cents), and is dated.

In 1878 only three values bearing the date of that year were issued (*viz.*, the 25 and 50 cents, and 1 peseta); but in compliance with the request of the merchants and newsvendors for stamps of a lower denomination, the 5,

10, and 15 cents of 1877 were again circulated, without any surcharge to distinguish them from those used during the year of their issue. Towards the end of 1878, 5 and 10 cents, bearing that date, reached the island, but were not sold to the public.

In 1879 six values were issued; viz., the 5, 10, 15, 25, and 50 cents, and 1 peseta. By August the supply of the two lowest values was exhausted, and in September the 5 and 10 cents of 1878, which had not hitherto been put into circulation, were used during the space of two months; at the expiration of which time, a fresh supply of the 1879 stamps having been received from Spain, they were withdrawn. It must therefore be noted that the 5 and 10 cents of 1878 were not used during the year of which they bear the date, but only for two months in 1879.

The issue of the current year has been described in No. 13 of the *Philatelic Record*.

THE STAMPS OF MAURITIUS.

By CAPT. E. B. EVANS, R.A.

PART I.—*continued*.

WE now pass to the second issue, printed from the plates mentioned in the Postmaster's letter of May 2nd, 1848. In the Government *Gazette* for that year appears the following "Post Office Notification:"

"The public are hereby informed that post-office stamps for the prepayment of letters can be had at the General and District Post Offices.

"J. S. BROWNRIGG, *Colonial Postmaster*.

"General Post Office, August 3rd, 1848."

The authorities would seem to have been a long time, from May to August, making up their minds about resuming the emission of postage stamps, but it is possible that they may have been issued at the General Post Office previous to the date of the above notice. No official notification was published in regard to the first issue, and it may only have been considered necessary when the stamps were distributed to the district offices; however, in default of other information, August, 1848, may be taken as the date of the second issue.

All that the official documents tell us about these stamps is that they were of two values—one penny and twopence—and that there were twelve impressions on each plate; they can, however, have been no other than the well-known stamps, closely resembling the first issue, but lettered "POST PAID" on the left-hand side instead of "POST OFFICE," and of which there are known to exist twelve types of each value.

The method and the style of engraving these stamps are the same as in the first issue; but besides the above-mentioned difference in the lettering, there are the following minor ones, which are common, for the most part, to the whole of the twelve varieties of each value. The stars in the upper left and lower right-hand corners do not contain dots. The whole of the shading of the effigy is in lines instead of dots, and the background is composed of coarse oblique lines sloping downwards from right to left, finer and lighter vertical lines, and in some types, at all events, oblique lines sloping downwards from left to right still finer and lighter than the vertical lines. The general engraving of this issue is coarser than that of the former one. The expression of the face on the "POST OFFICE" stamps is not quite so unpleasant, I think, as that of any of those on the "POST PAID;" and at all events the lips in the former effigy are more closed than in some types of the latter, and therefore the absence of all masticating machinery is not so painfully evident. (Mr. Barnard did not add a knowledge of dentistry to his other accomplishments, or he would not have omitted to draw Her Majesty's teeth!)

This second issue continued in circulation for about ten years, during which time the plates were gradually worn away by use, and the details of the design disappeared one after the other; the finer lines of course going first, and

the deeper ones following them, until the last impressions became hardly worthy even to be called the ghosts of the former ones, although they were so dim and shadowy. So great was this alteration, so thorough the disappearance of some lines, whilst others remained comparatively clear, that the stamps have been often chronicled as two distinct issues—the one “with ground of vertical and oblique lines,” and the other “with ground of oblique lines only.” Early impressions would naturally be rarer at the present time than the later ones; but so far as my experience goes, impressions showing clearly all the details of the design are so rare as to prove that some of the lines were very much lighter than others, and disappeared very early in the period of circulation. When I had got together a fair number of these stamps, I picked out the best specimen I could find of each type, with a view to forming sheets of the two values showing really the original state of the plates; and having, as I thought, done so, I came to the conclusion that some of the types had a far greater number of vertical lines in the background than others. Since making my first arrangement, however, I have had to change several of my representative specimens, finding that what I had taken for impressions from an early state of the plate were, really, fine impressions from an intermediate state. There can be no doubt that the background in all the types was originally thickly covered with fine vertical lines, as well as with coarser oblique ones sloping downwards from right to left; and it becomes a question whether there was not also in all cases a third set of lines, sloping in a direction across those last mentioned, and finer even than the vertical ones; the fact being that it is impossible to say whether a fine, clear impression showing a number of vertical lines is or is not really an early one, unless it is still attached to a letter or envelope showing the date of its use. I have a good many specimens in this condition, but none with such an early date that I can say of it, “This is the original state of the plate.” In fact I have none dated earlier than 1853, about five years after these stamps were first issued. Down to that date the vertical lines would appear to have been clearly shown, but I find some good impressions, used in 1854, in which those lines are very indistinct. Now it is not unreasonable to suppose that at least half as much wear had taken place when the stamps used in 1853 were printed as had taken place when those used in 1854 were printed; and, if so many of the vertical lines had disappeared before the impression of these latter, who is to say what may not have been worn out before the impression of the former?

When I returned to England from Mauritius I had no specimens of the “ONE PENNY” showing an earlier date than 1854, though I had some detached specimens which I still believe to be impressions of a decidedly earlier date. In looking over the collection of the President of the Philatelic Society of London I found a stamp which puzzled me exceedingly, and which I think may be said to be unique. I certainly have never seen an impression which equalled it, and I do not think that it has been hitherto described. It resembles in every particular type 7 of the “ONE PENNY” which we are now considering; indeed it is that type, but it differs from the more ordinary impressions of it in showing in the most clear and distinct manner a background composed of two sets of oblique lines crossing one another; and a close examination showed that there were vertical lines also, but at first sight the crossed oblique were by far the most conspicuous. I had some good impressions of that type showing the vertical lines, but in none of them could the lines sloping downwards from left to right be traced; and the specimen in question remained a mystery until, not very long afterwards, I received a few stamps from a friend in Mauritius, and amongst them a fine pair of types 7 and 8 of this value, a close inspection of which showed that the specimen of type 7 had some of these mysterious lines. They are not nearly so distinct as in the specimen alluded to above; but still they are there, showing unmistakably that this one type, at all events, possessed a background composed of three sets of lines instead of two only; and as specimens showing the third set are so scarce, it is not impossible that the background of the other types may have been similarly formed; indeed I fancy I can trace a few in the specimen of type 8 attached to my type 7.

So much for the details which the plates contained when first engraved. As I stated before, they passed, by wear and tear, through every stage, until the impressions became absolutely illegible in the legend and almost invisible as to design. The most moderate collector should hardly rest satisfied without specimens showing at least three or four of these stages, and such specimens would be the more interesting if two or more of them were of the same type, thus showing the effects of wear upon the same identical lines.

We may now pass to the consideration of the twelve types of each value. The differences between them are, of course, purely accidental, and arise simply from the fact of the whole of each plate being engraved by hand, the engraver having no other means of multiplying his design. The types naturally closely resemble each other, so much so, that the points of difference between them are very difficult, in most cases, to describe, although when placed side by side they are easily distinguishable. The stamps are arranged on the sheet (in both values) as in the accompanying diagram; but instead of being evenly placed, the left-hand stamp of each row of three is on a higher level, so to speak, than the other two, which are as nearly as possible on the same level, and there is a greater distance between the left-hand vertical row and the centre one than there is between this latter and the right-hand vertical row. There is also a greater distance between Nos. 1 and 2 than there is between Nos. 10 and 11, so that while the stamps in the centre and right-hand rows are arranged square with and parallel to one another, those in the left-hand row not only are not individually in the same horizontal line with those next them in the other rows, but the whole row slopes away from the other two. This peculiarity of arrangement becomes important when considering a subsequent issue.

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12

It would be possible, no doubt, by measurements, to find means for identifying the various types, but it is hardly necessary to do so. I should always be happy to give the positions of any specimens forwarded to me through the editor, provided that they were sufficiently clear impressions to be identified. It may be interesting, however, to notice some of the types which have describable peculiarities. In the "one penny" plate, type 1 has the value in smaller letters than any of the other types. Type 2 has one peculiarity which can only be seen in early impressions, and another which is only shown by later ones. The first is in the lower left and upper right-hand corners, the Maltese crosses in which are shaded with horizontal lines in the upper and lower triangular portions and vertical lines in the side ones, whereas in all the other types these ornaments are shaded with vertical lines only. The second peculiarity is, that the metal was apparently not cut away very deeply under the "P" of "Post," so that in impressions from the worn plate there is a white mark there turning the letter into something resembling a badly formed E. Type 3 has the words "Post Paid" in much smaller letters, and the label containing them is narrower than in any of the other types. Types 1, 4, 7, and 10 have a greater space between the "y" of "Penny" and the end of the label than the other eight types. Type 10 has the "d" of "Paid" nearer to the end of the label than in any of the others. Type 11 has a deep cut joining one of the rays of the star in the upper left-hand corner to the end of the label containing the words "Post Paid;" this cut was so deep that the impression of it can be seen even in a very worn state of the plate. In the "Two pence" plate, type 1 has the "o" of "Two" further from the lower border of its label than the other two letters, and so close to the upper border of the label as to be cut square above, and the "c" of "pence" almost touches the "e," and quite touches it in worn impressions. Type 2 has a very small, almost closed, "c" in "pence." In type 4 the two lines forming the lower right-hand corner, and also a line in continuation of the upper margin

of the lower label, project considerably beyond the margin of the stamp. Worn impressions of this type also show the word "pence" with an "o" instead of a "c," but this is not the real "Penoe" error, which had that defect from the very beginning. Type 5 has the words of value further apart than any of the others, except type 7, the distinguishing mark of which will be given below. Type 6 has the words "Two Pence" in very small letters, and there is some space between the last letter of the second word and the end of the label. Type 7 is the "Penoe" error, thus engraved, and not due to wear of the plate. It resembles type 5 in having the words of value some distance apart, and this latter peculiarity distinguishes worn impressions of this type from those of type 4. Types 8 and 10 have "Post Paid" in larger letters, and type 11 has the value in taller letters than the other types. M. Moens chronicles a worn impression of one of the types of the "Two Pence," showing a "t" in place of the second "e" of "Pence;" but although I have worn impressions of all the types, I have not been able to discover this variety, which is no proof, however, that such specimens do not exist.

The earliest impressions of this issue were in bright orange-red and deep blue, on a thickish paper, which no doubt was originally white, but in the case of the "one penny" is now yellowish, being discoloured no doubt partly by the ink of the impression and partly by age, and perhaps the gum. I have never seen a "Two pence" on what appeared to be really white paper, the ink having always tinged the paper to a certain extent, as I discovered on examining some specimens with very wide margins, where the distance which the copper plate extended beyond the stamps is most plainly marked. A really blue paper was, however, also used for both values, most of the later impressions being on a thin paper of a decidedly bluish tint, and I have also a fine early impression of the "one penny" on a very blue paper. Later impressions may also be found of the lower value on white or yellowish paper, and of the higher on paper which was no doubt originally white; but these are not, I think, so common as those on bluish.

The colour in which the stamps were printed varied also to some extent no doubt, but I suspect that it was originally more a variation of shade than of actual colour, most of the rusty red, red-brown, and deep brown specimens of the "one penny" having probably changed considerably in colour since they were printed, though some of them may be due to bad ink or a dirty condition of the plate. The "Two pence" also varies a good deal in shade, if not in colour, there being a deep blue and a pale chalky-blue, which are very distinct.

No proofs or essays of these stamps are known, and no re-impressions are possible, both plates having continued in use until worn out, and having been subsequently re-engraved and entirely changed in appearance.

(To be continued.)

PERSIAN POST CARDS.

By "A POST CARD COLLECTOR."

1878.

(1) Provisional card formed by sticking a 2 shahi and half of a 1 shahi adhesive upon an unstamped Russian card of the first type (1872).

2½ shahi, green and lilac.

(2) Medium-sized card, measuring 145 × 90 mm. At the top, "CARTE DE CORRESPONDANCE" in curve; and immediately beneath, "DE PERSANA" in straight line, followed by four ruled lines for address. In the left-hand upper corner is a rectangle containing the arms, lion and sun. In the right-hand upper corner is a rectangle containing a 2 shahi and the half of a 1 shahi adhesive, surcharged 2½ in blue within a circle of the same colour. The whole within a frame composed of leaf-like ornaments, with suns in each corner, measuring 127 × 81 mm.

2½ shahi, red, lilac, and blue; black imp. on white card.

(3) Similar to the preceding, but the stamp consists of half a 5 shahi adhesive, surcharged $2\frac{1}{2}$ shahi in red within a circle of the same colour. Of this card there are two minor varieties; in the one the right, and in the other the left half-portion of the 5 shahi adhesive being used.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ shahi, rose and red.

(4) Similar to the preceding; but the surcharge on the half of a 5 shahi adhesive is not stamped, but done with a blue pencil. I have a used specimen of this card in my collection. It was addressed direct to me from Teheran.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ shahi, rose and blue.

Many other minor varieties of these cards are to be found. In some the surcharge is in lake instead of red. Most of them were made for sale to collectors rather than for use, although I possess used specimens of all I have described.

1879.

(5) Medium-sized card, measuring 138×81 mm. At the top it bears the inscription in three lines, "UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE;"—"CARTE POSTALE—DE PERSE;" followed by a sentence in Persian, and four lines for address. At the bottom, to the left, is "CE CÔTE EST EXCLUSIVEMENT RESERVÉ," &c., and to the right is a Persian inscription. In the right-hand upper corner is the stamp, forming a portion of the card, and not an adhesive. In the left-hand upper corner are the arms, lion, and sun, with tiara above and post-horns beneath them; the whole within a fancy frame measuring 130×74 mm. I have not yet met with any varieties of this card.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ shahi, carmine and black on buff card.

SERVICE CARDS.

These are similar to the ordinary cards of the second issue of 1878, but bear no stamp, the word "SERVICE" being printed diagonally across the space intended for the stamp.

No value expressed; grey on buff
brown on buff

I have several of these cards surcharged across the space intended for the stamp with a heavy Persian inscription.

Correspondence.

THE OFFICIALLY ISSUED STAMPED ENVELOPES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

To the Editor of "*The Philatelic Record*."

SIR,—Referring to Mr. Schmidt de Wilde's list of these envelopes in the *Record* for March, I observe that he makes no mention of those with more than two threads. I have both the 1d. and 2d. with two blue and one pink thread, and the 2d. with two blue threads at one corner and two pink ones at the other.

Is it known for certain that the dated envelopes were issued in 1855? I have the 1d. without date, No. 79, used in 1853, and No. 85, used in 1857. The latter date is of course no evidence; but I have No. 91, dated 7-5-62, and No. 144, dated 10-6-63. Can five or six numbers have lasted from 1855 to 1862, and then some fifty have been required during the next twelve months?

Yours, &c.,

R. A.

SIR,—I can add little to the information so elaborately worked up by Mr. Schmidt de Wilde as to the officially issued *purchasable* envelopes. As the word "envelope" is used, I presume that letter sheets are excluded. I have one with silk threads passing horizontally through the stamp, which I got from an old collection I purchased in 1874. Unfortunately it is cut square. By the way, I possess what I fancy is a unique copy of the newsband, green, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., on deep buff paper, issued in 1873. It is an official band, not a privately-stamped one.

Yours, &c.,

P. H. N.

[SEVERAL of our correspondents, members of the Philatelic Society of London, have intimated to us that, engaged as they are in collecting all the information in their power for the catalogue to be issued by the Society, they do not feel at liberty to anticipate such information by commenting for the present upon Mr. S. de Wilde's interesting paper.—EDITOR.]

Proceedings of the Philatelic Society of London.

THE seventh meeting of the season was held on the 13th March, 1880, at 14, South Square, Gray's Inn; the President in the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed. The business of the day was the compilation of a list of the stamps and envelopes of the Transvaal, and they proved a most interesting subject of study. As was to be expected, almost every member possessed certain stamps which were not to be found in the collections of the others, and it is probable that some minor varieties may exist which were not forthcoming at the meeting. The Secretary will be glad to receive particulars of such from members who were not present, and from readers of the *Philatelic Record*.

TRANSVAAL. REPUBLIC.

ISSUE I. SEPTEMBER, 1869.

Four values, surface printed (typographed). Coloured impression on white wove paper, varying in thickness; white gum; no watermark. Design, arms of the Republic in oval shield, surmounted by crest (an eagle), and supported by banners on either side. The motto, "EENDRAGT MAAKT MAGT" (Union is Strength), in scroll beneath. All in upright, rectangular frame of colour, inscribed in white letters and numerals. This first issue was printed at Mecklenburg, in Germany, and is known as the "*German printed issue*."

T. "POSTZEGEL" (postage stamp) and numerals of value in angles; B. "Z. AFR. REPUBLIEK" (South African Republic). R. and L. Value in words, reading upwards.

A. Imperforate.

Een penny	(1d.), vermilion (shades)
"	(1d.), red-brown
Drie pence	(3d.), violet, bright and pale
Zes "	(6d.), blue (shades) and ultramarine
Een shilling	(1s.), green, light and dark

B. Rouletted.

The same values, impression, colours, and shades.

Varieties.

All the values, imperforate and rouletted, have been printed *tête-bêche*; that is to say, at least one die has been put topsy-turvy in making up the sheet, and so that stamp comes head downwards in the printed sheet.

REMARKS.—In this and the following issues, save in one instance, which will be noticed in its place, the 1d., 6d., and 1s. are printed from one plate, and the 3d. value from another. The chief point of difference between the two plates lies in the eagle, which in the 3d. value is larger, and has its wings more folded than the bird which figures on the other stamps. Each value was printed in sheets comprising forty stamps, ranged vertically in five rows of eight stamps per row.

ISSUE II. 1870.

This issue, confined to 3 values, differs from the preceding only in the coarseness of the printing, which was executed in the Transvaal, and the inferiority of the paper, which also varies greatly in substance.

A. Imperforate.

1d., red, dark and pale
6d., blue, dark and light, ultramarine to indigo
1s., green, dark and pale

B. *Rouletted.*

Same values, impression, colours, and shades.

Varieties.

All three values, imperf. and rouletted, exist, printed *tête-bêche*.

1d., red, rouletted vertically and imperforate horizontally

1d., red, roulette with wide dents (query, non-official)

ISSUE III. END OF 1870.

One value of preceding type; German printed; imperforate and rouletted.

1d., deep and grey-black

ISSUE IV. 1873.

One value of preceding type; native printed; rouletted.

1d., carmine-red

ISSUE V. END OF 1874.

Two values of preceding types; native printed on thin white paper; perf. 13.

1d., bright and pale red | 6d., bright and pale blue

ISSUE VI. END OF 1874.

One value. The 6d., with the eagle of crest, altered to that of the 3d. value.

Native printed.

6d., ultramarine (shades), rouletted

[Proofs of this stamp, in red-brown, imperforate and rouletted, exist. Those shown at the meeting were obliterated by a circular postmark.]

ISSUE VII. 1875-76.

Three values of preceding types; coarse native impression on pelure paper.

A. *Imperforate.*

1d., red, bright to very pale | 3d., violet (shades)

6d., blue, bright to pale

B. *Rouletted.*

The same impression, shades, and paper.

Varieties.

1d., red, rouletted with wide dents (non-official?)

ISSUE VIII. 1876.

Three (?) values of preceding types. Native printed. Impression a mere smudge; inscriptions almost illegible. Paper varying greatly in substance.

A. *Imperforate.*

1d., red (shades) | 6d., deep blue

3d., (?) | 1s., deep green

B. *Rouletted.*

1d., red (shades) | 6d., deep blue

3d., (?) | 1s., deep green

ISSUE IX. 1876 (?).

One value, same type, German printed. The numerals of value at the upper angles are placed in *double-lined* frames.

A. *Imperforate.*

1d., light red

B. *Rouletted.*

1d., rose-red

1d., black

Proofs.

Type of actual issue, German printed.

1d., lilac, imperforate

3d., rose-pink, light blue, rouletted

TRANSVAAL. BRITISH POSSESSION.

ISSUE I. JULY, 1877.

Four values of preceding types, rather better printed than under native rule, and surcharged with "V.R. TRANSVAAL," in two lines, Roman capitals. White wove paper, varying in thickness.

A. Black surcharge. *Imperforate.*

1d., red (shades)

6d., blue (shades)

3d., lilac ,,

1s., green ,,

B. *Rouletted.*

Same surcharge, values, and shades.

Varieties.

1d.,	} red,	{	surcharge inverted, imperf.
1d.,			no stop after R of V.R., imperf.
1d.,			on pelure paper, imperf.
6d.,	blue,		surcharge imprinted twice in error, imperf.
6d.,	green,		the 1s. value divided obliquely, and the half used as 6d.
1s.,	green,		surcharge inverted, imperf. and rouletted

ISSUE II. 1877.

Three values of preceding type, differing from the last only in the surcharge being in red.

A. *Imperforate.*

3d., violet | 6d., grey-blue | 1s., bright green

No specimens *rouletted* are known, but there appears no *reason* to doubt their existence.*Varieties.*

3d., violet, imperf., on pelure paper.

ISSUE III. OCTOBER, 1877.

One value of preceding type; same surcharge, in black. Coloured impression upon coloured paper.

A. *Imperforate.*

6d., indigo, bright and pale blue, on pink paper

B. The same. *Rouletted.**Varieties.*

- (a) Surcharge inverted
 (b) Stamp printed *tête-bêche* } imperf. and rouletted

ISSUE IV. JANUARY, 1878.

Three values of preceding types; black surcharge, "V.R.," in Roman capitals; letters more spaced. "Transvaal" in small letters, with capital "T." Coloured impression on coloured paper.

A. *Imperforate.*1d., red and scarlet upon blue 3d., lilac upon buff.
6d., dark and pale blue upon blue-greenB. Same surcharge and shades. *Rouletted.**Varieties.*

1d., scarlet on blue, *tête-bêche*, imperf.
 1d., " surcharge inverted, imperf.
 1d., " " "Transvral," error, rouletted
 3d., lilac on buff, surcharge inverted
 3d., " rouletted vertically and imperf. horizontally
 6d., blue on blue-green, *tête-bêche*

ISSUE V. 1878.

Three values. The "v.r." of the surcharge is printed on all the eight stamps of the top row, and the first five of the second row of the sheet, in Roman capitals, and on the remaining twenty-seven stamps in italic capitals. Coloured impression upon coloured paper.

A. *Imperforate.*1d., bright and dull red on orange 3d., bright and dull lilac on buff
6d., bright and dull blue on blueB. *Rouletted.* Same values and shades.*Varieties.*

1d., red on orange. No stop after V of V.R.
 1d., red on orange, roulette with wide dents (non-official ?)
 1d., " rouletted horizontally, imperf. vertically
 6d., blue on blue, *without surcharge*, imperf. and rouletted
 6d., " rouletted wide dents (non-official ?)

ISSUE VI. 1878 (?).

Two values, same types as preceding; same surcharge, in *red*. Coloured impression on *white paper*.

1d., red, imperforate | 6d., blue, imperforate

ISSUE VII. 1878.

Six values. Engraved and printed in surface printing. Impression in colour on white paper; white gum; no watermark; perforated 14½. Head of Victoria to right, upon groundwork of horizontal lines, within oval beaded at the sides. "TRANSVAAL POSTAGE" in curved label above, and value in words in curved label beneath head. Numerals of value in small circles at each corner.

1d., Venetian red | 4d., sap-green | 1s., emerald-green
3d., carmine-lake | 6d., dark grey | 2s., Prussian blue

ISSUE VIII. PROVISIONALS. MAY, JUNE, 1879.

One value, the 6d. of preceding type surcharged "1 Penny." Six varieties of surcharge are found on the same sheet. (See *Philatelic Record* of September, 1879.)

A. 1d., dark grey, red surcharge } six varieties; perf. 14½
B. 1d. " black " }

ISSUE IX. PROVISIONAL. MAY, JUNE, 1879.

One value, the 3d., first type, surcharged "V.R. Transvaal." "V.R." in Roman and italic capitals on same sheet. "Transvaal" with capital "T." Coloured impression on coloured paper.

3d., lilac, dark and pale, on green paper, imperf

ISSUE X. PROVISIONALS. LATTER PART OF 1879 AND 1880.

Three values. First type, surcharged "V.R. Transvaal." The "V.R." in smaller Roman capitals, closer together; "Transvaal" with capital "T." Coloured impression upon coloured paper; imperforate.

1d., bright and pale red upon yellow paper
1d., bright red upon orange paper
3d., violet upon green paper
3d., purple upon blue paper

Varieties.

Two stamps upon each sheet have a different "T" in the surcharge, "Transvaal;" this is common, of course, to both values.

1d., red on yellow, rouletted with wide dents (non-official?)

ENVELOPES.

ISSUE OF SEPTEMBER, 1869.

Circle, 30 mm. in diameter, in right-hand upper corner, containing the inscription, "POTCHEFSTROM. Z.A.R.—G.P.K.," hand-stamped in black.

A. *Without value or date expressed.*

1. (Value 6d.) On white wove paper
2. (") " " laid "
3. (") " " buff "

B. *With the date 1869 added in type.*

1. (Value 6d.) On white laid paper

C. *With the date added in type, and value written with pen.*

1. (6d.) On white wove paper, value in black ink
2. (") " " laid " " " "
3. (") " blue " " " "
4. (") " white wove " " red "
5. (") " " laid " " " "

Variety.

The 6d. in red ink, on white laid paper, stamp in left-hand lower corner.

ISSUE OF 1869.

Circle, 24½ mm. in diameter, in right-hand upper corner, containing the inscription, "POTCHEFSTROM. ZUID AFRIKA. Z.A.R."

- A. *Without date.* 6d. "Pence" added with pen.
 1. 6d., on white laid paper, value in black ink
 B. *With date, 69, in type, and "6d." added with pen.*
 1. 6d., on white laid paper, value in black ink
 2. 6d. ,, brown wove ,, ,, ,,
 3. 6d. ,, ,, "Varieties." ,, red ,,

The 6d. on brown wove paper, value in red and black, stamp in left-hand lower corner.

ISSUE OF 1872.

Stamp of the same type as the 6d. adhesive; white numerals in upper angles. Type-printed.

6d., bright and pale blue, on white laid paper

ISSUE OF JANUARY, 1874.

Stamp of the same type as the 3d. adhesive. Coloured numerals in upper angles. The word "ZES" printed in colour on white ground.

6d., ultramarine, on white laid paper

REMARKS.—None of these envelopes have been met with in a used condition. The chronicle of all the above varieties is eminently suggestive that the desires of collectors, rather than the wants of the letter-sending public, were the moving cause of their creation. No great faith can be placed in them until Mr. Jeppe's connection with their issue be officially explained.

The eighth meeting of the season was held on the 3rd April, 1880, at 14, South Square, Gray's Inn; Mr. T. K. Tapling in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. W. E. Williams was proposed by the Secretary, seconded by Mr. de Ysasi, and elected a member of the Society. The business of the day was the compilation of a list of the stamps of Fiji, and also to consider the best mode of classifying the stamps of Oceania. Owing to the time occupied by the first part of the programme, the second had to be adjourned. On the conclusion of the business, the President reported on the progress of the Great Britain catalogue, and sundry novelties and curiosities were exhibited by the Secretary and others, including Virgin Islands and Bulgarian post cards; the new Cape of Good Hope provisional 3d. adhesive; provisional Straits Settlements 10 cents. The Secretary showed a United States envelope, posted *via* New York to Paris in January, 1857, having, amongst other postmarks, the identical "G. B. 40 c" which has lately puzzled collectors on the stamps of St. Vincent, West Indies. He also showed the triangular Cape of Good Hope 1d., watermarked C. C. and crown, the existence of which has been frequently doubted.

The list of Fiji postage stamps prepared at this meeting will be published in the next number of the *Philatelic Record*.

Notes and Queries.

QUERIST.—Several correspondents inform us, in reply to your query in last number, that the Danish post cards with additional adhesives are employed as address cards for parcels sent by post.

C.—Declined with thanks.

SEVERAL SUBSCRIBERS in the colonies are hereby informed that we do not profess, and never have professed, to publish on the 1st of the month. Our stated time for appearing is in the third week of each month.

J. H. YORKSHIRE.—Thanks for the P.O. United States envelopes, Plimpton and Reay dies. They are fully described in Professor Horner's work upon the United States envelopes.

CHEMICUS.—Thanks for your letter, which we will publish next month.

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The Philatelic Record.

Vol. II. No. 16.

MAY.

1880.



THE appearance of a fresh volume of M. Moens' *Bibliothèque des Timbrophiles* is always a matter for self-gratulation amongst the philatelic fraternity, and the one just issued, treating of the stamps and essays of the Egyptian Post Office, is, if possible, more exhaustive of its subject than any of those which have preceded it.

The Egyptian Post Office, as a national institution, dates only from the year 1865, previous to which all postal arrangements were left to the enterprise of private individuals, most of whom were Italians, a circumstance which no doubt accounts for their language being the only European one employed for the inscriptions on the stamps used previous to the issue of the current set. One Carlo Meratti established the first private post, which he called the "Posta Europea," in Alexandria, in 1821, distributing the inland correspondence between that town and Cairo, as well as undertaking the charge of that destined for Europe. His couriers conveyed the inland letters from village to village, depositing them with the respective Sheiks, from whom the addressees were at liberty to get them, Allah willing. Upon Meratti's death, in 1847, Tito Chini carried on the undertaking, assuming a partner, Giacomo Muzzi, under whose direction he placed it. Up to this time correspondence had only been conveyed to and from Alexandria and Cairo, and such villages as lay immediately between them; and it was only twelve years later that Chini obtained the privilege of establishing for a term of ten years agencies in fifteen of the other principal towns. In 1864, when the "Posta Europea" had reached its highest point of prosperity, the Egyptian Government bought up its privileges, and gave Muzzi the appointment of Postmaster-General, with the title of Bey, an office in which he

Price 2d.

2s. 6d. per Annum.

Abroad, 3s.

was succeeded in 1876 by the present official, Mr. A. Caillard. Besides the "Posta Europea," there were established, at the respective consulates in Alexandria, French, Italian, Austrian, Greek, English, Belgian, and Russian posts for the reception and despatch of letters from and to these countries. The three latter have ceased to exist, and the extinction of the others would seem to be a consummation most devoutly to be wished, as they appear to do more harm than good. To obtain one's letters one must trudge from consulate to consulate in various parts of the city, house to house delivery not being as yet established; whilst the despatch of correspondence is attended with even greater difficulties, the prepayment of postage at each consulate being demanded in the coin of the mother country, the Austrian Post Office even declining to accept payment in its own paper money.

The first emission of postage stamps was announced in a Government decree of the 21st December, 1865; and, on the 1st January following, the arabesque series, which was made by Messrs. Pellas Brothers, of Genoa, was issued to the public. Another decree, dated 11th July, 1867, announced the emission of a new issue, which appeared on the 1st August, and was lithographed by Mr. V. Penasson, of Alexandria. This is the series with the pyramid and sphinx in the centre, Pompey's pillar on the left, and Cleopatra's needle on the right. M. Moens' assertions, that the pyramids are the most ancient monuments in the world, and that Cleopatra's needle is now erected in Waterloo Place, are both open to dispute. But no matter. On the 1st January, 1872, was issued the series with the crescents and stars in the spandrels, which was only superseded last April by the current one. That also was the work of Mr. Penasson, who likewise prepared in 1875 a stamp of the value of 60 paras, red on grey paper, having the numerals of value in a circle. In August, 1876, a fire destroyed his premises, together with some 2,000 sheets of these stamps, which were never issued.

Of the fifty engravings with which M. Moens' work is adorned, more than two-thirds represent the various essays which were from time to time submitted for the approval of the Egyptian Post Office by engravers and lithographers in all parts of the world. It need hardly be remarked that the best were rejected in favour of inferior ones, which probably owed their acceptance to the smallness of their cost. About all these designs there is a certain amount of sameness—pyramids, sphinxes, and other native

monuments figuring in almost all of them. But perhaps this was stipulated for by the authorities. As might be expected, the essays submitted by the American Bank-note Companies were the best, although the representations of them given by M. Moens' engraver are the poorest in the book. Those submitted by Mr. C. Borrani, of Florence, are perhaps the most grotesque. He was certainly most ungrudging of his labour; and his grouping of pyramids, sphinxes, Pompey's pillar, Cleopatra's needle, factory chimneys, and telegraph poles is painstaking, if incongruous.

We must pass over the elaborate descriptions of provisional issues, post-cards, errors, and other philatelic eccentricities, and, reserving our notice of that portion of M. Moens' work which treats of the Suez Canal stamps for our next number, content ourselves with merely alluding to the multicoloured circular "official" stamps with which some collectors delight to adorn their albums. These labels, or rather seals, have no philatelic value whatsoever. As M. Moens says, "they are an economic substitute for sealing-wax; but do not in any way frank the letters to which they are affixed, merely indicating the particular office from which they have been sent."

In conclusion, we would strongly recommend our readers to provide themselves, not only with the work at which we have thus cursorily glanced, but with the entire set of the *Bibliothèque des Timbrophiles*. The ten volumes that have now been published represent an immense amount of labour and research, which the sale of the 150 copies of each volume, to which the issue is limited, can never pecuniarily repay, and in a few years the books must inevitably become scarce.

Novelties, Discoveries, and Resuscitations.

Bermuda has, through Messrs. De La Rue and Co., enriched her set of current stamps by two new values. On the halfpenny, the head of Her Majesty, on ground of horizontal lines, is in an oval enframed in a second oval of solid colour; in the upper curve "BERMUDA," and in the lower one "HALFPENNY," in white letters. The two inscriptions are divided by a key-patterned ornament. The spandrels are filled in with a decoration resembling an O many times repeated. The fourpenny has the portrait on ground of horizontal lines enframed in a dotted circle. Curved labels, with ends cut square, at top and bottom containing respectively the words

“BERMUDA” and “FOURPENCE” in white letters on colour. The frame of the stamp is rounded at the corners, and ornamented with arabesques.

$\frac{3}{4}$ d., dull brown } col. imp. on white; upright rectangular; *wmk.* CC.
4d., orange-pink } and crown; *perf.* 14.

Cuba.—Our correspondent, “A Post Card Collector,” sends us the following particulars of the new Cuban post cards, which we have not yet seen: No. 1, of the value of 10 cents de peseta, has five lines of inscriptions—1st, “ULTRAMAR;” 2nd, “UNION POSTAL UNIVERSAL;” 3rd, “UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE;” 4th, “ESPAÑA;” 5th, “EN ESTE LADO SE ESCRIBE SOLAMENTE LA DIRECCION.” Three lines for address, the first preceded by “A.” The stamp, in the right upper corner, is of the same type as the current adhesives, and is printed, like the inscriptions, in brown-lake. No border. No. 2, value 15 cents de peseta, is of the same type as No. 1.

Post Card. 10 cents de peseta, brown-lake } on white card. 130 × 90 mm.
 ,, 15 ,, bright rose }

Cyprus.—The obsolete $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. adhesives of Great Britain are now being used in this dependency surcharged with the word “CYPRUS” in the same way as the fiscals stamps in use there. The surcharge is in block capitals, and is 16 mm. in length, the letters being 2 mm. high. The current $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., blue, will probably soon be subjected to the same surcharge.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ d., violet-brown; black surcharge.

Fernando Po.—Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons and Co. have sent us three values for this island. The stamps are of the same type as those issued in the other Spanish colonies this year, but they have no ornaments in the upper label, and are undated.

5 cents de peseta, sea green.
10 ,, carmine.
50 ,, bright blue.

German Empire.—The 5, 20, and 50 pfennig adhesives are now in circulation mulcted of the final *e* of pfennige. In the first of these stamps there is a further charge to be noted. The numeral 5 is repeated after the word pfennig, occupying, in fact, to a certain extent, the place of the missing *e*.

Holland.—A correspondent sends us two of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ cent post cards, violet on buff, without border, and calls our attention to the fact that there are slight differences in the drawing of the arms. In the one card the horizontal lines on the shield are wider apart, and the ermine of the mantle more finely sketched than in the other.

Hong Kong.—In addition to the cards which we described in our last number we have a further variety to describe. It is the 5 cents provisional, blue on white card, with intertwined border, with the word “THREE” in block capitals printed over, and obliterating the numeral 5 previously surcharged on the stamp.

The words "*Via* Brindisi and London" are also struck out with the pen.

India.—A correspondent has favoured us with the sight of an official post card which made its appearance last month. It is evidently of native manufacture. The stamp has a slight ornamental border, and the groundwork is formed of oblique lines crossed, lozenge-fashion, with certain portions left blank, upon which are the

On
lettering H.M.'s There are two lines of inscription on the upper
Service.

part of the card; 1st, "QUARTER ANNA POST CARD;" 2nd, "To be used for official correspondence only." Then come four dotted lines for the address, and at the bottom is printed "THE OFFICIAL SIGNATURE AND DESIGNATION OF THE SENDER TO BE WRITTEN ON THE REVERSE." There is no border, and the reverse side is plain.

Official post card. $\frac{1}{4}$ anna, milky-blue on thin pale buff card. Size, 121×73 mm., or $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{7}{8}$ in.

Luzon.—This is really a very trying country to the philatelist, and the collector who can say a few years hence that the pages he has devoted to its issues contain no blanks will be a man much looked up to by his brethren. Several Luzon post cards, real or imaginary, have been mentioned in various quarters of late, but we have only seen the one before us. The design is the same as that of the Porto Rico card, but the frame, stamp, and inscriptions are printed in carmine-lake instead of in green. The stamp is printed with the die of the 50 mils de peso, lilac, only known to collectors as an essay. This is surcharged "CONVENIO—UNIVERSAL DE—CORREOS. HABILITADO. 2 CENT DE PESO," in the same way as are the provisional adhesives described by us in October. The surcharge is the spaced one of the first type.

Post card. Carmine-lake and orange on buff card; 144×99 mm., or $5\frac{5}{8} \times 3\frac{7}{8}$ in.

Madeira.—The new 25 reis of Portugal, described under its proper heading, is already in use in Madeira with the usual surcharge.
25 reis, lilac.

Mauritius.—We have received the 6 cents Postal Union card for this colony, and believe that another of the value of 4 cents has also been issued. The 6 cents has the usual inscriptions, and the stamp bears the head of Her Majesty in an oval on ground of horizontal lines. The spandrels are filled in with arabesques. The top and bottom labels have the words "MAURITIUS" and "SIX CENTS" respectively, and small blocks with star-like ornaments in the angles. The side labels contain foliated decorations. No border; reverse side plain.

Post card. 6 cents, green on buff card. Size, 121×87 mm., or $4\frac{3}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

We are informed that the first provisional issue of cards, the one which boasts of sixteen varieties, has been reprinted for sale to collectors.

Newfoundland.—In the *Timbre Poste* for April M. Moens announces a new 2 cents value. Like the other new stamps which we have lately described, it would appear to be an inferior imitation of the same value in the previous issue. The lettering is larger; the word *two* is omitted on the right and left; and the numeral 2 is found at the two bottom corners. We have not yet seen this stamp, but we have received specimens of what was probably the last batch of the now extinct 2 cents, rouletted instead of perforated.

2 cents, green; type, 1866; rouletted.
2 „ „ „ 1880; perf. 12.

New South Wales.—We have the 2d. and 3d. adhesives surcharged with the letters “o.s.” in precisely the same way as the 1s. which we described last month.

Official. 2d. blue } surcharged “o.s.” in red.
 ,, 3d. green }

Portugal.—The 25 reis, blue-grey, which we described in February, has already been superseded by another stamp of the same value, and a little, a very little, better execution. The inscriptions are the same. The head is still in an oval, but is better done, and is more distinct. The ornamentation in the spandrels is slightly different. There is no change in the paper or perforation.

25 reis, lilac; col. imp. on white.

Queensland favours us with three new stamps to describe this month. A provisional $\frac{1}{2}$ d. has been concocted by surcharging the current 1d. vertically with the words “HALF-PENNY.” As we have only seen two or three specimens, all of which are alike, we cannot say whether there are varieties of surcharge to be found on the sheets. A sixpenny value, to match the other lately-issued monstrosities, is now in circulation; and finally, a two shilling stamp of the same type as the earlier issues, but lithographed like the recently obsolete yellow 4d., has just come to hand. Several correspondents inform us that by the mail which reached England about the middle of April letters arrived franked by the fiscal “stamp-duty” adhesives, even the 5s., orange, having been pressed into the postal service.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. orange, surcharged in black on the current 1d. }
6d. green, current type } *wmk. Q. and crown.*
2s. deep blue, previous type }

Rawul Pindjee.—In this month's number of the *Timbre Poste*, M. Moens publishes a letter received from a correspondent “in those parts” stating that the Pony Dâk stamp has no postal value, but serves as a sort of ticket or receipt for the 8 annas tax (which is collectable from travellers on every Indian highway) due by those using the native Pony Dâk from Rawul Pindjee to Muree. The writer goes on to say that it is at least unlikely that anyone would pay a postage rate of 8 annas for the transmission of a letter by a private route when the same letter might be sent quicker by

the government service for $\frac{1}{2}$ anna. This matter requires looking into. If the Pony Dâk stamps be merely receipts for a certain tax, as M. Moens's correspondent asserts, it is at least strange that they should be printed upon envelopes.

Roumania.—A correspondent sends us the half of a 5×5 reply paid card without date after the word Tiraju.

Servia.—A correspondent recently sent us one of the 10×10 paras, blue on rose, reply-paid cards with a surcharge, the meaning of which puzzled us. It consists of the words "BOJEHA ПОЩТА" in an oblong rectangular frame of single lines. Thanks to the kindness of a Russian friend, we found this surcharge to be "VOJENA POSCHTA," or War Post. Then another correspondent sent us four cards, the like of which we had never seen before, with a demand for enlightenment. These last are all of one type, differing only in colour and surcharge. They are folded in the same way as reply-paid cards; but when opened the whole of the inner surface is devoted to the communication. On the address side are the arms of Servia mantled with flags, and surmounted by a crown. Beneath is an inscription which means "WAR CORRESPONDENCE CARD." There are three dotted lines for address, the first headed by "Гос," or Gos, an abbreviation which can be lengthened into the Servian equivalent of either Mr. or Mrs. In the place usually occupied by the stamp we find on two of the cards a sharp-pointed, transverse voided oval, in the upper curve of which is "VOJENA POSCHTA," and in the lower one "VERHOVNE KOMMANDE," otherwise War Post and Highest Command. On the other two cards, in the place of this inscribed oval, is a circle, with the arms in the centre, and the inscription "MILITARY POST EXPEDITION." Both surcharges are hand-stamped. On the backs of the cards are two inscriptions—1st, "SOLDIERS AND OTHERS EMPLOYED IN CONNECTION WITH THE WAR ARE ENTITLED TO THESE CARDS GRATIS;" 2nd, "THIS CARD MAY ALSO BE USED BY THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES FOR SHORT OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS." The back and front of the card is framed with a border composed of lozenge ornaments.

WAR POST CARDS.

Without value, typographed in black on buff card, circular violet surcharge.						
„	„	„	rose	„	„	„
„	„	„	buff	„	oval	„
„	„	„	blue	„	„	blue
10×10 para, ordinary blue on rose card, oblong rectangular black						„

These cards are about the same size as the ordinary ones.

Spain.—The $\frac{1}{4}$ cent de peseta now in circulation is of the same type as the one with regal crown which was issued in July, 1872; but is changed in colour to dark green. It presents *tête-bêche* varieties. The issue of July, 1873, with mural crown, which has continued in use until quite recently, appears to be now obsolete.

$\frac{1}{4}$ cent de peseta, dark green (regal crown).

Straits Settlements.—We have come across a variety of the provisional 10 cents described last month, in which the word cents is omitted.

Surinam.—The 15 cents post cards, grey on buff, reach us with two separate surcharges; viz. : $7\frac{1}{2}$ cents and $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents.

Post card. $7\frac{1}{2}$ cents } surcharged in black, as the 15 cents.
 ,, $12\frac{1}{2}$,, }

Switzerland.—*Rigi-Scheideck.*—Two more of the hotel stamp abominations present themselves for record and abuse. Upon a coloured ground of horizontal lines is a dove with a black eye, flying with a letter in its bill. Above are the words "KURORT RIGI-SCHIEDECK," and below "HAUSER AND STIERLIN;" the whole within a frame of double lines, the inner one with small ornaments in the angles.

Without expressed value, blue } oblong rectangular, coloured, litho-
 ,, ,, vermilion } graphed on white paper; *perf.* 12.

Transvaal.—A correspondent sends us the 1d. arms, letters "V.R." close together, fairly well pin-perforated. The perforation is probably non-official. Also the first surcharged 1s. in red, rouletted.

Venezuela.—In describing the new issue of stamps last month we called the lowest value 2 cents instead of 5 cents, which is the correct denomination.

THE STAMPS OF MAURITIUS.

By CAPT. E. B. EVANS, R.A.

—♦—
 PART I.—*continued.*

WE now come to the two remaining varieties of engraved twopenny stamps, which were unaccompanied by any fresh variety of the lower value. The plate of the "two pence" seems to have worn out sooner than that of the "one penny," either from not having been so deeply cut or from having been more used; at any rate, the lower value of the issue of 1848 continued in use with both the later varieties of the higher value. I couple these two twopenny stamps together because I am uncertain which of the two was the first issued.

To avoid confusion, it may be advisable to call these stamps No. 1 and No. 2, placing them in the order in which they are usually catalogued. No. 1 resembles, in size and shape, the stamps of the 1848 issue, but the head is encircled by a plain band, with a sort of semicircular knob over the forehead in place of the diadem. There is no shading on the face or neck, and the groundwork is formed of diagonal lines crossed; that is, of lines sloping downwards from right to left and from left to right. The above are the general differences between this issue and the former one. The lettering, as before, is in white on a solid ground, and the peculiar irregularity of the arrangement of the stamps on the plate, which is still in existence, is the same as in the earlier issue; and as I have evidence to prove that the plate of this value was re-engraved, I think I shall not be wrong in saying that the stamps we are now considering were printed from the re-engraved plate of 1848. This does not, however, in any way prevent this "two pence" from

being a perfectly distinct stamp. The plate had become so worn, as I shall show presently, that almost all the details had disappeared; and it was not merely retouched, it was entirely re-engraved. A few only of the peculiarities of the former issue remain, notably that of type 6, which still shows a space between the final "e" of "pence" and the end of the label. I need hardly add that there are twelve types of this stamp. The eight stamps in two vertical rows to the right-hand side of the sheet have a stop after the word "paid;" the other four have not. The peculiarities of the different types of this issue would be easier to describe than those of the former one, because the engraving is so badly done that there are slips of the graving tool distinguishing almost every one of them, but it is hardly necessary to give a detailed description of each type. This "two pence" is a very rare stamp; indeed, it is hardly known to the general body of collectors, and the richest collections only contain a few of the types. I only succeeded in getting four specimens of it during my stay in Mauritius, and I only saw two or three more there. All the specimens I have seen are on a thin and decidedly blue paper, and are printed in very deep blue. They were evidently in use for a short time only, not long enough for any wearing of the plate; and, indeed, I should be inclined to judge, from the close resemblance in colour of all the specimens I have seen, that only one supply was ever printed.

No. 2 is quite a different stamp; it is in a very different style, more pretentious in design in some ways, if not superior, but failing miserably in execution. The head it bears is a small, but very hideous, libel on Her Majesty, encircled by a plain band, the hair being arranged so as to resemble a nightcap, with a tassel hanging down behind. This stamp is known amongst Mauritius collectors as the "Two pence Mozambique." On second thoughts, I do not know that I should be justified in saying that the profile on No. 2 is uglier than that on No. 1. No. 2 represents a harmless idiot; No. 1, a ferocious lunatic. The reader may take his choice. The background of the head is formed of vertical and horizontal lines, and diagonal ones sloping downwards from right to left. The lettering is also on lined ground, the lines being vertical, horizontal, and oblique from left to right; these latter giving the labels a different appearance to that of the central ground. The vertical and horizontal lines in the labels also are closer together than in the ground of the centre, thus giving these former a darker tint. The lettering is in white as before, and the wording is the same, save that "Mauritius" reads from above downwards, instead of the reverse way. The ornaments in the corners are similar to those of the preceding issues, and there are twelve types also as before, but arranged in three horizontal rows of four, instead of in four of three. The stamps are wider, being more nearly square, and they are a much greater distance apart. Two of the types exhibit notable peculiarities. No. 8 has the "n" of "pence" turned the wrong way—thus, "x"; and No. 9 has, in the lower left-hand corner, a combination of the two corner ornaments, the engraver having apparently commenced making a star and then turned it into a cross. These stamps are found on thin blue paper, and on a thicker paper, some of which was blue, and some, I think, originally white; specimens on this last are scarcer than those on the former. The colour of the impression does not seem to vary much, except perhaps in depth. The plate of this issue cannot have been very deeply cut; for although it was in use for only a short time, as I shall show presently, it was worn to almost as bad a state as that of the 1848 plates, which were in use for some ten times as long.

We may now proceed to some more documentary evidence:

From 1848 to 1858 the only allusions which I have found to the "native" stamps are in the requisitions of the postmaster for various quantities of them from time to time. The records of the proceedings of the "Stamping Committee" show what quantities of each value were printed, but give no further particulars about them.

A letter from the postmaster to the Colonial Secretary, dated February 10th, 1858, requests that the plate of the two penny stamps may be repaired, if possible, or a new one engraved, as the stamps last issued to the post-office

are illegible. The postmaster's letter further states that "Mr. Sherwin, who has done engraving work for the department before, can do this."

(Attached to this letter was a sample, which is now in my possession. It is a very faint impression of the 2d. "post paid," head with diadem.)

On the back of this letter is noted "Referred back for Report," and below this, "Report. I have seen the engraver, who has inspected the plate, and he informs me that the lowest price for restoring the twelve stamps (for that is the number on each plate) will be seven pounds sterling.

"(Signed)

W. H. RAWTORNE,

"February 25th, 1858.

Colonial Postmaster."

The next letter on this subject is one from the postmaster to the Colonial Secretary, dated August 4th, 1858, reporting that Mr. Sherwin had not yet finished re-engraving the 2d. plate, and asking for instructions, as 2d. stamps are much wanted. Noted on back: "Referred back. Postmaster to find another person to re-engage the plate, and report." The postmaster's report dated September 4th, 1858, states that Mr. Lapirot has examined the plate, and gives it as his opinion that "it was too far gone to produce a good impression;" also that Mr. Lapirot offers to make a new plate for £10. Endorsed by Colonial Secretary: "Offer of Mr. Lapirot accepted."

The postmaster, in making the above report, forwards also a letter from Mr. Sherwin, dated September 2nd, 1858, in which he apologizes for having been so long re-engraving the plate, and states that he returns it unfinished, other duties preventing his completing it (Mr. Sherwin was a master at the Royal College of Port Louis at this time).

A letter from the postmaster to the Colonial Secretary, dated February 22nd, 1859, reports that "Mr. Lapirot has this day delivered the new plate for 2d. stamps," and requests that five thousand 2d. stamps may be struck off at once.

The last paragraph of a letter from Mr. Pearson Hill, who was in Mauritius at that time reorganizing the postal service, to the Colonial Secretary, dated March 31st, 1859, suggests the propriety of ordering 1d. and 2d. stamps from England, as by this means better engraved stamps may be obtained at a very much less cost than 10s. per thousand, the price paid for the native-made labels. Attached to this letter are specimens of the 1d. and 2d. stamps then in use. These are a poor impression of the 1d. "post paid" with diadem, and a very fine impression of the 2d. No. 2.

The above shows that the plate of the 2d., head with diadem, continued in use down to the commencement of 1858; that in that year it was re-engraved to a certain extent by Mr. Sherwin; and that in February, 1859, a new plate had been prepared by Mr. Lapirot. We have thus two plates of twopenny stamps—one a re-engraving of the plate of 1848, and therefore resembling it in bearing twelve types, and in some other particulars; and the other an entirely new plate, the number of types on which is not stated, but it would probably be twelve, as it was engraved to replace the earlier one. We have also two issues of twopenny stamps—No. 1 and No. 2; and I think we may safely attribute No. 1 to the first mentioned plate, and No. 2 to the second. What I stated previously is, I think, sufficient to prove that No. 1 was produced from the re-engraved plate of 1848, and the specimen attached to Mr. Pearson Hill's letter of March 31st, 1859, was no doubt produced by Mr. Lapirot's plate.

Now comes the question as to which of these stamps was the first issued. When I first obtained the above information about them I came to the conclusion that the re-engraved plate was made use of while that ordered from Mr. Lapirot was being prepared, and I am still of opinion that this may have been the case; at the same time I consider it equally probable that it may not have been used until after Mr. Lapirot's plate was worn out, and the following are my reasons for this alternative opinion. In the first place I think we should hardly be justified in saying that these stamps (No. 1) are printed from an unfinished plate. They are very rough, and badly engraved no doubt, but the plate was apparently finished as far as it went. There is no shading on any of the profiles, but the twelve types seem to be all alike as

far as finish is concerned. Possibly Mr. Lapiroto may have put a few finishing touches to the old plate so as to enable it to be used while his own was being engraved; but I have another reason for the postponing of the issue of No. 1. In 1858 the penny plate of 1848 was still in use; indeed, it must have continued in use as late as 1859, for the specimen attached to Mr. Pearson Hill's letter of March 31st is not from the very last state of the plate, as I have very much more illegible specimens of the penny than that one. Now, besides the twopenny plate I mentioned above as still in existence, there is also a penny plate resembling the former in the peculiar arrangement of the types, and also showing one or two other peculiarities, which tend to prove that it is the other plate of 1848. This also has been re-engraved, but when and why I have no evidence to show. The heads are diademed, but the diadem is composed of small Maltese crosses only, instead of alternate Maltese crosses and *fleurs-de-lys*, and the background is of diagonal lines only, sloping downwards from right to left (this is how they would appear in stamps printed from this plate). The plate in its present state does not appear ever to have been used; at least no stamps answering to the above description are known.

Now my theory is this: We shall see that Lapiroto's plate wore out very quickly; by the time that it was worn out the plate of the 1d., with diadem, was probably on its last legs also (the heads having quite disappeared), and it would not be unnatural to suppose that some talented artist may have been entrusted with the task of finishing Mr. Sherwin's work, and at the same time re-cutting the 1d. plate also (possibly Mr. Sherwin himself may have done this, which would account for the uniform excellence of the result). The 1d. stamps were never so much used as the 2d., the latter being the rate for the majority of the inland correspondence, which accounts for the 2d. plate having been printed from while the 1d. was not. Had the 2d. plate, as re-cut, been made use of before that of Mr. Lapiroto, there is no reason why it should have given place to the latter, the superiority of which as a work of art is not very evident; but there are plenty of reasons why these copper-plates, which were probably not too easy to get good impressions from (there is not a man in the island at the present moment who can print from them with any facility), should have given way to the much simpler process of lithography.

The "one penny" and the "two pence" with the word Mauritius at the top, the value at the bottom, and a Greek pattern on each side, were lithographed by a Mr. Dardenne towards the end of 1859, and were issued either at the end of that year or the beginning of 1860, as is shown by the following extracts (this also proves what I stated above as to Mr. Lapiroto's plate having worn out very quickly). At the end of a letter from Mr. Pearson Hill to the Colonial Secretary, dated November 11th, 1859, is the following: "As regards the stamps to be manufactured by Mr. Dardenne, I submit that 3,000 1d. labels and 4,000 2d. labels are now ordered.

"(Signed) PEARSON HILL."

Endorsed—"Approved, 17-11."

Under the date, December 3rd, 1859, is a requisition from the postmaster for 25,000 1d. and 50,000 2d. stamps to be lithographed. This quantity, it is stated, will probably be sufficient to last four months, by which time the new stamps are expected to arrive from England. A letter from the postmaster to the Colonial Secretary, dated December 21st, 1859, states "the instructions regarding 'lithographic stones, from which the postage stamps are to be struck off,' has been complied with, and I have received receipt for same."

These stamps were lithographed on thick laid paper of a creamy hue. All the specimens I have seen show the laid lines horizontal; some also show portions of large watermarked letters, doubtless parts of the name of the manufacturer of the paper. The penny is found in a deep blood-red, in vermilion, and in pale red; the twopenny in light and dark blue, and in a kind of dull slaty-blue. The two values are not identical in type, the Greek border at the sides of the penny having a greater number of turns in it than that of the two pence. There are no real varieties of type of either value,

the sheet of each having been produced by the multiplication of one original drawing. Specimens of the two pence are found which show the first "e" of "pence" as an "f." This variety is due to bad printing; but it is, perhaps, as worthy of collection as the Spanish "Corros" error of the 1855 issue.

This issue did not continue in use for very long, the 1d., 2d., 4d., and 9d. stamps of Messrs. De la Rue and Co. arriving in Mauritius in January, 1860, and being issued at all events in April of that year, as I have specimens on letters of that date.

I obtained permission to have an impression taken from each of the copper-plates I mentioned above as being still in existence, and after an infinite amount of trouble, there being no one in Mauritius who could print easily from them, I succeeded in getting a fair sheet from each. These I have had reproduced by the autotype process, as curiosities, to show the penny plate in its present state and the twelve types of the rare two pence.

This concludes the history of the "native" made stamps of Mauritius.

(*To be continued.*)

THE POST CARDS OF THE GERMAN EMPIRE.

Translated from Mr. S. de Wilde's paper in the "Timbre Poste," July, 1878.

By "A POST CARD COLLECTOR."

1st July, 1871.

No Stamp.

Large plain card. At top, "DEUTSCHES REICHS (eagle) POSTGEBIET;" and beneath, "CORRESPONDENZ-KARTE." In right-hand upper corner a dotted rectangle ("ZUM. AUFKLEBEN DER FREIMARKE" within) for stamp. To left, "AN," followed by four dotted lines for address. The third line, which is thickly underlined, is preceded by "BESTIMMUNGSORT," and the fourth by "WOHNUNG," &c. The lower part of card, which is separated from the upper part by a heavy thick line, is divided into two columns devoted to five paragraphs of instructions. Black impression. Type-set. Oblong; 162 x 112 mm. Buff.

Small Eagle, and no Streamers to Crown.

First type (first eagle). "DEUTSCHES REICHS—POSTGEBIET" in curved line at top. Instructions at bottom, in five lines in first column, and six in second.

Varieties.

- a. "s" in "REICHS" is shut (s).
- b. "s" in "REICHS" is open (s).
- c. "s" in "REICHS" is open, and thick lettering.

Large Eagle. No Streamers.

Second type (second eagle). "DEUTSCHES REICHS. POST-GEBIET" in straight line. First and second columns both contain six lines of instructions. Buff.

Streamers.

Third type (third eagle). Same as second type, but streamers to crown above eagle. Buff.

15th December, 1871.

Medium-sized card. At top, in curved line, "DEUTSCHES REICHS POSTGEBIET" (with eagle between), with "CORRESPONDENZ-KARTE" below. In right-hand upper corner a dotted rectangle ("ZUM. AUFKLEBEN DER FREIMARKE" within) for stamp. "AN," followed by five dotted lines for address, the third being terminated by "IN." Lower part of card, which is separated from the upper part by a heavy thick line, is divided into two columns devoted to four paragraphs of instructions. Back of card plain. Black impression. Type-set. Oblong; 148 x 90 mm. Buff.

First type (third eagle). "DEUTSCHES (eagle) REICHSPOSTGEBIET," in one word.

Second type (fourth eagle).

Varieties.

a. Par. 1. "EIN VIERTEL GROSCHEN" in words.

b. Par. 1. "1 KR. FOR 5 CARDS."

Same as previous cards, but heading slightly altered. "DEUTSCHES REICH (eagle) POST-GEBIET." First type (third eagle).

REPLY PAID POST CARDS.

December, 1871.

Unstamped.

Medium-sized cards, folded at top, and inscription on first and third pages. At top, in curved line, "DEUTSCHES—REICHSPOSTGEBIET," separated by eagle; beneath, in straight line, "CORRESPONDENZ-KARTE." In right-hand upper corner a dotted rectangle for stamp. To left, "AN," followed by five lines for address; "IN" on or end of third line. Beneath "CORRESPONDENZ-KARTE," "RÜCKANTWORT BEZAHLT" on original, and "BEZAHLTE RÜCKANTWORT" on reply. Lower part of card is divided into two columns, and devoted on original to four paragraphs, and on reply to two paragraphs of instructions. Black impression. Type-set. 145 × 90 mm. Black on rose (shades) card.

First type (third eagle). On original each column contains five lines of instructions; on reply, three and two lines. "IN" end of third line. Pink-rose card.

On Original.

MIT	DIESE
TEN	FARBIGEM
MARKEN	NICHT
PREISE	DIE
DIE	INNERN

On Reply.

DIE	DIE
KÖNNEN	INNERN
GESCHRIEBEN	

Second type (fourth eagle). Instructions on original in five and four lines, on reply in three and two. "IN" end of third line. On brick-coloured card; also on pink rose-coloured card.

Original.

MIT	KÖNNEN
GEGEN	STIFTE
" BEKLEBTE	DIE
$\frac{1}{2}$	INNERN
DIE	

Reply.

DIE	DIE
KÖNNEN	INNERN
STIFTE	

Third type (fifth eagle). Instructions on original in five and five lines, on reply in four and two. "IN" end of third line. Double hyphen (=) between "CORRESPONDENZ = KARTE." On rough dull red-rose card.

Original.

MIT	KÖNNEN
TEN	STIFTE
MARKEN	NENNEN
VON	DIE
DIE	INNERN

Reply.

DIE	DIE
KÖNNEN	INNERN
STIFTE	
NENNEN	

Fourth type (fifth eagle). Instructions on original in five and four lines, on reply in three and two lines. "IN" on the third line.

Original.

MIT	KÖNNEN
GEGEN	STIFTE
BEKLEBTE	DIE
$\frac{1}{2}$	INNERN
DIE	

Reply.

DIE	DIE
KÖNNEN	INNERN
STIFTE	

Varieties.

a. Period after "FREIMARKE," and end of fourth paragraph. Bright rose and dull red-rose.

b. No period after "FREIMARKE," or end of fourth paragraph. Bright rose.

Fifth type (sixth eagle). Instructions on original in five and four lines, on reply in three and two lines. "IN" end of third line. On bright pink-rose.

<i>Original.</i>		<i>Reply.</i>	
MIT	KÖNNEN	DIE	DIE
GEGEN	STIFTE	KÖNNEN	INNERN
BEKLEBTE	DIE	STIFTE	
$\frac{1}{2}$	INNERN		
DIE			

Sixth type (seventh eagle). Instructions on original in five and four lines, on reply in three and two lines. "IN" on third line. On brick-coloured card.

<i>Original.</i>		<i>Reply.</i>	
MIT	KÖNNEN	DIE	DIE
GEGEN	STIFTE	KÖNNEN	INNERN
BEKLEBTE	DIE	STIFTE	
$\frac{1}{2}$	INNERN		
DIE			

Seventh type (eighth eagle). Instructions on original in five and five lines, and on reply in four and two lines. "IN" third line.

<i>Original.</i>		<i>Reply.</i>	
MIT	DIESE	DIE	DIE
ANSTALTEN	FARBIGEM	DIESE	IM
MIT	SICH	FARBIGEM	
ZUM	DIE	SICH	
DIE	IM		

Eighth type (ninth eagle). Instructions on original in five and five lines, and on reply in four and two lines. "IN" end of third line. On red-rose card.

<i>Original.</i>		<i>Reply.</i>	
MIT	DIESE	DIE	DIE
ANSTALTEN	FARBIGEM	DIESE	IM
MIT	SICH	FARBIGEM	
ZUM	DIE	SICH	
DIE	INNERN		

Ninth type (tenth eagle). Instructions on original in five and five lines, on reply in three and two lines. "IN" end of third line. On lilac-rose card.

<i>Original.</i>		<i>Reply.</i>	
MIT	KÖNNEN	DIE	DIE
GEGEN	STIFTE	KÖNNEN	INNERN
BEKLEBTE	NENNEN	STIFTE	
$\frac{1}{2}$	DIE		
DIE	INNERN		

Correspondence.

THE OFFICIALLY ISSUED STAMPED ENVELOPES OF
GREAT BRITAIN.

To the Editor of "The Philatelic Record."

SIR,—Permit me to add the following to Mr. Schmidt de Wilde's list of officially issued English envelopes:

(2b) 116 × 71½ mm., white paper.

(16b) 133 × 76 mm. First type; date 21-12-60. Stamp very deep in colour. [Singularly enough, I found a small quantity of these at a stationer's in this city.]

(18a) 102 × 64 mm., broken die, small seal.
 (?) 121 × 71 ,, ,, large ,,
 (?) 119 × 71 ,, circular seal, pointed flap, but no impressed stamp.
 (?) 119 × 68 ,, tongued flap; seal, head of Minerva in oval, embossed
 in white. First type; date 4-7-65. Yours, &c.,
New York. JOSEPH J. CASEY.

[We are glad to hear from Mr. Casey, and print his letter as received; but he is mistaken in classing some of the above-mentioned envelopes amongst the officially issued—as, for instance, those with the head of Minerva upon the seal. These envelopes were manufactured by Messrs. Waterlow and Co.; whilst, at any rate since 1851, no official envelopes have been manufactured by any other firm than that of Messrs. De la Rue and Co.—ED.]

WHY RUSSIAN STAMPS SMUDGE.

DEAR SIR,—In describing the stamps of Russia, it is usual to account for their becoming smudged, when moistened and rubbed, by stating that they are printed with aniline inks.

This explanation never thoroughly satisfied me—*firstly*, because the colours are not bright enough for aniline inks, as may be seen by contrasting the 5 kopeck adhesive with the 2 kreuzer Hungary, arms; and *secondly*, because if the colours were aniline, they would fade rapidly upon exposure to light, which the Russian stamps do not; and *thirdly*, because if the stamp be wetted, the entire design, and not merely the colour, becomes completely obliterated. If you place a brightly-printed specimen of the 2 or 5 kreuzer, current Hungary, in water, although the colour will be discharged, the design of the stamp will be quite visible in what little colour remains. Do the same with a Russian stamp, and the colour will not be discharged, provided its face be not touched in any way.

The Russian correspondent of the *Printer's Register* explains this, in the March number, by stating that the paper on which the stamps are printed is faced with gum-water in which chalk is suspended, and when the sheets are dry they are printed with ordinary colours in an ordinary press. This accounts quite satisfactorily for the smudging propensities of Russian stamps, inasmuch as the design is not directly printed upon the paper, but on a coating of chalk attached to the paper by gum; and if this gum be dissolved, the chalk will quit the paper, carrying the design with it. As chalk is capable of being detected by chemical analysis, I subjected a number of the stamps to such an analysis, and detected its presence, and am thus able to confirm the statement in the *Printer's Register*.
 I remain, &c., CHEMICUS.

Proceedings of the Philatelic Society of London.

THE ninth meeting of the season was held at 14, South Square, Gray's Inn, on the 17th April, 1880; the President in the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed.

Mr. John Clement Ellison was proposed by the President, seconded by the Secretary, and elected a member of the Society.

The business of the day was the compilation of a list of the stamps, post cards, and envelopes of Java, which was completed, and will be published next month. On the conclusion of the business several novelties and curiosities were exhibited, amongst others the first provisional Hongkong post cards on blue and on yellow glazed card; the current set of 1, 3, and 4 cents, upon the reverse of one of which was printed a "post-office sonnet," with which one of the officials of the Hongkong Post-office has been inspired. Also the 5 and 10 cents provisional adhesives, the new 50 cent de peseta adhesive for Fernando Po, and the 25 centimes French colonies of the current type, red on black.

The tenth meeting of the season was held at 14, South Square, Gray's Inn, on the 8th May, 1880; Mr. de Ysasi in the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed; also the correspondence, comprising an objection to the 1d. Transvaals, Issue IX., on the score that these stamps were only printed in Mecklenburg, were never used in the Transvaal, and are therefore no better than forgeries.

Mr. E. D. Bacon was proposed by Mr. de Ysasi, seconded by the Secretary, and elected a member of the Society.

The business of the day was the compilation of a list of the stamps of Hawaii, Samoa, and Sarawak. Owing to the absence, through indisposition, of the President, the study of the stamps of the first-mentioned country was adjourned, and lists were made of the Sarawak and Samoan issues, which will be published in due course. Mrs. Tebay showed the new Indian Service post card and Cyprus postage stamps. Amongst the other novelties were the new Bermudas, Spanish $\frac{1}{4}$ cent de peseta, official N.S. Wales, Portugal, and German Empire adhesives, and the Serbian war post cards.

List prepared at the meeting of the 3rd April, 1880.

FIJI ISLANDS.

ISSUE I. 1872. (?)

Three values, type printed. Coloured impression on medium white paper; watermark; "FIJI POSTAGE" in single-lined letters once in each sheet of stamps; white gum; perforation $12\frac{1}{2}$. Device: Each stamp bears the initials C. R. (Cakambau Rex) in script type, surmounted by a crown, in white upon ground of coloured horizontal lines within circular frame. Curved labels above and below circle, with name of country and value in words.

ONE PENNY.—Beaded circle, with thin inner and outer lines. The upper curved label has an ornament at each end resembling a cross *pâtée*, and is inscribed with the word "FIJI" in Roman letters. The bottom label, also curved, is plain, and cut square at the ends by the frame of the stamp. It is inscribed "POSTAGE ONE PENNY" in small block capitals. Both inscriptions are in coloured letters upon white. In the upper spandrels are floreate ornaments, and the lower ones are filled in with triangles containing other small ornaments.

THREE PENCE.—The circle, formed of alternate dice of colour and white, has a thick inner line of colour, and an outer one formed of minute dots. Labels and ornamentation of spandrels the same as in preceding value. Inscriptions in colour upon white.

SIX PENCE.—Toothed circle with two thin inner and one thick outer lines of colour. The ornaments at the extremities of the upper label are fashioned something like nippers. Floreate ornaments in upper spandrels; beaded triangles in lower ones. Inscriptions in white upon colour.

T. FIJI. B. Postage and value in words.

1d., blue, very dark to light shades		
3d., green	"	"
6d., carmine	"	"

Varieties.

A series can be made, printed on distinctly yellow toned paper. All the values also exist imperforate. Copies of these latter, however, are not known used, and they are believed to be proofs.

ISSUE II. 1872. (?)

Three values. The same stamps surcharged with the numerical value above the crown, and the word "CENTS" beneath the initials "C.R." The surcharge is in black, and each word has a capital letter. Same paper, watermark, and perforation.

2 cents, blue, dark and light, surcharged on the one penny	
6 " green " " " three pence	
12 " carmine and rose-lake, dark and light, surcharged on the six pence	

Varieties.

All the above also are found imperforate, to which a like remark as in the unsurcharged issue applies. The 2 cents, blue, postmarked, is found with a large Roman D printed on its face, the significance of which is not known.

ISSUE III. 1875.

Three values. The same stamps as the last, with the additional surcharge of "v.r." in black, placed over the original initials "c.r.," showing that the islands were now the property of Great Britain. The letters "v.r." are printed in two types—plain Roman capitals, with full stop after each letter; and in ornamental Gothic capitals, with punctuation to match. Both types of surcharge are found upon the same sheet of stamps. The watermark and perforation of these stamps is the same as in preceding issues; but the paper varies in substance.

2 cents, blue	}	surcharged "v.r." (both types)
6 ,, green		
12 ,, carmine		

Varieties.

The 12 cents Gothic "v.r." exists with surcharge inverted. The surcharge "v.r." seems to have been set up and printed on all three values from one setting up of type.

In one of the lines of Gothic letters a curious punctuation like a Maltese cross is found after the R of v.r., and hence copies with this remarkably large stop may be found in all three varieties.

Between the date of the preceding issue and 1876, provisional stamps of the value of twopence were formed by adding another surcharge to those already recorded. Of these provisional twopennies there are ten varieties, the extra value being, however, always printed in the same type (2d.), but differing in the ink employed—red and black.

Varieties.

1. 2d. Surcharged in red on the 6 cents green, plain, "v.r."
2. ,, ,, ,, ,, gothic ,,
3. ,, ,, black ,, plain ,,
4. ,, ,, ,, ,, gothic ,,
5. ,, ,, (point between 2 and d) ,, plain ,,
6. ,, ,, red ,, gothic ,, (unpunctuated)
7. ,, ,, black 12 cents carmine, gothic ,,
8. ,, ,, ,, ,, plain ,,
9. ,, and v.r. ,, (twice) ,, gothic ,,
10. ,, inverted Gothic A instead of v; plain full stop between v and R

ISSUE IV. 1876.

Three values. In this issue the currency is changed back from cents to pence. An ornamental script monogram is surcharged over the original initials "c.r." The second value is also surcharged "TWO PENCE." The paper is thick, the perforation 12½, and there is no watermark.

1d., ultramarine, bright and milky shades	}	black surcharge
2d., green, dark and light (on the threepence)		
6d., carmine		

ISSUE V. 1878.

Four values. This issue is upon laid paper; in other respects it resembles the preceding. The fourth value, fourpence, was formed by printing a stamp with the threepenny die, in pale mauve, and surcharging it "FOUR PENCE" over the original value in black.

1d., blue	}	shades	}	4d., mauve
2d., green				6d., carmine

Variety.

The 1d. blue having escaped the surcharge "v.r."

ISSUE VI. 1879.

Four values. In this issue the die has been re-engraved. The original initials "c.r." have been expunged, and the letters "v.r." in script type substituted. The paper is wove; no watermark; perforation 12½. The twopenny value is still printed from the 3^d die, surcharged with its own denomination in black.

1d., blue
2d., green
4d., mauve (not seen)
6d., carmine ,,

PRIVATE STAMPS.

A year prior to the official emission of postage stamps a set of five values was issued by a private newspaper office in Levuka, that of the *Fiji Times*, for the conveyance of its own express of newspapers and parcels. (?)

Type printed in black on rose-coloured paper. Numeral of value in centre; inscription at top, bottom, and sides; frame of single black lines; various papers; white gum. The values were all printed on one sheet.

T. Times. B. Penny, Pence, or Shilling. L. Fiji. R. Express.

ISSUE I. 1871.

1d., small Arabic numeral of value	} black on rose, <i>quadrillé</i> paper ; rouletted on black lines
3d., " " " "	
6d., large " " "	
9d., small " " "	
1s., fancy " " "	

ISSUE II. 1871.

The same five values and types on lined and laid papers (*vergé bâtonné*) of same colour, and with same roulette.

ISSUE III. 1876.

The same values were printed in smaller type on one sheet on laid *bâtonné* paper of same colour; pin perforated on black lines. The values begin at 1d. and run vertically down the row. These stamps are believed to have been merely made for collectors, as at the time of their creation the Government Post was established.

Notes and Queries.

W. D. H., BOURNEMOUTH.—Many thanks for your good wishes. The *Philatelist* first appeared in 1867, and the 10th and last volume was completed in 1876.

J. C. and R. J. B.—See answer to W. D. H.

DROGER.—The stamp is genuine, and worth about 7s. 6d.

H. S.—Your letter received just as we are going to press. We are very suspicious about the stamp you describe, and cannot mention it in the *Record* unless you send it for our inspection.

A. wants to know the meaning of the cabalistic letters P.D. and P.P., sometimes enframed, and sometimes not, which appear on the stamps or envelopes of letters posted from all parts of Europe, but especially from Italy and Switzerland. [We believe that P.D. stands for *à payer à destination*, and P.P. *Post payé*; otherwise, "to be paid for on delivery," and "postage paid"; but we are open to correction. ED.]

The Philatelic Record.

Vol. II. No. 17.

JUNE.

1880.



AS we have comparatively few novelties to chronicle this month, and as nothing occurs to us of philatelic interest whereon we are called upon to lay down the law, we feel entitled to indulge ourselves in a little gossip with our contemporaries.

We have received the first number of *Der Philatelist*, the organ of the newly-founded "International Union of Philatelists" in Dresden. The formation of this society is the result of a terrible philatelic scandal. Up to within a short time ago there existed a society in Dresden whose organ was the *Union*. Herr Alwin Nieske was president of the one, and editor of the other. This person distinguished himself only very lately by raging furiously against M. Fouré, of the *Berliner I. B. Z.*, and demanding his expulsion from the French Society on the ground that he was the manufacturer of the bogus Cyprian stamps; and now he himself has been detected as the forger of Saxon stamps, notably the early 3 pfennig, which it appears he has disposed of in large quantities. The members of the former society have separated from Herr Nieske in a body, and have formed themselves into the society or union to which we have referred. Both in their new organ, and in circulars, they repudiate all further connexion with their late chief, and announce that they have elected Herr Timaeus as their president. The *news* contained in the first number of *Der Philatelist* is mostly stale, the only announcement worthy of remark, but not of credence, being that a 5d. value has been issued for Queensland.

Nor does the *Berliner I. B. Z.* contain much in the way of news. It certainly announces that the lately-issued 100 reis, green, of Brazil has been changed in colour to blue; but as the late arrivals which we have seen are as green as ever, we are inclined

to think that the change in the specimens seen by our contemporary may be due to experimental chemists rather than to the postal authorities of Brazil. But in default of stamp novelties, we have a slashing article upon the peccant Nieske from the pen of his old antagonist, M. Fouré. It is needless to say that he smites him hip and thigh, and spares not.

From our old and esteemed friend, *Le Timbre Poste*, we hear that there has also been some scandal in the French Society, resulting in the expulsion of one of the members; but we are left in the dark as to who is the evil-doer, and what are his misdeeds. We learn further respecting the French Society that they have commenced the compilation of their Spanish catalogue, and have at their first meeting on the subject decided that the 2 reales, *blue*, of 1851, catalogued by the Philatelic Society of London as an error, is merely an essay. Considering the superb collections of Spanish stamps which were at the disposal of the London Society when they drew up their catalogue, and the unusual sources of information which were open to them, it appears to us that the French Society would have done well to consult their English *confrères* before coming to a conclusion. The *Timbre Poste* contains an interesting article upon the 1864 stamps of Holstein and Lauenburg, from which we learn that there exists a far greater number of varieties of these stamps than we had imagined. In our notice of the new Rigi-Scheideck stamps in last month's *Record* we spoke playfully of the dove in the design as having a black eye, an accusation which those who have seen the labels in question will admit to be well founded. The *Timbre Poste* translates us with comical literalism, and describes the bird as having an *œil noir* instead of an *œil poché*. In referring to the surcharged issues of Natal, a list of which we gave in August, 1879, M. Moens, after paying us the compliment of saying that we are usually trustworthy, tells us, on the faith of a correspondent in Pietermaritzburg, that the 1d. and 3d. surcharged 10d. which we included in our list are purely imaginary. M. Moens will be a sorrowful man when he gets that letter which we have written him; nor will it detract from his sorrow that we have deliberately, and of malice aforethought, written it in our best French, a circumstance which can hardly fail to aggravate his sufferings.

In a prodigality of type which must nearly have beggared his printer's fount for posters, the editor of a stamp journal announces that after an absence of three months from his responsible post

he once more presents himself as the editor of . . . his readers! This is a threat which might call his talented staff of *contributors* to order. We know that genius is at times wayward; but as fulminated against his *readers* it seems to us uncalled for, and our sympathies are with them.

Novelties, Discoveries, and Resuscitations.

Austria.—We have not seen it noticed that the current 1 kr., blue, and 2 kr., brown, newspaper stamps have been re-engraved. In the new stamps the crown is smaller, and the pale upon the escutcheon is somewhat wider and more distinct.

Cape of Good Hope.—Of the recently obsolete 3d., surcharged in red upon the 4d., another error has come to light. In this instance the second word is printed "PENCB," instead of "PENCE," the last letter being a distinct B, and not a badly formed E.

Ceylon.—A correspondent sends us two Postal Union cards which have been issued for this island. The stamp upon the 6 cents value is of the same type as that which figures upon so many of the West Indian cards, whilst the 8 cents has a stamp similar to the current adhesive of the same value.

Post cards. 6 cents, blue
 ,, 8 ,, red-brown } on buff card.

Cyprus.—In addition to the 2½d., described in our last number, we have now received the obsolete 1d., the current ½d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. adhesives; two sizes of registered envelopes, the 1d. and 1½d. post card, and 1d. newspaper band of Great Britain, each and all surcharged "CYPRUS." The surcharge upon the adhesives is identical with that upon the 2½d., save in the instance of the ½d. value, upon which the letters, although of the same block type, are smaller. The registered envelopes are of the 6 and 5½ inch lengths, and are surcharged "CYPRUS," in blue block capitals, on either side of the stamp, the lettering being larger on the 6 inch envelope than on the other. The wrapper is surcharged in red-brown. The 1d. and 1½d. post cards have the surcharge in black printed over the middle of the words "GREAT BRITAIN" (Grande Bretagne), and there are heavy black lines on either side of the word, completing the obliteration of the original second line of inscription. There is besides a ½d. post card specially prepared for Cyprus. It has three lines of inscription—1st, "POST CARD," with the arms separating the two words; 2nd, the address only, &c.; and 3rd, "CYPRUS." On the stamp is the head of Her Majesty in a circle, "HALF PENNY" on a curved label cut square at the ends above the head, and lace-like ornaments in the spandrels; no border.

<i>Adhesives,</i>	$\frac{1}{2}$ d.	} Surcharged "CYPRUS" in black block capitals upon the stamps, wrapper, and post cards of Great Britain of those values.
"	1d.	
"	4d.	
"	6d.	
"	1s.	
<i>Wrapper,</i>	1d.	
<i>Post Cards,</i>	1d.	
"	$1\frac{1}{2}$ d.	} $\frac{1}{2}$ d., red-brown on buff card. 121 x 75 mm., or $4\frac{3}{4}$ x $3\frac{1}{8}$ in.
"	$\frac{1}{2}$ d.	

France.—Some time ago Monsieur Gruat sent us specimens of a 20 centimes *blue* current type, gummed and perforated, and a 20 centimes "CHIFFRE TAXE." His explanation of the existence of these stamps was that at the time when the readjustment of the postal rates was proposed, the Director-General of the Post Office had these stamps printed, the one for the prepayment of postage, the other showing the amount to be collected, under the belief that the inland rate would be 20 instead of 25 centimes. The result of the readjustment proving him to have been mistaken, these stamps were withdrawn, and for the most part destroyed. This explanation appeared to us to be anything rather than lucid, for a 20 centimes rate and postage stamp does exist, and always has existed, so we deferred our notice of these two curiosities until we could obtain further information. Monsieur Gruat has since sent us a letter from an official in the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs, which runs as follows: "I enclose a sheet of instructions, issued to the Postal Service in 1876, relating to the postage stamps which were manufactured at that time, and amongst them you will find the 20 cents, *blue*, which was afterwards altered in colour when the rate for inland postage was fixed at 15 instead of 20 centimes, as the administration originally intended. I trust that you will be satisfied with this official document." The printed document referred to is dated January, 1877, and is to this effect:

*"Fixation Définitive des Couleurs des diverses catégories de
Timbres Poste en usage dans le Service.*

Une décision de M. le Ministre des Finances, du 30 Novembre, 1876, a fixé définitivement ainsi qu'il suit les couleurs des diverses catégories de Timbres Poste dans le Service :

f.	c.	
0	01.	Encre noire sur teinte bleue.
0	02.	Encre brun Van Dyck sur teinte chamois clair.
0	04.	Encre marron sur teinte gris bleu.
0	05.	Emeraude sur teinte vert d'eau.
0	10.	Encre noir sur teinte violette.
0	15.	Encre jaune sur teinte jonquille.
0	20.	Encre bleu sur teinte turquoise.
0	25.	Encre noir sur teinte laque rouge.
0	30.	Encre bistre sur teinte bistre clair.
0	35.	Encre violette sur teinte orange.
0	40.	Encre garance sur teinte paille.
0	75.	Encre carmin sur teinte rose clair.
1	00.	Encre bronze sur teinte paille.
5	00.	Encre lilas foncé sur teinte lilas clair."

From this it would appear that subsequent to the "*definitive fixing*" of the colours some were altered. Perhaps the Minister of Finances changed his mind after some, and before others of the stamps had been printed, otherwise we may yet be offered as extreme rarities, and at absurd prices, the 15 centimes yellow upon pale yellow, and the 35 centimes violet on orange, stamps which, like the 20 centimes blue, have never been issued, and can therefore have but little value for the collector of postage stamps.

Germany.—The new adhesives, without final E to the word Pfennig, are printed in soluble colours, and smudge, when wetted, almost as readily as the Russians.

Hong Kong lays claim to a good deal of our attention just now.

We have the 16 cents, yellow, surcharged ¹⁰cents in the same way as the 12 cents, blue, which we described in April. The 2 cents has changed its colour from brown to that of the 48 cents, which we presume will now become obsolete.

2 cents, bright rose.
10 ,, yellow; black surcharge.

Hungary.—Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Co. sent us a newsband, the stamp on which is of the same type, value, and colour as the current 2 kr. adhesive.

Newsband. 2kr., lilac on white paper. 420 × 58mm.

Mexico.—The new Porte de Mar stamps, which have been so long heralded, are now beginning to make their appearance upon letters. They are very similar in design to the larger stamps, which they supersede. They contain the numeral of value upon a ground of horizontal lines, with the word "CENTAVOS" in a curve beneath. The oval frame is of solid colour, with "CORREOS DE MEXICO" above, and "PORTE DE MAR" beneath, in white lettering. Two star-like ornaments separate the two inscriptions. The stamps are lithographed on thickish glossy paper. We have seen the 2 centavos brown, 10, carmine, and 50, green.

New South Wales.—In our last number we stated that the current 2d., blue, was surcharged "o. s." in red. We should have said that the surcharge is in black letters.

South Australia.—Some of the 4d. adhesives lately received show a very considerable alteration in shade, being now of a bright violet.

Transvaal.—We have to warn our readers against a quantity of reprints of these stamps, which no doubt come from Germany, and which are now being offered for sale. They present a tempting variety of shades. We have lately seen the 6d. (of the 3d. eagle type) in sheets, *imperfurate*. It is bad enough to reprint and circulate obsolete stamps; but the forgers have had the impudence to imitate the v.r. surcharges. Thus we have seen the 6d. and 3d. purporting to bear the first type surcharge. The surcharge in itself

is incorrect, but we decline to point out in what particulars ; moreover, it is imprinted upon stamps which never were so surcharged. As there is no pretence of obliteration upon these labels, they are a direct fraud upon Government.

Trinidad.—Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Co. send us a registration envelope now in use for this island. It bears the usual blue inscriptions on the face, but on the flap there is only a curved label, over the place where an embossed stamp should be, with “FOR REGISTRATION ONLY” in white relief upon a dull green ground. An embossed stamp is no doubt in course of preparation.

Turk’s Islands.—In November we announced, on the authority of Messrs. Ridpath and Co., that the 1s. value had been issued in pale blue. We never saw this blue stamp, but we have it now in red-violet.

1s., reddish-violet.

THE STAMPS OF MAURITIUS.

By CAPT. E. B. EVANS, R.A.

PART II.

THE next stamps to be considered are the first English-printed series, bearing as a device a female figure seated on what appear to be some bales of goods on the seashore. In her right hand she holds a spear, and her left arm rests upon a shield, which apparently bears upon it a representation of the “Union Jack ;” on her left, in the background, is a ship in full sail. This figure is generally supposed to represent Britannia, and I have not the slightest doubt that such is the case, though some discussion arose on this point a few years ago. The French catalogues call it “*Déesse assise*,” and carefully refrain from giving the goddess a name ; but it is something to find that foreign collectors acknowledge as a divinity at all what must evidently be a strictly British deity of some kind.

The earlier accounts all placed these stamps chronologically before those of native manufacture, looking upon these latter as being provisional only. Mr. Overy Taylor states this in an article in the *Stamp Collector’s Magazine* for February, 1865, where he also states that *two* of those having no indication of value were hand-stamped with their values ; doubtless referring to the well-known “FOUR PENCE,” green, and the mysterious “EIGHT PENCE,” magenta, both of which are chronicled in the fourth edition of Dr. Gray’s catalogue, published in 1866.

In the *Stamp Collector’s Magazine* for 1866, at pp. 75 and 83, are two parts of a most excellent paper on “The English-printed Stamps of Mauritius,” containing various errors of course as to dates, &c., but giving all that was then known about these stamps, and correcting many of the errors which had been current previously. The information there given was for the most part apparently obtained from Mr. Pearson Hill, who was in the island when most of these stamps were in use, and therefore might be supposed to know all about them. And as far as the values went his information was quite correct ; but when it came to the dates of the manufacture and issue of the stamps which had arrived and been put in circulation before he reached Mauritius, his information was somewhat at fault. The author of this paper disposes very justly of the various theories which had been enunciated as to the values which the various colours were intended by the printers to represent, by stating that the stamps were doubtless sent out in various colours for the

local authorities to issue them for such values they pleased. He also mentions, in company with the unissued red-brown and blue, a purple-blue or slate-coloured stamp, which is, I believe, a proof or essay.

These "Britannia" stamps show two distinct varieties of design, precisely similar to those of Barbados and Trinidad; the one having the word "MAURITIUS" below, and no indication of the value, and the other having the name in a curve above and the value below. The Mauritius stamps are generally stated to have been copied from those of the two West Indian islands; but if the dates given for the issues of these latter are correct, the Mauritius were the originals, and the others were copied from them, as I hope to show presently. But whereas in Barbados and Trinidad the two designs were in use at the same time, in Mauritius the stamps bearing no indication of value were apparently rejected in favour of the native made ones in the first place, and when they were put in circulation were superseded as soon as possible by those with the value indicated.

On the back of the Postmaster's letter of September 20th, 1847, which I quoted at length in Part I., is a suggestion of the Auditor General, dated September 25th, 1847, that postage stamps should be ordered from England, which suggestion appears to have been acted upon not very long afterwards, as shown by the following letter from the Colonial Secretary, Mauritius, to the Colonial Agent, London, dated January 15th, 1848:

"SIR,—The system practised in the Post Office in England having been introduced here last year and hitherto with apparent success, it has been found necessary to have recourse to local means to prepare the necessary stamps for prepayment. As, however, this has not been altogether satisfactory, and it has been considered more advisable to obtain them from England, I have received the directions of his Excellency the Governor to request that you would, under the sanction of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, have dies prepared and ten thousand stamps struck off and sent out in parcels containing a fixed number each. It would be desirable that the stamp for colonial use should be so different from that employed by the General Post Office at home, that it may be easily distinguishable, but otherwise to have as much resemblance as may be compatible with that object.

"I have, &c.,

“(Signed)

GEORGE F. DICK,

“Colonial Secretary.”

From the above it appears that the stamps were first ordered with the intention that they should supersede those made locally; nothing was said as to design, colours, or values, so perhaps it is not to be wondered at that the Colonial Agents, having selected a design easily distinguishable from those of the English stamps, should have sent them out without any indication of value, not knowing doubtless what values were wanted. The design was probably invented for the special benefit of colonies which sent home vague orders for stamps without giving details.

Accordingly a letter from the Colonial Agent, dated London, December 21st, 1848, contains a bill of lading for a case of postage stamps as “ordered by letter of January 15th, 1848,” and encloses a bill of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., as follows:

“Preparing a drawing and engraving dies and plate . £52 10s. 0d.

Paper, printing, and gumming—

33,334 red
33,333 green
33,333 plum

100,000 postage labels at 9d. per 1000 £3 15s. 0d.”

The red stamp undoubtedly was the red-brown, on paper discoloured by the combined action of the ink and the gum, and a similar discolouration of the paper is common to the other two varieties of this set, which fact should of itself have been sufficient to suggest that these three were a separate issue, and probably an earlier one than the other two colours of the same design.

I can find no record of any action being taken by the local authorities on the receipt of these stamps; probably they were considered unsatisfactory on account of their bearing no indication of value, and were laid aside on that account; or perhaps Mr. Barnard's friends may have succeeded in keeping for him the monopoly of supplying the Post Office with stamps at 10s. per thousand, while those at 9d. per thousand were rejected. In any case there seems to have been no further question as to their being employed for local postage, or as to their being employed at all for some years.

Article 6 of Ordinance No. 1 of 1850 makes the postage on *ship* letters (as distinguished from *mail* letters)—“If received at the Principal Office for transmission beyond seas:

For every letter or sealed packet not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ an ounce . . . 4d.

Exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ an ounce and not exceeding 1 ounce . . . 8d.

and four pence additional for every ounce or fraction thereof beyond that weight.”

Nothing is said about this rate being prepaid by stamps, but no doubt that could be done by means of the 1d. and 2d. stamps then in use.

A letter from the Postmaster to the Colonial Secretary, dated May 7th, 1853, asks for certain quantities of 1d. and 2d. stamps, and calls attention to the fact that he has not yet been supplied with 4d. stamps for ship letters. In answer to this is a letter from the Colonial Secretary, dated May 30th, 1853, stating that the 1d. and 2d. stamps applied for have been ordered to be struck off, and that the stamps in the Treasury are to be issued at 4d. each, and are to be received over by the Postmaster accordingly; and thus arose the first employment of the English-printed stamps.

This does not, however, appear to have taken place at once, as is shown by the following:

“General Post Office, August 19th, 1853.

“The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

“Sir,—1. With reference to the previous correspondence during my predecessor's time on the subject of the fourpenny stamps lodged in the Treasury.

“2. I beg to recommend that they be put in operation as early as possible, for which purpose, I believe, they will require to be stamped on the face with the number 4. Such a stamp, I presume, can easily be made in the colony, which I will undertake to have done under His Excellency's authority.

I have, &c.,

“(Signed) W. H. RAWSTORNE,

“Acting Postmaster.”

The above letter is endorsed on the back as follows: “The stamps alluded to are in the Treasury vault, and can be issued under His Excellency's authority.”

A letter from the Colonial Secretary to the Treasurer, dated September 3rd, 1853, directs the latter to issue the 4d. stamps to the Postmaster; and another letter to the Surveyor General, dated October 17th, 1853, directs that official to have the words “FOUR PENCE” printed on the stamps. “The words ‘four pence’ to be placed on the pencil line over the head of Britannia.” (The Colonial Secretary of that date evidently looked upon the lady as being the deity of the British Isles.)

A long letter from the Postmaster to the Colonial Secretary, dated October 1st, 1853, again urges the issue of 4d. stamps. By the endorsing on the back of this letter, a good deal of which is illegible from wear and tear, it appears to have been referred to the Finance Committee, who approved of the issue of the stamps, but pointed out the inconvenience of their bearing no indication of value. It ends with a statement that there were at this time 100,000 of these stamps in the Treasury vault, and that the Postmaster considered that number sufficient to last about six or eight months.

We should remember that these 100,000 stamps were of three different colours, and we shall see that about one-tenth part of them seems to have lasted very much longer than the Postmaster estimated for the whole quantity.

A requisition from the Postmaster, dated November 14th, 1853, asks for £100 worth of 1d. and 2d. stamps, and 8,000 or 10,000 4d. stamps. (His estimate of the probable requirements of his department in the way of 4d. stamps seems to have been considerably modified by this time.)

In answer to this is a letter from the Colonial Secretary, dated March 17th, 1854, stating that the stamps applied for in November (1d., 2d., and 4d.) are ready, and the following letter from the Postmaster shows that he got possession of them shortly afterwards :

“General Post Office, 24th March, 1854.

“To the Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

“Sir,—1. I have the honour to state that I have received over from the President of the Stamping Committee the following stamps, viz :

“2. Ten thousand one hundred and fifty-two of the value of *four pence* each, forty-one of which are unfit for use, the words *four pence* being illegible.

“3. I have therefore to request that the necessary publicity be given, either by an ordinance or otherwise, to enable me to put them in circulation.

“I have, &c.,

“(Signed)

W. H. RAWSTORNE,

“Acting Postmaster General.”

This letter is endorsed on the back to the effect that it was referred to the Procureur General, who decided that an ordinance was not required, but that a Government notice would be sufficient. However, an ordinance (No. 16 of 1854) was passed on March 29th in that year, entitled, “For extending to ship letters the obligation of being prepaid by postage stamps,” to come into effect from the 15th of April, 1854. A Government notice was also published in the *Gazette* of April 8th, 1854, to the effect that “from this date post office stamps of the value of four pence, and having the words ‘FOUR PENCE’ on each, will be issued to the public on application at the Central Post Office,” &c.

Thus we see that the Postmaster succeeded in getting his fourpenny stamps at last, and an ordinance and a Government notice. But it would seem that “yet he was not happy ;” for on April 10th, 1854, he wrote a long letter to the Colonial Secretary, urging objections to the putting in circulation at present of the fourpenny stamps, complaining that he was not consulted about the ordinance or the notice, and that he had not had time to frame regulations for the employment of these stamps. A good deal of correspondence took place upon the subject, and I gather therefrom that at all events ordinance 16 of 1854 was not enforced. The fourpenny stamps were probably to be obtained for local use, as I can find no notice cancelling that in the *Gazette* of April 8th, 1854, which announced their issue ; so I think we may take that as the official date of issue for the green Britannias hand-stamped “FOUR PENCE.”

A letter from the Postmaster to the Colonial Secretary, dated July 30th, 1855, encloses a draft of a notice for publication in the *Government Gazette* to the same effect as that to which I have just alluded. I cannot find that this notice was ever published ; it was probably considered unnecessary after that of April, 1854.

In a draft of regulations for the Post Office, dated August 2nd, 1855, I find a statement to the effect that the stamps then in use were 1d., 2d., and 4d., all with value indicated.

A draft of an ordinance, published August 11th, 1855, is for the purpose of repealing ordinance No. 16 of 1854, and making the provisions of this latter take effect from October 1st, 1855 ; but I cannot find that this ordinance was ever passed.*

A letter from the Postmaster to the Colonial Secretary, dated December 10th, 1855, again gives reasons for delay in the use of the fourpenny stamps. As on the former occasion, these reasons all refer to their use for ship letters, not to their use for inland letters.

* *Drafts* of proposed ordinances are published in the *Government Gazette*, so as to give the public an opportunity of making observations upon them before they are passed by the Council.

Ordinance 23 of 1855 establishes a uniform rate of 6d. per half ounce for ship letters, this rate to be prepaid in stamps, and it repeals No. 16 of 1854; but ordinance 23 of 1855 was not proclaimed until *May 1st, 1858*, to take effect from May 6th, 1858, so that apparently ordinance No. 16 of 1854 was not really repealed until this latter date. I think we may safely say, however, that its provisions were not carried out; for the 10,152 surcharged fourpenny stamps had not been exhausted, as appears from the following:

“Government Notice No. 40 of 1858.

“His Excellency the Governor directs it to be notified that Her Majesty having been pleased to confirm and approve ordinance No. 23 of 1855, cited as “The postage amendment ordinance, 1855,” postage stamps of the colours red and green respectively for the prepayment of letters under the said ordinance will be sold at the Post Office, Post Louis, &c.

“The red stamps do not bear any money value. They will be sold at 6d. each.

“The green stamps are each marked with the words “FOUR PENCE,” and will be sold at that price.

* * * * *

“Colonial Secretary’s Office, April 30th, 1858.”

We here find the first mention of the issue of red stamps bearing no indication of value, but used as sixpenny stamps. These were not the red stamps sent out in 1849, but some which had been sent out a short time before this issue was made, no doubt the vermilion stamps, as I hope to show in the next number.

(*To be continued.*)

THE POST CARDS OF BAVARIA.

BY “A POST CARD COLLECTOR.”

STAMPED CARDS.

1873. TYPE I.

“KÖNIGREICH BAYERN” at top, separated by arms; “POST-KARTE” beneath. Five dotted lines for address, the first preceded by “AN,” and the third terminated by “IN.” Lower part of card divided into two columns devoted to four paragraphs of instructions. In right-hand upper corner; embossed stamp, type 1867; beneath, “POST-AUFGABE. STEMPEL.” In left-hand upper corner, “POST-ABGABE. STEMPEL.” Letterpress; in black on buff. 2 kr., green to dark green.

Varieties.

1. Third line of par. 1 begins with “WERTHS.” Par. 1. “1 KR.,” the “1” under “T” of “VERABFOLGT;” period after “KÄUFLICH” between “L” and “A.” 2 kr., light green.
2. “WERTHS.” Par. 1. “1 KR.,” the “1” under “G;” period after “KÄUFLICH” under “U.” Par. 4. “MST” for “MIT.” 2 kr., light green.
3. “WERTHS.” Par. 1. No period after “KÄUFLICH.” Light green.
4. “WERTHS.” Par. 1. “1 KR.,” the “1” under “T;” period after “KÄUFLICH” under “L.” Dark green.
5. “WERTHS.” Par. 3. “REKOMMANTION,”* instead of *Recommandation*.

TYPE II.

Same as above.

Varieties.

1. “WERTHS.” On brownish-buff; dotted thick lines. Green and dark green.
2. “WERTHS.” On buff; dotted thin lines. Light green and green.

1874. TYPE I.

Similar to the 2 kr. card 1873. Post-horns in two upper corners of stamp. “WERTHS.” 1 kr., green.

* On Mr. S. de Wilde’s authority.

Varieties.

1. Period after all four paragraphs. Par. 2. Comma after "KÖNNEN." On brownish-buff.
2. No period after par. 1. Par. 2. No comma after "KÖNNEN." On brownish-buff.
3. Same as No. 1, but no period after par. 3. On brownish-buff.
4. Same as No. 1. Dotted fine lines. On light buff.

TYPE II.

Same as above, but in par. 1 third line begins with "WERTHS." Par. 1. No period after "KÄUFLICH." Par. 2. "RÜCKSEITE," instead of "RÜCKSEITE." Par. 3, second line. "ZULASSIG," for "ZULÄSSIG." Par. 4, second line. "NACH" very wide.

1875.

"KÖNIGREICH BAYERN" at top, separated by arms, and "POST-KARTE" beneath. "AN," followed by four lines for address, the third preceded by "IN." In right-hand corner, embossed stamp, type 1867. Letterpress; in black on buff. 135 × 88 mm. 2 kr., green.

1875.

Same as above, but post-horns in two upper corners of stamp. 1 kr., light green and green.

1876. TYPE I.

Same type as 1 kr. 1875, but value changed to pfennigs. 3 pf., light green on buff.

Varieties.

1. "IN" before third line, below line. Light and deep green on buff.
2. "IN" before third line, on level with line. Light green.

TYPE II.

Arms of Bavaria are blazoned on *oval* shield. Lower part of "K" in "KÖNIGREICH," and "P" in "POST-KARTE," differ from first type. 3 pf., light green on buff.

1876.

Same type as 1 kr. 1875, but value changed to pfennigs. 5 pf., blue-green on buff.

Varieties.

- A. "IN" begins 3 mm. from third line; total length, 70 mm. Blue-green on smooth buff card.
 - B. "IN" and third line, 66 mm. Blue-green on rough buff card.
 - C. "AN" and "IN" smaller; "IN" and third line, 66 mm. On yellow-buff.
 - D. "IN" below dotted line.
- In 5 pf., green, cards I never found a second type of arms.

1877-78.

Same type as 1 kr. card 1875, but value in pfennigs. 5 pf., lilac on buff.

TYPE I.

Arms blazoned on an escutcheon.

Varieties.

- A. "IN" begins on level with third line. Lilac on buff.
- B. "IN" 3 mm. from third line, and slightly below level. Very pale lilac on glazed buff card.*

TYPE II.

Arms blazoned on an *oval* escutcheon.

Varieties.

- A. "IN" touching third line, but below level. Lilac and bright lilac on buff.
- B. "IN" on level of third line, but 3 mm. from it. Bright lilac on buff.

* Sent to me by Mr. H. Ashwell.

(To be continued.)

Correspondence.

THE FRENCH SOCIETY AND THEIR SPANISH CATALOGUE.

To the Editor of "The Philatelic Record."

SIR,—I see that the Société Française de Timbrologie has commenced to compile a catalogue of the stamps of Spain. The London Society has smoothed the path for the French Society, which latter is not very remarkable for accuracy in its catalogues, judging from those of Turkey, Tour and Taxis, Holstein, and some others. Nevertheless, the French society commences by declaring that a stamp mentioned in the catalogue of the London Society as an error of impression cannot be anything but an essay. Essays of Spanish stamps of 1851 are sufficiently rare in England; but I have fortunately been able to examine several, and in all which I have seen the paper on which they are printed is not the same as that on which the series of stamps was printed. But putting this out of the question, one thing is clear, that the French Society does not give the London one the credit of being able to distinguish between a stamp and an essay.

I am, yours truly,

June 7th, 1880.

A MEMBER OF THE LONDON SOCIETY.

MAURITIUS POST CARDS.

DEAR SIR,—I see in last month's *Record* that it is reported that the first Mauritius post cards are being reprinted. I have written out to ask about it; but in the meantime I send your readers a word of caution, as I believe a real reprint to be impossible.

The cards in question were printed in 1877. I saw them in that year, unstamped, and had a specimen given me by the Postmaster as a curiosity. A change in the currency being about to take place, the issue of cards was deferred, and they were, as you know, not issued until February, 1879. One thousand copies only, I believe, had been printed; and as soon as it was determined that they should be issued, a further supply was ordered. Had a reprint been possible, it would have taken place then; but it was impossible, for the stone had been cleaned off, and the man who drew the design had left the island, or was dead (I forget which). Consequently, the second issue was set up from type, and then transferred to a stone. The first issue was printed in sheets of 16, the original sheet being signed by the government printer, M. Evariste Dupuy, from whom I had the above particulars.

I am, dear sir, yours, &c.,

E. B. EVANS.

[The information which we gave in our last concerning these reprints was sent us by our correspondent, "A Post-Card Collector."]

THE OFFICIALLY ISSUED STAMPED ENVELOPES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

SIR,—Referring to Mr. Casey's letter on this subject in your last impression, allow me to point out that his variety No. 2*b* is merely M. S. de Wilde's 21 folded smaller. 16*b* is a true variety. 18*a* and the next are as much varieties as a man with a broken leg is a variety. The next is no stamp at all, merely one of the envelopes refused at the Post Office.

Yours, &c.,

Z.

Proceedings of the Philatelic Society of London.

THE eleventh meeting of the season was held on the 29th May, 1880, at the rooms of Mr. A. H. Wilson, 13, Gray's Inn Square. This was the General Annual Meeting, held in conformity with Article 14 of the Society's Statutes. The President took the chair, and the Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed. The President then called upon the Secretary to read his Report, which showed the society to be in a flourishing condition, and to consist, after the elimination of five of the names upon last year's roll, of thirty-six members. The Report was adopted. The Secretary then presented his balance-sheet, and Messrs. de Ysasi and Kern were appointed to audit it. The election of the committee for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. Mr. Philbrick, Q.C., was re-elected President; Mr. de Ysasi was elected Vice-President; Mr. Burnett was re-elected Secretary and Treasurer; Dr. Viner and Mr. T. K. Tapling were re-elected; and Messrs. H. Barrett and J. J. Kern were elected members of the committee. A revision of the Society's Statutes was proposed, but postponed for further consideration. On the conclusion of the business, several novelties were exhibited, including the obsolete 1d. and current $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Great Britain, surcharged "CYPRUS," for use in that island; three values of the new Mexican "Porte de Mar" stamps—the 2 centavos, brown, 10, carmine, and 50, green; the 16 cents Hong Kong surcharged 10 cents; and the 2 cents of the same colony changed in colour to rose. Mr. Kern showed the current 1s. Turk's Islands changed in colour to puce, and the 4d. South Australia to bright violet, and also the lately obsolete 3d. Cape of Good Hope, surcharged in red on blue, with the error "PENCB" instead of "PENCE." The stamps of Hawaii were appointed to be studied at the next meeting.

List compiled at the meeting of 17th April, 1880.

JAVA.

ISSUE I. April, 1854.

One value, engraved on steel. Coloured impression on medium toned paper; yellowish gum; no watermark. Design: Three-quarter portrait, of King William III. of Holland, to left, on ground of crossed lines. Ornaments consisting of dolphins and foliage in upper angles with short curved band, bearing value, above the head. Plain inscribed labels at each side, with five-rayed white star at bottom. Shape, upright rectangular. Imperforate, T. 10 CENT. B. POSTZEGEL. L. NIEDERL (reading upwards). R. INDIE (reading downwards).

10 cents, carmine (shades),

ISSUE II. 1868.

One value. The same 10 cents, red. Perf. M. 12.

(This stamp is of a redder shade than the imperforate one.)

ISSUE III. 1869.

Four values, type printed. Coloured impression on stoutish-white paper; yellowish gum; no watermark. Profile of King William III. to right, on solid ground of colour, within pearled circle. Diamond-shaped ornaments in four corners; arabesques in spandrels; caduceus above and anchor below in each side frame. Top label inscribed with name of country; bottom one with value. Shape, upright rectangular. Perforated, M. 14.

T. NED. INDIE. B. Numerals and CENT.

5 cents,	green, yellow-green
10 "	yellowish-brown (shades)
20 "	ultramarine
50 "	carminé (shades)
	<i>Varieties. (?)</i>

ISSUE IV. April, 1874.

Four values. Same type as preceding, forming the complement of that issue. Perf., M. 14.

1 cent,	greenish-grey
15 "	pale brown
25 "	purple, deep and pale
2½ Florins,	border, emerald-green centre
	<i>Varieties. (?)</i>

ISSUE V. 1875-76.

Two values. Same type as preceding issue. Perf., M. 14.

2 cents,	brown (a purple shade)
2½ "	orange-yellow

Varieties.

These two stamps may be had imperforate, but their postal value in this condition is doubtful. Some copies of the 2 cent perf. 12 were, at the end of 1879, accidentally printed in orange-yellow, the colour of the 2½ cent, a die of the former value having, in error, been made up in the sheet when printing the latter.

Several, if not all, of the stamps of Issues III. to V. have recently been met with perforated 12 instead of 14.

UNPAID LETTER STAMPS.

ISSUE I. 1874.

Three values, type printed. Coloured impression on medium white and coloured papers; yellowish gum; no watermark. Fancy numerals within chain-patterned circle; arabesques in spandrels; inscribed labels above and below. Rectangular. Perf. M. 14.

T. "TE BETALEN" (to pay). B. "PORT" (postage or carriage).

5 (cents)	brownish yellow on white paper
10 (")	deep green on yellow "
20 (")	" " blue "

Varieties.

Imperforate copies of these stamps may be met with, but are not believed to have been issued to the public in that condition.

ISSUE II. 1875.

One value. Same type as preceding; perforated 14.

15 (cents), orange on orange-yellow paper.

Variety.

The later-arrived stamps are perf. 12. The same stamp also exists imperforate, and is in that condition subject to the like remark as to non-issue to the public.

POST CARDS.

1st January, 1874.

Inscriptions in Dutch, Malay, and Javanese upon the face. Stamp in right upper corner of same type as the adhesives of the same year. Four ruled lines for the address. Border of colour with serpentine white lines, and small square ornaments in angles. Inscriptions in Malay and Javanese along the top of the card on the reverse side. Size of card 120 × 87 mm.

1st variety	{	. . .	Inscription on reverse side measures 115 mm.
		5 cents,	shades of purple on buff card.
2nd "	{	. . .	Inscription on reverse side measures 117 mm.

The shades of purple, and the depth of tone of the cards, vary in intensity.

1875.

Same type and value as preceding. The Javanese inscription on the reverse side is inverted.

The inscription measures 115 mm.

1877.

Same type and inscriptions. For International postage. Javanese inscription on reverse side inverted, measuring 115 mm.

12½ cents, grey on buff card.

Variety.

The same, without inscriptions on the reverse side.

REPLY PAID CARDS.

1st January, 1874.

Similar to the single cards of the same date, but with smaller border, and some differences in the design.

1st variety, 5 × 5 cents, purple on buff card. The cards are joined at the left-hand side. Inscription on reverse side measures 117 mm.

2nd ,, 5 × 5 cents, purple on buff card. The cards are joined at the right-hand side. Inscription on reverse side measures 111 mm.

3rd ,, 5 × 5 cents, purple on buff card. The cards are joined at the left-hand side. Inscription on reverse side measures 111 mm.

1879.

PROVISIONAL CARDS.

The 12½ cent, surcharged with large numeral 5.

5 cents, grey on buff card, surcharge in very deep green.

1879.

Same card surcharged $\frac{5}{\text{cent}}$ in light green

,, ,, ,, pale blue

Variety.

Surcharge inverted.

1879.

Postal union card. Four lines of inscription in Dutch and French. 1. ALGEMEENE POSTVEREENIGING. 2. (Union postale universelle.) 3. BRIEFKAART uit NEDERLANDSCH-INDIË. 3. (Carte postale des Indes orientales néerlandaises.) Stamp in right upper corner of the same type as adhesives. Three long and two short dotted lines for address; no border. Reverse side plain. Size of card 123½ × 89 mm.

7½ cents, deep brown on buff card.

ENVELOPES.

[The list of the ordinary stamped envelopes is undergoing correction.]

There appears to exist a set of envelopes, all of the same design, size, and value, but differing in colours and paper, which franked correspondence on the occasion of an Agricultural Congress at Soerabaya in 1876. Why such a lavish wealth of colour and paper was exhibited is difficult to conjecture. Used specimens have not been met with by English collectors.

The envelopes bear two lines of lithographed inscription—1st. "PORTVRIJ WEGEN GOUVERNEMENTS," which may be translated, Post-free on Government account; and 2nd. "BESLUIT No. 37 DD. 13 MEI, 1876," or, Ordinance No. 37 of the 13th May, 1876. The stamp is lithographed at upper right corner of envelope. The design consists of a large figure 3 placed in an upright rectangle, measuring 23 × 26 mm., on a ground of crossed lines, and ornamented with various implements of husbandry, and a wreath of leaves, which are inverted. Across the centre of the stamp is lithographed in black lettering "SOERABAYA;" above, in a curve, is "IND: LANDBOUW;" and

beneath "CONGRES." The white envelope measures $149\frac{1}{2} \times 83$ mm., and is on thin laid paper. The flap is sometimes plain, and sometimes bears a seal with a garter device. The yellow envelope is also on laid paper, and measures 143×83 mm.

On white laid paper, light blue	} 3 cents	{	on yellow laid paper, carmine
" " " green			" " violet
" " " violet			" " green
" " " carmine			
" " " brown			

List of Actual Members of the Philatelic Society of London.

Published in terms of Resolution passed at Meeting of 14th June, 1879.

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Notes and Queries.

"P.D." AND "P.P."—Owing to a misprint, which escaped our notice, we were made last month to give the meaning of "P.P." as "Post," instead of "Port payé." A correspondent writes us: "'P.D.' stands for '*Payé à destination*,' as told me by an official in Paris; but I believe it is ordinarily put upon letters which the stamp carries through two administrations. 'P.P.' is '*Port payé*,' the same in effect, but is, I think, stamped on those letters which pass from one place to another within the same administration." This explanation of "P.D." puzzles us. We can understand its signifying "*à payer*," or "to be paid for," and this being a notice to the letter-carrier that he has something to receive on delivering the missive; but if it stands for "*payé*," or "paid," why should it be so stamped before it is delivered?

A.—As we supposed, your stamp is a bogus.

The Philatelic Record.

Vol. II. No. 18.

JULY.

1880.



WITH the last meeting for the season of the Philatelic Society of London our holidays may be considered to have commenced, and other recreations now claim a share of our attention besides philately. For the last three months our numbers have been considerably larger than we intended, or can afford them to be, and during the holidays we intend to do very little beyond chronicling the novelties as they make their appearance. This month we have extremely few to place before our readers; if more there be, we have not had the good fortune to come across them.

About as impudent a letter was shown at the last meeting of the Philatelic Society as it has ever been our lot to see. A man or boy of the name of Albert Rogers, having sent out some of the vilest forgeries conceivable, they were returned to him, with the word forgery written very properly across each one. Rogers was no doubt disgusted at having his precious wares rendered unsaleable even to the most unsuspecting of schoolboys; and in a letter, from the coherence of which his fury somewhat detracts, he threatens legal proceedings unless the defacer proves by sending to him (Rogers) specimens of genuine stamps, accompanied by duly-authenticated affidavits from "one of the leading philatelists" that the forgeries are as forged as is asserted. To our knowledge he has had the opinion of one of our leading philatelists, and we trust that he feels better after it. Such pitiful counterfeits we never yet beheld. Case-hardened as we supposed ourselves to be in the matter of forgeries, some odd millions of which pass through our hands for inspection, these fairly upset us, and convinced us that there really are lower and lower depths. If Rogers pleads ignorance of the character of these labels, he should at least have been civil and thankful for their worthlessness being pointed out to him.

But for a dealer to circulate counterfeits, and then to plead ignorance of the veriest rudiments of his business, is in our opinion the super-addition of insult to injury.

Novelties, Discoveries, and Resuscitations.

Austria.—A correspondent sends us the 3 kreuzers, red, first type, on thick paper, with what appears to be "F.K." instead of "K.K. POST." We have shown it to a friend, for whom printing has no mysteries, and he says that the first letter is only a broken K, as, otherwise, were it an F, it would be of a different fount. It is certainly very like an F.

British Guiana.—A correspondent writes to us that he possesses the B. Guiana 12 cents, of the 1860 type, surcharged 5d. or c. in red, with part of a London postmark upon it. These mysterious stamps are very seldom found postmarked.

Cashmere.—The last batch of stamps which we have received show some slight differences from those previously noticed. The 3 pies is on laid instead of pelure paper. The 1 anna is modified in colour to Venetian red. The 2 annas, instead of being the rich purple it used to be, has assumed a more slaty shade. These stamps were sent to us from Srinugger, and are used, our correspondent informs us, by the Maharajah of Gouth; at least, so we read the name of the potentate.

Deccan.—Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. send us the 5 annas envelope on blue, rose, and yellow paper. This is some of the trash specially prepared for the omnivorous collector.

France.—The 3 centimes adhesive has been changed in colour to a sort of pearl-grey, rather suggestive of the earlier 15 centimes of the same type. The telegraphic cards used in Paris have been reduced in price from 50 to 30 centimes. The numerals 50 in the stamp are obliterated, and beside the stamp is printed obliquely, in black, "TAKE REDUITE"
_{30 c.} The single and reply paid cards are treated in the same way.

<i>Adhesive</i>	.	3 centimes, pearl-grey
<i>Telegraphic Cards</i>	. 30	„ rose on buff; black surcharge.

Hong Kong.—The supply of the new 5 and 10 cents is a long time in making its appearance. Meanwhile we have another provisional 10 cents; same surcharge as before on the 24 cents.

10 cents, surcharged in black on the 24 cents, green.

Luxembourg.—The two new postal cards announced some time ago are now in circulation. The stamps are of the same types as the adhesives of similar value. So many changes have been rung upon the Luxembourg cards that their contemplation becomes a weariness, and one is apt to forget (and away from one's collection

one cannot ascertain), what the last current type may have been. These cards, of which the 10 centimes is the Postal Union one, are without border; reverse side plain.

Post cards. 5 centimes, pale lilac } on buff card; size, $142\frac{1}{2} \times 92\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
 ,, 10 ,, orange-yellow }

Luzon.—Another value of the latest type is now in circulation.

8 c. de p., red-brown; *perf.* 14.

A correspondent informs us that he has found one of the late c. de p. surcharged upon the 100 mils de p., with the word *correos* misspelt *COREROS*.

Madeira.—A new 5 reis adhesive of a similar type to the last issued 25 reis is now in circulation.

5 reis, black, red surcharge.

Nevis.—We regret to state that the well-known 1d. value of this island has been replaced by one of the wretched De la Rue productions. It is of precisely the same type as the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. Virgin Islands, with "NEVIS" above, and value in words beneath.

1d., violet; *wmk.* CC. and crown; *perf.* 14.

Newfoundland.—We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. for the new 1 cent post card. It is of the usually highly-ornate description, and the portrait of the Prince of Wales upon the stamp is of the modified type of the current adhesive.

Post card. 1 cent, green, on buff cards.

Portugal.—A new 5 reis adhesive, similar in design to the last issued 25 reis, must be issued, or on the point of being so. We have only seen it, however, surcharged for Madeira, under which heading we have placed it.

St. Vincent.—A very curious provisional stamp, forming a fit pendant to the makeshift 1d. employed in Barbadoes in 1878, has been used recently, but may by this time have become obsolete. The postal authorities of St. Vincent have treated their 6d. value in the same way as the Barbadians did their 5/- stamp—perforating it down the centre, and surcharging each side with $\frac{d}{1}$ in red, the numeral being 8 mm. in length. It is worthy of remark that the additional perforation, unlike that of the Barbadian provisional, is sharp and clean cut, has every appearance of having been done with a proper perforating machine, and measures 12 as compared with the original perforation of 15; so that each stamp has one side perforated 12, and three sides perforated 15.

1d., surcharged in red on the half of a 6d., green.

Since writing the above we have received a new 1d. adhesive of the old type, but printed in dull sap-green.

1 d., sap-green; same *wmk.* and *perf.* as before.

Sirmoor.—Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. send us the 1 pice stamp of this state changed in colour to blue, and printed on laid paper.

1 pice, blue, on laid paper.

THE STAMPS OF MAURITIUS.

By CAPT. E. B. EVANS, R.A.

PART II.—*continued.*

A LETTER from the Colonial Agent to the Colonial Secretary, dated London, January 8th, 1858, encloses a bill of lading for "postage stamps for carrying out Ordinance No. 23 of 1855," accompanied by a bill of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co. for

"462 sheets of 216 each	99,792	} 6d. blue
1 sheet	208	

Paper, printing, and gumming 100,000 postage stamps,
at 9d. per 1,000, £3 15s.

231 sheets of 216 each	49,896
1 sheet	104

Paper, printing, and gumming 50,000 postage stamps,
at 1s. per 1,000, £2 10s."

It should be observed that the 100,000 stamps at 9d. per 1,000 are described as 6d. blue, while the nature and colour of the 50,000 at 1s. per 1,000 are not stated. The following despatch from the Governor of Mauritius to the Secretary of State for the Colonies shows the nature of both:

"Mauritius, May 4th, 1858.

"The Right Honourable Lord Stanley.

"MY LORD,—1. With reference to Mr. Secretary Labouchere's despatch No. 98, the 12th January last, apprising me of the shipment on board the *Colombo* of a box of postage stamps, for which my predecessor made requisition in his despatch No. 113, of the 14th December, 1855, with a view of carrying into effect the Postage Amendment Ordinance No. 23 of that year.

"2. I have the honour to inform you that difficulties have arisen in making use of the stamps sent out. My predecessor, I find, requested that one hundred thousand sixpenny, and fifty thousand shilling stamps might be furnished. One hundred thousand red stamps, and fifty thousand blue stamps have been supplied; but neither sort is marked as bearing any particular money value.

"3. Under these circumstances I have, as a temporary expedient, directed that the blue stamps shall not at present be used, and have caused a notice to be issued to the effect that the red stamps will be sold for sixpence each at the Post Office, and that they will be received there as of the value of sixpence; and as there were in the Treasury some thousands of green stamps marked in printed figures as being of the value of fourpence each, I have directed that these shall be substituted for the blue stamps that were sent out.

"4. As objections, however, may be made out of the Colony to accepting stamps, as of the value of sixpence, on which no money value is marked, I have the honour to request that the Colonial Agent may be directed to supply, with the least possible delay, 100,000 red stamps, and 50,000 blue ones, marked as of the value of sixpence and one shilling respectively.

"5. Copies of the ordinance and the notice above alluded to are herewith transmitted.

"6. And I beg to suggest that, lest any question should arise in England as to the full prepayment of the postage in this island by means of these stamps of unindicated value, some communication may be made to the Postmaster-General on the subject, in order that the letters may be marked at the General Post Office as prepaid.—I have, &c.,

(Signed)

"W. STEVENSON."

From the above despatch it would seem that a curious mistake was made about these stamps. One hundred thousand sixpenny and 50,000 shilling stamps had been ordered; 100,000 blue stamps, intended by the printers as sixpenny, and 50,000 red stamps, were sent out. (That there really were 100,000 blue ones is evidently the case, from the fact that nearly that number were found some years after.) The authorities, however, apparently made some mistake in counting them, and fancying that the larger number were red, and that the red were therefore intended for sixpenny stamps, issued them as such. These two then, of the stamps without indication of value, had values assigned them by the printers before they were sent out; which values, however, were not adopted by the local authorities. Curiously enough, it does not seem to have occurred to any of the various guessers at the values of these stamps, that the blue and vermilion might have been intended to represent the same values as the stamps of similar colours with the values indicated.

I have now to show that the 50,000 stamps sent out in 1858 were *vermilion*. It will be remembered that the 100,000 stamps of various colours sent out in 1848 were all charged for at the same price; viz., 9d. per 1,000. The 100,000 blue stamps sent out in 1858 were also charged for at that price; whereas the 50,000 others were more expensive, being 1s. per 1,000. A bill of lading, dated September 1st, 1858, is accompanied by a bill of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., "For engraving steel dies, and making plates of 216 6d. and 1s. stamps, at £84 each;" and for

100,000 6d. blue, at 9d. per 1,000	. . .	£3 15s.
50,000 1s. vermilion, at 1s. per 1,000	. . .	£2 10s."

The *one shilling* vermilion were thus, we see, charged for at the same price as the 50,000 stamps sent out previously. These latter were no doubt of the same colour, vermilion being expensive.

On the 10th of February, 1859, Mr. Pearson Hill arrived in Mauritius—not as Postmaster, but as an officer of the Imperial Post Office, sent out at the request of the local authorities to reorganize their postal administration. On a letter of his, written shortly after his arrival, is the following note, dated March 25th, 1859:

"The optional use of stamps to all parts is allowed before the compulsory use to the United Kingdom is enforced (on the 1st May). The stamps in use are 6d., 4d., 2d., and 1d.; none other are required."

The following letter of Mr. Pearson Hill is important as showing the stamps in use at the time at which it was written, and as giving approximately the date of issue of the 6d. blue, 1s. vermilion, and the magenta as 9d:

"General Post Office, Mauritius, March 31st, 1859.

"To the Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

"SIR,—I beg to report that an examination of the stamps last received from England shows that they differ from those hitherto in use in this Colony.

"As you are aware, the red stamps (of which I affix a specimen, A), bearing no mark by which their value might be known, have hitherto been sold at the rate of 6d. each. Stamps similar in colour (B) have now been received bearing the words 'ONE SHILLING,' and must, I presume, be sold at that price.

"Blue stamps (C) have also been sent, and these should, I submit, be substituted for those (A) hitherto sold for 6d.

"I likewise find a large number of purple stamps (see specimen D), which have been received some time back. As a ninepenny label would be useful to enable persons to prepay with one stamp single-rated letters for the United Kingdom sent *via* Marseilles, I submit that this stamp may be sold to the public at that price.

* * * * *

"The green stamp (E) hitherto sold at the rate of 4d. should continue to be issued at that rate; but as the number of stamps of this description now in stock is small, I submit that application be made by the next homeward

packet for a fresh supply, transmitting a stamp to serve as a specimen for the colour, but requesting that the words 'FOUR PENCE' may be engraved on each stamp. A similar course should be followed as regards the purple stamps (D), the words 'NINE PENCE' being of course engraved on each.*

* * * * *

(Signed) "PEARSON HILL."

The suggestions contained in the above letter were probably acted upon at once, and the vermilion Britannias without indication of value were no doubt withdrawn. These stamps would thus have been in circulation for about a year only, during the whole of which time the prepayment of the postage for which they were principally intended was optional on the part of the public. This accounts for their extreme rarity *used*, and for the fact of so large a number of remainders of them having been found afterwards. I only saw two obliterated specimens in Mauritius, and one of those came out from England in a collection; they bear the mark consisting of several concentric circles.

We now come to the 6d. lilac, or brown-lilac, and 1s. green, design the same as the last.

A bill of lading from the Colonial Agents, dated London, May 18th, 1860, encloses a bill from Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., for

" 46 sheets of stamps of 216 each	9,936	}	1s. green
1 sheet of stamps	64		
92 sheets of stamps of 216 each	19,872	}	6d. lilac
1 sheet of stamps	128		

30,000 stamps, at 9d. per 1,000."

These stamps were stated to have been sent out in the above colours in order that the colours might be assimilated to those in use for the same values at home. A supply had been demanded in a despatch of February, 1860; but they do not seem to have been at once put in circulation, for a return of the stamps in the Treasury, dated September 20th, 1860, is as follows:

	1s.	9d.	6d.	4d.	2d.	1d.
" New stamps	10,000	100,560	20,000	80,880	66,840	81,360
Old "	23,260	...	49,300	...	...	...
Also 99,998 blue stamps, value not indicated						
33,055 brown stamps, value not indicated						
18,219 purple stamps, value not indicated."						

The new 6d. and 1s. stamps were doubtless those sent out in May, 1860. The old 1s. were the one shilling vermilion; the old 6d. must have been made up partly of the blue sixpence, and partly of the vermilion without indication of value, unless we are to suppose that the whole of the remainders of these latter were still at the Post Office, as there is no mention of them among the stamps with value not indicated.

Nearly three hundred of the brown or red-brown stamps seem to have disappeared; and two of the blue ones had no doubt been used as *specimens*.

The 9d., 4d., 2d., and 1d. stamps shown were those made by Messrs. De la Rue and Co., which we shall consider later.

A bill of lading from the Colonial Agents, dated London, February 20th, 1861, is for

" 6d. and 1s. stamps, being a half-year's supply. When the new plates are ready the other half of the above stamps will be forwarded. The stamps are a portion of those required by despatch of November 1st last."

* A is the *vermilion* Britannia without indication of value; B is the vermilion one shilling; C is the blue sixpence; D is the magenta Britannia without indication of value; E is the green Britannia without indication of value. It is evident that the green Britannias surcharged "FOUR PENCE" had all been exhausted before this; and probably a good many of those unsurcharged had also been used, as only a small number are stated to be on hand at this time. Many of these stamps had no doubt been used for local postage. I have some specimens of the green Britannia unsurcharged, which were taken from local letters.

With the above is a bill of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co. for

" 7,560 1s. green		
20,088 6d. lilac		
<hr/>		
27,648 stamps, at 9d. per 1,000 . . .	£1	0s. 9d.
Perforating, at 4d. per 1,000 . . .	0	9s. 2d.
	<hr/>	
	£1	9s. 11d."

From this it is evident that the 6d. and 1s. stamps sent out in May, 1860, were the 6d. purple-brown and 1s. yellow-green, unperforated; while those sent out in February, 1861, were the 6d. slate-lilac and 1s. dark green, perforated. The 1s. stamps appear to have been all issued; but there were large numbers of remainders of both varieties of the 6d. I think we may gather from this that the perforated stamps were issued soon after their arrival in Mauritius; for the unperforated 6d. was superseded by the perforated one before a large portion of the supply of the former had been used. The unperforated 1s. were no doubt exhausted, or very nearly so, only half as many 1s. stamps having been sent out on three occasions as there were 6d. Later requisitions generally demand about an equal number of 6d. and 1s. stamps; so no doubt it was found that almost as many of the latter were used as of the former.

(To be continued.)

THE POST CARDS OF BAVARIA.

(Continued.)

By "A POST CARD COLLECTOR."

UNSTAMPED CARDS.

1870.

"BAYERN CORRESPONDENZ-KARTE," in two lines. "AN," with four dotted lines for address, the third being preceded by "BESTIMMUNGSORT," and the fourth by "WOHNUNG DES EMPFANGER." Lower part of card divided into two columns devoted to six paragraphs of instructions. In right-hand upper corner a dotted rectangle for stamp; two dotted circles for postmarks. Black impression; type-set. 165 × 108 mm. Pale buff.

TYPE I.

No thick line under third line.

Varieties.

A. No period after "POST-AUFGABE. STEMPEL," and the "L" in "STEMPEL" higher than other letters. Par. 1. Large "P" in "POST-ANSTALTEN." Par. 6. Small "P" in "POST-GEBIETE."

B. Same as A, but no period after "FREIMARKE." Par. 1. Small "P" in "POST-ANSTALTEN." Par. 6. Large "P" in "POST-GEBIETE."

TYPE II.

Thick line under third line.

Varieties.

A. Period after "POST-AUFGABE. STEMPEL." On buff, and on brownish-buff.

B. No period after "POST-AUFGABE. STEMPEL," and the three letters "PEL" lower than others.

C. Period after "STEMPEL," but "L" upside down.

D. "GESCHRIEBEN," in first line of second column of instructions, has the "N" upside down.

1874.

"KÖNIGREICH BAYERN" at top, separated by arms; "POST-KARTE" beneath. Five dotted lines for address, the first preceded by "AN," and the third terminated by "IN." In left-hand upper corner "POST-ABGABE. STEMPEL;" and "POST-AUFGABE. STEMPEL" to right under space for stamp. The

lower part of card is divided into two columns devoted to four paragraphs of instructions. Black impression; type-set. Oblong; 148 × 90 mm. Buff.

Varieties.

1. Par. 1. Third line begins with "WERTHS."
2. Par. 1. Third line begins with "WERTHES." On glazed buff card.
3. Par. 1. Third line begins with "WERTHES." On unglazed buff card.

1873.

Card similar to one of 1873, with the exception of a dotted rectangle in right-hand corner. Buff.

Varieties.

1. Par. 1 begins with "MIT FREIMARKEN."
2. Par. 1 begins with "MIT BRIEFMAREN."

1875.

"KÖNIGREICH BAYERN" at top, separated by arms, and "POST-KARTE" beneath. "AN," followed by four lines for address, the third being preceded by "IN." Letterpress in black on buff. 135 × 88 mm. Buff (no value).

REPLY PAID CARD. 1870.

At top, "KÖNIGREICH BAYERN," separated by arms; below, "CORRESPONDENZ-KARTE." To left, "AN," followed by four dotted lines, the third being underlined and preceded by the word "BESTIMMUNGSORT," and the fourth by "WOHNUNG DES EMPFANGERS." The lower part of card is divided into two columns devoted, in original, to three paragraphs, and in reply to two paragraphs of instructions. In right-hand upper corner a dotted rectangle for stamp; two dotted circles for postmarks. On original, "RÜCKANTWORT BEZAHLT;" on reply, "BEZAHLTE RÜCKANTWORT;" beneath, "CORRESPONDENZ-KARTE." Black impression; type-set. 140 × 112 mm. Green.

Varieties.

- | | | | | |
|----|---------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| A. | Par. 2. | Last line finishes with comma | } | "VERKEHRE," line 6, par. 3. |
| | 3. | First ,, ,, period | | |
| B. | 2. | Last ,, ,, ,, | } | " " " |
| | 3. | First ,, ,, comma | | |
| C. | 2. | Last ,, ,, period | } | " " " |
| | 3. | First ,, ,, ,, | | |

(To be continued.)

Correspondence.

THE POST CARDS OF JAVA.

To the Editor of "The Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—In looking over the Society's list of these cards in your June number I find that several mistakes have been made. In the first place the inscription at the back was never 115 nor 117 mm., but 107, 108, and 105. The first issue was 107 mm., and only 10 cm. between the two inscriptions. The second issue was 108 mm., and 11 cm. between the two inscriptions. In the reply paid cards the first issue are joined at the left-hand side, but the inscription measures 107 mm., and there is 10 cm. between the inscriptions. In the second issue, joined at the right-hand side, the inscription measures 102 mm., with only 4 mm. between the two. In the third issue, joined at left, the inscription is 101 mm., with 4 mm. between the two.

Yours, &c.,

A POST CARD COLLECTOR.

[We give our correspondent's letter as received. As the Society is not meeting just now nothing more can be said at present; but we are under the impression that at the meeting of the 18th April the cards were measured, and the measurements were found to agree with those of M. Moens.—ED.]

Proceedings of the Philatelic Society of London.

THE twelfth and last meeting of the season was held at 13, Gray's Inn Square, on the 19th June, 1880; the President in the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed, and reported that his balance sheet had been audited and passed by Messrs. de Ysasi and Kern. He then laid before the meeting a circular forwarded to him for that purpose by the International Philatelic Society of Dresden, contradicting certain reports circulated by Mr. Alwin Nieske, explaining the reasons for his extrusion from membership, and disavowing all further connection with him. The Secretary was instructed to acknowledge receipt of the circular, and to express the good wishes of the London Society for that of Dresden. It was remarked upon as strange that the Dresden Society should have been so tardy in discovering the real character of their late President, who for some years has been known in England, and animadverted upon in English philatelic publications as a dealer in forged stamps. The business of the day was the compilation of a list of the Hawaiian stamps, which was greatly facilitated by the opportunity afforded of examining the splendid collection of the President. The examination was restricted to the postage stamps proper, the consideration of the type printed 1 and 2 cents, or so-called newspaper stamps, being postponed to a future occasion.

Upon the conclusion of the day's business the President read a letter from Dr. LEGRAND, of the *Société Timbrologique* of Paris, inviting further subscriptions to the report of the International Stamp Congress held at Paris in 1878, which is now on the point of completion. The Secretary was directed to subscribe for a copy for the library of this Society, and he expressed his willingness to receive and forward subscriptions from any of the country members who may wish to possess the work. Mr. de Ysasi showed the new 8 cent de peso of Luzon (of the same type as the lately issued values of 2 and 2½ cent de peso), red-brown. The Secretary exhibited a number of reprints of Transvaal stamps which are now being foisted in quantities upon collectors as originals. Some of them are provided with forged postmarks, and some even with forged "v. r." surcharges.

List compiled at the meeting of the 8th May, 1880.

SAMOA. 1878.

Six values. Lithographed in colour upon white paper of medium substance; white gum; no watermark; machine perforated 13. Design: In the centre a circle of solid colour, with white frame containing irregular coloured dots. In the upper and lower parts of the circle white arabesque ornaments. A straight label crosses the middle of the stamp, debruising the circle and its ornaments, bearing the inscription, in white block letters upon ground of horizontal lines, "EXPRESS." Curved white labels, ornamented with arabesques above and below the circle, inscribed with coloured letters. The whole within plain, upright, rectangular frame, of single lines, duplicated at the bottom.

T. SAMOA. Centre, Express.	B. Postage and value in words.
1d., ultramarine	1s., ochre yellow (shades)
3d., vermilion	2s., chocolate-brown (shades)
6d., mauve	5s., emerald-green

Remarks. This is not a government issue, as Samoa appears to be in a state of anarchy, and both Germany and the United States seemed recently to entertain the design of annexing it. The stamps are seldom found perforated on all four sides, so that probably some of the sheets are imperforate vertically or horizontally.

SARAWAK.

ISSUE I. 1869.

One value. Lithographed (by Messrs. Maclure and Macdonald) in colour upon medium coloured paper; white gum; no watermark; machine perforated 11. Design: Three-quarter portrait, to right, of Rajah James Brooke, within oval of engine-turned ground. Within the oval, above the head, is the word "SARAWAK," curved in white letters. Straight inscribed label below; lettered circles in upper and blocks in lower corners, foliated ornaments in spandrels; all within plain, double-lined, upright rectangular frame.

T. J. SARAWAK, B. B. R. THREE CENTS, S. (The letters in the four corners stand for James Brooke, Rajah, Sarawak.)

3 cents, brown (dark and light) on yellow paper.

ISSUE II. 1871.

One value. Lithographed (by the same artists) in colour on medium coloured paper; white gum; no watermark; machine perforated 11. Design: Profile, to left, of Rajah Charles Brooke, within engine-turned circle, ornamented at the spandrels; side frames of lozenge-shaped ornaments; straight coloured labels with inscriptions at top and bottom; small double-lined rectangular blocks in each corner with coloured letters. All within double-lined, upright, rectangular frame.

T. C. SARAWAK, B. B. R. THREE CENTS, S.

3 cents, brown (dark and light) on yellow paper.

ISSUE III. January, 1875.

Five values. Lithographed (by the same artists) in colour on medium coloured paper; white gum; no watermark; machine perforated 12. Design exactly similar to last issue.

T. C. SARAWAK, B. B. R. Value in words, S.

2	cents, violet (shades)	on lilac paper
4	" brown	" yellow "
6	" green (shades)	" green "
8	" blue	" blue "
12	" carmine	" rose "

Varieties. All the values exist imperforate. In this state it is said that they were stolen from the premises of the lithographers. Some of the values are also found with a very wide, irregular perforation, or roulette. This was probably done by the thieves who stole the imperforate sheets, to try and make the stamps look more like those in use. The 12 cents exists on laid rose paper with the usual perforation.

1876.

One value. Provisional. The 3 cents of 1871, surcharged 2 cents, in black; perforated 11.

2 cents, brown on yellow paper.

Notes and Queries.

A. H., SOUTHSEA.—We cannot inform you of the meaning of the letters "S.S." on the 2 centavos, carmine, St. Salvador. The letters "A.C." in a monogram on the 10 centavos are equally mysterious.

COLLECTOR.—We believe that the last edition of Pemberton's *Handbook* will give you all the information you require.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—All letters for Mr. Burnett should be addressed during the next two months to the care of the publishers of this magazine.

The Philatelic Record.

Vol. II. No. 19.

AUGUST.

1880.



BY way of light vacation reading we took up the other day the *Annuaire des Postes* of the French Post Office for the year 1880, a book of no small dimensions, as it gives amongst other information the name and salary of every Post Office *employé*. Our readers will think that it was not a very amusing species of recreation, nor can we recommend it as such; but it enabled us to derive some information as to the present state of postage communication in France. On comparing the facilities afforded in France with those afforded by the English Post Office, we are compelled to admit that although Great Britain was the first to introduce a system of cheap uniform postage to the world, yet in many points she has been distanced by the French Post Office, especially in the cheap conveyance of printed matter of small weight. The minimum charge of one half-penny for the conveyance of printed matter under the weight of 2 ounces is simply exorbitant when considered in reference to the conveyance of circulars, invoices, price currents, &c., which ordinarily weigh much less than 1 ounce. It is true that in France the charge for conveying printed matter is about the same, being 5 centimes for 50 grammes; but then the scale commences with a much lower unit. For 5 grammes it is 1 centime; for 10 grammes, 2 centimes; for 15 grammes, 3 centimes; and for 20 grammes it is 4 centimes. Thus a circular weighing 15 grammes, or $\frac{1}{2}$ an ounce, is carried all over France, and even to Algeria, for 3 centimes, or one farthing; and one of 5 grammes, equal to the weight of one halfpenny stout post card, and nearly three thin ones, will travel the same distance for one-twelfth of a penny. Nor does France stand alone in according cheap postage for printed matter of small weight. Spain, Belgium, Italy, and other countries, have stamps for such purposes of the value of a tenth or a twelfth of a penny. Why should the English Post Office be so far behind, and charge the same for con-

Price 2d.

2s. 6d. per Annum.

Abroad, 3s.

veying a circular from one street to another as it does from England to the United States? Why should not we have stamps of one farthing for printed matter under 1 ounce, and of eight for a penny when under $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce? The saving to many a tradesman would be equivalent to the extra penny just put upon his income tax, and this without any loss to the Revenue; for if the Post Office can afford to carry a newspaper which weighs on the average $3\frac{1}{2}$ ounces for one half-penny, the book post rate ought in all fairness to be reduced. As we have now a professor of political economy at the head of the Post Office, he ought to be able to do something to increase its area of usefulness. He is in a far better position than the Chancellor of the Exchequer; for, whether harvests are bad or good, whether trade is dull or lively, whether there is peace or war, he has an ever-increasing business and ever-increasing profits. Once only since the penny postal rate was established has the Revenue of the Post Office ever ceased to increase year by year, and that was in 1870-71, in consequence of the great changes thus introduced; but it more than recovered its position in the next year.

We trust our readers will pardon us for wandering somewhat out of our vocation, but we think there is a reform wanted in our book post rates, and we trust that ere long we may have stamps of less than one halfpenny for weights under 2 ounces. Were the rates to be reduced, and an ounce be charged one farthing, even our little publication would be benefited 10 per cent., or threepence per year on each subscription.

Finally, it should be borne in mind that some years past several small companies were started to deliver circulars in towns at one farthing each, but the Post Office prosecuted the parties, and put down the undertaking, alleging that it was an infringement of its privileges; thus emulating the dog in the manger in doing nothing itself, and preventing other people from doing something.

We have been more especially moved to write in this strain by reading an account of Mr. Fawcett's reception of the influential deputation which waited upon him to urge the restoration of the system, tried partially some years ago, of granting receipts proving the postage of unregistered letters and parcels. The deputation alleged, as the chief reason for the failure of the experiment, that the charge of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for each receipt was too high. It is scarcely credible that Mr. Fawcett should have absolutely refused to lower the rate to a farthing, "*which would, he believed, be tantamount to*

asking for a grant of money from the public funds for the benefit of those persons who wanted to obtain receipts for their letters." It was with much reluctance that the honourable gentleman consented to give the experiment another trial in Glasgow at the old rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. However, the authorities are going to hurry themselves to the extent of starting it in January next!

Novelties, Discoveries, and Resuscitations.

British Honduras.—We have received the current 1d. without vertical perforation.

Buenos Ayres, which for some years has contented itself with using the stamps of the Argentine Republic, has once more started a postage stamp (the precursor probably of a set) of its own. In the upper part of the stamp is the upper portion of the globe, the lower half being hidden by clouds, from which lightning is issuing. From the visible portion of the globe Mercury, armed with his caduceus, is taking flight. Below, two ships of war are sailing to left, and in the foreground there sticks up from the sea what appears to be the fluke of an enormous anchor. A curved label above is lettered "BUENOS AYRES," and one below "1 PESO," circles at the lower corners also containing the numeral 1. The stamp is engraved in *taille douce*, and appears to be the work of the American Bank Note Company.

1 peso, violet; coloured impression on white paper; *perf.*

Cashmere.—We are informed that a $\frac{1}{4}$ anna postage stamp has been issued, printed in blue.

Ceylon.—The 4 cents of the current type has been changed in colour.

4 cents, rose.

French Colonies.—M. Moens announces that the 3 centimes, yellow, is in use in the colonies imperforate. *L'ami des Timbres* says that two type-set *timbres-taxe* are in use in Guadaloupe. The design consists of the numeral of value with the words, "A PERCEVOIR" beneath, the whole enclosed in a rectangular frame of diamond-shaped ornaments.

Unpaid letter stamps. 15 centimes; type-printed in black on blue; wove paper.

" 30 " " white "

Grenada.—We may soon expect to see a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp for this island. Provisionals of this value have recently been created by the simple method of cutting the 1d. stamp in two, obliquely, and using the halves.

Gambia.—We have seen a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp which is now current in this dependency. It is of the same type as the 4d. and 6d. We are informed that a 1d. stamp has also been issued, of a maroon colour, but we have not seen it.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., chrome-yellow.

Hong Kong.—We hear of several novelties for this colony, but we have only seen one of them, the 48 cents, changed in colour to brown.

48 cents, brown ; no change in wmk. or perforation.

Correspondents inform us that they have seen or heard of the 16 cents changed in colour to blue, and the obsolete 48 cents, rose, surcharged 10 cents in black.

India.—Some of the service stamps surcharged ^{On}_{M.} have the surcharge in blue instead of black. Whether this is a novelty or a resuscitation we are unable to say.

Madeira.—The 150 reis of the old type, changed in colour to yellow, is now in use in this island with the usual surcharge.

150 reis, yellow ; black surcharge.

Mexico.—The new Porte de Mar stamps are slowly coming into circulation. We have lately received the 100 centavos.

100 centavos, violet.

Portugal.—We omitted to chronicle in our last number the 150 reis of the current embossed type, which has been changed as regards colour to yellow. The 5 reis, black, of the new type is now in circulation.

5 reis, black

|

150, reis, yellow.

Queensland.—Messrs. A. Smith and Co. announce in their circular that postage stamps of the value of 5/- and £1 are in circulation. They are of the old type, and the lower value is orange, and the higher one rose.

We have seen the new 1s. value of the new type. The colour is rich, but the execution is as monstrous as the rest of the native productions.

1s., deep mauve.

Roumelia.—The postal card for use in Eastern Roumelia, which we described in March, has, the *Timbre Poste* informs us, ceased to exist. It appears that the Roumelians are obliged to use Turkish stamps, which they have a peculiar objection to do. Upon its coming to the knowledge of the authorities at Constantinople that the cards in question had been issued for internal postage, they were very speedily suppressed.

Russia.—Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. send us a very peculiar-looking card, the use of which is thus described by their correspondent : "This card is for asking and receiving information from the Register Office (literally named address-table). Its value is 9 kopecks, being 6 kop. postage, 2 kop. for the required information, and 1 kop. for printing the card." In addition to the stamp, which is of the ordinary adhesive type, and of the value of 3 kop., there is an oblong oval embossed stamp, with a coat of arms (not the imperial one) and an inscription. The reverse side is covered with printing, of which we hope to be able to give a translation in our next. Typographed black on buff card.

St. Vincent.—The 5/- fiscal stamp has lately been used for postal purposes. It is a handsome label, of very much the same colour as the lately obsolete 1d. Great Britain.

The *F.S.C.J.* chuckles without much apparent cause over the “strict correctness” of its explanation of the G.B. 40 c. surcharge, or obliteration, upon the stamps of St. Vincent, to which we ventured to take exception in our December number. The *F.S.C.J.* had stated that the hieroglyphics stood for “Grand Bretagne, 40 centimes,” and showed the proportion of postage due to the French Post Office upon letters, &c., carried by the French mail steamers. We pointed out the absurdity of a proportion of 4d. being due upon a postage of 1d., and that stamps of this value were as frequently surcharged as any of the others. In taking credit for the “strict correctness” of its assertion, the *F.S.C.J.* tells us for the first time in its July number that the G.B. 40 c. stamp, having ceased to be used for its original purpose, was used as an obliterating stamp. We had pointed to this solution of the difficulty some eight months previous to criticizing the *F.C.S.J.’s* original explanation.

Turkey.—A correspondent sends us the 10 and 20 paras and the 1, 2, and 5 piastres, crescent and star type, with a blue surcharge consisting of an equilateral triangle, containing some Turkish characters varying in each value. He informs us that these stamps so surcharged are for use at Mount Athos. Some of the stamps are of the light inscription, and irregular perforation, and some of the heavy inscription issues. We should like to get some further information regarding these stamps.

THE STAMPS OF MAURITIUS.

By CAPT. E. B. EVANS, R.A.

PART II.—*continued.*

I SHOWED in the last number that there were in the Treasury, in September, 1860, a large quantity of purple stamps bearing no indication of value. No remainders of these were found among the stamps sold a few years ago; I propose now to show what became of them.

In June, 1862, the Postmaster applied for various stamps to be ordered from England. In a letter to the Colonial Secretary, dated November 11th, 1862, he enquired whether the stamps ordered in June had arrived, enclosing a statement from the Treasurer of the stamps then in his hands, by which it appeared that the stock of several of the values was very small, and that there were no 2d. stamps in the Treasury at that time.

The following letters, &c., show that the penny stamps were very nearly exhausted also, and that provision had to be made for a supply of them:

“General Post Office, Mauritius, 14th November, 1862.

“To the Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

“SIR,—I have the honour to represent that, on application being made yesterday to the Treasurer for one penny postage stamps, I was informed that he could only supply me with four sheets, as the stock of that description of

stamp in his custody was exhausted. That quantity being, of course, totally insufficient to last for more than two days, I have to request your instructions as to the steps to be taken in the matter.

"2. The Treasurer has, I believe, sundry old stamps in his possession which might be used, but which for several reasons I would rather not have brought into circulation.

"3. I have caused an enquiry to be made at Mr. Dardenne's, who, I believe, formerly manufactured stamps for this department, and is now willing to undertake to lithograph, within forty-eight hours, such stamps as may be required, on the same terms as formerly.

"4. Should Mr. Dardenne be employed, it will remain to be considered whether the stamps are to be lithographed, or struck off from the copper plates in the possession of the Receiver of Registration Dues.

"5. As it is absolutely necessary that some steps should immediately be taken in the matter, I request you will have the goodness to favour me with your decision as soon as possible.

"I have, &c.,
(Signed) "G. R. SALTWELL, *Colonial Postmaster.*"

"Refer back to Postmaster.

"If the objections of the Postmaster are not very strong, it would be much better to bring into use the stamps formerly used than to go to Dardenne.

* * * * *

(Signed) "FELIX BEDINGFIELD, *Colonial Secretary.*"

"14.11.62."

"Report No. 624.

"Before giving any further opinion, I think it would be expedient to ascertain from the Treasurer the precise quantity and description of old stamps at present in his custody.

(Signed) "G. R. SALTWELL, *Colonial Postmaster.*"

"General Post Office, Mauritius, 14th November, 1862."

"The Treasurer is requested to state the precise quantity and description of old stamps in his possession.

(Signed) "E. NEWTON, *Assistant Colonial Secretary.*"

"15.11.62."

"Report No. 92.

"Blue stamps	99,993
Lilac do.	17,496
Pale red do.	30,240

"These stamps have no value stamped upon them.

(Signed) "W. W. R. KERR.

"17.11.62."

"Refer back to the Postmaster.

(Signed) "E. NEWTON, *Assistant Colonial Secretary.*"

"17.11.62."

"Report No. 627.

"As there is no time now to have the stamps manufactured in the colony, as proposed, there is no other alternative than to use the old stamps; and I submit that the lilac-coloured stamps be used in the first instance as one penny stamps. If approved, I request that the Treasurer and Auditor may be informed accordingly.

(Signed) "G. R. SALTWELL, *Colonial Postmaster.*"

"G.P.O., 17.11.62."

That this proposal was approved is shown by the following letters :

“21st November, 1862.

“The Auditor-General.

“SIR,—I am directed by the Governor to inform you that H. E. has authorized the Postmaster to use a certain quantity of lilac-coloured stamps, forming part of the old postage stamps now in the custody of the Treasurer, as one penny stamps, the stock of that description of stamp being exhausted.
(Signed) “EDWARD NEWTON, *Assistant Colonial Secretary.*”

“21st November, 1862.

“The Colonial Treasurer.

“SIR,—With reference to your Report No. 92 of the 17th inst., I am directed by H. E. the Governor to authorize you to issue to the Postmaster, on his requisition, such portion of the 17,496 lilac-coloured stamps in your custody as he may require, to be used by him as ‘one penny stamps.’
(Signed) “EDWARD NEWTON, *Assistant Colonial Secretary.*”

I believe that, until I discovered the above correspondence, the fact that the magenta Britannias were used as penny stamps in 1862 was unknown to collectors; and I think that it is now published for the first time in an English magazine. That this issue actually took place there can be no possible doubt; I have met with certainly one person who remembers it. I have had used pairs of these stamps taken from local letters, and which no doubt represented the ordinary local rate of twopence, not eighteen pence; and I have a strip of three on the back of a small envelope, dated February, 1863, and addressed from Mahébourg to Port Louis, the third penny on which is accounted for by the words, “*affranchie jusqu'à domicile,*” meaning that the extra penny for delivery at the house of the *addressee* is prepaid. Also there were no remainders found of these stamps among those sold a few years ago; so the 17,496 on hand in 1862 must have been used at some time or other.

A supply of stamps was received from England either at the end of November, 1862, or early in December; but as there were no twopenny stamps on hand, the seventeen thousand magentas may well have been expended.

We have now to consider only one variety, or supposed variety, of these stamps; viz., the magenta Britannia, surcharged with the words “EIGHT PENCE.” I have no very early catalogues, and therefore cannot tell when it was first chronicled. Mr. Overy Taylor alludes to it in February, 1865, as I stated at the commencement of this part; it is mentioned in the 1866 edition of Dr. Gray's catalogue, but not in that of 1870, though its existence does not appear to have been disproved during the period between those dates. In the paper on “The English-printed Stamps of Mauritius” in the “*S. C. Mag.*” for May, 1866, some powerful arguments are brought forward against it. It is there stated to be chronicled “on the strength of an alleged specimen in the collection of M. Donatis, in Paris.” Its authenticity appears to have been denied by Mr. Pearson Hill. It is pointed out that the lettering does not resemble that on the “FOURPENCE,” and that no other specimen had then been produced, in spite of the researches and enquiries of every collector and dealer. Finally it is branded “as an indubitable imposter, without a colour of title in favour of its pretensions.”

Now I have no evidence to bring forward as to the manufacture or issue of this stamp; and this fact, I fear, must go against it, as I have found record of every other stamp issued in Mauritius. But, nevertheless, I wish to say a few words in its favour. A specimen appears to have been known in the very early days of stamp collecting; I do not know how early it was known, or whether it was before the days of the manufacture of fictitious stamps and varieties. If it is fictitious, whom was it made to defraud? Not the postal authorities of Mauritius, for the magenta was ninepence. If it was made to defraud collectors, it would surely have been made in Europe. There was no one in Mauritius at that date likely to attempt such a thing, for there

was no one to supply collectors with the early issues, which must have been comparatively easy to obtain in those days. If it had been made to defraud collectors, the maker would not have confined himself to one or two specimens; and if it had been made in Europe, a specimen would not have been likely to find its way to Mauritius.

Shortly after my arrival in Mauritius, I saw a specimen of this stamp in a collection, and some months later I succeeded in procuring one for myself. These are the only two specimens I saw there, and with the one previously noticed make three in all known to collectors. Surely this rarity is in their favour. The two specimens I have seen are both of them obliterated; the one I saw first went with its owner to Europe; but, as far as I can recollect, the obliteration was the one consisting of several concentric circles, in use at the General Post Office till about 1858 or 1859, probably as late as the latter year. My own specimen bears an obliteration consisting of three concentric circles containing a figure 1. This obliteration was in use at Mahébourg, the second principal town in the island; but unfortunately its use extended over a considerable number of years, so that it does not give us much clue as to the date at which this stamp was used. I find the same obliteration on an early impression of the 2d. head with diadem, and also on a 6d. green and 1s. yellow watermarked, which gives a range of ten years or more. The stamp in question has been closely examined by more than one of the most experienced collectors in England, who are of opinion that the surcharge was printed upon it before it was obliterated, and not afterwards. It is not a very good specimen; it has a small semicircular hole in the upper edge, as if it had been bitten by something; and it is slightly torn on the right-hand side. It is not apparently the sort of specimen that a maker of fictitious varieties would select.

The lettering of the surcharge certainly does not correspond with that of the "FOURPENNE;" it is in a semicircle above the figure, but it is in small thin capital letters instead of block letters. I do not know that this is much of an argument against it. The "FOURPENNE" was surcharged with an engraved hand-stamp; the "EIGHTPENNE" appears to have been done with printer's types.

A letter from the Crown agents, dated March, 1864, stated that there were in their custody certain dies and plates for obsolete stamps; namely, for stamps bearing no indication of value, and for sixpenny and shilling stamps, and requested instructions as to their disposal, suggesting that they should be destroyed under proper supervision, as was usually done with the plates for obsolete colonial stamps. This suggestion was approved, but the approval does not seem to have been communicated to the Crown agents; for in a subsequent letter they again asked what they were to do with these old plates. They have probably, however, been destroyed long before this, so I think we may rest assured that no reprinting of the Britannias is likely to take place.

A few words about the remainders, and I will conclude this part.

Early in 1866 a small parcel of vermilion, magenta, brick-red, and blue Britannias was announced as having been received in France. It was at first supposed by many that these were reprints; but this theory was soon given up, an examination of the specimens showing them to be undoubtedly original. The brick-red and blue were supposed to be proofs or trial stamps, sent out as specimens for the authorities to choose from. Between 1866 and 1869 a considerable number of these stamps (with the exception, probably, of the magenta) must have reached Europe, as is shown by a statement on page 119 of the "*S. C. Mag.*" for 1869. So I suppose that they must have been obtained from the Treasury from time to time by some favoured individuals. We shall see that when they came to be sold a considerable quantity of the varieties which had never been issued for use had disappeared, though the figures I am about to quote cannot be wholly relied upon, as in one case certainly they are incorrect.

In December, 1872, the whole stock remaining of the following stamps, brick-red, vermilion, and blue without indication of value, and brown-lilac

and lilac with value (sixpence) indicated, was disposed of, tenders being called for from persons wishing to buy them. I cannot find the advertisement calling for these tenders, in which the numbers of the different varieties was probably stated; but I have seen the various tenders sent in, and the report of the committee which opened them. The latter states that the whole number of the stamps to be disposed of was 186,600, and this total agrees with that of the numbers of the different varieties which I gathered from the tenders themselves, in some of which they were mentioned, as follows:

Brick-red . . .	27,900	|	6d. Brown-lilac . . .	21,814
Vermilion . . .	24,000	|	6d. Lilac . . .	15,350
Blue . . .	97,621	|		

Now the number of the 6d. brown-lilac is evidently incorrect, for only 20,000 of these were ever sent out, and some considerable number of those were used. If the total is correct, there were probably more brick-red and vermilion; for it seems hardly likely that some 5000 brick-red should have disappeared, or that 26,000 vermilion should have been used or otherwise disposed of. However, the Treasury returns of these stamps were not always to be depended upon. It may be remembered that in 1860 33,000 brown stamps were reported as on hand, and no red ones were mentioned; whereas in 1862 there were stated to be 30,000 pale red, and the brown ones were omitted. The purchaser of these stamps told me that the parcels had been attacked by the white ants, and that portions of many sheets had to be cut away. The state they were in may easily account for some confusion in reckoning the numbers.

The highest tender, the one which was accepted, was £775 for the lot.

(To be continued.)

THE POST CARDS OF BAVARIA.

(Continued.)

BY "A POST CARD COLLECTOR."

REPLY PAID POST CARDS.

1874.

"KÖNIGREICH BAYERN" at top, separated by arms; "POST-KARTE" beneath. *Six* dotted lines for address. Part of *fifth* is thickly underlined. First line preceded by "AN;" "IN" on the *fifth*. In right-hand upper corner, stamp type, 1867; and beneath, "POST-AUFGABE-STEMPEL." In left-hand upper corner, "POST-ABGABE-STEMPEL;" beneath, "POST-KARTE." On original, "RÜCKANTWORT BEZAHLT;" on reply, "BEZAHLTE RÜCKANTWORT." Letterpress in black. 147 mm. and 89 mm. 2 kr. × 2 kr., green on grey card.

Varieties.

A. Large hyphens on original; large on reply; round-shaped period after "BEZAHLT." Original, diamond. On original, "R"; on reply, "R." "RÜCKANTWORT," reply. On reply, "R" of "RÜCKANTWORT" like an "n" (N). Line begins to right of "IN."

B. Large hyphens on original; small hyphens on reply; diamond-shaped period on both cards. Line begins under "N" on "IN." "AUFGABE" in two words—"AUF-ABE."

C. Small hyphens on original; large on reply; diamond-shaped period after "BEZAHLT;" round on reply card. Line begins to right of "IN."

D. Small hyphens on reply; large on original; diamond-shaped period on both cards. Line begins under "N" of "IN."

E. Large hyphens on original; small on reply; round-shaped period on original; diamond reply. Line begins to right of "IN."

1876.

Card similar to reply paid card of 1874. Value expressed in pfennigs. Post-horns in the two upper corners of stamps. 3 pf. × 3 pf., green on grey.

Varieties.

A. Large hyphens on both cards; round periods on both cards; on reply card, "R" of "RÜCKANTWORT" like "N." Line begins to right of "IN."

B. Large hyphens on original; small on reply; diamond-shaped periods on both cards. Line begins under "N" of "IN."

C. Small hyphens on original; large on reply; diamond-shaped period on original; round, reply. Line begins to right of "IN."

D. Large hyphens on original; small on reply; round period on original; diamond-shaped period on reply. Line begins to right of "IN."

1876.

Same type as the 3 × 3 pf. card. 5 pf. × 5 pf., bottle-green on grey.

Varieties.

A, B, C, "DAS" in 3 pf. × 3 pf. cards.

1877.

Same type as issue of 1876. "POST-KARTE" in Roman capitals, and only four lines for address; the first preceded by "AN," and the third by "IN." "POST-ABGABE" and "POST-AUFGABE-STEMPEL" are omitted. 5 pf. × 5 pf., bottle-green on grey.

Varieties.

A. Round period after "BEZAHLT;" diamond-shaped period on reply. Parenthesis on both cards, thickly marked.

B. Diamond-shaped period on original; round on reply. Parenthesis () thickly marked.

1878.

Same type as 1877. 5 pf. × 5 pf., violet on grey.

Varieties.

1. Diamond-shaped periods on both cards. "IN," small and thick lettering, on level with line.

2. Round period on original; diamond on reply. "IN," large and fine lettering, below level of line.

1879.

Same type as 1878, "RÜCKANTWORT" being altered to "ANTWORT." 5 pf. × 5 pf., violet on grey.

TYPE I.

Arms blazoned on an escutcheon.

Varieties.

A. "IN" above line on both cards; diamond periods on both cards; violet on grey.

B. (?)

TYPE II.

Arms blazoned on an oval shield.

Varieties.

A. "IN" below line on both cards; diamond periods on both cards; pale violet on grey.

B. (?)

Correspondence.

"BLEUTÉ PAR LA GOMME."

To the Editor of "The Philatelic Record."

SIR,—The readers of the *Record* are well aware that the early 1d. English, and many other stamps issued about the same period by the firm of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, & Co., gradually assumed a blue tint. That this "blueing" is due to the combined action of the adhesive material and paper has long

been acknowledged ; but what the exact chemical change which took place was was not known. Recently my attention was called to the circumstance, and I went to work to find some explanation of the change. The adhesive material that was used was made from potato starch, and I rather think that, from the manufacturers abandoning its use, it did not prove very satisfactory.

Among the chemical elements is one which is very widely diffused, and has many interesting properties, and one of these is, that with starch it forms a beautiful blue compound. This element is called iodine, and forms with starch blue iodide of starch. The element of iodine is present in minute quantities in almost everything derived from organic sources ; and my experiments have shown me its presence, although only in small quantities, in the paper used for the manufacture of the stamps. This blueing is therefore due to the action of the starch used as the adhesive material, and one of the constituents of the paper—iodine.

The nature of the change which goes on may be thus explained: The iodine exists in a state of loose chemical combination with the alkali metals present in the paper ; by the fermentation which goes on in the starch used as the adhesive material, this combination is broken up, the iodine is set at liberty, and immediately combines with the starch to form the blue body I have spoken of.

In the printing of red stamps, like the 1d. English, and some orange-coloured stamps, red or orange-lead mixed with some of the lakes is used to give the colour to the ink. Now lead colours, when exposed to the action of the atmosphere, show an uncomfortable tendency to turn black, owing to the formation of sulphide of lead, which is black. Hence the reason why red or orange-coloured stamps darken by age. Although most of the old English stamps one meets with nowadays show that their dark colour is to some extent owing to this cause, still I think that originally they were printed with a darker-coloured ink than those of the later issues.

I remain, &c.,

CHEMICUS.

[We insert the letter of our correspondent Chemicus respecting the supposed cause of the blueing of the paper of the 1d. English and other cognate stamps ; but the iodine theory is by no means new. It was mooted by more than one of the members of the Philatelic Society engaged in examining these stamps, and was more or less abandoned owing to the difficulty of accounting for the use of iodine, an expensive preparation, in making the paper or ink. Some of our correspondents will perhaps state their objections to the theory of Chemicus.—Ed.]

Proceedings of the Philatelic Society of London.

List compiled at the meeting of the 19th June, 1880.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

THE first postage stamps used in these islands were generally supposed to have been issued in 1852 ; but, in an article communicated to No. 6 of the *Philatelic Quarterly*, Mr. Thos. G. Thrum, of Honolulu, states, upon what appears to be excellent authority that the first three values were issued on the 1st October, 1851, their emission being recorded in the *Polynesian* of the 4th of the same month as follows : "Postage stamps of two, five, and thirteen cents have been prepared, and can now be had at the post office." Of the 13 cents value there are two very distinct types, and opinions, and even evidence, have clashed as to which of the two was first issued. When Sir Daniel Cooper visited Honolulu in 1876 he was assured by Mr. Whitney, who was Postmaster from 1850-54, that not only was the 13 cents, with the lettering "H.I & U.S.," the first stamp of this value, but that it was in

use for some time by itself before the other two values were added to the emission. Mr. Thrum, on the other hand, asserts that this stamp was issued subsequently to the other in 1852, and this appears to be the opinion of most of the authorities.

ISSUE I. 1st October, 1851.

Three values, typographed in colour at the Government printing office on thin pelure paper; gummed; no watermark. Design: Numerals of value within a square frame of arabesque ornaments, which varies slightly in each value. Inscriptions above and below the central frame, all within upright rectangular frame of two lines. In the lower inscription on the 13 cents, two loops, resembling a portion of the watermark in the Spanish stamps of 1855, separate the numerals from the word "CENTS."

T. HAWAIIAN POSTAGE.	B Two, Five or 13 cents.	
	2 cents	} pale blue
	5 "	
	13 "	

ISSUE II. 1852.

One value, somewhat similar to the 13 cents of last issue, but differing in the inscription, and in the ornaments of the central frame. In the lower inscription the numerals and the word "CENTS" are separated by an ornament resembling a playing die, with the 4 side uppermost. Same paper, gum, &c., as preceding.

T. H. I. & U. S. Postage.	(The letters mean Hawaiian Islands and United States.)
B. 13 cents.	

13 cents, pale blue.

Remarks.—The 13 cents stamps were issued by agreement with the authorities of the United States, who allowed the prepaid United States and sea postage rates to be included in the one frank. The postage under this mutual arrangement was settled for at the end of each quarter, *vide* Mr. Thrum. The three values are met with obliterated in various ways, the most common of which are pen strokes, and a circular gridiron effacement of heavy, irregular bars. This latter was performed by means of an ordinary cork, in which notches were cut.

ISSUE III. 1853.

Two values; engraved at Boston, United States, in colour upon stout white wove paper; yellowish gum; no watermark. Design: Bust of King Kamehameha III. in military uniform, upon ground of horizontal and oblique lines. Curved label above head, with inscription in white letters; spandrels above the curved labels radiated. Plain white labels on right and left inscribed in colour. Small blocks, with numerals of value in the upper corners; larger blocks in the lower corners of the 13 cents, with numerals on the left, and cents on the right; all within upright rectangular frame of single lines.

Five cents. T. 5. POSTAGE. 5. B. FIVE C^{TS}. L. HONOLULU (reading upwards). R. HAWAIIAN 1^S. (reading downwards).

Thirteen cents. T. 13. POSTAGE. 13. B. 13. HONOLULU 1^S. C^{TS}. L. HAWAIIAN. 5 C^{TS}. (reading upwards). R. UNITED STATES. 8 C^{TS}. (reading downwards).

5 cents, blue
13 " red

Varieties.

The 5 cents of this issue is also found upon a thinner and distinctly blue paper. Dr. Gray mentions a 13 cents which has been "authentically sur-

charged 5, and been used provisionally as a five cents." This stamp has been seen by the President; but the so-called surcharge was merely done with pen and ink.

ISSUE IV. 1855.

One value. Lithographic transfer from a plate engraved at Boston, United States, upon medium white paper, horizontally and vertically laid; white gum; no watermark. Design: Three-quarter portrait, to left, of King Kamehameha IV. upon ground of vertical and horizontal lines; curved inscribed label above head, and blocks with numeral in upper corners; floral ornamentation at sides; white label at bottom, inscribed with coloured letters; all in upright, rectangular, single-lined frame.

T. 2 UKU LETA. 2 (postage). B. ELUA KENETA (two cents).

2 cents, rose, deep rose, and flesh.

Remarks.—These stamps have hitherto puzzled collectors. The only genuine used copies met with are the lithographs; whilst unused specimens of the engraved stamps, with or without the word "CANCELLED," are common. Mr. Thrum expresses surprise that this issue should have been designated a lithograph since he knows the copper-plate to be still in existence at the Honolulu Post Office. The true solution of the mystery is, that from the plate engraved at Boston a lithographic transfer was made, from which were printed the stamps actually issued. Those stamps printed from the metal plate itself seem never to have been used for postal purposes, and are probably either proofs or reprints for collectors.

ISSUE V. May, 1864.

One value. Engraved in colour, by the American Bank Note Company, upon medium white paper; white gum; no watermark; machine perforated 12. Design: Nearly full-face portrait of King Kamehameha IV., upon ground of horizontal and vertical lines, within a double-lined oval; scrolls at top and bottom inscribed with white letters; small ovals, with numeral of value in upper corners; arabesque ornaments at sides; shape, upright rectangular.

T. 2. HAWAII. 2. B. ELUA KENETA (two cents).

2 cents, vermilion (shades)

PROVISIONAL ISSUE. May, 1865.

One value. Typographed in colour on thinnish blued paper; white gum; no watermark. Design: Arabic numeral of value in centre, in single-lined upright rectangular frame; inscribed at top, bottom, and sides; all within double-lined upright rectangular frame.

T. UKU LETA (postage). B. 5 CENTS. L. HAWAIIAN POSTAGE (reading upwards). R. HAWAIIAN POSTAGE (reading downwards).

5 cents, deep blue on bluish paper

Remarks.—These stamps were printed in sheets of ten, and there are as many varieties as stamps. A specimen exists in the President's collection printed upon *white* paper. A variety of this stamp is found with the inscription "INTER ISLAND" on the left side instead of "HAWAIIAN POSTAGE." This must be an error, as Mr. Thrum points out, inasmuch as 5 cents was not an inter-island rate of postage.

ISSUE VI. 1866.

One value. Engraved by the American Bank Note Company, and printed in colour upon medium white paper; yellowish gum; no watermark; machine perforated 12. Design: Full-face portrait of King Kamehameha V. Except for the numerals in upper corners, and the inscription in the bottom scroll, the design of this is identical with that of the 2 cents of 1864.

T. 5. HAWAII. 5. B. ELIMA KENETA (5 cents).

5 cents, deep blue

ISSUE VII. 1871.

Three values. Engraved by the American Bank Note Company, and printed in colour upon medium white paper; no watermark; yellowish gum; machine perforated 12. Designs—**ONE CENT**: Full-face portrait of the Princess Kamamalu, on ground of horizontal lines, within plain oval frame; curved inscribed labels, with rounded ends, above and beneath portrait; white lettering; plain circles in upper corners with shaded numerals of value; floreated circles in lower corners with white numerals; all within fancy upright rectangular frame. **SIX CENTS**: Three-quarter face, to right, of King Kamehameha V., on ground of vertical and horizontal lines, within plain oval frame; curved label with notched ends above, and scroll beneath portrait, both inscribed with white letters; plain circles in upper corners, with white numerals of value; all within fancy upright rectangular frame. **EIGHTEEN CENTS**: Full-face portrait of his Highness M. Kekuanaoa, on ground of crossed oblique lines within plain oval frame; curved label above, the ends of which are covered by irregularly-shaped blocks containing numerals of value in white; scroll below with white lettering; all within fancy upright rectangular frame.

T. 1, 6, 18. HAWAII. 18, 6, 1. B. AKAHI (one). EONO (six), 18 KENETA (cents).

1 cent, mauve (shades)
6 ,, bright green
18 ,, rose-red

Remarks.—The 6 and 18 cents were issued in terms of the postal convention with the United States of May, 1870.

ISSUE VII. January, 1875.

Two values. Engraved by the American Bank Note Company, and printed in colour on medium white paper; white gum; no watermark; machine perforated 12. Designs—**TWO CENTS**: Three-quarter face, to left, of King Kalakana, upon ground of horizontal lines, within oval frame; curved inscriptions; white letters above and below portrait; floreated spandrels, with circles in each corner containing white numeral of value; all within fancy upright rectangular frame. **TWELVE CENTS**: Three-quarter portrait, to left, of Prince Leleiohoku, upon ground of vertical and horizontal lines, within double oval, inscribed in white letters above and below portrait; the word "KENETA" in the lower curve is preceded and followed by two small six-rayed stars; numerals of value and arabesques in each corner; the whole within fancy upright rectangular frame.

T. Numerals of value and "H. I. POSTAGE." B. Numerals of value and "ELUA KENETA" (2 cents), and "KENETA" and numerals of value on the 12 cents.

2 cents, brown (lighter and darker)
12 ,, black

Notes and Queries.

A. P. S.—All rubbish.

VICTIM.—We do not know any other address.

DROCER.—Have forwarded your letter to our publishers.

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ANTIOQUIA, 1868, 10 c., lilac; 1 peso, rose. Austria, yellow Mercury, used. Baden, superb, 18 kr., large size original envelope. Barbadoes, pair provisional 1 p., 1878. Bhopaul, entire sheet $\frac{1}{4}$ anna, black double frame, 1st issue. Bolivia, Eagle, 10 brown; 5 c., violet, used and unused; 50 c., Eagle, postmarked; 500 c., 9 stars. Brazil, 180, 300, 600 reis, used and unused. Roman figure set, perforated; 500 reis, rouletted. British Guiana, 1850, 8 c., green; 12 c., blue, three shades; 1850-1, 4 c.; 1856, 4 c., oblong; 1861, provisional, 1 c., rose, 2 c., yellow, 2 kinds. Buenos Ayres, all except the 4 c., vermilion. Cabul, a very fine lot, including 1291, 4, 8 annas, and 1 rupee, black. Canada, 10 p., perf.; 12 p., marked "specimen." Cape, 1880, error, 3 p. Cashmere, a large assortment. Ceylon, all, including entire envelopes. Corrientes, all. Deccan. Koorshedjah. Egypt, pair 1879 prov.; 5 c., *tete beche*. Fiji, a fine lot of surcharged ones. Finland, envelope, 1847, 10 kop., black. France, provisional, 10 c., 1871. New Granada, all. India, $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, vermilion, penstroked and unused; pair original Pony Dawk envelopes. Ionian Isles, set used. Japan, all. Levant, red and blue, 10 kop. Mauritius, a superb collection, including the 2d. fillet and 4d. handstamped and 1877 provisional envelopes. Mexico, nearly all. Magnificent Guadalajaras, used and unused. Montevideo, Diligencia, 60 c., blue. Natal, 6 p., green; 1 sh., buff. New Zealand, a fine assortment. Nova Scotia, 1 shilling, violet. Peru, 1860, $\frac{1}{2}$ peso, buff. Luzon, 1854, 1 rl., corros, error, 1 rl., blue green, 1 rl., H.P.N., 10 c., rose, H.P.N., unused; 1863, 1 rl., purple, used; 1854, 1 rl., pale blue, H.P.N.; 1863, 1 rl., purple, H.P.N. Moldavia, 54 p., 108 p., used. Porto Rica, set 1868, 1869. Portuguese Indies, 900, thick letters, used. St. Domingo, 1865, $\frac{1}{2}$ rl., green; 1 real, buff, unused. Spain, nearly all. Soruth, 1st issue, black. Transvaal, superb lot, including an entire sheet of 1d. provincial, black on greenish. Trinidad, all. Turkey, all. Two Sicilies, $\frac{1}{2}$ Tornese, arms and cross. United States, a magnificent selection of genuine locals, &c. Victoria, all.

PEMBERTON, WILSON, & CO.'S

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WE beg to call the attention of our Subscribers and customers to the fine Series of Books we have prepared to send out on approval. They will be found of very great advantage, alike to the beginner and more advanced collector, being arranged on the newest and most approved plan. All varieties of perforation, watermark, paper, and shades being carefully noted.

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No.	No.	No.
1. Antioquia and Argentine.	19. Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Jamaica, and Liberia.	36. Portugal.
2. Antigua, Bahamas, Bolivar, Bermuda, and British Honduras.	20. Greece.	37. Queensland.
3. Baden.	21. Griqualand.	38. Sandwich Isles.
4. Barbados.	22. Hong Kong.	39. Spain. Part I.
5. Belgium, Holland, and Colonies.	23. Italy.	40. Do. Part II.
6. Bolivia, Brazil, and British Colombia.	24. Japan.	41. South Australia.
7. British Guiana.	25. Madeira, Malta, and Azores.	42. Switzerland.
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10. Cape.	28. Do. Part II.	45. Do. Part II.
11. Ceylon.	29. Montevideo.	46. Trinidad.
12. Cordoba, Corrientes, and Chile.	30. New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland.	47. Turkey.
13. Confederate.	31. New Granada and Honduras.	48. Two Sicilies, Tuscany, and Papal States,
14. Dominican Republic.	32. Parma.	49. United States.
15. East India, Deccan, Persia, and Sarawak.	33. Peru.	50. Victoria. Part I.
16. Egypt and Ecuador.	34. Philippines.	51. Do. Part II.
17. Finland.	35. Prince Edward Island, Sierra Leone, and St. Lucia.	52. Venezuela and La Guaira.
18. France and Colonies.		53. Western Australia, Shanghai, and Virgin Isles.
		54. Würtemberg.
		55. Nevis, Nicaragua, and Salvador.

Any of the above we shall be pleased to send on approval to our customers.

The Philatelic Record.

Vol. II. No. 20.

SEPTEMBER.

1880.



HERE are so many demands upon our space this month that we had not intended prefacing this number with any remarks. We cannot but feel, however, that a word of thanks is due from us to the Committee of the *Congrès International des Timbrophiles*, held at Paris in 1878, who have brought their work to a happy conclusion, their Report, the printing of which was commenced in April, 1879, having been terminated last July. To no other class of scribes is the saying, *Labor ipse voluptas* more applicable than to those who smear their fingers with ink in the interests of philately. By profane outsiders they are looked upon as fools for their pains, whilst few writers upon other themes are subjected to severer criticism at the hands of the initiated. We are therefore eager to express our thanks to those members of the French Society who formed themselves into a committee to organize a congress of philatelists during the late Paris Exhibition, and to gather up and publish the results; and most heartily do we appreciate the generous expenditure of labour, time, and temper which their undertaking must have involved. The volume before us consists of over 400 pages devoted to an account of the six meetings held by the Congress, the various papers read at each of the meetings, and the discussions which preceded and followed their being read. The papers are of course of very unequal merit, and we can hardly suppose that the science of philately will be greatly enriched by the publication of some of them, such, for instance, as those by Messrs. Eberhardt and Oscar Simic. Very different is the case with those contributed by Dr. Legrand, M. Schmidt de Wilde, Capt. Evans, and others, men whose minds have been trained to scientific enquiry, and who can bring science to bear without effort upon any pastime which they may adopt for a hobby. In the Report of the Congress the place of honour is

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given to Capt. Evans' notes on the "Stamps of Mauritius," to which the medal of the Congress was awarded, but which is but a sketch as compared with the fuller monograph on the subject which he is now contributing to our pages. Dr. Legrand on the "Native Stamps of Mauritius" is full of interest, as is also his paper on the "Early Issues of New South Wales." Other names of philatelic note, such as those of Sir Daniel Cooper, Messrs. de Ysasi, de Bosredon, Diena, and Coster, lend weight to the articles to which they are appended; but we can only recommend our readers to get the book, and master its contents for themselves. Of the 200 copies which have been printed only a few remain, and we would advise our friends to become possessed of them, both on account of their special interest, and on that which attaches to their *raison d'être*, the first international congress of philatelists ever held. The price of the book is ten shillings, and the Secretary to the Philatelic Society of London will take charge of subscriptions.

Novelties, Discoveries, and Resuscitations.

Austria has been rather behindhand in issuing a Postal Union card; but it has come at last. There are three lines of inscription—1st, "WELTPOST-VEREIN (Union Postale Universelle)," in thin block capitals, underlined; 2nd, "CORRESPONDENZ KARTE (Carte Postale)," in fancy letters; and 3rd, (ADMINISTRATION D'AUTRICHE). Two long dotted lines, the first preceded by "AN" in script type. One short dotted line, and one thick one, with the word "IN" between them. Reverse plain.

Postal Union Card. 5 kr., vermilion on buff card, 140 × 86 mm.

Bhopal.—Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. send us the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna stamp, with a very rough perforation.

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna, green; *perf.* 7.

Bolivar.—Mr. Cheveley informs us that he has received new 5 c., blue, 20 c., rose, and 40 c., brown, from this state. They are exactly the same as last year's issue, save that they are dated 1880.

Cape of Good Hope.—A new threepenny value has been issued in place of the surcharged provisional. This stamp has also been met with surcharged, in black, with a numeral 3, which is 4 millimetres in length. It is strange that this surcharge should have been applied to a stamp which bears the value in full upon its face.

3d., dull rose.

3d., ,, surcharged 3 in black.

France—Colonies.—The *Timbre Poste* chronicles a 20 centimes of the current type printed in red-brown on *green*.

Gambia.—Several correspondents, including Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co., who have also sent us the post card, have favoured us with a sight of the Gambian novelties. We have the new 1d., 2d., and 3d. values, to which we are informed that 1s. may be added, and the old 4d. and 6d. perforated to match the new issues. The type is unchanged, and the same throughout. The stamps are now watermarked, no doubt with *C.C. and crown*; but the watermarks, as in the case of the 6d. value, which it is said has been so distinguished for some time, are not easy to decipher. The card is of the usual De la Rue colonial type, the stamp resembling that for the majority of the West Indian Islands.

<i>Adhesives.</i>	½d., orange 1d., maroon 2d., carmine 3d., ultramarine 4d., chocolate-brown 6d., deep blue 1/-, (?)	}	<i>Wmk. C.C. and crown (?) ; perf. 14.</i>
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Post Card. 1½d., blue-green on buff card, 140 × 89½ mm.

German Empire.—A correspondent has sent us the ¼ groschen, of the Nord Deutscher Postbezirk type, of the same colour as the ordinary 1 groschen of the same issue. It pleases the paragraph writer of the secular press, when he condescends to notice the existence of philatelists, to picture them to himself and to his readers as a pack of guileless idiots. As a matter of fact, however, the philatelist of nowadays is bound in self-defence to be one of the most suspicious of mortals, so many and so artful are the snares laid to entrap his credulity. We are therefore constrained to mention the existence of this stamp “under all reserve.” The normal colour of the ¼ groschen is purple, and that of the 1 groschen rose. Blue and rose in combination make purple. We appeal to those of our readers who are learned in chemistry as to whether it is possible to discharge the blue from a stamp printed in purple, and to leave the rose colour.

Great Britain.—The fourpence has changed its colour to one which, if not beautiful, is at least more distinct and less sea-sickly looking than the one now obsolete. The plate number is 17; watermark, perforation, &c., unchanged.

4d., stone-brown.

Guinea.—Mr. Power, who represents the Philatelic Society of London in Madeira, writes to us under date of the 28th August: “I have to-day received by the Portuguese African mail a 50 reis Cape de Verde stamp, surcharged “GUINÉ” in black. This is the only value I have seen, but I suppose that there are others.”

50 reis, green surcharged in black on the C. de Verde of that value.

India.—The quarter anna official card described in our May number comes to us printed in ultramarine instead of indigo.

Mauritius.—We presented our readers in May last with the information which had been sent us, that the first provisional issue of post cards had been reprinted. In June Capt. Evans expressed his doubts as to the possibility of their being reprinted, and promised to make further enquiry. This he has done, and now informs us that no reprint of the cards has been or can be made, the stone having been washed long ago. The proper name for these so-called reprints is therefore *forgeries*.

New South Wales.—To the list of the official stamps the current 1d. and 6d. surcharged “o.s.” may now be added.

Official stamps. 1d., red } surcharged “o.s.” in black.
6d., lilac }

Nicaragua.—The 10 centavos is now rouletted, completing the series in that mode of perforation.

10 centavos, vermilion ; rouletted.

Queensland.—A new value has been added to this series. The stamp is of the old type, lithographed.

2/6, rosy-vermilion ; *wmk. Q. and crown ; perf. 12½.*

Rawal Pindi (or Rawul Pindjee, as we spelt it in the *Record* for May) again comes upon the *tapis* in connection with the celebrated Pony Dâk envelope. Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Co., send us a letter from the Postmaster of Rawal Pindi (from the printed heading of which we take our amended spelling), dated the 1st July, 1880, which runs as follows : “In reply to your letter of the 28th ult. I have to inform you that there is no such stamp in use here. From enquiry on several occasions I am of opinion that there was a similar *seal* in use by the proprietor of the Pony Dâk between this and Murree, which has long since failed. Signed (signature illegible), Postmaster.” We should add that an engraving of the stamp, from Pemberton’s *Hand-book*, accompanied the letter to which the above is a reply. Another correspondent in India, who believes in the postal authenticity of the stamp, has his say upon the subject in another portion of our columns.

Roumania.—We have to thank Mr. W. Clifford for sending us post-marked specimens of a new stamp for this state. Although we have only seen one value as yet, it is probable that a set is in course of preparation. Head in profile to left, on ground of horizontal lines within pearled circle, scroll above circle, with POSTA ROMANA, the word BANI below in graduated letters following the outline of the circle. In the two lower corners irregular double-lined octagons, containing shaded numerals ; slight arabesque ornamentation in spandrels, and at sides. We should say that the stamp is of native manufacture, and as such decidedly creditable.

15 bani, red-brown ; lithographed, col. imp. on white paper, *perf. 12.*

Roumelia.—We referred last month to the suppression of the post card for Eastern Roumelia, and to the strong objection which

the patriots of that country entertain to being forced to make use of Turkish stamps. It appears that the patriots are going to have their way. The *Timbre Poste* quotes from the *Maritza*, published in Philippopolis, that an arrangement has been concluded with the Ottoman Post Office, in terms of which special stamps are to be printed for Eastern Roumelia, at the cost of that province.

Russia.—Respecting the post card to which we alluded last month, a Russian friend writes us as follows:—"I send you the translation you ask for, but fear that the particulars will be incomprehensible to your readers. Unless you are well acquainted with the routine of Russian official life, and the nice distinctions of rank and title, they will be as so much Greek. I may add that the 'Address Office' is a government institution in connection with the passport office, and you must give in your address to the office every time you move, otherwise you are fined. I have been fined, and therefore know all about it." On the address side of the card, below the usual inscription meaning open letter, is, first, "St. PETERSBURG," and second, "TO THE ADDRESS OFFICE." Heading the dotted lines is an inscription consisting of four lines, and meaning "ADDRESS OF THE SENDER." The arms of St. Petersburg in an oval containing "St. PETERSBURG ADDRESS OFFICE" are embossed on the left-hand side of the card. The reverse side reads as follows :

Where lives ?			
Name		Title or Occupation.	
Surname ...			
Family name			
<p>The following particulars are necessary in order to make the enquiry (a) Name, surname, and family name of the person sought for; (b) If officials, or persons having titles, their titles and office, the place where they serve, or if retired; (c) If merchants, what distinction or guild, also the town where registered as merchants; (d) If townspeople or members of a trade, the township to which they belong, or what trade-company they belong to; if peasants, what government, district, parish, or village they belong to; (e) If retired soldiers (or on furlough), name of regiment or company to which they belonged or belong, also whether on short leave or disbanded; and (f) If foreigners, the occupation or nationality.</p>			
<p>The price of this form is 9 kop., which includes the prepayment of the answer and the enquiry fee of the Address Office.</p>			

Shanghai.—We are indebted to Mr. Kern for a sight of some of these stamps, which he has lately received, bearing some very peculiar surcharges. We suppose the characters they bear to be surcharges, and not obliterations, because each value bears a distinct

character, and the stamps, being used specimens, have traces of obliteration besides. Unlike the previous surcharges upon Shanghai stamps, these are in Chinese only, and not in English also. We have not got a list of Chinese numerals beside us, but we fancy that the characters in question will be found to be nothing other. The stamps we have seen treated in this way are 20, 40, 60, 80, and 100 cash, and the 3 and 5 Candarins values of the series commonly called "China stamps," but which appear to be as closely and as locally connected with Shanghai as the others.

Spain.—"We are informed that six new stamps, we presume of a new type, are about to be put in circulation; viz., $\frac{1}{4}$, 1, 2, 3, and 4 centimos de peseta. It is also said that new postage stamps for Porto Rico, dated 1881, are already prepared for issue at the proper time. We are in possession of no further particulars."

The authority who favours us with the above *communiqué* sends us some extracts from an article on postage stamps by Sr. Don Antonio Fernandez Duro, published in the *Averiguador Universal de Madrid*. The major portion of Señor Duro's information has been anticipated by philatelic and other publications. He dilates with apparent pride upon the superiority, in point of number, of Spanish issues as compared with those of other countries, but also adverts to another side of the picture, on which it must be somewhat humiliating for a Spaniard to glance. He says that the number of forgeries keep pace with the government issues. From 1850 to the present time no less than thirty-four forgeries, uttered in the provinces, and especially in Andalusia, have been detected. This amounts to more than one per annum, and the current set is forged in its entirety. The authorities endeavour to procure the postage stamps at the cheapest possible rate, oblivious of the patent economy of selecting stamps of such superior workmanship as to preclude their being forged with impudent facility.

Straits Settlements.—M. Moens chronicles a fresh variety of the provisional 5 cents, in which the surcharge bears the block numeral 5 instead of being printed in full.

5 cents, surcharged in black on the current 8 cents, yellow.

Uruguay.—A correspondent sends us the new Postal Union card, and informs us that another one, presumably of the same type, but printed in rose, and of the value of 2 centesimos, has been issued for home use. The card before us has the word "TARJETA" above, in fancy letters about 23 mm. in length, crossed by a scroll inscribed "UNION POSTAL UNIVERSAL. Beneath in small type is, 1st, "1^a Serie—1880;" 2nd, "ESCRIBASE DE ESTE LADO LA DIRECCION Y LA COMUNICACION DEL OTRO." Our correspondent points out that the first word is misspelt, and should be *escribare*. The stamp is ornate, and not easily described. The design comprises the arms of the Republic within a broken oval, with "REPUBLICA ORIENTAL" above, "CENTESIMOS" beneath, and "DEL" and "URUGUAY" within the oval above the arms. The numeral 3

is at either side and at the bottom of the oval. No border; reverse plain.

Post Card. 3 centesimos, green on white card, 123 × 77 mm.

Venezuela.—A correspondent sends us the 50 centimos Escuelas stamp, perforated, and without the minute surcharge, with the information that these Escuelas are to be used for inland, and the recently issued set for foreign postage. But the last issued set have already undergone a change, inasmuch as when they first appeared they bore the denomination cents, which is now altered to centimos. The new Escuelas are also centimos instead of centesimos as formerly.

Escuelas, 50 centimos, orange-yellow, *perf.* 12½.

CONCERNING SOME DUBIOUS TRANSVAALS.

IN our June number we felt it our duty to warn our readers against large quantities of these stamps, which were then, and still are, being offered to collectors, but which we suspected of being something less than authentic. Our warning has entailed upon us a crushing correspondence with some few who are interested in upholding the character of the stamps, and with a great many who distrust them as much as we do. It is unfortunate, but none the less true, that the mere fact of these labels coming from Germany is, of itself, sufficient to arouse suspicion. Some few unprincipled scamps, chiefly, as we believe, boys, are still to be found selling counterfeits in this country; but they procure their wares, almost without exception, from Germany. The Germans are a clever and scientific race, but they too often turn their knowledge to fraudulent account, as in the science of adulteration, in which they reign supreme. From the earliest days of stamp collecting, Hamburg, Dresden, and Vienna have vied one with the other in the manufacture of forgeries, which rank from the vilest and weakest of imitations to works of the highest ingenuity and finish. The recent scandal in Dresden excited far less remark than a lesser one would have done in any other than a German capital. Philatelists did not express much wonder either that the president of a German society should have been convicted of both preparing and selling forged stamps, or that he should have retained his position so long after his character had been exposed, by the philatelic press of this country at any rate.

A correspondent has sent us a circular and a letter from Herr David Cohn, of Berlin, who, together with Herr Heim, of Vienna, seems to be the chief distributor of these *soi-disant* Transvaals. Before reviewing them, we may here recapitulate the charges which we made in June against the stamps in question. Whilst condemning the postmarks and surcharges as forged, we said nothing more cruel against the stamps themselves than that we believed

them to be reprints. It is only justice towards Herr Cohn to say that we are not aware that he has sold any of the stamps with the forged "v.r." surcharge, nor does he include them in his price list. These, and some of the other stamps to which we alluded in June as being offered, used and unused, as curious varieties, came from the other source. To the postmarks, which we ventured to condemn, Herr Cohn alludes in his circular as follows: "These stamps, obliterated for the use of collectors, are just the same as the unobliterated, but have the advantage of being cheaper. The obliterating stamp (three circles with a number in the centre) is exactly like the real one, and these obliterated specimens are preferable to those which have passed through the post, inasmuch as they are far cleaner and more pleasing to the eye." And now we turn to Herr Cohn's letter, expressing surprise that his Transvaals have not found that favour in this country which he considers is their due. His chief argument in support of them appears to be that they are as good as any which have previously been sold by dealers, and have not been obtained from the Transvaal direct. He declares that when English and other dealers applied to Mr. Jeppe, the postmaster of the territory, for stamps, he referred them to Herr Otto, the engraver at Gutzow (or some such place), in Mecklenbourg, for their supplies, and, in corroboration of this, he sends copies of letters from English dealers ordering not only the stamps of the normal colours, but *errors* besides. One distinguished *amateur* asks for the 3d. value, printed in blue, rose, or any colour *except* lilac—£5 worth of each colour. Another dealer requests that £20 worth may be printed in various colours, and sent to him at once. The originals of all these letters Herr Cohn offers to show to any who may doubt that the stamps which he is now offering are inferior to those which have been obtained from Mecklenbourg in times past. All this curious information, whilst it throws a somewhat ghastly light upon the past traffic in Transvaal stamps, says nothing in favour of the fresh supplies which are being offered. Herr Cohn certainly urges that the plates having been sent to Pretoria, it is not easy to reprint from them in Germany. To this we would reply that such things as transfers are not unknown, or that a large supply may have been printed off before the plates were sent away, and kept back for a convenient season to float. In either case the stamps have not been printed for use as postage stamps, and have never been through the hands of the Transvaal post-office authorities. The sale of unobliterated stamps such as these might strengthen the argument of those who only collect used stamps (on the plea that these at least have fulfilled their purpose, and paid postage) were it not shown, on the other hand, with what ready benevolence this fad is humoured by the fictitious obliteration of as many varieties as can be desired with a stamp exactly like the real one, plus several other advantages.

THE STAMPS OF MAURITIUS.

By CAPT. E. B. EVANS, R.A.

PART II.—*continued.*

ON looking over the July number, it appears to me that I have not given sufficiently clearly the probable dates of issue of the various Britannias, and I am, I fear, in error in stating in the last paragraph that “the perforated stamps were issued soon after their arrival in Mauritius.”

In the June number I showed that either April, 1854, or May, 1858, is the date of issue of the green Britannia hand-stamped “FOURPENCE”; and that the latter date is that of the issue of certain red stamps, which I showed in the following number to be the vermilion Britannia, without indication of value. In this latter (the July) number I showed that the blue sixpence and the vermilion shilling were probably issued in April, 1859, and at the same time the magenta as a ninepenny stamp. The vermilion without indication of value was at this time withdrawn, and the hand-stamped green had been already exhausted and superseded by the same stamp uncharged.

In May, 1860, the 6d. purple-brown and 1s. yellow-green, unperforated, were sent out; and in February, 1861, the 6d. slate and 1s. dark green, perforated. None of these were, I think, issued until the latter part of 1861. My reason for this opinion is, that I can find no specimens obliterated with any earlier mark than that bearing the letter and figures “B 53,” which I think I shall be able to show did not come into use until the middle of 1861.

M. Moens arrives at a similar conclusion by a different mode of reasoning, and gives October, 1861, as the date of issue of the unperforated, and April, 1862, as that of the perforated, basing his calculations on the statement that the last supply sent out was for half a year, and going back to the date of issue of the blue sixpence and vermilion shilling. He takes it for granted that the supplies of May, 1860, and February, 1861, were issued in succession in the order in which they were sent out, and that the first was exhausted before the issue of the second. Such a calculation, however, can hardly be relied upon, when we remember the fact that neither the purple-brown nor the slate sixpence were exhausted, there being considerable remainders of both varieties. It seems to me quite possible that the two supplies were used indiscriminately, and that when all the shilling of that type were finished, the remainders of the sixpence were laid on one side, and De la Rue's type of both values brought into use.

This may, I think, conclude Part II.

PART III.

It is hardly necessary for me to describe in detail the designs of the stamps, with values in pence and shillings, made for Mauritius by Messrs. De la Rue and Co. I would, however, point out one or two little particulars which seem worthy of notice.

The designs of all, except the tenpence, are very much alike. The four values first issued, 1d., 2d., 4d., and 9d., are of exactly the same design. The 6d. and 1s. differ in having the value expressed in figures in a small circle on each side of the oval containing the head, and in having the small ornaments at each end of the lettered labels hollow instead of solid. The 5s. resembles the 6d. and 1s.; and the 3d. has the hollow ornaments, but not the figures of value.

The design of the tenpence is, as we all know, in quite a different style; more De la Rue-ish, if I may use such a term, but of a period before the designers of that celebrated firm had fallen to their present low estate.

The principal questions to be solved in the history of these stamps arise from the fact of some of the values being printed in more than one colour. I do not know that I can give the *reasons* for these varieties; but I think I may be able to show the dates at which they were made.

Mr. Pearson Hill, in his letter, dated March 31st, 1859, recommended that penny, two-penny, four-penny, and nine-penny stamps should be ordered from England, the two lower values to replace the native-made ones, and the two higher to replace the green and magenta Britannias without indication of value. This recommendation was acted upon, and the colonial agents sent out, in December, 1859, the following stamps, made by Messrs. De la Rue and Co., viz.:

117,360 1d. stamps	|	116,880 4d. stamps
117,840 2d. „	|	112,560 9d. „

These, and almost all of those supplied subsequently by this firm, were printed at 11d. per 1000.

I cannot say exactly when these stamps were issued to the public, but I have specimens on letters dated as early as April, 1860. They were no doubt on unwatermarked paper.

In November, 1860, an order was sent home for a further small supply of each of the four values. Messrs. De la Rue and Co., on the order being sent them by the Colonial Agents, estimated for the small supply demanded at a much higher price per thousand than that which they had charged for the first supply sent out; at the same time offering to provide a quantity similar to the former at the same price as before. This offer was accepted by the colonial agents, and in June, 1861, there were sent out—

117,120 1d. stamps	|	116,640 4d. stamps
113,040 2d. „	|	116,880 9d. „

accompanied by a letter giving the reason as above for the supply being so much in excess of that demanded. These stamps were also no doubt on unwatermarked paper. This second large consignment is the cause of there having been a large quantity of the 9d. lilac on unwatermarked paper. This value was apparently little used, and thus the stock sent out in the early days of its issue lasted until the pence series was superseded, although a large number were surcharged as halfpenny stamps. I find that, in October, 1861, there were 211,680 9d. in the Treasury, showing that even at that time, when the single rate *via* Marseilles was 9d., only about 1,000 a month were issued to the postmaster, at which rate the supply then in hand would have lasted about eighteen years.

It may be remembered that some 6d. and 1s. Britannias, sent out in February, 1861, were described as being a half year's supply; the remainder were to be sent out when the new plates were ready. A bill of lading, dated London, July 19th, 1861, encloses a bill of Messrs. De la Rue and Co. for dies of 6d. and 9d. envelopes at £45 each, and for plates of 6d. and 1s. stamps at £90 each; also for printing and making

16,320 6d. envelopes	|	21,120 6d. stamps
10,920 9d. „	|	7,920 1s. „

A letter from the Colonial Agents, dated July 25th, 1861, and no doubt sent by the same mail as the case of envelopes and stamps, states that through some mistake the 6d. and 1s. stamps shipped a few days previously had been printed in some wrong colours, instead of being in lilac and green respectively, as they ought to have been. An equal quantity of stamps in the proper colours is promised by the next mail to replace those now sent out, which may then be destroyed, no charge being made by Messrs. De la Rue and Co. for the second consignment.

In August, 1861, a supply of 6d. lilac and 1s. green was sent out to replace those printed in the wrong colours. These wrong colours are not mentioned in either of the letters.

Cases of stamps and other goods received from England are generally opened by a committee appointed for that purpose. The proceedings of these committees do not as a rule give the colours of the stamps, but only the

numbers of each value. In the proceedings of the committee, which opened the case containing these stamps, however, the colours are mentioned. The *sixpenny* stamps are stated to have been *yellow*, and the *shilling* stamps *green*, but this is evidently a mistake; green was the colour in which the shilling stamps *ought* to have been printed, as was stated in the letter of the Colonial Agents. I think there can be little doubt that these stamps printed in the wrong colours were the 6d. green and 1s. yellow, or yellow-brown, on unwatermarked paper; and thus are accounted for two of the changes of colour which have so often puzzled collectors.

At the end of October, 1862, a supply of 1d., 2d., 4d., and 1s. was sent out. These had been demanded by a requisition, dated June 24th, 1862. They arrived just too late to prevent the issue of the magenta Britannias as penny stamps. These must also have been on unwatermarked paper; for M. Moens states authoritatively that the stamps on watermarked paper were not issued until September, 1863, and we know that at all events the 1d. and 2d. of October, 1862, must have been issued as soon as they were received.

We have then record of three supplies of 1d., 2d., and 4d.; two supplies of 9d.; one supply of 6d. green; one supply of 6d. lilac; and, I think, one supply of 1s. green, and two supplies of 1s. yellow-brown or buff, all on unwatermarked paper. I will give further on my reasons for thinking that the shillings sent out in October, 1862, were not green.

Let us see whether we can distinguish these different printings one from the other.

Of the 1d., there are certainly some distinct varieties; of the 2d. and 4d., there are light and dark shades; and of the 9d., there are two varieties also, rather difficult to describe.

The 6d. green and lilac, 1s. green, and one supply of 1s. buff, were printed in 1861, as were also the second supply of 1d., 2d., 4d. and 9d. These were probably all printed on the same quality of paper.

The two 6d. and the green 1s. are, I think, only found on a very thin, semi-transparent paper. I have also a specimen of the 1s. yellow-brown on this paper. This last stamp is of a deeper brown than a specimen of the same value which I shall refer to presently. The 1d., 2d., 4d., and 9d. are also to be found on this thin paper, which may, I think, be said to distinguish the stamps printed in 1861 from those both before and after them.

I have before me twelve specimens of the 1d. on portions of envelopes, dated variously from April, 1860, to April, 1861; all of these therefore belong to the first supply. They are all obliterated with the mark resembling that containing "B 53," but with the centre blank, a mark which superseded the one consisting of concentric circles at the General Post-office, Mauritius, from which I conclude that the "B 53" mark was not in use until after April, 1861. It probably was sent out from England with one of the supplies of stamps in 1861.

On raising some of these stamps from the letters on which they are stuck, I find that they are not printed on quite so thin a paper as that which I described above; it is more opaque, and seems more yellowed by the gum. This 1d. and that on the thin paper are very much alike in colour; the latter is a little the deeper of the two perhaps, but both are much deeper and redder than that which I shall describe as the third variety.

I have a specimen of the first supply of 2d. on a letter dated January 25th, 1861, the paper and gum of which correspond to those of the 1d. of the same series. The colour is a dark blue, very similar to that of the 2d. on the thin paper.

A specimen of the 4d., which I consider to belong to the first supply, is a paler pink than the one on thin paper; the latter is a very deep colour. My specimen of the former was, however, for some years in a collection in the island, and I think it may have lost some of its pristine beauty.

The 9d. on thin paper is a redder lilac than the other.

The above two sets may be more readily distinguished by their backs than by their faces, the colour showing through very much more in the thin paper series.

The 1d., 2d., and 4d., which I put down to the supply sent out in October,

1862, are all in paler colours than those I have just described, and are on a thicker, whiter, and more opaque paper than either of the others; they have altogether a whiter appearance. Unused specimens appear to show also that brown, streaky gum which is found on some of the watermarked stamps sent out in 1863, notably on the 9d. green. This is a pernicious species of gum, which seems under some circumstances to produce brown blotches in the paper.

I think the reasons I have given for placing the other two sets first and second are sufficient to warrant my placing this one third.

When considering the question of dates of issue, I hope to show the probability of the 1s. sent out in October, 1862, being buff; and as I have, besides a fine specimen in deep buff on thin paper, others of paler buff on a thicker paper, I think I may safely put down these latter to the 1862 supply.

The first 1d., 2d., 4d., and 9d. received were, no doubt, issued early in 1860; they would have arrived some time in January of that year. The lithographed 1d. and 2d. were probably allowed to run out, and then the new stamps were issued. The earliest date attached to any of my specimens is April 17th, 1860. April, 1860, may probably be taken as their date of issue.

M. Moens gives October, 1862, as the date of issue of the 6d. green and 1s. yellow-brown; but I am inclined to think that the 1s. stamps, at all events, were in the Postmaster's hands in June, 1862. In that month he sent in a requisition for 1d., 2d., 4d., and 1s. stamps, which were sent out in October, 1862; and if I am right in supposing that the 1s. stamps then sent out were yellow-brown, a specimen of that colour must have been attached to the requisition; for otherwise Messrs. De la Rue and Co. would not have repeated their error of colour.

In February, 1863, another requisition was sent in for stamps of all values, in answer to which the first supply of watermarked stamps was sent out. The 6d. stamp attached to this must have been lilac, and the 1s. yellow-brown; for the first watermarked 6d. and 1s. were lilac and yellow respectively. We must suppose, therefore, that the 6d. lilac was at the post-office in February, 1863.

A requisition of the Postmaster, dated December 19th, 1863, for 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. stamps, had the following specimens attached to it: 1d., 2d., and 4d. on watermarked paper, and 6d. lilac and 1s. yellow-brown on unwatermarked paper. The stamps were all ordered to be of the same colours as the specimens attached, with the exception of the 6d., which were ordered to be in green.

The 1s. stamp is one of the specimens which I consider to be on a different paper to the thin paper which I have described as being peculiar to the 1861 issue. It is moreover, in common with other specimens on the same paper, of a paler colour than a specimen which I have on the thin paper. Again, I think we must presume that the supply of 1s. yellow-brown sent out in 1861, and issued in 1862, would have been exhausted by December, 1863. The 6d. green were evidently all finished, for the Postmaster could not find a specimen to attach to his requisition. It seems to me altogether more probable that this specimen is one of the supply sent out in October, 1862.

All these stamps were no doubt issued just as they were wanted, with the exception that, when the first 1s. of this type was required, the 6d. seems to have been issued with it, and the Britannia 6d. withdrawn. This would seem to have taken place about June, 1862.

The second supply of 1d. and 2d. must have come into use some time in 1861, for they were all used up in November, 1862; and the third supply of these values must have been put in circulation soon after their arrival in December, 1862.

The lilac 6d. should have been issued to the Postmaster by February, 1863, but the 1s. yellow-brown must still have been in use at that time, as I showed a little above. The issue of the 6d. lilac and 1s. green was announced in the *Timbre Poste* of May, 1863, so that both were in circulation by March or April of that year.

Finally, I think we may say that the second supply of 1s. yellow-brown was issued before December, 1863.

(To be continued.)

Correspondence.

NOTES ON INDIAN STAMPS.

To the Editor of "The Philatelic Record."

SIR,—On looking over my collection of Indian stamps, and comparing the information given about them in Pemberton's *Stamp Collector's Handbook* with that which I have been enabled to acquire upon the spot, I made the following notes and corrections, which may be of interest to your readers, and which they may easily insert in the *Handbook* in the proper places.

Yours faithfully,

India, August, 1880.

AN OLD COLLECTOR.

CABUL (page 31).—The inscription of the Cabul stamps reads, "Marsul darul sultanat Kabul sunkaa," which means, "Postage of the kingdom of Cabul for the year 1871." The proper values of the 1871 issue should be put:

Shahie	black	(about 1 an. Indian)
Sunar	,, (,,	2 an. ,,)
Abasie	,, (,,	4 an. ,,)

And of the 1872 issue:

Hart Shahie	black	(about 8 an. Indian)
Rupya	,,	(1 rupee ,,)

The queries as to the 4 a., black, of the 1875 issue, or the Kabul year 1292, should be erased, as also those in the 1293 set, as all these four stamps undoubtedly exist.

DECCAN (pages 50, 51).—The stamps called official are not used for official postage, but chiefly as bill or court stamps. "Sirkar" means Government, not Treasury.

INDIA (page 102).—The date of the first envelope is not correct, and the list can be considerably added to and corrected, as under.

1856. On thin laid foreign note-paper.

1. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue on white paper.
2. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue on pale yellow paper.
3. 1 a., brown on white paper.
4. 1 a., brown on pale yellow paper.

The next issue consisted of the same round stamp, only it was embossed on a sheet of note-paper, having a small flap stamped with the same blue seal (lion under tree), so that after it had been written on it could be folded up, and used as an envelope.

1857. Unfolded sheet (size, $8\frac{3}{4} \times 10\frac{3}{4}$) of thin laid paper, with blue seal on flap.

5. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue on white.
6. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue on pale yellow.

1857. Envelope, on blue wove. Size, $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$.

7. 1 a., brown with blue flap.

These envelopes at first were only slightly gummed, just under the seal; but in 1867 another printing took place, with the seal a much darker blue, and the gum continued along the flap on each side of the seal.

1871. On blue laid paper. Size, $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$

8. 1 a., brown, with brown seal.

1873. On white laid paper. Size, $4\frac{1}{8} \times 2\frac{1}{8}$.

9. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue, with blue seal.

1875. Die re-made. Size same as last.
 10. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue, with white seal.
 1877. On blue laid paper, slightly glazed. Size, $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{1}{8}$.
 11. 1 a., brown, with brown seal.
 1877. On white laid paper. Size, $4\frac{1}{8} \times 2\frac{1}{8}$.
 12. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue, with no seal on flap.
 1878. On white laid paper. Size, $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{8}$.
 13. 1 a., brown, with brown seal.

Down to the issue of 1 a. in 1871, all the envelopes had the makers' (De la Rue and Co.) name stamped on them; but in the 1873 and subsequent issues this name is not to be found. While on the subject of India, it may be worthy of mention that the present official blue $\frac{1}{2}$ a. post cards are to be found printed in dull dark blue and in light bright blue; and that two very distinct varieties of card exist; viz., a thin smooth, and a thicker ribbed. Before the issue of the 9 pie, lilac, of 1876, the rate for soldiers' letters had been raised from eight to nine pies, and for some time the old remainders of the lilac 8 p. were actually sold at the post offices at 9 p. each. I have seen specimens of the 8 p. with the word "nine" printed in black over the eight. Their issue must have been limited, as I believe very few specimens are known of this variety. A collector who was in India in 1878 tells me he is inclined to think it was the work of some enterprising postmaster or Treasury officer (on receiving the order, to sell all the old 8 pie at 9 pies each), rather than an official issue from Calcutta. The stamp in question appears to have been used in 1877; viz., after the new 9 pie had appeared in some parts of India; so that the surcharge may have been put on to save any grumbling at two stamps of different facial values being sold to the public at the same price. The old stock of 8 pies seems still to be unexhausted; for only a few mails ago I saw several letters from soldiers in India franked by this old 8 pie. I have a post-marked specimen of this surcharged 8 p. in my collection. Can any of your readers give any further information of this variety? In the *Philatelic Record* for May, 1880, you quote an extract from *Le Timbre Poste* with reference to the Rawul Pindi Pony Dawk envelopes; but the arguments there mentioned seem to me of little weight to condemn them on, when their history and use seem so satisfactorily accounted for in the *Handbook* (page 178). Besides which, I am informed by the before-mentioned collector that there is no tax of 8 annas levelled on travellers from Pindi to Murree, nor on "every Indian highway," as stated by *Le Timbre Poste*. If there was any tax, it is very unlikely they would give a receipt to each traveller stamped on an envelope! Again, eight annas would be an excessively high price to a native, being equal to an ordinary man's pay for two days.

The distance between any two places in India is always reckoned in marches. Now, Murree to Pindi is three marches or stages, and a coolie's pay is six annas a march; so that you could not get a letter taken from Pindi to Murree under at least a rupee. He says that if the post-bag closed at 4 p.m., the runners could not get the mails up to Murree before 1 or 2 a.m., and that therefore they would not be sorted and delivered before at least 7.30 in the morning. There was, without doubt, a Pony Dawk started between Rawul Pindi and Murree in the hot season of 1877, worked by a native firm; but not being found to pay, it only lasted some four or five months, and therefore it is very likely the proprietor thought he might make an extra honest (?) penny by carrying letters up to Murree much quicker and cheaper than they would go by a coolie, and at an hour when the post would not be available. If these stamps were merely receipts for a road-tax, why would they not be more plentiful, instead of being rarer than the Koorshedjah envelopes? Here again can any of your readers add any further information?

UNCUT AND CUT ENVELOPES.

SIR,—Of the many subjects that are vexed questions among philatelists, perhaps there is none that has created more difference of opinion than the retention or otherwise of cut or uncut envelopes. In the "fierce light" of

the rapid progress and extended scientific research of the last two or three decades, every pursuit has been brought by giant strides to greater perfection than was ever dreamt of a generation since, and philately is but another, if minor, instance of this. When one sees the splendid collections of leading amateurs of the present day, arranged with the greatest care, neatness, and chronological correctness, and compares them with those of, say, only ten to twelve years back, the enormous advance is seen at a glance—one that has developed philately from an amusement into a science.

A very important point on which consistent collectors now insist is, that each specimen should be collected in a perfect and unutilated state. This is mainly a matter of time and patience as regards adhesives, but is very difficult with envelopes, especially those long obsolete, which are almost "unattainable," to use a somewhat absurd word. Several reasons may be assigned for their scarcity, the main ones being their comparatively limited circulation, and, sad to tell, their ruthless cutting at the hands of a past and less wise age of collectors. By some of these it is urged that the retention of whole envelopes is simply an absorption of stationery, and not stamps; but I hold that such an argument is quite untenable in the face of our desire to collect perfect specimens; and most of the readers of this journal are aware that watermarks, *pattes*, gum surcharges, and position of stamp, are important factors in the dates of issue, and consequent rarity, of envelopes. The great difficulty, as we see, is, that most amateurs who have the obsolete envelopes cut, and the modern ones entire, are at a loss to arrange them satisfactorily, and with any uniformity. If the former are placed with the adhesives, and the latter, owing to their bulk and size, separately, confusion is involved, and broken sets in both cases. I trust no one would level them down by cutting them all; and this is the vexed question on which I venture to think a little discussion and interchange of ideas might lead to some advantage. I would invite collectors to consider the advisability of following a plan I have adopted. I mount all the cut envelopes on fresh envelopes as nearly as possible resembling them. This is thus done: Gum the stamp (presuming it is cut square) very lightly in its proper corner, and then cut it carefully round all four sides with a sharp penknife, *taking care that the incision touches the edges of the stamp*.* Remove this piece of paper, and gum another piece of thin paper behind it, on the inside of the envelope; then cut this, leaving a small margin or frame behind the stamp, which is then firmly gummed and pressed, when it will be found that the surface is flush or level with the envelope, and, provided the paper is well chosen, it is difficult to see that it has been mounted at all. This may sound rather elaborate to the uninitiated, but it takes little time, and many may be done within an hour. Old envelopes of every variety can be purchased very cheaply at any stationer's shop; and where the desired size or quality cannot be obtained, a sheet of paper folded diagonally will answer the purpose as well. The advantages I urge for this system are: 1st, that it enables one to amalgamate all envelopes; 2ndly, that it enables one, while doing this, to thoroughly examine the stamp itself, as to texture and watermark, and has a neat appearance; and 3rdly, that it will lead to a deeper study and knowledge of the various envelopes—a subject that many collectors are ill-informed about. I would suggest, as furthering this, that, through the kindly medium of the *Philatelic Record*, we might ask one another for the dimensions and varieties of the different envelopes that we may desire to mount, and amongst us all doubtless we could furnish copies of most that are known. I shall be pleased to send a specimen mounted envelope, or details of uncut ones, to any collector who cares to see them, and with that view append my address. In conclusion, I do not for a moment hold that this plan is perfection, but simply urge that it has some advantages that claim consideration at the hands of my fellow-collectors.

M. PARNELL CASTLE.

Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton.

* Would Mr. Castle adopt this plan in the case of his envelope being cut square? If so, he would sacrifice the portion of transverse inscription, often found when envelopes have been cut this way, and which, as in the case of the Thurn and Taxis lilac inscriptions, add much to the value.—Ed.

“BLEUTÉ PAR LA GOMME.”

SIR,—When I wrote to you upon this subject, last month, I was not aware that the iodine theory had already been propounded. If the only objection to it is the one indicated in your foot note, I think that I can dispose of that. The iodine which causes the blueing is not specially introduced in the process of manufacturing either the paper, the ink, or the gum. So the question is, How does it get there?

I stated in my letter that iodine is an element which is very widely diffused. It is found in small quantities in nearly all rocks, rivers, and seas. Many organisms, especially plants, have the property of absorbing iodine from rocks or waters into their tissues; in fact, it is prepared from the ashes of many sea-weeds for the purposes of commerce. Therefore as plants absorb iodine into their structure, anything derived from plants must of necessity have this element present; and paper being essentially a vegetable derivative, has it diffused throughout its substance; and it is thus that I account for the presence of iodine in stamps, although neither it nor its compounds have been specially introduced into the manufacture of stamps.

Yours, &c.,

CHEMICUS.

Notes and Queries.

WANT of space compels us to hold back the articles on Post Cards destined for this month's number. Our readers are requested to take note of the following correction to be made in last month's list of Bavarian cards: Page 94, line 13, instead of A, B, C, “DAS” in 3 pf. × 3 pf. cards, read A, B, C, D, as in 3 × 3 pf. cards.

AN OLD COLLECTOR.—Many thanks for your communication, a part of which we print this month. Some of your queries have been forwarded to the Secretary of the Philatelic Society, who will present them when the society resumes its meetings.

P. T. ANDERSON.—Your letter shall appear in our next.

R. T. N.—The extract you send us concerning M. de Velay's envelope, and the specimen still extant, addressed to Mdle. de Scudery, is well known, having gone the round of nearly all the philatelic publications. South Australian stamps surcharged s.p. have been used officially. We cannot say just now by which department, but may probably be able to inform you in our next. The yellow Ionians were never watermarked. The red are watermarked 1, and the blue 2; but the *Timbre Poste* mentioned some time ago that errors exist. In Pemberton's *Handbook* the blue are given as being watermarked with the numeral 1, and the red with 2; but this is a mistake.

Z.—Thanks for your information, which we have utilized.

A. HOWELL.—We have not room for your letter this month; but we have forwarded it to the Committee of the Philatelic Society. We do not attach much importance to the variety you mention, but perhaps they may.

The Philatelic Record.

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OCTOBER.

1880.



WITH the first meeting for the season of the Philatelic Society, we Londoners feel as though we were getting fairly into harness again, and gird ourselves up to brush off the slight rust with which ruralizing is apt to dim our philatelic lore, and to hunt for sundry good things which, for the moment, we have missed through being away from town. It appears probable that we have a busy nine months' season before us, and we shall do all in our power to keep our readers *au courant* with what is going on.

Since we wrote last, another pair of old friends—the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps of Great Britain—have been superseded by rivals of the De la Rue type. When we have said that the new stamps are superior to the current 1d., and there pause, we shall probably stand accused of damning them with faint praise. The Post Office authorities and—or—the Commissioners of Inland Revenue of to-day seem to have more confidence in average humanity, which we trust is warranted by statistics, than their predecessors were wont to show. In the new postage stamps most of the old cunningly-built-up safeguards against forgery have been abandoned. It does not strike us that the new stamps are more difficult to imitate than were the obsolete ones, and yet the plate numbers were abolished in the current 1d.; and now both the plate numbers and the transposed lettering of the angles disappear from the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. values. Another touching evidence of the faith of the authorities in the approach of the millennium is that afforded by the issue of forms spaced to hold twelve separate 1d. stamps, which, when filled up, may be paid into a post-office savings bank as the equivalent of a shilling deposit. In consequence, we presume, of complaints having been made of petty pilfering, postmasters were long ago forbidden to exchange single postage stamps for cash at

Price 2d.

2s. 6d. per Annum.

Abroad, 3s.

the appointed discount of two and half per cent. Unless the stamps were in undivided strips they were not to be accepted. But now the Post Office not only rescinds this very excellent check upon speculation, but actually stultifies itself to the extent of offering to become the bankers of the possible thieves! Boys of Barabbas-like, and at the same time provident, propensities, should make hay whilst the present sun is shining. To a Postmaster-General who volunteers to take charge of their plunder, and to a Home Secretary whose only anxiety is how to let them go scot free should they have the misfortune to be detected, they owe a debt of the keenest gratitude; a debt which hereafter they may perchance be enabled to repay as election agents in certain boroughs which shall be nameless.

Novelties, Discoveries, and Resuscitations.

Argentine Republic.—We have the 8 centavos, current type, machine perforated 12, instead of being rouletted.

Assab.—Anyone who is asked where it is, of course answers, without a moment's hesitation, "In Africa; a small town situated in a bay of the same name, on the Red Sea, north of the Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb; latitude, $13\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ N.; longitude, 43° E."

In 1869 the Italian "Rubattino" Steam-ship Company acquired a strip of land there which is about three miles long by two broad. Authorities differ as to the population of Assab, some estimating it as consisting of a man and a monkey, whilst others think that a monkey and a man is about the extent of it.

To the *Erdball*, a German contemporary, we hasten to ascribe the honour of being the discoverer of Assab postage stamps. Let us quote the *Erdball*: "Until the Government shall have established a post-office in this new Italian colony similar to those existing at Alexandria, Tripoli, &c., a private and provisional postal service has been started. Its operations are for the present confined to the collection and despatch of letters and post cards, which are entrusted to any ship which may happen to pass, bound for Italy, to be posted on arrival in port. The postage is thus divided:

"1st. Letters destined for Mediterranean ports, such as Palermo, Naples, Genoa, Messina, &c., pay 25 centimes for every 15 grammes of weight, and are franked by the current 5 centimes Italian postage stamp, surcharged in black $\frac{\text{ASSAB}}{\text{CENT 25}}$. Of this sum 20 centimes form the profit of the private undertaking and the sea carriage, and 5 centimes are for the stamp which carries the letter from the Italian port at which it is posted to its destination.

"2nd. Letters for countries other than Italy cost 40 centimes, and are franked by 20 centimes stamps, surcharged cent. 40.

"3rd. Letters for countries beyond Europe, such as the United and other American States adhering to the Postal Union, are franked by 25 centimes stamps, surcharged cent. 50. The 10 cents post cards are also used, surcharged cent. 20."

In a "childlike and bland" spirit, which we trust will ever distinguish us from those who are always carping and wanting to know too much, we would fain ask the *Erdball*, or any other man, for a little more information in connection with these stamps. How is it that the "new Italian colony" has got along so well, since 1869, without them? What demon has impelled that Italian colonist (the monkey can't write) to scribble so many letters since these stamps were introduced as to supply all the dealers in Italy with every value mentioned in the *Erdball*, and another besides? How is it that these Italian dealers have accumulated a heavy stock of even those values which are supposed to frank letters to countries, other than Italy, in Europe and America, whilst these stamps have not yet been met with out of Italy? If a 5 centimes stamp surcharged cent. 25 means 5 cents postage in Italy and 20 cents profit to the proprietors of the private post, how is the rate on a 10 centimes stamp, surcharged cent. 20 (of which we have had some sent to us), divided? The following varieties have been sent to us and others for sale.

		Type of surcharge	ASSAB CENT. 20
<i>Adhesives.</i>	Cent. 20	surcharged in black on current Italian	10 c. rose 5 ,, green 20 ,, orange 25 ,, blue 10 ,, brown
	" 25		
	" 40		
	" 50		
<i>Post Card.</i>	" 20		

Bermuda has issued a provisional post card until such time, we suppose, as Messrs. De la Rue and Co. can place it on a dead level in this respect with the other West Indian islands in the Postal Union. The card is inscribed, first, UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION, beneath which is a voided transverse oval, with a crown in the centre, BERMUDA in the upper, and POST OFFICE in the lower curves, in block capitals, the two words being separated by Maltese crosses. On the left of the oval is BERMUDA, and on the right, LES ISLES BERMUDES, in two lines. Below the oval is POST CARD, in Old English characters, and beneath this again, ONLY THE ADDRESS, &c., in italics. A plain line divides the inscribed portion of the card from the lower part reserved for the address. A space in the upper right corner of the card is ruled off for two stamps, and occupied by the 1d. and ½d. adhesives. No border; reverse side plain.

Post Card. Without value expressed, carmine on buff card; size 140 × 88½ mm.

Buenos Ayres.—In August we chronicled a stamp of the value of 1 peso, which we believed to be a new postage stamp. We have since been informed by the authorities in Buenos Ayres that the label in question is a fiscal; but the specimen which we described, and which we possess, certainly prepaid postage upon a letter, and bears the usual Buenos Ayres postal obliteration.

Cape of Good Hope.—We have a second variety of the new 3d. rose, surcharged 3 in black. The numeral in this case is narrower than the one we described last month. Both types occur on the same sheet.

Chili.—The *Guia Coleccionista* reproduces a government decree authorizing the temporary use of the obsolete postage stamps of 5 cents, and of certain fiscal stamps of the same value, owing to the stock of the current 5 cents postal adhesives having run short.

Danish West Indies.—Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Co. send us a 2 cents Postal Union Card. There are four lines of inscription: first, VERDENSPOSTFORENINGEN, in a curve, block letters; second, (Union Postale Universelle); third, BREVKORT; fourth, DANSK VESTINDIEN (ANTILLES DANOISES). Then come two long and two short dotted lines for address, the first headed by TIL, in script type. The stamp is of the same type as the adhesives—Danish arms in left upper corner, key border, reverse side plain.

Post Card. 2 cents, blue on white card; size, 139½ × 91 mm.

Fiji.—Of the stamps of the late issue, with the letters v.R. introduced into the die in the place of the original c.R., we now have the threepence without the surcharge twopence.

3d. green.

Gambia.—We have received the 1s. stamp for this dependency, the colour of which we were unable to give in our last.

1s. deep green; *wmk.* C.C. and crown; *perf.* 14.

Germany.—On another page we print a letter from M. de Ferrari respecting the Nord Deutscher Post Bezirk ¼ groschen rose. The specimen to which we referred has been submitted to him, and pronounced genuine.

Great Britain.—On the 14th of this month the new ½d. and 1½d. postage stamps, printed by Messrs. De la Rue and Co., were issued to the public. Whatever fault may be found with these labels, it will be readily admitted that they are superior to the 1d. value. The design of the ½d. comprises the profile of Her Majesty, to left, in a circle, on a ground of horizontal lines. Above and below the portrait are curved labels of solid colour, the upper one inscribed POSTAGE, and the lower HALFPENNY, in white block capitals. There are wavy ornaments at the sides, and crenelated ones in the corners. No letters nor plate numbers. This stamp is of the same size as the 1d. The 1½d. has the same portrait, to left, on ground of horizontal lines, within an upright pointed oval of solid colour, inscribed POSTAGE above, and THREE HALF PENCE beneath, in white block capitals. Two white dots separate the word postage from the rest of the inscription. In the place of the old lettering are crenelated ornaments. No plate numbers.

½d. sea-green, col. imp. on white, upright rectangular	} <i>wmk.</i> crown, as on current 1d.; <i>perf.</i> 14.
1½d. maroon " " "	

On the same date the 1s., changed in colour to light red, was also issued. The design, watermark, and perforation remains the same. Plate number, 13.

1s. light red.

Hong Kong.—To the already formidable list of the surcharged stamps of this colony must now be added another, bearing 5 cents in black upon the 8 cents. The 4 cents Postal Union card, De la Rue type, has been surcharged ONE CENT, in two lines, across the stamp, the word ONE being twice the size of the other. The inscription "Via Brindisi and London," at the bottom is obliterated.

Adhesive. 5 cents, surcharged in black on the 8 cents, yellow.

Post Card. 1 ,, ,, ,, 4 cents, sage-green and buff.

Iceland.—Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Co. send us two postal cards. No. 1 is a Postal Union card, and bears five lines of inscription: first, ALSHERJAR-PÓSTFJELAGID, in a curve; second, (Union postale universelle); third, ÍSLAND, in block letters; fourth (DANMARK); fifth, BRJEFSPJALD. Two long and two short dotted lines for address, the first being headed with TIL, in script type. No. 2 has three lines of inscription: first, BRJEFSPJALD; second, ÍSLAND; third, "Hjernamegin má að eins rita utanáskriptiná." One long and two short dotted lines for address, the first headed as in the former card. The stamps, in the right upper corner, are of the same type as the adhesives—Etruscan border, reverse sides plain.

Post Card. 8 aur., carmine on white card } size, 141 × 90 mm.
Postal Union Card. 10 ,, mauve ,, }

Labuan has followed the example of more important places in using surcharged provisionals. We have the 12 cents surcharged with the numeral 8, and the 16 cents with the numeral 6, the first in black, and the second in red. In both cases the original value is obliterated in red.

6 cents, surcharged in red on the 16 cents
 8 ,, ,, black ,, 12 ,,

Mauritius.—The *Timbre Poste* announces that since the 13th August a post card has been in use between Mauritius, Réunion, and Seychelles, with a stamp of the type of the 8 cents adhesive, which is surcharged 4 cents in black. The 8 cents is to be issued shortly.

4 cents, surcharged in black on 8 cents blue.

Paraguay.—We have seen the 3 reales, black, of this state surcharged with a large 5, in the same way as the 1 and 2 reales described in the *Record* of August, 1879. We do not think that this stamp has yet been chronicled. The surcharge is in blue.

Porto Rico.—Mr. de Ysasi informs us that postage stamps of the values of $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 3, and 4 cents de peseta have been in use for nearly two months, although none have as yet been seen here, and any further information concerning them is still wanting. He also says that the stamps for 1881, which he supposed to be in existence,

are only the 1880 issue so badly printed that the 0 of the date resembles a 1.

Portuguese Indies.—The 10 and 25 reis have lately been changed, as regards colour, with the view, no doubt, of rendering these values more uniform with the corresponding ones of the mother country.

10 reis, green | 25 reis, pale lavender.

Queensland.—There is a curious error on some of the new type 1d. (and of course the provisional $\frac{1}{2}$ d.), consisting of the name of the colony being spelt **QOENSLAND**. The error may exist on the other values, but we have not seen entire sheets of these. We have also received a Registered Envelope, the inscriptions upon which are identical with those upon our own save that they are printed in red. This envelope has no stamp. The Postal Authorities of Queensland inform us that Post Cards are on the point of being issued.

Registered Envelope. Red inscriptions on white, no stamp.

We referred some time ago to a variety of fiscal stamps having lately been used to prepay letters. We have the following post-marked specimens before us, and we have no doubt that others, which we have not come across, may have been seen by some of our readers.

1d.	Stamp Duty ;	small rectangular,	violet.
1d.	do.	long	mauve.
6d.	do.	„	brown.
1/-	do.	„	bright green.
2/6	do.	„	red.
5/-	do.	„	orange.

Roumania.—It has been said, and very likely with truth, that the 3 Bani green of the 1872 type was upon some occasion cut in two and the halves used as $1\frac{1}{2}$ Bani newspaper stamps. A good number of these “provisionals” have lately been offered for sale. All those which we have seen are on nice square little pieces of newspaper and beautifully postmarked “Jassy, 13th December, 1873.” An unfortunate oversight on the part of the purveyor of these curiosities has led him to affix some of his stamps postmarked 1873 upon pieces of newspaper bearing the date of 1877. We hint at our objections with some timidity, for we are conscious that they must appear ungracious in the eyes of those who take so much trouble to supply our little wants, and who cannot always pay such strict attention to details as to satisfy the hypercritical.

Transvaal.—To refer once more to the dubious Transvaals, to which we devoted more space in our last number than the things are worth, we note that our contemporary, the *Berliner Illustrirte Briefmarken-Zeitung* for September, takes up the cudgels on behalf of these stamps against the *Wiener B. Zeitung*, which condemns them. We reproduce the *B.I.B.Z.* arguments in their favour. The Vienna paper points out, as we did, that “one thing is certain, namely, that the Mecklenburg stamps, with which

the market has lately been flooded, never saw the Transvaal territory, and have no postal value whatsoever," to which the *B.I.B.Z.* replies "that these Transvaal stamps have never seen the territory of Transvaal does not in the least prevent their being genuine. The most respectable firms continually buy and sell *British colonial stamps which have never seen the colonies for which they are issued*, and yet every collector readily admits such stamps into his collection as soon as he is assured of their authenticity." The editor of the *B.I.B.Z.* will confer a favour upon English dealers by informing them where they can obtain the stamps of English colonies, at face value, at home, and thus save them the trouble and expense of sending to the colonies to obtain them. It appears that the name of the town in Mecklenburg where the stamps were printed is Güstrow, not Gutzow, as we printed it last month. The *B.I.B.Z.* is indignant that the good faith of Herr Otto, the engraver, "an honourable man with grey hair," should be doubted, and threatens, on his behalf, legal proceedings against anyone who may further call it in question. In conclusion, our contemporary refers to the letters from dealers to which we alluded in our last, and half threatens "to stop the mouths" of some of them, who are grumbling about the last batch of Mecklenburg-Transvaals, by their publication.

Uruguay.—We have received the 2 centesimos Post Card to which we referred last month. It is of the same size and type, and has the same error as the 3 centesimos, which we fully described, and is printed in carmine upon white card.

Venezuela.—We have been shown some Postal Union Cards from this country, which strongly remind us of the provisional Trinidad which we described in June, 1879. There are three lines of inscription. 1st. "(UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE)." 2nd. ESTADOS UNIDOS DE VENEZUELA. 3rd. TARJETA POSTAL in block letters. A piece of ornamental chainwork separates this upper from the lower portion of the card, which has two long and one short lines for the address, with the word Señor printed above them. The whole is enframed with a chain border except the place for the stamp, which has plain lines. The three cards before us are severally franked by a 10 cents carmine, by two 5 cents blue Venezuela perforated adhesives, and by two 1 centavo Escuelas imperforate. Reverse side plain.

P. Union Card (without value expressed). Carmine on white card. Size, 130 × 94 mm.

P. Union Card (without value expressed). Black on white card. Size, 130 × 94 mm.

P. Union Card (without value expressed). Blue on white card. Size, 130 × 94 mm.

Virgin Islands.—We have to thank Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. for the new 1d. value for these islands. It is a De la Rue production of exactly the same type as the 2½d. It is a poor exchange for the old stamp which it supersedes.

1d., yellow-green on glazed paper; *wmk. C. C. and crown*; *perf. 14*.

THE STAMPS OF MAURITIUS.

By CAPT. E. B. EVANS, R.A.

PART III.—*continued.*

WE now come to the stamps on watermarked paper. The Postmaster's requisition of February, 1863, is for 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 9d., 1s., and 5s. stamps. This was sent home in March, 1863. The 3d. and 5s. were new values. I do not know why a fresh supply of 9d. was demanded; there must have been an enormous quantity of stamps of this value still on hand. By the mails of April and May, 1863, were sent out portions of these stamps, as follows:

In April—

133 sheets of 1d. stamps	78 sheets of 6d. stamps
132 " 2d. "	26 " 9d. "
136 " 4d. "	128 " 1s. "

In May—

399 sheets of 1d. stamps	234 sheets of 6d. stamps
396 " 2d. "	78 " 9d. "
408 " 4d. "	384 " 1s. "
520 " 3d. "	520 " 5s. "

The letter of the Colonial Agents which accompanied the case sent in April states that it contained one-quarter of the stamps ordered, with the exception of the new values (threepence and five shillings), the plates for which were not quite ready, and the whole of which would therefore be sent with the second portion.

The above stamps, although sent out in two parcels, may be considered as one edition, the first on paper watermarked with the Crown and CC.

So many different printings of some of the values of this issue must have taken place, that it would be quite impossible for me to attempt such an analysis of them as I endeavoured to make in the case of the unwatermarked stamps. But I will try to point out some of the principal varieties.

Specimens of the 1d., 2d., and 4d. of this first edition were attached to the requisition of December, 1863. The 1d. is the darkest shade of this value, the one which, I presume, is meant by the lilac, or lilac-brown, of the English catalogues. The various printings of the 1d. differ considerably in colour; they seem to have become gradually paler, reaching at last a kind of yellowish-brown tint.

The first watermarked 2d. and 4d. are medium shades of their respective colours. Light and dark shades of these may be found among the subsequent printings; but the varieties are not very strongly marked.

The 3d. has always been vermilion, and such varieties as exist appear to me to be rather due to more or less heavy printing than to any other cause.

The 6d. was certainly lilac; and as it would appear to have been the only supply of 6d., lilac, on watermarked paper that was sent out, there are naturally no varieties of shade.

The 9d. must have been green; for the only ninepenny stamps on watermarked paper are of that colour, therefore it would seem that the green 9d. was sent out so long ago as 1863. This is confirmed by the fact that I can find no record of any requisition for ninepenny stamps after this, and also by a letter of the Colonial Agents which I shall quote presently. The date of issue of the ninepence, green, is usually given as 1872; but I very much doubt whether this stamp was ever formally issued to the public for use at all. The supply of ninepence, lilac, was never exhausted. A few sheets of

the ninepence, green, passed into the hands of the Postmaster, perhaps in mistake for sixpenny; and specimens of these reached Europe apparently in 1872. I found a few specimens in the post-office in 1876, and there were three or four sheets left in the Treasury at the end of 1877 when the pence series was superseded. The greater part, however, were destroyed in 1874, and the 9d., lilac, remained current the whole time. This does not prevent the 9d., green, being a thoroughly collectable variety. It is by no means an essay, neither does it come under the head of stamps prepared for use, but never issued. A large supply was printed and sent out, and a small quantity was used. I have used these stamps myself, and have received them on letters.

M. Moens catalogues the first watermarked 1s. as pale yellow; subsequent printings show various shades of yellow and orange-yellow, the darker of which seems to be the scarcer.

Authorities differ as to which variety of the 5s. was the earlier; but I think I shall be able to show a little further on that the brown-violet was the first.

The two new values, 3d. and 5s., were no doubt issued very soon after their arrival; perhaps in June, 1863.

The 1d., 2d., and 4d. were evidently issued before the end of the same year; while the 6d. and 1s. were apparently not issued till 1864. The *S. C. Mag.* for November, 1864, reports that "the shilling yellow and sixpenny violet Mauritius labels are now much richer in tint than before." This is probably the announcement of the first appearance of these values watermarked, so that they would appear to have been issued about September, 1864.

In March, 1864, the stamps demanded by the Postmaster's requisition of December, 1863, were sent out. They were accompanied by a letter from the Crown Agents (the title was altered from Colonial Agents to Crown Agents in 1864), stating that the 6d. stamps are sent in *green*, as demanded, but that that colour had generally been employed for the *ninepence*, and suggesting that in future the colours of the stamps should not be changed unnecessarily. This confirms what I said above, as to the 9d. sent out in 1863 being green.

M. Moens gives October, 1865, as the probable date of issue of the 6d., green, and states that specimens are known bearing that date; so that they were at all events in circulation by that time. They are described in the *S. C. Mag.* for February, 1866, as being "paler and bluer" than those previously in use; that is, than the unwatermarked 6d., green.

The same journal, in September, 1870, announces: "The sixpence is now printed in a dark green hue." It afterwards seems to have returned to the paler shade. It is also found in a yellowish-green, due partly, I think, to a yellowing of the paper by the gum. Specimens of the really dark green are somewhat scarce, as far as my experience goes.

In November, 1864, a requisition was sent in for stamps of various values, amongst others for those of one shilling and five shillings. The shilling stamps were ordered to be *dark blue* with a *white border*. The stamps were sent out in February, 1865; but a letter from the Crown Agents stated that as they did not suppose that the Colonial Government wished to go to the expense of a fresh die for the shilling stamps, they had sent them out in dark blue only. This letter also stated that the five shilling stamps, having been printed by gaslight, differed slightly in colour from those sent out before, the colour not having been quite properly mixed. We thus get the date of manufacture of the shilling blue and the five shillings mauve.

M. Moens places the five shillings mauve before the brown-violet, but I have reason to believe that this order should be reversed. The letter I have just alluded to does not give any description of the colours of the stamps, but fortunately we have other evidence with regard to them. Two supplies, and two only, of five shilling stamps were sent out, and, curiously enough, each of these was accompanied by a stamp of which only one supply was sent out. The five shillings of 1863 was accompanied by the ninepence green, and the five shillings of 1865 by the one shilling blue. A comparison of the papers on which these stamps are printed, and of the gum on their backs, should tell us which came out together.

Distrusting my own judgment in the matter, I referred it to Mr. Philbrick, without telling him the respective dates of manufacture of the ninepence green and one shilling blue, and he gave it as his opinion that the ninepence green and the five shillings red-violet went together, and the one shilling blue and five shillings mauve; and it appeared afterwards that the order of issue thus given for the two varieties of five shillings was that which he had always considered the correct one.

It appears impossible to say exactly when the five shillings mauve was issued. M. Moens gives 1868 as the date of issue of the second variety, but he terms the colour "brun-violet."

It is possible that a supply of five shillings mauve may have been issued to the postmaster, and put in circulation in 1865, soon after their arrival in Mauritius; and that the issue of the five shillings brown-violet, chronicled in 1868, may have been a return to that variety.

The two varieties would appear to have been used indiscriminately at a later period. A considerable number of each must have been destroyed in 1874; a number of each were surcharged "one shilling" in 1877, and some of each remained to be "cancelled" in 1878; but there were very few of the five shillings *mauve* among the remainders.

The date usually given for the issue of the blue shilling is 1870; and this is very likely correct. Either there must have been a large accumulation of shilling stamps in the Treasury, or they must have been but little employed for some years; for I could find no record of any requisition for a further supply of this value until 1872.

It is not, I think, generally known that the first blue shillings issued were sent to the post-office in mistake for twopence, and some were sold as such before the mistake was discovered. They did not therefore at any time supersede the yellow shilling, but the two were used together until the stock of blue was exhausted. There were none of the latter at the post-office when I went out in 1876, and among the remainders was only one solitary torn specimen!

Soon after the arrival of the supply of 1865 the Treasurer reported that the five shilling stamps had been demanded by the Postmaster apparently without having first ascertained what quantity of this value there was in the Treasury; and stated that, with those just received, there were enough five shilling stamps on hand to last for one hundred and eighty years, at the then rate of consumption!

In the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* for 1869 there was a report of a new issue of stamps for Mauritius, including several new values, and to be of an entirely new design, comprising a view of Pieter Botte, the principal mountain in the island; and, according to one account, the celebrated Dodo.

I cannot vouch for the latter part of the design, but a demand *was* sent home for stamps with a view of the mountain, a photograph of which was enclosed; but they were to have been revenue, not postage stamps.

Messrs. De la Rue and Co. recommended their profile of the Queen as more appropriate, and more especially as being less expensive. And this was adopted, the difference in expense being as much as that between £300 and £1700!

In 1872 the postage to England was raised to tenpence, and in May of that year the Postmaster demanded tenpenny stamps, which he requested might be printed in *purple and gold*! This gorgeous idea, however, was not carried out, Messrs. De la Rue and Co. declaring themselves unable to print stamps in two colours.

The tenpenny stamps were therefore printed in maroon (this is the name given to it by De la Rue and Co.), and sent out, together with a supply of various other values, in September, 1872. No doubt they were put in circulation immediately.

In the beginning of 1874 the charge of the stamps was transferred to the Storekeeper-General; and that official, considering that there was on hand a very much larger supply of certain descriptions of stamps and envelopes than was likely to be required, and that his responsibility was thereby unnecessarily increased, obtained permission to destroy some of the surplus

stock; and in May, 1874, a committee examined the stamps on hand, and, after placing on one side a quantity which they considered sufficient to last for ten years, destroyed as follows:

360 sheets of 9d. stamps	|	396 dozen of 6d. envelopes
596 " 5s. "	|	286 " 9d. "

They retained 250 dozens of each kind of envelope.

In February, 1876, the postage to England was reduced to sixpence halfpenny, and at the same time the first halfpenny stamps were issued. These consisted of the ninepence, lilac, unwatermarked, surcharged with the words "HALF PENNY" in capitals in two lines. An essay was first made on the same stamps with a different kind of surcharge, consisting of "½" on the left and "D" on the right side of the neck of the bust, and the words "HALF PENNY" below in small capitals in one straight line.

This surcharge was tried both in red and in black; and neither being considered satisfactory, not being sufficiently distinct, it was given up. Three sheets, or probably two and three-quarters, were thus surcharged in red, and one-quarter sheet (sixty stamps) in black. A few specimens of the red surcharge were obtained by collectors in Mauritius as curiosities, and the rest were surcharged "DANCELLED" in a similar manner to the rest of the remainders in 1879. None were issued.

The stock of ninepenny stamps having been nearly exhausted, the tenpenny was next surcharged in a similar manner, and was issued in October, 1876. These provisional issues continued for so long because it was expected that the currency would shortly be changed, and it was therefore not considered worth while to go to the expense of a die for a new value in the meantime. But in November, 1876, as the change in the currency appeared to be postponed, a requisition for halfpenny stamps was sent home, and in March, 1877, arrived the very pretty labels formed of the tenpenny, printed in rose, with the value crossed out, and "HALF PENNY" surcharged in one line in small block letters. These were issued in April, 1877; but on the 17th of that month the postage was reduced to sixpence, and the halfpenny stamps consequently became of very little use.

In January, 1877, a requisition was sent in for stamps and envelopes, with the values expressed in cents of a rupee; but through some oversight, either on the part of the authorities in Mauritius, or of those at home, this was mislaid, and the stamps consequently did not arrive till November, 1877, when it was considered advisable to postpone their issue till the 1st of January, 1878. In the meantime, however, the supply of penny and shilling stamps was exhausted, and it became necessary to have recourse to surcharging again. Accordingly the fourpenny was surcharged with the words "ONE PENNY" in a straight line, with a bar below, intended to cross out the original value; and the five shillings in both varieties was turned into one shilling in a similar manner. These were issued on December 6th, 1877.

(To be continued.)

Correspondence.

THE NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION QUARTER-GROSCHEN ERROR.

To the Editor of "The Philatelic Record."

SIR,—The Nord Deutscher Post Bezirk $\frac{1}{4}$ groschen, rose, referred to in your last impression, is a genuine error, and has been known to me for many years. The genuine stamp was issued only in a perforated condition, but forgeries have lately been fabricated in Vienna, and these imitations represent imperforate or rouletted stamps. The genuine stamp may also be distinguished from the counterfeits by its being printed in a slightly yellow tinge of rose colour, whilst the shade of the latter is a lilac-rose.

Yours truly,

P. DE FERRARI.

CUT ENVELOPES, &c.

SIR,—In regard to the question of cut and uncut envelopes, I quite agree with Mr. Castle in thinking that they must be arranged together; but I think it is hardly necessary to adopt the elaborate system described in his letter. I collected cut envelopes for a good many years; indeed, it is only within the last few years that I have gone in thoroughly for the entire system. I never mutilated obsolete envelopes, but I was quite contented with cut specimens, and rather preferred them, as being cheaper and easier to find room for. I am now endeavouring gradually to replace my cut specimens with entire ones, and retain the former in my collection more as stop-gaps than as permanent representatives, except in the case of varieties of shade, where one entire specimen and one or two varieties cut may be sufficient; and in the case of used and unused specimens, most collectors are, I think, content with one cut and the other uncut. I confess that I prefer entire envelopes *used*, if in good condition, as they generally bear some evidence of the date of their use.

Entire envelopes I mount so as to overlap one another, and thus economize space; cut ones I mount with a hinge, as I would adhesives, and either place them by the side of the entire ones, or mount them on a piece of paper about the size of the back of an envelope, and mount this among the entire ones. I think it is hardly worth while adopting the system of inlaying advocated by Mr. Castle, especially if it involves removing any portion of the margin of an impression which has been cut square. This, however, I fancy is not his intention. I think he means that he cuts a piece out of the plain envelope exactly the size of the cut specimen, margin included, and then fixes the latter in the space thus made. The inscriptions, however, and the *pattes*, &c., cannot be reproduced in this manner, and the specimen thus repaired is at best like a man with several artificial limbs of the modern school. He certainly presents a better appearance than he would do wanting the cork apologies for his missing extremities, but he is anatomically as incomplete as ever.

In your "Notes and Queries" there is an allusion to the Ionians. Has the question as to the respective values of these stamps ever been thoroughly set at rest? The note in Pemberton's *Handbook* would seem to imply that there is still some doubt on the subject. Is it possible that the red and the blue are one penny and two pence respectively, thus corresponding in colour with the English 1d. and 2d., and being watermarked with the figure of value? The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. yellow would correspond in colour, more or less, with the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp of Malta. If it is certain that the blue were used as 1d., and the red as 2d., it is still possible that these values may have been assigned them by the local authorities, and may not be those they were originally intended to bear.

EDWARD B. EVANS.

DEAR SIR,—Would you kindly allow me to say, in reference to my letter in last month's *Record* on the above subject, that I never intended to advocate cutting close round the stamps. I said, "Presuming the stamp is cut square," carefully cut "all four sides." The wider the margin left on the original envelope the better, care being taken to leave the edges cleanly and straightly cut, and to have the mount as nearly to match. I have German and Austrian stamps mounted thus, showing inscriptions and watermarks, to excise which would be the act of a philatelic Goth. In the event of the mounted stamps changing owners, four cuts of a penknife will, if desired, restore them to their former state.

Yours faithfully,

M. PURNELL CASTLE.

[What misled us was the italicised sentence in Mr. Castle's letter; viz., "taking care that the incision touches the edges of the stamp."—ED.]

THE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE STAMPS OF MAURITIUS.

DEAR SIR,—A few bibliographical notes in connection with Captain Evans' papers on these stamps may possess some interest.

The first attempt at an accurate classification of Mauritius issues was made by Mr. Pemberton in an article which appeared in *The Stamp Collector's Review* for March, 1864. The list there given mentions the Britannia, "slate, with EIGHTPENCE printed in black letters on the stamp." The next number of the same magazine contains a letter from Mr. Mount Brown challenging production of a copy; but in the fifth edition (1864) of his *Catalogue* the variety is included without comment. It had not been given in previous editions, nor so far as I am aware in any English catalogue of prior date.

It is mentioned, however, in the first (1862) and subsequent editions of Moens' *Manuel du Collectionneur*, and, though not occurring in the earlier tirages of Berger-Levrault's *Timbres-Poste*, appears in the ninth, and is retained in the German edition of 1864, but is expunged from the last French edition of 1867. M. Herpin, in an article in *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* for March, 1865, refers to several specimens as then known, and also alludes to a variety bearing the inscription NINEPENCE.

The earliest notice of the native-printed stamps to be found in any English magazine is in Mr. Pemberton's paper alluded to above. No mention is there made of the POST OFFICE type, and erroneous dates of issue are assigned. The 2d. POST OFFICE is described for the first time in M. Herpin's paper (which is accompanied by the incorrect illustration reproduced in *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* of the following month), and the 1d. of like design in *Le Timbre Poste* for November of the same year. The article in *Le Collectionneur* alludes to the variety of the 1d. POST PAID with crossed oblique lines, described by Captain Evans on page 32 of *The Record*. It is also catalogued in Levrault's *Timbres-Poste* of 1867. The early impressions of the latter (1861-4) speak of both 1d. and 2d. "nom de haut en bas."

An article on the stamps of Mauritius, which appeared in *Cassell's Illustrated Family Paper* in 1866, assigned 1846 as the date of the first issue.

I am, &c.,

P. J. ANDERSON.

Reference List of the Post Cards of Madeira and Azores.

BY "A POST CARD COLLECTOR."

MADEIRA.

1878.

Five lines of instructions—1. Arms of Portugal between "Bilhete" and "Postal;" 2. Para; 3. Portugal e Hespanha; 4. (Aqui o nome da pessoa á qual se escreve, terra, rua e numero da porta; 5. e do outro lado o que se quer escrever)—followed by three lines for address. "Sr." on first line. Stamp in right-hand upper corner, of the same type as current adhesive; all within a frame of type-set ornaments, initials of engraver (o. m.) being in centre of lower part of frame. Brown imp. on buff card. Card, 135 × 90 mm.; frame, 110 × 69 mm. 15 reis, brown (shades).

1878.

Four lines of instructions—1. Arms of Portugal between "Bilhete" and "Postal;" 2. Para; 3. Os Paizes da união geral dos correios; 4. (Excepto Hespanha e Provincias Ultramarinas portuguesas)—followed by three lines for address. Stamp, type of adhesive, current issue, in right-hand upper corner, all within frame of type-set ornaments, with initials "o. m." in all four corners. Rose impression on buff card. Card, 137 × 91 mm.; frame, 110 × 69. 25 reis, rose (shades).

Varieties.

A. (Excepto Hespanha e provincias Ultramarinas Portuguezas), all within parenthesis.

B. (Excepto Hespanha), alone within parenthesis.

April, 1879.

Four lines of inscriptions—1. Union Postale Universelle; 2. Portugal; 3. Bilhete Postal; 4. D'Este lado só se escreve a direcção. Three lines for address. "Sr." on first. Blue impression on buff. Card, 132 × 91 mm. 20 reis, blue.

July, 1879.

Same type as 20 reis, but green impression on buff. Card, 132 × 91 mm. 30 reis, yellow-green.

Same as above, but card slightly smaller. Card, 128 × 86 mm. 30 reis, blue-green.

REPLY PAID CARDS.

1878.

Same type as the 15 reis card, 1878. The second line of instructions (Para) being replaced on original by (Com Resposta Paga), and on reply by (Resposta Paga). Coloured imp. on buff. 15 × 15 reis, light on dark brown.

1879.

Same as 20 reis card, with (Com Resposta Paga) on original, and (Resposta Paga) on reply. 20 × 20 reis, blue.

Varieties.

A. Card, 137 × 91 mm.

B. Card, 128 × 86 mm.

C. Fault on original card, "Restosta" for "Resposta."

D. Fault, "Restosta." On stamp, "25" for "20."

AZORES.

1878.

Five lines of instructions—1. Arms of Portugal between "Bilhete" and "Postal;" 2. Para; 3. Portugal e Hespanha; 4. (Aqui o nome da pessoa á qual se escreve, terra, rua e numero da porta; 5. e do outro lado o que se quer escrever)—followed by three lines for address. "Sr." on first line. Stamp in right-hand upper corner, of the same type as current adhesive; all within a frame of type-set ornaments, initials of engraver (c. m.) being in centre of lower part of frame. Brown imp. on buff card. Card, 135 × 90 mm.; frame, 110 × 69 mm. 15 reis, brown (shades).

1878.

Four lines of instructions—1. Arms of Portugal between "Bilhete" and "Postal;" 2. Para; 3. Os Paizes da união geral dos correios; 4. (Excepto Hespanha e Provincias Ultramarinas portuguezas)—followed by three lines for address. Stamp, type of adhesive, current issue, in right-hand upper corner, all within frame of type-set ornaments, with initials "c. m." in all four corners. Rose impression on buff card. Card, 137 × 91 mm.; frame, 110 × 69. 25 reis, rose (shades).

Varieties.

A. (Excepto Hespanha e provincias Ultramarinas Portuguezas), all within parenthesis. B. (Excepto Hespanha), alone within parenthesis.

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Varieties.

- A. Card, 137 × 91 mm. B. Card, 128 × 86 mm.
C. Fault on original card, "Restosta" for "Resposta."

Proceedings of the Philatelic Society of London.

THE first meeting of season 1880-81 was held on the 16th October, 1880, at 13, Gray's Inn Square, the Vice-President in the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed. He then handed over to the Society, for their library, the *Memoires du Congrès International des Timbrophiles*, presented by the committee of the Congress, and the second edition of their *Illustrated Stamp Catalogue*, presented by Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Co. The Secretary was requested to convey the thanks of the Society to the donors. The Secretary reported the great progress made during the past three months by the compilers of the *Great Britain Catalogue*, which is rapidly approaching completion.

The programme for the day was the exhibition and comparison of novelties and rarities acquired by the members during the summer recess, and most of the former which have been chronicled by the philatelic press were forthcoming. Mr. Kern showed the so-called Mount Athos stamps, mentioned in the August, and the surcharged Shanghai, described in the September *Records*, but was unable to furnish any further information respecting them. He also showed the 3 reals black, Paraguay, surcharged in blue with the numeral 5 in the same way as the 1 and 2 reals, described in the *Record* for August, 1879; also the 6d., imperforate, Issue I., of the surcharged stamps of Transvaal, with the surcharge inverted. This stamp was added to the list compiled by the Society in March last. Mr. Wilson showed the current Italian stamps, surcharged ASSAB and the QUEENSLAND error. The Buenos Ayres 1 peso fiscal, and sundry Queensland fiscals used as postage stamps; the recently issued provisionals for Hong Kong, Straits Settlements, St. Vincents, and Labuan; the varieties of the rose, 3d., Cape of Good Hope; the new ½d., 1½d., and 1s. Great Britain, and sundry post cards, were also exhibited and compared. Mr. de Ysasi reported that postage stamps of the values of ½, 1, 2, 3, and 4 cents de peseta have been in use in Porto Rico for about two months; but he was unable to describe them. He further intimated that the Porto Rico stamps, bearing the date of 1881, which he had supposed to be in existence, are only the current issue, with the "o" of the date so badly printed as to resemble a 1.

Notes and Queries.

BLEUTÉ PAR LA GOMME.—Just as we are going to press we have received a letter from an esteemed correspondent, apologizing for having ventured to indulge in a holiday which has interfered with his opposing the iodine theory as to the blueing of stamps. He announces his intention of doing so in our next number.

G. H. RAYNOR.—Thanks for calling our attention to the mistake in our number of September, 1879. The Tobago stamps are perforated 14, and not 13.

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ANTIOQUIA, 1868, 10 c., lilac; 1 peso, rose. Austria, yellow Mercury, used. Baden, superb, 18 kr., large size original envelope. Barbadoes, pair provisional 1 p., 1878. Bhopaul, entire sheet $\frac{1}{4}$ anna, black double frame, 1st issue. Bolivia, Eagle, 10 brown; 5 c., violet, used and unused; 50 c., Eagle, postmarked; 500 c., 9 stars. Brazil, 180, 300, 600 reis, used and unused. Roman figure set, perforated; 500 reis, rouletted. British Guiana, 1850, 8 c., green; 12 c., blue, three shades; 1850-1, 4 c.; 1856, 4 c., oblong; 1861, provisional, 2 c., yellow. Buenos Ayres, all except the 4 c., vermilion. Cabul, a very fine lot, including 1291, 4, 8 annas, and 1 rupee, black. Canada, 10 p., perf.; 12 p., marked "specimen." Cape, 1880, error, 3 p. Cashmere, a large assortment. Ceylon, all, including entire envelopes. Corrientes, all. Deccan. Koorshedjah. Finland, envelope, 1847, 10 kop., black. France, provisional, 10 c., 1871. India, $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, vermilion, unused; pair original Pony Dawk envelopes. Ionian Isles, set used. Japan, all. Mauritius, a superb collection, including the 2d. fillet and 4d. handstamped and 1877 provisional envelopes. Mexico, nearly all. Magnificent Guadalajaras, used and unused. Montevideo, Diligencia, 60 c., blue. Natal, 6 p., green; 1 sh., buff. Nova Scotia, 1 shilling, violet. Peru, 1860, $\frac{1}{2}$ peso, buff. Luzon, 1 rl., blue green, 1 rl., H.P.N., 10 c., rose, H.P.N., unused; 1863, 1 rl., purple, used; 1854, 1 rl., pale blue, H.P.N.; 1863, 1 rl., purple, H.P.N. Moldavia, 54 p. Porto Rica, set 1868, 1869. Portuguese Indies, 900, thick letters, used. St. Domingo, 1865; 1 real, buff, unused. Spain, nearly all. Soruth, 1st issue, black. Transvaal, superb lot. Trinidad, all. Turkey, all. Two Sicilies, $\frac{1}{2}$ Tornese, arms and cross. United States, a magnificent selection of genuine locals, &c.

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The Philatelic Record.

Vol. II. No. 22.

NOVEMBER.

1880.



ANOTHER volume of M. Moens' *Bibliothèque des Timbrophiles* has followed quickly upon the one which we reviewed in May. This time the subject-matter is a history of the stamps of Belgium, which will be completed in two volumes. The one before us treats of the postage, and that which is to follow will be devoted to the fiscal stamps of M. Moens' fatherland. In his preface, our author claims for the Chevalier Paris de l'Epinard, a Frenchman established in Belgium, the credit of having propounded, in 1776, some very advanced views on the subject of postal reform, to the then Governor of Brussels. His scheme, which only extended to the collection and delivery of letters in and within a radius of six miles of Brussels, embraced several points, upon the importance of which Sir Rowland Hill had to insist some 63 years later. Amongst these was his proposition that the public should be invited to prepay their letters by means of some kind of stamp—" *Au moyen de marques à ce destinées.*" He also proposed that which was so long a stumbling-block to the English post-office officials; viz., that any number of sheets of paper which did not together exceed a certain weight should be considered a simple letter. Again, he urges that circular letters, sent in considerable numbers, should be passed through the post at a low rate of postage. It is needless to say that the Chevalier was in advance of his times, and the Procureur-General of Brabant, to whom his scheme was submitted, rejected it for several very sapient reasons. He said "that a petty post could only thrive in such large centres as London or Paris, and must needs languish in a small city such as Brussels, in which the notables could send round their correspondence by means of their servants. That therefore an organisation of the kind could only lead to the propagation of libels, pasquinades, and other ribaldry, which might be circulated without the authors running the risk of being discovered; a state of things which was certainly rather to be discouraged than promoted. And finally, even admitting the necessity of the proposed scheme, its direction should be confided to a man of acknowledged worth, and not to a dratted foreigner." Which goes to prove that, although a man may not be a prophet in his own country, it by no means follows that he will be looked upon as such in a foreign one.

The use of postage stamps was decreed in Belgium in 1847, but it was not until the 1st July, 1849, that the well-known 10 and 20

centimes, with head of Leopold I., engraved by Jaques Wiener, were issued to the public. In 1862, when the Government were desirous of replacing the copper-plate engraved stamps then current by a type-printed series, the result of their appeal for suggestions was an overwhelming number of essays and propositions, none of which seems to have satisfied those to whom the selection was entrusted; for the order for new stamps was given to Messrs. De la Rue and Co., and the outcome was the emission of 5 values issued in November, 1865, and January, 1866. The 1, 2, and 5 centimes values, issued in 1866-67, were designed by M. Delpierre, and engraved by M. J. Dargent. The current issue was designed by M. H. Hendrickx, and engraved by M. A. Doms, and we have reason to believe that it is not unlikely that it in turn may ere long be superseded.

We are unable to do more than glance in a most superficial way at the very interesting contents of a volume of 126 pages, illustrated by 90 wood-cuts, and most characteristic of M. Moens' thoroughness. He does not let us off from one of the branches of knowledge which a study of philately is supposed to embrace. We have geography, ancient and modern, and an epitome of Belgian history from the pre-philatelic times of Julius Cæsar down to the present day, some stress being naturally laid upon the events of 1830. In conclusion, we have much pleasure in repeating our advice to philatelists to provide themselves with the *Bibliothèque des Timbrophiles*.

The *Sunday Times*, in a recent review of a work published for stamp collectors, says: "The early photaclists had to find out a good deal for themselves; they had to work in the dark, and their meagre collections were made under circumstances of great uncertainty and difficulty." No doubt. But why *photaclists*? Can it be that this represents the wreck which an exceptionally diabolic printer's devil has made of the word "philatelists"? or is it a newly-coined epithet which, when we have mastered its etymology and meaning, we may be called upon, as a respectable body, to resent?

We have received from our publishers two articles which they have prepared for the use of stamp-collectors, and we are happy in being able to accord our praise to both. The perforation-gauge has, to our knowledge, been most carefully got up, and its absolute accuracy may be depended upon. In addition to the odontometer which gauges the perforations (rising by halves from 7 to 16) there are scales of inches and centimetres of sufficient length to measure post cards and all usual sizes of envelopes. The stamp-mounts supply a long-felt want, being made of the thinnest paper procurable, which is yet (unlike tissue paper) sufficiently stiff, and will stand being written upon. These mounts will save collectors a good deal of the tiresome snipping of paper, which is one of the drawbacks to their hobby. The mounts may be had ready-gummed or, to meet the case of collectors preferring to use some other adhesive matter, plain.

Novelties, Discoveries, and Resuscitations.

Bhore.—Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Co. write to us: "There are some new Bhore stamps:

Value (?)	;	square,	black	on	yellow.
"	"	"	"	"	green.
"	"	"	"	"	rose.
"	"	"	"	"	lilac.

We have not seen them, and our correspondent doubts whether they are postals."

Chili.—The *Timbre Poste* announces that, in terms of the Postal Convention, the colours of the 1, 2, and 5 cents are to be altered to green, rose, and blue respectively.

Cuba and Porto Rico.—We are informed that the denomination of the stamps to be issued for use in these colonies next year will be in millesimas and cents de peso, instead of de peseta.

Fiji.—Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Co. inform us that a new value—one shilling—is being engraved for use in this colony.

France.—In a very unpretentious little collection, which was offered to our publishers for sale the other day, was a stamp which has every appearance of being a curious and, so far as we know, unchronicled variety. This is the 25 centimes, Head of Liberty, Paris impression, 1871, with the original numerals of value obliterated by having 20, in black block numerals, printed over them. The stamp is post-marked "Paris," month indecipherable, 1874, in which year we believe that there were no 20 centimes postage stamps current. We shall be glad to learn whether any of our readers have heard of this stamp, of which we give an engraving, before.



Hong Kong.—We are indebted to the courtesy of the Postmaster of this colony for the information that the new 5 and 10 cents stamps have been received, but were not, when he wrote, on the 12th October, on sale to the public.

5 cents blue | 10 cents lilac

Labuan.—The 2 cents has changed its colour from the original blue-green, in which it was issued, to a grass-green.

Liberia.—An envelope which we have seen, post-marked "Monrovia, 9th Oct., 1880," is franked by two new stamps, one being a new value, and the other, the 6 cents, changed in colour. They are of the same type as those with which we are already acquainted; have the outer line of border, and are lithographed.

2 cents, bright rose } col. imp. on white; *perf.* 10.
6 cents, bright violet }

Livonia.—The 2 kopecks has again undergone a change. Whilst the type and perforation remain unaltered, the border,

numerals, and inscribed oval are printed in greyish-brown, and only the arms in the centre remain red and green as before.

2 kopecks brown, red, and green.

Madeira.—We have to thank Mr. Power for a new post card, which, save for the usual surcharge upon the stamp, is identical with one which we describe under the heading of Portugal.

Mauritius.—We have received the 8 cents postal card to which we alluded in our last. Captain Evans doubts whether they have ever been issued. He says: "My correspondent tells me that he only got me a few of them, and that all the rest have been surcharged." They are in packets of ten, and the band enclosing them is inscribed, "10 eight-cent Inland Post Cards. Mauritius, 80 cents." Eight cents equal twopence, which seems a heavy rate for an Inland post card.

Natal.—The following extract is from the *Natal Government Gazette* of the 21st September, 1880: "Notice No. 383. In order that they may not be confounded with half-penny postage stamps about to be issued, the Natal shilling postage stamps will in future be printed in yellow instead of green, the fiscal shilling stamp, however, remaining green." And yet the *Natal Mercantile Advertiser*, of the 23rd September last, kindly sent to us by Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Co., says: "The colour of the Natal shilling postage stamp for the future is to be yellow, not green. The new half-penny stamp about to be issued is to be *yellow*. There seems to be confusion somewhere.

Just as we are going to press we have received the new halfpenny value, and find, the above-quoted Natal newspaper notwithstanding, that the stamp is green. This is the first halfpenny (not a surcharged makeshift) which has been issued in Natal, and we are curious to see how long it will be before the authorities run short of this value, and fall back upon some extemporised provisional. The stamp is one of Messrs. De la Rue's, and comprises the profile of Her Majesty, to left, in a circle, on a ground of horizontal lines. Above and below the portrait are curved labels of solid colour—the upper one inscribed NATAL POSTAGE, and the lower ONE HALF-PENNY, in white block capitals. The whole is enclosed in a double-lined frame, slightly ornamented at corners.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., blue-green on white glazed paper. Watermark *cc. and crown*; *perf. 14*.

New Granada.—We have seen the current 20 centavos, Head of Liberty, printed in intense violet.

Nowannugger.—The *Timbre Post* gives an engraving of a stamp of which there are three values of the same type. It is an odd-looking production, consisting of four lines of Oriental inscription within a single-lined border without ornamentation of any kind. The stamps are type-printed, in black, on coloured paper, and each value presents fifteen varieties. The dogra is equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ anna.

1 dogra bright rose | 2 dogra yellow-green

3 dogra yellow

Porto Rico.—Mr. de Ysasi has kindly submitted for our inspection the six low values, the issue of which has been for some time

rumoured. They are identical in type, paper, and perforation with the remainder of the current set.

$\frac{1}{4}$ c. de P. . . .	sea-green	|	2 c. de P. . . .	lavender
$\frac{1}{2}$,,	rosy-carmine	|	3 ,,	pale orange
1 ,,	pale lake	|	4 ,,	black

Portugal.—A new post card of the value of 10 reis supersedes the 15 reis, brown, which was issued on the 1st January, 1878. There are four lines of inscription: first, BILHETE POSTAL, the two words being separated by the arms of Portugal; second, PARA; third, PORTUGAL E HESPANHA; fourth, D'ESTE LADO, &c. Three ruled lines for the address, the first being broken to admit the contraction Sr. Embossed stamp to right; no border; reverse plain.

Post Card. 10 reis, light brown on buff, 133 × 91½ mm. or 5½ × 3½ in.

Rajpeepla.—We are indebted to Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Co. for the stamp of which we annex an engraving. They have only seen one value out of a set of four. Besides the 1 paisa, which we engrave, there are 2 paisas, 2 and 4 annas, presumably of similar type, but their colours are not known to our correspondents.



1 paisa, chalky blue; small square rectangular, on white wove paper; *perf.* 12.

Russia.—Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. send us a new Russian post card. It is, in most respects, identical with the 3 kopeck, greyish-black on buff card, issued on the 1st April, 1879; but, instead of the stamp in the right upper corner, there is a dotted rectangle, for the reception of an adhesive, containing the customary inscription. There is also an extra line of instructions below, making three lines instead of two as formerly.

Post Card. Without expressed value; greyish-black on buff; size, 122 × 88 mm. or 4¾ × 3½ in.

Russia—Pskoff.—A member of the Pskoff Zemstvo (or board of local administration) has had the courtesy to communicate to us that the rural stamps of this district are to be altered both as regards the value and the label itself. The type of the new stamp has not yet been decided upon, but it is to be issued on the 1st July, 1881.

St. Vincent.—Since the 1d. has been printed in the ugly shade of green, to which we are trying to become accustomed, the 6d. value is printed in a much richer shade than it has been for some time. It is now a full deep green.

Tolima.—M. Moens describes two stamps which have recently been issued for this one of the United States of Columbia. The 50 cents has in the centre the arms within a circle, the upper half of which is occupied by nine stars, and the lower inscribed ESTADOS UNIDOS DE COLOMBIA. Smaller circles, above and below the central one, contain the numerals of value within, and the word CENTS repeated on each side round the border. There are curved bands on either side of the stamp; that on the left is inscribed CORREOS DEL E. S., and that on the right DEL TOLIMA. Florid ornaments in corners. The centre of the 1 peso is the same as in the 50 cents. In the spandrels are four circles inscribed \$1; above are two labels, meeting in the form of a pointed oval, with CORREOS DEL E. S.

the upper, TOLIMA in the lower, and the word DEL between. A label at the bottom is inscribed UN PESO. The rest of the stamp is filled in with arabesque ornament. Lithographed in colour on white paper.

50 cents green | 1 peso vermilion

Transvaal.—A half-penny value has been issued; but as our correspondent has neither sent us a specimen, nor even described the type, we are unable to do more in this number than to place the fact upon record.

Venezuela.—We have received two more values of the Escuelas set, of which we described the 50 centimos in September. The new arrivals are the 5 centimos and 1 Bolivar, the latter a very blotchy specimen of lithography. We made a mistake, in September, in giving the perforation as $12\frac{1}{2}$; it is 11. We have also another card, of the same type as those which we have already described, with maroon border and inscriptions. There are varieties in these cards which will rejoice the hearts of enthusiastic card collectors. These varieties consist in the position of the words forming the three lines of inscription. For instance, in one, the U of Union is above the D and O of Estados, and in another it is just above the A of the same word. Then the T of Tarjeta is, in some cases, just under the DO of Estados, and in others just below the OS; and so on, *ad nauseam*.

Adhesives. Escuelas for inland postage { 5 centimos, orange } *Perf. 11.*
 { 1 Bolivar, emerald-green }

Post Card. Without expressed value. Maroon on white card.

THE STAMPS OF MAURITIUS.

By CAPT. E. B. EVANS, R.A.

PART III.—*continued.*

IN the requisition of January, 1877, referred to last month, stamps and envelopes, with values expressed in the new currency, were demanded of similar designs to those then in use, it being supposed that the dies could be altered for this purpose.

The two cents was to take the design and colour of the tenpence, to which no corresponding value was required in the new series; and the rest were to resemble, both in colour and design, the values to which they corresponded.

This requisition having been in some way delayed, Messrs. De la Rue and Co. were unable to make fresh plates for the stamps in sufficient time to send out a supply before the end of the year; consequently they printed a supply of the pence and shillings issue, and surcharged them with the corresponding values in cents and rupees, the label which should contain the value being left blank in the two cents stamp, which was printed from the tenpence plate.

The colours, for the most part, remained unchanged. The sixpence (twenty-five cents), however, was printed in a kind of slate-green, perhaps intended to resemble the then current 50 pf. German Empire; and the fifty cents returned to the colour, though not to the tint, of the original shilling of that type.

The following were the quantities of the surcharged stamps sent out:

2 cents	124,560	25 cents	123,120
4 „	247,440	38 „	61,680
8 „	425,520	50 „	120,240
13 „	57,120	2 rupees 50 cents	17,280
17 „	245,760		

These were issued on January 3rd, 1878, and the series in British currency was then superseded, the provisional 1d. and 1s. having less than a month's circulation.

Early in 1878 a supply of stamps and envelopes of each of the current values was sent out; all the stamps, and, I believe, the envelopes also, were of new designs. These were not unpacked until the beginning of 1879, when some of the values of the surcharged issue were exhausted, and the new stamps were required for use. Accordingly, on March 1st, 1879, the 4 c., orange, and 25 c., olive-bistre, were issued. These two values, and the 50 c. envelope which accompanied them, were really wanted, the corresponding values of the previous issue being used up.

In January, 1880, the remaining adhesives of this series were put in circulation, viz. :

2 cents . . .	brown	38 cents . . .	violet
8 " . . .	blue	50 " . . .	green
13 " . . .	grey-black	2 rupees 50 cents	brown-violet
17 " . . .	rose		

Probably some more of the values of the issue of January, 1878, were exhausted by the time that these were issued, but certainly not all of them; for, although I have received various letters from Mauritius since, I have only seen the 17 c. of the 1880 issue *used up* to the present (October, 1880).

I find from notes which I made in 1878, after looking at the account of the stock of surcharged stamps, and of the numbers of the various values issued during the first four months of that year, that I came to the conclusion that the four cents and the twenty-five cents would probably run out in about twelve months; that the thirteen cents, being used for soldiers' letters and for registration, would be exhausted next; that the eight cents and fifty cents would perhaps be finished in about two years; but that the stock of the other values was sufficient to last for a very considerable period. My guess in regard to the two first-named values was not a bad one; but the reduction of the registration fee, and the lowering of the inland rate from eight cents to four, and the home rate from twenty-five cents to seventeen, would throw out my other calculations considerably.

This concludes the history of the adhesive postage stamps of Mauritius, and I sincerely trust that the future philatelic history of that island may be of the simplest possible description. It has been quite troublesome enough in the past, and may fairly be content to rest upon its laurels in that respect; the most earnest philatelists will begin to be annoyed if it breaks out into any more vagaries.

Before proceeding to the consideration of the envelopes, the history of which is comparatively straightforward, I have a request to make of the readers of this journal.

My great anxiety is to make this paper, as far as possible, a complete and conclusive history of the postage stamps, &c., of Mauritius. The information I have obtained is clear upon most points. If I have not succeeded in making it appear so, that is my own fault. I would therefore humbly invite criticism, in order that nothing in the history of these stamps which it may be in my power to explain may remain doubtful.

PART IV.

THE STAMPED ENVELOPES OF MAURITIUS.

Stamped envelopes would appear to be a somewhat unnecessary luxury in Mauritius, and indeed they do not seem to have ever been much used in any British colony, perhaps because the use of all except the 1d. value is so strongly discouraged in the mother country.

In Mauritius, at all events, their use seems to have been confined to collectors and their friends. The general public were quite unaware of the existence of such things, and the men of business seem neither to have wished nor asked for them. I remember, in 1876, using a 10d. envelope in writing

to Mr. E. L. Pemberton, and he told me that it was the first *used* specimen that he had ever met with.

It may be remembered that a case sent out in July, 1861, contained, besides certain stamps, the following stamped envelopes, viz. :

16,320 . . . 6d. | 10,920 . . . 9d.

These values represented the single rates *via* Southampton and Marseilles respectively at that time.

These were the well-known small-sized envelopes, the impression of the 6d. being in dull violet, and that of the 9d. in dark brown. Only this one supply of these was ever sent out. The paper is a thinnish, pale blue, wove. Two varieties of flap ornaments are found on each value. Each consists of a central disc surrounded by an engine-turned, circular band. In one the central disc bears a small heraldic rose on a lined ground; in the other a wreath of heraldic flowers round a small circle. I have found specimens of both in the same packet of 9d. envelopes, so I presume they were used quite indiscriminately, and therefore constitute merely minor varieties.

The date usually given for the issue of these envelopes is 1862, and it is quite likely that none of them were used before the beginning of that year, though I think it highly probable that they may have been placed in the Postmaster's hands before the end of 1861.

As I mentioned in the last number, a large quantity of each value were destroyed in 1874; nevertheless some two hundred dozen of each remained at the end of 1877.

In June, 1862, the Postmaster applied for sixpenny and shilling stamped envelopes, which were to be double the size of the pattern enclosed, this pattern being probably one of the stamped envelopes then in use. These envelopes were sent out in October, 1862, accompanied by a bill of Messrs. De la Rue and Co. for engraving the die for the shilling envelope, £45, and for the envelopes as follows :

	£	s.	d.
"7,200 postage envelopes, hand-made paper, No. 3, official 1s., at 40s. per 1,000	14	8	0
7,800 postage envelopes, machine-made paper, No. 3, official 1s., at 18s. 6d. per 1,000	7	4	4
11,040 postage envelopes, hand-made paper, No. 3, official 6d., at 40s. per 1,000	22	2	0
10,560 postage envelopes, machine-made paper, No. 3, official 6d., at 18s. 6d. per 1,000	9	10	0."

A letter from the Colonial Agents, dated October 27th, 1862, explains that only one half of the supply of each value was sent out made of the thin hand-made paper ordered, on account of the much greater cost of this paper.

I have before me four specimens of these envelopes, showing the two values, each on two kinds of paper. They are foolscap or official size and shape— $8\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The hand-made is a thin but strong wove paper, water-marked, I suppose, with the name of the maker; but I can only find a few letters on each specimen. The colour of the paper is very slightly bluish. The machine-made paper is thicker, being apparently ordinary pale blue wove foolscap. The sixpence is also found on a species of bluish-grey, and on an almost white paper, of the same texture as the blue machine-made paper. The shilling is not, I believe, known to exist on either of these last varieties of paper; but it may have done so originally. I do not know whether it would be possible for the blue paper to have faded into either or both of the tints I have described; but if such is possible, I should be inclined to attribute these varieties to that cause. My reason for thinking this is, that I possess a specimen of the 9d. envelope, apparently of the paper I have described above as almost white, and which I believe to have been the outside one of a packet, and to have faded from exposure to air or light.

The impression of the sixpence is in a kind of red-lilac, quite different to the dull violet of that on the small envelopes; the shilling is in golden yellow. Three different ornaments are found on the flaps of these envelopes;

they were probably used indiscriminately for both values and both varieties of paper. The first is formed of interlaced circles of different sizes composing a circular device ; the second is larger, and is formed of a central disc surrounded by a broad circular band ; the groundwork of the central disc is a kind of lozenge pattern of crossed lines ; that of the surrounding band a species of coarse engine-turned pattern ; the third is about the same size as the first, and consists of a heraldic rose on a circular disc of straight lines surrounded by a series of circles of wavy lines. I find all three of these represented in my four specimens, in which they are curiously mixed up, no two of the same value or on the same paper showing the same flap ornament. The first is on the sixpence on hand-made, and on the shilling on machine-made ; the second on the shilling on hand-made, and the third on the sixpence on machine-made.

These envelopes appear to have been issued in December, 1862 ; they arrived in Mauritius at about the end of November in that year.

A letter from the Postmaster to the Colonial Secretary, dated December 4th, 1862, states that sixpenny and shilling envelopes of large size have been received, and requests permission to sell them at the same rates, for the envelopes themselves, as those previously issued, so they must have been in his hands at that time. These large envelopes were probably even less used than the smaller ones were. The shilling is of great rarity, particularly in the entire state ; I believe that the greater part of the stock of this value was destroyed by white ants and the remains burnt. A letter from the Postmaster, dated December 5th, 1864, in reply to a request from some foreign post-office for specimens of the Mauritius stamps and envelopes, states that there were no shilling envelopes to be had then ; so that the higher value, at all events, had but a very brief existence. A few packets of the large sixpenny envelopes subsequently fell into the hands of a collector in Mauritius, by whom, I think, they were sent to M. Moens ; these had, apparently, survived the destruction of their companions by some years. The specimens in my possession were the only *entire* sixpenny of this variety I saw in Mauritius, and I believe the only shilling ones at that time in the island ; no second supply of these envelopes was ever demanded or sent out.

In a requisition for various stamps, dated February 24th, 1863, the Postmaster complains that the envelopes recently received are too large to be likely to be of much use, and expresses a wish that the Colonial Agents would have his requisitions complied with more accurately. This was forwarded to the Colonial Agents, who replied that the requisition of the Postmaster was very vague in its description of the size of envelopes which he required, and that it had been complied with to the best of their and Messrs. De la Rue and Co.'s ability ; and after this little interchange of opinion the matter seems to have been dropped.

In May, 1872, a requisition was sent home for various stamps, and also for envelopes of the values tenpence and one shilling and eightpence. These were not sent off from England till November, 1872, a delay being caused by an accident to one or both of the dies while they were being engraved. The case containing them was opened on January 9th, 1873, so that the date 1872, which is often given as that of their issue cannot be correct ; M. Moens gives the true one, January, 1873. Only a small supply of each was sent out, 1380 of 10d. and 1368 of 1s. 8d., but even these were not nearly exhausted by the public ; most of those sold, no doubt, went into the hands of collectors ; being of large size and linen-lined, they were too heavy for ordinary use.

At the end of 1877, the shilling stamps having run short, and a provisional issue being made to meet the deficiency, shilling envelopes were also made by surcharging the one and eightpenny envelopes with the words "one shilling ;" at the same time the tenpenny were surcharged "sixpence." These were issued on December 7th, 1877. Only a few of these provisional envelopes were made ; and they were only in circulation, as it were, for two or three days, having been all bought up by collectors. I believe there were only some two hundred of the sixpence and five hundred of the shilling.

According to the requisition for the envelopes of the cents issue, their

designs were to have been as follows: The 8 cents was to have had that of the 9d., the 25 cents that of the 6d., and the 50 cents that of the 10d.

In the case of the highest value alone were these instructions carried out, the die of the 6d. being used for the 8 cents, and that of the 1s. 8d. for the 25 cents. This latter adaptation was no doubt due to the fact that the die of the 1s. 8d. was the only one which had room for the value, *twenty-five cents*, in words.

The dies for the envelopes were altered, so that they would not at first sight appear to be (like their adhesive companions) a provisional issue. Nevertheless, I am almost certain that such is the case; it was certainly so with the 50 cents., a small supply (960 only) of which was sent out; and, as far as I can recollect, the other envelopes sent out in 1878, of which I got only a very casual glimpse, comprised an 8 c. somewhat resembling the current 4 c. envelope of Ceylon, and a 25 c. also of a new design.

Why this should be so I cannot say, considering that the consumption of envelopes in Mauritius was never likely to be such as to cause much wear and tear of the dies; and that the altered ones were apparently in a condition to stand all the work that was ever likely to be required of them.

However, let us hope that the colony has paid the bill by this time; and it has certainly got a supply of envelopes that will last for many years, for both editions of 8 c. and 25 c. were large, and the second edition of 50 c. was fairly so; while with the altered rates of postage none of them will be wanted, and Messrs. De la Rue and Co. will probably shortly be called upon to invent fresh designs for 4 c., 17 c., and perhaps 34 c. envelopes.

The 6d. die underwent very little alteration, the words and figures of value only being changed; the lettering, however, on the 8 c. does not appear so much in relief as in the 6d.

In the 25 c. the words of value are in white on a solid ground, whereas in the 1s. 8d. they were in colour on a ground of engine-turning.

The 50 c. shows the words of value in colour on white, making them very much more distinct than the words "tenpence" were or the words "fifty cents" are on the current envelopes.

The 8 c. envelope corresponds in colour with the adhesive of the same value; the 25 c. and 50 c. are mauve and reddish-brown respectively, for what reason history does not relate. These were issued, with the adhesives, on January 3rd, 1878.*

As I stated above, the small supply of 50 c. envelopes sent out in 1877 was exhausted early in 1879; indeed, I may confess that I purchased the last packet or two myself in order to get rid of them and see what the new ones were like.

Accordingly, on March 1st, 1879, the present 50 c. envelopes were issued. Their colour is a somewhat deeper brown than that of their predecessors; the oval design is exceedingly commonplace, and the execution is poor, the value being conspicuously indistinct, if one may use such a paradoxical expression.

(To be continued.)

Reference List of the Post Cards of Portugal.

BY "A POST CARD COLLECTOR."†

1878.

Five lines of instructions.—1. Arms of Portugal between "Bilhete" and "Postal;" 2. Para; 3. Portugal e Hespanha; 4. (Aqui o nome da pessoa à qual se escreve, terra, rua e numero da porta; 5. e do outro lado o que se quer escrever), followed by three lines for address. "Sr." on first line.

* The 1st and 2nd of January are most religiously observed as holidays in Mauritius; even the Post-office is entirely closed for those two days; consequently the issue supposed to be made on the 1st January did not actually take place until the 3rd.

† This list should have preceded that of the post cards of Madeira and Azores. That it did not do so was owing to an oversight, for which we have to apologize.—Ed.

Stamp in right-hand upper corner, of the same type as current adhesive ; all within a frame of type-set ornaments, initials of engraver (c.m.) being in centre of lower part of frame. Brown imp. on buff card. Card, 135 × 90 mm. ; frame, 110 × 69 mm. 15 reis, brown (shades).

1878.

Four lines of instructions.—1. Arms of Portugal between "Bilhete" and "Postal;" 2. Para; 3. Os Paizes da união geral dos correios; 4. (Excepto Hespanha e Provincias Ultramarinas portuguezas), followed by three lines for address. Stamp, type of adhesive, current issue, in right-hand upper corner; all within frame of type-set ornaments, with initials "c.m." in all four corners. Rose impression on buff card. Card, 137 × 91 mm. ; frame, 110 × 69 mm. 25 reis, rose (shades).

Varieties.

A. (Excepto Hespanha e provincias Ultramarinas portuguezas), all within parenthesis.

B. (Excepto Hespanha), alone within parenthesis.

April, 1879.

Four lines of inscriptions.—1. Union Postale Universelle; 2. Portugal; 3. Bilhete Postal; 4. D'Este lado só se escreve à direcção. Three lines for address. "Sr." on first. Blue impression on buff. Card, 132 × 91 mm. 20 reis, blue.

July, 1879.

Same type as 20 reis, but green impression on buff. Card, 132 × 91 mm. 30 reis, yellow-green.

Same as above, but card slightly smaller. Card, 128 × 86 mm. 30 reis, blue-green.

REPLY PAID CARDS.

1878.

Same type as the 15 reis card, 1878, the second line of instructions (Para) being replaced on original by (Com Resposta Paga), and on reply by (Resposta Paga). Coloured imp. on buff. 15 × 15 reis, light and dark brown.

1879.

Same as 20 reis card, with (Com Resposta Paga) on original, and (Resposta Paga) on reply. 20 × 20 reis, blue.

Varieties.

A. Card, 137 × 91 mm.

B. Card, 128 × 86 mm.

C. Fault on original card, "Restosta" for "Resposta."

Correspondence.

"BLEUTÉ PAR LA GOMME."

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—Absence from town has prevented my replying earlier to the letters signed "Chemicus," which have lately appeared in the *Record* on this vexed question.

I am exceedingly glad that someone else has taken up the matter, and moreover, someone possessed of more chemical knowledge than I can lay claim to; and it is with some reluctance that I take up my pen to oppose the "iodine theory" advocated by your correspondent and others, though I do so in no carping spirit, but simply from a desire to elicit the actual cause of the phenomenon, which I believe has never yet been satisfactorily explained, though many theories have been advanced to account for it.

"Chemicus" will be more kindly disposed towards me, perhaps, if I state that my antagonism to the "iodine theory" was not called forth by his letters; for I investigated the matter some time back, and the results of my experiments then led me to my present opinion.

Briefly, the "case for the other side" may be stated thus :

The colour produced by the combination of "iodine" with "*dextrine*" (potato-starch), which I believe is the adhesive admittedly used for the penny stamps in which the change is most commonly met with, is not *blue*, but a kind of *claret* colour; and moreover, in my experiments this has gradually faded away, apparently from exposure to atmospheric influences, whereas the colour on the stamps does not, at least under ordinary circumstances.

If another reason is wanted, the "blued" English fourpenny and other emissions of Messrs. De la Rue, showing the same peculiarity, were probably gummed with *gelatine*, and not with any kind of *starch*; and it can hardly be doubted that the "bluing," whatever the cause may be, is attributable to the same action in all cases.

I have, of course, other reasons; but I hope I have said enough to give some "colour" to my opposition, for my letter is already too long, as you have, I am glad to observe, got past the journalistic period of requiring matter to fill your columns, and as to advancing a theory of my own (which will doubtless be expected of me), I must confess myself unable to do so. I could simply record the results of a long series of experiments, which have led me to the belief that the change is brought about by an acid reaction of the gum, on some substance at present not satisfactorily accounted for, in the body of the paper itself; but if "Chemicus" cares to pursue the matter further, you may give him my address, and I shall be happy to afford him any information in my power he may seek of me; and perhaps, now he has "set the ball rolling," others may come forward and help towards solving the mystery, for there is one starting-point on which we all seem to be agreed; viz., that the stamps are, like

Yours very truly,

"BLEUTÉ PAR LA GOMME."

Proceedings of the Philatelic Society of London.

THE second meeting of the season was held at 13, Gray's Inn Square, on the 30th October, 1880, the President in the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed, except for the notice of the Queensland "error." The President pointed out, and it was unanimously agreed, that this variety should have been chronicled only as a piece of faulty printing, similar in character to the *PENOE* stamps of Mauritius, and not as an error in the true philatelic sense of the word. The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society :

Messrs. Enrique Groht, proposed by the President, seconded by the Secretary.

E. C. Eberhardt	„	Mrs. Tebay	„	
J. Joaquin Perez	„	the Secretary	„	V. G. de Ysasi.

The business of the day was the compilation of a reference list of the stamps of South Australia, a portion of which was accomplished, and the rest remitted to the next meeting. The Secretary does not publish the first portion of the list this month, as it still requires revision.

Notes and Queries.

MAURITIUS.—Captain Evans will feel obliged to those of our readers who possess the 2d., large head, with band, described by him in our May number, if they will inform him, through our publishers, what obliteration there is upon their specimens.

SUBSCRIBER.—Your Transvaals are of the dubious kind. The surcharges are forgeries.

ETON and A. Z.—Declined with thanks.

A. H., Southsea.—Have replied to your letter privately.

The Philatelic Record.

Vol. II. No. 23.

DECEMBER.

1880.



PON page 152 we print an "official" list of the stamps of Hong Kong, which has been kindly drawn up and sent to us for the purpose of publication by the Postmaster of that colony. With one slight exception, we print it and his remarks exactly as we have received them; and yet we fear that this list will only serve to confirm philatelists in their opinion that few people know so little about the postage stamps of their respective countries as the post-office authorities. The only liberty which we have taken with the MS. is in altering the sequence of the lettering A to K, in order to make it clearer to our readers. In the original the letter A is placed opposite to the recently-issued 2 cents, rose, and the letter B opposite to the first 12 cents, blue, which is needlessly confusing.

The first mistake which our correspondent makes, from a philatelic point of view, is in not enumerating as a distinct issue the seven values with watermark, which must have come a year or two later than 1862—perhaps together with the watermarked 4, 6, and 30 cents in 1863. This, to philatelists, is as distinct an issue as an emission of coins, say with or without milled edges, would be to a numismatist. The note appended to the issue of 1863 can only mean that the three stamps composing it were also originally printed upon unwatermarked paper, which is not the case. The great difference in colour between the 8 and 12 cents of the two issues has also been overlooked. Then we are again obliged to differ from our correspondent as to there being no distinction between the colours of the two 96 cents of this issue. The 96 cents, yellow-brown, supposed to have been used in 1865, is well known to all collectors; whereas the ordinary 96 cents, which is the only one given in the list under review, is scarcely brown at all, but rather of an iron-grey colour. But a

nice perception of hues is not one of our postmaster's strong points; for he proceeds to miscall the 2 and 10 dollars fiscal, which have served to prepay postage, *brown* and *blue*, instead of sage-green and carmine, which they are as a matter of fact. The 16 cents, yellow, may have reached Hong Kong in 1876, but it was certainly never seen here until 1877 was someway advanced, and we should very much like to see a specimen bearing a date-stamp of 1876. In all other respects, and especially in the matter of dates, our correspondent will find that his list and those of Messrs. Pemberton and Moens agree very closely. He must not regard as "text-books" what merely profess to be dealers' price-currents, which classify and subdivide on the most rudimentary principles.

Our task of criticism is finished, and it affords us far greater pleasure to thank our correspondent very heartily for his courtesy and trouble. Indeed we gladly take this opportunity of expressing our sincere thanks to the many post-office officials who read our little publication, "from farthest Thule unto old Cathay," for their uniform kindness and patience with our hobby, which to many of them, no doubt, appears puerile and a waste of time. From the highest officials at St. Martin's-le-Grand (as the writer has good reason to know), to those in charge of the uttermost posts of her Majesty's very-widely-scattered dominions, the greatest urbanity and desire to afford all the information in their power may always be counted upon. But then every postmaster ought to be a philatelist. Were this the case, we should be spared the cruel pangs of receiving, in exchange for our remittance, a quantity of the ordinary stamps of the country, or colony, the while, perhaps, is current a surcharged provisional (ephemeral, and bound to be rare) which is omitted from the parcel. We write as soon as the existence of the makeshift comes to our knowledge, but find, alas! as we feared, that it is obsolete, and replaced by a new stamp. For the benefit of our friends in distant post-offices, we will relate the following story, which is as true as it is tragic.

In 1878, owing to the supply of 1d. stamps being temporarily exhausted, the authorities in Barbadoes were driven to extemporize a makeshift. They took the 5s. stamps, perforated them down the centre, and surcharged each half-stamp 1^{d.}; and these half-stamps were used until a fresh supply of penny ones could be procured. A dealer, into whose hands one or two of these now rare provisionals happened to fall, at once sent out £10 to be invested in

them. One or two mails came in, and brought him no reply. At last came the long-expected letter, in which the courteous official explained that, thinking his correspondent would not care to have the ugly makeshifts which were being used when his order arrived, he (the official) had waited to execute it until the fresh supply of penny stamps arrived from England, and he now sent him £10 worth as requested! They had to build an asylum strong enough to hold that poor dealer.

Novelties, Discoveries, and Resuscitations.

Bhopal.—The $\frac{1}{2}$ anna is now perforated in the same way as the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna, which we chronicled in September. There are 32 stamps, and as many varieties, on each sheet.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, chestnut-brown; roughly *perf.* 7.

This value, imperforate, has been chronicled as a 1 anna; but this is a mistake.

Chili.—We have seen several postmarked copies of the 5 centavos fiscal stamp, the temporary use of which, for postal requirements, we announced in October. It is a long rectangular blue stamp, with arms in the centre, and lettered IMPUESTO. The specimen before us is obliterated with the date 7th October, 1880.

Cyprus.—We are able to state, upon the authority of the Postmaster of Cyprus, that no more English stamps will be surcharged for use there; but that new ones will shortly be issued, the values of which will be in piastres.

Deccan.—In the *Timbre Post* for December are chronicled as novelties the $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 anna, on blue laid paper, and a postcard of the value of $\frac{1}{2}$ anna. We have seen these things, and we doubt their being anything but proofs. The stamps are destitute of gum, and the card has not a single inscription, nor anything upon it save the stamp, which we think is merely a proof, upon cardboard, of the envelope stamp of similar value.

German Empire.—At the last meeting of the Philatelic Society, the 2 marks of 1875, figure in oval, the normal colour of which is lilac, was shown printed in rose. This must be an error similar to the $\frac{1}{4}$ groschen, rose, which we described in September.

2 marks, rose.

Great Britain.—"The last of the Mohicans," the Perkins and Bacon blue twopenny, is obsolete! On the 8th of this month it was superseded by its De la Rue successor, which is nearly, if not quite, the worst stamp of the series. It bears the head of Her Majesty, to left, on ground of horizontal lines within a space which is inversely arched at top and bottom and straight at sides. Curved labels, of solid colour, with white borders and rectangular ends

above and below portrait, the upper one inscribed POSTAGE, and the lower one TWO PENCE, in white block letters. White scalloped ornaments at angles and sides, and the whole enframed by two lines of colour voided at the angles. Watermark—a crown of the same type as the current 1d.

2d., rose-lake. Col. imp. on white glazed paper. Watermark, *crown*; *perf. 14*.

Hong Kong.—The new 10 cents, to which we referred last month, has come to hand; but not the 5 cents. It is of precisely the same type as the other values, nor does it vary from them as regards watermark or perforation. It has succeeded to the colour left vacant by the defunct 18 cents.

10 cents, lilac.

M. Moens chronicles, as a new postal value, the large 10 dollars, rose, fiscal, surcharged 12 cents, in black. This is a mistake, for which our publishers are in some measure responsible, and for which they beg us to express their regret. The Postmaster of Hong Kong informed us that the 2, 3, and 10 dollars, fiscals, (having become obsolete as such,) were pressed into the postal service. The 10 dollars has lately been again employed as a fiscal of the value of 12 cents. Our publishers sent a specimen to M. Moens, but forgot to mention that the stamp, with its new surcharge of 12 cents, was once more a fiscal, and our esteemed *confrère* not unnaturally figured it in the pages of the *Timbre Poste* instead of in the *Timbre Fiscal*.

Liberia.—Besides the 2 and 6 cents which we described last month, we have received the 12 cents, changed in colour to a bright yellow. Messrs. Whitfield, King, & Co. mention a 1 cent, blue, and a 24 cents, pink, which we have not seen. The 2 cents already displays a lively variety of shades, and whilst some of them are printed upon medium paper, others are on a very thick paper verging upon cartridge.

12 cents, bright yellow; col. imp. on white; *perf. 10*.

Madeira.—From a communication from Mr. Power, read at the last meeting of the Philatelic Society, we learn that the Madeira surcharge has been once more, and this time definitely, abandoned. It is probable that the surcharge upon the stamps used in the Azores will also be given up.

Natal.—We annex an engraving of the new Halfpenny postage stamp, which was not ready in time to adorn our last number. We have not yet seen the One Shilling, printed in yellow, which was to have been issued at the same time as the Halfpenny.



Rajpeepla.—In addition to the 1 paisa adhesive described in our last, we have received two others, which the Postmaster of the state informs us are of the values of 2 and 4 annas. The first has the sword (minus the elaborate hilt which adorns that in the

1 paisa) on ground of horizontal lines within a pearled oval, which is enframed in a broad white oval, with Oriental inscriptions, with pearled outer border. At the bottom of the stamp is a label with wavy ornaments at either end, and inscription in the centre.



The rest of the stamp is decorated with wavy lines and foliate ornaments in the spandrels. The 4 annas has a sword, of the same kind as in the preceding value, on ground of horizontal lines enframed in a white circle, with Oriental inscriptions. Behind this circle is a hexagonal figure, and



behind that again a double-lined rectangle, the space between which and the outer border of two coloured lines is filled in with zigzag ornamentation after the manner of the Peruvian stamps. A label at the bottom has oblique lines at the two ends, and an inscription in the middle. The higher value is larger in size than the lower one. The paper is of medium substance. Shape, upright rectangular; ungummed.

2 annas, green } col. imp. on white wove paper; *perf.* 12½.
4 ,, red }

Russia.—An esteemed Russian correspondent sends us the fellow to the card which we described in September; viz., the card used by the Address Bureau in St. Petersburg to reply to enquiries. The face of the reply card differs only from that used for making the enquiry in the two lines of inscription, "ST. PETERSBURG" and "TO THE ADDRESS BUREAU" being omitted. On the back is printed, at the top of the card, "ANSWER OF THE PETERSBURG ADDRESS BUREAU." Below, on the left, is the abbreviation for Mr. Near the centre of the card is the word "DWELLS." Then follow four broken lines of inscription, with dotted spaces between, upon which the required information is to be filled in. 1st. In St. Petersburg Section; 2nd. Quarter in Street; 3rd. House, No. ; Dwelling, No. ; 4th. Information supplied by 188 . . . year.

St. Domingo.—We have an entirely new issue for this Republic of a very rubbishy appearance. We are inclined to think that they are of German manufacture, and hope that they may not prove to be bogus. There are nine values, all of the same design. In the centre are the arms, on a background of vertical lines, with a scroll above, bearing the words, "DIOS PATRIA LIBERTAD," and branches of laurel and olive beneath, joined by a "true-lover's-knot." The central portion of the stamp is enframed by a circle of solid colour, which touches the border at the sides, and is inscribed, in white Roman capitals, "REPUBLICA DOMINICANA," which occupies two-thirds of the circle. The re-



maining (lower) portion is ornamented with segments of circles interlaced, and bears the date 1880 on a small transverse oval. At the two upper corners of the stamp are circles with the numeral of value in white upon colour, and between them is the word "CORREOS." A white label at the bottom with graduated ends has the value in full in colour upon white. The spandrels are filled in with arabesque ornament, and the whole is enclosed in a double-lined frame. Yellowish gum; no watermark; rouletted upon coloured lines. Shape, longish rectangular.

1 centavo, page-green	} Lithographed col. imp. on white wove paper rouletted.	25 centavos, pale violet
2 ,, vermilion		50 ,, orange
5 ,, Prussian-blue		75 ,, ultramarine
10 ,, rose		1 peso . gold
20 ,, bistre		

Tolima.—A correspondent has shown us a *Cubierta* stamp of Tolima, which for gaiety of appearance puts all the New Granadians in the shade. The label is ruled off, horizontally, into two halves. In the centre of the upper portion are the arms, eagle, stars, flags, and motto, with ESTADOS UNIDOS DE COLOMBIA, in Roman capitals, printed in a curve beneath them, all within a circle formed of 4 lines of different thickness. To the left of the circle is the inscription, in five lines, CORREOS—DEL—ESTADO SOBERANO—DEL—TOLIMA. To the right is another five-lined inscription: CERTIFICACION—CON—CONTENIDO—VALE—10 CENTAVOS. The first and last lines of each inscription are curved inversely, and are printed in ornamental type. The inner inscriptions are straight and in Roman capitals, the whole being touched off with pen-flourishes. To right and left of the inscriptions are treble-lined circles, with small ornaments at bottom containing the numerals 10, in fancy type, with CENT below, on ground of horizontal lines. The circles are almost surrounded by four-fifths of a circle inscribed DIEZ CENTAVOS, and ornamented with arabesques. A dotted line beneath is lettered, in script type, Salio' de en de de 187... The lower portion of the label is ruled off from the upper one by a double line, and is filled in with fine horizontal lines, and bears, in the upper left corner, the word REMITE. The whole is enclosed in a border of plain double lines, and below the bottom one is the name of the lithographer: Litogr. de Paredes C^a Bogota. The label is coloured vermilion on the right-hand side, yellow on the left, and blue in the middle; and, as the colours merge into one another, it can give a rainbow points.—Size, 160 × 68 mm.

Registration label—10 centavos, yellow, blue, and red.

Transvaal.—The halfpenny value, to which we referred in our last, is of the same type, paper, perforation, &c., as the remainder of the Queen's head series. Value in full in the label beneath the portrait, and $\frac{1}{2}$ in the circles at the four corners.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., rosy vermilion.

Uruguay.—The one centavo has lately reached us, perforated instead of rouletted, but our specimen is so badly cut that we are unable to give the measurement this month.

THE STAMPS OF MAURITIUS.

By CAPT. E. B. EVANS, R.A.

PART V.

POST CARDS.

THE only postal issues now remaining to be considered are the post cards. The first allusion I can find to their issue is in a requisition of the postmaster, dated May, 1873, in which various stamps and halfpenny and penny post cards are demanded. That portion relating to stamps was forwarded to England, but that relating to cards was ordered to stand over for a time.

I believe the postmaster asked for cards again from time to time; but nothing seems to have been done in the matter till 1877. In that year it appears to have been decided to resort to local talent in the first instance, probably as an experiment, with a view to seeing how the innovation answered. The first attempt produced something exceedingly hideous, quite worthy of the worst of the "native" stamps; the first cards issued look quite lovely by the side of it.

The border of this essay consists of a kind of diamond pattern, resembling wire netting, with a plain thick outer line, and a thin wavy inner one; the space within this is divided by a horizontal line into two unequal parts, the upper of which is about twice the size of the lower; this latter is the portion intended for the address, and contains simply the letter "M." in the upper left-hand corner.

The upper portion contains the word "MAURITIUS" at the top, then "POST CARD," and below that the arms of the island in an almost plain shield, rather larger than that in the centre of the elaborate device on the issued card, and below the shield the motto, on a plain scroll.

At the ends, as on the issued cards, are "The address only to be written on this side," and "L'adresse doit être mise de ce côté de la Carte." On one of the specimens before me this latter inscription is corrected, in manuscript, by the addition of the word "seule" after "L'adresse." There are other manuscript corrections and additions; viz., the word "Inland" before "Post Card," and the remark as to the arms, &c., "This is rather large; must be reduced, to give more space for the address." On the back lines are ruled in pen and ink, so as to form a border on three sides; and outside this, at the top, is written "Memorandum."

This interesting design was apparently type-printed on two kinds of inferior pasteboard—one a dull reddish-lilac, and the other blue. A space is roughly outlined in pen and ink, in the upper right-hand corner, on the face of each, and the words "Stamp two cents" are written in this space on the lilac one, and "Stamp four cents" on the blue one. We thus see that the cards were intended to be in the currency then about to be introduced.

The result of these corrections was the card with the arms of Mauritius which was subsequently issued, and of which I possess an essay without the signature of Mons. Dupuy in the corner, and with the right-hand swallow-tail of the scroll containing "Inland Post Card" complete, and extending into the space for the stamp.

As I hinted above, this is neat and pretty, compared with the first design submitted. The border is reduced to two plain lines, one thick and one thin; the arms are considerably glorified; the words "Inland Post Card" are placed on a magnificent scroll, extending right across the card behind the arms; and the motto is accommodated with an ornamental scroll below. The space for the address is very slightly increased, and three lines are ruled for it; the reverse side is left blank.

This was lithographed in 1877, and having apparently been approved of, the trespassing swallow-tail was erased, and a sheet of sixteen impressions formed. These sixteen impressions were each signed by the Government printer, E. Dupuy, in the left-hand lower corner, thus forming the sixteen

minor varieties. About one thousand of these cards, in sheets of sixteen, were lithographed in July, 1877.

Before describing the sixteen varieties, I should like to say a few words on the subject of the arms of Mauritius. The devices in three of the quarters of the shield are tolerably evident; viz., a ship, a key, and a very large star over a very small sea; the three objects in the fourth quarter require some explanation; opinions differ as to what they are intended for. I have been told that they are palm trees, but I believe they are really meant for sugar-canes, sugar being the chief product of the island.

The motto alludes to the lower half of the shield, and may be translated—
 “Star and Key
 Of the Indian Sea.”

The right of Mauritius to the latter part of this proud title has been destroyed by the Suez Canal; for, though it may still be the Star, it can hardly now claim to be the Key of the Indian Ocean.

I cannot but think that if Mons. Dupuy had been content to allow these artistic productions to go out into the world without attaching his signature to them, or if he had signed the original drawing once for all, instead of signing a sheet of sixteen in sixteen different ways, it would have been all the better for collectors. Although I discovered and first described these varieties, I am not at all proud of them, and I do not think they are the kind of varieties the collection of which ought to be encouraged.

However, as they exist, they must be described here. I should perhaps state that I never saw a sheet of them, and do not know in what order they came on the sheet, and that therefore the order which I have given them is quite an arbitrary one. It was formed by grouping together, to a certain extent, the types that resembled one another. The fact that they were printed in sheets of sixteen I afterwards learned from Mons. Dupuy himself.

On twelve of the types the signature reads “Lith. E. Dupuy,” and on the remaining four “E. Dupuy” only.

Type 1. No stop after “Lith;” after “E” something that may either be a stop or a part of the letter; tails of both “p” and “y” of Dupuy cut the inner line of the border.

Type 2. Stops as in 1; tail of “p” touches the inner line, tail of “y” cuts it.

Type 3. Stops as in 1, but the doubtful dot after “E” is rather more apparent; tail of “p” does not reach the inner line, tail of “y” cuts it.

Type 4. No stops; tails of both “p” and “y” touch the inner line, but do not cut it.

Type 5. Stop after “E;” otherwise similar to 4.

Type 6. Stop after “E.” close to “D” of Dupuy; “p” in that word has no tail, and closely resembles the “u” immediately before and after it; almost all the letters touch the inner line, and the tail of the “y” cuts it.

Type 7. Stop after “Lith,” doubtful dot after “E;” tail of “p” touches inner line, tail of “y” cuts it.

Types 8, 9, 10, and 11 have a distinct white spot in the thick outer line of the border, under the signature.

Type 8. No stops; white spot almost under “h” of “Lith.”

Type 9. No stop after “Lith,” doubtful one after “E;” white spot under space between “E.” and “Dupuy.”

Type 10. Stops after both “Lith.” and “E;” white spot below stop after “E.”

Type 11. Two stops as in 10; white spot below “E.” signature further away from the lower border than in any of the other types.

Type 12. The description of this would be the same as that of 1; but in 1 the “E” is almost in the middle between “Lith.” and “Dupuy,” whereas in 12 it is nearer the latter.

Types 13, 14, 15, and 16 have “E. Dupuy” only, and also show the same white spot as in types 8, 9, 10, and 11.

Type 13. “E. Dupuy” between the lines of the border; white spot after “y” of “Dupuy.”

Type 14. "E. Dupuy" as in 13; white spot between "p" and second "u" of "Dupuy."

Type 15. "E. Dupuy" above the inner line of the border; stop after "E."

Type 16. Similar to 15, but no stop.

I may add that the sixteen signatures differ from one another in other respects besides those which I have mentioned.

These cards were issued in February, 1879, either on the 17th or 18th of that month, and were in circulation for two days only, the small supply prepared having not unnaturally been exhausted in that time.

I believe that they cost the Government, without the stamp, three rupees per hundred, or three cents each; and as they were sold, with a stamp, for two cents each, the Postal Department did not make much profit on them.

A few months ago it was reported that a reprint of these cards had taken place; this, however, is fortunately impossible. Had it been so, it would have been made in February, 1879, and the second issue of cards would not have been wanted; but the stone from which the first issue had been printed, eighteen months previously, had in the meantime been washed.

Accordingly, the second issue was prepared, apparently lithographed from a type-set original. The design is a much plainer one, and leaves much more room for the address. It consists of a small-sized representation of the British arms and supporters, close to the top, in the centre; the words "MAURITIUS POST CARD" in ornamental type below them, and then five lines for the address. The same instructions as on the first card are in similar positions on the second; a space is ruled for the stamp in the upper right-hand corner, and the border is even more funereal than before, as if the second issue had gone into mourning for the decease of the first. This issue took place on the 21st February, 1879. In March of that year the publisher of the principal English newspaper in Mauritius, *The Mercantile Record and Commercial Gazette*, printed some cards, which he used in the first place for his own advertisements, and which it would appear, from the notice on the back of those I have seen, were intended also to be supplied to the general public. Whether they ever were thus supplied or not, or whether they would have been allowed to be used for written communications, I do not know. I have four specimens before me, all of which have duly passed through the post, having been addressed to me by their inventor. They are decidedly more pleasing in appearance than either of the government issues, the design consisting simply of a royal crown, surmounted by a scroll containing the words "MAURITIUS POST CARD." A ruled space for the stamp is in the usual corner, an instruction at each end, as on the officially issued cards, and four dotted lines for the address. This was struck in black on white, green, pink, and blue glazed cards.

The specimens in my possession were, I believe, the first of these cards that were used; they are dated March 11th, 1879. Each of them has the advertisement I mentioned above printed on the back; they must therefore be considered to have passed rather as circulars than as post cards. However, as they have been alluded to in this and other philatelic magazines, I have thought it necessary to give a history of them.

In October, 1879, appeared what may be termed the first permanent issue of Mauritius post cards, being a 2 cents card of Messrs. De la Rue and Co.'s production. The design consists of the royal arms in the upper centre, with the words "POST CARD" one on each side, Mauritius below the arms, and then "THE ADDRESS ONLY, &C.," and "L'ADRESSE SEULE, &C.;" impressed stamp in right upper corner, of the design of the 2 cents issued early in the present year; head in circle, on ground of horizontal lines; "MAURITIUS POSTAGE" in a curve above, "TWO CENTS" in a curve below the head; corners concave; the whole printed in red-brown on buff card.

These last cards were described in the number of this magazine for November, 1879, where it was also mentioned that two other cards were in preparation of the values of 8 and 13 cents respectively. It is quite probable that cards of these values were ordered. The letter postage from Mauritius to Europe at that time was 25 cents, and to Reunion and the

Seychelles, &c., 17 cents, and the cards would have been half those values. When Mauritius joined the Postal Union the postage to Europe was reduced to 17 cents, and I suppose that to Reunion, &c., was proportionally reduced, perhaps to 13 cents, for 6 and 8 cents cards were then ordered.

The regulations of the Postal Union, however, requiring 4 c. and 6 c. cards (answering to 1d. and 1½d.), the 6 c. only were issued in their natural state; and it was decided to surcharge the 8 c. with the value "4 cents."

The 6 c. cards came into circulation at the beginning of March last. The inscriptions are similar to those on the 2 c., but "UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE" is added at the top, and the name "MAURITIUS (MAURICE)" is placed above, instead of below, the arms; the stamp is of the type of the tenpence adhesive, but with the name and value in white on colour, instead of in colour on white; the whole is printed in green on buff card.

The surcharging seems to have taken some time, for it was not until August that the 4 c. cards were issued. The inscriptions are the same as on the 2 c. cards; the stamp of the design of the most recent adhesive of corresponding value (8 c.), the whole printed in blue on buff cards; surcharged, across the stamp, "4 cents" in black, with a bar below cancelling the original value.

I have seen specimens of the 8 c. cards without the surcharge; but I believe they were never issued for use in that condition.

I believe there are no varieties of the surcharge. I have a specimen on which, at first sight, it seems to be in different type; but this only arises from its being much less heavily printed than usual.

(To be continued.)

LIST OF STAMPS ISSUED BY THE HONG KONG POST OFFICE.

	1862.
	2 cents, light brown.
	8 " orange.
(a)	12 " blue.
	18 " lilac.
	24 " green.
	48 " rose.
(b)	96 " brown.

The above were originally printed on paper without watermark, but none such are now obtainable.

	1863.
	4 cents, slate.
	6 " lilac.
	30 " orange.
	See note to 1862.

	1871.
(c)	30 cents, lilac.

	1874.
(d)	2 dollars, brown.
(e)	3 " lilac.
	10 " blue.

These were disused revenue stamps, utilized for postal purposes. The 10 dollar stamp is now surcharged 12 cents for revenue purposes, and single stamps can be had at that rate.

	1876.
	16 cents surcharged on 18 cents.
*16	" yellow.
28	" surcharged on lilac 30.

	1879.
*5	cents surcharged on 18 cents.
*10	" " on 12 cents.
*10	" " on 16 cents.

	1880.
(f)	2 cents, rose (Postal Union tint).
(g)	48 " light brown.
*5	" surcharged on 8 cents.
(h)	5 " blue (Postal Union tint).
*10	" surcharged on 24 cents.
(i)	10 " lilac.

CARDS.

	1879.
*3	cents, yellow card, adhesive stamp.
*5	" blue card, ditto.
*3	" rose on white card, ditto.
*5	" blue on white card, ditto.

	1880.
(j)	1 cent, engraved card.
(k)	3 cents, ditto.
4	" ditto.
4	" ditto, surcharged 1 cent.

No intentional change has ever been made in the colours of the above; but sometimes more or less ink on the plate may have varied the tint a little, and thus given rise to incorrect statements as to varieties of colour. The 18 cent value has completely changed colour by fading. The statements of certain text-books about an imaginary second colour of the 96 cent, &c., may have arisen in this way.

Only the values lettered from *a* to *k* above are *in use*, and these are the only values of which specimens can be obtained, except in sheets of 240, or, in the case of cards, in bundles of 100. The values marked (*) are not obtainable at all. The cent. may be taken to equal a halfpenny; the dollar, 4s.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, HONG KONG, *October 1st, 1880.*

Correspondence.

ERRORS VERSUS FAULTY PRINTING.

To the Editor of "The Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—I wish to enter my protest against the "PENOE" error of Mauritius being classed with the Queensland "error" as a variety due to faulty printing. It is a real error of *engraving*, in No. 7 stamp on the sheet at all events. There is another variety of it, No. 4 on the sheet, due to the wearing of the plate; but the *o* in No. 7 must have been an *o* from the beginning. I have five early impressions showing it unmistakeably. The PFNOE variety of the lithographed Mauritius corresponds exactly with the Queensland fault in its nature.

Yours, &c.,

E. B. EVANS.

"BLEUTÉ PAR LA GOMME."

DEAR SIR,—I shall refrain from replying to the letter in your last number upon this subject until I have made more progress in, or completed, certain experiments which I am making with the view of determining the cause of this phenomenon.

Yours, &c.,

CHEMIOUS.

HELIGOLAND POST CARDS.

DEAR SIR,—I shall be glad if I can obtain from your readers any information respecting the following Heligoland post card. It is precisely similar in every respect to the 5 pfennig card issued in April, 1875; but in addition to the stamp in the right upper corner, it has the *same stamp* impressed in the left-hand upper angle, thus making it a 10 pfennig card.

Yours, &c.,

E. D. B.

Proceedings of the Philatelic Society of London.

THE third meeting of the season was held on the 20th November, 1880; the President in the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed; and a letter from the Baron Bogouschefsky, informing the Society of proposed changes in the rural postage stamps of Pskoff, for which the thanks of the meeting were accorded.

The President reported the death of Mr. Alfred William Smith, of Bath,

the publisher of the well-known *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, and moved the following resolutions, which were seconded by Mr. Westoby :

"That the members of the Philatelic Society of London sincerely sympathise with the family of the late Mr. Smith in their bereavement.

"That their sense of the services rendered to philately by Mr. Smith, as publisher of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, be recorded in the Society's minutes.

"That the Secretary be requested to acquaint the family of Mr. Smith with these resolutions," which were unanimously carried.

The President then referred to the detention of certain documents belonging to the Society, and was requested to take peremptory proceedings for their recovery.

Mr. Charles N. Biggs was proposed by the Vice-President, seconded by the President, and elected a member of the Society.

The business of the day was to continue the reference list of the stamps of South Australia, which was commenced at the previous meeting, and it was accordingly completed, and ordered to be published.

The following novelties and curiosities were exhibited : Mr. de Ysasi showed the $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 3, and 4 c. de P. stamps of Porto Rico. Mr. Wilson showed the 25 centimes of France (head of Liberty ; Paris impression, 1871), with the original numerals of value obliterated by having the number 20, in black block numerals, printed over them. The stamp, of which an engraving was given in the *Philatelic Record* for November, is postmarked Paris (month illegible), 1874, in which year no 20 centimes postage stamps were current. Mr. Westoby suggested that it was possible that the stamp had been prepared by the authorities for the special use of some establishment, for the franking of printed matter, as stamps used for the prepayment of letters were not, as a rule, obliterated with a date stamp. Mr. Kern showed the 3 Rls., black, Paraguay, perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$ at top and bottom. The new 2 and 6 cents of Liberia ; 2 kopecks, Livonia ; $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Natal ; and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Transvaal, were also exhibited and noted.

The fourth meeting of the season was held on the 4th December, 1880 ; the President in the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved, and the correspondence, including a letter from Mr. Power, announcing that the surcharge upon the stamps of Madeira has been definitely abandoned. The President read a letter from Dr. Legrand, the Secretary to the Société Française de Timbrologie, announcing that, owing to the pressure of other occupations, Baron A. de Rothschild has found himself compelled to resign the presidency of the Society, and that M. Donatis will preside over the Society's deliberations until the committee for 1881 is elected.—The Secretary reported that the first portion of the Great Britain catalogue is now in the hands of the printers.

The business of the day, the compilation of the lists of the 1 and 2 cents typographed Hawaiian stamps, and of the stamps, &c., of Western Australia, was then proceeded with. On the conclusion of the business, the Secretary showed, on behalf of the Baron de Bogouschefsky, the reply card of the Address or Information Bureau of St. Petersburg. Mr. Kern showed the 2 Marks, *timbre de contrôle*, German Empire, 1875, printed in rose instead of lilac. New Liberia and St. Domingo stamps were also shown and noted. The President showed, on behalf of Dr. Legrand, the one shilling franked telegraph form issued by the Electric Telegraph Company of Great Britain in 1851. The form is pink, and the stamp, a full description of which will be given in the forthcoming catalogue, is embossed in blue. Mr. Reis, a visitor at the meeting, then exhibited his collection, which was chiefly remarkable for some fine entire specimens of old and scarce envelopes. The meeting broke up late.

Reference List of the Postage Stamps of South Australia.

COMPILED AT THE MEETINGS OF 30TH OCT. AND 20TH NOV., 1880.

Issue I. 1855-57.

Four values, engraved on steel by W. Humphreys, and printed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co. Coloured impression upon stoutish white wove paper; brownish gum; watermark, a six-rayed star. Design, diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, upon engine-turned background, within a circle which nearly touches the sides of the stamp; white curved label above the circle, inscribed SOUTH AUSTRALIA in coloured capital letters. This label is shaded at the corners in the 1d. and 6d. values, and unshaded in the 2d. and 1s. Straight coloured labels at top and bottom of stamp, the upper one inscribed POSTAGE, and the lower one with the value in words, all in white Roman capitals, except in the 1s., which has the value only in block letters. In the four corners are square white blocks, containing eight-rayed stars, with hollow centre, the diagonal rays of which are much thicker than the others, upon a background formed of two square outlines, one within the other. The spandrels are filled in with diapered groundwork. Shape, upright rectangular; imperforate.

T. POSTAGE. B. ONE PENNY, TWO AND SIX PENCE, and ONE SHILLING.

1d.	. . .	dark and yellow-green.
2d.	. . .	brick and venetian-red (shades).
6d.	. . .	dark, purplish, and chalky-blue.
1s.	. . .	orange, light and dark.

Varieties.

The 2d. is known watermarked, with a faulty star with truncated points.

Issue II. 1860-62.

Five values, four of which are the same as those of the preceding issue in design, paper, watermark, and gum, but differ somewhat in shade. The new value, the ninepence, is engraved on steel by C. H. Jeens for Perkins, Bacon, and Co., on similar paper, has the same watermark and white gum. Design: A larger diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, upon reticulated background, within a double oval, which touches the top, bottom, and sides of the stamp. In the upper part of the oval is SOUTH AUSTRALIA, and in the lower NINEPENCE, in coloured block letters upon white. The sides of the oval are ornamented with open bars of coloured lines, and the spandrels with reticulations. All the values in this issue are rouletted, and the roulette is wide in the dents.

T. SOUTH AUSTRALIA. B. NINEPENCE.

1d.	. . .	dark green (shades).
2d.	. . .	vermilion, light and dark and venetian-red (shades).
6d.	. . .	violet and chalky-blue (shades of each).
9d.	. . .	lilac, pale and dark.
1s.	. . .	orange and canary-yellow.

Remarks.

A copy of the 9d. (of the dark and early shade) *imperforate* is in the President's collection, but it ought probably to be classed as a proof.

In the later printings of this issue the paper varies very considerably in texture; and whilst the 1s. value was entirely changed in colour, the others exhibit varieties of shade, which are tabulated below in the order in which, judging from postmarked specimens, they are supposed to have appeared.

- 1d., full to light green, yellow-green.
- 2d., vermilion, dark to light, with variations caused by oxydisation.
- 6d., Prussian, deep, slaty and chalky-blue, ultramarine.
- 9d., greyish-lilac.
- 1s., deep reddish to pale brown.

Issue III. 1865-67.

One value. This stamp is printed from the die of the ninepence, the original value being obliterated by a curved surcharge of TEN PENCE, in Roman capitals, printed in blue ink. Stoutish white paper, yellow gum; watermark unchanged; rouletted.

10d. . . . orange-red, canary-yellow, blue surcharge.

Remarks.

There are in this and subsequent issues of the same value about 6 varieties of surcharge arising from the greater or less curve of the inscription, and some irregularities in the placing of the letters composing it in the form.

Issue IV. 1867.

Two values. Engraved on steel by C. H. Jeens for Perkins, Bacon, and Co. Coloured impression on stout and thin white wove paper; white and brown gum; same watermark. Design, diademed profile of Queen to left, on engine-turned ground, within a circle consisting of a simple white line, SOUTH AUSTRALIA above, and value in words beneath the circle in white Roman capitals; conventional scroll ornaments at top and sides of stamp, which, owing to the want of an outer-line border, has a somewhat unfinished appearance. Shape, upright rectangular; rouletted.

T. SOUTH AUSTRALIA. B. FOUR PENCE. TWO SHILLINGS.

4d. . . . dull purple, light and dark.

2s. . . . carmine.

Issue V. 1868.

One value. This stamp, type-printed by Messrs. De la Rue and Co., is a copy, upon a somewhat reduced scale, of the immediately preceding design. The background to the portrait is formed of horizontal lines instead of engine-turning. Coloured impression upon white wove paper, varying in substance; white gum; watermark a crown, with the letters S.A. beneath it. Shape upright rectangular; rouletted.

T. SOUTH AUSTRALIA. B. TWOPENCE.

2d. . . . orange, deep to light.

Issue VI. 1868-9.

Seven values of preceding types, *watermarked with star, machine perforated 11½*, otherwise unchanged.

1d. . . . green, dark and light.

2d. (1st type) . . . vermilion.

4d. . . . dark purple.

6d. . . . Prussian, deep and chalky-blue.

10d. . . . orange and yellow, blue surcharge.

1s. . . . red-brown (shades).

2s. . . . deep carmine.

Varieties.

The 1d., 4d., 6d., 10d., and 1s. are found machine perforated 11½ horizontally, and rouletted vertically. The 2s. is met with without vertical perforation between certain rows of stamps.

The 10d. presents several varieties, which, from the difficulty experienced in classifying them otherwise, are chronicled under this issue.

1st. Blue surcharge, *watermarked crown and S.A.* instead of star; *perf. 11½*.

2nd. Black surcharge, inverted, and printed above instead of below head; *wmk. star*; rouletted.

3rd. 9d. without surcharge, *star watermark*; printed in orange.

(a) Rouletted.

(b) Perforated 11½, and rouletted.

This last and rare variety is due, in all likelihood, to the accidental omission of the surcharge. Copies are to be met with which have passed through the post, the absence of all surcharge not preventing the authorities from re-

garding them as of the postal value of tenpence, rather than of the apparent facial value of ninepence.

Issue VII. 1869.

Two values, of preceding types; *watermark star*; rouletted.

2d. (type 2) . orange-red.

10d. . . . yellow, bright and pale; black surcharge.

Varieties.

The 10d. is found with the surcharge inverted.

Issue VIII. 1870.

Three values. Two varieties of the twopence (type 2) were issued in this year: the first is perforated 10 horizontally, and rouletted vertically; and the second is machine perforated 10 throughout. Both varieties are watermarked with a crown and s.A. A new value was formed by printing a stamp from the fourpenny die, in ultramarine, and obliterating the original value by printing over it, in a straight line, 3 PENCE, in carmine. This stamp is machine perforated 10; *wmk. star*. The 10d. was surcharged in black instead of blue.

2d. (type 2), orange-red, shades *perf. 10*, and rouletted.

2d. ("), " to yellow " 10.

3d. ultramarine, carmine surcharge " 10.

10d. orange-yellow, black " 11½.

Issue IX. 1871.

One value. In this emission the surcharge on the 3d. value, just described, was altered, being printed in black instead of carmine, and the machine perforation was changed to 11½; *wmk. star*, as before.

3d. ultramarine; black surcharge.

Variety.

Identical in shade and perforation with the above, the fourpenny stamp exists *unsurcharged*. Whether this stamp represents a 4d. label printed in the wrong colour, or a 3d. with the surcharge accidentally omitted, it is not easy to determine.

Issue X. 1871.

Six values of preceding types; *watermark star*. This emission was originally, we believe, issued with a regular machine perforation of 10. In course of time, however, it became extremely irregular, and compound perforations of 11½ × 10, 12 × 10, 13 × 10, 11½ × 12½, and probably others are commonly met with.

1d. bright and yellow-green.

3d. ultramarine, black surcharge.

4d. lilac (shades), dark grey.

6d. deep blue.

1s. red-brown.

2s. deep carmine.

Issue XI. 1871.

Two values, consisting of the 2d. (type 2) and the 4d., perforated 10, and watermarked with a crown and V. These two stamps probably deserve to be classed as errors, having evidently been printed by mistake upon paper intended for stamps of Victoria.

2d. (type 2) orange-red (shades).

4d. dull purple and slate.

Issue XII. 1872.

One value. This is the original ninepenny value revived; printed on rather thinner and inferior paper to that employed for the old 9d.; watermark unchanged; machine-perforated, 11½.

9d. lilac-grey.

9d. reddish-lilac, varying to mauve.

Issue XIII. 1874.

One value. The make-shift 10d. surcharged in black, and *perf.* 10.
10d. bright yellow, black surcharge „

Issue XIV. 1875.

One value, type-printed by De la Rue and Co. Coloured impression on white surfaced paper of medium substance; white gum; *wmk. crown and S.A.* Design: Diademed profile of Queen to left, on ground of horizontal lines, within double-lined oval; curved label above the oval, and straight label below, occupying the whole width of the stamp—the first inscribed SOUTH AUSTRALIA, and the second with value in words, all in white block letters upon coloured ground. The sides and spandrels of the stamp are filled in with foliate and arabesque ornaments. Shape, upright rectangular; various perforations.

1d. (type 2), green, shades; *perf.* 10, 11, 12½, and compound.

Issue XV. About October, 1876.

One value. That most useful die of the early 9d. is again brought into requisition. A stamp is struck from it of a burnt-sienna colour, and the original value is obliterated by a black surcharge of 8 PENCE. Medium white wove paper; white gum; *wmk. star; machine perf. 13.*

8d. burnt-sienna; black surcharge.

Remarks.

Other perforations than 13 are also to be found, 11½ × 12½; indeed, most of the perforations are compound.

Issue XVI. 1880.

During the current year the fourpence has, whilst remaining unaltered in other respects, undergone a considerable change in colour.

4d. reddish-purple.

POSTAL CARD.

Issued March, 1877.

One value. Design: Double-lined ornamental frame, with stamp in right upper corner, bearing diademed head of Queen Victoria to left, in solid oval; solid label below, inscribed ONE PENNY in white block letters; spandrels and sides filled in with arabesques; all within treble-lined frame. Two lines of inscription: 1st, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, the two words being separated by the royal arms; 2nd, POST CARD. The space for address is headed by the prefix To. Lithographed in colour upon medium buff card, varying sometimes in substance. Size, 121 × 74 mm., or 4¾ × 2⅞ in. Frame, 110 × 66 mm., or 4⅞ × 2⅝ in.

1d. lilac (shades) on buff (shades).

Variety.

The same, printed upon thick white cardboard, probably as proofs, have passed through the post.

(To be continued.)

Notes and Queries.

M. G. A., RUGBY.—The certificates of posting were issued as an experiment in Bath and Liverpool, and after a short trial withdrawn from use. They are not to be procured at any post-office at present. The experiment is to be tried once more in Glasgow in January next. See *Record* for August, pages 86 and 87. Several of the European powers have their own post-offices in connection with their Consulates at Constantinople, and letters posted in them are prepaid with the stamps of the mother-country.

J. B.—They are all three forgeries.

DROCCER.—We intend to do so in February.

The Philatelic Record.

Vol. II. No. 24.

JANUARY.

1881.



FOR the second time in the history of the world we make our bow to our readers with the announcement that we have completed a volume. Two years is really a respectable lifetime nowadays for a stamp magazine to have attained, and yet we do not feel decrepit. We do not profess to have reached to the gigantic circulation of certain philatelic broadsheets, which most unaccountably expire just as their receipts must have approached the confines of the miraculous. Our circulation has far more than trebled itself within the last twelve months, and the time has now arrived for us to examine into our position. The result of our examination is, that we find ourselves obliged to appeal to our readers for some further pecuniary assistance. We have never aimed at making the *Philatelic Record* a source of profit; but, on the other hand, we cannot afford to be considerably out of pocket by its publication. The little paper of four or five pages, which we at first contemplated, now runs, more frequently than not, to sixteen pages, into which an advertisement very seldom intrudes. We have decided to raise the subscription to Vol. III. from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. We do this with considerable reluctance, and only after having been urged to do so by many of our supporters, who agree with us that the alternative measure of reducing the size of our paper would be a pitiful one. As a set-off we have determined to provide as many illustrations as we can. We do not bind ourselves to illustrate profusely, but we will do our best. One of the drawbacks of illustrating is that, owing to the time taken in preparing the cuts, news is frequently delayed. This shall not be the case with us; for we cannot afford to risk the reputation which we have fairly gained of being generally first in the field with novelties. Such illustrations as are not ready in time will only appear in the following number, and our publication will not be delayed on their account.

We sincerely thank our subscribers for their kindly appreciation of our efforts to provide them with such information as stamp collectors require and demand, and we are still more grateful to the contributors who have assisted us in our labour of love. Although Captain Evans's papers on the stamps of Mauritius are drawing to a close, he will continue to contribute to our pages as the spirit moves him. "A Post Card Collector" has also much more to say

Price 2d.

2s. 6d. per Annum.

Abroad, 3s.

about his pet branch of philately, which, we are glad to note, finds more and more favour with collectors.

Ever since we presented the photograph of the late E. L. Pemberton as the frontispiece to Vol. I., we have been urged to give that of Mr. Philbrick, Q.C., the President of the Philatelic Society of London, with Vol. II. When we had convinced him that the demand for his portrait was spontaneous and general, he acceded to our request with characteristic courtesy, and kindly sat for the likeness, which will accompany this number. Mr. Philbrick's name is as a household word in all corners of the earth to which philately has penetrated. We have heard it pronounced and mispronounced by collectors of every nationality, but always connected with expressions of esteem, which but coldly represent the feeling towards him of those who enjoy the privilege of knowing him more intimately. To say more in his praise would be to do that which we know would be distasteful to him, and we therefore restrict ourselves to expressing the hope that he may be long spared to enjoy the eminence to which he has attained in his profession; to be the head and front of English philately, and an acclaimed authority on the subject of his hobby in all parts of the globe.*

Novelties, Discoveries, and Resuscitations.

Antioquia and Bolivar.—We have to warn our readers against forgeries of the rare stamps of these countries. Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Co. have shown us some of the pretended first issue Antioquias, which have been sent to them from Bogota. These labels are, however, so smudged in the printing, and upon such different paper from that of the real stamps, that they can scarcely be called dangerous. It is far otherwise as regards the small Bolivars. The 10 centavos, green, is one of the best imitations we have ever seen, and has probably been executed by photolithography. The artful way in which these stamps are put in circulation, one at a time, and sent direct from Bolivar, together with the excellence of their execution, makes them extremely dangerous. London collectors are, as a rule, very speedily *désillusionnés* as to the value of the forgeries which they pick up from time to time; but it behoves country collectors to be extremely careful as to whom they deal with, for they may pay a long price for a forgery, and keep it for years in their album before it is seen and condemned by someone who is competent to pronounce an authoritative opinion as to its genuineness.

* Owing to delay on the part of the photographers, we are obliged to go to press without Mr. Philbrick's photograph. The portrait, title page, and index to vol. ii. will be sent to our subscribers as soon as ready.

Austria.—M. Moens announces that, since the 14th of last October, newspaper stamps, similar in type to the well-remembered head of Mercury, inscribed " $\frac{1}{2}$ KR." on the bottom label, have been in use. These stamps are only sold to the newspaper offices.

$\frac{1}{2}$ kreuzer, sea-green.

Bermuda has issued another post card. It is of the same type as the one which we described in October; but there is space ruled off to contain one stamp only, instead of two, and this is occupied by the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. adhesive.

Post Card. $\frac{1}{2}$ d., carmine, on French-blue card.

Brazil has been somewhat backward in issuing postal cards, considering that this was the first country, after England, to make use of postage stamps. However, we have them at last, in three values. The 20 reis card, destined for urban circulation only, has two lines of inscription: 1st, "BILHETE POSTAL;" 2nd, ("Neste lado só se escreve o enderço"), followed by three dotted lines for the address, the first being broken by the insertion of the contraction, "Sñ." The stamp in the right upper corner has the imperial arms, surmounted by a crown, and decorated with olive and laurel branches, on an oval of solid colour, enframed by a larger oval, the upper curve of which has reticulated ornament, whilst the lower one is inscribed with the value in full. Small ovals containing the numerals of value separate the upper from the lower curve. Ornamental border, reverse side plain. The reply-paid card of this value is exactly the same as the single one. The 50 reis card is very like the 20 reis, but the border is of a different pattern. The reply-paid card has the inscription, "O bilhete junto é para a resposta" on the left, beneath the border, and on the reply card, "a resposta" between the inscriptions, "BILHETE POSTAL" and "Neste lado," &c. The 80 reis card has four lines of inscription: 1st, "UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE;" 2nd, "BRASIL;" 3rd, "BILHETE POSTAL;" and 4th, ("Neste lado," &c.). The stamp bears the arms, &c., on an octagon with ornamental border upon an outer rectangular frame, with ground of horizontal lines. Label at bottom, with value in full, and small slanting labels at sides, with numerals of value. Ornamental border, reverse side plain. Lithographed; native manufacture.

<i>Post Cards.</i>	20 reis, carmine, on white card	} 125 × 87 mm.
	20 × 20 ,, ,, ,,	
	50 ,, blue, on buff card	
	50 × 50 ,, ,, ,,	
	80 ,, orange ,,	

From the *Timbre Post* we learn that on the 2nd of December three new adhesives of home manufacture were put in circulation, and that the whole of the beautiful American Bank Note Company's series will be superseded by native stamps as the stock of the former becomes exhausted. It appears that Señor Sobragy, the Director of the Brazilian Mint, is too zealous a patriot to approve of his fatherland being dependent upon foreigners for that which can be furnished at home. He began last year by replacing the

fiscal stamps, of United States make, with home-made articles, and he is now making the same change in the postage stamps, which are being made under his direction at the Mint. The new adhesives, judging from M. Moens' illustrations, are somewhat servile copies of the stamps which they are to supersede. The profile portrait on all three values seems to be copied from that which adorns the current 20 reis. The frame-work varies in each value, and is of similar conventional patterns to those on the New York stamps.

<i>Adhesives.</i>	50 reis, blue	} Rectangular; col. imp., on white laid paper; rouletted.
	100 ,, bottle-green	
	200 ,, lilac-rose	

Ecuador.—The *Timbre Poste* announces, upon the authority of Mr. Casey, that this Republic is about to issue a superlatively beautiful set of stamps, the workmanship of the American Bank Note Company, of New York. There are six values, all of different types.

1 centavo, brown	10 centavos, orange
2 ,, lake	20 ,, slate
5 ,, blue	50 ,, green.

Fiji.—The sixpenny adhesive of the new type (V.R. engraved) is now in circulation.

6d., carmine, on wove paper.

Hong Kong.—We have received the new 5 cents. adhesive to which we referred last month. It resembles the remainder of the current series in every respect.

5 cents., ultramarine.

Labuan.—We have received a new value from these parts identical in type with the rest of the series.

10 cents, brown; *wmk. CC. and crown.*

Liberia.—In addition to the changes in the stamps of this country which we have already noticed, we have to chronicle a new value similar in type to the rest of the series.

1 cent., ultramarine (shades); *perf. 10.*

Mexico.—Whilst in Paris, the other day, we were confidently assured by several dealers and collectors that the current set of postage stamps will be immediately superseded by a new issue bearing another portrait, and that the Porte de Mar stamps are now obsolete.

New Granada.—The 25 centavos of the type issued in 1870, hitherto printed in black on blue paper, is now printed in green upon white.

25 centavos, green, on white paper.

Queensland.—Mr. William Clifford has kindly sent for our examination an envelope, postmarked Brisbane, 7th May, 1880, upon which, in company with a 1s. and a 2s. postage stamp, the long upright 10s. fiscal does postal duty.

10s., bistre; "Queensland, Stamp Duty;" fiscal used as a postal.

Roumelia.—Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. send us five stamps, which they have received from Eastern Roumelia, together with the following information: In order to stop the clamour of the Eastern Roumelians for distinctive postage stamps of their

own, the Turkish government some months ago sent them 50,000 piastres worth of the current Turkish 20 paras and 2 and 5 piastres, surcharged obliquely with the Roman capitals R.O., standing for Roumelie Orientale, 12 mm. in height. This did not satisfy the Roumelian authorities, who refused to issue the stamps. Now special stamps are being prepared, which very much resemble the current Turkish in design. Over the label inscribed "EMP. OTTOMAN," and below the crescent are the words, "ANATOLIKH PONTAIA." On the left-hand side, reading downwards, is "ROUMELIE ORIENTALE." At the top a Turkish inscription, and on the right side, reading upwards, "ΝΟΤΟΘΑ ΡΥΜΕΛΙΑ." The following are the values sent to us by Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. :

Surcharged Turkish 20 paras	} surcharged R.O., in blue, <i>perf.</i> 13.
" " 2 piastres	
" " 5 "	
New stamps 5 paras	
" 10 "	

St. Domingo has issued postal cards to bear the new adhesives company. There are two values of highly ornate appearance. An ornamental scroll curls over the letter R and through the letter D, and is inscribed "TARJETA POSTAL." The left-hand ribband ends of the scroll curl round a staff, on the top of which is a cap of Liberty, inscribed "LIBERTAD," which rests on an escutcheon filled in with meaningless ornament. Beneath the letters R.D. and scroll is one line of inscription on the single cards, and two lines on the reply cards, and there are three ruled lines diminishing in length for the address. In the right upper corner is a double-lined oval containing the arms of the Republic, with scroll and motto above, and branches of laurel and olive beneath. In the upper curve of the oval is "REPUBLICA DOMINICANA," and below the value in full. The numerals of value, in ornamented circles, divide the two inscriptions. Rays of light, or sunbeams, dart, as in the Newfoundland cards, from the right upper corner, and traverse the card. The border consists of circles containing the letters R.D. with *fleurs-de-lis* between the circles, and conventional ornaments at the four corners of the card; reverse side plain. The reply-paid cards have the additional inscription below "TARJETA POSTAL" of "LA OTRA TARJETA SERVE PARA LA RESPUESTA," and the reply card has the word "RESPUESTA" in the left lower corner. The cards are printed by the Manhattan Bank Note Company, New York, the name of the establishment being placed beneath the lower frame.

<i>Post Cards.</i> 2 centavos, green, on buff card,	130 × 76 mm.
2 × 2 " " "	folded and <i>perf.</i> at top.
2 × 2 " " "	right side.
3 " " carmine	130 × 76 mm.
3 " " maroon	"
3 × 3 " "	folded and <i>perf.</i> at top.
3 × 3 " "	right side.

Straits Settlements.—We have to chronicle another variety of surcharge. It will be remembered that the first provisional 10 cents., which came over in February last, were surcharged with

upright numerals, varying in type, and with the word cents in italics. In the later issues the numerals were unaltered, but the word cents was omitted. In the stamps recently received the numerals are italic and of smaller size, and the word cents, also in italics, is larger than that surcharged upon the first provisional 10 cents and upon the more recent 5 cents.

10 cents, surcharged in black, italic numerals upon the 30 cents.

Tasmania.—We have to thank Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons, and Co. for showing us a letter from an Australian correspondent, who informs them that a bill sanctioning the use of post cards in this colony was, some time ago, passed by the Lower, but afterwards thrown out by the Upper, House of the Legislature. In the interval cards (no doubt privately issued) were actually used, and their employment is now temporarily suspended until the Upper House shall have come to its senses.

Uruguay, like Brazil, is making some of her stamps at home instead of getting them from abroad. The home-made 1 centavo is a lithographic copy of the stamp of like value which has been lately current. Various small differences exist between the copy and the original in the numeral of value, ornaments in corners, size of lettering, &c. &c. The colour is a dull chocolate-brown, instead of the warm chestnut of the original, and the rouletting is different. We were mistaken in chronicling a perforated stamp of this value last month. M. Moens says that the six current values, together with the obsolete 15 centavos, yellow, exist with the word "OFICIAL" surcharged obliquely across the stamps. The surcharge measures $3\frac{1}{2} \times 2$ mm.

1 centavo, dull chocolate, on white; lithographed, rouletted.

Official stamps:

1 centavo, chestnut,	red surcharge	20 centavos, bistre, black surcharge
5 ,, green,	black ,,	50 ,, black, red ,,
10 ,, vermilion,	black ,,	1 Peso, blue, black ,,
15 ,, yellow (type 1866)	red ,,	

Venezuela.—Of the new adhesives, of the Escuelas type, two more values have been issued.

10 centimos, orange } *perf.* 11.
2 Bolivars, blue }

THE STAMPS OF MAURITIUS.

By CAPT. E. B. EVANS, R.A.

PART VI.

OBLITERATIONS AND POSTMARKS.

By *obliterations* I mean those marks which were intended solely for the purpose of obliterating the stamps; and by *postmarks* all those other marks, such as the ones containing the names of places and dates of posting, the words "Paid," "Free," "Inland," &c., which were not intended to be used for obliterating the stamps, but which have sometimes been used for that purpose. Some of these latter were of course in use before postage stamps were introduced; the former were naturally not required before that time.

The earlier obliterating marks in use at the General Post Office, Port Louis, contained neither letters nor figures. There are two well-known varieties, the first consisting of five concentric circles, and the second an oval mark closely resembling the one containing "B 53," but with the centre blank. These two, and the one afterwards introduced, containing the letter and number of the island, were peculiar to the General Post Office. The country offices all used obliterating marks containing numbers, each office having its own number.

Mr. Barnard's estimate for the plates for the stamps, dated November 12th, 1846, contained also the following items, viz. :

- 12 letter stamps, with moveable dates, and names of stations.
- 12 paid stamps.
- 12 free do.
- 12 too late do.
- 1 stamp, penny post.
- Stamps 1 to 14.

From this we may gather that fourteen offices were to be supplied, two of which were in operation previously, and possessed everything except the obliterating stamps (these were the "stamps 1 to 14"). Whether the General Post Office was one of the fourteen or not does not appear; but there is no mention of any special stamp without a number. I am inclined to think, however, that there were fourteen country offices; for 1 appears always to have been the number of Mahébourg, the second principal town in the island; 2 being Flacq, and so on. Again, the only specimens of the "post-office" issue that I have seen, and also some very early impressions of the "post paid," are obliterated with other than *obliterating* marks, which leads me to suppose that an obliterating stamp was not supplied to the General Post Office at first, doubtless through some oversight.

The "stamp penny post" was no doubt for use at the General Post Office only, and the twelve sets probably for twelve new offices.

The earliest date stamp I have met with is a large circular one, consisting of two concentric circles. In the space between them is "MAURITIUS" above, and "POST OFFICE" below, and inside the inner circle the date. This was in use at the General Post Office before and at the time of the introduction of postage stamps. I have a specimen of it in red, dated September, 1845. The day of the month is not legible. My specimen of the one penny "post office" is obliterated with this date stamp, bearing the date September 24th, 1847. By the side of this specimen is the stamp "penny post" in an oblong, and this is the only impression of that stamp that I remember having met with, so I suppose it was not very much used.

Another mark, also peculiar to the General Post Office, and no doubt in use before the issue of postage stamps, is a large oblong, containing the word "INLAND." The one penny and twopence "post office" in the collection of Mr. Philbrick, which were used on the same letter, are obliterated with this mark. It was in use for some years later, and seems to have been frequently found convenient for obliterating two stamps at a time; for I have met with it on several pairs of the 1d. "post paid."

I have two very early impressions of this last mentioned 1d. obliterated with the word "PAID" in a small oblong. This is struck twice on each stamp, so as to form an irregular kind of cross. I consider this also to be a mark used at the General Post Office before a regular obliterating stamp was provided.

I have met also with an oval and a circular obliteration, consisting simply of bars, such as might very easily be made of wood, or from a cork. These, I think, may have been used at the General Post Office occasionally, as extra obliterating stamps, when there were a large number of letters passing through. I have only met with one specimen of the oval, and two (a pair) of the circular.

The obliterating stamps of the country offices in the early times were all circular, and for the most part consisted of two concentric circles, containing a figure or figures. In two cases however, at all events—Nos. 1 and 2—a

second variety may be found, consisting of three concentric circles containing the figure. Probably it was found that at Mahébourg and Flacq there were enough letters posted to require more than one obliterating stamp; for the two varieties seem to have been used together in these two places. Some of these circular marks continued in use at the country offices down to a recent date; but most, if not all, of them have by this time been superseded by stamps resembling the one now in use at the General Post Office, but containing the numbers of the various country offices instead of "B 53." The numbers of the offices, I believe, remain unchanged. I may add that I have never met with circular marks containing numbers higher than fourteen; and the present marks I have seen as high as twenty-seven.

The first date stamps used at the country offices were oblong, with truncated corners, containing the name in script type, and the date below. I have met with stamps obliterated with those of *Flacq* and *Black River*. All of these have, I think, been replaced by date stamps similar to those in use elsewhere, consisting of a circle containing the name arched above, month and day in the centre, and the year below.

The large circular date stamp, which I described as being in use in 1847 at the General Post Office, was replaced as early as 1853 by a circular stamp, surmounted by a crown. The upper half of the circle is formed of the word "MAURITIUS," the lower by the letters "G.P.O.," with curved lines to fill up the spaces between them and the ends of the name; the date is inside the circle as usual. I have never seen this used as an obliterating mark.

Apparently at the beginning of 1859 the circular obliteration, until then in use at the General Post Office, was replaced by the one I have described as resembling that containing "B 53," but with the centre blank. I find the circular obliteration on a green Britannia, with date attached (December 15th, 1858), on all the green Britannias handstamped "FOURPENCE" that I have met with, and on the only two obliterated specimens of the vermilion Britannia I have had, so that it must have been in general use in 1858; whereas I have never seen it on any of the Britannias issued in 1859, and on only one specimen of the 2d. small head with band. All of these I find obliterated with the mark I have mentioned above as having replaced the circular mark. The change in an obliterating mark does not seem to be a matter of much importance; but in this case I think it may bear upon the question of the order of issue of the two 2d. stamps issued in 1858-9, or thereabouts.

In 1859 a plain circular stamp containing the word "PAID" appears to have been occasionally used as an obliterating stamp. I find it on very late impressions of the 1d. head with diadem, on the 2d. large head with band, and on the 6d., blue, and 1s., vermilion, Britannia. This also was probably an extra stamp used at the General Post Office when there was much work.

About the middle of 1861 the mark "B 53" must have come into use. As I mentioned in the September number, I have stamps on envelopes dated as late as April, 1861, obliterated with the mark with blank centre. I have also specimens dated November, 1861, bearing the "B 53" mark, which must therefore have come into use sometime between those dates.

The obliterations enable us to distinguish the magenta Britannias used as 9d. in 1859 from those used as 1d. in 1862, or at all events those specimens that were obliterated at the General Post Office.

Those bearing the mark with blank centre are certainly 9d.; those with the "B 53" mark are certainly 1d.; those with the mark of any of the country offices may be either.

There are two or three varieties of the "B 53" mark. The earlier ones were oval; the one more generally in use now is circular. The figures differ also in size and shape.

Similar marks, bearing "B 64" or "B 65," may also be found on Mauritius stamps. The former is used in the Seychelles, and the latter at Rodrigues, both of which are dependencies of Mauritius, and use the Mauritius stamps.

(To be continued.)

Correspondence.

"BLEUTÉ PAR LA GOMME."

To the Editor of "The Philatelic Record."

SIR,—In the November number of your magazine "*Bleuté par la Gomme*" opposes my iodine theory, chiefly, as it seems to me, for two reasons—first, because dextrine gives a brownish colour with iodine; and second, because similar changes occur in some of the earlier stamps of the Messrs. De la Rue, which your correspondent suggests were backed with gelatine.

I did not overlook the fact that dextrine gives a brown; but so far as I can learn, dextrine was not the substance employed, but rather a preparation of starch, which gives a blue colour with iodine. I do not think that gelatine can be used for adhesive purposes.

On reflection I came to the conclusion that the paper itself must contain both the starch and the iodine necessary to the change. I therefore took two pieces of paper, one of which I coated with iodide of potassium, and the other with starch, and submitted both of them to acid influences, which would liberate free iodine. It must be remembered that only free iodine will turn starch blue. Both these pieces of paper, which I enclose for your inspection, were blued, which shows that the paper contained in itself both of the ingredients necessary to produce the change.

To sum up, the colour produced by iodine and unaltered starch is of a violet shade, whilst that produced through iodine and starch being acted upon by acids is a bright blue, resembling that found in the blued stamps.

The time at my disposal just now will not permit of my carrying my investigations further for the present, but I intend resuming them during the summer, when I shall claim the assistance of "*Bleuté par la Gomme*."

Yours, &c.,

CHEMICUS.

[We have forwarded the pieces of paper referred to by Chemicus to our other correspondent, and whether they have changed colour since they left the laboratory of Chemicus, or whether our soothing presence has counteracted the acid influences to which he had subjected them, we cannot say; but, so far as our eyesight serves us, one of the slips is a dirty grey, and the other an uncleanly white. Not a shade of blue can we discover.—Ed.]

HELIGOLAND POST CARDS.

DEAR SIR,—In answer to E. D. B., I beg to say that I have several 5 pfennig Heligoland cards, with extra 5 pfennig stamps impressed upon them, in some cases in the left upper angle, in others beneath the original stamp. I had them from Dr. Pilger, late Postmaster of Heligoland, who informed me that they had been prepared by some enterprising firm in Hamburg, and had never been issued or used in the island.—Yours, &c.,

A POST CARD COLLECTOR.

Proceedings of the Philatelic Society of London.

THE fifth meeting of the season was held on the 18th December, 1880; the President in the chair. After the Secretary had read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved, Mr. Rutley was proposed by the Vice-President, seconded by the Secretary, and elected a member of the Society. The meeting was called to hear the reading of a paper by the President on the stamps issued by the private telegraph companies, and subsequently by the Post Office authorities, for the prepayment of telegrams in Great Britain. The President was able to show most of the stamps described in his paper, which was highly appreciated. As it will form a portion of the Society's catalogue of the stamps of Great Britain, no further allusion need be made here as to its contents.

THE sixth meeting of the season was held on the 15th January, 1881; the President in the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved, and the correspondence. Mr. Ed. Buckley was proposed by the President, seconded by the Secretary, and elected a

corresponding member of the Society. The Secretary then read a paper by Mr. Westoby on the newspaper stamps imprinted on various periodicals since 1855, and the claim of these stamps to be acknowledged and collected as postage stamps. Mr. Westoby demonstrated that since the passing of the Act (18 Vict. c. 27), on the 15th June, 1855, which abolished the duty on newspapers, the stamps imprinted upon periodicals were so printed for no other purpose than the prepayment of postage, and are therefore as worthy of collection by the philatelist as any other stamps solely employed for the same purpose. He showed that the stamps printed on newspapers prior to 1855 were merely fiscals, indicating the tax or duty levied upon these publications—a tax which varied in amount with the quantity of letterpress which the journal contained. So long as these duties continued to be charged, the Post Office authorities carried the newspapers free through the post for a certain time after the date of their publication; but when the duties were repealed the privilege of free carriage naturally ceased, and new arrangements had to be made. The outcome of these was, that henceforth newspapers might be sent through the post either by book post, in which case postage had to be paid upon each separate transmission, or they might have the Government stamp imprinted upon them, which entitled them to transmission and re-transmission during a period of fifteen days from the date of their publication. But the income derived from the Government stamp went to the Post Office only, and no longer benefited any other branch of the revenue. Without giving further details of the paper, which is but an outline of the chapter on the same subject in the forthcoming catalogue of the stamps of Great Britain, it need only be recorded here that Mr. Westoby clearly proved the purely postal character of the following newspaper stamps; viz.:

1d., impressed in red, with the letter A. 1½d., impressed in red.

1d., black, used by *The Times*, *Illustrated London News*, and *Stamford Mercury*.

1½d., black, used by *The Times* and *Illustrated London News*. 2d., same.

½d., black (obliterated), used by *The Times* and *Stamford Mercury*.

In the discussion upon the paper which followed the reading, the only objection (Mr. Westoby having disposed of others) which seemed to attach to the collection of these stamps was that they could hardly be looked upon as "*timbres-mobiles*," an objection which shuts out many fiscal stamps, impressed upon deeds, probates, &c., from the collections of fiscal stamp collectors. It was, however, unanimously agreed that no catalogue of English stamps would be complete without a list of these newspaper stamps; and the best thanks of the meeting were accorded to Mr. Westoby for his paper.

On the conclusion of the day's business, the new Brazil and St. Domingo post cards; the provisional and new stamps for Eastern Roumelia; surcharged Straits Settlements; Labuan, and other novelties, were exhibited and noted.

Notices.

THE Secretary begs to remind members that their subscriptions to the funds of the Society for 1881 are now due.

The Secretary will feel greatly obliged to collectors if they will send him, to 14, South Square, Gray's Inn, London, W.C., any specimens which they may possess of the undermentioned stamps of the private telegraph companies of Great Britain. The stamps will be taken every care of, and returned to their owners as soon as they have been examined.

British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company—3d., 6d., 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 3/-, 5/-

The Electric Telegraph Company—1/- circular, blue, on sheet of rose paper.

" R.G. (crossed lightning)—J.S.F. series—3d., 6d., 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 2/6, 3/-, 4/-, 5/-.

" J.L.R.—J.S.F. series—3d., 1/6, 2/-, 3/-, 4/-, 5/-.

" R.G.—H.W. series—3d., 6d., 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 2/6, 3/-, 4/-, 5/-.

United Kingdom Electric Telegraph Company—Oblong rect., 3d. and 6d.

" Upright rectangular, 2/-.

Reference List of the Postage Stamps of South Australia.

(Continued from page 158.)

THE OFFICIAL OR DEPARTMENTAL STAMPS OF
SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

To describe in detail the immense number of varieties which exist of these stamps would prove a most tedious task, and the result would be of doubtful interest. When we have given a list of the various surcharges and their signification, and have pointed out which of the values so surcharged are least frequently met with, we do not consider ourselves further called upon to trace the surcharges upon all the varieties of stamps which we have enumerated in the reference list of postage stamps proper. Suffice it to say that the lettering is found printed in various colours upon almost every variety of type, colour, shade, watermark, and perforation.

The use of stamps surcharged with certain capital letters, forming the initials of the department of Government in which they were used, probably commenced in 1863, as we find the surcharges on the rouletted stamps of that issue, but not on those of the two previous ones. They continued in use until about two years ago, since when all stamps, we believe, employed to frank official correspondence have been indifferently surcharged "o.s.," which signifies "On service" or "Official service." The surcharge is in block letters, with a stop, as a rule, after each.

LIST OF SURCHARGES.

A.	in black and red	. . .	Architect.
A.G.	„ black, red, and blue	. . .	Attorney-General.
A.O.	„ „ „ „	. . .	Audit Office.
B.D.	„ red	. . .	Barrack Department.
B.G.	„ black	. . .	Botanical Gardens.
B.M.	„ red	. . .	Board of Magistrates.
C.	„ black and blue	. . .	Customs.
C.D.	„ „ red	. . .	Convict Department.
C.L.	„ „ blue	. . .	Crown Lands.
C.O.	„ „ red	. . .	Commissariat Office.
C.S.	„ „ „ blue	. . .	Colonial Secretary.
C.S ^{gn} .	„ „ „ (2 types)	. . .	Colonial Surgeon.
C.P.	„ red	. . .	Commissioner of Police (?)
D.B.	„ black, blue, and red	. . .	Destitute Board.
D.R.	„ „ . . .	. . .	Deed Registry.
E.	„ „ red and blue	. . .	Engineer.
E.B.	„ „ . . .	. . .	Education Board.
G.P.	„ „ red and blue	. . .	Government Printer.
G.S.	„ red	. . .	Government Survey.
G.T.	„ black and red	. . .	Goolwa Tramway.
H.A.	„ „ . . .	. . .	House of Assembly.
H.G.	„ „ . . .	. . .	Query.
I.A.	„ red	. . .	Immigration Agent.
I.E.	„ black	. . .	Query.
I.S.	„ red	. . .	Inspector of Sheep.
L.A.	„ black and red	. . .	Lunatic Asylum.
L.C.	„ red	. . .	Legislative Council.
L.L.	„ „ . . .	. . .	Legislative Library.
L.T.	„ black, blue, and red	. . .	Land Tenures.
M.	„ „ and red	. . .	Militia (?)
M.B.	„ „ „ . . .	. . .	Marine Board.
M.R.	„ „ „ . . .	. . .	Marine Registry (?)
M.R.G.	„ „ . . .	. . .	Manager Railway Gambier Town.

O.	in black	Ordnance (?)
O.A.	„ „ red, and blue	Official Assignee.
O.S.	„ „	On Service.
P.	„ „	Police.
P.A.	„ „ and red	Protector of Aborigines.
P.O.	„ „ red, and blue	Post Office.
P.S.	„ „ and red	Principal Secretary.
P.W.	„ „	Public Works.
R.B.	„ red	Road Board.
R.G.	„ black, red, and blue	Registrar-General.
S.	„ red and blue	Sheriff.
S.C.	„ black, red, and blue	Supreme Court.
S.G.	„ „ and red	Solicitor-General.
S.M.	„ „ red, and blue	Stipendiary Magistrate.
S.P.	„ „	Superintendent of Prisons (?)
S.T.	„ „ and red	Superintendent of Telegraphs.
T.	„ „ red, and blue	Treasury.
T.R.	„ „	Query.
V.	„ red	Volunteers.
W.	„ black	Waterworks.

The above surcharges are common on the 1d. (type 1), rouletted and perf.

o.s. Only	1d. (type 2).
Common	2d. (types 1 & 2), rouletted & perf.
Scarce	3d., black surcharge.
Unknown (?)	3d., red „
Common	4d. „
„	6d., all shades, rouletted and perf.
o.s. Only	8d.
Scarce	9d., grey-lilac.
o.s. Only	9d., mauve, 1872.
Unknown (?)	10d.
„ (?)	1s., orange or yellow.
Common	1s., brown, rouletted and perf.
Not many	2s.

“TOO LATE” STAMPS.—It is doubtful whether stamps bearing this surcharge are worthy of any attention. It is most probable that, as is the case with similar stamps in Trinidad, the words “Too late” are, at best, a post-mark struck with a hand-stamp after the letters have been posted. No “Too late” stamps are sold to the public in Trinidad, and the unused specimens seen in collections have simply been stamped to order. The following South Australian stamps are met with having this surcharge in black :

1d. (types 1 and 2).	3d. (black surcharge).	6d.	8d.
2d. (type 2).	4d.	9d., grey-lilac.	

Notes and Queries.

A. P.—We have received complaints from others besides you of the party in question. We have represented to him that such complaints have been made, and that if they recur we shall have to expose him. We would fain believe that he is not wilfully dishonest; but in future we shall not accept the excuse that good stamps have been changed on his sheets for forged ones.

DRUGGER.—The “*Habilitados*” are all bad; the rest are genuine.

T. M.—They will all be published in due course.

FRED, and COLLECTOR.—Declined with thanks.