



SAPPHIRE

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THE

Philatelic Record.

JANUARY, 1902.

Editorial Notes.

WE must crave the indulgence of all parties concerned in the speculation when we gloat over the failure of so-called Commemorative labels issued under the guise of postage stamps to advertise local shows at the expense of Stamp Collectors.

Another Commemorative Failure.

The latest attempt in this direction is the Pan-American Series. It is now a confessed failure. Unsold remainders are expected to total up to no less than a couple of million dollars of face value. As this rubbish has cost the United States Postal Department twenty cents per thousand to produce, the stock returned to be destroyed will certainly take the gilt off the ginger-bread. And we are delighted to hear it. Anything that will tend to convince the Postal Departments of all countries that the honest printing and issuing of stamps to meet postal needs, and postal needs only, will be a gain in the end to the issuing Government. For in the choice of countries to collect, which Philatelists are now compelled to make, those countries which overload their postal issues with Commemorative rubbish are always the first to be set aside. More than one country has fallen into the rejected and neglected class that, but for its lapse into speculative or commemorative ways, would still be popular with Stamp Collectors, and would consequently participate in profitable sales to a numerous and world-wide class of regular customers. Already, it is said, the Postal Department of the United States is not likely to venture on any more show labels. And as for the speculators, the good souls who, despite the opposition of all respectable Philatelic journals, laid in stocks of the rubbish for the purpose of unloading them on gullible Stamp Collectors, they seem of late to have counted their chickens before they were hatched. Pan-Americans are on the down grade, Columbians unused are offering considerably below face, and Canadian Jubilees are in the same plight. For all of which Philatelists, jealous of the good name and fame of their hobby, will be most thankful.

THE Stamp Editor of *The Captain* informs us that on receipt of the recently-issued series surcharged "British Protectorate," he, seeing that the Protectorate was proclaimed so long ago as 1888, wrote the Company for an explanation. The reply he received was as follows:—"In reply to the question addressed to us on the 2nd inst., on behalf of the stamp-collecting readers of *The Captain* I am directed to say that the State of North Borneo became a British Protectorate in 1888 and that the Court of Directors do not feel called upon to explain their reason for making the surcharge referred to."

The Company has, no doubt, the best of reasons for not venturing on an explanation. But the question for Stamp Collectors is how long they are going to continue buying such worthless rubbish. Even respectable dealers are getting sick of it, and one publisher has seriously considered the advisability of omitting the stamps from his popular catalogue. Who in his senses can possibly believe in the postal necessity of the numberless changes which are made in the stamps of this so-called State? certainly no one who had seen, as we have, piles upon piles of stamps that have never passed through a Post Office postmarked as though they had been used, and so dished up for sale to innocent collectors. Often and often have collectors been warned of the non-philatelic value of these stamps, and not long ago, with a view to stifling those warnings, hints were thrown out of legal action by the Company.

It is high time that the leading Philatelic Societies took up this matter in the interests of Stamp Collectors and dealers, and if they can do nothing else they can, at all events, agree to exclude from their catalogues all issues for which no satisfactory explanation is forthcoming. With the value of the stamps from the point of view as revenue producers we have nothing to do, but from the Philatelic point of view, with which we are exclusively concerned, it is surely time to draw the line in our catalogues and albums. It is time to differentiate between stamps obviously issued to meet postal needs and stamps for which even an explanation is not to be had.

PHILATELISTS on this side will hear with no little astonishment, on the authority of the *Montreal Philatelist*, that the collectors of Canada show "a deplorable lack of a co-operative national spirit." Some years ago strong Societies were running in Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, Quebec, and elsewhere. Now our contemporary asks, "Where are they?" That there are enthusiastic and important collectors in Canada we know well, and no one will deny that the stamps of Canada and of the separate Colonies, now federated into one Dominion, are amongst the most interesting of all the stamps of the British Empire. Even if they confined their attentions exclusively to their own loyal colony, Canadian collectors would have a rich field for study, and full scope for even the longest purses, whilst more economical collectors may revel in a grand range of used stamps rarely heavily postmarked. Our contemporary is endeavouring to whip up the membership of the Canadian Philatelic Society, and we trust it will be successful, for Canada represented by one large and influential Society would be a voice to be reckoned with in the Philatelic ranks.

THE Birmingham Philatelic Society has made a somewhat novel departure in starting a stamp collection that shall be the property of the Society. At first sight the idea seems to be of the Utopian order, and the utility somewhat shrouded in mystery. But a little consideration will probably convince most collectors that the project is not so purposeless as it would seem. The value of an all-round collection of even ordinary stamps ready at hand for reference at the meetings of a Society must be obvious. No one would advocate an attempt to

collect expensive stamps, but an ordinary collection such as an economical general collector would make, with the occasional addition of notable Philatelic varieties, could scarcely fail to be a most important Philatelic Society reference-book. Again, it would be exceedingly useful and helpful to the less advanced members of a Society as a guide to collecting and to the proper arrangement of a collection.

And further, it would form an increasingly valuable asset for the Society. If undertaken, as started by the Birmingham Society, and properly mounted and kept securely available for all members of the Society, the cost should not be much of a burden to the funds.

WE English people are apt to regard our institutions and organisations, including, of course, the Post Office, as superior to any
At Last. which the world has ever seen, but, whilst a patriotic spirit should as far as possible be encouraged, is it not well for us sometimes seriously to consider whether such is really the case, and if we can with perfect justice lay that flattering unction to our souls?

Our thoughts are drawn specially in this direction at the present time, not only because we chronicle this month the long-expected advent of our penny stamp in the orthodox red, but also because a paragraph in the article on the stamps of Luxemburg which appears elsewhere in our columns reminds the older Philatelists amongst us, although the facts may not be so familiar to our younger brethren, of the prominent part played by this unimportant Duchy in the events leading up to the recognition of the almost generally admitted principle, "one value, one colour." It is not by any means a pleasant reflection that a practical, commonsense solution of many postal difficulties suggested so long ago, approved and supported by the representatives of Great Britain at the Postal Conference in 1897, more or less promptly adopted by many foreign nations, and even by our own Colonies, should only now be carried out here in its entirety, and that this great commercial people, with its far-reaching influence and world-wide postal communication, should be virtually the last to put into practice the principles in which it professes to believe.

"All things come round to him who will but wait"

sang the poet, and we in this country, after years of waiting, realise at last that his song was true.

WE have had complaints from several of our readers, whose sub-
The Journal. scriptions expired during the year 1901, that the only intimation given to them of the fact has been the sudden cessation of the supply of the Journal. We beg to assure them that under the new arrangements such an irregularity will not be repeated, and also to inform them that back numbers can be obtained at the rate of 5d. each (post free) on application to the Secretary of the Company, Mr. G. F. H. Gibson, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester. Copies of this month's issue have been sent to all former subscribers whose addresses we have been able to secure, and we shall be greatly obliged if those who have not already intimated their wish to receive the *Philatelic Record* for the present year, will do so without delay by filling up and returning the accompanying form.

Luxemburg.

By **Jos. Schock,**

President of "L'Union des Timbrophiles."

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 291. VOL. 23.)

Stamps of 20 centimes, chocolate-brown, dark and pale, and grey.

7th October, 1872	800,400 Stamps.
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Stamps of 25 centimes, ultramarine, bright and pale.

30th October, 1865	100,000
30th June, 1868	..	..	..	500,300
Total	<u>600,300</u> Stamps.

Stamps of 25 centimes, Prussian blue.

7th October, 1872	799,700 Stamps.
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Stamps of 30 centimes, mauve, dark and pale.

20th June, 1864	101,000
13th September, 1867	100,000
Total ..	..	..	..	<u>201,000</u> Stamps.

Stamps of 37½ centimes, bistre, brown and yellow.

29th November, 1866	..	..	..	99,900
From this delivery were taken, in order to be surcharged UN FRANC, for reasons which follow	..	..	..	<u>75,800</u>
Remain	..	..	..	24,000 Stamps.

Stamps of 40 centimes, vermilion, yellow-orange, and orange.

29th November 1866	..	..	..	99,900
25th February, 1874	..	..	..	79,900
Total ..	..	..	..	<u>179,800</u> Stamps.

Stamps of 1 franc (surcharged in black on 37½ centimes), bistre.

25th January, 1873	75,800 Stamps.
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As will have been seen from the foregoing figures of the various printings and principal shades of each value, the 1865-1874 issue offers a wide field for the specialist.

The first printings were on a very smooth paper, whereas the later ones are on a thick and woolly paper, which is much duller. The colour of the early printings is also much fresher and more brilliant than in the later printings. The clichés very soon became worn. This is most noticeable in the background of the centre oval, which, in the

stamps of the later printings, appears solid, instead of composed of crossed lines. The impression of the last printings is very much blotched.

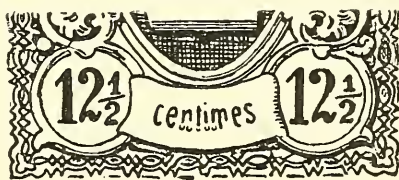
Amongst the stamps of 1 centime, reddish-brown, of 1872, specimens are found in which the C of the word centime is badly printed, and resembles a G. In other specimens the second E of centime is closed, and resembles a B or a D.

In the stamps of 10 centimes it may be noted that the word centimes generally reads cenimes. Amongst the mauve stamps of this value I have found specimens in which the final s of centimes takes the shape of a 3, as the following illustration shows.



Senf's catalogue gives a 10 centimes, lilac, imperforate, but I have never seen a pair of these genuinely obliterated. I recommend all my readers to be very careful when acquiring this variety, as the margins are large enough to enable anyone with ease to make such imperforate specimens.

Regarding the stamps of $12\frac{1}{2}$ centimes, the same may be said as for this value of the 1859 issue, as it exists with three to seven scallops underneath the word centimes, this word being also badly printed.



Other specimens show centites instead of centimes.

The new 20 centimes stamp was necessitated by the agreement signed on May 22nd, 1867, by Luxemburg and Belgium, to come into force on August 1st of that year.

It may not be without interest if a small digression be made here in order to give a few details respecting the historical and political relations of the Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg.

(To be continued).

Notable Philatelists.

William Moser.

OF recent years short biographies with portraits have become more and more popular, and they now often constitute in some journals the principal feature of interest to be found in their pages. Although much interest is evinced by our subscribers in these columns, which are framed upon lines of usefulness as well as gossip, yet we trust it can never be said that the more important aims of this Journal are to any extent neglected in consequence.

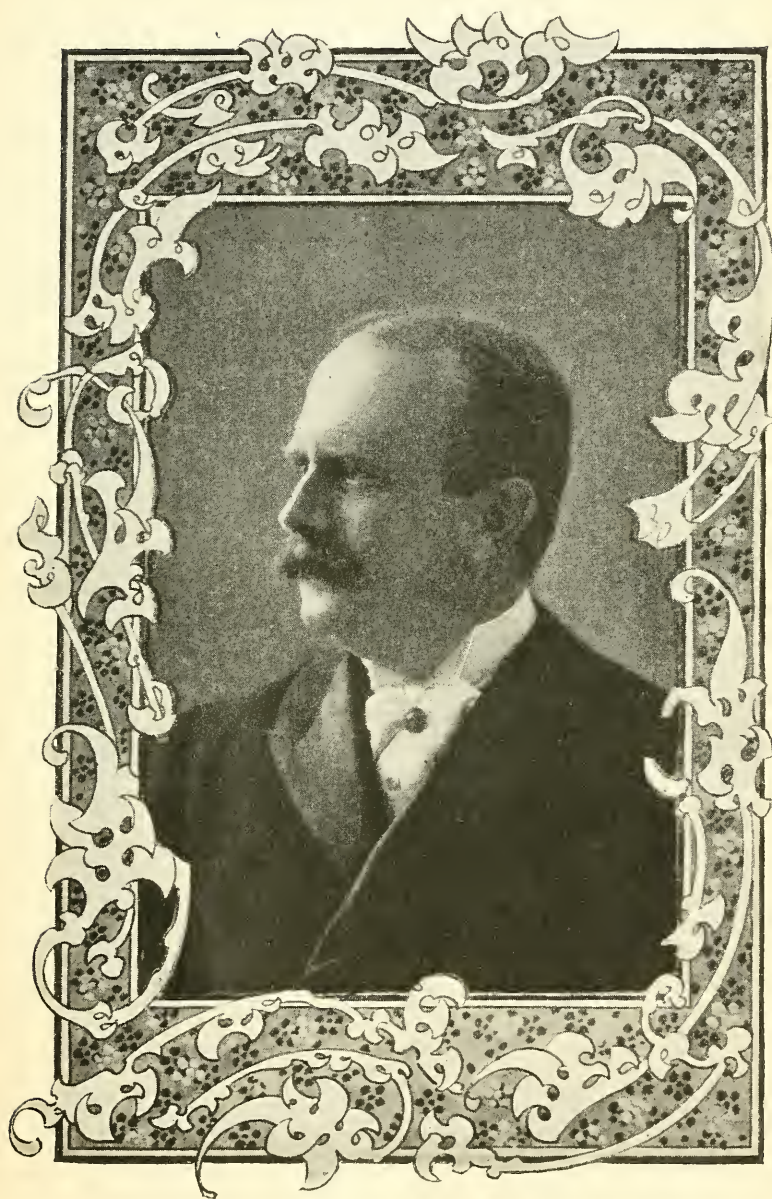
In this matter of Portraiture *The Philatelic Record* is upon a different foundation to that of any other similar paper, in that this item is no new mood taken up of recent years, but has formed a feature of the Magazine since its first number, published 23 years ago.

In that first number a photograph was given of the late Mr. E. L. Pemberton, a familiar name to everyone possessing the most superficial knowledge of Philately, whose memory the Magazine was started to perpetuate. Every year since then at least one short biographical sketch of some eminent Philatelist has been given, together with a portrait, the latter forming a suitable, and, at one time, unique frontispiece to each volume.

The gallery includes most of the great Philatelists of the older school, too many of whom, alas, are no longer among us, and many of those who have made a name for themselves in the present. Yet in all this gallery of illustrious names there is not a single American. English, Italian, French, Spanish, German, Belgian, but ne'er an American. The explanation lies in the fact that although the United States have for some years now boasted of several fine collections, their owners have been collectors and nothing more, and it is only in comparatively recent years that some of these collectors have chosen to study their stamps. A remarkable change has come over the States in this respect, especially during the last five years, for whereas the Philatelists could then be easily counted on the fingers, their number has wonderfully increased to-day. It is therefore with exceptional pleasure that the portrait of an American, Mr. William Moser, is given in this, the first number of our XXIVth Volume.

Mr. Moser's first interest in stamps was developed at the early age of six. With his father he visited one of the latter's old friends, who had a son of about the same age. The two became fast friends, and one day a collection belonging to the other youngster was brought out, and after all these years it is still green in Mr. Moser's memory. Of it he says: "It seemed as if I could never look at it enough, and I think it is the only thing in my life that I ever coveted. When we were leaving, to my great joy I received, as a parting gift, an album containing about 300 stamps. Nothing since has given me so much or such continued pleasure as that gift. I added to it like other boys by

Notable Philatelists.



William Moser.

exchanging and small purchases until at the age of 16 I had accumulated about 1,600 varieties, which at that time (1870) was a pretty fair collection. I can remember that in the year 1865 or 1866 a young friend gave me about 25 of the 3c. blue New York Carriers, which he had found on letters among his father's papers. There being no space for them in my album, or description in my catalogue, I showed them to a well-known dealer in New York, and asked what they were. 'Some locals, I suppose,' he answered. So I was glad to get rid of them (and only retained one) as in those days United States locals were despised almost as much as those of Hamburg." The collection was preserved but neglected, until 1884, when Mr. Moser's interest in Philately was awakened through the discovery that one of his old friends, the late Col. E. Harrison Sanford was a Philatelist. Of him he says: "I presume Col. E. Harrison Sanford had the finest lot of United States ever brought together. I remember that he was plating the Brattleboros, and had succeeded in finding eight varieties of the ten. Besides, he had a magnificent general collection. I remember it afforded me great pleasure to have him discover in my humble collection a used Scarlet Mercury of Austria and to present it to him. He had the Milbury on entire letter, the only one at that time known in any condition, and of course many fine things too numerous to mention. He was, however, interested to the greatest extent in United States Locals, and largely to him I also owe my interest in them, as well as to the late Mr. Coster, partner of our well-known American banker, Mr. Pierrepont Morgan."

Mr. Moser no longer collects generally, but specializes chiefly United States and Hawaii. At present his favourite countries are English Colonies, Switzerland, and Philippines, but only the early issues interest him. Such stamps as the Sydney and early Philippines, owing to their varieties, have a special interest for him, but he says he has all he can do to slowly improve his United States, which, owing to more intimate knowledge, he may be pardoned for finding the most interesting.

In the Locals, Mr. Moser is, as is well known now, after his exhibits at Paris and at The Hague, very strong; he not only collects them, but knows all about them, and it is most interesting hearing him talk about these stamps: "Nearly all European countries were at first supplied with stamps by their respective governments. In the United States it was different. The people appreciating the practicability of the means of prepaying letters introduced in Great Britain, demanded the same. As our Government was slow to act, the Local or Private Posts were established, and in my humble judgment I think that such well-established Locals as the City Despatch Post should precede all others. That post was established in New York City in 1841, and in 1842 it was so well managed that the Postmaster of the City of New York offered the owner, Mr. Greig, the management of the Local Delivery business, and instructed him to have a stamp prepared. These were in all respects similar to what he had been selling, except that the top label contained the words 'United States Despatch Post,' instead of 'City Despatch Post.' As it was a success, the people wished the Government to go a step further and supply them with stamps with which to frank letters beyond City limits, as at that time many Private

Posts were doing. This clamour resulted in the issuing of such stamps as the Milbury, Brattleboro, St. Louis, Providence, Annapolis, etc., etc. From records we know that the Postmasters of Washington, Philadelphia, and other cities issued stamps, but of these none have been discovered."

Finally the Government acceded to the universal demand, and, as you know, in 1847, issued stamps to be used all over the United States. I will not weary you with further details. Nearly all of our Locals have their history, and it is owing to that and the rarity of many and the knowledge that others are likely to be discovered, that interest in them exists.

At or immediately after the Paris Exhibition last year, where it got a Gold Medal, Mr. Moser bought Mr. Ehrenbach's collection of Buenos Ayres, but this is the only large purchase he has made. His pleasure is to form collections, not to buy them ready made. He exhibited at Paris and at The Hague, and was awarded gold medals at both, and as his collection has been so recently described in these pages it is not necessary to say more about it. As showing the high esteem in which Mr. Moser is held wherever he goes, we cannot refrain from mentioning that he was the recipient of a special silver medal presented to him by the Committee of the Paris Exhibition as "an evidence of their good feeling" for his services in connection with the Exhibition, and immediately on his arrival at The Hague the Committee there insisted upon his becoming a member of that body.

Upon the usefulness of exhibitions, he says, "I believe that exhibitions are worth all the trouble and expense that they entail. They certainly afford great opportunities for the student, encourage the collector, and increase the public interest. They certainly tend to cement friendship between nations. A Philatelist finds friends wherever he goes, and for him there is only one country—the whole world. I have personally learned the truth of this, and my collection has a new value and interest to me, viz., that it is the means of making me feel at home, and of enabling me to make good friends everywhere."



An Interesting Stamp.

WE have recently been shown an hitherto unsuspected error in the 1859-63 issue of Hawaii Inter Island Postage on thin bluish paper. It is a double impression, consisting of 1 cent. black and the 2 cents. blue, the latter printed upon the former.

The 1 cent. black was evidently printed first, and is a pale impression, but showing the words Hawaiian Postage, the frame and the numeral **1** very distinctly. Upon this is printed in the usual manner (*i.e.*, all in full, in fact, a normal impression) the 2 cents. of the same issue in blue.

The frame of the black impression falls $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm. to the right of the frame of the 2 cent. stamp in blue, while the numeral **1** just touches

the numeral 2 on the right hand side. Horizontally the two impressions occupy relatively the same position; for example, the two numerals are level one with the other.

The stamp is unused, and has been pronounced undoubtedly genuine by the best experts.

The cause of the error is probably explained by the faint impression of the first stamp, the 1 cent. black; evidently the impression was too poor to be issued, and either this or it was not noticed at all, caused the paper to be again used for printing a sheet of the 2 cents.

The stamp is now in the possession of the Earl of Kintore, to whom we are indebted for the above particulars, and we need not say that we consider it the most interesting discovery in Hawaii of late years.



The Range of Values.

By an English Specialist.

THE true Philatelist does not relish the too persistent reduction of his hobby to the monetary level, yet he knows that, but for the monetary basis, it is more than probable stamp collecting would never have gained such a hold upon all countries as it has.

And after all, even the priced catalogue has its Philatelic uses, apart from its being a guide to market values. I therefore propose, in an occasional article, to use catalogue prices as a basis for discussing the relative rarity and popularity of certain stamps.

The priced catalogue is nothing more nor less than a trade list of goods for sale at given prices, which are regulated, in the main, like every other commodity, by questions of supply and demand. On the Stock Exchange certain classes of shares are regarded as speculative, and are, therefore, subject to continual fluctuation. Other classes are of the investment order, and show comparatively little variation. So it is in stamps. I have found, in studying the range of values, that certain countries are more sensitive than others to influences of a disturbing character. Other countries, again, keep a more or less even price, more frequently tending upwards than downwards. Individual stamps, too, vary in their fluctuations. Some are sharply affected by discoveries of fresh supplies, others are but slightly affected thereby. The explanation is very simple. The stamp of genuine and deserved popularity is not easily dethroned. A speculator's hoard, or the sale of a specialist's collection, may ease prices for a time, but the disturbance rarely lasts long enough to affect catalogue prices.

Now it so happens that stamps of all classes have been subjected to a very severe test in the course of the last five or six years. Up to 1896, prices had been trending upwards. We now know they were, for the most part, forced up artificially, and consequently, from 1897 to 1899, there was a slump in so-called values. This period of artificial prices was a severe, and withal a very useful, test of real values. The

undeservedly high priced toppled badly, and have continued to topple down to a dead level of common rank. Good stamps, on the other hand, though they too tumbled down with the crowd, almost as rapidly began to recover. And a few, a very few, passed through the crisis unaffected by it. I doubt if any truer index can be found than is thus supplied by a range of catalogue prices over a series of years which shall include the periods of inflation, of slump, and of recovery. Those stamps which weathered the disturbance with little or no change will, I think, be found to be the deservedly popular stamps of deservedly popular countries. Indeed, I question very much whether a better answer can be found to the frequent question, "What country shall I collect or specialise?" than is to be found in this verdict of the survival of the fittest, for this survival is due quite as much to Philatelic as to monetary influences. In fact, it may be said of stamps, as of other commodities, that most stamps eventually find their true level. The cataloguer may price them up or down as he pleases, the competition of the market will nevertheless, in the long run, level prices.

Sometimes it is found that collectors have themselves over-rated the rarity of a particular variety. The dealer very readily responds to such indications of appreciation, and for a time the catalogue price represents the accepted ideas as to its value. But the price being temptingly high leads to a search for the stamp, and supplies are forthcoming which sooner or later correct the error in pricing, which may, as I have pointed out, have been due to an over-rating of rarity on the part of collectors themselves.

Gambia.

One of the most interesting, and one of the most compact little countries that can be examined from the point of view of a range of values is the little British Crown Colony of Gambia. Its issues are few, they are free from unattainables, and there is not a provisional from start to finish. It is one of the few countries that have passed through the periods of artificial prices, of slump, and of recovery with little change. In common with the crowd, its early issues benefited considerably during the period of inflation, as will be seen from the following table:—

1869. No wmk., imperf.

		1896.	1897.	1899.	1900.	1902.
4d., brown	.. ..	15s.	20s.	24s.	24s.	32s.
6d., blue	.. ..	15s.	40s.	40s.	40s.	40s.

1874. Crown C.C.

4d., brown	.. ..	15s.	35s.	35s.	35s.	50s.
6d., blue	.. ..	25s.	20s.	22s.	25s.	30s.

Here it will be noted that in 1897, the great year of inflation, the 4d. of the no watermark was raised from 15s. to 20s., and the 6d. from 15s. to 40s. In the case of the 4d. it will be seen that the stamp has gone on rising in value from 20s. to 32s., from which it may be inferred that, in this case at all events, the inflation of prices only started this stamp on the road to deservedly higher prices. The 6d.

no watermark was listed at what was regarded at the time as a very tall price, being raised from 15s. to 40s. Yet, under the severe test of the subsequent slump, it has maintained its increased level, which is not a little extraordinary after such a sharp and considerable rise. The reason will be apparent to any collector who institutes a search for mint copies with the pretty little medallion head unflattened. Now and again a few good copies turn up, but they are soon absorbed. In the C.C. imperfs. the position is reversed, the 4d. being the higher priced stamp. It was raised in 1897 from 15s. to 35s. The higher price was maintained till the 1902 edition of Gibbons', in which it is raised to 50s. The 6d. C.C., strange to say, was lowered in the year of inflation from 25s. in 1896, to 20s. in 1897, but from that price it has steadily recovered till it is now figured at 30s. Thus all four stamps of the first two issues of Gambia have successfully weathered the disturbance of prices without a single set back, and now stand higher than ever, with every prospect of levelling up into stamps of a very much higher grade, for their delicately-embossed heads in pure white must suffer in passing through dealers' stock books.

The 1880 series, watermarked C.C., and perf. 14, is also steadily improving in value, as will be seen from the following table:—

1880. Wmk. C.C., perf. 14.

		1896.	1897.	1899.	1900.	1902.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d., orange	.. ..	0 9	0 9	0 9	1 0	0 6
1d., marone	.. ..	0 4	0 9	1 3	1 9	1 0
2d., rose ..	.. ..	0 6	1 3	7 6	7 6	10 0
3d., ultramarine..	.. ..	0 9	1 6	3 6	4 6	3 6
4d., brown	.. ..	2 0	7 6	35 0	35 0	35 0
6d., blue ..	.. ..	4 6	15 0	17 6	17 6	20 0
1s., green..	.. ..	35 0	70 0	50 0	50 0	60 0

The two lowest values and the 3d. have not yet steadied in price, but the 2d. and 4d. are apparently improving stamps. The price of the 6d. and 1s. is probably affected by auction sales, at which they rule considerably under catalogue. The most difficult stamp of the lot to get is the 4d. Its scarcity suddenly manifested itself in 1898, when copies changed hands readily at 40s., and in the opinion of not a few it is by no means over-priced at 35s. Here, even in this comparatively modern series, be it noted, in all but one stamp there is a rise of price immediately following the year of inflation. This excellent testimony to stability of prices tells its own tale in favour of the embossed stamps of Gambia. The 1s., which was raised from 35s. to 70s. in 1897, had to be dropped in the next catalogue, published in 1899, to 50s. It has, in the 1902 edition, been raised to 60s., but it is an open question if that is not over-rating its current value.

Of the 1886-7, C.A. embossed series, I need say little. The stock of remainders is not yet exhausted, and until it is copies of all values will probably be obtainable at an average of three times face. The olive shades of the 6d. are, however, somewhat scarce. There are three well-defined shades of this stamp. They are listed by Gibbons as slate-green, olive green, and bronze-green. The slate-green is the last printing, and is the shade of the remainders. Here are the prices since the shades were first set out in the catalogue of 1899:—

1887. C.A., perf. 14.

			1899.	1900.	1902.
			s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
6d., slate-green	..	..	1 6	1 9	1 6
6d., olive green	..	..	4 0	5 0	17 6
6d., bronze-green	..	..	15 0	17 6	15 0

The notable feature in these pricings is the sudden jump in the case of the olive green from 5s. to 17s. 6d. This increase is simply a correction, for all along it has been the pale olive that has been the difficult stamp to get. Indeed, it is so scarce as rarely to be met with in any but specialist collections in really mint condition. So far back as 1897 the scarcity of this shade was recognised. It was then called pale sage green, and was left unpriced in the unused column. The cataloguers have of late been a bit mixed over these shades, but Gibbons has at last gripped the fact that it is the pale olive that is the really rare shade. I question very much whether the so-called bronze is worth its catalogue price, for it is a later printing. I have a sheet of it, and have seen others, but I have never seen a sheet of the pale olive, which I believe to be as much under-priced as the bronze is over-priced. This sheet, by the way, is the one which shows the so-called damage to the two upper corner stamps, the top frames being bent downwards to the left and right respectively. In the slate-green this defect has been rectified.

The inference to be drawn from this examination of the range of values of the stamps of Gambia will, I think, be obvious. The little embossed medallions are evidently well worth attention. From the specialist point of view it is a bit too modern, and there is not enough of it. Age will come, and the series are increasing. It is a clean and compact little country. The specialist collects it in complete sheets, and as the sheets are little gems of fifteen stamps, in three horizontal rows of five, a collection in sheets is a sight to make any Philatelist envy the possessor. But collections in sheets to include the first issues are getting beyond reach. Of late years a sheet or so have turned up of the imperfs., but they quickly disappear again. Sheets of some of the C.C., perf., series of 1880 are still to be had, and should be snapped up at present prices. Of the last embossed series, watermarked C.A., sheets can be had at very reasonable prices of all values, as the remainders fortunately keep prices down for the present. I don't think any collector will regret securing a set of sheets of C.A.'s.

In the matter of shades, a few values yield some very marked varieties. In the 1880, C.C. series, the most marked shades are to be found in the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. The C.A. series is more prolific: three very distinct shades are to be found in the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., green, two in the 1d., three in the 2d., three in the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., two in the 3d., practically none in the 4d., (indeed, I question whether there was more than one printing of this value), three in the 6d., as already noted, and three in the 1s.

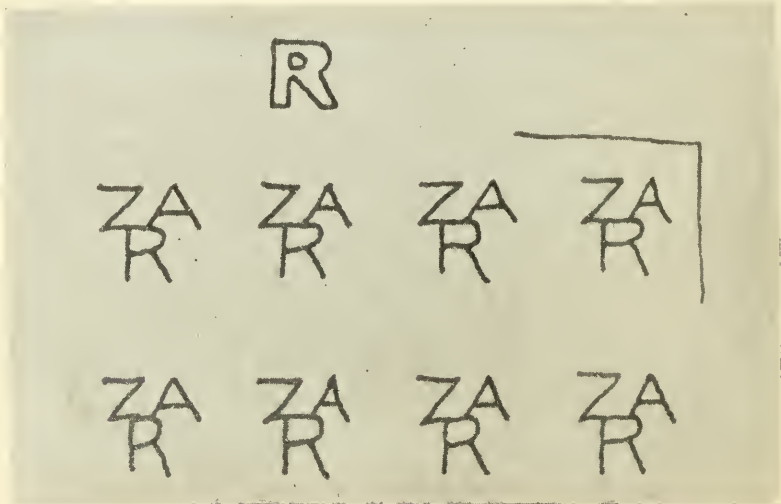
The sheets tell their own story of early printings. The first printings in the C.C. series had a little dot of colour alongside the centre stamp on the right and left margin paper. In the later printings there was a dot of colour in the right-hand margin alongside each of the three last stamps of each row, and one on the left margin alongside the centre stamp as before.

An Historical Watermark.

By J. W. Jones.

IN the late autumn of 1899, about or just before the time the war began, I was told that Kruger was going to have a new issue bearing his own head, to celebrate the discomfiture of the British and inaugurate his own reign as the great Panjandrum of South Africa. The stamps were to be printed at the Transvaal stamp office as usual.

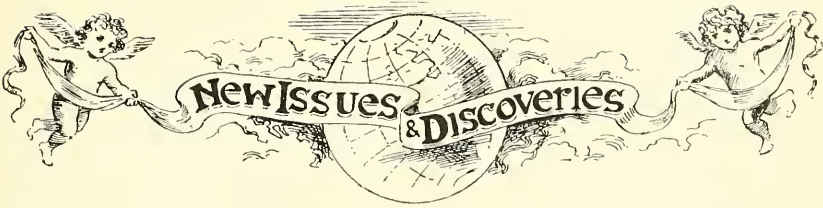
The idea was scouted at the time, and I have not been able to get any inkling of the proposed designs or colours; if they still exist, the



designs are probably with Mr. Schalkburger, unless seized by the British authorities on the capture of Pretoria.

The paper for this precious issue was ordered in England from a well-known firm of paper makers, and I believe has been delivered through an agent who gave the order. The close observer, on examining the watermarked design, may detect a sinister meaning—the letters are all joined, suggesting the “United” South African Republic, and showing only too clearly what was in the minds of the Transvaal authorities when they declared war against this country. Fortunately things have not “panned out” as they expected.

The illustration is taken from the corner of one of the sheets, and shows the position of the watermark. The marginal inscription consists of the letters Z. A. R. in block type; the R only appearing in the illustration.



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. FRED. H. GIBSON, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester.

The British Empire.

Bahamas.—Following close upon the 1/- CC perforated $12\frac{1}{2} \times 14$, the 1d. CC of 1863-75 has now been discovered perforated $14 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$. The specimen we have seen is unused and in very fair condition.

Adhesive.

1d., vermilion, wmk. CC, perf. $14 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

British Honduras.—The 10c. comes in the new Postage and Revenue type.

Adhesive.

10c. lilac, value, &c., in green.

British South Africa.—A new value has made its appearance here; the design, etc., is the same as that of the current 5s. A new 10s is also on hand, but is not yet on sale.

Adhesive.

7s. 6d., black.

British North Borneo.—In addition to the set listed recently we have now the 25 and 50 cents, surcharged.

Adhesives.

25c., indigo, surcharged British Protectorate in red.
50c., violet, " " " in black.

The joy expressed in our November number was, we find, all too premature. The *S.C.F.* informs its readers that the new surcharge has been applied by order of the Court of Directors, North Borneo having been a British Protectorate for some years, a fact they considered not generally known.

We have also now to record two new stamps, which, if the country were not so

old and hardened an offender, we should be most pleased to do, as they are really productions of the highest degree of artistic merit. The denominations are entirely new, being 10 and 16 cents respectively, the first adds the Honey Bear to our Philatelic Zoo, while the second gives us a little view of native scenery and modern progress. They are as usual printed on white paper and perforated 14; the centre is in the second colour named. We have not yet seen them overprinted "British Protectorate."



Adhesives.

10 cents, dull purple and chocolate-brown.
16 " yellow-brown and green.

Great Britain.—Punctually as promised, on the 1st of January, four values of the new set bearing the portrait of King Edward VII. were placed on sale at all Post Offices. Owing to a very kindly arrangement on the part of the authorities opportunity had already been afforded to criticise and even to illustrate the design. Many of our readers are therefore familiar with the latter; no certain information is however available as to the other denominations yet to appear. We will at once say that we are not at all disappointed in their appearance and if we miss the severe simplicity of the late 1d. value, the new 2½d. and 6d. are infinitely more tasteful both in colour and design than those of the preceding set. The head of the King is shown in an upright oval, on the left of which is a branch of bay, on the right a branch of oak leaves, the whole being surmounted by a crown. In the case of the ½d., 1d. and 6d. values the denomination is indicated boldly in a label at the foot, in the 2½d. it appears in numerals alone, "postage and revenue" are in small letters on either side of the crown, nor is there any further inscription.

The colours are bright and good, and lead us to hope that the late unsightly combinations of brown on yellow, purple on blue, &c., will not appear again. The stamps are printed in rows of 12, twenty of which comprise a sheet; this is divided into two panes, surrounded as usual by the Jubilee line; the control letter is A. Perforated 14 and watermarked Crown.



Adhesives.

½d., blue-green	Wmk. Crown, perf. 14.
1d., aniline carmine	"
2½d., deep ultramarine	"
6d., lilac	"

Labuan.—As is usual, the two new stamps illustrated for North Borneo have been surcharged "Labuan;" in each case the addition is in the same colour as the centre of the stamps.

Adhesives.

10 cents, dull purple and chocolate-brown.
16 " yellow-brown and green.

Levant, British.—We have seen the current 40 paras on 2½, with the surcharge very plainly twice printed.

Adhesive.

40 paras on 2½ purple on blue, variety double surcharge.

India. BHOR STATE.—We have been shown by Messrs. Whitfield King a new ½-anna stamp for this State. It is imperforate on white wove paper and apparently lithographed.



Adhesive.

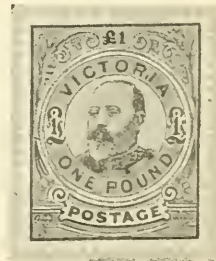
½-anna, pale vermilion.

Orange River Colony.—We have seen the 3d. blue with raised stops, surcharged "B.D." in capitals directly underneath the letters "V.R.I." We understand other values exist thus, but do not know whether it is a surcharge for postal or fiscal purposes, but should imagine most probably the latter.

Victoria.—We have just received from Mr. Peckitt the long-expected £1 stamp bearing His Majesty's portrait. As will be seen below, it is a disappointing production; not that the likeness is so bad, but the ornamentation is crowded and the whole appearance undeniably heavy. It might have been thought that something better could have been produced, even if the designer had looked for inspiration to the recently-resuscitated set of which, for instance, the 5s. is an excellent example of simplicity combined with effectiveness.

The stamp is printed on white wove paper, perforated 12½, and watermarked V and Crown sideways.

The companion stamp of £2 is not yet issued, but the Postmaster, writing under date 19th November, says "it will be on sale in a month's time."



Adhesive.

£1, rose, perf 12½, wmk. V and Crown.

Queensland.—The ½d. of 1895 has been seen printed on both sides; the extra im-

pression is quite plain and falls diagonally across the back of the copy we were shown.

Adhesive.

½d. green, variety, printed both sides.

Straits Settlements. N. SEMBILAN. —We do not appear yet to have chronicled the 15c. green and mauve surcharged "One Cent" and bar across the top of the stamp, though issued a considerable time back.

Adhesive.

1c. in black on 15c., green and mauve.

St. Vincent. — Even with two recent discoveries in the early issues of Bahamas we should have thought that the issues of this island had been so thoroughly investigated as to make it extremely unlikely that an unchronicled variety should be found; still we have been shown by Mr. Peckitt a stamp he has acquired that has been hitherto unknown. It is the 1s violet-rose of 1874-5, perforated 14 to 15 *all round*. The specimen in question is used and in good condition.

Adhesive

1s., violet-rose, perforated 14 to 15.

Foreign Countries.

Abyssinia.—We see by the French journals that the current set has been surcharged "Ethiopia."

This has been necessitated by the fact that some of the large quantities of these stamps that have been placed on the market at a fraction of face value found their way back to Abyssinia, and were being used in the ordinary manner, naturally much to the detriment of the postal revenues.

We understand also that a new issue of a more ambitious, and therefore of a more saleable, description is impending.

Adhesives.

¼	guerche, green, surcharged "Ethiopia," in violet.
½	" rose, " " "
1	" blue, " " "
2	" brown, " " "
4	" brown lilac " "
8	" violet " "
16	" black " "

Bolivia.—The various Continental papers give particulars of a new issue, four values of which have already appeared. The 1, 2 and 5 cents bear portraits of Bolivian celebrities, and the 2 bols. the arms of the country. Perforated, on white paper.

Adhesives.

1	c., lilac.
2	c., green.
5	c., red.
2	bols., brown.

Bosnia.—The 35 heller of the current issue now appears with the figure of value in black.

Adhesive.

35 heller, blue, value in black.

Brazil.—The *Monthly Journal* notes the following fresh varieties.

Adhesive.

20	reis, orange and blue, perf. 11½ to 12 × 8½ to 9½.
50	" deep green, perf. 12½ to 14.
200	reis in black on roor. mauve, perf. 12½ to 14 and 11 to 11½ compound.

Colombia.—We received two more provisionals from Cartagena in December, feeble lithographed productions as before and also decorated with a control mark, but this time in the form of a chain consisting of 14½ links, struck in red and covering five stamps at a time. They are pin perforated and on white wove paper.

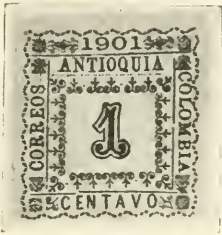


Adhesives.

1	cent, blue (shades) control mark in red.
2	cents, brown (shades) " "

ANTIOQUIA.—Four type-set provisionals have also appeared for this Province, a 1 cent in blue, brown and red, and a 2½ c. "Too Late" stamp in violet.

There are four varieties of each, the border and ornaments varying.



Adhesives.

1c., red on yellowish, pin perforated, wove paper.
1c., brown on white, " " "
1c., blue on white, " " "
2½c., violet " Too Late " " "

Chili.—The 5c. of the new series is to hand; it is a handsome stamp as will be seen below. Perforated 12, on plain white wove paper. We also have, from Messrs. Whitfield King, a 50c. of the recent type, rouletted.



Adhesives.

5c., blue. Perforated 12.
50c., yellow-brown. Rouletted.

Congo State.—The current 1 franc now comes with frame in carmine.—*Monthly Journal.*

Adhesive.

1 franc, black and carmine.

Crete.—The 25lep. has received the Provisional surcharge in a fresh type, as before in block letters, but now of a larger and taller description.

Adhesive.

25 lepta, surcharged in black. *New type.*

France.—In addition to those Colonies given in our last, the following have also been provided with the 10, 15, 25 and 50 centimes in new colours:—

Grand Comoro.	Oceanic Settlements.
New Caledonia.	Indo China.
Madagascar.	Anjouan.
	Indian Settlements.

DAHOMY.—We are informed by Messrs. Whitfield King that the 1c. black on blue, though chronicled a considerable time ago, has only just made its appearance.

GUADELOUPE.—The 5 centime now comes in the current shade of green.

Adhesive.

5 centimes, light yellow-green.

REUNION.—From several sources we hear of four provisional stamps, formed by surcharging the 40, 50, 75c. and 1 franc with new values, and a horizontal bar intended to fall over the old denomination, all in black.

Adhesives.

5c. on 40c., red on yellow.
5c. " 50c., carmine.
15c. " 75c., brown on orange.
15c. " 1fr., olive green.

Dominican Republic.—With regard to the unpaid letter stamps listed in our December number, there seems to have been some confusion as to the colour in which they are printed, but American exchanges describe this as brown olive. They are rather similar to the Austrian stamps employed for the same purpose, being oblong, while the numeral of value occupies a beaded oval in the centre and the letter "T" appears in a circle at each corner; there is no inscription. Printed on white paper, perforated 14½.

Adhesives.

2 centavos, brown olive.	Postage due.
4 " " "	" "
5 " " "	" "
10 " " "	" "

We now illustrate the lowest value in the current postal set.



Greece.—An error in the "A M" series of surcharges is listed in the *Monthly Journal*, the 1dr. on 5dr. having the value spelt "ΔΡΑΧΜΗ" instead of "ΔΡΑΧΜΗ."

The thick paper hitherto employed for the present set is being changed for one of a much thinner description. We have the 5 lepta from Messrs. Whitfield King and have since received the 10 lepta.

Holland (Dutch Indies).—*Der Philatelist* gives particulars of five low values just issued for this Colony; the type is almost the same as that of the current 1 cent. Holland, but the numeral of value is on a dotted background, and the ornamental oval is slightly more decorative, while the

inscription reads *Nederlandsch-Indië*. Perforated, on white paper.

Adhesives.

- 1 cent., olive green.
- 2 " brown.
- 2½ " green.
- 3 " orange.
- 5 " red.

SURINAM.—One value of the same design is also listed here.

Adhesive.

- ½ cent., lilac.

Japan.—The lowest value of the current set (5 rin) now comes with the value expressed as ½ sen, colour and design the same as before.

Adhesive.

- ½ sen., grey

Monaco.—The current 25c. has been changed in colour; it now appears according to the Postal Union standard in blue.

Adhesive.

- 25 centimes, blue.

Peru.—We find we have not listed the three commemorative stamps issued last year; we illustrate the initial value.



Adhesives.

- 1 cent. black green.
- 2 " " red.
- 5 " " lilac.

Paraguay.—The *Am. J. of P.* mentions a 1 peso of the same design as the 1892 set.

Adhesive.

- 1 peso, slate.

Roumania.—In addition to the 15 bani chronicled in our last, the following varieties now come :—

Adhesives.

- 10 bani, rose, perf. 11½ × 13½.
- 40 " dark green, perf. 11½.

Servia.—*Ewen's Weekly* informs us that the 10 para, surcharged upon the 20p., has been printed afresh. The figures of value are now larger, but the letters of "Para" are placed close together, so that the whole surcharge now measures only 14mm. in length, instead of 15mm. as before.

Adhesive.

- 10 para on 20 para. *New type of surcharge.*

Uruguay.—The current official stamps now bear the initials "H.R." in very small letters; this in addition to the word "Oficial."

Wurtemberg.—To Messrs. Alfred Smith's Monthly Circular we are indebted for the following information :—

"An agreement has been concluded between the Imperial postal administration and that of Wurtemberg by which the postal systems are to be united for a definite period of four years from April 1st, 1902, after which it will be subject to a notice of one year on either side. On the date mentioned the separate issues of each country will give place to a unified series inscribed 'DEUTSCHES REICH' according to some papers, 'DEUTSCHEREICHSPOST' according to others"



Philately in the Mags.

British Guiana.

Mr. Frederick L. Lewton furnishes us some very interesting information concerning the new printing of the 1c. green, of which we said: "The difference is one of shade only, and will interest none but the specialist." Mr. Lewton says: "The words POSTAGE AND REVENUE at the top of the stamp and the entire label containing the value at the bottom, are printed in a different ink from that used in making up the body of the stamp. In the case of the new 2c. these two portions are printed in black ink, while the rest of the design is in violet (the black is permanent and the violet or lilac is fugitive, like the two parts of the 1c. as described below.—S. B. H.), but in the 1c. both impressions are in green and the difference is not noticeable, until the stamp is placed in water for a time. Then the green making up the body of the stamp fades or washes out, while the green of the other impression is fast. The 1c. green of the previous issue is finished in one printing, like the 5c. blue, and the ink is all alike, of course. If one is in doubt as to which stamp he has, the 1c. green of 1890 or the 1c. green of 1901, he has only to put them in water for a few minutes." As a matter of fact, it will be very easy, after a little experience, to distinguish the two printings by the shades of green employed, without resorting to the "soaking;" but the matter of the double impression is very interesting, nevertheless, as already stated. We have to modify our original statement that "the difference is one of shade only" and say "shade and use of different inks," but we still think the distinction of interest only to the specialist—albeit of much greater interest now than before Mr. Lewton's discovery.—*Meheel's Weekly Stamp News.*

France. New Discovery.

M. Marconnet writes in the *Echo* as follows:—"M. Mahé has sent me lately two very curious letters. Both were franked with a vertical pair of the Empire type. Each pair was perforated on the four outer sides, but imperforate in the middle. One pair is the 20 cent. blue, cancelled Paris, 6 November, 1860, and the other the 40 cent., cancelled Lyons, 2 January, 1862.

"How does such a variety come about? It seems to me that the explanation is found by considering the working of the Archer machine, which was used to perforate these stamps, and of which I gave the following description in the "Vignettes Postales":

The Archer machine always perforated five sheets in thickness at a time, but only the three sides of each strip in one row were perforated by one operation; the sheets then automatically moved the height of one stamp, and the needles perforated the second row, and so on. In perforating the lower side of the last row of stamps the vertical needles pierce the lower margin of the sheet.

"The machine thus perforated at each movement the upper, the left and the right side of each stamp of one row. If it be therefore conceded that a sheet was commenced to be perforated from the top, then for some reason taken out of the machine and put under again the reverse way, for the sake of convenience in commencing the perforation again, then there would be a place where the two vertical perforation rows meet, leaving the horizontal space between the stamps imperforate."

The most remarkable thing about the above discoveries appears to be the fact that two values should have come to light at the same time. If the date of use in this case be any guide to the time the sheets were perforated, the discovery is all the more astounding in view of the explanation given by M. Marconnet as to how the variety is to be accounted for.

If M. Marconnet is correct that only the machine described was used and in the way he describes, it is a most remarkable fact, and one we cannot personally at present assent to, that the 20c. and 40c. should both exist imperf. horizontally. Seeing the source the stamps came from, we cannot help thinking that M. Marconnet must be mistaken. There is an alternative: M. Mahé may have been deceived, as it is not stated that he personally found the stamps. The best and cleverest experts are at times taken in.

The Smallest Stamps of the World.

From one of our contemporaries we take the following interesting item:—

Mecklenburg- Schwerin	1¼ schilling	10 × 10 mm.	100 mm.	—
Bolivar, 1st issue, 1863	..	10 × 12	..	170
South Australia, ¼d., red- brown, 1882	..	10½ × 18½	..	194
Victoria, ¼d., 1874	..	11 × 19	..	209
Columbia, 2½c., 1865	..	..	..	212
Great Britain, ¼d., 1870	..	18 × 14	..	252
Spain, ½c.	..	..	..	256
Brazil, 280 reis, 1861	..	18½ × 14½	..	268
Roumania, 1858 issue	..	15 × 18	..	270
Venezuela, 1859	..	14 × 20	..	280

The record rests, therefore, with Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

Djibouti.

The last number of the *Echo* announced that one of their correspondents had received a letter from Djibouti franked with a bisected stamp of 50 centimes and obliterated July 2nd, 1901. In the next number another correspondent writes that he also received letters dated July 11th, 1901, franked with the same value bisected, and also others franked with bisected 30 centimes stamps. He adds that he possesses several specimens of each, left as well as right halves, all absolutely authentic.

The necessity for these bisected stamps arose through the delay which occurred at the printing works at the Boulevard Brune. The stamps of the new type were in course of manufacture, but never finished. In spite of using the stock of stamps at Obock, they have not yet done with provisionals. The

following decree published by M. Ormières, Governor of the Somali Coast, contemplates a further issue of the bisected class.

Art. 1.—As soon as the postage stamps of 0,10 are sold out, those of Obock of the value of 0,20 will be cut in two, and each half may be used for franking purposes in place of the stamps of 10 centimes.

Art. 2.—The stamps of Obock of 0,25 will be cut in two and the half bearing the figure 5 will be handed to the officials to be employed and sold in place of the stamps of the 5 centimes sold out. The other half will be put under seal to be utilised later on if necessary.

The stamps created by Art. 2 have already come to hand cancelled November 20th.

The production of this class of provisional is certainly played out nowadays; bisected stamps long ago ceased to be popular with collectors, and they are becoming more and more unpopular every year.

Notes and News.

Killing Two Birds with One Stone.

The other day a steamer entered the harbour of Monrovia in Liberia, and as is customary the medical officer, a coloured gentleman, came on board before the passengers landed. He seemed quite satisfied with the state of health on board, made no fuss and smiled affably on everyone. After what he very likely found a disagreeable medical task, he went among the passengers, greeting them most cordially, and in the next moment, whipped a book out of his pocket and offered to sell all the present issues of stamps, postcards, &c., of Liberia. This is indeed killing two birds with one stone!

Novel Idea in Reply Cards.

It often happens that people to whom reply cards are directed, do not use the reply portion, at all events in the way the sender desired, who as often as not never hears anything more. This seems to be distinctly hard lines on the sender, who, as a matter of courtesy, is entitled to a reply, especially when he has paid for it. In this way we are told some firms lose considerable amounts. Complaints have been sent to the Postal Administration of the United States, and it is said that a system is contemplated by which such reply cards will in future only be paid for upon delivery.

British Guiana Stamps Destroyed.

Mr. Harrison has kindly sent us the following cutting from the *Demerara Daily Chronicle* of November 9th, 1901:—

At the Rubbish Destructor, Georgetown, on Thursday, by order of the acting

Governor, and in the presence of representatives of the Receiver-General, Auditor-General, and Postmaster-General, a large quantity of stamps were publicly destroyed. These stamps constituted a temporary issue and were called in at the end of July. The following is the number destroyed with their respective face values:—

3 cents	..	..	..	..	46,273
4 "	"	"	"	"	39,910
8 "	"	"	"	"	71,517
10 "	"	"	"	"	96,595
20 "	"	"	"	"	111,003
40 "	"	"	"	"	117,061
72 "	"	"	"	"	110,401
Embossed envelopes (5 cents)					2,784
2 cents surcharged	..	..			360

I.R. Official a Faked Variety.

Mr. Ostara writes thus:—"People would do well to keep a look out for 1s., green, Great Britain, I.R. OFFICIAL, with short L in official, thus: I. I have had two copies shewn me within the last fortnight, and I know the same to have been sold here in Manchester. The L has been very cleverly erased with a sharp instrument, and is scarcely discernible without a strong glass. I send this thinking it may be of value to the *Record*."

Leeds Philatelic Society.

The syllabus issued by this Society shows there is plenty of life left in this, we believe, the oldest provincial Society. It has not a large roll of members like some societies, but work and enthusiasm are what are required to ensure success, and there does not seem to be a lack of either in Leeds. It is very gratifying in such a

comparatively speaking old Society to find the interest of its members so well sustained in its work, as foreshadowed by an excellent list of papers.

New Supplement.

We have received from Messrs. Bright & Son a supplement recently published to their A.B.C. catalogue. It contains all new issues of stamps and postal stationery giving the prices at which this firm supply them at the date of publication.

Post Office Mauritius.

Mr. Bernichon some four years ago purchased the two "Post Office" out of the collection of Dr. Legrand (to whom we tender our hearty congratulations on having just celebrated his golden wedding). At the Hague Exhibition, M. Bernichon exhibited only one of them and we then heard that he had sold the other. The name of the purchaser has for some reason or other been kept a secret; this seems to be quite the fashionable thing to do now-a-days. The more the mystery the greater the advertisement. Certain of the French papers have been on the war-path however, and one of them now announces that the stamp was purchased by the Postal Museum at Berlin, the price stated to have been paid being 37,500 francs. A very tall figure for a specimen which certainly left a good deal to be desired in point of condition! We understand, however, that this stamp was purchased by Mr. Phillipp Kosack, who then exchanged it for some duplicates belonging to the Postal Museum at Berlin.—One of the objectional facsimiles in the Official Collection has disappeared, and it is to be hoped the other one will soon follow suit.

The Origin of the Design of British New Guinea Postage Stamps

These stamps represent a "lakatoi," or trading canoe, under full sail, being typical of the staple industry of that portion (viz., Port Moresby and district) of British New Guinea. The "lakatoi" consists of two large canoes, fastened together, and fitted with sails made of pandanus leaf. Port Moresby, the capital of British New Guinea, is the centre of the pottery trade. The manufacture of pottery is carried on entirely by the women, who have become very skilful in the art, which embraces almost every size and variety, including jars, pitchers, jugs, bowls, etc., etc. At a certain season of the year, when the wind is favourable, these are all collected and placed on board the "lakatois," which are manned by a large number of natives. Sail is set and the expedition starts on a voyage of some hundreds of miles along the coast, where portions of the cargo are distributed at the various ports of call; in return for which large quantities of sago are received on board. It may be stated

that the district around Port Moresby is a very barren one, and but little food is grown there. At the expiration of three months, when the wind is again favorable, the return journey is commenced, and when in due course the "lakatois" arrive in safety at their destination (Port Moresby) great is the rejoicing amongst the whole population, who are anxiously awaiting the return not only of their relatives and friends on board, but also of their much-needed supplies of sago.—*The Australian Philatelist.*

New British Stamps.

The following Notice was published by the Post Office on Tuesday, December 17th:—

POSTAGE STAMPS.—On and after the 1st January next, new Postage Stamps bearing the King's portrait, of the value of $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 6d. respectively will be on sale at the various Post Offices in the United Kingdom. The colour of the new 6d. stamp being the same as that of the present Penny Stamp, care should be used to avoid mistaking one for the other. New Stamps of other denominations also bearing the King's portrait will be issued afterwards.

All the Adhesive Stamps of the present issue bearing the portrait of the late Queen will still be available: a description of them is given below:—

Value.	Colour.
$\frac{1}{2}$ d.	Green or Red.
1d.	Purple.
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	Purple and Green.
2d.	Green and Red.
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	Purple on Blue Paper.
3d.	Purple on Yellow Paper.
4d.	Green on Brown.
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	Green and Red.
(This stamp will no longer be supplied when the existing stock is exhausted.)	
5d.	Purple and Blue.
6d.	Purple on Red Paper.
9d.	Purple and Blue.
10d.	Purple and Red.
1/-	Wholly Green or Green and Red.
2/6	Purple.
5/-	Rose.
10/-	Blue.
£1	Green.
£5	Orange.

The Stamps with the late Queen's portrait embossed or printed on envelopes, wrappers, post cards, and letter cards will also be available.

No other stamps are valid in payment of postage.

By Command of the Postmaster-General.

General Post Office,
17th December, 1901.

Federation v. Protection.

The *Australian Philatelist* opens the ball in the November number as follows:— "Amongst the many blessings (?) that Federation has so far produced, the most notable, and certainly the most discussed, is that of Protection and heavy duties for New South Wales. We—the New South Welshmen,—have so long enjoyed the privilege of a free port, that the sudden impost of customs

taxation has come as a severe shock to traders in the city. So far as we know no members of a Federal Parliament are collectors, and, therefore, the idea of including postage stamps amongst the dutiable goods probably never entered their heads. Postage stamps are to be treated as works of art, and, for the present, will come in free. On albums and catalogues there is an ad valorem duty of 25 per cent., which makes a big difference in the price at which expensive albums such as the *Excelsior* and *Philatelic Interchangeable Albums* can be sold. Philatelic requisites, such as stamp mounts, tweezers, perforation gauges, handbooks, etc., all have to pay from 20 to 25 per cent. duty."

So long as the authorities tax such things as stamp mounts, tweezers, and perforation gauges only, we don't see that much harm will be done. The question would assume a very different aspect were postage stamps themselves included, which we are pleased to see is not at present the case. We only know of two places having a protective tariff on postage stamps, namely, India and Holland.

A Useful Trade Catalogue.

Mr. F. R. Ginn has recently published a handy Catalogue of British South Africa, including all the War Issues and United States of America and Hawaii. Mr. Ginn exhibited his very fine collection of United States at the London Exhibition of 1897, winning the Silver Medal, and is well known to have a fine stock of these stamps. Ample evidence of this is furnished by the catalogue, in which, among other good things, several *premiere gravures* are listed. All the stamps quoted are stated to be in stock at the date of publication, and the prices are quoted in American currency in addition to sterling.

Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue.

Part II. of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co.'s Catalogue has just been published. We hope to review it next month.

A Wholesome Precedent.

In the Italian town of Aversa a short time ago the stock of stamps was entirely

sold out, and it was three days before a new supply was received. Meanwhile the officials, instead of taking the prepayment in cash, forwarded all letters without stamps, thus forcing the receivers to pay double postage. An excellent precedent. The gain the Post Office derived from the payment of double postage would be infinitesimal to the benefits it would have derived pecuniarily from a provisional.

Red Tape.

Since last February France recognises only post cards bearing the inscription, "Carte Postale—Union Postale Universelle." Post cards not bearing this inscription are treated as letters and charged accordingly. This is a good idea to increase the revenue. As their own countrymen will have the privilege of paying the excess we don't see that "foreigners," however, have any cause of complaint.

Wurtemberg.

The stamps of Wurtemberg become obsolete on April 1st, 1902, that State having consented to adopt the stamps of Germany. The remainders, which include some 5 mark stamps, are on sale at face value and can be procured from the Head Post Office until exhausted. Of all the German States which at one time issued stamps Bavaria alone survives, and who shall say for how long?

MISCELLANEOUS.

The importation of facsimiles of Russian banknotes, coins, and postal or fiscal stamps is in future forbidden in Russia. This will principally affect albums and catalogues.

* * *

The United States Postal Administration have just opened a post office at Point Barrow, Alaska. A revenue cutter is to take the mails once a year to this, the most northerly post office in the States.

* * *

The nine stars on the stamps of Bolivia stand for the following nine provinces of that State:—La Paz, Cochabamba, Potosi, Chuquisaca, Oruro, Santa-Cruz, Tarija, Beni, and Atacania.

Correspondence.

Greece Surcharges.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—Will you allow me to make a few corrections in the paragraph appearing in the Notes and News of your October issue under the heading "Greece Surcharges"

I did not say to anybody that the errors were made intentionally to effect a quicker

sale. Those officially printed were very few and were quickly corrected with the exception of the following which continued on every sheet until the end of the issues.

ΛΕΞΤΑ; one on every sheet of 20 l.

ΑΕΠΤΑ; one on every sheet of 30, 40 and 50 l.

ΔΡΑΧΜΗ ; one on every sheet of 1 dr.
One sheet double 20, of which the lower
20 is slightly printed.

A few sheets, 20 printed in the margin
instead of the centre of the stamps.

Many varieties on every sheet in the size
of the O.

On the A.M.

ΛΕΞΤΑ ; one on every sheet of 25 l.

ΔΡΑΧΜΗ ; one on every sheet of 1 dr.

Roman M; three or four on every sheet
of 5 l.

As regards the 1 dr. imp. Greek and Bel-
gian prints these were found in the pos-
session of a speculator who asserted that
he had secured them from the Post Office
as printed in error. Since that time many
others have been made by forgers, on unused
and used stamps, chiefly the latter, both in
Constantinople and Athens, very similar to
the originals and consequently most difficult
to detect.

As to the perforation 11½, this was done
unofficially by a hand perforating machine
existing in the Post Office at the disposal of
the employes and for their convenience.
Any friend could have his stamps perforated
to order in the way he wished.

The actual 5 l. printed in England, only
60,000 in all, are now stated to be exhausted,

and orders have been given for a new issue.
It is said they will be printed on thinner
paper, have a wider perforation, and be
better gummed, as the old gum will not
stick.

Unused Greek stamps are getting more
rare every day. None are to be found here
except the 2 l., 1862, 1862-4 in different issues
and shades.—Yours truly,

Athens, EM. J. MERZANOFF.
Nov. 12, 1901.

The Watermark of the 1863 Stamps of Austrian Italy.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—Referring to Mr. J. H.
Abbott's enquiry regarding the watermark
of the 1863 stamps of Austrian Italy, may
we say that your correspondent is right
in supposing that it is Briefmarken and not
Franco-marken.

The late Mr. Westoby made the erroneous
statement on the authority of the French
Society of Timbrology, but a few months
before his death, feeling some doubts as
to the accuracy of the tradition, he made
further enquiries, the results of which formed
the subject of one of his articles in our
Monthly Circular.—Yours faithfully,

ALFRED SMITH & SON.

December 2, 1901.

Our General Staff.

An irreverent artist sends us the following sketch of his conception
of our General Staff at work. The idea is apparently stolen, without
acknowledgment, from the Witches Scene in Macbeth.



THE
Philatelic Record.

—
FEBRUARY, 1902.
—

Editorial Notes.

—

AN International Philatelic Society, with branches in at least all European countries: the members of each nationality meeting from time to time at appointed centres: membership in itself a guarantee of respectability and position, as well as a means for mutual protection against fraud: Exhibitions held at regular intervals in different countries, free from local and racial jealousies, comprising exhibits from all parts of the world, secured by the assistance of the various members, and in the truest sense, international. A fascinating dream, indeed; but for many years to come at least, we fear, a dream, and nothing more! Far be it, however, from our minds to disparage in any way the letter from a well-known Dutch collector which appears elsewhere in our columns; rather let us indicate some of the steps essential in our opinion for any progress towards so desirable an end.

**Romance
or
Reality?**

And first, it seems to us that the unit of any such organization must be the Philatelic Society and not the individual member, for it is obvious that the measure of success attending the efforts of a number of persons, however enthusiastic, in Herts, Leeds, Plymouth, and elsewhere, must be very small in comparison with that which could be achieved by the Societies to which they may, or may not, belong, whilst the aims and objects of the parent Society can certainly best be made known by the methods already found most suitable for their own purposes by her children. One necessity therefore is, surely, the federation of English Societies,—the Union of those of Germany and Austria being a striking example of what can be accomplished in this direction. Originating in 1897, and commencing only in a small way, it now numbers among its adherents over a hundred Clubs, including the principal Societies of the two countries.

But, it may be urged as an objection, that even were the Societies of this country federated, the distance between their headquarters would preclude any active co-operation between them, but unfortunately distance does not appear to be the sole obstacle to more intimate acquaintance. There are many Societies established in the North, the Midlands, and the South, all working in a greater or less degree for the encouragement of Philately, some making themselves known beyond the limits of their own immediate influence, others content with a much humbler position, but how many of the members

of, say, Manchester know anything of the personality and interests of their Bradford or Liverpool brethren? or what bond of fellowship is there between Birmingham and Sheffield? As a first step, we would suggest the grouping of Societies within easy reach of one another, and thus not only the attainment of increased powers of usefulness but also the cultivation of the social and friendly intercourse, which, as we have on previous occasions pointed out, is not the least of the charms of Philately. This being accomplished, the federation of the groups themselves could not be a difficult matter, and then, and then only, we submit, would this country be ripe for the consideration of that more extensive scheme, which we, in common with our correspondent, and many no doubt in other countries, would so gladly welcome.

We have written upon this subject at some length, hoping to receive from our readers expressions of opinion, favourable or otherwise, criticisms or suggestions. There is a great opportunity for enterprise on the part of some Society or individual: who will come forward and lead the van?

It has been claimed that the Press echoes the voice of the nation.

**The Press
and
Philately.**

While not going so far as to admit the truth of this assertion, it may fairly, we think, be said that the signs of the times can easily be gleaned through a perusal of its columns. It is, therefore, gratifying to find the repeated references made nowadays to Philately. We can scarcely pick up a popular newspaper for a whole week and not find something touching upon stamps.

These references too often, alas, prove not well founded; at the same time they serve the useful purpose of keeping our hobby before the general public, and in that way add recruits to our ranks.

The Press recently has been making all kinds of announcements concerning the withdrawal of the new King's head, assigning various reasons for the change; the favourite one, and, to our mind, the most stupid, being that the head faces the wrong way according to precedent, entirely overlooking the fact that the present is the first opportunity which has offered itself of creating a precedent.

So persistent, however, have these rumours of the changes become that it has required no less than an answer to a question put in the House of Commons to sweep away the mare's nest.



Luxemburg.

By **Jos. Schock,**

President of "*L'Union des Timbrophiles.*"

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

The Duchy of Luxemburg had, since 1451, belonged to Holland, but was added to France by the law of the 9th Vendémiaire of the sixth year of the Republic (1st October, 1795). Upon the fall of Napoleon I., the treaty of Vienna, after taking away a considerable portion of territory, which went to Prussia, created what was left into the Duchy of Luxemburg. The Grand-Duchy was then declared to be an independent State under the sovereignty of William I., King of Holland. In spite of this declaration of independence, the Dutch Government treated Luxemburg as an integral part of Holland. In 1830, when the Belgian provinces revolted, the Government of this new kingdom proclaimed the annexation of the Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg. For more than eight years Luxemburg was administered by the Belgian Government, always with the exception of the town of Luxemburg, which, in consequence of being a federal fortress of the German Confederation, of which Luxemburg was a member until the war of 1866, was garrisoned by federal troops, and ruled by the King-Grand-Duke.* Moreover, the King had declared by decree of 30th December, 1830, that he would govern his Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg as a distinct State, and separate from his Kingdom of Holland. By the Treaty of London on 19th April, 1839, the King-Grand-Duke regained possession of the Grand-Duchy, with the loss of another slice of land, which this time went to Belgium. This slice is still called by the Belgians by preference: "the ceded part."

One of the first cares of the Government of Luxemburg, after the final separation from Belgium, was the organisation of a postal service.

A provisional convention between the Grand-Duchy of Belgium was signed on 27th June, 1839, on the basis of the tariffs and rules, which had been in force in the Grand-Duchy during the time of its administration directed from Brussels. This convention was superseded on 24th April, 1842, by a new treaty. The tariff for letters exchanged between Luxemburg and Belgium was fixed at 20 centimes for letters addressed to places having a post office, and 40 centimes to all other places. Before the introduction of postage stamps, the total or partial franking of letters was indicated on the sendings by means of special obliterations, or, more correctly, franks. In the Grand-Duchy were used "FRANCO," "FRANCO GRENZEN," "P.D."

* The King of Holland and Grand-Duke of Luxemburg. Upon the death of the King of Holland in 1890, the Duke of Nassau—the head of the House of Orange—became Grand-Duke.—ED.

and "P.F." The two last franks were surrounded by lines. "P.D." postage paid to address (*post payé jusqu'à destination*), and "P.F.," postage paid to frontier (*post payé jusqu'à la frontière*). The frank "P.D." was used long after postage stamps had been introduced in the Grand-Duchy; for instance, I possess a letter posted at Luxemburg on 9th March, 1872, still bearing this mark "P.D." in addition to the stamps which show that the postage had been paid.*

By a new convention with Belgium, signed on 15th March, 1850, the tariff for letters was fixed at 30 centimes for each 10 grammes or fraction thereof. Letters, however, from and to the Belgian province of Luxemburg needed only 20 centimes for each 10 grammes or fraction thereof.

The convention of 22nd May, 1867, was the first concluded with Belgium after the introduction of postage stamps in the Grand-Duchy. In this convention the following articles are not without interest:—
Art. 5.—The tariff to be charged for ordinary letters sent from the Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg to Belgium, or from Belgium to the Grand-Duchy, is fixed at 20 centimes for each single letter, if prepaid, and at 30 centimes for each single letter if not prepaid.

Art. 6.—Excepted from the foregoing article are such letters, where the distance between the despatching and receiving offices, although situated in the two different States, is not more than thirty kilometres, when the charge for each single letter is 10 centimes, if prepaid, and 20 centimes if not prepaid.

As a stamp of 20 centimes will be required in consequence of this rate, the administration will issue a special stamp of this value (they were put into circulation on 13th September, 1867, as we have seen).

The change of the colours of the stamps of 25 and 37½ centimes took place in consequence of an agreement between the various administrations of the States forming the Austro-German Postal Union, to which the Grand-Duchy had belonged since 6th August, 1850.

A reference to the catalogues show that nearly all the States of this Postal Union after 1861 adopted a uniformity of colours, as follows:—

Rose (or red) for the stamps of 12½ centimes, or the equivalent of this sum, 1 silbergroschen, or 3 Kreuzer.

Blue for the stamps of 25 centimes, or 2 silbergroschen, or 6 Kreuzer.

Brown for the stamps of 37½ centimes, or 3 silbergroschen, or 9 Kreuzer.

The Grand-Duchy always advocated the adoption of uniform colours for the particular values mostly in use for international postal intercourse. At the Postal Congress in Washington in 1897, Luxemburg, Austria, and Hungary urged that they should be used for the various rates recognised by the Universal Postal Union. Finally it was decided to accept the proposal, with the modification that it be a *recommendation* to all postal administrations to have the

* After the issue of postage stamps the mark would be used as an obliteration. The same kind of thing occurs in Switzerland and in other countries.—ED.

postage stamps printed *as near as possible* in the following distinctive colours :—

The stamps of	25	centimes	in	dark	blue.
„	„	10	„	„	red and
„	„	5	„	„	green.

The political events following the 1866 war caused the remodelling of all arrangements made with those States which had hitherto constituted the Austro-German Postal Union.

In the new convention, which was signed on 23rd November, 1867, between Luxemburg and the North German Confederation, the following rates were fixed for letters :—

For prepaid letters up to one loth	...	1	slbgr.
„ „ „ over „ „	...	2	„

This accounts for the fact that such a small number of stamps of $37\frac{1}{2}$ centimes were sold during the six years they were on sale.

As for the $37\frac{1}{2}$ centimes, green, of the 1859 issue, this value in bistre is found with the inscription “centines” instead of “centimes,” also with three to seven scallops under the badly printed word “centimes.” Mr. Moëns catalogues a variety imperforate, but I have never seen it. As imperforate essays of this value exist, I am inclined to the opinion that the author of the catalogue has been led into this error by a badly-informed correspondent.

The 30 centimes, reddish-violet, exists with a variety in the word centimes, reading “centimes.”

After the Franco-German war, Luxemburg concluded a new treaty with the German empire. This convention was signed on 19th June, 1872, and one of the items was the introduction of letters with declared value from the Grand-Duchy to all States in the new empire. The maximum amount of such declaration was 1,200 thaler (£180). The postage of such a letter with declared value was fixed at the tax imposed for registered letters plus an insurance premium of $\frac{1}{2}$ silbergroschen for each 20 thaler (£3). Such letters had to be closed with five seals, and their prepayment was obligatory.

This innovation soon forced the Postal Administration to issue a stamp of the value of 1 franc. As there was a considerable number of stamps on hand of the $37\frac{1}{2}$ centimes, bistre, the use of which had practically ceased, it was decided to increase the nominal value of this stamp by the surcharge “UN FRANC” in black.

The issue of this value was announced to the public in the following manner :—

“ NOTICE.—POSTAGE STAMPS.

“The Postal Administration sells postage stamps of 1 franc, which can be used particularly for the sending of money orders and letters with declared value.

“Luxemburg, 28th October, 1872.

“The Governor-General of Finances,

“G. ULVELING.”

These stamps were not put into circulation until the 25th January, 1873.

Of essays I am only aware of the following :—

1867. Imperforate :

20 centimes, blue, carmine, grey-brown, ash grey, vermilion, green.

1867. Rouletted in coloured lines :

2 centimes, black.

12½ ,, yellowish green.

20 ,, grey-brown, ash grey, blue, vermilion, olive green and light green.

37½ ,, light blue.

40 ,, marone.

IV.

Issues of 1874-1879.

The stamps issued during the years 1874-1879 are the same type as those of 1865-1874. They are, however, perforated, instead of rouletted on white or coloured lines.

The printing, which is very inferior, was done at Luxemburg by the printer Pierre Bruck. On the 7th of October, 1874, he made the following tender to the Grand-Ducal Government to print and furnish the postage stamps, which was accepted.

To print 1,000 sheets of 100 stamps	20.—
1,000 sheets of paper	10.—
To perforate 1,000 sheets of 100 stamps ..	15.—
To gum 1,000 sheets	15.—
Preparatory work, &c.	25.—
	85.—

fcs. 85.—

Or £3 8s. for 100,000 stamps.

Each sheet of 100 stamps therefore cost 8½ centimes.

A few years later, in February, 1878, the same printer reduced the price per sheet of 100 stamps to 5 centimes. For 1,000 sheets of 100 stamps he sent a bill as follows :—

For the necessary paper	7.50
,, printing	15.—
,, perforation	15.—
,, gumming	12.50
	50.—

fcs. 50.—

Or £2 for 100,000 stamps.

The first delivery by Bruck was made on the 18th of November, 1874, and consisted of 72,800 stamps of 4 centimes, blue-green.

Before giving the whole series of the stamps printed at Luxemburg, I will make the following observations.

All the stamps printed by Pierre Bruck are perforated 13. Ample evidence is afforded by the stamps themselves that an inexperienced

hand had charge of the perforating machine, the majority being very unevenly centred. The perforation nearly always encroaches upon the design, so that one, and very often two sides of the stamps are without any margin, whereas the opposite sides show very considerable margins, sometimes as much as three millimetres. So numerous are the shades of this issue that it makes one wonder where Bruck could have found them all. The same delivery often contained two totally different shades; for instance, I have two 5c. stamps, both obliterated 1877, one of them is orange, the other pale yellow, and yet both must have been delivered at the same time, as only one delivery was made before that date.

The following are the quantities delivered by Bruck to headquarters during the years 1874-1879:—



1 centime, brown, dark and light.

7th March, 1878	1,497,200 Stamps.
-----------------	----	----	----	----	-------------------

2 centimes, black, dark and light.

17th April, 1875	..	..	..	..	100,000
21st December, 1875	..	..	..	..	59,800
20th April, 1876	..	..	..	..	242,500
21st November, 1878	..	..	..	..	506,000

908,300 Stamps

4 centimes, green, blue-green, dark and light.

18th November, 1874	..	..	..	..	72,800
17th April, 1875	..	..	..	..	100,000
21st December, 1875	..	..	..	..	108,100
20th April, 1876	..	..	..	..	27,600
17th June, 1876	..	..	..	..	162,000

470,500 Stamps.

This value exists also imperforate; it is blue-green. This stamp, as well as the perforated ones of the November, 1876, delivery, are printed on slightly yellowish paper.

(To be continued).



Notable Philatelists.

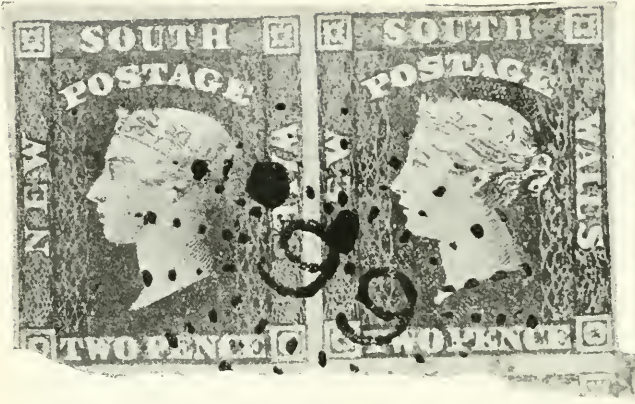
Dr. Paul Kloss.

ONE of the most prominent Philatelists in Germany is the subject of our present biography, Dr. Paul Kloss, of whom we present a life-like photograph. Although the Fatherland has produced a long line of good and faithful workers in the cause, we doubt whether the name of any is better or more widely known than "Our Doctor," as he is called. He is heart and soul in his love for the goddess Philatelia, and has ever done his best to educate collectors to something higher than mere collecting, his aim being to make our hobby a science, and not only as collector, but also as author, has he done yeoman service.

Born on the 25th of February, 1848, in Zeitz (Saxony), he was the son of Dr. Moritz Kloss, who removed in October, 1850, to Dresden, where he attended the Grammar School and passed his final examination in order to enter the University, but before doing so he fulfilled his military duties by joining the 2nd Royal Saxon Grenadier Regiment, No. 101. In Easter, 1868, he commenced his studies at the University at Leipzig, and chose the law as his particular branch. The Franco-German war, however, interrupted his studies, and as a Lieutenant he followed the German troops into France, receiving for his bravery the Iron Cross, second class. On his return home in August, 1871, he continued his legal work, passed the next year the public examination, and was nominated Doctor of Law. He then entered the service of the State, and, after passing his further examinations, was appointed a judge, and acted in that capacity in various towns. The legal career, however, does not seem to have been to his liking, as since 1880 he has devoted all his energy to the army. At first he was Lieutenant in the 2nd Royal Saxon Grenadier Regiment, No. 101, the same one in which he commenced his duties, but on the first of April, 1881, he was transferred to the 10th Royal Saxon Infantry Regiment, No. 134, was advanced to a Captaincy in the same regiment in 1882. His further promotions were in 1892 to Major, and 1900 to Lieutenant-Colonel.

What is of perhaps greater interest to us is his philatelic career, which, as in the case of many other people, commenced when a schoolboy of ten years old. This collection was a general one, comprising stamps as well as entires, and was continued until 1877, when he abandoned stamps in favour of postcards, which again were superseded in 1880 by the envelopes of the United States. Both of these collections have left a lasting impression on Philately, as he published in each case the result of his researches, showing that he not only collected, but also wished to help others systematically to do the same. During these years he amassed a large and very fine collection of the

Plate I



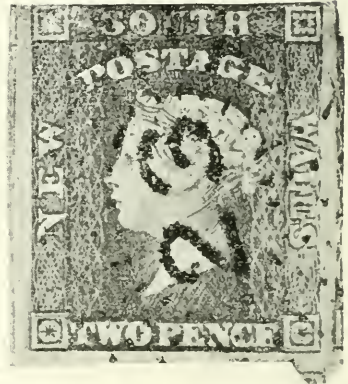
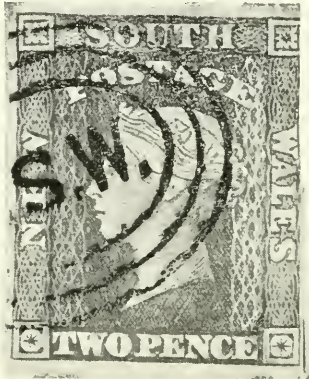
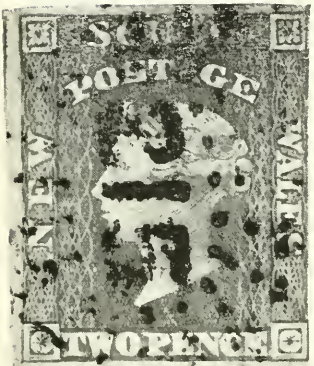
later state

IV

early state

Plate I
2

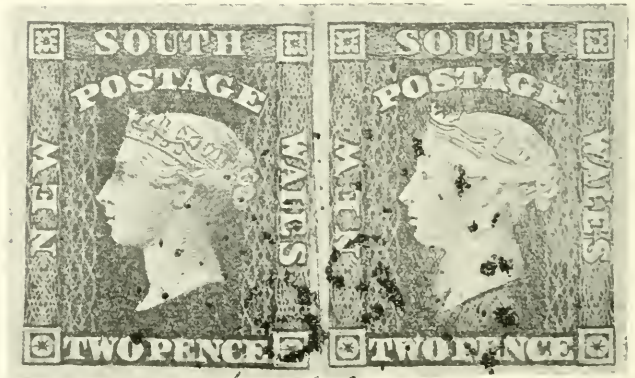
6



4



early state ↑



V

Notable Philatelists.



Dr. Paul Kloss.

stamps of his own country, and on the subject of these he also published a work, which so far has not been surpassed, and for which he received the bronze medal of the "Société de Timbrologie," of Paris. The collection has also received meritorious awards in later years.

In 1877 he was one of the founders of the International Philatelic Society of Dresden, which this year celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary. For the first seven years he was secretary, and until 1892 he compiled the addenda to the celebrated catalogue commenced by F. Meyer. In 1896 he returned to Dresden, and in the following year was elected President of the Society, a post which he has worthily filled to the present day. As such he is editor of the *Philatelist*, the well-known philatelic journal. Of how many societies he is a honorary member it would be difficult for him to say without hesitation, for he has long been regarded as a good all round philatelist.



Stray Jottings.

By J. C. North.

I PROMISED to let you have a few notes of the philatelic or pleasure portion of my recent trip to the Mediterranean.

I left London per P. & O. s.s. "Arabia" on October 11th, 1901. During a pleasant voyage to Gibraltar, the only approach to philatelic conversation related to Pictorial Postcards, of which a very plentiful supply came aboard at Gibraltar, mostly bearing views of the Rock.

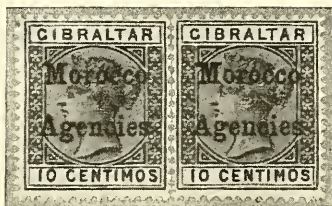
I landed at Gibraltar, and, whilst there, met the Postmistress, Miss Creswell, who very kindly allowed me to overhaul the stock at the Post Office, and purchase such blocks and panes of stamps as I wished, including those of the 1889 issue, except the 5 pesetas, which are exhausted. The stamps surcharged Morocco Agencies are in sheets of 120, in two panes of 60 each. The sheets must have been surcharged at one operation, as the two panes vary.

LOCAL PRINT.



No. 36.

LONDON PRINT.



No. 39.

Among the local prints the variety inverted V for A is the 36th stamp on the right-hand pane; it is not on the left pane at all. In the London prints the variety thick top to the left stroke of the M is the 39th stamp on the left-hand pane, all those on the right being normal, showing again both panes must have been surcharged simultaneously. Both the sets are in use still, although many of the local prints are sold out. While at Gibraltar, a gentleman shewed me a block of 15 of the carmine stamp, *without value*; they were offered at £160, which sum (after communication with my friends at home) I refused to give.

On October 17th I left Gibraltar and arrived at Malta on the 22nd. After finishing my work there, I had a week to wait for a steamer back to Gibraltar, so began to look up Philatelists on the island, and was fortunate in being able to inspect two collections. The best of these belonged to Mr. Camilleri, of Floriana, and contained a nice lot of stamps of Malta, Sicily and Tuscany, although not specialised.

I also met Mr. Leonardini, the gentleman who was so fortunate a few years ago in securing, at face value, a sheet of 4d. stamps imperforate. He still has a block of 16, and several smaller blocks and pairs of this stamp for disposal, but his prices are much higher than others I had heard of, so I waited, and ultimately purchased a pair of unused, and a pair of used on piece of original from others at

lower prices, giving £7 10s. per pair. I heard several versions of the manner in which these imperforate stamps were found, so refrain from giving any. I found some very nice copies of the first issue $\frac{1}{2}$ d., on bluish and white papers, used on original letter sheets, and also had offered to me a block of four in mint condition and a strip of three of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on white paper, no watermark.

There is a Malta Stamp Society, composed of dealers and collectors; the sole object of all appeared to me, however, to be the sale of stamps at about Stanley Gibbons' catalogue prices.

I left Malta November 3rd, arriving at Gibraltar November 8th. On calling to see the gentleman with the *valueless* stamps, I found that three of these had been disposed of, thus leaving a block of 12, and negotiations were proceeding for the sale of this lot to a well-known dealer; in fact, it was on my advice that his offer for the block was accepted, and the stamps sent to London. I was shewn several of the current Gibraltar 4d. stamps with a portion of the value missing, thus, **FOURPENCE**, caused evidently in the printing by something being across the type.

I found a number of minor varieties which are uncatalogued, and met a gentleman who has a very fine collection of stamps of Spain specialised, also Portugal.

I made a raid on the Post Offices at Tangier (British, French and German), and obtained the needed corner blocks and varieties. I got together quite a nice lot of envelopes, bearing curious hand-stamped devices denoting that postage had been paid between various towns in Morocco. These I consider most interesting; they were given to me by a non-philatelic friend. There is a properly constituted postal service of a local kind in Morocco in which these stamped envelopes are used. Of course there is, at Tangier, any amount of local rubbish for sale, but out of the lot I could only find that two sets of stamps ever did legitimate duty for postage by concession from the Sultan. Both these systems have been bought out by the French Post Office, and are now worked by it.

What a heap of letters I was shewn at a Post Office there from all over the world, asking for sets of stamps to be sent to the writers, who sent photos as payment; some asked what they could send, others promised to remit stamps of their country, some had remitted them, but very few had sent the necessary cash.

One very curious thing given to me in Malta was an envelope with a stamp of Victoria embossed on it. Enclosed in the envelope is a small advertisement book, with one corner of the leaves doubled back. A small portion of the envelope, in the position where the stamp would be embossed, has been cut out, thus,

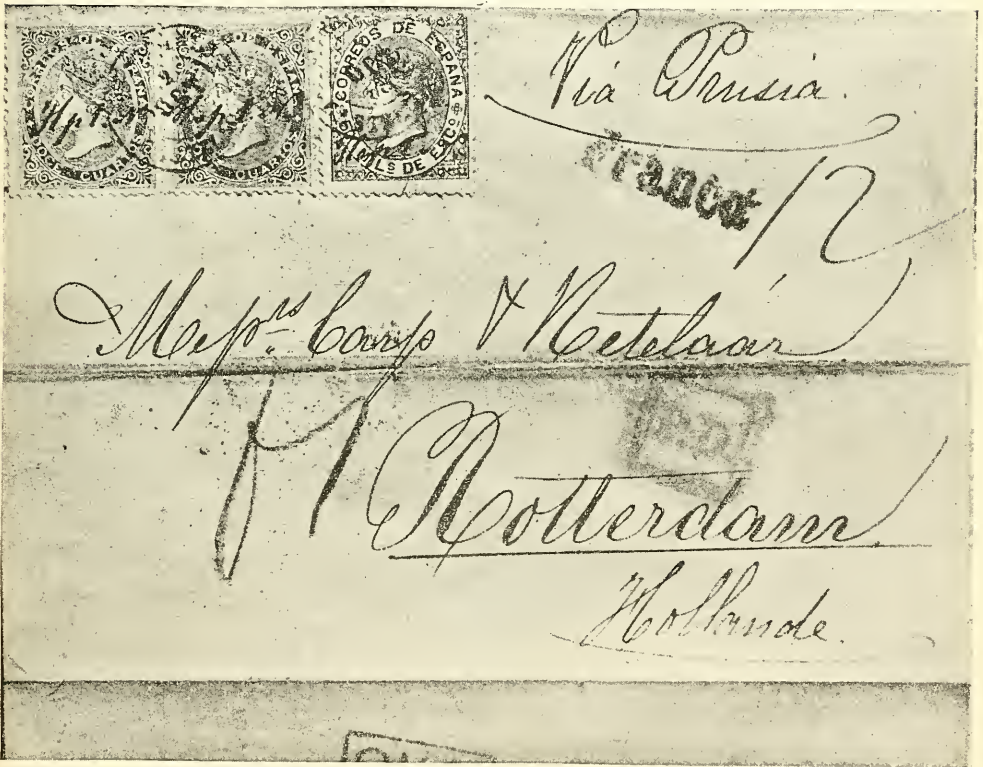


so that "Victoria" is not on the envelope at all, but is on the leaves of the advertisement book, each leaf bearing a small portion of the colour of the stamp. This, I believe is one of the several peculiar things which have been done in recent years by the Victorian postal authorities.

Spain.

The Manuscript Surcharges of the Revolution of 1868.

A REVOLUTION broke out in Madrid in September, 1868, and on the flight of the Queen a Provisional Government that was formed issued an order, dated Sept. 30th, 1868, directing, amongst other things, that the Postage Stamps should be stamped with the words "Habilitado por la Nacion" over the bust of the Queen.



Some Philatelists assert that two types of the handstamp for making this surcharge were prepared at the Mint, from which copies were taken in electrotype and furnished to the various post-offices. On the other hand, there are others who recognise only one of these as official; but as the latter appear to be in a minority we will describe both. . . . All writers agree that any other surcharges—such as that

attributed to Valladolid (which is somewhat similar to those described), that of H.P.N. belonging to the Canaries, that of H.P.N. in an oval attributed to Murcia and several others—were not official, but were made by small juntas or revolutionary councils, which in the confusion did what they liked without reference to the Provisional Government at Madrid*. It will be seen that not a word is said by Mr. Westoby about the existence of any manuscript surcharges, although had they been mentioned it is clear that they would have been classed by that eminent writer amongst “the several others” as non-official.

What do the other authorities say? In the Philatelic Society's London Catalogue of Spain, which we believe was the initial publication of the Society, on page 18 a specimen described as “surcharged by hand H.P.N. of the 1867 issue 20 cent. de escudo, violet” is referred to as being in the collections of de Joannis and de Ysasi. The latter is now in the “Tapling Collection,” which also contains a specimen of the 50 mils., brown, one of the stamps on the envelope illustrated. The other two stamps on the envelope, namely, the pair of the 12c., yellow, 1867, we cannot find any mention of anywhere and believe this is the first time they have been chronicled.

M. Moens says in his work on Spain, page 90, that certain towns, notably Gigon, marked the stamps with pen and ink; in fact the existence of the manuscript surcharges has of course been known for years but they have always been rare, due to the difficulty of finding absolutely authentic specimens.

The envelope illustrated we consider extremely interesting, and have to thank Mr. Anton M. van Hoek for his kindness in sending it.

* Westoby's Stamps of Europe, page 304.



Reviews.

Postage Stamp Catalogue of The Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Ltd., New York.

THE 1902 Edition of this, the standard catalogue of the United States, has reached us direct and also from Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Birmingham, who is the Company's Agent for Europe. It is profusely illustrated and very comprehensive; rather too much so, to our minds, for a catalogue of this description. A plan which has often been advocated, and which is to be commended, has been adopted in cataloguing all minor varieties, such as double surcharges, semi-imperf., shades, etc., in smaller type.

The lists of many countries are exceedingly good, United States for example; but it is not so much the duty of the Reviewer to dilate upon the strong points as to find the weak ones. The arrangement of the countries is alphabetical, but to separate British Bechuanaland from Bechuanaland Protectorate is stupid in the extreme, from a philatelic point of view.

Orange River Colony is, to our mind, most defective; for instance, 1877 4d. on 6d., rose, we do not recognise Type E from the illustration which strikes one as bogus. In the 3d. on 4d. only two types are given "double surcharge," whereas the whole five types so exist. A similar mistake is made in chronicling the various 1d. on 3d. and 1d. on 4d. The surcharged $\frac{1}{2}$ d. or Half-penny on 3d. ultramarine is omitted altogether (with all its varieties), while the V.R.I. surcharges are in such a hopeless muddle that criticism is impossible.

Greece seems to have been re-written and improved by the insertion of the enlarged illustration, employed for illustrating the article of Mr. C. Capen, just completed in the *American Journal of Philately*, but according to our lights there are several mistakes in the list, a few of which we will point out. In the Paris prints, minor varieties of the 1 lep. are given in black-brown, and red-brown: these are both proofs and should not be given as minor varieties. The 2 lepta *bistre* is the first printing of the Paris issue and not a variety of the 2 lepta buff as is shown to be in the catalogue; as a matter of fact it is just the other way about. A number of pin perfs. and roulettes are given amongst the stamps issued before 1880, all of which are bogus. None of the errors in the numerals are mentioned; surely they are much more deserving of notice than the made to order semi-imperf. varieties (all unofficial) of recent years.

The catalogue is interspersed with helpful notes, similar to the ones of which a feature is made by the Standard English Catalogue. Under the 1862 issue of Roumania, the following note caught our eye: "The 30 pa. has been reprinted; most of the originals show one or two dots,

one at the left of the Eagle's head and the other at the right of the post horn ; the reprints never show either of these dots." The English authorities, we understand, do not share this opinion at all, and it would be of decided interest were the grounds upon which it is held communicated through the channels of, say the Publishers' own Journal.

In Servia, under 1869 issue, the footnote is, "The margins on this issue vary considerably." Quite true, so they do on hundreds of stamps to which there is no such footnote. How much better to have assigned the reason which, as is well known, is that two issues exist, one in which the stamps are wide apart, and the other a full milimetre or more closer.

Holland, 1896, 1 gulden has no mention of the second type. In the minor varieties we notice a large percentage of essays and proofs, for the elimination of which the Catalogue would be all the better.

The work is remarkably cheap (half-a-dollar), and will prove a source of profit, of a philatelic kind, to anyone studying its pages along with those of the next publication under review.

Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue.—Part II.

The 1902 Edition was published just too late to admit of a review last month. It bears evidence of considerable care having been expended upon it, such countries as Austria, Bosnia, Guancaste, French Colonies, Portugal and specially Portuguese India having been thoroughly revised and re-written. The insertion of enlarged illustrations here and there to assist the student in distinguishing varieties of type which, although minute in themselves, yet at the same time are of considerable philatelic importance, is a matter for congratulation. Such illustrations occurred in the last Edition, but we are pleased to see they have been increased in the present one, and hope to see still more in those to come.

Not that we hanker after another Edition ; far from it, we think the present one quite sufficient for say the next three years, and Philately would be none the worse but rather the better for the rest. One no sooner learns his "Gibbons" and thinks he knows something about prices than he has to put the well-thumbed pages on one side and commence again upon the new Edition. We rejoice to see, however, from a casual glance over the present volume, from the financial side, that no very serious changes have taken place. Such popular countries as France, unused, for instance, have slightly advanced, which was what one was prepared for ; but on the whole the prices may fairly be described as steady.

Approaching the book from a critical standpoint, we must remember the labour entailed in its compilation. The publishers have, we should say, a much more difficult task with Part II. than with Part I., and consequently it is scarcely fair to look for the same high standard of excellence. We will mention a few of the most prominent omissions

we notice. In Holland, 1867-8 issue, perf. $10 \times 10\frac{1}{2}$ the 15c. is catalogued Variety I., but it also exists in Variety II. The 5c., 10c. and 20c. are catalogued in Variety II.; why not the 10c. in Variety I. also? Roumania, 1865 issue, the 2p. yellow is mentioned on white wove paper, but incorrectly omitted on laid paper. Modena, a good list of the errors is given, but the rarest of all, the one on the 40c. Provisional Government, is omitted. In Egypt the tête-bêche varieties are chronicled for the first time, a great improvement; the whole of the values in the 1872 issue are listed with a note of interrogation, however, to the 5pi. green. We can assure our readers this value does exist tête-bêche, and the note of interrogation may be safely deleted. Portugal, the errors in the 1895 issue are omitted; the 2½r., 5r., 25r. exist without numerals, and we believe another value as well. Germany, no mention is made of the first printing of the 25, 30, 40, 50 and 80 pf., which had large letters in the word Reichspost, in fact the same size as in the lower values. In the second and subsequent printings a smaller fount was substituted. All values of the first printing were perforated with a machine having large needles; different from the one now in use.

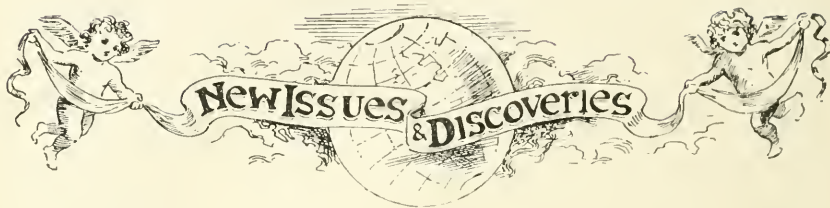
All the same, with all thy short-comings we love thee still.

* The Chelsea Entire Postcard Album.

We have received from Mr. B. W. Warhurst a specimen page of the above. This book is framed on an entirely novel principle. Mr. Warhurst's idea, by which the Envelopes or Postcards arranged in it are held safely in position, being inserted under bands formed by slits cut in the strong paper forming its leaves, but which can be quickly removed without leaving unsightly gaps, and as quickly put back again.

There are eleven slits in the page the size of a small postcard, with dotted or short cuts beyond that will easily admit the larger cards. Five cards are intended for each page, so placed that the five others on the back support them and assist in their security, overlapping in such a way as to show the full upper halves, all that is necessary for ordinary postcards or envelopes.

There are in each book, besides title page and index, 50 leaves or 100 pages (neatly bordered in colour), to hold 500 pieces, thickly guarded and strongly bound in leather with art linen sides and gilt lettering. One of the objections to the collection of entires has always been the difficulty of mounting them. This, the last attempt to overcome the difficulty, appears to us as the best yet formulated, and if successful in making their collection more popular will indeed serve a useful purpose.



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. FRED. H. GIBSON, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester.

The British Empire.

Bahamas.—We regret to have to state that the 1s., green, perforated $14 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, turns out to be a fraud, the second perforation being bad.

Cook Islands.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. the current 1d., brown, overprinted in the centre with a crown in black; at present we have no advices as to the object, &c., of the surcharge.

Adhesive.

1d., brown, surcharged with a crown in black.

Fiji.—We see Mr. Morley chronicles a new perforation of the current $\frac{3}{4}$ d., grey.

Adhesive.

$\frac{3}{4}$ d., grey, perforated 10×12 .

Gold Coast.—We have just got an addition to the current set in the form of a 2d. value; it is of the uniform type; value, &c., being printed in the second colour.

Adhesive.

2d., lilac and vermilion, Crown and C.A., perf. 14.

Labuan.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the current 1 cent. in a new shade, a distinct red lilac.

Malta.—The first Maltese stamp with King's Head is to be the "threepence." Specimens of this stamp have already been sent here by the Crown Agents for inspection, and as far as we can learn, they have been approved. The stamp is to be *yellowish-brown*, with an oval containing the head of the King in *blue*. The inscription at the top will be "Malta," and that at the bottom will give the value. This stamp will be very useful, as it will prepay a registered letter to all places enjoying Penny Postage.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

New South Wales.—Mr. L. E. Bradbury advises us that he has just received the current 10d., violet, perf. $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$, printed on chalk-surfaced paper. This value has not hitherto come on the chalky paper.

Adhesive.

10d., violet, perf. $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$, chalky paper.

New Zealand.—Mr. W. T. Wilson has received the current $\frac{3}{4}$ d., dark green, perf. 11×14 . He has also seen a curious error in one of the postal fiscals; this is the 2s. 6d., brown, bearing the word "counterpart" interpolated between the circle bearing the inscription and the bottom label. There are two plates used for this value, one bearing this addition, stamps from which are printed in yellow and used for fiscal purposes alone; the brown stamps are printed from the other plate and used indiscriminately. It is evident, therefore, that the former plate has been accidentally used for printing the brown stamps.

Adhesives.

$\frac{3}{4}$ d., dark green, perf. 11×14 .
2s. 6d., brown, postal fiscal, inscribed "Counterpart."

South Australia.—Mr. J. W. Jones has discovered the 6d., blue, 1887-93, perf. 10, surcharged O.S. in thin capitals, printed in *blue* like the 1d.

Adhesive.

6d., blue, perf. 10, surcharged O.S. in blue.

Trinidad.—The postmaster, in sending a supply of the new 1d. value, writes under date of 31st December: "The remainder of the new kind will not be issued until old stocks are exhausted, and there is no present chance of this."

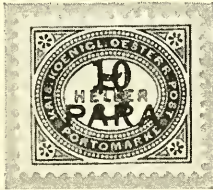
Foreign Countries.

Argentine Republic.—A handsome set for official use have been issued here. We defer describing the design as we hope to illustrate it shortly. So far six values have been seen, which are as follows:—

Adhesives.

- 1 centavo, grey,
- 2 centavos, sepia.
- 5 " vermilion.
- 10 " green.
- 30 " blue.
- 50 " orange

Austria. LEVANT.—The 5, 10, 20, 40 and 100 heller unpaid letter stamps have been printed in green, and surcharged 10, 20 para, and 1, 2, 5 piastres, respectively, for use here. The surcharge is in black.



Adhesives.

- 10 para on 5 heller, green.
- 20 " " 10 " "
- 1 piastre " 20 " "
- 2 " " 40 " "
- 5 " " 100 " "

Bolivia.—We illustrate two of the new issue chronicled in our last.



Bulgaria.—In addition to the set of postage stamps chronicled in December, we are informed that four values of unpaid letter stamps of a new type will shortly make their appearance; the denominations will be 5, 10, 30 and 50 stotinki.

Danish West Indies.—*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles two surcharges here, made to meet an alteration in postal rates. No particulars are given as to colour or type of the overprints.

Adhesives.

- 2 cents on 3c., rose and blue.
- 8 " 10c., dark brown and indigo.

France. INDO-CHINA. — From *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* we see that the current set has been surcharged for the town of Hoi-Hao in the same manner as for Canton, *i.e.*, with the name in French and Chinese.

Adhesives.

- 1c., black on azure. Surcharged in red.
- 2c., brown on buff. " "
- 4c., purple-brown on grey. " "
- 5c., green on pale green. " "
- 10c., black on lilac. " "
- 15c., grey. " "
- 20c., red on green. " "
- 25c., black on rose. " "
- 30c., cinnamon on drab. " "
- 40c., red on yellow. " "
- 50c., carmine on rose. " "
- 75c., brown on orange. " "
- 1fr., olive-green. " "
- 5fr., lilac on pale lilac. " "

Greece.—In our last we referred to the 5 and 10 lep. as coming on thinner paper, the 1, 20, and 25 lep. have now been issued thus.

Guatemala.—The *London Philatelist* lists four new provisionals, consisting of certain revenue stamps surcharged "Correos Nacionales, 1901," and in the case of the three higher denominations a new value.

Adhesives.

- 1c., blue, red surcharge.
- 5c. on 5p., rose, black surcharge.
- 10c. on 50p., orange, "
- 50c. on 10p., green, "

Holland.—We have a new value, additional to the current set of unpaid letter stamps, $\frac{1}{2}$ cent.

Adhesive.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ c., blue and black. Type I.

Italy.—The 25 centesimi now appears in a decided dark blue of quite a different tone to that issued in August. We hear the 5c. is also to be found in a much deeper shade.

Roumania.—The undernoted varieties of perforation are listed by the *Monthly Journal*.

Adhesives.

50b., orange,	perf. 11½.
11., drab and rose,	"
21., orange and brown,	"
11., drab and rose,	perf. 13½.
5b., emerald,	Compound perf.
15b., black,	"
16b., rose red (1899)	" imperf. vertically.

From *Ewen's Weekly* we see that two new values have been issued, and that the inscription on the lowest denomination of the current set has been corrected from "Ban" to "Bani."

Adhesives.

1 bani, brown.
30 bani, violet.
75 " brown and violet.

Tunis.—We have received, in the current type, two new stamps, a 35 centimes and a 2 francs, and also a 1 franc unpaid letter stamp of the new series.

Adhesives.

35c., brown.
2frs., violet.

Adhesive.

Unpaid Letter Stamp.
1fr., pale yellow-green.

Turkey.—The design of some of the Turkish postage stamps will be changed on the 1st—14th March, 1903. The dies are now being prepared. A sum of 25,000 piastres will be allocated to defray the cost.

The Commission which superintends the printing of the new stamps includes the following:—Fevzi Bey, Director of the Stamp Department; Fahri Bey, Member of the Commission of Postal Reforms; M. Tedeschi, Director of the Stamp Office, and Melcon Effendi, Director of the Foreign Correspondence Department.

The Commission has already come to several decisions, of which the following are the principal:—

The eight sorts of postage stamps actually in use will be maintained.

Stamps of 10 piastres and 100 paras will be created for the money order and parcel post services.

The colours will be:—

5 paras, orange.
10 " walnut.
20 " rose.
1 piastre, blue.
2 " dark green.
100 paras, marone.
5 piastres, electric-blue.
10 " red-brown.
25 " olive.
50 " coffee-brown.

Since their creation, Turkish stamps have been changed fourteen times. They are now changed every two years.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*.

United States.—Another value of the Pan-American set, with centre inverted, has now turned up. It really seems quite on the cards that all exist.

Adhesive.

4c., black and brown. *Centre inverted.*



Philately in the Mags.

Bergedorf.

M. Bouvez, in the *Philatéliste Française*, in an article on the stamps of Bergedorf, mentions a special stamp applied to letters before the introduction of postage stamps in November, 1861. It was called "an interpostal stamp," and has never yet been reproduced in any Philatelic work, although it well merits the attention of Philatelists. It was of the value of 1 schilling, and was issued to represent the tax charged by the Hamburg Post Office as owner of the office for the reception and forwarding of letters sent by the foreign post offices established in the various German States. It was put on all the correspondence already franked by these foreign offices.

The design consisted of the figure 1, $11\frac{3}{4}$ mm. \times $5\frac{1}{4}$ mm., partly covering the coat-of-arms of the town of Hamburg, in a similar manner to the stamps of this town. At the top, in an arched tablet, was the inscription "FR STADT HAMBURG," and at the bottom, in a similar arched tablet, "POSTMARKE." At each side of the coat-of-arms in the centre were the letters "SCH," being the abbreviation of the word schilling. This special stamp was 25 mm. \times $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm., was put on nearly all letters coming from Bergedorf, and forms therefore the first issue for that town. It was obliterated with either the Hamburg or the Lübeck postmark in black ink.

Unfortunately we are not told the colour of the stamp nor when it was first issued.

Victoria.

From the *Mitteldeutsche Phil. Zeit.* we take the following interesting item:—"Until the year 1884 there were in use in Victoria three kinds of stamps: Stamp Statute, for judicial matters; Stamp Duty, for bills, &c.; and Postage Stamps, for correspondence. Strict lines were laid down for the use of these stamps, and a letter franked with any stamp other than a postage stamp was treated as not franked at all. In 1884 the Stamp Duty Act was introduced, resulting in the Stamp Statute and Postage Stamps being abolished. Only the Stamp Duty Stamps were retained, they being in conformity with the Act. The values of the Stamp Duty Stamps ran from 1d.—£100. All of them were large size, and as the values up to 2s. were used more for postal than for fiscal purposes, it was decided to abolish also the values from 1d.—2s. of the large Stamp Duty Stamps, and replace them by smaller stamps, with the addition of a half-penny value with the inscription 'Stamp Duty.' The whole set of $\frac{1}{2}$ d.—£100

were by Act of Parliament made postal and fiscal stamps, and it is therefore quite incorrect to call them 'Fiscal Stamps, provisionally used as Postage Stamps.' When a letter or parcel cost 5s., £1 or £2 for the postage, a stamp of this value was used, and it was therefore no philatelic curiosity, but quite in accordance with the law. The Stamp Duty Act came into force on the 1st of October, 1884, and a notice in the official Gazette of that day announced that all Stamp Statute, Stamp Duty, and Postage Stamps then in circulation were to be considered as postal and fiscal stamps. It was in consequence of this Act that the postage stamps were surcharged 'Stamp Duty.' Unfortunately the high value stamps have led to much swindling. Fiscally obliterated specimens were treated with acid and afterwards cancelled fraudulently, often by some obliging postal employe. Great care ought therefore to be exercised in buying them."

German Postal Statistics in 1900.

The changes introduced in 1900 by the Administration of the German Post and the several new values put into circulation have left more or less visible marks upon the returns of the consumption of the stamps of certain values. For instance, the absorption of the private posts and the consequent introduction of a 2 pfennig stamp and postcard, has resulted in the sale of 146 millions of this value alone, besides 69 millions of postcards. Reply postcards, which never have a large sale, number, nevertheless, $1\frac{1}{2}$ millions for this value. Three other values, 1, 3 and 5 mark, were issued for the first time, and the numbers sold are $3\frac{9}{10}$ millions, 95,000 and 5,272 respectively.

The other values sold are as follows:—

	1900. .	1899.
STAMPS OF	MILLIONS.	MILLIONS.
3 pfennig	.. 432 $\frac{2}{3}$	.. 421
5 "	.. 766 $\frac{2}{3}$	.. 653 $\frac{1}{3}$
10 "	.. 843 $\frac{2}{3}$	.. 850 $\frac{1}{3}$
20 "	.. 154 $\frac{2}{3}$	.. 187 $\frac{2}{3}$
25 "	.. 58	.. 52 $\frac{1}{2}$
30 "	.. 29	.. — *
40 "	.. 13 $\frac{2}{3}$.. — *
50 "	.. 77 $\frac{2}{3}$	.. 97
80 "	.. 4 $\frac{2}{3}$.. — *
2 mark	.. $\frac{9}{10}$	.. $\frac{9}{10}$

It is the first time that the number of 10 pfennig stamps is lower than the year before. For this there are several reasons;

* These values were put into circulation late in 1899, consequently very few were sold.

one is the reduction of the postage for letters in towns, suburbs and neighbourhood to 5 pfennig, and the creation of the 30 pfennig value, which covers ordinary postage and registration, formerly expressed by a 20 and a 10 pfennig stamp. Altogether, 2,948 millions stamps, postcards, lettercards, money order cards, &c., were sold.—From the *D. B. Z.*

Hawaiian Numerals.

Mr. M. H. Lombard contributes a chatty article to *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, in which he says:—

"I feel that I know but little about these extremely interesting stamps, but there is one thing I am positive of, and that is, I find it very difficult to get the ones I need to complete my plates. It seems like a hopeless task, and that may be the reason these stamps are so interesting to me.

"A country whose stamps could be easily found would not be fascinating. The pleasure comes in *hunting* for your specimens.

"If I could go to a dealer and for money buy nearly everything I needed, what real enjoyment would there be? But when, after having hunted for weeks and months, yes, and sometimes years, for a specimen, you finally get it, you prize the stamp more than merely for its monetary value.

"Almost every one is endowed by nature with a spirit for collecting, and but few have their collections, of whatever they may be, complete.

"I sometimes question whether I should ever want my collection complete. Do we not get more pleasure from anticipation than in realization? Perhaps the person was right who said what made stamp collecting so fascinating was the searching for the impossible.

"Hawaii is a country in which I specialize, and any one who begins collecting these stamps is likely to be surprised at the interesting field that is opened up.

"Probably everyone who specializes in these stamps has made some discovery of his own.

"I will describe something that I think is not generally known. If you will refer to the catalogue you will see that the 1 cent black on laid paper is known to exist with only HA of 'Hawaiian Postage' at the side showing. If you will refer to the plate of that stamp in the 'Advanced Catalogue'

or in the August number of the *American Journal of Philately* you will find that in position number 10, the inscription 'Hawaiian Postage' begins at the very bottom of the side (see Fig. 1), while in every other number it is placed in the middle of the space. This line, as you will notice by the spacing between the letters, must have been very loosely set up. Just before the whole number of sheets were printed, part of this line dropped out, causing the variety I have just mentioned. One of my friends, L. L. Green, has a specimen in which only HA and the E of postage show, the other letters being missing (see Fig. 2.) It is the only one I know of.

"As soon as it was discovered that the letters had fallen out, this line was reset and placed in the middle of the space, the same as all the other positions on the plate (see Fig. 3).

"I accidentally found this variety about a year ago while plating my laid papers, and I have kept my eyes open for it ever since. There must have been but a very few sheets printed after this correction was made, as only one collection besides my own contained this variety at the Boston Philatelic Society's exhibition. I consider it very rare, and if you find one you should feel well repaid for your trouble in hunting for it.

"This variety proves that the 2 cents on laid paper was printed before the 1 cent, otherwise the line 'Hawaiian Postage' would not be dropped down to the very bottom of the side in position number 9 of the 2 cents. The correction could not have been made until later, and that just before they finished printing the 1 cent. You will notice that number 9 of the 2 cents corresponds with number 10 of the 1 cent. In fact, the two vertical columns are simply transposed and the values changed.

"Possibly an account of how I completed my *tête-bêche* sheet of '5 cents Inter Islands' would prove of interest and show how fascinating it is plating these stamps.

"Perhaps some of my readers do not know how the, so-called, *tête-bêche* stamps occurred. It was entirely different from those of France, where a *cliché* was accidentally placed upside down in the plate.

"At the time these numerals were printed, paper was a very scarce article. Anything was used and none was wasted.

"The stamps were set up ten to a plate, and, in order to economize, after one impression had been taken the paper was pushed along and another impression was taken. Sometimes the paper was placed in the press upside down for the second impression, and that made the adjacent rows of the two impressions *tête-bêche*.

"In speaking of these I will refer to the stamps in upright position, which are, of course, the right-hand stamps on the plate.

"A Boston dealer brought back from Europe a year and a half ago a block of



Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

four, being the lower two on the plate. He cut the block in halves and sold me number 8, and another collector number 10. At that time I did not think it would be possible to complete the sheet. Some six months later I ran across another pair of number 8. I bought it, and the party who had received number 10 very kindly exchanged with me. This gave me the lower block that had been cut in halves. A few months after I obtained a block of four, being numbers 4 and 6. This left me lacking the top pair. For months I looked for it, and had about given up all hope of getting it, when one day I

received a letter from abroad containing the very pair I needed. Of course, I was delighted. My sheet was now complete. But wait; a very short time after, I had sent me a block of six, being the top of the sheet. I kept it. This made my sheet consist of a block of six, and two pairs that were originally a block of four.

"I had no difficulty in disposing of my other block of four and pair that the block of six replaced.

"Do you wonder I find it fascinating? What other country offers as much chance for study and recreation?"

Notes and News.

Greece Perforations.

During the past two or three years we have been asked several times about this subject. The fact of the matter is that up to the recent issue practically all the Greece perforations are, strictly speaking, unofficial. There was a perforating machine at the Athens Post Office which was used by the employés, who supplied small quantities of stamps out of batches which they periodically perforated for their own convenience. If large quantities were purchased they were sold out of the stock, which were all imperf. The perforating machine is, we are informed by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., still kept in the Athens Post Office, and when the recent provisionals were issued, purchasers could have the stamps perforated while they waited, and if a small fee were given to the clerk in charge, he would undertake to see that the perforation was very carefully done, so that the stamps were well centred. Their agent at Athens always paid this fee, which was only a trifle, and always got nicely perforated stamps in consequence.

Messrs. Whitfield King's Annual Price List.

We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. the 33rd Edition of their Annual Price List of Postage Stamps in Packets and Sets. It is thoroughly up-to-date and contains some 1,400 sets, ranging from a few pence to several sovereigns. By the beginner and non-advanced collector it will be found a very useful little book.

Death of Mrs. Tebay.

It is with sincere regret we have to announce the death of Mrs. Tebay, at the age of eighty-two, on December 22nd, 1901. Mrs. Tebay, whose photograph amongst "Notable Philatelists" appeared in October, 1900, was an active member of the Philatelic Society, London, for many years,

rarely being absent from the early meetings of that body. The meetings in those days were held at the houses of the various members, and several in that way took place at Dr. Tebay's. Upon Mrs. Tebay sending in her resignation to the Society in 1889 she was elected an honorary member. Up to the last she retained her interest, and, except for the exhibition in November at the Society's room, we cannot recall another in London which she failed to attend. In the London Exhibition of 1897 the writer well remembers an excellent display of the first issue of Uganda, showing that, although having some time before parted with her general collection, she had not given up altogether.

Herts Philatelic Society.

At the General Meeting of the Herts Philatelic Society, held on January 7th, 1902, the question of holding a Philatelic Exhibition during the current year was brought forward, and after discussion a sub-committee was appointed to consider and report at the next meeting.

This the sub-committee have done, and their report is favourable. We understand it is only proposed that the exhibition should take the form of a private display confined to members and a few others who may be invited to assist. The difficulty is of course a suitable room. The rooms of the London Philatelic Society err on the small side, even if available at all, but there does not seem to be anywhere else to be had which is centrally situated and reasonably rented.

The Earl of Crawford's Philatelic Library.

The letter from the Earl of Crawford K.N., in the *Monthly Journal*, asking the publishers of all Philatelic journals to send regularly to care of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, by whom the subscriptions therefore will be paid, is only corroborative of

what was said in these columns in November last, concerning his lordship's Philatelic library. We further hear that the Earl of Crawford has obtained the co-operation of one who has an enormous experience, and is universally recognised as being one of the best Philatelists of the day, to assist in putting the library in order and compiling a catalogue.

Sydney Philatelic Club.

The report of the general meeting in the *Australian Philatelist* announces the resignation of Mr. A. F. Basset-Hull as Hon. Secretary. The cause is a well-deserved holiday in the shape of a trip to England, the Continent, and America, extending over twelve months. He has proved an ideal Secretary, and the members of the Club availed themselves of the opportunity of presenting him with a pleasing souvenir in token of their esteem. We understand that Mr. Basset-Hull is arranging for the publication of the work which he has long had in hand, viz., a history of the stamps of Australia up to the Establishment of the Commonwealth. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was good enough to take

an interest in this proposed work and personally communicated with the Postmaster-General of the Commonwealth, with a view of facilitating the obtaining of such official records as were wanting to complete the history.

Stamp can be Washed.

Apropos new stamp issues, a quietus has just been put on the criticisms of the new "penny red" by Mr. Ernest Cleave, the Comptroller and Registrar of Stamps. It had been asserted that the "merest tyro" could remove the writing with which the stamp is defaced when used for Inland Revenue purposes. Mr. Cleave admits that the Government has given the matter serious attention. He has had a series of experiments made with the new penny stamps, however, and is informed that a good deal more than "the skill of a tyro" is required to bring a defaced stamp back to its original state. The Government is quite satisfied with the new design and colour, and is not at all worried over the possibilities of the Inland Revenue officers being the victims of fraud through the use of "washed stamps."

Correspondence.

3 Cents, First Issue, Danish West Indies.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—I should be much obliged if you or any of your correspondents could give me any information on the following point.

I have recently come across a copy of the 3 cents, first issue, Danish West Indies, printed in a dull ultramarine. It is a thinned, unused copy, but the paper appears to be the same colour and texture as the usual copies in carmine, except for the absence of watermark. The design is accurate and identical with my copies in carmine. The question is: What is it? Essay, colour proof, or what?—Yours faithfully,

W. F. CHANCE.

Brooks's Bar,

January 17th, 1902.

Proposed International Philatelic Society.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—I should like to know what you think of forming an International

Philatelic Society. I feel strongly in favour of it, and I know that several leading Philatelists in Italy and France would likewise strongly support it. The Society would of course protect its members as far as possible against fraud, but the chief objects would be an annual gathering in the different capitals of Europe by turn.

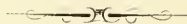
Every, say, five years the Society would provide the nucleus towards the funds for a Philatelic Exhibition. This Exhibition would be managed by the local committee under rules approved by the Society, and in that way would receive the stamp of official recognition as an international exhibition in every sense of the term.

The Society ought to be managed in such a way that to become one of its members would be considered an honour. The subscription ought not to be prohibitive, at the same time a substantial subscription is necessary if the Society is to do any good at all.—Yours truly,

ANTON M. VAN HOEK.

Rotterdam,

8th November, 1901.



THE

Philatelic Record.

MARCH, 1902.

Editorial Notes.

THE St. Helena *Guardian* for January 23rd last publishes a comparative statement of postal statistics of the Colony for the years 1900 and 1901, which is both interesting and instructive. There has been a very large increase in the number of letters dealt with, due probably in no small degree to Cronje's army and other prisoners of war who are at present located there. The number of letters despatched to Cape Colony and Natal is 80,285, against 40,682 in 1900. Parcels show an increase of 547 and other articles 3,693. Although the number of mails for England has fallen from 38 in 1900 to 31 in 1901, yet the letters contained in these mails have increased by 20,229, the figures being respectively 57,019 and 77,248. This is an increase of 996 in the number of parcels and of 989 in other articles.

Dealing with the mails received at St. Helena from Cape Colony and Natal there is a decrease of 16, the figures being 31 and 15, but the number of mail bags has increased from 173 to 186, from which it may be surmised that more letters have been received, although the postal statistics are incomplete in this particular. The service from England has been improved from 23 to 42, with an increase in mail bags of no less than 325. The parcels received are 4,786 against 3,118 in 1900. We also note a substantial increase both in money orders received and sent through the post.

Some time ago the remainders of the old issue were sent to London for sale, but failed to find a purchaser at the reserve put upon them. They were afterwards returned to the Colony to be gradually worked off. The postmaster has evidently had exceptional opportunities of carrying out these instructions during the past twelve months, but how far this has been accomplished time alone will show.

WHAT constitutes the acme of perfection in a used stamp? The popular answer to this question would be, we should have thought, a stamp which, perfect in itself, bears the minimum amount of that horrible compound known as obliterating ink. This does not appear, however, to have been the view adopted by the Judges at a recent Exhibition in New York when adjudicating upon the respective merits in a class consisting entirely of used stamps. We learn from

**The
Qualifications
of a
Used Stamp.**

the *Metropolitan Philatelist* that the winning collection consisted almost entirely of perfectly clean stamps, but all showing a well-defined postmark of some city, the collection showing the greatest number of demerits being made up of fine stamps that had passed the post, but received the slightest possible attention from the cancelling clerk. This paper, in an editorial, proceeds to commend the action of the Judges, and to say that: "The collection, with clear, but lightly-struck names of towns, was enthusiastically admired by every amateur present, and many gentlemen announced that they would immediately commence a collection on the same lines."

Had Prince Henry been a Philatelist, we might have sought in his visit the reason for this derangement, which for the future welfare of Philately in the States we trust will only prove of a temporary character. The Germans collect the stamps of their States in this way, but our cousins must not lose sight of the fact, that there is at all events an intelligible reason for their doing so. "Town Obliterations" in Germany have a special interest, and the different ones are collected. Some of these are much more highly prized than others, and consequently stamps bearing the maximum postmark are naturally preferred. To our mind such collections are interesting solely as illustrating postmarks, and not as collections of used postage stamps. If the view is to be generally accepted in the future, that "the name of a town, with date attached, adds greatly to the interest of any stamp," there will surely arise an enormous demand for the post-marked-to-order varieties, which at present we thought every intelligent collector abhorred.

OUR readers will recognise in this heading an old friend, one which was well threshed out about two years ago in our Forum. The matter was then allowed to die of inanition, due to the lack of someone with the necessary stability coming forward to carry the proposal through. Mr. Wetherell has contributed to a contemporary an important article with the same idea in view headed "The Ideal Catalogue: The Ideal Album and Minor Varieties." This article goes further than any which has yet appeared, in that it is the first time in which some of the difficulties of the task are seriously grappled with. He divides varieties into seven classes with from five to fifteen divisions in each. The first class contains the prominent varieties and has fifteen divisions lettered A to P, and includes (L) syllabic characters of Japan, (M) plate numbers on the stamps themselves, (O) errors, *e.g.*, Repulica for Republica. Class 5 are termed "Trivial Varieties," *e.g.*, "many of the flaws and cracks," and Class 6 includes *inter alia* (E) Printers' Waste. In Class 7 we find (D) Milleimes of France. All tête-bêche varieties fall under Class 7. What a fall! We shudder to think what some of our readers who are specialists in the stamps of France will say when they see the stamps which are deservedly regarded by them as the cream of their collections thus ruthlessly relegated to the last class, and stigmatized as being inferior to Printers' Waste.

RED PRINTING, SETTING B.

1



Type 8, as in
Black printing.

"ANTIQUÉ" PRINTING.

2



Italic type.

3



Roman type.

4



Roman type.

5



Italic type.

6



Roman type,
normal.

7



Roman type,
variety.

8



Italic type, with
Roman type inverted.

"ORDINARY" PRINTING.

9



Normal types.

10



11



Normal
type.

12



Antique
Roman type.

Luxemburg.

By **Jos. Schock,**

President of "L'Union des Timbrophiles."

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31.)

5 centimes, yellow, orange, ochre, dark and light yellow.

7th August, 1876	504,100
21st November, 1878.. .. .	561,000

1,005,100 Stamps.

Variety, imperforate; it is said a few sheets were not perforated.

The issue of a 5 centimes stamp was one of the first results of the Grand-Duchy joining the Universal Postal Union. In fact, Art. 4 of the treaty of Bern, of the 9th of October, 1874, prescribes 7 centimes as the rate for each 50 grammes or fraction thereof for newspapers, commercial papers, printed matter, &c. However, not to make the change too sudden, each country had permission to charge more or less than this sum, provided that the tax did not exceed 11 centimes, and did not fall below 5 centimes. The Luxemburg administration soon availed itself of this permission by charging the minimum, for, by a ministerial decree, dated the 24th of May, 1875, the postage on commercial papers, samples, newspapers, printed matter, &c., exchanged between Luxemburg and the other countries in the Union was fixed at 5 centimes per sending of 50 grammes or fraction thereof. The creation of a stamp of 5 centimes was therefore a necessity, although the decree authorising the issue was not published until June, 1876, as follows:—

“No. 42.

NOTICE.—POST OFFICE.

“The public is informed that the Administration of the Post will issue postage stamps of 5 centimes.

“Luxemburg, 24th of June, 1876.

“The Governor-General of Public Works,

“(Signed) V. DE ROEBE.”



10 centimes, lilac, rose-lilac, bright lilac, bluish lilac, dark and light, grey lilac.

17th April, 1875	..	..	..	..	500,000
28th October, 1875	..	..	..	..	250,000
21st December, 1875	..	..	..	..	500,000
20th April, 1876	..	..	..	..	657,000
17th June, 1876	..	..	..	..	1,031,600
15th May, 1878	..	..	..	..	2,000,000

4,938,600 Stamps.

Imperforate specimens are known in rose-lilac and bluish lilac.

12½ centimes, lilac, violet and reddish lilac.

7th August, 1876	499,000 Stamps.
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12½ centimes, carmine, dark and light.

3rd August, 1877	500,500
16th August, 1879	96,600

597,100 Stamps.

25 centimes. Prussian blue.

3rd August, 1877	..	..	..	..	1,000,000
11th October, 1879	..	..	..	..	111,600

1,111,600 Stamps.

30 centimes. red-lilac, dark and light.

21st November, 1878..	52,000 Stamps.
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40 centimes, orange, dark and light, yellow.

11th October, 1879	106,400 Stamps.
--------------------	----	----	----	----	-----------------

1 franc, being 37½ centimes, greyish brown, surcharged "Un Franc."

16th August, 1879	104,200 Stamps.
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Each of the 1,042 sheets of this value contains two specimens with the error "Un Franc" instead of "Un Franc." As far as can be ascertained, only 18 specimens were used. As soon as the administration noticed this error, instructions were given to remove the wrongly-surcharged specimens from the sheets.

Some catalogues give, amongst the stamps printed in Luxemburg, one of the value of 40 centimes in dull orange, rouletted on coloured lines. Having regard to the figures given for the quantities that were printed and rouletted, and the contract made in 1874 between the Administration of the Post and the printing works of Pierre Bruck, of Luxemburg, the absurdity of such a statement is easily seen. Only two deliveries were made of the 40 centimes, rouletted, one on the 29th November, 1866, and the other on the 25th of February, 1874: the offer of P. Bruck to print the Grand-Ducal stamps was not accepted until the 7th of October, 1874; it is therefore evident that the Luxemburg house cannot have printed and delivered the stamps in February, 1874. Nevertheless, it is quite right to make two special issues for this value, as the colour, the paper, and the impression are totally different in the 1874 printing from those of 1866.

Regarding the 37½ centimes, perforated, as catalogued by Senf. I have to say this value was intended for use in consequence of the

postal arrangements made between Luxemburg and the Austro-German Postal Union. Owing to the reduction of the tariff, following the political events of 1866, which compelled Luxemburg to make new treaties, this value was superfluous. From 1859-1866 204,000 stamps of this value were sold, whereas, after 1866, during a similar period, only 24,000 were sold. For this reason the postal administration ordered all the 37½ centime stamps in stock in October, 1872, to be surcharged with the new value "Un Franc."

When the first lot of the stamps of this value was sold, the position was the same. When more 1 francs were required, the postal administration decided to again surcharge the 37½ centimes instead of preparing a new die bearing the value "Un Franc," and an order was given to the Luxemburg printers to make a third printing of the 37½ centimes stamps, all of which were surcharged 1 franc. This third printing exists perforated and imperforate.

From this it is evident that neither the perforated nor imperforate 37½ centimes stamps of this third printing ought to be included in the official list of the stamps of Luxemburg. Neither of them has ever served for the franking of letters. I have therefore included them in my list of essays.

Essays.

The following, as far as I know, have been issued during the years 1874-1879:—

1 centime, brown on white cardboard	Imperi. and perf. 13.
1 orange .. ..	.. ..
1 pale rose .. ..	.. ..
2 centimes, black on white paper .. ..	.. ..
2 green .. ..	.. ..
2 straw .. ..	.. ..
2 brick red .. ..	.. ..
2 white peiture .. ..	.. ..
4 white .. ..	.. ..
4 light yellow on white paper .. ..	.. ..
4 orange .. ..	.. ..
4 blue cardboard .. ..	.. ..
4 black pale rose .. ..	.. ..
4 blue .. ..	.. ..
4 green yellow paper .. ..	.. ..
4 greyish green on white .. ..	.. ..
4 dark green cardboard .. ..	.. ..
4 paper	printed on both sides.
4 green laid paper .. ..	.. ..
5 black paper .. ..	.. ..
5 light yellow cardboard	printed on both sides.
5 orange paper .. ..	.. ..
5 light yellow .. ..	.. ..
5 ochre yellow .. ..	.. ..
5 dark licac .. ..	.. ..
5 pale lilac .. ..	.. ..
5 carmine cardboard .. ..	.. ..
6 black paper .. ..	.. ..
6 carmine .. ..	.. ..
6 yellow cardboard .. ..	.. ..
6 buff .. ..	.. ..
10 black white paper	and perf. 13.
10 bistre .. ..	.. ..
10 rose lilac yellow .. ..	.. ..
10 lilac pale green paper .. ..	.. ..
10 dark .. ..	.. ..
10 white cardboard .. ..	.. ..

10 centimes, dark lilac	on white paper	..	Imperf., printed on both sides.
10 "	green	" " cardboard	.. "
12½ "	violet rose	" " "	.. "
12½ "	"	" " paper	.. "
12½ "	"	" " "	.. " printed on both sides.
12½ "	red lilac	" " "	.. "
12½ "	"	" " "	.. " printed on both sides.
12½ "	carmine	" " cardboard	.. " and perf. 13.
12½ "	"	" " paper	.. "
25 "	Prussian blue	" " cardboard	.. "
25 "	"	" " paper	.. "
25 "	"	" " "	.. " printed on both sides.
25 "	ultramarine	" straw "	.. "
30 "	mauve	" white "	.. " Watermark W.
30 "	carmine	" " "	.. "
30 "	blue-green	" " "	.. "
30 "	"	" " cardboard	.. "
37½ "	greyish brown	" " paper	.. " and perf. 13.
37½ "	"	" orange "	.. "
37½ "	grey-green	" white "	.. "
40 "	dark orange	" " "	.. Perf. 13 on 3 sides, imperforate
40 "	light yellow	" " "	.. Imperf. [on the fourth.

I have the following essays genuinely obliterated in my collection:—

1 centime, brown on orange cardboard	..	..	Perf. 13.
1 " " " pale rose	..	..	Imperf.
4 centimes, dark green on white paper	..	..	" printed on both sides.
10 " dark lilac	"	"	" " "

The two first are postmarked Luxemburg, the two latter Clervaux.

V.

Issues of 1880-1882.

The Grand-Ducal Government, in April, 1879, concluded a contract with the Dutch firm of I. Enschede & Sons, of Harlem, to supply the Luxemburg postal administration with stamps. According to this contract the price for 1,000 sheets of 100 stamps, gummed and perforated, was fcs. 34. The paper necessary for the printing was to be furnished by the firm who supplied it for the Dutch stamps. The printers had to supply the plates, but were to be entitled to make an extra charge for the first set of plates over and above the contract price, which was also to be the case whenever the design was altered.

The advantages of this contract were twofold. In the first place there was a considerable saving in price. In the second, the Dutch Government official supervised the manufacture of the Luxemburg stamps at the same time he printed those of Holland without charging the former for the work.*

The stamps supplied by Enschede & Sons between 1880-1882 were of the same type as that of the issue 1874-1879. They can be distinguished by the impression being much finer, by the larger perforation, and principally by the large white margins round the design. Attention may be here directed to the fact that the 12½, as well as the 13½ perforation, are very well executed.

* We do not follow this, we presume the cost of the supervision of the Dutch official was taken into consideration in fixing the price.—ED.

The following quantities were delivered of the coat-of-arms type from the printing works at Harlem :—

1 centime, brown.

23rd November, 1881..	..	..	..	400,000
12th September, 1882	..	..	..	17,000
17th December, 1892..	..	..	..	500
Total	..	..	..	417,500 Stamps.

2 centimes, black.

30th March, 1880	..	..	..	400,000
3rd February, 1881	..	..	..	600,000
23rd November, 1881..	..	..	..	400,000
12th September, 1882	..	..	..	36,000
17th December, 1892..	..	..	..	1,150
Total	..	..	..	1,437,150 Stamps.

5 centimes, yellow.

23rd November, 1881..	..	..	..	200,000
12th September, 1882	..	..	..	11,000
17th December, 1892..	..	..	..	975
Total	..	..	..	211,975 Stamps.

10 centimes, lilac.

30th March, 1880	..	..	..	500,000
3rd February, 1881	..	..	..	1,000,000
23rd November, 1881..	..	..	..	1,000,000
12th September, 1882	..	..	..	38,000
17th December, 1892..	..	..	..	550
Total	..	..	..	2,538,550 Stamps.

12½ centimes, carmine, dark and light.

3rd February, 1881	..	..	..	100,000
15th June, 1882	..	..	..	25,000
12th September, 1882	..	..	..	5,000
17th December, 1892..	..	..	..	350
Total	..	..	..	130,350 Stamps.

In this value there exists a very rare variety, in which the inscription reads centites, instead of centimes.

20 centimes, greyish-brown.

3rd February, 1881	..	..	..	200,000
12th September, 1882	..	..	..	6,000
17th December, 1892..	..	..	..	600
Total	..	..	..	206,600 Stamps.

25 centimes, blue.

30th March, 1880	..	..	..	600,000
3rd February, 1881	..	..	..	700,000
23rd November, 1881..	..	..	..	700,000
12th September, 1882	..	..	..	68,000
17th December, 1892..	..	..	..	200
Total	..	..	..	2,068,200 Stamps.

(To be continued).

Notable Philatelists.

Em. J. Mertzanzoff.

THE Philatelic journals of late have furnished evidence of the increasing popularity of the stamps of Greece. Attention was called in our columns as well as in those of others to this fact in connection with the exhibits at the Exhibition in Holland last year, and two very interesting articles have lately been running, one in an English and the other in an American journal, dealing with these stamps. Under such circumstances the portrait of a celebrated Greek collector, one who has perhaps done more than anyone else to unravel the difficulties of his own country's stamps, appears, we venture to think, at an opportune moment.

Mr. Mertzanzoff's name first came prominently before the public as an exhibitor at the Geneva Exhibition of 1896, at which he was awarded a silver medal for his exhibit of Greece. That Mr. C. J. Phillips thought highly of this exhibit is shown by the lengthy notice he inserted of it in the *Monthly Journal* (vol. 7, page 27), the concluding lines being: "Taking it altogether, this collection was an extremely interesting one, and is the most neatly-arranged one in the exhibition."

To be a good specialist it is necessary, according to our experience, to have been a good general collector first of all, and in this we find Mr. Mertzanzoff no exception. He commenced collecting as a school-boy, but it was not until 1876 that he seriously began forming his general collection. He had a break from 1880 to 1888, then recommenced with renewed ardour until, in 1895, he found he had completed his used Europeans with the exception of the 81 paras, Moldavia. This collection he sold in Geneva during the Exhibition to Mr. Bernichon for 30,000 francs.

The foundation of his Greek collection was laid in 1892 by the purchase of about 75,000 used stamps, and between 5,000 and 6,000 letters, 1861-1888. This purchase enabled him to study for some eighteen months and frame a special classification, to illustrate which he mounted about 1,400 stamps. These formed his exhibit at the Milan Exhibition of 1894 (First Class Diploma and Bronze Medal) and Geneva, 1896 (Silver Medal).

Upon unused stamps Mr. Mertzanzoff says: "Only a year ago I made up my mind to collect unused, also used and unused pairs, blocks and sheets. I have now changed the arrangement of my collection altogether. I do not arrange the stamps in sets, but mount each value from 1861 to 1886 separately on large sheets according to date of issue (as near as possible), placing the unused first. Since my return from England I am remounting the whole of my collection in this order:—

1st.	Proofs.	5th.	Current Issue.
2nd.	Large Mercury.	6th.	Unpaid Letter Stamps.
3rd.	Small Mercury.	7th.	Curiosities.
4th.	Surcharges.		

Notable Philatelists.



Em. J. Mertzanoff.

“I consider the best book on the Greece stamps is the one published in English, which ought to be of great assistance to English collectors of these stamps. I should like to see some specialists now unite to publish an exhaustive work with a coloured supplement illustrating all the shades of Greek stamps, to be referred to by numbers. That is the only solution for further facilitating the correct classification of these stamps by those who have not made them their study, and I shall be very happy to assist in the collaboration of such a work.”

The Perforations of the Current Swiss Stamps.

IN the May number of *The Philatelic Journal of India* Mr. G. R. Anderson contributed an article bearing the above heading, in which several varieties of perforations on these stamps were chronicled for the first time. To this article Baron A. de Reuterskiöld replied in the August number, gravely doubting its philatelic accuracy. The matter has been referred to by Major Evans in *The Monthly Journal*, and, in addition to reprinting Baron de Reuterskiöld's observations, we mentioned it incidentally in our Editorial notes in the November number. Since then other articles have appeared in *The Philatelic Journal of India*, and it was our intention last month to comment on the question again, and with that object in view we wrote to Baron de Reuterskiöld to ascertain whether he was able to throw any further light on the subject. His reply was not received in time for the last number, hence the postponement.

We have deemed it well to make these more or less personal remarks, as in the January number of *The Philatelic Journal of India*, which reached us three days after the receipt of Baron de Reuterskiöld's reply, there is an Editorial article which says in effect that we have been altogether too rough on Mr. Anderson, and seems to infer that, because his last article in reply to Baron de Reuterskiöld has not been answered, it is a conclusive answer to the Baron's criticism.

A critical article generally treads upon somebody's corns, and we should be very sorry to think that our observations hurt Mr. Anderson's feelings more than in this figurative manner. Our object is solely to get at the truth, and to avoid the possibility of doing either Mr. Anderson or our esteemed contemporary any injustice, we reprint below the whole of the articles which, so far as we know of, have been written since May last, commencing with the original one of Mr. Anderson's, which runs as follows:—

“It may be of interest to my fellow-members to know the result of a very careful examination of a large number of current Swiss stamps with respect to their perforation. I may add that I have examined them most carefully, not merely by a perforation gauge, but also by measurement.

The first perforation (earliest) seems to have been a somewhat irregular $11\frac{1}{2}$ which I call $11\frac{1}{2}-12$.

Subsequent perforations are:—

II.—This $11\frac{1}{2}-12$ compound with 11 and always, so far as I have found it $11\frac{1}{2}-12H \times 11V$.

III.—A compound of $11\frac{1}{2}$ with 12 , either $11\frac{1}{2}H \times 12V$ (the commonest compound) or $12H \times 11\frac{1}{2}V$.

IV.—A distinct $12H \times$ a distinct $11V$.

V.— $12H \times 12\frac{1}{2}V$. Of this I have found only one specimen, *viz.*, a 50c. grey-green. *Query.*—Does this perforation occur like the $11\frac{1}{2}$ of Holland?

VI.— $9\frac{1}{2}$.

The following is the list so far as I have got, using all the specimens available. On getting a further supply of Swiss stamps I hope to add to it. I am, of course, specially anxious to get to the bottom of the $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ perforation."

Upon this Major Evans, in *The Monthly Journal* for June, writes:—

"SWITZERLAND.—Mr. G. A. Anderson sends to *The Philatelic Journal of India* an interesting list of varieties of perforation of the current stamps 20c. to 3fr., which we may summarise as follows:—

Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ to $12-20c.$, 25c. green, 40c., 50c. green, 1fr., 3fr.

.. $11\frac{1}{2}$ to $12 \times 11-20c.$, 25c. green, 25c. blue, 30c., 40c., 50c. blue, 50c. green, 1fr.

.. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ or $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}-25c.$ blue, 50c. blue, 50c. green, 3fr.

.. 12 (*distinct*) $\times 11-20c.$, 25c. green, 25c. blue, 30c., 40c., 50c. blue, 1fr.

.. $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}-50c.$ grey-green (a single copy).

.. $9\frac{1}{2}-20c.$, 25c. green, 40c., 50c. blue, 1fr.

Assuming that the list has been compiled mainly from the examination of single stamps rather than entire sheets or long strips, we would infer that the irregular machine which produces the $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12 perforations is responsible also for the distinct $11\frac{1}{2}$ and 12 , possibly one at one end of the row and one at the other. The distinct 11 must be done with another machine, used only on sheets that have already been passed through the former machine for the horizontal perforations, as Mr. Anderson only finds the 11 gauge running vertically. The single specimen perforated $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ seems to prove the occasional use of quite another set of needles. Mr. Anderson does not state whether all his stamps appear to be perforated with single line machines or whether any of them show the signs of 'comb' perforation."

In *The Philatelic Journal of India* for August, Baron de Reuterskiöld says:—

"I was much astonished on reading in your May number Mr. Anderson's article on the perforations of the current Swiss stamps, as I have always considered these most consistent.

I have, therefore, now measured several hundred specimens of each value, and am more astonished than ever at Mr. Anderson's

conclusions, as I do not even find slight variations that might occur from the displacement of a needle.

The Swiss stamps are not perforated either with a single line or a comb machine, but with one that perforates the whole sheet at a time.

The two current designs are not printed by the same firm, and the lower values 2 to 15c. are, and have always been, perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$.

As to the higher values, 20c. to 3fr., they were perf. $11\frac{1}{2}H \times 12V$ up to 1891, and from that date $11\frac{1}{2}H \times 11V$. The two varieties are easily distinguishable at a glance, the older one has 13 holes down the side of the stamp, and the current one only 12 holes.*

The earlier printing of the 3fr. is still in use, and I have not yet been able to get this value with the later perf.

I have never found any stamp with the H perf. anything but a true $11\frac{1}{2}$, and the V perfs. are certainly also true 12 and 11. I cannot, therefore, understand at all the variety noted $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ or that 12×11 .

Exclusive of the set of 5 values perf. $9\frac{1}{2}$, which was only a trial perf. and which was not approved of, the following is a list of the existing varieties that I have found.

1882-1891. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}H \times 12V$:—

20c. orange-yellow, red-orange.	50c. light blue, dark blue.
25c. yellow-green, grass-green, blue-green.	1fr. marone, red-brown.
40c. grey.	3fr. bistre-brown.

1891-1901. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}H \times 11V$:—

20c. dark orange.	40c. grey.
25c. yellow-green, blue-green.	50c. dark blue.
25c. dark blue.	50c. green.
30c. reddish brown, yellowish brown.	1fr. marone.

Of course there are shades, but in this list I have noted only the distinct varieties of colour."

In September, Mr. E. W. Wetherell has the following article:—

"In the May number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* appeared a paper by Mr. G. A. Anderson on the above subject, and in the August number Baron A. de Reuterskiöld answered the article. I have much pleasure in stating that some years ago I examined several thousands of Swiss stamps and can bear out Mr. Anderson's remarks thereon. My collection is not with me, but from notes I can give the following list. It does not include the 30c., 3 francs and the new colours, as it was made four or five years ago:—

(a) Thick paper, perf. $9\frac{1}{2}$ — 20, 25, 1fr.	(d) $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ — 20, 25, 40, 50, 1fr.
(b) Ordinary paper, perf. $9\frac{1}{2}$ — 20, 25, 40, 50, 1fr.	(e) $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ [should be 12×11 (see page 266)]. 20, 25, 1fr.
(c) $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ — 20, 25, 40, 50, 1fr.	(f) 12— 25c.
	(g) $11\frac{1}{2}$ — 20c.

* [We hold a specimen of each kindly sent us by the author at Mr. Anderson's disposal.—ED, *PJ I.*]

The thick paper is only found with the $9\frac{1}{2}$ perforation.

I have no list of shades found with each perforation, but I remember that the 25c. perf. 12 all round was yellow-green. I quite agree with Baron A. de Reuterskiöld that the low values show no variation.

The perforation, $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, mentioned by Mr. Anderson is certainly a curiosity. I think if Baron A. de Reuterskiöld will look over a number of these stamps collected five or six years ago, he will find the above varieties.

I believe that $9\frac{1}{2}$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ and $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ were the only machines used, and that the other varieties are merely irregular placing of the needles."

In October appears Mr. Anderson's reply to Baron de Reuterskiöld:—

"The August number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* reached me after the September number, so that I was not aware of the precise terms in which the conclusions I gave in the May number had been questioned. Baron A. de Reuterskiöld, I see, cannot understand the $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ and 12×11 varieties which I mentioned, and he states that he has never found any stamp with the horizontal perforation anything but a true $11\frac{1}{2}$, and that the vertical perforations are certainly also true 12 and 11. His experience is evidently very different to mine.

It would not help towards a settlement of this matter were I to see the stamps which the Baron has kindly placed with the Editor at my disposal. It is for me to know that the $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ and 12×11 perforations, which he questions, do exist, and it would be more to the point if I could send specimens of these perforations for him to see. This, unfortunately, I cannot now do as the import duty on stamps has forced me to leave my collection—and with it all the Swiss stamps I examined for my May contribution—in England. Failing ocular demonstration, I must resort to such outside testimony as is available.

The list of perforations given by me may be summarised as follows:—

- (1). $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12.
- (2). $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12×11 .
- (3). $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ or $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$.
- (4). 12×11 .
- (5). $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.
- (6). $9\frac{1}{2}$.

No. 3 is recognised by the Baron, but No. 2 he only partially recognises, *i.e.*, he only admits a true $11\frac{1}{2}$ horizontal and does not recognise a horizontal perf. varying between $11\frac{1}{2}$ and 12.

Mr. Wetherell in the September number, if I read him aright, agrees with the Baron as to 2 and 3, *i.e.*, he finds true $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ and true $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$, but not the $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12×11 ; and he gives an additional perforation, not so far as I know hitherto mentioned, *viz.*, $12\frac{1}{2}$ to 11. [*Peccavi.* This was a misprint for 12×11 , and therefore directly supports Mr. Anderson.—ED., *P.J.I.*] His 12 and $11\frac{1}{2}$ I consider to be only varieties of my (1) $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12. The perforations now in question therefore are 12×11 and

$12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ (I leave out my $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12×11 , as possibly included in the $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ admitted).

In an extract from the *Monthly Journal* given in the *Philatelic Journal of India*, February, 1901, it was stated that three perforations are known, viz., $9\frac{1}{2}$, 12, and 12×11 , the latter occurring in the following values:—20, 25, (both green and blue); 30, 40, 50 (blue); and 1 franc.

(Note.—This agrees with my list save that I have not yet found the 50 cents.) All stamps, it was further stated, with the 12×11 perforation are postmarked 1892-99, which goes to show that an alteration in the setting up of the perforation machine was made between 1891 and 1899.

In Stanley Gibbons' *Journal*, June 29th, 1901, the following remarks were made about my list of perforations:—

'Assuming that the list has been compiled mainly from the examination of single stamps rather than entire sheets or long strips,* we should infer that the irregular machine which produces the $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12 perforation is responsible also for the distinct $11\frac{1}{2}$ and 12, possibly one at one end of the row and one at the other. The distinct 11 must be done with another machine, used only on sheets that have already been passed through the former machine for the horizontal perforations, as Mr. Anderson only finds the 11 gauge running vertically. The single specimen perforation, $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, seems to prove the occasional use of quite another set of needles.'

This entirely coincides with my view of the matter. We have then the authority of Stanley Gibbons' *Journal* for there having been in use 'an irregular' machine producing $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12 perforation, and the *Monthly Journal*, as stated above, believes in an alteration effected between 1891 and 1899 in the perforating machine to produce 12×11 perforation. All the perforations in my list can, therefore, be explained as follows:—

- (1). $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12.—By the 'irregular' machine first used.
- (2). $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12×11 .—By the first 'irregular' machine for the horizontal perforation, and the 'altered' machine referred to by the *Monthly Journal* for the vertical perforation, or possibly by the 'altered' machine before the alteration to 12×11 was complete.
- (3). $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ or $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$.—By the irregular machine first used.
- (4). 12×11 .—By the altered machine referred to by the *Monthly Journal*.
- (5). $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.—By the occasional use of quite another set of needles. (Note.—I have only found *one* specimen of this perforation, viz., 50 cents grey-green).
- (6). $9\frac{1}{2}$.—A separate machine—not questioned.

This explanation, even if satisfactory, does not of course prove the actual *existence* of the $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ and 12×11 perforations which Baron A. de Reuterskiöld questions, but we have the statement of the *Monthly Journal* that the 12×11 at least is *known*.

Is it not possible for the *Journal* to obtain from the Swiss Post Office an authoritative statement of the perforation machines used and the periods of their use? This would settle the matter once and for all."

* Yes, from singles, pairs, and small strips and blocks: no entire sheets available.

Major Evans, in *The Monthly Journal* for December, comments thus:—

“SWITZERLAND. — The October number of *The Philatelic Journal of India* contains an article upon the perforations of the stamps of this country, the writer of which quotes us as an authority for various statements which we hardly think can be justly based upon what we wrote in June last. In that number we quoted a list of varieties of perforation which Mr. G. A. Anderson, the author of the article we are now alluding to, claimed to have discovered. Assuming that those varieties really existed, we proceeded to make some suggestions as to the manner in which they might have been produced. In Mr. Anderson's list there were stamps perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12, and others perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ and 12 compound, and in regard to these we said: ‘We should infer that the irregular machine which produces the $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12 perforation is responsible also for the distinct $11\frac{1}{2}$ and 12.’ We inferred an ‘irregular machine’ from Mr. Anderson's own statement that the gauge was ‘ $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12,’ which implied variation between those two figures; and Mr. Anderson now turns this round and says, ‘We have then the authority of Stanley Gibbons' *Journal* for there having been in use “an irregular” machine producing $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12 perforation.’ We are sorry that we cannot accept the implied compliment; we deduced the tree from the fruit which Mr. Anderson professed to have obtained from it, but this does not entitle him to quote us an authority for the existence of the tree.

We begin to suspect that if due allowance were made for the variations that may exist in machines, or that may be measured in stamps that have been soaked and dried or subjected to the influence of unfavourable climates, it would be found that the elaborate list, so industriously compiled by Mr. Anderson, could be reconciled with the simpler one that we gave in September, on the authority of M. de Reuterskiöld.”

The question is thus summed up in an Editorial article in *The Philatelic Journal of India* for January as follows:—

“In the May issue of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, p. 113, Mr. G. A. Anderson gives a list of the varieties of perforation which he had found in the current Swiss stamps. In the August number, p. 198, Baron A. de Reuterskiöld replied to this article and mentioned that only three perforations existed, viz., $9\frac{1}{2}$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$, and stated that he had never found any irregularities in the spacing of the needles. In the September issue we contributed a short note in support of Mr. Anderson's remarks, and lastly in the October number Mr. Anderson replied conclusively to the Baron's criticism. One would have considered that the positive possession of stamps with certain perforations was worth an unlimited amount of negative evidence of their non-existence. Mr. Anderson actually possesses these stamps with perforations differing from the normal, and we fail to see that the fact of Baron de Reuterskiöld not having noticed them is sufficient—eminent Philatelist though he be—to consign them to ‘that

oblivion out of which it would have been better had they never emerged' (to quote the words of the *Philatelic Record* for November, p. 265). In the editorial notes of the *Philatelic Record* it is stated that Baron de Reuterskiöld's reply in the *Philatelic Journal of India* speaks for itself, but we fail to see that it is in any way conclusive; it is purely negative evidence. Mr Anderson very clearly states that he does not consider these varieties as 'wonderful discoveries,' but merely records the deviations from normal which he has found. In our collection, which, like Mr. Anderson's, is at home (in consequence of the prohibitive duty levied by the Indian customs) are specimens of all the perforations mentioned by Mr. Anderson except $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, but they were not considered anything more than trivial varieties.

The standard perforations $9\frac{1}{2}$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ and $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ were arranged as distinct issues, and inserted below these normal varieties, were one copy of each deviation from normal, which are due presumably to slightly irregular spacing of the needles.

We cordially agree with the editor of our famous contemporary, the *Philatelic Record*, when he says that many wonderful discoveries and ultra-microscopical variations, constantly brought to light by the novice, are the outcome of a too vivid imagination, and the demolisher of these is a benefactor to the science of Philately, but Mr. Anderson is not a novice, nor has he that fertile imagination which manufactures minor varieties where they do not exist. It is now eight months since this matter was first noted in the *Philatelic Journal of India*, and the point stands now exactly where it stood then. Proof positive on the one hand, mere negative evidence on the other."

If put in that way we do not see how the matter can stand otherwise until our friends in India have had the opportunity of carefully examining their specimens again in the light which may have been thrown upon it by this discussion, and, failing so satisfying themselves, then submitting the specimens to Baron de Reuterskiöld to convince him. The following letter shows that this eminent specialist on the Swiss stamps has not been idle, and that his further researches only go to strengthen the views he expressed in his first article. On February 22nd, 1902, he writes us from Ouchy as follows:—

"In answer to yours of February 3rd, I am now more than ever convinced that there are only two sets of needles for perforating the current Swiss 20c. to 3fr. stamps.

I have examined a lot of *unused* ones without finding any other varieties, and have also carefully measured whole sheets in search of local variations caused by needles being closer or farther apart than normal without finding any such. I feel, therefore, certain, that any varieties of perforation found on used specimens are due to the expansion or contracting of the paper when wetted and dried to remove stamps from envelopes.

The first set of needles was used up to 1891, and was again taken into use in 1901. It perforates $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$.

There are 11 holes along the top of each stamp and 13 down the side, not counting the corner holes.

The second set of needles, used from 1892 to 1901, perforates $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$. There are 11 holes along top of stamp and 12 down the side.

I explain the reversion to the first set of needles by the fact that the Jubilee stamps, after first being perforated by a single line machine, were later put under the ordinary machine with every second vertical row of needles removed. When this issue was withdrawn it was easier to substitute the first set of needles complete than to fill up the empty lines again. No doubt when this set gets blunt again the second set will again be taken into use.

I admit I should like to see Mr. Anderson's specimens, especially his $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, but I do not believe in them as issued varieties, but, as I said before, believe them to be due to contraction or expanding of the paper."

Assuming our readers share our opinion upon this question, it only goes to show how unreliable used stamps really are. It has long been recognised that they are most unsatisfactory for shades; in fact, they cannot be relied upon at all, the reasons for which are too obvious to mention. If, in addition, they are open to a similar objection as to their perforations, they will indeed have lost most of the charms dear to the specialist.

The Lowe Sale.

THE collection of Mr. H. F. Lowe, M.A., a member of the Philatelic Society of London, formed a three days' sale at Messrs. Plumridge's on February 24th, 25th and 26th, 1902.

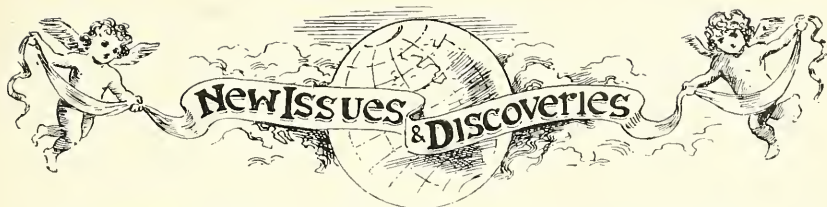
The stamps throughout the collection were in unusually fine condition, which is more than we were able to say in regard to the last private collection that was noted in these columns as having been sold by auction by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson about twelve months ago (Vol. xxiii., page 81). The lots were on view in Paris as well as in London. We believe we are right in stating that no auctioneer has hitherto shown the lots on the Continent as well as in London, and great credit is due to this enterprising firm for the new departure.

The catalogues were circulated about a fortnight before the sale, and these were followed by circular letter a day or two before the sale calling renewed attention to the date of sale. The prices of the mixed lots varied for British Colonials from about a quarter to three-quarters catalogue price, and for the non-Colonials rather less. Single stamps in some cases made well over catalogue price. Australians sold particularly well, also Hong Kong. The total amount realised by the auction was £1,934 8s., and we are informed by the owner that he is well satisfied with the result. The following are amongst the most interesting lots:—

		£	s.	d.
Barbados: 1d. on half 5s., provisional	..	..	..	..
Brazil: 600 reis, slanting figures	..	..	..	..
British Columbia: 10c., imperf., unused	..	..	..	..
\$1, perf. 12½, unused..	..	..	..	..
		4	15	0
		4	4	0
		1	14	0
		1	12	0

	£	s.	d.
British Guiana : 12c., blue, first issue, cut round	5	5	0
British Honduras : 1s., grey, C.A.	1	14	0
2c. on 6d., rose, perf. 12½, mint	1	4	0
50c. on 1s., grey (small type), C.C., perf. 14, mint	2	10	0
Buenos Ayres : 4 pesos, vermilion, unused	12	0	0
Canada : 10d., on thick paper, unused	4	0	0
Cape of Good Hope : 1d., woodblock, scarlet (no margins)	4	12	6
1s., dark green, mint	3	7	6
1s., yellow-green, unused	3	0	0
1863, 6d., bright mauve, mint	1	9	0
Ditto, 1s., emerald green, mint	4	17	6
Ceylon : 1857-59, 4d., dull rose, imperf.	12	0	0
Ditto, 8d., brown, imperf.	13	0	0
Ditto, 9d., lilac-brown, imperf.	3	7	6
Ditto, 1s., pale lilac, imperf., unused	2	0	0
Ditto, 1s. 9d., yellow-green, imperf., unused	2	8	0
Ditto, 2s., blue, imperf.	4	5	0
C.A., 25c., purple-brown, mint	17	0	0
France : 1849-50, 1 franc, orange	7	5	0
Griqualand : 1877, 3d., grey, large G, vertical strip of 9, mint	2	10	0
Ditto, 5s., orange, S. G. Type 2, unused	5	15	0
Ditto, 1d., red, pane of 60, showing types of large G, mint	12	0	0
Ditto, 4d., blue, vertical strip of 5, showing types of large G, mint	8	10	0
Ditto, 1d., red, small G in black, inverted on 1d., red, mint block of 32	1	14	0
Ditto, 4d., blue, italic G on type with outer line to frame, S. G. 85	2	17	6
Hong Kong : 96c., yellow-brown, C.C., mint	8	5	0
Lagos : 1s., orange, C.C., perf. 14, mint	6	0	0
2s. 6d., olive-black, C.A., mint	3	5	0
5s., blue, C.A., mint	4	15	0
10s., lilac-brown, C.A.	8	12	6
Mauritius : 1d. and 2d., post paid, early state of plate, used, on piece of original	19	0	0
Nevis : 6d., grey, lithographed, mint	4	0	0
New Brunswick : 1851, 1s., violet	12	0	0
Newfoundland : 1857, 6½d., scarlet-vermilion, unused	7	10	0
1860, 1s., orange	11	17	6
New South Wales : 1d., red, Sydney view, Plate 1	2	12	6
1d., red, Sydney view, Plate 1, deeper shade	3	3	0
1d., red, Sydney view, on laid	2	12	6
2d., blue, Sydney view	3	15	0
3d., emerald green, Sydney view, superb	6	15	0
Niger Coast : 10s. in vermilion on 5d., S. G. No. 32, mint	11	0	0
Oldenburg : 1859, 2sgr., black on rose	2	17	6
1861, ½sgr., moss green	2	8	0
Queensland : 1d., carmine-rose, imperf.	2	0	0
2d., blue, imperf.	5	5	0
6d., green, imperf.	3	3	0
Reunion : 30c., superb, on original letter, but uncanceled	38	0	0
30c., superb, on original letter, but cancelled	28	0	0
St. Vincent : 5s., rose red, Star, mint	9	5	0
4d. on 1s., vermilion	8	15	0
Sierra Leone : 4d., blue, C.A., perf. 14, mint	10	0	0
Spain : 1853, 2r., vermilion	4	0	0
Switzerland : 2½r., Basle	2	8	0
5c., Neuchâtel, unused	7	0	0
Tasmania : 1853, 1d., blue	4	4	0
Tobago : £1, mauve, C.C., perf. 14, mint	12	10	0
1d., in manuscript, on half of 6d.	4	10	0
6d., stone, C.A., mint	5	10	0
Transvaal : 6d., blue on green, V.R. TRANVAAL, inverted surcharge, imperf.	6	7	6
United States : 1869, 24c., green and purple, centre inverted	21	0	0
Victoria : 5s., blue on yellow	4	4	0
Virgin Islands : 1867, 1s., rose-carmine, single line border, unused	1	18	0
Wurtemberg : 70kr., purple, horizontal strip of 3, unused	4	15	0





The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. FRED. H. GIBSON, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester.

The British Empire.

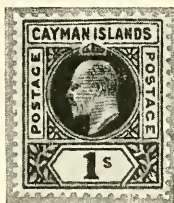
British North Borneo.—The 50c., violet, chronicled in January, is surcharged British Protectorate in red, and not in black, as there mentioned.

Cayman Islands.—We have received from Mr. Peckitt three denominations bearing the head of King Edward VII., one of which we illustrate below.

The design is that which we may expect to become the stock type for the Crown Colonies, except that in this case the inscription only reads "Postage," not "Postage and Revenue."

It appears to us that the portrait suffers greatly by reason of its small size, while the crown by which it is surmounted has dwindled to insignificant proportions.

Perforation and watermark as usual; in the two lower values the head is on a horizontally-lined background, but in the 1s. this is solid.



Adhesives.

2½d., ultramarine, pale and dark, wmk. Crown and C.A., perf. 14.
6d., chocolate, wmk. Crown and C.A., perf. 14.
1s., orange, " " " "

Gambia.—The 1d., carmine, is now to hand in the type described in our Cayman Islands item. We believe this is the only value of the new series so far issued for this Colony.

Adhesive.

1d., carmine, wmk. Crown and C.A., perf. 14.

Great Britain.—The *London Philatelist* describes and illustrates the new 1½d., 3d.

and 2s. 6d. stamps, though they are not yet generally available for this purpose.

The designs, except for the head, are practically the same as before. All three values will be put on sale some time during the next few weeks.

From the same source we have an interesting list of new Official stamps. So far we have only seen a few of these, but list all below, together with the 2½d., surcharged for the Levant Post Offices; this latter, however, will not make its appearance for some time. The Official surcharges are in tall sans-serif capitals as hitherto.

Adhesives.

1½d., purple and green, wmk. Crown, perf. 14.
3d., purple on yellow, " "
2s. 6d., purple, " "

For use at Levant Offices.

40 paras on 2½d., ultramarine.

Official Stamps.

1d., carmine, surcharged R.H. in black.
Official
(For use in the Royal Households.)

½d., green,	surcharged	I.R.
1d., carmine,	" "	Official
2½d., ultramarine,	" "	" "
1s., green and carmine (Queen's head)	" "	" "
½d., green,	surcharged	ARMY
1d., carmine,	" "	Official
½d., green (Queen's head),	surcharged	O.W.
3d., " "	" "	OFFICIAL
1d., carmine,	" "	" "
3d., green,	surcharged	Board
1d., carmine,	" "	of
2½d., blue,	" "	Education
5d., purple and blue (Queen's head)	" "	" "
1s., green and carmine	" "	" "

Hong Kong.—*Ewen's Weekly* mentions the receipt of a new 12c. stamp, superseding the 12 cents blue C.C., which has been in use so many years.

Adhesive.

12 cents, dark blue, wmk. crown and C.A., perf. 14.

Mauritius.—To meet the requirement for a 12 cent stamp which is much needed since the postal rate to Great Britain has been reduced to 6 cents, the current 18c., green and blue, has been surcharged 12 cents in two lines. We have to thank Mr. Peckitt for the first sight of this provisional.

12
CENTS

Adhesive.

12 cents in black on 18c., green and blue.

New Zealand.—We are advised by Messrs. Wilcox, Smith & Co. that all the locally printed stamps are now perforated 14 to 15. So far we have seen the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d.

Adhesives.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., dark green, perf. 14, wmk. N.Z. and star.
1d., carmine, " " " "

Orange River Colony.—The current 6d., blue, has been overprinted 4d. in carmine, the original value being struck out by a short bar in the same colour. A correspondent has kindly sent us a pane (top right hand) for examination. It is of the "thick V" printing, and of this variety there are six instances: Nos. 12, 30, 37, 43, 53 and 58, while in the case of No. 37, the "I" of "V.R.I." is an inverted "1." There appear

to be no other peculiarities; indeed, the fresh surcharge shows no differences, save for those trifling variations caused by a light or heavy printing.

4d

Adhesive.

4d. in carmine on 6d., blue (V.R.I.)

Varieties: Thick "V" in "V.R.I."

"I" of "V.R.I." an inverted "1."

Seychelles.—The following are the numbers issued of the recent provisionals:—

3c. on 36c.	..	..	..	60,000
3c. on 16c.	..	..	..	31,200
3c. on 10c.	..	..	..	42,000
6c. on 8c.	..	..	..	40,000

Tasmania.—We have to thank Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle for a specimen of the current 2d pictorial, printed on V. and Crown paper. They inform us that a six months' supply of this value has been printed in Melbourne, and that the other denominations will also be supplied from there as required. We have since received the 1d. value. The shades of both are slightly different.

Adhesives.

1d., rose red, perf. 14, wmk. V. and Crown, sideways.
2d., purple, " " "

Foreign Countries.

Argentine Republic.—We are now able to illustrate the design of the official stamps chronicled in our last.



Austria.—We have seen a new value of the current type, 35 heller, printed in green, with figures in black.

Adhesive.

35 heller, green and black, perf. 13.

Bolivia.—In addition to the four stamps chronicled in January, we have now to list:

Adhesives.

10 cents, dark blue.
20 " violet and black.

Bulgaria.—The unpaid letter stamps referred to in February are now to hand. There are four values, printed on plain white paper and perforated 11 $\frac{1}{2}$. We have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for early sight of the first values.



Unpaid Letter Stamps.

Adhesives.

5 stotinki, rose,	perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.
10 " bright green,	"
30 " red lilac,	"
50 " orange,	"



“BLACK” PRINTING—LEFT PANE.

Plate III.

Chili.—In addition to the 1, 2, and 5 cents, the 10 cents violet now comes in the recut die type. We have just seen the provisional 5 on 30 cents, with double surcharge, both impressions very distinct.

Adhesives.

10 cents, violet, recut die.
5 cents on 30 c., carmine; variety, double surcharge.

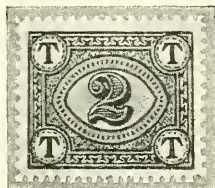
Danish West Indies.—The surcharge in the case of the provisionals mentioned in February is in black, and occupies three lines, the date 1902 appearing at foot. The perforation is $13 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

2

CENTS

1902

Dominican Republic.—The illustration below is that of the initial value of the set of unpaid letter stamps first listed in December last.



The new Commemorative stamps are just to hand. We do not know what event or events they are intended to celebrate, possibly only the changes which have occurred since 1502, and which are heavily emphasized in each stamp by various comparisons of ways and means then and now. The stamps are oblong, and bear a portrait or view in the centre; they are printed on slightly-tinted wove paper and are perforated 12.



Adhesives (Ordinary).

- 1 cent, green and black.
- 2 cents, scarlet
- 5 " blue "
- 10 " orange "
- 12 " purple "
- 20 " rosine "
- 50 " brown "

Adhesives (Official).

- 2 cents, scarlet and black.
- 5 " dark blue "
- 10 " yellow green and black.
- 20 " yellow and black.

France.—The *Monthly Journal* mentions the discovery of the 15c., surcharged F M for military service, with the overprint inverted.

Adhesive.

15c., orange, surcharged F M in black.
Variety: Surcharge inverted,

OBOCK.—We also see that the 75c. stamp has been surcharged "0.05" to meet a temporary requirement.

Adhesive.

0.05c., in blue, on 75c., lilac and orange.

Germany.—A correspondent informs us that the new stamps inscribed *Deutsches Reich* will not be available for use till April 1st, though they will be on sale prior to that date. The old stamps will not be available for use after March 31st, though they may be exchanged for those of the new set up to June 30th.

Greece.—A correspondent has sent us the new set of stamps for Parcel Post service. It consists of five values, 5, 25 and 50 lepta, and 1 and 2 drachmae. They are lithographed on plain white wove paper, perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$, and apparently without watermarks. These can only be purchased with gold currency, the other stamps of the present issue being sold at their equivalent in silver or paper. In a country such as Greece, where the latter is at a considerable discount, the loss to the Government on the Foreign Parcels Post service when prepayment is made by means of stamps, purchasable at what practically means half the nominal or *carrying* value is a large one, and as naturally the accounts rendered by other States for their share of the forwarding cannot be made in such a manner, the necessity has therefore arisen for this issue, which provides a means for obviating the difficulty



Adhesives.

- 5 lepta, orange, perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$.
- 25 " emerald green, perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$.
- 50 " ultramarine, "
- 1 drachma, carmine, "
- 2 drachmae, brown, "

Persia.—The current 50 kran has been overprinted "5 kran." Particulars of colour of surcharge, etc., are wanting.

Adhesive.

5 kran on 50 kran, red-brown.

Philately in the Mags.

France Unpaid 10c. Lithograph.

The comparative rarity of the 10c. Unpaid Letter Stamp, lithographed, arises from the fact that it was a provisional. Time being too short to have the stamp engraved, recourse was had to lithography to provide the necessary sheets for the *Timbre*—or, as it was officially designated, *Chiffre-Taxe*.

Issued on January 1st, 1859, it was replaced in the middle of March the same year by a typograph, and although the two stamps are identical as far as design is concerned, it is easy enough to distinguish them after a little careful study.

In the first place, to the naked eye, the lithograph is softer, and the greyish black of the ink seems regularly distributed; whilst the typograph, especially when upon yellowish and somewhat ribbed paper, although blacker, shows places where the ink has only caught the surface of the paper.

Looking a little more closely, it will be noticed that in the lithograph the letters of the word *CENTIMES* as well as those of the word "*percevoir*" are smaller, the grave accent of the "*à*" under the word "*centimes*" is almost horizontal, and looks more like a small line than an accent, whilst in the other stamp it is well formed, broad at the top and thinner below. The curl of this "*à*" is more rounded to the left than in the other type, and the upstroke of the "*i*" is finer and shorter, as are also the lines forming the foot. Lastly, the four white lines on the inside of the frame, under the words "*postes*," "*chiffre*," and above the word "*Taxe*," end in hooks which are much less curved inwards than in the typograph. The same applies to the hooks of the angle ornaments.

If the stamp is not on entire it will be noticed that the typograph impression appears behind in relief. If it is obliterated with dated postmark, it is certain to be lithographed if the date is not later than March 15th, 1859, unless it is the work of forgers, who have frequently been tempted by this stamp.—*La Cote Réelle*.

Re-engraved Stamps of the Late Spanish Colonies.

Donald A. King, writing in *Meehel's Weekly Stamp News*, says:—

"For several years previous to 1880, the Spanish Government had its postage stamps made in England, but in that year the design of its Colonial issue was changed, and the stamps were manufactured in Spain. The design is commonplace enough, the same for all the Colonies; the name at the top of the stamp for each colony was merely changed, and in Cuba and Porto Rico, included in the year of issue, 1880-1881; this

type was abandoned in 1882. Another change in these Colonies was in 1881 from *Centesimo de Peseta* to *Cent de Peso*, altering the description of value.

"This design, as first drawn, lasted in all the Colonies for several years. Early in 1883, from wear of the die, and the necessity of printing further supplies, the old die was re-engraved or a new one closely imitating the original made, and was used for new supplies as needed; the re-engraving consisting of the stamps most in use as the 1c., 5c. and 10c.

"Considering them as issued, the plates, when of stamps that many were used of, did not last very long, they having been only electrotypes, and a second and third variety of die was made. These four plates are the familiar catalogue varieties of original, first, second and third retouch.

"The second retouch was issued about January, 1886, the third in 1888.

"As given in the '*Standard*' catalogue, they are:—

Cuba	1st retouch,	5 cent, blue.
Cuba	1st retouch,	10 cent, brown.
Cuba	2nd retouch,	5 cent, blue.
Cuba	3rd retouch,	11 cent, green.
Cuba	3rd retouch,	5 cent, blue.
Porto Rico ..	1st retouch,	5 cent, blue.
Porto Rico ..	2nd retouch,	5 cent, blue.
Philippines ..	1st retouch,	2 4-8 cent, ultra.
Philippines ..	2nd retouch,	2 4-8 cent, ultra.

But this is not a complete list.

"Some time ago, while examining a large quantity of the Philippine 8c. on 2 4-8c., I found that the second retouch existed (but was not then catalogued) with this surcharge, and from later examination of the stamps of Cuba and the Philippines, I noticed that several other values existed of these untouched dies, and are not so catalogued or described, and there probably are more than I am able to list.

"It must be understood that in nearly all cases these stamps exist only in the retouched dies, or as they may be called for convenience sake in reference:—

Type A,	original die.
Type B,	1st retouch.
Type C,	2nd retouch.
Type D,	3rd retouch.

"Taking the Colonies in their order, we find in Cuba that the *milesimo* set printed in black, for newspaper postage, issued January 1st, 1888, only exists in Type C.

"In the Philippines, the 50 mills *bistre*, issued in April, 1887, the 1c. green, and the 6c. yellow brown, issued in 1888, are also in Type C, as are also the newspaper stamps issued in January, 1886.

"These stamps were in some instances used for surcharging, and a list is annexed.

"The provisional issue of March, 1889, consisting of Telegraph stamps surcharged

for revenue stamps, and then authorized for postal use, are all of Type C.

“REFERENCE LIST.

CUBA—

- Dec., 1883, Type B, 5c., blue-grey, blue.
 Jan., 1884, Type B, 10c., brown shades.
 Mar., 1886, Type C, 5c., pale blue, blue.
 Dec., 1886, Type D, 1c., green.
 5c., grey-blue.
 Jan., 1888, Type D, 1c., blue.
 Jan., 1888, Type D, $\frac{1}{2}$ mill, black-grey, black.
 1 mill, black-grey, black.
 2 mill, black-grey, black.
 3 mill, black-grey, black.
 4 mill, black-grey, black.
 8 mill, black-grey, black.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—

- 1883, Type B, 2 4-8c. ultramarine.
 Type C, 2 4-8c. ultramarine.
 April, 1887, Type C, 50 mills, bistre.
 1888, Type C, 1c., green shades.
 6c., brown, yellow-brown.
 Jan., 1886, Type C, 1-8 mill, yellow-green.
 1 mill, rose.
 2 mills, blue.
 5 mills, brown

Surcharged on re-engraved types:

- Mar., 1883, Type B, 2 reals on 2 4-8c., blk. sur.
 Jan., 1887, Type B, 1 cent on 2 4-8c., red sur.
 10 cent on 2 4-8c., blk. sur.
 1888, Type B, *8 cent on 2 4-8c., violet sur.
 Type C, *8 cent on 2 4-8c., violet sur.
 2 4-8c. on 1c., violet sur.
 2 4-8c. on 50m., violet sur.
 Sept., 1888, 2 4-8c. on 1c., grey-grn., sur.

PROVISIONAL REVENUE STAMPS, AUTHORIZED TO BE USED AS POSTAGE—

- Jan., 1889, Type B, 2 4-8c. on 2 4-8c., blk. sur.
 2 4-8c. on 1c., blk. sur.

ON TELEGRAPH STAMPS—

- Mar., 1889, Type C, 2 4-8c. on 1c., bistre, blk. sur.
 2 4-8c. on 2c., rose, blk. sur.
 2 4-8c. on 2 4-8c., brn., blk. sr.
 2 4-8c. on 5c., blue, blk. sur.
 2 4-8c. on 10c., green, blk. sur.
 2 4-8c. on 20c., violet, blk. sur.

* Several varieties of this surcharge exist, varying in size and shape of letters.

The above list is probably incomplete, and other re-engraved varieties may be discovered.

Notes and News.

A Find.

Some unused 10 lepta Greece Paris prints have been found in Paris. It is said a block of forty has been discovered. The stamps are without gum. They probably fall in the same category as those of the other values of this issue which turned up some five years ago amongst the belongings of the late printer to the French Mint. At that time, however, no 10 lepta were said to have been found.

Obituary Notice.

We regret to hear that one of our English contemporaries is to be discontinued at once. It is one which catered more for the wants of beginners rather than the advanced school, yet at times contained heavier matter and invariably proved good reading. We should not be surprised if the opportunity is not seized upon by some enterprising person to launch a new journal. We devoutly hope, however, collectors may be spared the infliction.

Philippine Reminders.

We understand that the huge remainders have found a purchaser in Mr. Victor Robert, of Paris, the price being between £6,000 and £7,000. Some interesting information is collated in an article appearing in the *P.J.G.B.*, from which it appears that the entire stock, consisting of some 30,000,000 stamps was sold by auction to Messrs. Edward A. Keller & Co., of Manila, in December, 1899, for \$50,300—roughly, £5,000. An endeavour was made by a

Mr. Schenkel to sell them in small lots, but up to the end of 1900 he had only been able to dispose of some 100,000. He then appears to have come to Europe, opened an office in Zurich, and tried hard to convince collectors and dealers to buy at his “moderate prices.” The lot is said to have been of the catalogue value of £600,000, and a speculative buyer at £60,000 was in vain sought for. England would have none of them, although an offer of £15,000 is said to have been broached and refused. They have ultimately gone to Paris, and might be useful if the craze for papering rooms with stamps again came in vogue.

Ten cases were stored in Antwerp at the time of the fire and totally destroyed. What a pity the other 54 cases had not been there also. Unfortunately they were in Switzerland.

A Society Seeking Notoriety.

The President of the Circulo Filatélico Malriteuse has presented to the Queen of Spain the petition of the Society praying for the issue of special commemorative stamps indicating the assumption of the Crown by the young King. May we express the hope that the petition may be placed in the Royal W. P. B.

American Enterprise.

We extract the following characteristic paragraph from one of our American contemporaries:—

“John D. Kay was the first to receive the new King Edward VII. stamps here. He fortunately secured 50 sets. These met with ready sales, some collectors buying a number

of sets. A few days later the announcement of the error in placing the King's head caused a lively demand, but I understand Mr. Kay is holding his stamps for the present anyhow."

Perhaps by now Mr. Kay will have become a sadder, if not a wiser, man.

Forgeries of Portuguese Colonies.

Some very deceptive counterfeits of the Crown type sets of different of the Portuguese colonies have been seen, coming from an Italian forger. The corner figure or ornament in the little square at the upper right hand side in the counterfeit varies noticeably from that of the original.

Another New Issue for U.S.A.

The Third Assistant Postmaster-General of the United States of America has requested the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to submit pen and ink drawings for an entire new series of postage stamps. The denominations will remain unchanged save in the case mentioned, the thirteen cents value being added. This seems an odd value for a postage stamp, but it represents exactly the cost of sending a registered

letter weighing one-half ounce to any country within the Postal Union; five cents for postage and eight cents for registration; and there seems to have been sufficient demand to justify the making of a special stamp of that value.

The new-comer will bear the face of former President Benjamin Harrison.

The only other change in the portraits upon the stamps proposed will be in the one dollar value. Commodore Perry whose face has appeared upon postage stamps since the 1870 issue—90 cents—down to 1894, when the 90 cents was discontinued, since which time his portrait has appeared upon the \$1, will be superseded by Admiral Farragut.

It is understood that the date of birth and death of the subject upon each stamp will appear in small letterings, also "Series 1902," somewhere upon the stamp.—The *Metropolitan Philatelist*.

Central America: Cheap Remainders.

We are informed that the Costa Rica, 1892 set, has been demonetized. Collectors may look for the catalogue price falling to a few shillings a set.

Correspondence.

3 cents, First Issue, Danish West Indies.

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

DEAR SIR,—The absence of watermark on the 3 cents, dull ultramarine, first issue, Danish West Indies stamp described by Mr. W. F. Chance is sufficient proof that it was not a variety that was ever intended for postal use.

So far as my memory serves, I do not recollect hearing of a specimen in blue before, but a number of "colour trials" are known of some of the issues of Denmark, and there can be, I think, no doubt that this 3 cents, Danish West Indies belongs to the same category.—Yours faithfully,

South Croydon, E. D. BACON.
March 8th, 1902.

Gambia C.A. Series of Shades.

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

DEAR SIR,—In the January number of the *Philatelic Record* it is stated by "An English Specialist," in his very interesting article on "The Range of Values," that of the Gambia C.A. series the shades were prolific, though in the 4d. there were practically none, and he questions whether there was more than one printing of this value.

From my experience of Gambias I should unhesitatingly say that there were at least three printings. One of the C.A. printings

is very like the shade of 4d. C.C.; in fact, so much alike that one stamp could be taken for the other unless the watermark is very distinct. I saw a pair of supposed 4d. C.C. in a dealer's book a short time ago. The watermark (a bit of the "Crown") appeared very indistinctly near the edge of the stamp, and I question whether that pair will ever be sold as C.C.

I have some splendid varieties of a rich dark brown—two distinct shades—quite different from the colour I have already spoken of, but as they do not appear to be common, I put down this shade as worth looking for.—Yours faithfully,

St. Albans, J. HOWARD ROSKILLY.
March 6th.

Errors in the New Issue of Greece.

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

SIR,—Thinking it would interest readers of the *Philatelic Record* to know of some errors in the new issue of Greece, I have a pair of one lepton not perforated, and one pair of one drachma not perforated vertically. As these stamps were printed and perforated in London, there is no doubt of their being genuine errors—I remain, yours truly,

The British Consulate, A. B.
Syra,
March 2nd, 1902

THE
Philatelic Record.

APRIL, 1902.

Editorial Notes.

THE Herts Philatelic Society have now published the syllabus of their Exhibition to be held in the rooms of the London Society on June 7th next, from which we learn that it is to be confined to their own members, and that each exhibit is to be limited to fifty stamps. Knowing the energy of some of the officials of this Society, and having a high opinion of the capacity of its members collectively, we looked forward, when this Exhibition was first mooted, to being able to make an appreciative reference to the scheme in these columns, and our disappointment at finding it impossible to do so is therefore all the more intense.

**The Next
Exhibition.**

It may be, and indeed undoubtedly is, wise, in the interests of would-be exhibitors as a body, to curtail the exhibits to some extent, in the hope of inducing a larger number of collectors to participate, but surely the restrictions in this case are far too drastic. The majority of the most interesting countries are altogether excluded in consequence, as the limit would be exceeded were only a single specimen shewn either used or unused, of each value and type. Great Britain, for instance, cannot be displayed complete even without the plate numbers, while of these the one penny value alone supplies more than double the number permitted by the regulations.

An exhibit framed on these lines must resolve itself into one of two alternatives. Either one, or possibly two, issues of a country will be displayed and constitute an entire exhibit, or a single-specimen collection of the whole will be attempted, omitting the commoner stamps in order to conform to the limit rule. Probably in the former case, and without a doubt in the latter, it becomes in reality an exhibit of rarities, thus introducing the very thing which the framers of the syllabus wish to avoid, and producing exactly the opposite effect from the one which they desire. The expediency of shewing one or two issues only will be particularly apparent to those specialists who are credited with possessing "bloated" collections, which they will find very happy hunting-grounds for the fifty stamps necessary for their purpose.

Whilst being heartily in accord with all attempts to frame regulations which will prevent exhibits containing row after row of rare stamps, practically all alike, from having an undue advantage, and which will do something to encourage and benefit the medium collector, we cannot see that any effectual steps have been made in this direction in the present instance.

To those who are sufficiently well informed to understand the *modus operandi*, the making of prices in stamps is an interesting study. Take as a case in point, the 5s. carmine stamp of Zululand. For some years this stamp was on sale at the usual price of a current stamp, from 7s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. But one fine morning it leaked out that only a small number had been printed, that most of those had been used for fiscal purposes, and that the stamp was obsolete. The knowing ones scouted round to pick up all available copies, and Gibbons withdrew his stock from sale. Then for some time there was an awkward pause. No copies were to be had for the sole reason that no one knew what to charge. All were waiting to see how the cat, *ie.*, Gibbons' catalogue, would jump, but Gibbons left the price a disappointing blank. The time was not ripe for making a price. Eventually Gibbons, in 1896, priced the stamp, 75s. for unused and 80s. for used copies, and then specimens filtered into the auctions. At first they were snapped up at prices close on catalogue, then they drooped, but now the price is stiffening up to catalogue, so much so as to justify the original making of the price by Gibbons. It was a venturesome thing to raise the price of a stamp from 12s. 6d. to 75s., but the market has accepted and maintained the Gibbons' valuation.

But when the oracle has not spoken, and a price has to be made, there is much perturbation behind the scenes, a great deal of "animated expectancy" and a little "hesitancy." Just now the trouble is to know what price to fix for the recently received twopenny Gold Coast. It is a value suddenly added to the current series, and kind rumour whispers, through fortunate holders of stock, that only a very few have been printed, that it is probably the last Queen's head to be issued, and so on. Collectors are anxious to buy and dealers are very anxious to sell, but their natural bashfulness prevents their fixing a price without the aid of their Gibbons. Jones is said to have started the price at a paltry shilling, whereat there is much unpleasant enquiry as to "What has happened to Jones?"

THERE are things difficult to understand even in matters philatelic, and the action of the German Government in connection with the issue of its new stamps, and the demonetization of the old ones may be considered to be amongst the number. The official decree dated February 20th, which we reproduce elsewhere, states that although the new stamps will be sold to the public on March 20th, they cannot be used for postage until April 1st, whilst the present issue will not be available after that date. This may be no injustice to dwellers in large towns, but it strikes us as rather unfair to country folks who have not equal facilities for becoming acquainted with the intentions of the Government, especially as the current stamps can only be exchanged for the new ones until June 1st, after which date they will be absolutely useless. No doubt the revenue of the Post Office will be increased in consequence, and in the case of a South American Republic or even an African colony such proceedings could be understood, but in Germany they seem, to say the least, curious, and hardly consistent with the Fatherland's usual care and consideration for its children.



Plate IV. "BLACK" PRINTING — RIGHT PANE.

Luxemburg.

By **Jos. Schock,**

President of "L'Union des Timbrophiles."

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 55.)

30 centimes, reddish-violet, dark and light.

30th September, 1881	..	..	..	100,000
12th September, 1882	..	..	..	8,000
17th December, 1892..	..	..	..	1,100
Total	..	..	..	109,100 Stamps

I may add, that the year 1892 is quite correct. These stamps do not constitute a new printing, but are remainders, found at the printing works at Harlem, and then sent by the Dutch inspector to the Luxemburg Government. They really belong to the printings delivered in September, 1882, and before.

Of essays of this issue the following are known to me :—

1 centime,	brown,	imperforate,	on white wove paper.
5	..	black,	.. .. ..
5	..	yellow,	.. .. ..
10	..	lilac,	.. .. .. cardboard.

VI.

Issues of 1882-1894.

On the 9th of November, 1882, the following decree was published in the *Mémorial*, the official gazette of the Duchy :—

“NOTICE.—POST OFFICE.

“The public is herewith notified that from the 1st of December the Postal Administration will put into circulation postage stamps of a new design to frank all postal matter.

“The new issue will consist of the following values :—

1 centime.	Colour :	light violet.
2 centimes.	..	grey.
4	..	yellow.
5	..	light green.
10	..	carmine.
12½	..	bluish-grey.
20	..	orange.
25	..	ultramarine.
30	..	dark green.
50	..	pale brown.
1 franc.	..	violet.
5 francs.	..	brown.

“ The stamps of a smaller value than 1 franc will bear only the figures of value without any addition ; those of 1 and 5 fcs. will bear these figures followed by an F.

“ Luxemburg, 24th October, 1882.

“ The Administrator of Finances,

(Signed) MONGENAST.”

The design was a veiled copy of the French stamps of the 1876 issue, showing two figures, one on the right and one on the left, leaning on a small shield, with the coat-of-arms of Luxemburg, surmounted by a royal crown and placed on a pedestal with two steps.

The figure on the left, which is symbolical of agriculture and industry, holds in the right hand a hammer, and in the left hand, which rests on the shield, an olive branch. The right foot is placed on the first step of the pedestal. Between the left leg, the foot of which rests on the second step of the pedestal, and the side itself there is a cogwheel.

The figure on the right-hand side displays the well-known characteristics of Mercury, the god of Commerce. His right hand, which rests on the shield, holds the herald's rod, his left a purse, which seems to be heavy. His left foot is placed on the first step of the pedestal, his right knee is resting on a bale corded crosswise in such a manner that the side facing the onlooker is divided into four equal parts. The two upper parts contain the initials of the designer and the engraver of these stamps : the one on the left A.M. standing for A. Marc, the designer, and the one on the right M.E. standing for E. Mouchon, the well-known French engraver. The two lower parts bear the year of issue : on the left 18, and on the right 82.

The inscription Gd. Duché de Luxembourg is on the two steps of the pedestal, and the value in figures, with addition of the letter F for the two high values, is on the rectangular.

The stamps measure $18\frac{1}{2} \times 22\frac{1}{2}$ mm., and are printed on white wove paper. The perforation varies as follows : $13\frac{1}{2}$, $12\frac{1}{2}$ and $11\frac{1}{2}$. The first stamps issued were perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$.

The first delivery was made on the 5th of October, 1882, and consisted of the following :—

1,000,000	stamps of	1 centime	
400,000	..	4 centimes.	
1,000,000	..	5	..
2,000,000	..	10	..
500,000	..	$12\frac{1}{2}$	..

Before I give the full number of stamps printed and delivered, I want to say a few words about the millésime 1882, which is found on

these stamps, and which is found to read 1832, 1382 and 1332. The following varieties are known to me:—

With inscription 1832	the values	2, 4, 5, 20, 50c. and 5fcs.
.. .. 1382	..	4, 10 and 25c.
.. .. 1332	..	30c. and 1fc.

Besides these I must catalogue a variety of the 30c. value, in which the lettering on the bale is incomplete, only half the M in the upper portion being visible, and the figure 8 of 82 being missing.

The following are the quantities of these stamps delivered to the Postal Administration from 1881-1894:—

1 centime, pale violet (two shades).

Stamps.		Stamps.	
5th October, 1882.. ..	1,000,000	16th December, 1891	100,000
18th October, 1884	75,000	2nd February, 1892	100,000
7th November, 1884	425,000	26th March, 1892	250,000
28th August, 1885.. ..	75,000	25th June, 1892	7,500
9th October, 1885.. ..	325,000	16th July, 1892	292,500
13th August, 1886.. ..	500,000	8th November, 1882	200,000
8th September, 1888	400,000	9th February, 1893	400,000
30th April, 1889	800,000	26th October, 1893	300,000
22nd January, 1890	25,000	19th January, 1894	300,000
27th March, 1890	575,000	24th February, 1894	500,000
21st April, 1891	65,000	22nd September, 1894	100,000
23rd June, 1891	100,000	14th September, 1894	800,000
14th September, 1891	200,000		
8th October, 1891.. ..	25,000	Total	7,940,000

2 centimes, greyish brown (various shades), grey green.

Stamps.		Stamps.	
19th October, 1882	1,000,000	16th December, 1891	100,000
18th October, 1884	75,000	2nd February, 1892	100,000
7th November, 1884	525,000	7th March, 1892	125,000
3rd March, 1885	100,000	26th March, 1892	125,000
28th August, 1885	75,000	25th June, 1892	12,500
9th October, 1885.. ..	525,000	16th July, 1892	287,500
13th August, 1886.. ..	600,000	8th November, 1892	250,000
8th September, 1888	350,000	9th February, 1893	500,000
30th April, 1889	700,000	26th October, 1893	250,000
22nd January, 1890	25,000	19th January, 1894	300,000
23rd April, 1890	575,000	24th February, 1894	400,000
21st April, 1891	57,000	22nd September, 1894	300,000
29th May, 1891	200,000	14th December, 1894	1,000,000
14th September, 1891	100,000		
8th October, 1891.. ..	27,500	Total	8,684,500

4 centimes, yellowish olive.

5th October, 1882	500,000
8th October, 1891	85,000
22nd September, 1894	50,000
Total	635,000 Stamps.

5 centimes, dark green and yellowish green.

		Stamps.			Stamps.
5th October, 1882..	.. ..	1,000,000	26th March, 1892 ..	.. ..	200,000
7th November, 1884	.. ..	200,000	25th June, 1892 ..	.. ..	60,000
28th August, 1885..	.. ..	75,000	16th July, 1892 ..	.. ..	140,000
9th October, 1885..	.. ..	375,000	8th November, 1892	.. ..	150,000
26th July, 1886 ..	.. ..	500,000	9th February, 1893	.. ..	400,000
8th September, 1888	.. ..	300,000	26th March, 1893 ..	.. ..	20,000
30th April, 1889 ..	.. ..	400,000	26th October, 1893	.. ..	250,000
22nd January, 1890	.. ..	800,000	19th January, 1894	.. ..	300,000
21st April, 1891 ..	.. ..	50,000	24th February, 1894	.. ..	400,000
29th May, 1891 ..	.. ..	200,000	22nd September, 1894	.. ..	100,000
8th October, 1891..	.. ..	1,000	14th December, 1894	.. ..	900,000
16th December, 1891	.. ..	100,000			
2nd February, 1892	.. ..	100,000	Total		7,021,000

10 centimes, carmine.

		Stamps.			Stamps.
5th October, 1882..	.. ..	2,000,000	30th March, 1889 ..	.. ..	1,300,000
18th October, 1884	.. ..	325,000	27th March, 1890 ..	.. ..	1,200,000
7th November, 1884	.. ..	875,000	21st April, 1891 ..	.. ..	50,000
3rd March, 1885 ..	.. ..	200,000	29th May, 1891 ..	.. ..	100,000
28th August, 1885..	.. ..	50,000	23rd June, 1891 ..	.. ..	50,000
9th October, 1885..	.. ..	1,150,000	14th September, 1891	.. ..	150,000
26th July, 1886 ..	.. ..	100,000	8th October, 1891..	.. ..	2,500
13th August, 1886..	.. ..	150,000			
23rd September, 1886	.. ..	1,250,000	Total		9,632,500
8th September, 1888	.. ..	700,000			

12½ centimes, bluish grey.

		Stamps.			Stamps.
5th October, 1882..	.. ..	500,000	2nd March, 1893 ..	.. ..	1,000
7th November, 1884	.. ..	300,000			
8th October, 1891..	.. ..	90,000	Total		921,000
17th December, 1892	.. ..	30,000			

20 centimes, orange (light and dark).

		Stamps.			Stamps.
19th October, 1882	.. ..	500,000	8th October, 1891..	.. ..	75,000
7th November, 1884	.. ..	300,000	2nd March, 1893 ..	.. ..	700
22nd January, 1890	.. ..	75,000			
23rd April, 1890 ..	.. ..	125,000	Total		1,075,700

25 centimes, ultramarine (three shades).

		Stamps.			Stamps.
19th October, 1882	.. ..	1,500,000	30th April, 1889 ..	.. ..	150,000
7th November, 1884	.. ..	1,200,000	22nd January, 1890	.. ..	75,000
28th August, 1885..	.. ..	150,000	23rd April, 1890 ..	.. ..	725,000
9th October, 1885..	.. ..	450,000	8th October, 1891..	.. ..	67,000
26th July, 1886 ..	.. ..	700,000			
8th September, 1888	.. ..	500,000	Total		6,167,000
30th March, 1889..	.. ..	650,000			

30 centimes, dark green.

		Stamps.			Stamps.
19th October, 1882	.. ..	200,000	2nd March, 1893 ..	.. ..	200
7th November, 1884	.. ..	99,900			
21st April, 1891 ..	.. ..	25,000	Total		383,100
29th May, 1891 ..	.. ..	58,000			

50 centimes, pale brown.

				Stamps.					Stamps.
19th October, 1882	..	..	500,000	7th March, 1892	..	..	..	25,000
21st April, 1891	..	..	25,000	25th June, 1892	..	..	..	158,000
29th May, 1891	..	..	65,000					
8th October, 1891	..	..	1,000					
				Total	..	..	..	774,000

1 franc, violet

19th October, 1882	..	..	..	..	500,000	
8th October, 1891	..	..	..	..	88,000	
				Total	..	..
				..	..	588,000 Stamps.

5 francs, red-brown.

19th October, 1882	..	..	..	..	500,000	
8th October, 1891	..	..	..	..	86,000	
2nd March, 1893	..	..	..	..	300	
				Total	..	..
				..	..	586,300 Stamps.

The following essays are known of this issue:—

a. Imperforate, on white wove paper.

One centime, black, ultramarine, Prussian blue, light and dark bistre, yellowish brown, red brown, light brown, greyish brown, chocolate, light and dark grey, blue-grey, yellow, orange, straw, pink, carmine, light and dark green, light and dark violet.

b. Perforated 12½, on white wove paper.

One centime, black.

The stamps of the 1882 issue had been criticised at various times, and very adversely so by the press of the Grand-Duchy. It was a matter of regret that the old national and so eminently suitable design containing the coat-of-arms had been abandoned, and it was also desirable that the manufacture of the stamps should be given to a Luxemburg firm. During the session of 1887-1888, one party even brought an interpollation on this subject in the Chamber of Deputies. The Administrator of Finances replied, that the matter was in the hands of a Special Commission. The report of this Commission was, that the dissatisfaction with the stamps was not very serious, and that the contract made with J. Enschede & Sons, of Harlem, for the manufacture of the stamps was entirely to the advantage of the Government. Nevertheless, the Government asked Michael Engels, professor of drawing at the Athénée, to submit a new design. He did so, and Charles Arenot, architect to the State, also did the same, but evidently neither pleased the authorities, as they were both rejected.

(To be continued.)

Notable Philatelists.

John N. Luff.

THE subject of our present interview needs, we feel sure, very little introduction at our hands. His name is intimately associated with Philately in the United States, where he has just been elected President of the leading society. As an exhibitor he has been much in evidence at the various exhibitions, whilst his deeply interesting articles which first appeared in the *American Journal of Philately*, and have recently been published in book form, and more recently those on the numeral issue of Hawaii, have attracted the attention of collectors in all parts of the world.

During his schoolboy days Mr. Luff had the usual brief spasm of stamp collecting, but in his case it was even of shorter duration than usual, as none of the other boys in the school appeared to take any interest in the matter, and the embryo collection was abandoned after a few months. His serious efforts began about the beginning of the year 1889, when he was living alone on a large vineyard property in California, situated something like ten miles from everywhere. In looking over a copy of a juvenile magazine one evening he came across some advertisements of stamp dealers, and thought that collecting might be an assistance to while away rainy days and long winter evenings, expecting to find it rather a trivial affair and soon abandon it, as it would be an inexpensive amusement and consequently would not matter whether he kept it up or not. He has, however, since acquired a much greater respect for Philately, and also does not take nearly as light a view of the financial obligations which it entails.

Early in his collecting he subscribed to the *Philatelic Journal of America*, in which Major Evans' catalogue was then being published, and he found many things which were not in the priced catalogues of dealers, such as watermarks, perforations, &c. It occurred to him that if Major Evans considered it desirable to mention such things there must be collectors who were interested in them, and that it would be well for him also to take them up, which he accordingly did. To this fact he owes many of his best stamps, for he was looking out for perforations and watermarks long before the priced catalogues began to take note of them, and so secured a great many desirable stamps at bargain prices. He removed to San Francisco in 1890 and there met with a group of earnest and enthusiastic Philatelists, who were careful collectors and students of their stamps. Together they studied and discussed them, and had many interesting meetings in the Pacific Philatelic Society, as well as papers and discussions which were of use and value. At the end of 1893 he went to New York, and was for about six months associated with the firm of R. F. Albrecht & Co., his connection with the Scott Stamp & Coin Company

Notable Philatelists.



John N. Luff.

commencing early in 1894. What he has done since that time, particularly in a literary way, is fairly well known to everyone.

His speciality is of course United States stamps, but he also collects all British Colonies and most of the Pacific Islands, such as Hawaii, Tonga, Samoa and Japan, and has found much to attract him in China, Shanghai, and other Treaty Ports, especially in the first issue of Shanghai. He has begun to find that he is attempting too much to do anything thoroughly and on the lines of present day collecting, but his collection, even in its existing shape, is so useful in his business and for reference that he cannot afford to give up any part of it, and for that reason he continues to cover such a very large field, though fully realizing that he cannot attain such results as would be possible with a limited speciality.

Mekeel's Weekly, referring to its Special Number on Hawaii compiled by Mr. Luff, very truly remarks:—"Philatelists seem to be singularly constituted. Take, for instance, the case of Mr. Jno. N. Luff: as everyone knows, he is one of the executive heads of a great stamp business. The unlearned in philately's fascinations might think that one so situated would seek relaxation in some pleasure as remote in its nature from the study of papers and perforations as anything could possibly be. But what do we read in the sketch of this gentleman in the Hawaiian special? That he is in the collecting swim head over heels; that he has formed fine special collections of the stamps of the United States, of Shanghai and the Chinese Treaty Ports, of Hawaiians and of the same stamps of a dozen other countries, every one of which abounds in unbridled intricacy. All this to say nothing of Mr. Luff's collection of reprints, which is said to be one of the two great reprint collections of the world, and his numerous and voluminous philatelic writings. Verily, it would seem in philately 'as if increase of appetite had grown by what it fed on.' "

It will be remembered that Mr. Luff's display of the stamps of his own country secured a Gold Medal at the Paris Exhibition of 1900.





(No. 1)



(No. 2.)



(No. 3.)



(No. 4)

Varieties Worth Noting.

New South Wales.

By W. Dorning Beckton.

FOR some years now it has been known that retouches are to be found among the twopenny blue stamps of the 1856 issue, commonly known as the twopenny Diadem. A very marked retouch has also for the last ten years been known on one of the stamps of the same design and value of the perforated issue of 1860. I have possessed this latter (illustration No. 1) for about that time and also have been on the look-out for other retouches different to this one, believing that such probably existed, especially as several are known on the imperforate stamp of the same design. About two months ago when spending a philatelic evening with a friend, Dr. Chance, I spotted what I believed—upon a cursory examination—to be what I was hunting for, and he has kindly lent me the stamp from his collection for the purpose of illustration (No. 2). While preparing my notes I saw the first intimation in print I remember having noticed on the retouch of the twopenny Diadem in the programme of the recent lantern display given by the I.P.U., at which Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg provided the necessary material for the lantern slide, and I thereupon wrote hoping that the particular retouch he showed might differ from either of the above. I have to thank Mr. Hausburg for the loan of his specimen (see illustration No. 3), which although the same as mine, is, however, a decidedly later printing, the old part of the design being much more worn, whereas the retouched portion appears denser, which perhaps, in some degree is accentuated by contrast. Illustration No. 4 is another stamp out of my own collection which was annotated "Reprint?" This stamp, more or less all over the background, shows marked traces of wear, wherewithal certain lines stand out with all the characteristic clearness peculiar to a retouch, but I have never been satisfied myself that such was really the case.

An examination of No. 1 and 3 shows that the whole of the background surrounding the lower part of the profile has been extensively retouched, but as enlarged illustrations are given it is not necessary to describe them further. This particular retouch is of course only on one stamp on the plate, but it exists in different states in which, as the plate becomes more worn, the retouched lines of shading appear to become deeper. See illustration No. 3.



The Stamps of Buenos Ayres.

From the "Moniteur Du Collectionneur."

THE province of Buenos Ayres was separated in 1853 from the Argentine Republic, and although the peace of San-José de Florès concluded on the 10th of June, 1859, was followed by the Union on the 26th of January, 1860, which re-established the Republic, yet Buenos Ayres retained the use of special stamps until January, 1864, when the Argentine Republic issued new ones as prescribed by the decree dated 1st of January, 1863.

Amongst the postal documents of the above-mentioned period are some containing statistics which are very interesting, as showing the number of letters circulated in the State of Buenos Ayres during the years 1858-1864. I reproduce them below, so as to give collectors some idea of the value which the stamps themselves may have:—

1858	..	..	..	..	162,176	letters.
1859	..	..	..	..	193,663	..
1860	..	..	..	..	248,712	..
1861	..	..	..	..	317,545	..
1862	..	..	..	..	514,817	..
1863	..	..	..	..	675,918	..
1864	..	..	..	..	810,714	..

The first issue of the stamps of Buenos Ayres appeared on the 29th of April, 1858, and consisted of four values, which were to be employed exclusively for *letters* according to their weight. The decree stated that all *newspapers* were to be carried free within the State.

The design is the same for all the four values; it is rectangular in shape, engraved and printed in colours on white wove paper. The inscriptions are "Correos" at the top, "Buenos Aires" at the bottom, "Franco" on the right and the value on the left-hand side. In the centre a steamboat sailing to the left, and in the four corners of the stamps are four white circles varying in size and position. The explanation of these circles is the following:—The original design of the stamp was engraved on wood and afterwards reproduced by the electrotype process, and in order to use these electros to establish the printing plate it was necessary to fix them on blocks of wood, and to do this they were nailed on the wood through the corners, so that the white circles which we see are caused by nothing else but the heads of the nails. The stamps measure 22 mm. × 18½ mm. and were issued in the following colours:—

Dos (2)	pesos (paper money)	47 centimes)	..	blue.
Tres (3)	.. (.. ..	70½ ..)	..	green.
Cuato (4)	.. (.. ..	94 ..)	..	red.
Cinco (5)	.. (.. ..	117½ ..)	..	orange

Of the 2 and 3 peso values, it seems, three printings were necessary, and each time the shade was changed; so that the 2 pesos exists in dark blue, light blue and sky blue, and the 3 pesos in dark green, light green and blue green. The 4 pesos is found only in bright red, and the 5 pesos in orange and yellow.

When one considers that these four stamps were only in circulation from the 9th of April to the 26th of October, 1858, *i.e.*, for $6\frac{1}{2}$ months, and that only about 75,000 franked letters were forwarded during that time, it is easy to understand the rarity of them and why they are such favourites with forgers.

A law, passed on the 20th of October, 1858, reduced the tax on letters and led to the second issue on the 26th of the same month. For this issue the original plate of the 5 peso value was employed. The letters C C and O of "CINCO" being erased, so that there only remained IN. PS. The plate of the 4 peso value was used without alteration to print the stamps of 4 reales, but another colour was chosen.

We have therefore for this issue :—

4 reales (reading Cuato PS. = 12 centimes) bistre, brown and dark brown.
1 peso (" IN. PS. = $23\frac{1}{2}$ ") yellowish brown and dark brown.

On the 1st of January, 1859, the tax on letters became uniform and only stamps of the value of 1 peso were printed in future. The 5 peso plate could no longer be used, so it was decided to alter the 4 reales plate by erasing "CVA" and "° de cvat °." This was however very badly done, because each cliché had to be altered by hand and numberless variations of the inscription of the new stamp are found. The principal ones are the following :—

T^o P^s (1 peso), blue, dark blue.
T P^s (1 peso) " "
CT^o P^s (1 peso), light blue, dark blue.
C A^o P^s (1 peso), blue, dark blue.

Specimens printed on both sides exist, and the colour is sometimes not quite the same all over the stamps, so that three-fourths of a stamp may be light blue and the rest dark blue. Most likely some sheets were printed badly in this manner, and in order not to waste the paper they were returned to the printer to have a proper impression put on the back. Such specimens are rare.

By a law dated the 15th of October, 1859, these stamps were replaced by a new type, lithographed on white wove and on tinted paper, and measuring only $21\frac{1}{2}$ mm. \times $17\frac{1}{2}$ mm. The inscriptions are the same as on the old stamps, but the small circles in the corners are replaced by crosses, and the steamer in the centre by the head of Liberty surmounted by a Phrygian cap. As in the first issue, the sheets consisted of 8 rows of 6 stamps = 48 stamps.

There were two printings of this issue; the first of the 3rd of September, 1859, called "Paris" prints, because of the better workmanship.

4 reales (10 centimes) green on bluish white paper.
1 peso (20 ") blue on white paper.
1 " (20 ") dark blue on white paper.
2 pesos (40 ") vermilion on buff paper.

The second impression, called "Local" prints, can be distinguished from the first by the duller and coarser colours.

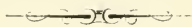
4 reales (10 centimes)	green on greyish paper.
1 peso (20 ..)	blue on white paper.
1 .. (20 ..)	dark blue on white paper.
2 pesos (40 ..)	red on tinted paper.

The last decree of the 20th September, 1862, suppressed the stamp of the value of 4 reales and altered the colours of the other two values from the 1st November as follows :—

1 peso,	rose on tinted paper.
2 pesos,	blue on white paper.
2 pesos,	dark blue on white paper.

These stamps, as also the preceding local prints, were manufactured at the "Banco y Casa de Moneda," at Buenos Ayres.

Of the second type forgeries also exist, being lithographed on white paper, but the impression is blotched and defective.



Decrees.

German Empire.

BERLIN, *February 20th, 1902.*

According to an agreement concluded between the Administration of the German Post Office and that of the kingdom of Württemberg, universal stamps will be issued on the 1st of April for the German Empire and Württemberg, which will have the inscription "Deutsches Reich."

The sale of the new postage stamps commences on the 20th of March; they are, however, not admissible for the franking of letters, &c., before the 1st of April.

The postage stamps now current in the German Empire, namely, those of the last issue, with heraldic eagle and the inscription "Reichspost," and the actual issue with Germania will cease to be used after the end of March, and these stamps are not allowed to be used for the franking of letters or telegrams after the 31st of March. It is therefore recommended that the near introduction of new stamps should be considered when purchasing postage stamps, cards, &c., in order not to have large stocks on hand.

Remainders may be exchanged at all post offices in the German Empire and the kingdom of Württemberg from the 20th of March to the end of June for the new stamps, cards, &c. The German post offices will also exchange unused stamps of Württemberg for stamps of the new issue. Cash, however, will not be paid for any of the old stamps.

The Secretary of State for the P.O.,

KRAETKE.

Greece.

1901 Issues.

By W. Dorning Beckton.



WHEN these stamps first came over, differences of opinion existed how they had been produced and as to the meaning of the watermark. The former question has now been satisfactorily settled, so there is no need to say more about it. As to the latter, I do not remember seeing any explanation, and the American journals have more than once asked for it in their columns without eliciting any reply. The latter journals have also been chronicling the stamps as existing without watermarks—*varieties*. With a view to setting both matters at rest before those who knew all about them had forgotten, I determined to make enquiries from official sources, and have been much assisted in so doing by my friend Mr. Mertzanoff.

The sheets of the lepta values contain 100 stamps on the sheet, arranged in ten rows of ten. The drachma values have 50 stamps in the sheet in five rows of ten.

The watermark on the stamps is a small Crown over the letters E T, thus:—



The letters E T mean "Greek Post Office."

The London agents of the Greek Government have been good enough to inform me that "The watermark is on every stamp which is printed, although it is not, unfortunately, very clear on some of them on account of the gum having covered it up to a great extent. If carefully examined, however, it will be found that the watermark is on every stamp."

The stamps were first of all printed on thick paper; now, as further supplies are required, they are being superseded by those on distinctly thinner paper.

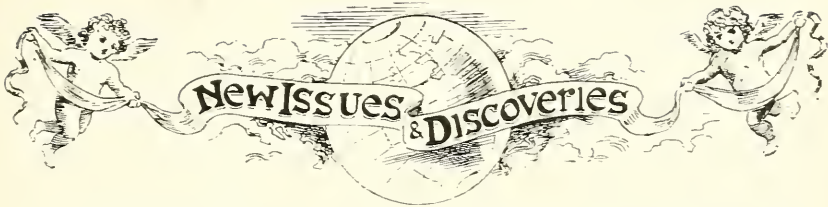
The following is a copy of the numbers of each value at first ordered from England and supplied:—

1 lepton	5,000,000
2 lepta	3,000,000
3	3,000,000
5	3,000,000
10	3,000,000
20	5,000,000
25	2,000,000
30	1,500,000
40	1,000,000
50	1,000,000
1 drachma	300,000
2 drachmae	125,000
3	50,000
5	25,000
Total	
	28,000,000 Stamps.

I understand from Mr. Mertzanoff that the whole of the above were printed on thick paper and constituted the first delivery. Complaints were frequent about the gum and that the stamps came off the letters, and this has probably brought about the change in the paper used in the second delivery from England. I am not at all sure that any change has been effected in the gum, which was probably good enough in the first printing, the reason of the stamps not sticking being, in my opinion, the thickness of the paper and not the poorness of the gum.

Upon this question of paper the agents in England say, "It is correct that the stamps are now being printed on slightly thinner paper, but you are wrongly informed that the paper is unwatermarked. Every stamp is, and will be, watermarked." This statement, taken in conjunction with the quotation from their previous letter, seems to me to entirely settle the question of the so-called no watermark varieties.





The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. FRED. H. GIBSON, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester.

The British Empire.

Bechuanaland Protectorate.—The long chronicled $\frac{1}{2}$ d., green, has at last appeared. Messrs. Whitfield King send us a specimen.

Adhesive.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., green (Queen's head), surcharged in black.

British Guiana.—Several contemporaries mention that the 6 cent stamp now appears with the tablet bearing the value in ultramarine instead of brown, but we do not think it is yet on sale in the Colony.

Adhesive.

6c., purple and ultramarine.

Cape of Good Hope.—Mr. J. W. Jones sends us the new 3d. stamp. It is precisely similar in design to the 1d. of 1893, and is printed in magenta, wmk. cabled anchor.

Adhesive.

3d., magenta, perf. 14, wmk. cabled anchor.

Great Britain.—The new set is appearing by degrees; the latest to hand are the 2d. and 1s., designs and colours as before.

Adhesives.

2d., green and carmine, perf. 14, wmk. crown.
1s., carmine and green, " " "

LEVANT.—The 40 paras on 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., mentioned in our last, has now been issued at the British Post Office in Constantinople.

Hong Kong.—*The Monthly Journal* chronicles the 3 dollar postal fiscal in a new shade, reddish mauve.

Adhesive.

3 \$, reddish mauve, perf. 14, wmk. crown and CC.

Sarawak.—We find we have not yet noted that the current 2 cents now appears with a similar watermark to that employed for the Zanzibar, Sudan, and British New Guinea stamps. We believe the earliest

supplies were received in this country at the end of January or early in February.

Adhesive.

2 cents, green, wmk. as in the Sudan stamps.

St. Helena.—We have the new 1d. value bearing the King's head. It is of the ordinary colonial type, as in the issue for Cayman Islands. We hear the $\frac{3}{4}$ d., green, has also gone out, but have not yet seen it.

Adhesive.

1d., carmine-rose, wmk. Crown and C.A., perf. 14.

South Australia.—We have just received the 9d. wmk. crown and S.A., perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, large holes. It is in a much brighter, red violet, shade, than formerly.

Adhesive.

9d., red lilac, wmk. crown & S.A., perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, large holes.

Mr. J. W. Jones reports the find of an interesting variety in the O.S. series; it is a 2d. watermark crown and *wide* S.A. surcharged O.S., block type and perforated $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$. This is specially interesting as the perforation in question has hitherto been known only in the unsurcharged 2d., watermark narrow S.A.

The specimen is postmarked, May, 1874.

Adhesive.

2d., orange, surcharged O.S., block type, perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$, wmk. crown and wide S.A.

Trinidad.—An interesting discovery has been made in connection with the 1d., lilac and carmine, by a correspondent of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*.

It has been found on comparison that there are two distinct types of the words "One Penny." In one the letters are tall and thin, the "O" of one appearing oval, while in the other the letters are much rounder, the "O" being circular.

In all the specimens we have so far seen of the current penny, black on red, this inscription is in the former type.

Transvaal.—*Der Philatelist* gives particulars of the new stamps bearing King Edward's head. These are not yet issued, so we may suppose that details are taken from "specimen" sets. The stamps are bi-coloured and have, we should imagine, rather an effective appearance.

The watermark is crown and C.A., and the perforation 14.

Adhesives.

½d.,	green on white,	centre grey-black.
1d.,	carmine	" "
2d.,	violet	" "
2½d.,	blue	" "
6d.	orange	" "
1s.,	olive green	" "
2s.,	brown	" "
2s. 6d.,	black	centre lilac.
5s.,	dark red on yellow,	centre grey-black.
10s.,	dark violet on red,	" "

Uganda.—We have just received from Mr. Peckitt two provisional stamps for use here. They are formed by surcharging the

½ and 2½ anna, British East Africa, with the word "Uganda" in block type over the inscription at the top of each stamp, the ½a. in black and the 2½a. in carmine. It will be observed that these two denominations had, hitherto, no place in the current set. The complete new issue with the King's head is expected, from advices received, to appear this month.

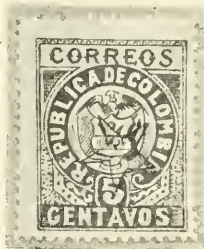
UGANDA

Adhesives.

½a.,	green, British East Africa, surcharged "Uganda" in black.
2½a.,	blue, ditto, ditto, in carmine.

Foreign Countries.

Colombian Republic. CARTAGENA.—We thought it would not be long before we had to chronicle a further provisional issue. This time it consists of two values, badly lithographed on plain white wove paper, but we are glad to say machine perforated. Both bear the same control mark—a five-pointed star in carmine.



Adhesives.

5c.,	violet, control mark in carmine, perf. 11½.
10c.,	brown, " " " " "

Crete.—Our correspondent here advises us that the stock of 25 lepta, with new surcharge chronicled in January, is exhausted. In the fresh supply now in use the overprint is very black and shiny, also much more distinct than the previous one.

Referring to this surcharge, we have been shown an error which we believe escaped

notice until the issue was nearly all used up: on the forty-ninth stamp the initial letter "II" is inverted.

Adhesives.

25 lepta.,	surcharged in deep black (second printing).
25 "	" " error.

" IIPOΣΩPINON."

Danish West Indies.—They are apparently making good use here of the short time it is anticipated will elapse before the islands cease to be a Danish possession; in addition to the two provisionals a series of unpaid letter stamps has now been issued.

We hope to illustrate the design shortly. There are four values printed on white paper, perf. 11½, unwatermarked.

Adhesives.

Unpaid letter stamps.

1 cent.,	blue.
4 cents.,	" "
6 "	" "
10 "	" "

Germany.—The new issue is now to hand, identical in every respect with the former set, except that the inscription reads, "Deutsches Reich," in lieu of "Reichpost."

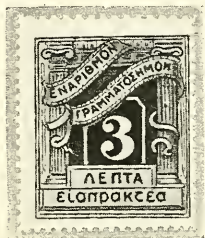
A variety appears on the sheet of the 3pf. denomination, where the word reads "Deutsches"; it is very distinct, but is merely due to a broken "E."

Adhesives.

2pf.,	grey,	amended inscription.
3 "	brown	" "
5 "	green,	" "
10 "	carmine	" "
20 "	blue	" "
25 "	black and orange on yellow,	" "
30 "	" " " " buff	" "
40 "	" " on carmine	" "
50 "	" " and lilac on buff	" "
80 "	" " and carmine on rose	" "
1 mark,	carmine	" "
2 marks,	blue	" "
3 "	violet	" "
5 "	black and lake	" "

Greece.—Just after going to press with our last number, we received a handsome set of unpaid letter stamps, which we list and illustrate below.

They are on white wove paper, watermarked "E T" and crown and are perforated 13½.



Adhesives.
Unpaid letter stamps.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1 lep. | chocolate, wmk. E T and crown, perf. 13½. |
| 2 " | grey " " |
| 3 " | orange " " |
| 5 " | green " " |
| 10 " | carmine " " |
| 20 " | red violet " " |
| 25 " | ultramarine " " |
| 30 " | deep violet " " |
| 40 " | deep brown " " |
| 50 " | marone " " |
| 1 drachma, | grey " " |
| 2 drachmae, | bronze " " |
| 3 " | silver " " |
| 5 " | gold " " |

Paraguay.—The current set from 1 to 10 cents, now come roughly lithographed, while three of the values that appeared thus before have been changed in colour, the 2, 5 and 10c. now being in grey, purple and rose respectively. Plain white wove paper, perforated 11½.

- Adhesives.*
- | | |
|----------|-------------|
| 1 cent., | pale green. |
| 2 " | grey. |
| 4 " | blue. |
| 5 " | purple. |
| 10 " | rose. |

Persia.—The *Monthly Journal* lists an awesome crop of provisionals, which we specify below.

They consist of the 1899 issues, surcharged "Provisoire 1319" and Persian inscription in ornamental oblong, and, in those cases where the value is altered, new denomination has its native equivalent.

- Adhesives.*
- | | |
|--------|--|
| 5 k. | in black on 50 k., mauve. |
| 5 k. | " 50 k., brown. |
| 1 ch. | grey on greenish black oblong surcharge. |
| 2 ch. | brown " " |
| 5 ch. | yellow " " |
| 10 ch. | blue " " |
| 12 ch. | in violet on 1 k. carmine red " " |
| 1 k. | carmine red " " |
| 2 k. | deep green " " |
| 50 k. | brown " " |
| 5 k. | in blue on 50 k. brown " " |

Peru.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles a new 22c. stamp. It is of a large size, measuring 25 + 31 mm., and is perforated 12. We hope to illustrate it shortly.

- Adhesive.*
22c., green, perf. 12.

Italy. BENADIR.—Our correspondent in Rome sends us a set of stamps just issued for this Italian colony.

The denominations are expressed in "Besas" and "Annas."

The stamps are typographed on white wove paper, watermarked royal crowns placed vertically, and are perforated 14. They are produced by the Bureau d'Impression of the Italian Government.

The 1 and 2 besa are of the elephant type as illustrated, and the other values are of the second design.



Adhesives.

- | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| 1 besa, | brown, perf. 14, wmk. crowns. |
| 2 " | green, " " " |
| 1 anna, | claret, " " " |
| 2 " | deep orange, " " " |
| 2½ " | blue, " " " |
| 5 " | pale orange, " " " |
| 10 " | grey lilac, " " " |

Roumania.—Messrs. Whitfield King send us a 15 bani in lilac grey, perf. 11½ all round, rose-tinted gum.

- Adhesive.*
15 bani, lilac grey, perf. 11½.

Spain.—The current 15 centesimi has been changed in colour from blue black to dull violet.

- Adhesive.*
15 centimos, dull violet.

United States. PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—The United States Special Delivery Stamp of 1895 has been surcharged for use here in red.

- Adhesive.*
10c. indigo, red surcharge, Wmk. U.S.P.O.

Philately in the Mags.

Danish West Indies Provisionals.

These two provisionals will give the variety hunter all the amusement one may desire. The most notable variety will be found in the straight-tailed figure 2 in the date 1902. Some six or seven of these are found on each sheet of the provisionals, comprising 100 stamps. One stamp on each sheet of the 2 on 3c shows a figure 2 indicating the value, narrower than the rest. One stamp on each sheet of both provisionals shows what might be called an antique 2 in the date 1902. The ball of the figure is missing and there can be no doubt it comes from a different font of type. I have been shown an 8 on 10c where the figure 1 in the date is inverted, but I do not know whether it is found on both provisionals, nor the number of times to a sheet. Wrong spacing and broken letters are much in evidence.—*The Weekly Philatelic Era*.

Rags.

The Philatelic Journal of India has the following scathing remarks anent some current Philatelic literature:—

What a marvellous number of Journals pertaining, or pretending to pertain, to Philately, there are at present. A few stand out pre-eminently, but many of the smaller continental and American Journals are hardly worth the paper on which they are printed. "Dagonet" in the columns of the *Refevee* has often shewn that the anarchist would cease to exist if it were not for the way the Press reports his smallest actions—how he sleeps, what he eats, and so on, and that anarchy lives on publicity. We do not draw any comparison between the anarchist and the insufferable rags which thrust themselves upon us; but some of them would die unmourned, if they were treated with the contempt they deserve. Speaking of the American rags, calls to our mind certain English publications of 20 years ago; there were seven or eight of them co-existent, and they were all duo-decimo or smaller, and consisted of four or six pages, chiefly puff and advertisements of anything from hair wash to silkworms. We had a large collection of these at one time (the rags, not the silkworms) but evidently they all died from lack of support and publicity; one only ran into three numbers, and was then amalgamated with another, and the combined papers lasted for five or six months; one paper died on its first birthday; this was a fearsome thing, the outside leaves being dark blue, and the inside (usually a fly-leaf) was pink.

The question is, how do these papers live? Surely they are not published free; yet, why should anyone subscribe? and why should anyone advertise in them? Perhaps they are the nursery from which spring the Editors of the *Yellow Press*, and if this be so, the remarks on anarchy are not so far removed from the subject

"To What Base Uses," &c.

Mr. Stewart Wilson sends to the same Journal a curious tale from Palermo, which is vouched for as perfectly true. Some years ago, at a big masked ball in that city, one of the dancers wore a domino and a "Gibus" hat. After supper the company became a trifle boisterous, and someone sought a vent for his superfluous spirits by smashing this hat. Its ruins disclosed the fact that a quantity of newspaper had been used in its production, amongst which was found the rare blue stamp of Naples, "on original."

A $\frac{1}{2}$ Centime Stamp for France.

On March 8th, the Chamber passed a new law fixing the rate for postage of periodicals. Article 14 states: "The rate for journals and periodicals is 1 centime per copy up to 50 grammes. Above that weight 1 centime for every 25 grammes or fraction of 25 grammes. The rate for these journals and periodicals in the Department of publication or in adjoining Departments is one half the above mentioned.

In consequence, M. Mougeot announced the other day, to the Chamber that he is about to issue a new stamp of the value of $\frac{1}{2}$ centime.—*La Cote Réelle des Timbres-postes*.

Belgium: 5 Francs, 1878.

This postage stamp appeared on the 1st of April, 1878 in consequence of a decree signed by the Minister of Public Works, A. Beernaert, on the 6th of March of the same year. Although its use was only abolished by a royal decree dated the 5th of August, 1894, to take effect from the 31st of October, yet none had been sold to the public since 1888.

During the ten years its sale was as follows:—

In 1878	.. ..	2,391 stamps.
.. 1879	.. ..	3,286 ..
.. 1880	.. ..	3,080 ..
.. 1881	.. ..	4,171 ..
.. 1882	.. ..	7,937 ..
.. 1883	.. ..	8,494 ..
.. 1884	.. ..	3,172 ..
.. 1885	.. ..	4,733 ..
.. 1886	.. ..	4,947 ..
.. 1887	.. ..	3,389 ..

a total of 45,600 stamps. As 160 sheets of 300 stamps had been printed, in all 48,000 stamps, 2,400 must have remained unsold at the end of 1887. These were sold by auction for 36,000fcs., or 15fcs. each.

The stamp of 5fcs. was issued solely to be used for the franking of letters with declared value and for commercial transactions negotiated through the medium of the Post Office instead of a Bank, as is often the case abroad.

The 160 sheets were printed in two lots. The first printing consisted of 100 sheets or 30,000 stamps. The second printing of 60 sheets or 18,000 stamps took place in 1884. The colour of the first printing is red-brown, whereas those of the second printing are lighter; the second shade is the rarer.

This stamp was obliterated in two ways, either with the name cancellation or with the roller cancellation, the latter obliteration being used for official correspondence. Stamps obliterated in this manner should remain in the archives, yet the catalogues of all dealers give them with prices! How this is possible, we leave to the judgment of our readers.—From the *Moniteur du C.*

Uruguay.

The *D.B.Z.* prints the following translation from the *Libro de Actas* regarding the new *Oficial* stamps of Uruguay:—

“The lithographic stones used for the surcharging of the *Oficial* issue were made by Luis Peña. For the surcharge of the 20 and 25 centimos and the 1 peso stamps one stone was made, and for the other values a second stone. The 50 centimos value was not surcharged, as a further stone would have been necessary on account of the size of the stamps.

“The quantities surcharged are as follows:—

1 centesimo	..	..	100,000
2 centesimos	..	..	100,000
5	..	..	100,000
7	..	..	50,000
10	..	..	50,000
20	..	..	10,000
25	..	..	30,000
1 peso	..	..	5,000

“The work was done on February 6th, 1907, and they were put into circulation on various dates:—

On March 5th	the values of 5, 10 and 25 centesimos.
“ 8th	“ 25 centesimos.
“ 22nd	“ 1, 2, 7c. and 1 peso.”

The Collecting of Stationery.

It will have been noticed from perusal of the late philatelic literature that the lack of interest in the collecting of post cards, letter cards, envelopes, wrappers, and letter sheets which set in when a firm of dealers announced their intention to cease printing catalogues of them, has undergone a change, and the old-time attention in the collecting of “Stationery” is being revived. Considering that the great bulk of them were

official issues we fail to see why they should not rank in the same category as the adhesive stamps. They certainly deserve greater attention than local stamps, most of which were unofficial emanations. Yet dealers give them prominence in their catalogues which they do not deserve. The objection to collecting stationery is, of course, the great space they occupy in an album if collected as they were printed. The objection is a difficult one to overcome, for up to the present there has not been invented a method of collecting that will obviate the necessity and great cost of a number of albums. A correspondent has suggested the mode adopted by cloth sellers when submitting samples to customers, such as narrow zig-zag albums or cards. But there is also the objection of bulk against the suggestion. However we hold to our contention that there is no justification for the abrogation of interest in the official issues of what has, facetiously, been termed “Stationery.”—*The Australian Philatelist.*

Perforated Confederates.

A contemporary picture shows a sheet of ninety-eight 10-cent. Confederate, 1863, in perforated condition. The perforated and rouletted issues of the Confederacy have had an attraction for students whose researches have substantiated the character of the 2-cent. red, 5-cent. blue, small typographed, 10-cent. blue, and 20-cent. green, 1862-63. One of the investigators said: “In the early part of the late war, Mr. Offutt (the assistant postmaster-general) ordered from Messrs. De la Rue & Co. a perforating machine, and, on its arrival at Richmond, he applied it to a few sheets of each value, for the purpose of seeing how the thing worked. Although the department never formally adopted this improvement, a few specimens of the stamps so manipulated appear to have passed through the post office and thence to the albums of collectors. All the stamps perforated by Mr. Offutt were on the scale of 12½ holes per two centimetres” The stamps experimented on were of the varieties named. Years later, Mr. Corwin said: “Colonel Offutt states to me that a few sheets of each value” of those listed above “were perforated as a trial, but that the machine, which worked by hand, performed its service so slowly and indifferently that its active service was never undertaken. The sheets that were thus experimented upon were placed in a large frame and hung upon the wall of his office. They were there when the offices were vacated, prior to the removal of the effects south, but what became of them afterward cannot be ascertained. There were quite a number of sheets of the 10-cent. blue perforated, however, and sent to the heads of the various departments, by whom they were doubtless distributed among friends as curiosities, and so a few came to be used.”—*Mehuel's Weekly.*

Notes and News.

Colonial Stamps at British Post Offices.

The indefatigable Mr. Henniker Heaton has once more been on the warpath. Nothing daunted by previous failures, he has again asked the representative of the Postmaster General in the House of Commons to arrange for the sale of the stamps of all the Colonies and Dependencies of the Empire at the General Post Office and also in Liverpool, Manchester, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast, and Dublin, for the convenience of persons wishing to send stamps for replies to correspondents in our possessions abroad. He based his request on the grounds that an official notice has been posted at the General Post Office, Colombo, stating that British penny stamps are now on sale there at 7 cents each. Mr. Austen Chamberlain, however, did not consider that there is sufficient demand for an innovation of this kind, or any reason for altering the opinion expressed in 1895 and 1896 by the predecessors of the Postmaster-General.

It is rather a delicate point as to whether these facts form an argument for or against an International Postage Stamp.

Bogus Greece Errors.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* announces the discovery of two unchronicled stamps of Greece, which are said to have been used in May of last year. The stamps are of the 1886 type (Small Mercury), 25 lepta, rose, imperf., and the 20 lepta, pale rose, perforated and surcharged "25" in black over lower numerals. The first so-called error has been known for several years to be bogus, a changeling of the 25 lepta, violet. We have made enquiries as to the other variety, which go to show that it also is bogus.

New Handbook on Sicily.

Dr. Emilio Diena is compiling a book on the stamps of this country, which in addition to the results of his researches will contain a number of decrees, and some valuable official information. We understand that it will be published in the autumn by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and look upon it as a great compliment to Philately in this country, that so eminent a foreign author as Dr. Diena, should have chosen the English language and an English firm for the production of his latest work.

The Status of Great Barrier Island Stamps.

We have received from The Collectors' Publishing Company an illustrated post-card showing a number of Pigeon Post and illustrative of the Pigeon Post. We are requested to notice it in our columns

and have no objection to doing so here, believing it to possess a Philatelic interest, equivalent at all events to the Great Barrier Island Stamps, which were chronicled by many of our contemporaries at the time, and with the additional recommendation of being much cheaper.

Adrien Champion, of Geneva.

It may be remembered that early last year a certain Henri Beuche visited London, and victimised several well-known dealers, by selling to them very clever imitations. The perpetrator was caught and remanded; bail was granted in the sum of £200, which was paid by a lady. The couple disappeared under forfeiture of the bail, and England knew them no more.

This Beuche was no other than Adrien Champion, of Geneva, with whose glaring advertisements, in other papers, most of our readers will be well acquainted. In the *Schweizer-Briefmarken Zeitung* a full account is given of a law case before the Correctional Tribunal of Geneva, in which the said Adrien Champion was the accused, charged with bankruptcy (not fraudulent, as some of our contemporaries have it) lack of sufficient book-keeping, stealing goods from the bankrupt firm of Champion & Co., issuing and discounting fictitious bills of exchange, and swindling. It was a great pity that amongst his offences the manufacture and sale of forged stamps was not included.

The history of the firm Champion & Co., is worth recording, showing as the recital does, a continuous series of subterfuges. In 1893, the firm of Adrien Champion failed, then a large creditor, named Kirchofer, became a partner in the new firm of Champion & Co. Theodore and Edouard Champion, brothers of Adrien, also joined as junior partners. In consequence of differences with Theodore, M. Kirchofer left the firm, and became a printer. He, however, had an interest of £400 in the firm as creditor for the stock which he brought to it. In 1896, Adrien left the firm, travelled in Europe, and did business on his own account, but returned in 1898 to resume the management. Theodore left the firm in the same year, and joined that of Forbin, in Paris. In 1900 the firm of Champion & Co. failed, Adrien asked to be allowed to go away for "a few days" on account of his health, and take with him "his own collection;" the permission was given, and he—disappeared. Under the names of Hanf, Jules Rapin, Henri Beuche, and several other aliases, he again travelled through Europe, selling many forgeries, and sometimes a few genuine stamps.

During this time the Bankruptcy Court unravelled his financial transactions; this led to an action brought by the said Court and the Industrial Bank of Geneva. For some months Adrien could not be found, but at last he was arrested at Pont-de-Beauvoisin, in France (Isère), extradited, taken to Geneva, and put in prison. His brother, Edouard, was also accused of having signed fictitious bills of exchange.

The trial took place on the 25th of February, and Adrien, quite calm and collected, defended himself. He did not deny having sold forgeries, and said that it was not forbidden to sell imitation jewelry, that a forged stamp is a work of art, and as collectors have not always the money to pay for the original, consequently they buy facsimiles to fill their spaces, and that he had always sold facsimiles at lower prices than the originals would cost. Asked about the causes of his arrest in England under the name of Henri Beuche, he coolly answered that, as he was not arraigned for those acts, he need not give any explanations.

The first witness was M. Lecoultre, Director of the Bankruptcy Court, who detailed the clever methods of the bankrupt, and stated that the liabilities were about £8,800.

M. Lachenmeyer, Director of the Industrial Bank of Geneva, was the next witness, and spoke of the issuing of the fictitious bills. His bank had such drafts to the extent of £680, which were nearly all returned unpaid. Stamps had been deposited by Adrien for the same amount, but these were bought by Kirchofer for £80.

An accountant stated in his report on the bookkeeping, that there was an error of £1400 in one balance sheet, which error was afterwards corrected by cross entries. M. Jacquier was called as expert, together with M. Doursun, and gave evidence as to the value of the stock. He said that Adrien always increased the price of stamps by 40 to 50% in order to be able to offer large discounts, that the stock contained 7-8 millions of common stamps, of which many kinds could only be sold off very slowly (there were 400,000 Argentines, 1862 reprints), that many stamps were defective and that there were at least 50,000 forgeries in the stock. The experts valued the whole stock at £3,680. The president then handed to M. Jacquier three lithographic stones and asked him, whether they could be used for these forgeries. He replied Yes, because he recognised forty designs of surcharges often found in the stock, such as "Oficial" of Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay, "Three Pence" of Bermuda, "Half Penny" of Cyprus, large figure "2" of Costa Rica, "Quatro Centavos" and "½ Centavo" of Argentina and others and a "grille" obliteration to be used for the stamps of Geneva 5c green on white.

The next witness was M. Kirchofer. He

said that the stock contained forgeries in 1893, when he joined the firm, but that they were sold as such. He had bought the stock [at £2,000 though taxed at £3,600.—The Ed.] and had already destroyed some and would destroy the remainder of the the forgeries.

Three employees stated that one morning 200 or 300 small books filled with stamps were missing. They reported the loss to Adrien, who told them it was not their business!

M. Messner, another employee, said he had often to answer claims about forged stamps, which had been sold.

Two lithographers stated that they had made the lithographic stones from models supplied by and to the order of the accused.

The president then read some correspondence, which had been found, and amongst other items the framed cross was mentioned. The framed cross was not on the three stones in Court, still it might be on another not discovered yet.

In answer to all the charges the accused said, laying stress on every word, that "stamps are a whim, and to surcharge them is, I think, another of these whims."

M. Forbin, of Paris, for the defence admitted that forgeries should undoubtedly not be sold as genuine stamps, but that it was not forbidden to sell facsimiles. That all these tales about forgeries had been invented by the Société Française de Timbrologie (!), that that Society was composed of jealous dealers and a mutual admiration society publishing unsigned articles in their journal against other dealers(!) He also said that the stock, as far as he had seen it, was taxed at only 5% of the real value, that it had been bought for nothing, and was a pre-arranged affair between the Bankruptcy Court and M. Kirchofer.

M. Theodore Champion tried to explain the reason of his brother's failure and also of the error of £1,400 in the balance sheet.

Several more people were called for the defence and gave Champion a good character, saying that he was a charming fellow, perfectly honest and a good worker.

The jury found Edouard not guilty, Adrien guilty of simple bankruptcy, but acquitted him of stealing, and he was found guilty with extenuating circumstances of issuing fictitious bills of exchange.

Adrien was condemned to imprisonment for seven months and ten days, but, as in Geneva, detention in prison while awaiting the trial is always counted, he was liberated at once, having served his time.

The following forgeries were found in Champion's stock:—

France: Tête-bêches of 1849, forged.

„ Unpaid letter stamps of 1, 2, and 5frs., forged, French Colonies: All the rarer surcharges, forged.

British Colonies: A multitude of forged surcharges and obliterations.

Alsace-Lorraine: Forged obliterations.

Argentine Republic: Large figures 1, 2, 8, upright, slanting, and inverted; $\frac{1}{2}$ c. of 1884, inverted; all the "Official" surcharges. These are all splendidly imitated. Of course large slanting figures do not exist as originals.

Baden: 18 Kreuzer.

Bechuanaland: Various surcharges.

Belgium: 5frs., brown.

Bermuda: Good imitations of the 1874 surcharges.

Bremen: Nearly all values well imitated.

Brazil: The first two issues, large figures and slanting figures, splendidly imitated. Third issue with forged perforation.

Bulgaria: 3 on 10 and 5 on 30st.

Cape of Good Hope: Splendid imitations of the triangulars done in taille-douce.

Cyprus: 30 Paras and Half Penny surcharges.

Costa Rica: Surchage U.P.U.

Cuba: Surchage Y $\frac{1}{2}$ and 66.

Papal States: Entire sheets of 1 scudo.

Egypt: 5 and 10 piastres of 1866, 5 piastres of 1866 and 1867, unpaid 5 piastres grey, all well done.

Great Britain: A large quantity of 1d. black, washed. Perhaps it was intended to transform them into V.R.'s.

Guatemala: Numberless surcharges.

India: 2, 3 and 5 rupees changed to Chamba, Gwalior, Jhind and Nabha.

Ionian Isles: Stamps and obliterations forged.

Japan: Splendid forgeries.

Russian Levant: The 7 and 8 kopeks surcharges.

Mexico: All the older issues, with and without names of towns.

Monaco: The 5frs.

Naples: The blue Savoy Cross.

Nevis: The issue of 1861 in sheets of 12 types.

New Brunswick: The three values of 1851.

Nov Scotia: The second issue 1866, forged obliterations.

New South Wales: Sydney Views.

Peru: The $\frac{1}{2}$ peso, yellow, and the surcharge "Gobierno."

Philippines: All the stamps issued in 1859-1861.

Moldavia: The 81 paras.

Roumania: 50 bani with beard.

Eastern Roumelia: The R.O. surcharges.

South Bulgaria: The Lion surcharges.

Sardinia: The 3 lire inverted head and obliterated.

Spain: Nearly all the higher values of the 1851, 1852, 1853, and 1854 issues, splendidly executed. Also the 12c. with inverted head, both issues.

Sweden: The error "Tretio," very well done.

Tuscany: The 3 lire and 60 crazie.

United States: All the higher value stamps.

Salvador.

The following notice appeared in the *Diario del Salvador* on the 25th December, 1901:—

"The administration has been authorised to pay to the order of the Consul-General of Salvador in London, Mr. Marco I. Kelly, the sum of £695 12s. 4d., for the cost of engraving and printing 3,303,000 stamps, manufactured by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Ltd., of London, which stamps will be used by the post office during the next year. This payment has to be entered amongst the extraordinary expenses of the department."

"Stamps" and the "S. C. F."

It always costs a pang to part with an old friend, and the case of *Stamps* is no exception to the rule. Commencing in a very small way in January, 1897, it was enlarged at the beginning of the following year, and although never what could be called a leading Journal the conscientiousness and the thoroughness with which it has dealt with everything that it took in

hand, combined with its uniformly high tone and freedom from personalities have always tended to the advancement of Philately. Its end, which we mentioned last month as approaching, seems to have come with unexpected rapidity, for in the March number a further instalment of Mr. Preston Pearce's fiscal article is promised next month, whilst two pages later we find from a Valedictory that this is the last issue which will appear. It may be some comfort to its subscribers to know that their old magazine has not exactly ceased to be, but is incorporated with (we quote the Valedictory above mentioned and repeated in *S. C. F.* of March 29th) "that very successful and justly popular philatelic newspaper, *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*."

Stamps, but no Post Office.

We are indebted to Dr. Diena for the following notes on the stamps of Benadir, which we chronicle and illustrate in our New Issues column:—

A convention between the Italian Government and the Societ  Anonyme de Benadir for the organization of a Postal Service was concluded on February last, but has not yet been made public. No Post Office exists as yet in the Colony, correspondence being sent unstamped to Zanzibar, a journey of about eight days. Thence it is forwarded either by the English or French mail.

It is strange to find stamps issued before the opening of the Post Offices, but the reason is quite evident, viz., to get money out of the pockets of collectors for the benefit of the Compagnie du Benadir. A report issued in 1891 by the Italian engineer, G. Manzoli, sent by the Societ  du Benadir to investigate the conditions of the Colony, confirms this, for it contains the following passage:—

"Rare communications with foreign countries will be inconvenient for residents in the Colony who are compelled to remain six weeks without letters, although this difficulty might be overcome by sending letters at the proper time to the Italian Consul at Bombay, as is actually done to the Consul at Zanzibar. By making use of the steamboat "Sofari," of the *Deutsche Ost Afrika*, which plies regularly between Bombay and Zanzibar and *vice versa*, or the boats of the *British India* or the *Navigazione Generale Italiana*, the mails of Benadir could be sent either to Bombay or Zanzibar and thus be accelerated by fourteen days. If special postage stamps were issued for the Colony, on sale by various residents, much trouble in the prepayment of letters coming from Benadir would be avoided, . . . and they would form a source of certain revenue to the Societ  at the expense of the numerous collectors of stamps, who would not fail to secure a philatelic novelty."

It is not often that such intentions are as frankly and fearlessly expressed.

THE
Philatelic Record.

MAY, 1902.

Editorial Notes.

THE Exhibitions at the Rooms of the Premier Society have been such a consistent success that one could never understand why they have not been more frequent. On the occasion of each display suggestions have been made with the object of making them hardy annuals. At last these suggestions seem to be in a fair way on the road to achievement, for the Society at their last meeting passed a resolution authorising the Council to enter into arrangements for another.

**Hardy
Annuals.**

It will be remembered the last was held in November, and consisted of the stamps of the countries affected by the war. The forthcoming Exhibition (for although the resolution was by way of recommendation to the Council, we make no doubt the Council will not shirk its responsibilities) is to include the African Colonies other than those in South Africa, *e.g.*, Gambia, Gold Coast, Lagos, Sierra Leone, St. Helena, Seychelles, Mauritius, Niger Coast and two Nigerias, British East Africa, Zanzibar, Soudan, Uganda, and, may we hope, Egypt.

WHAT will be henceforth known as the Coronation Series of English stamps is now all but complete. The latest to be issued is the 5d. The £1 is not expected to be issued before the middle or end of July, although specimens have been seen by a favoured few. The 10d., completing the series, will be the last of all. We are given to understand that the plate of this value has not yet been engraved. In substituting the King's Head for Her late Majesty's very little change has been made in the general designs in the lower values up to one shilling. The higher values show more variation, the greatest change being made in the £1, which few people will admit to be an improvement.

On the whole there is little for the country to be proud of in the new series. It is, like the Jubilee Year Series, which it displaces, poverty-stricken in design and execution and coarse in printing.

ONCE more, and finally, the head of the Sovereign of the British Empire decorates the stamps of the Transvaal. The series of adhesives from ½d. up to 10s. has been issued in Pretoria for postal use. The first stamps of the South African Republic appeared in 1870. In 1877 we took over the country

**The New
Transvaals.**

and surcharged its stamps "V.R. Transvaal." A year later the Queen's Head series was issued. Then followed Majuba and the cowardly political surrender, and a re-issue of the stamps of the Republic. But again in 1900 the Boer stamps were overprinted with the British imprint of domination; and now once more, and finally, the head of the British Sovereign is replaced upon the stamps of the Transvaal.

WE are told by an American writer that American Philatelists are dominated by the desire to purchase stamps that will increase in value. It is to be hoped this is an exaggeration of the position taken up by American collectors. But whether it be so or not, one indisputable fact may be said to save the situation. No collector, or dealer, can safely go in for stamp collecting as an investment, or as a speculation, without first acquiring by genuine study the philatelic knowledge that is so absolutely necessary to the man who would invest or speculate in stamps. To put money into stamps without some special philatelic training would be rash indeed, and would be far more likely to result in loss than profit. Not a few are continually and deservedly burning their fingers over speculations in stamps, and despite the natural kindness and charity of our nature, we are delighted beyond measure when some speculator who has endeavoured to selfishly corner an issue has landed himself in serious loss. Whatever profit there may be in stamp collecting belongs, by right, to the legitimate collectors and dealers, and not to the harpies who would prey upon our preserves from the outside world from purely sordid commercial motives.

As we have frequently noted, most collectors have put more money into stamps than they could afford to do if the element of investment were entirely absent, and they are richly entitled to such returns as fall to their share. But to collect for profit and profit only is quite another matter, and we trust the day may be far distant when it may be said of English Philatelists that they are dominated by the desire to purchase stamps that will increase in value.



Luxemburg.

By **Jos. Schock,**

President of "L'Union des Timbrophiles."

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 79.)

VII.

Issues of 1891 and 1893.

King William III. of Holland and Grand-Duke of Luxemburg died on the 23rd November, 1890, without male issue. In conformity with the Constitution and the laws regulating the succession of the throne of the Grand-Duchy, the Crown passed to Duke Adolphus of Nassau, who had been dispossessed of his German estates by Prussia after the war of 1866. He took the name of Adolphus I., Grand Duke of Luxemburg, Duke of Nassau, upon his accession to the Grand-Ducal Throne. His entry into his new capital took place on the 22nd of July, 1891.

Upon this occasion two new stamps were put into circulation, of the value of 10 and 25 centimes. Portrait of the Grand-Duke Adolphus on a background formed of crossed lines in a double oval with inscription at top, "Grand-Duche de Luxembourg"; and at bottom, between small circles containing the value in figures, the word "centimes."

These stamps, engraved in *taille-douce*, were printed on white paper in sheets of 25, and perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$.* The printing was done, as for the 1882 issue, by the firm of J. Enschede & Sons, of Harlem.

The decree is to be found in the *Instructions Postales*, No. 316, of the 18th of July, 1891, and reads as follows:—

"ISSUE OF NEW POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE VALUE OF
10 AND OF 25 CENTIMES.

"Luxemburg, 18th July, 1891.

"From the 23rd of July there will be issued new postage stamps of the value of 10 and 25 centimes. These stamps, bearing the portrait of H.R.H. the Grand-Duke, will be sold to the public only from the above-mentioned date. A first delivery of these stamps will be made to the offices during the afternoon of the 22nd inst.

"The new stamps will be sold to the public simultaneously with those of the present issue, and only to persons demanding them. The old stamps are to be used exclusively for the franking of money orders

* Ought this not to be $12\frac{1}{2}$?—ED.

and parcels, and always for such sendings as are franked by the officials.

“The subordinate officials are to be notified of the foregoing.

“The Administrator of Posts and Telegraphs,

“(Signed) F. NEUMAN.”

The Deliveries were as follows :—

10 centimes, carmine, pink, red-brown.

15th July, 1891	62,500
18th July, 1891	18,750
27th July, 1891	156,250
4th August, 1891	56,250
19th September, 1891	131,250
16th October, 1891	100,000
13th November, 1891	78,300
21st November, 1891	50,000
Total	653,300 Stamps.

25 centimes, blue.

15th July, 1891	43,750
18th July, 1891	56,250
27th July, 1891	80,000
4th August, 1891	43,750
19th September, 1891	93,750
16th October, 1891	75,000
13th November, 1891	73,125
21st November, 1891	50,000
Total	515,925 Stamps.

From the beginning of December, 1891, these stamps were printed in sheets of 100. Those of the first deliveries were perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$; however, in later deliveries, the perforation is sometimes $12\frac{1}{2}$, sometimes $11\frac{1}{2}$, even 11. Stanley Gibbons' catalogue gives 1896 as the date of issue for this latter perforation. I possess the 10 centimes stamp with this perforation obliterated August, 1894.

A notice in No. 8 of the *Mémorial* of 1893 informs the public that from the 20th of February, 1893, the Postal Administration will issue a new addition to the series put into circulation in July, 1891. This notice reads as follows :—

“NOTICE.—POST OFFICE.

“The public is herewith notified that from the 20th of February the Administration of Posts and Telegraphs will put into circulation the following values of stamps bearing the portrait of H.R.H. the Grand-Duke :—

“ $12\frac{1}{2}$ centimes, ash-grey.
 20 „ orange.
 30 „ yellowish green.
 $37\frac{1}{2}$ „ green.
 50 „ light brown.

“Luxemburg, 16th February, 1892.

“The Administrator of Finances,

“(Signed) MONGENAST.”

The first delivery received of these stamps consisted of

	75,000	stamps of	12½	centimes.
185,000	„	20	„	„
50,000	„	30	„	„
50,000	„	37½	„	„
50,000	„	50	„	„

A month later the same official journal contained in No. 12 of 1893 the following notice :—

“ NOTICE.—POST OFFICE.

“ The public is herewith advised that from the 25th of March the Administration of Posts and Telegraphs will put into circulation new postage stamps bearing the portrait of H.R.H. the Grand-Duke of the following values :—

“ 1 franc, light violet.
 2½ francs, black.
 5 „ reddish lilac.

“ Luxemburg, 21st March, 1893.

“ The Administrator of Finances,

“ (*Signed*) MONGENAST.”

The first delivery of these three values was made on the 20th of March, 1893, by the printing firm of Enschede and consisted of

	25,000	stamps of	1	franc.
	25,000	„	2½	francs.
	50,000	„	5	„

All these stamps were perforated 12½. However, like the 10 and 25 centimes of July, 1891, the perforation of the 12½, 20, 30, 37½, 50 centimes and 1 franc stamps underwent several changes after their first issue. The 2½ and 5 francs stamps only exist perforated 12½.

The 12½c. value exists imperforate on the left-hand side, and perforated on the three others.

The following essays exist of this issue :—

(a.) For the issue of 23rd July, 1891 :

10	centimes,	black,	imperforate,	on white paper.
		black,	perforated,	„ „
25	„	blue,	imperforate,	„ „

(b.) For later issues :

20	centimes,	chocolate,	perforated,	on white paper.
25	„	yellow,	imperforate,	on white paper.
		orange,	„	„
		light and dark brown,	„	„
		yellowish brown,	„	„
		red brown,	„	„
		maroon,	„	„
		green (various)	„	„
		lilac	„	„
		violet	„	„

VIII.

Issue of May, 1895.

The *Mémorial* of the 4th of May, 1895, contained the following notice:—

“NOTICE.—POST OFFICE.

“The public is herewith notified that from the 4th of May the Administration of Posts and Telegraphs will sell new postage stamps of the following values:—

1	centime,	light lilac.
2	centimes,	grey.
4	„	pale yellow.
5	„	grass green.
10	„	carmine.

“The present issue completes the one of the 16th of February, 1893.

“Luxemburg, 1st March, 1895.

“The Administrator of Finances,

“(Signed) M. MONGENAST.”

These stamps bear the portrait of H.R.H. the Grand-Duke *en profil* to the right. They are printed in sheets of 100 and perforated 12½.

The first delivery consisted of

1,199,900	stamps of	1	centime.
1,199,900	„	2	centimes.
999,900	„	4	„
999,900	„	5	„
999,900	„	10	„

Several other designs were submitted between 1891-1895 to the Government, but none seem to have met with the approval of the authorities.

(Concluded.)



Notable Philatelists.

Monsieur le Comte d'Assche.

THE subject of our interview this month is one who may be aptly described as a pupil of that able exponent of English Philately, Mr. W. A. S. Westoby. As a schoolboy at Brussels in 1870, Monsieur le Comte d'Assche made the acquaintance at juvenile dancing parties of Miss Westoby, and was introduced to her father, who showed his treasures, at that time arranged in shallow drawers on large sheets of cardboard, and in this way Mr. Westoby made another collector. Making purchases from Monsieur J. B. Moëns and from Messrs. Alfred Smith & Co., of Bath, becoming a subscriber to the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* and the *Philatelist*, reading the letters of a "Parisian Collector" (the *nom de plume* of Mr. Westoby, who had been living in Paris, but had come to Brussels during the war and siege), and other articles in the *Philatelic Journal*, edited by Mr. E. L. Pemberton, Monsieur le Comte soon became possessed, not only of a good collection, but of considerable knowledge about stamps. Unfortunately he found his university studies pressed too heavily upon him to allow of time being devoted to his hobby, and gradually lost interest and gave up collecting altogether. The album was laid aside, and in 1878 given as a wedding present to a relative, who highly appreciated the gift, she being very fond of stamps, especially unused ones in the condition we know Monsieur Moëns sold his stock, from whence the major portion of them had been purchased.

After this came a long spell of inactivity, during which Monsieur le Comte married and settled in Paris. In 1892 he inherited a fine estate in the south of France, and was obliged to remove there for the purpose of putting it in order, rendered necessary by the continued neglect of its former owner. Then happened an event which in other cases than the present has been recorded. His daughter, an only child, who was growing up, amused herself by collecting the stamps taken from the letters coming to the house. Thinking it would prove an educational advantage for her to take a still greater interest in postage stamps, he bought a packet of a thousand (all different) for a sovereign, to give to her. When the stamps arrived he looked over them himself and was much struck with the change between them and those he remembered collecting as a youth. The old fever returned, he commenced collecting again himself, and so furnishes another example of the saying "Once a collector always a collector."

From this point we will ask Monsieur le Comte d'Assche to continue the interview in his own words:—

"I wanted to have a fine collection of French stamps, so I sent to all the notaries, bankers, lawyers, bailiffs, and large firms to be found in the Directory of France and Colonies, a circular note offering prices

Notable Philatelists.



Monsieur le Comte d'Assche.

for French stamps, used and unused. In this way I got a tremendous lot of obsolete French stamps, and some very old colonials as well; one week alone brought me 23 copies of the 1fr. vermilion of 1848. I kept, of course, the finest specimens for my collection, and disposed of the others through a young man, whom I had installed in the nearest town and whose address I had given in the circulars, so that he did all my business. It will be readily understood that I did not care to give my name such a wide circulation.

“From that time I began collecting in a scientific way. My daughter went to school and could not take *her* collection, as she liked to call it for fun, with her. Its proportions also began to frighten her a little, on account of the amount of work involved in continually mounting fresh acquisitions, but rainy days were plentiful in winter, the evenings were long in the country, and I was very glad to have my time so pleasantly occupied.

“Having put my estate in order by that time (1896), and not being myself fond of absolute country life all the year round, I came back to Paris with my wife and daughter and began writing about stamps in Monsieur Lemaire’s *Philatelist Français*. My first essay was on Belgian stamps, Belgium being my native country, and the first I specialized. This collection I showed at the Regensburg Exhibition, and was the proud recipient of a silver medal. After that I was very much struck by Mr. Dorning Beckton’s very able paper on the stamps of Greece, and I took up that country after translating his articles for the same magazine. I still think these stamps most interesting and deserving of much better attention at the hands of collectors than is accorded to them generally. Of course I could not hope to compete with the two or three splendid collections of famous Philatelists who had been working at Greece for years, but notwithstanding I determined to show my collection at The Hague last year, and was awarded another silver medal. Since then I have been writing for the *Philatelist Français* a paper on Roumania, which has received the honour of a translation into English in an American magazine, *The West*. I find, however, it is a very difficult country to have complete unused. I have lately taken up Austria, including all the varieties of paper and printing of the first issue unused and all the perforations of the later issues. This collection includes Hungary, Austrian Italy, Bosnia, and the Levant. Europe has always been my favourite group, and all round I am fairly complete, excepting a few of the great rarities. The countries outside Europe I take an especial interest in are Uruguay and Persia, a combination which to some may appear a curious one.”



The Essays of the Century Stamps of the South African Republic.

By Emil Tamsen.

IN 1899, Mr. Isaac Van Alphen, the Postmaster-General of the South African Republic, told me of a new stamp issue, bearing the effigy of President Kruger, he was getting prepared, and promised me a specimen copy as soon as ready. However, owing to the war, this matter had to take a back seat, and I have only lately been placed in possession of a couple of photographs of these essays, for which I have to thank Mr. O. Koch. I believe a few lines on them will be of interest to collectors generally.

At the suggestion of Mr. I. Van Alphen, the Volksraad of the South African Republic had passed a resolution that in future all postage and revenue stamps had to be printed locally instead of being procured from Holland, as had been the case before, and that special watermarked paper was to be employed.

The order to create the necessary dies and plates was placed with a local firm in Pretoria, and the result is the two designs as illustrated.



Type I.



Type II.

The first (Type I.) is the usual size, 18mm. broad \times 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. high, shows bust of President Paul Kruger—a very striking likeness—wearing the green Presidential sash over his right shoulder, surmounted by a flying band bearing the inscription, POST EN STAATSZEGEL; below, in another band, stands the inscription Z. AFR. REPUBLIEK; underneath this is a blank space, in which the value was to be printed.

The second design (Type II.) is of the revenue stamp size, 23mm. broad \times 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. high. It has the coat-of-arms of the Republic in the centre, surrounded by a double circle in which stands the inscription ZUID-AFRIKAANSCHER REPUBLIEK; on top, in a straight label, is POST EN STAATSZEGEL, and at bottom is a blank space for the value.

Both types show a vast improvement on the 1896 issue, and are certainly very creditable efforts of local industry and art. Another

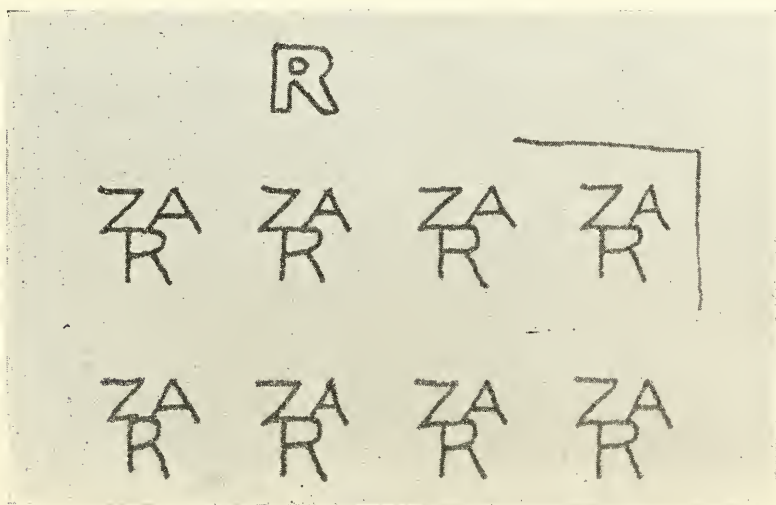
improvement is the combination of postage and revenues in one stamp, allowing any to be used for either purpose, which was not the case before. I also think the word "Staatszegel" an improvement on the old "Zegelregt" which the revenue stamps used to bear.

The idea was to use the smaller stamp (Type I.) for all lower denominations from ½d. to 1s., and the larger stamp (Type II.) for the higher values, 1s. 6d. to £20. The plates were to consist of 60 impressions. The colours of the stamps were to be the same as of 1896 issue (these colours were uniform for all South African Colonies and States), and the value to be printed in green ink, as formerly.

The State printing office here (Pretoria) is a very large establishment, capable of turning out the finest printing work. It was to print the stamps and perforate them. I have not been able to find out how the latter was to be done.

Of the 1896 issue a sufficiently large quantity, estimated in 1899 to last eighteen months (till 31st December, 1900), was lying in the Treasury vaults here, and the idea was to inaugurate the new century with these new stamps; but it was not to be, the war put a stop to the completion of the plates, which are still in the maker's hands, and collectors will not be able to show the portrait of the last President of the South African Republic in their stamp albums, and the disappointed century had to be satisfied with the type-set issue of 1901 so-called "Pietersburg Issue." Had the Republican authorities here been of the same opinion as the German Emperor, and decreed that the present century begins on 1st January, 1900, instead of 1901, these stamps might have been finished and issued, and collectors would have had the unique sight of a Republican wearing a Royal monogram (V.R.I.) on his Presidential sash and breast, and that much against his will.

From the January number of this Journal I see that the water-marked paper which was to be used for this issue has also turned up, so that the history of these essays is practically complete.

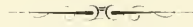


Re Mr. Jones' article on page 14, I would like to correct a few of his remarks.

Since 1883 no stamps have been printed in the Transvaal Stamp Office; only some surcharging has been done. All stamps were printed in Holland.

When the Government of the late South African Republic abandoned Pretoria, they only took with them the contents of the War Office and the State Secretary Office; all other official papers, books, etc., were left behind. The plates of these essays not having been finished, were not delivered to the Government nor seized by the British authorities, but are still in the contractor's possession.

I have not heard as yet if the watermarked paper has actually reached Pretoria or not; in any case it is useless now. About the "sinister meaning" of the three letters Z A R being joined, I should think that this idea originated with the paper makers, as the letters would certainly stand more wear and tear if joined, instead of each being separate. Nobody here thought of war in the first half of 1899, nor of a "United" South African Republic.



The Two Sizes of the French Stamps of 1850.

From the "Philatéliste Français."

THE study of the French postage stamps reveals daily new facts; every student adds what he can to the common knowledge.

But we do not believe that there has hitherto been a discovery of such importance as the one we are about to publish, and which we may term, without exaggeration, "sensational."

The stamps in question are those of the 1850 issue of France, and exist in two sizes.

Certainly, as can be easily understood, the difference is only slight, yet it is sufficiently noticeable to be seen with the naked eye.

By looking at the photographic enlargements which have been made for this paper, our readers can judge for themselves the real importance of this discovery.

The two first stamps issued on the 1st of January, 1849, the 20c. black and the 1frc. red, measure, from one outside line to the other,

In height, $22\frac{2}{5}$ mm.

In width, $18\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

The 1frc. carmine, appearing later, is the same size, but the stamps issued later, namely, the 40c. orange, the 25c. blue, the 15c. green, and the 10c. bistre, exist in two sizes, the one we have just given and the other a little smaller, as follows:—

In height, 22mm.

In width, $18\frac{1}{4}$ mm.

The head of Liberty is also a little smaller in these latter stamps, as will be seen from the enlargements.

In the stamps of the large size, if the point of the compasses be put on the surrounding line at the bottom, underneath the T of POSTES, it will be found that the distance to the top of the head is exactly 18mm.

In the stamps of the smaller size this distance is only $17\frac{3}{8}$ mm.

The measurement of the head, from the point where the neck and the first lock of hair meet in the large size is 14mm. and in the small size $13\frac{3}{8}$ mm.

In the stamps themselves this can of course only be seen by those having good eyes, but in the photographs everybody, even the most blind, will have to admit this fact.

Lastly, the measurement of the stamps diagonally, from one corner at the foot to the opposite corner at the top, is 29mm. in the large size and $28\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in the small size.

The difference between the two sizes is about the width of one of the white lines, which form the inner frames.

But what can be the reason for the difference of size?

We repeat, we have not found the small size either in the 20c. black, or in the 1frc. red or carmine.

We are led, therefore, to suppose that for the 40c. a new die was engraved, and that this die differed in measurements from the other die.

We are going to make further researches on this subject, and it is only to put the matter on record and to instigate collectors to follow it up that we are led to publish our discovery before completing other investigations.

We have not found the small size in the 10c., 20c. and 40c. of 1870, or in the 15c. and 25c. of 1871, but it exists in the 10c. bistre on rose, small figures of 1873, and—here the whole discovery becomes so very interesting—in the 20c., which were printed by the Commune at Hôtel de la Monnaie at Paris in 1871.

This opens out a vast field for guesswork.

Did the Commune find the plates which had been re-made and put away in some corner forgotten by M. Hulot on the 30th of March, when he so quickly went to Versailles by order of M. Rampon, the Postmaster-General?

There are more dark points which we shall do our best to clear up.

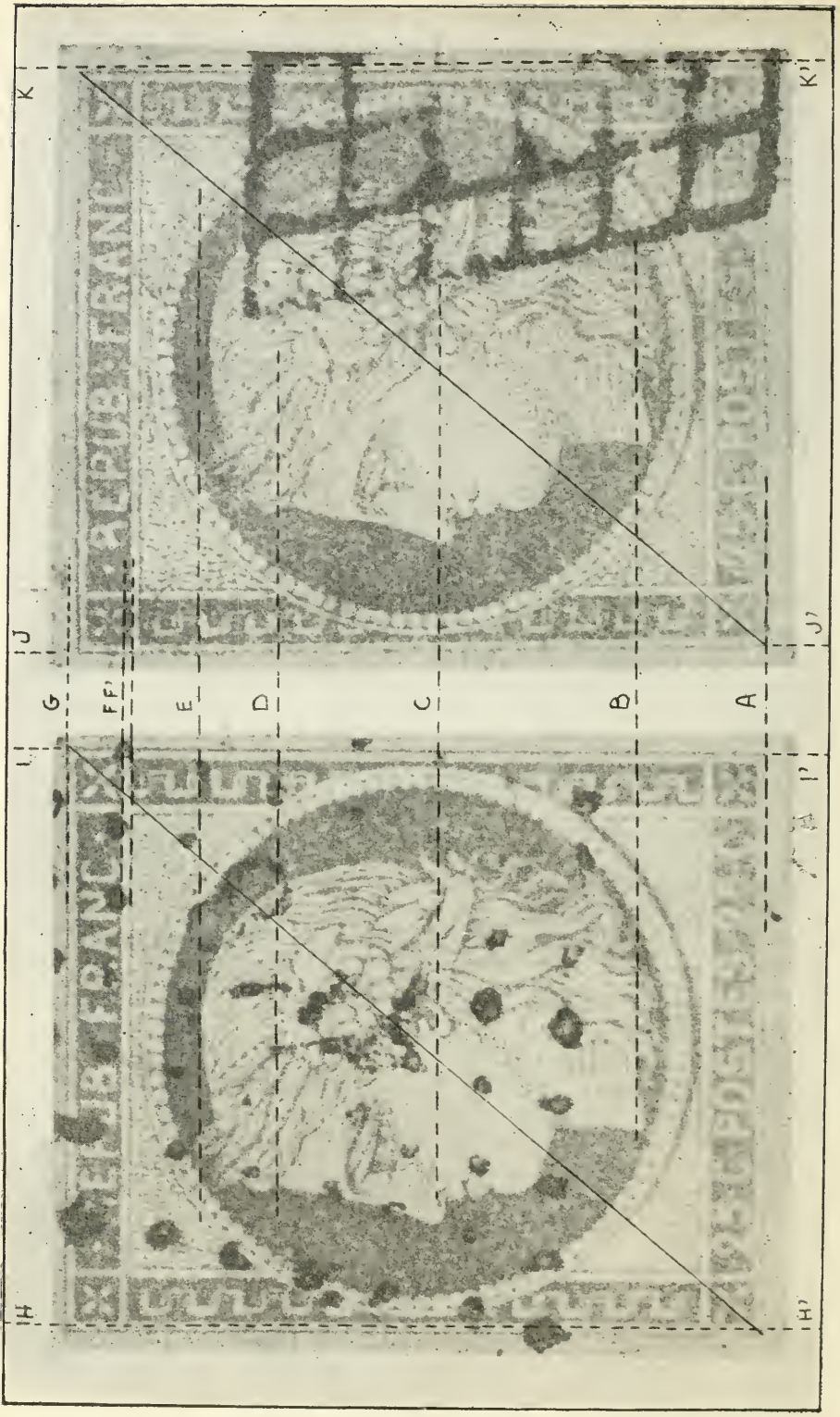
For the 10, 15, 30 and 80c. of 1872, with larger figures, yet a new die was made, which is still larger in size than the large size of 1850. These stamps measure $22\frac{3}{4}$ mm. high by $18\frac{1}{2}$ mm. wide as before.

The provisional stamps, printed at Bordeaux, are all of the small size.

In future, for advanced collectors, the French stamps of the first issue will have to be classified in two sets: the large size and the small. This is a new fact, and in itself as curious as the N under U and the N under B in the allegorical series.

In the large size the following stamps, excluding those of the still larger size of 1872, exist:—

1850.	
10c. bistre.	40c. orange.
15c. green.	1frc. vermilion
20c. black.	1frc. brown-orange.
25c. blue.	1frc. carmine.



K

K'

J

J'

G

F'

E

D

C

B

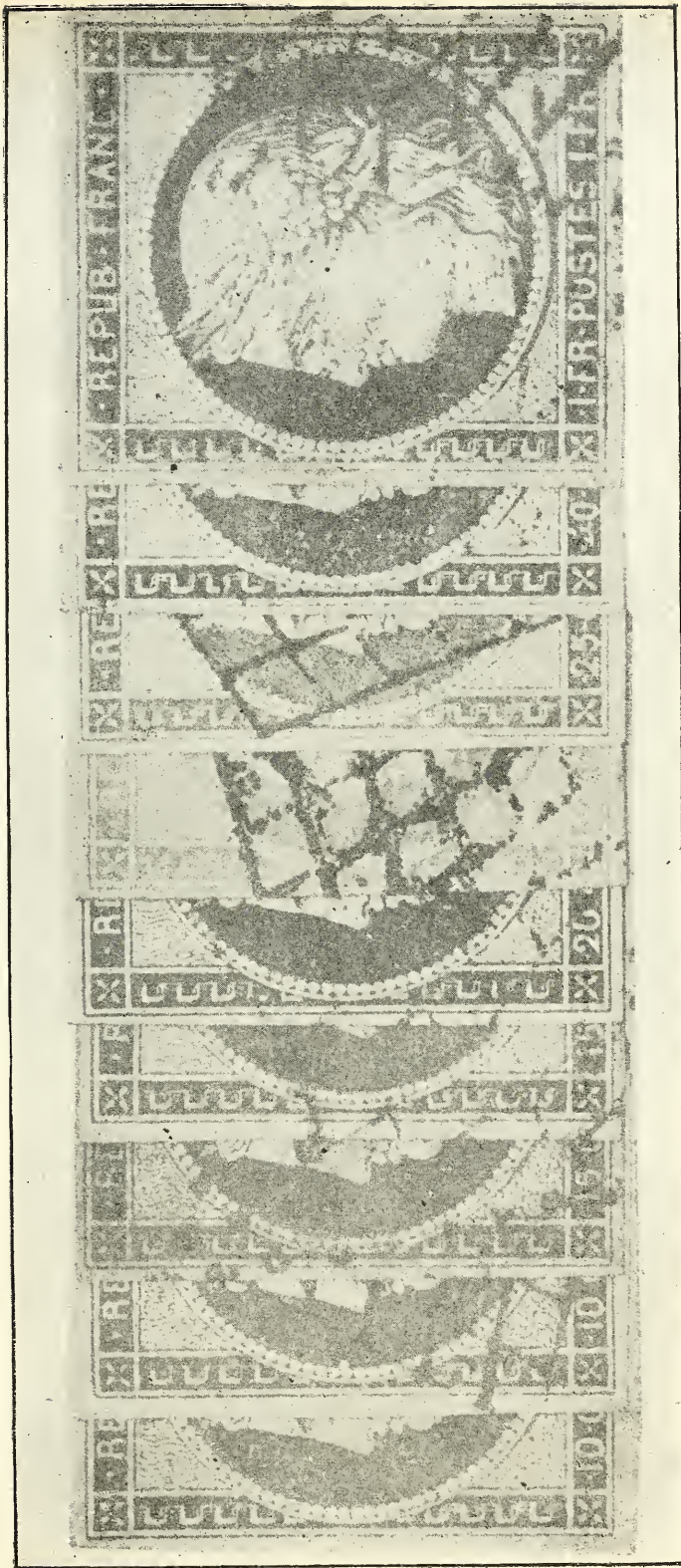
A

L

L'

H

H'

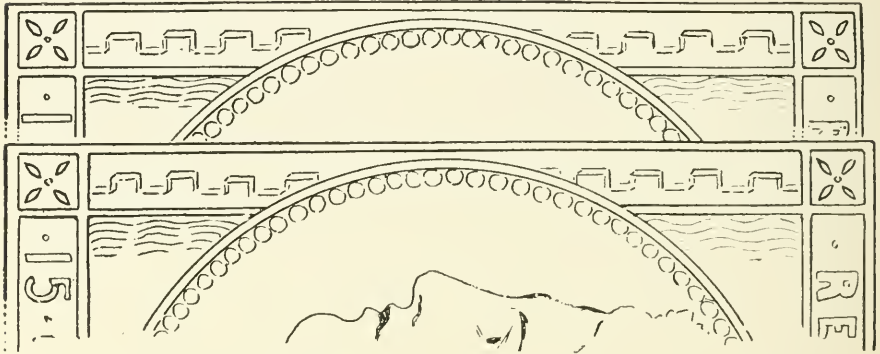


	1870-71-73.	
10c. bistre.	|	15c. bistre (small figures).
20c. blue.	|	25c. blue.
40c. orange.	|	10c. bistre on rose (small figures).

And in the small size :—

	1850.	
10c. bistre.	|	25c. blue.
15c. green.	|	40c. orange.
	1871-73.	
20c. blue (printed by the Commune).	|	10c. bistre on rose (small figures).

Stamps of the small size are, generally speaking, the rarer. They are often found in the 10c., less frequently in the 15c., are rare in the 25c., and very rare in the 40c.



We will publish all further researches which we may make, and shall be very glad to receive from our readers any information they may send bearing upon this subject.

The photographic plates have not been in any way retouched, and therefore afford an exact reproduction of the stamps, which would have been destroyed by even the slightest touching up. The stamps enlarged have been selected intentionally from used ones.

The best way to find the small size stamps is as follows :—Take a 20c. black, which is always of large size, and place upon it in a similar manner as shown in the above illustration the stamp required to be tested. See that the two bottom lines of the stamps are on a level, then the two upper lines will show whether they are the same size or not. If these two lines are on the same level, then the stamp in question is of the large size variety ; if not, it is of the small size, and can then be compared with other stamps.

One of the photographic plates explains itself, and for the other many explanations are not necessary.

The stamp on the left-hand side is of the large size, and the one on the right is of the small size. Line A shows that both are on the same level. Passing upwards it will be seen that differences are already visible, where the line B passes through the two stamps. In the left-hand stamp this line passes through the neck, where the hair touches the same, whereas, in the right-hand stamp, it passes above that point. Line C passes in the left-hand stamp through the nostril,

but much higher in the right-hand stamp. Line E passes just above the head of Liberty in the left-hand stamp, whereas it is some distance from it in the right-hand stamp. Lines F, F¹, and G also show very clearly that the left-hand stamp is larger than the right-hand stamp. Vertically the lines H, H¹, I, and I¹ show the small size, whereas the lines J, J¹, K, and K¹ on the right-hand stamp show the large size. The diagonal lines can be measured easily by anyone.

By looking at the top left-hand corner of each stamp the size can easily be seen by comparing it with its neighbour.

	The first stamp is a 10c., large size.
	„ second „ „ 10c., small „
	„ third „ „ 15c., large „
	„ fourth „ „ 15c., small „
*	„ fifth „ „ 20c., large „
	„ sixth „ „ 25c., small „
	„ seventh „ „ 25c., large „
†	„ eighth „ „ 40c., „ „
	„ ninth „ „ 1fr., „ „

* The only size in existence.

† We have not found the small size yet.

— — — — —

Oddities and Flaws.

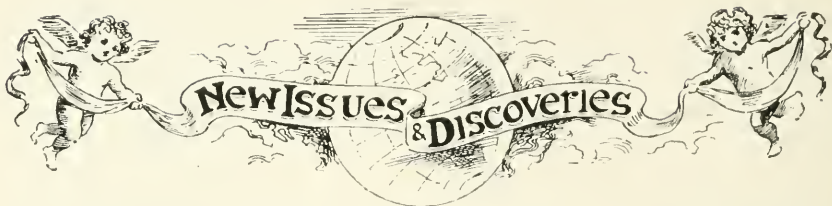
NEW ZEALAND.—1d. rose, 1892-97 issue, "A" white oval-shaped flaw on the Queen's head, "B" also with a white "U" shaped flaw above D of New Zealand.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Centennial issue 1d., and also 1d. O.S.: "A," flaw ONE for ONE; "B," a white line running through the O of SOUTH. 2d. Centennial issue, and also 2d. O.S.: "A," white oval flaw almost obliterating the PE of PENCE. "B," white flaw running from the foot of the T of TWO, and "C," full-stop between TW of TWO, thus: T.WO. "D," large break in oval on right side, opposite the Emu's head. Numbers A and C are to be found on the same sheet.

TASMANIA.—In the 1871-1891 issue, 1d. carmine, local print, and the various provisional lithographed issues of this stamp may be found: "A," large V-shaped flaw running down the Queen's neck to the foot of the stamp; "B," a flaw obliterating the A of TAS, and "C," two small white T-shaped flaws, one above and the other below the second A of TASMANIA. 3d Indian-red: "A," long white flaw running from the left-hand side of the stamp right through the THREE PE of THREE PENCE, and in the 3d. on 1d. carmine many varieties of broken letters may be found. This is a list of a few of many minor varieties that occur in every sheet of a printing, not merely a blotched impression of which, perhaps, only one impression is

known, and collectors can spend some of the coming winter evenings in searching for these and other interesting Oddities and Flaws among their duplicates.

ALSACE AND LORRAINE.—Mr. S. Farges, of Lyons, has seen a curiosity, of which he gives the following account:—"Everybody knows that the stamps of Alsace are printed on paper with a network of which the curves are downwards in the ordinary type and upwards in the scarcer type known as 'inverted net.' The newly-discovered variety consists of a 20 centimes with a double network (i) BLUE-net *inverted*, (ii) PALE YELLOW net in *normal* position. The superposition of the two networks gives the whole stamp a greenish tint which strikes the eye at once. I look on it as a printing of the 20 centimes made by mistake on paper prepared for the 10 centime stamp, having already received the network of that value; or it may, perhaps, be a printing on paper that had been used for printer's trial-impressions of the 10 centime network. There can be no possible doubt as to the authenticity of the variety in question. The two specimens that have passed through my hands come from the correspondence of a Lyons house of business (then in the Cours de Broesses and now in the Cours Gambetta). Both are on original letters. One is postmarked 'Saar-Union 29.9.1871' and the other 'Buckenheim 1.8. 1871.'"—*Alfred Smith & Sons' Monthly Circular*.



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. FRED. H. GIBSON, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester.

The British Empire.

Bahamas.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* states that the issue of King Edward postage stamps is not likely to be made here for some time. In fact, it is doubtful if the printers can despatch before September at earliest, as they have so many contracts already in hand.

British Guiana.—Messrs. Hamilton Smith & Co. have sent us the 6c. chronicled in our last.

British North Borneo.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons have been fortunate enough to secure a sheet of the 25c. surcharged "BRITISH PROTECTORATE," one-half having the surcharge upside-down. The sheet contains fifty stamps, in five horizontal rows, and the surcharge was evidently printed in square blocks of twenty-five; there are thus on this sheet five horizontal pairs with the surcharges tête-bêche and twenty other stamps with inverted overprint.

Adhesive.

25c. indigo, surcharged "British Protectorate," inverted.

Cook Islands.—The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. of the current types have been changed in colour, now appearing in pale green and carmine respectively; the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. also comes now in a much brighter shade of violet than previously.

Adhesives.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., pale green, no wmk., perf. 11.
1d., carmine, " "

Fiji.—*Ewen's Weekly* reports that a new machine, perforating $11 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$, has been brought into use here. The following values have so far been seen.

Adhesives.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., greenish black, perf. $11 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$.
1d., lilac-rose, " "
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., red-brown, " "
4d., bright lilac, " "
6d., bright rose, " "

Gambia.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt has now shown us the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 3d. of the new set. Design of the stock type, with head on solid back-ground.

Adhesives.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., dull green, wmk. crown and C.A., perf. 14.
3d., marone and ultramarine, " "

Gold Coast.—Certain of our continental contemporaries chronicle the following set, probably from "specimen" stamps, as none are yet to hand from the colony. Usual type, being of the colors specified, the name and value in the second mentioned.

Adhesives.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., lilac and green. Wmk. crown & C.A., perf. 14
1d., " carmine. " "
2d., " orange-red. " "
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., " blue. " "
3d., " orange. " "
6d., " mauve. " "
1s., green and black " "
2s., " carmine. " "
5s., " violet. " "
10s., " brown. " "
20s., brown on red and black. " "

Great Britain.—Three more values have now appeared, the 4d., 9d., 5s. and 10s.; they are all approximately identical with the previous issue except the last named, in which much greater prominence is given to the ornamentation in the inner angles, making it a really handsome stamp.

Adhesives.

4d., green and brown. Wmk. crown, perf. 14.
9d., purple and blue. " "
5s., rose. " "
10s., ultramarine. " "

We have just seen the new 6d. value surcharged Govt. Parcels.

Adhesive.

Official Stamp.

6d., lilac, surcharged Govt. Parcels, in black.

Newfoundland.—The current 3c. has been discovered in an imperforate condition.

Adhesive.

3c., orange, variety, imperf.

India. CHAMBA STATE.—The current Indian $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 anna have been surcharged for use here, and Messrs. Whitfield King send us these with the additional "Service" surcharged.

Adhesives.

$\frac{1}{2}$ a., pale green, surcharged Chamba in black.
1a., carmine " " "

Service Stamps.

$\frac{1}{2}$ a., pale green, surcharged Service Chamba in black.
1a., carmine " " State.

PUTTIALLA.—So far we have only seen the $\frac{1}{2}$ a. for this State.

Adhesive.

$\frac{1}{2}$ a., pale green, surcharged Patiala in black.
State.

New South Wales.—The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* has received the 6d. postage due on chalk-surfaced paper, perforated 10.

St. Helena.—Since writing the item under this heading in our last number we have received from Mr. Roskilly the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green of the new type.

Adhesive.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., dull green, wmk. crown and C.A., perf. 14.

Straits Settlements.—We have just seen a new 8c. value with King's head, purple on blue, perforation and watermark as usual.

Adhesive.

8c. purple on blue, wmk. crown and C.A., perf. 14.

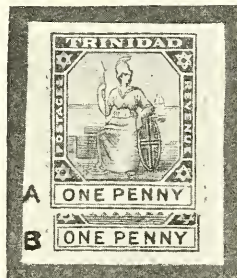
Tasmania.—Three more values with the provisional V. and crown watermark are stated by several of our exchanges to have appeared. We think, however, we had better await further confirmation before listing them, as the Superintendent of the Stamp Branch at Hobart, writing to one of our correspondents on April 4th, says: "It is very unlikely that other values (than the 1d. and 2d.) will be issued on V. and crown paper."

Transvaal.—We now illustrate one of the values of the set listed in our last.



Trinidad.—The 5s., in lilac, which was first chronicled more than a year ago, has now been issued for use. We illustrate below the two types of lettering in the 1d. value.

A.—The round type.
B.—The tall and thin letters.



Uganda.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles and illustrates the recently surcharged $\frac{1}{2}$ anna British East Africa, with inverted overprint. It also mentions that the stocks of both the $\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ anna were very quickly exhausted, few being made, and the demand considerably under-estimated.

Adhesive.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, green, surcharged Uganda in black, *inverted*.

Foreign Countries.

Brazil.—A complete set of stamps and stationery has been ordered from Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Ltd., of London.

Crete.—We have now received the 50 leptas, dull lilac, with black surcharge, *inverted* at the top of the stamp.

Adhesive.

50l., dull lilac, provisional surcharge in black, *inverted*.

Germany.—In our reference last month to the error in the 3pf. stamp, the point of the description was missing. It is the first "E" in "Deutsches" that is broken, the word appearing thus "DFUTSCHES."

France.—We have just received the 30c. of the current set in a slightly modified type, which we illustrate below.

Adhesive.

30c., pale violet; new type.



DJIBOUTI.—The following provisionals have appeared; the surcharge in each instance is in black.

Adhesives.

- 0.05c. on 75c., lilac and orange (Obock).
 0.05c. on 75c., mauve and orange (Somali Coast).
 0.10c. on 1fr., olive green and black (do.)
 0.40c. on 2fr., grey and rose (do.)
 0.75c. on 5fr., rose and blue (do.)

The current 5c. now appears all in yellow-green instead of in green and red as before.

Adhesive.

5c., yellow-green.

NEW CALEDONIA.—Two provisionals were recently issued here. They are formed by surcharging the current 30 and 40c. with the letters N.-C.E. and value. The surcharge also exists inverted.

Adhesives.

- N.-C.E. 5 on 30c., brown, black surcharge.
 N.-C.E. 15 on 50c., vermilion "

Liberia.—Owing to a temporary shortage in supply of the regular postage stamps the undenoted official set was issued for a short time bearing the word "Ordinary" overprinted in black.

The surcharge is in capitals, and apparently hand stamped, as it is found applied diagonally, straight and in a curve.

Adhesives.

- 1c. green, surcharged O.S. in red and surcharged "Ordinary" in black.
 2c. red and black ditto in black ditto
 5c. blue ditto in red ditto
 10c. yellow ditto in red ditto
 15c. slate ditto in red ditto
 20c. red ditto in black ditto
 25c. green ditto in red ditto
 30c. blue ditto in red ditto
 50c. brown ditto in blue ditto
 1\$ ultramarine and black ditto in red ditto
 2\$ brown on buff ditto in green ditto
 5\$ carmine and black ditto in blue ditto

Persia.—In addition to the provisionals chronicled in our last we have now been shown a type set stamp of the value of 12 chahis.

The value of "12 chahis 12" appears at the top, beneath which is "Postes Persannes," followed by an equivalent inscription in native characters, all surrounded by an ornamental rectangular border, the whole stamp measuring 26 x 24 mm., the surcharge "Provisoire," etc., in fancy oblong is applied in black.

We do not know of how many stamps the setting consists, but the pair before us exhibit minor differences; they are printed in ultramarine on coarse white wove paper, the face of which bears a faint burelé pattern in buff. *Le Timbrophile Belge* with this lists four other values of the same description, but mentions that they bear a control mark in

red, which those before us certainly have not got; it also gives several additions to the stamps bearing the "Provisoire" overprint referred to in our April number.

We are indebted to a correspondent for the following information as to the reasons which necessitated this surcharging epidemic: "The stamps marked "Provisoire," etc., are only to be issued for a short time, the Belgians recently took over the customs, and millions of stamps having disappeared just, before this event which are to be got below their face value, those now in use have been surcharged and we are shortly going to have a new issue. . . . There is also a provisional local issue for the town of Meshud."

The additions to our chronicle this month are therefore as follows:—

Adhesives.

- Surcharged "Provisoire," etc., in black.
 16ch., green on greenish.
 3k., lilac.
 4k., brick.

Surcharged $\frac{5}{\text{CHAHIS}}$ and native inscription in violet.
 5ch on 10ch., blue.

Type set stamps, imperf., surcharged with control mark in red.

- 1ch., grey. Burelé in buff.
 2ch., brown. "
 3ch., green. "
 5ch., red-brown. "
 12ch., ultramarine. "

Surcharged "Provisoire," etc., in black without control mark.

12ch., ultramarine. Burelé in buff.

Spain. **FERNANDO POO.**—*Le Philatelliste Français* reports that the 25c de p. green fiscal stamp has received the surcharge "Correos 15 centavos" in red, accompanied by a written signature in black.

Adhesives.

15 centavos on 25 c. de p. green, surcharged in red.

A new set is also announced, the design being the same as before, but with date altered, so far we have heard of the following values only, 5, 10, 25, 50, 75 *cmos* and 1, 2, 5 *pesetas*.

SPANISH GUINEA.—It is reported that this Possession is also to have a set of postage stamps, similar in design to the above.

United States. **PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.**—The current 30c. unpaid letter stamp has received the surcharge for use in this Possession.

Adhesive.

Unpaid letter stamp.
 30c. lake, black surcharge.

Notes and News.

Angola and Cabo Verde Reminders.

The Portuguese Government intended to sell the remainders of the stamps of Cabo Verde and Angola, and expected at least face value, if not more. The highest offer received was 5% of the face value. As can be imagined, the offer was declined, whether with thanks, our correspondent omits to say. Only four offers were sent. It is said the stamps will be surcharged and used up.

Sicily.

Among the lots disposed of at auction by Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper at the beginning of this month was one of considerable interest. It consisted of a vertical pair, unused, of the 1 grano, olive-brown, printed twice. The double impression was very clear, the apparently second print being some three or four millimetres higher on the sheet than the first.

Danish West Indies.

Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News is responsible for the following:—

"In my notes two weeks ago I gave wide publicity to the contents of a letter from the postal authorities at St. Thomas to the effect that the last two provisionals were out of stock. What the authorities evidently meant to say was that they were out of stock in so far as sales to stamp dealers were concerned. For weeks past orders for stamps have been flooding the islands, and the authorities, seeking to protect the public, have refused to sell the regular issue as well as the provisionals. In filling an order an English wholesale dealer writes to a local firm: 'We now enclose all the stamps ordered except the sets of Danish West Indies which are out of stock, and the post office there will not sell any more stamps owing to the stock running short.' A wholesale dealer here has \$150 in the islands, and for six weeks has received no word or return of money. Is it not probable that a new printing may be made in order that they may have bits of gummed paper to exchange for Uncle Sam's crimp bills?"

A Pleasing Ceremony.

At the meeting of the Manchester Philatelic Society on April 18th, 1902, an interesting presentation was made to the Hon. Secretary on the occasion of his then approaching marriage. It took the form of four framed artist's proof engravings and an illuminated address in book form. The President, in making the presentation, briefly referred to the splendid work done by Mr. Gibson for the Society, and also for objects of a Philatelic character not essentially connected with the Society, whereby

Philately in general had benefited, and concluded by emphasizing the popularity and esteem in which he was held by calling attention to the general response made by the members to the circular sent out by Mr. Gee inviting their co-operation. Mr. Gibson, after sincerely thanking the members, said he had quite intended asking them to relieve him of his secretarial duties during next session, but felt this kindness so much that he would, subject to their pleasure, continue another year—an announcement which afforded the liveliest satisfaction.

The illuminated address read as follows:

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

W. DORNING BECKTON, *President.*

... TO ...

G. FRED. H. GIBSON, *Esq.*

THE Members of the above Society, desirous of showing their appreciation of the exceptional services which you have rendered to them as their Honorary Secretary, and to the cause of Philately generally, gladly avail themselves of the occasion of your Marriage to ask your acceptance of a token of their esteem in the four signed Artist's Proof Engravings:—

"*Summer's Eve*," by B. W. Leader, R.A.

"*Alnwick Castle*," by David Law.

"*Arundel Castle*," by David Law.

"*Startled*," by Joseph Farquharson.

combined with the expression of their heartfelt wishes for your future happiness, and while thanking you for those services, so ably and willingly rendered in the past, venture the hope that they may be long continued—the untiring energy displayed by you in all matters concerning the welfare of the Society having done much towards placing it in its present proud position, and it is the sincere wish of every member that though married life may resemble the Sydney View Stamps, sometimes "with clouds," and sometimes "without," that yours may contain no more than just enough to make a glorious sunset.

April, 1902.

"Caveat Emptor."

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News warns collectors against purchasing unused 2 mark stamps on the basis of catalogue prices. The 2 mark value was first issued in 1875, and has of course now been superseded by ordinary German stamps. Never during its lifetime of 27 years has it been sold to the public, with the result that the 2mk. yellow is catalogued £8 unused, the 2mk. red £7 10s., and the 2mk. orange and black 15s. to 25s. Now that Wurtemberg stamps are obsolete, however, the restriction on the sale of this particular value has been removed, and it can be bought at Stuttgart for face value. No doubt many collectors will think they have got a bargain when it is offered to them at $\frac{1}{3}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ catalogue price, but readers will have no excuse if they allow themselves to be caught napping.

Two New Classics.

Two very important Philatelic works have recently appeared, one is entitled *Grenada*, by Messrs. E. D. Bacon and F. H. Napier, the other *The Postage Stamps of the United Stamps*, by Mr. Luff, whose photograph our readers will remember appeared in *The Philatelic Record* last month. The former work appeals most strongly to all Philatelists quite regardless of whether they are interested in the stamps of Grenada or not, owing to the dissertation it contains upon Perkins Bacon perforations. A short description, with illustrations, is given of the various machines used by that firm, whereby Philatelists in future will be enabled to collect and classify all the early perforated Colonials printed by that firm in an intelligent manner. The book redounds with interest from cover to cover, and will long stand as a monument to the painstaking abilities of its authors.

The other work appeals to those interested in the stamps of the United States, and there must be many in this country, although their number will be small as compared with those on the other side of the pond. The work is the result of many years of study and research, and we cordially congratulate Mr. Luff for the thorough manner in which he has treated a difficult subject. It does not often happen that two new classics are added to a poor Philatelist's library within a month!

An Opportunity for Collectors of Portugal and Colonies.

An important purchase has just been made by Messrs Hugo Griebert & Co. It consists of the entire stock of Mr. F. A. Martino, of Lisbon, who is relinquishing the business of a stamp dealer, carried on for so many years. The stock consists chiefly of Portugal and Colonies, and includes many rarities and a large number of very desirable stamps.

China.

It is reported that the Chinese stamps now prepay postage to outside countries, without auxiliary stamps of other nations. The *Ost-Asiatische Lloyd* tells of the regulations under which the franking power of the Chinese stamps is valid;—

"Until now their stamps were not recognised by the countries of the Postal Union, except Hong Kong, Macao, and Formosa, and there only for local reasons. If anyone posted a letter with Chinese stamps, either in Shang-hai or any other treaty port, for Europe, the Chinese post office stuck the necessary Hong Kong stamps also on, for which they did not charge. From the 1st January Chinese mail matter, with Chinese stamps only (no Hong Kong stamps being necessary), will be forwarded by the French post office of any treaty port to countries of the Postal Union. The French authorities have arranged with the Chinese post office to forward their mails for a lump sum. The

sum is said to be rather large, but China now actually belongs to the Postal Union, even if as yet only partly. The first Chinese mail bags were dispatched to Europe by the French post office on the 13th January. We understand the German authorities are also negotiating with the Chinese Maritime Customs on the forwarding of Chinese mail matter to foreign countries."—*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., the Hon. Sec. of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, has already issued a rough draft of next season's programme. The stamps of New South Wales are to be the special work of the session, three meetings being devoted to displays and papers upon them.

The library of the society appears to be making steady progress, and the grant of £5 out of the funds shows that the permanent collection is not being neglected.

International Philatelic Union.

The annual general meeting and election of officers and committee of the International Philatelic Union took place at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet Street, on Wednesday evening, May 7th. The Hon. Sec. presented a satisfactory report, showing 126 members on the roll. The President (Mr. H. R. Oldfield), the Vice-Presidents, Hon. President and Hon. Vice-Presidents, Hon. Sec. (Mr. T. H. Hinton), and other officers were re-elected for the ensuing year, together with the following Committee:—C. N. Biggs, L. W. Fulcher, W. Hadlow, J. E. Joselin, A. B. Kay, W. S. King, Major Laffan, R.E., Dr. Marx, M.A., P. L. Pemberton, F. Reichenheim, A. Sonn, J. C. Sidebotham, and H. Thompson. The President gave an interesting display of the stamps of Bolivia, illustrating the third stage of collecting (limited specialism), which was much appreciated by those present, and for which a hearty vote of thanks was accorded.

A Postman's Record Salary.

Seven thousand pounds a year would seem at first sight to be more than a "living wage" for a postman, yet the United States Government considers itself lucky in being able to engage a man at that figure to carry the mails between Eagle and Valdery in Alaska. The distance is 414 miles, and the postman makes two trips a month, the mails being limited to three hundred pounds weight each journey. He makes the trip by dog sledge, and has probably about as exciting a round as any postman in the world. He has fallen down precipices, got mixed up in avalanches, been starved and frostbitten, and is regularly given up for dead by the residents of the two towns. But so far he has always managed to reach his destination, though sometimes considerably overdue.

Mails by Motor Car.

Week in, week out, for twelve years a couple of horse mail-coaches have nightly carried the postal parcels between Manchester and Liverpool. The reason for this was economy. Before 1890 all parcels were forwarded by rail, but the railway charges being so high, hardly any profit accrued to the postal revenue, and it was thought that a material saving would result by sending all parcels by road. The experiment was given a trial and proved highly successful. A coach started each night from both towns, arriving at the other end of the journey early in the morning and carrying up to three quarters of a ton of parcels each. This is all changed now. The horse-coaches have been replaced by motor cars capable of carrying double the weight and possessing the advantage of greater speed. May 1st saw the commencement of the sending of mails by motor, and Manchester and Liverpool are sharing the honour of the first motor postal service in England. The guards in uniform, armed with sword and revolver in readiness for the attacks of possible highwaymen, have so far met with no excitement other than the breaking down of the cars—a by no means uncommon experience with motorists.

Latin in the Post Office.

Some of the Austrian stamps during the years 1850-1860 bear the obliteration "Alba." Such a name, however, cannot be discovered amongst the towns of Austria or Hungary. It appears that stamps with this obliteration emanated from the Hungarian town of Stuhlweissenburg. The Latin name of this town was "Alba Regia," and for short the obliterating dies read "Alba." No doubt this is the only town in the world which, in the middle of the nineteenth century, has made use of her late Latin name to obliterate stamps. A link indeed with the past!

Some Minor Varieties of Australian Stamps.

Mr. Maney-Lake, who is compiling a list of minor varieties of recent and current issues for inclusion in Mr. Basset Hull's proposed work on Australian stamps, has handed to the editor of the *Australian Philatelist* his notes, from which the following extracts appear in the April number of that Journal.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—I have been shown the 1d. red De-la-Rue type, perf. 12½ horizontally, and imperf vertically, which I do not think has been chronicled before. Recently, certain values have appeared on a new paper. This paper is thinner and tougher than that hitherto in use, and is very highly surfaced, the watermark is very distinct and the gum is darker. Most of the printings on the new paper so far appear with the watermark inverted. The ¾d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 6d., 10d. and 1s. have been issued, and the printing appears to have been made from new plates, and the result is very

superior, the stamps all looking bright and fresh, and the colours are more brilliant than usual; the 10d. especially is a beautiful deep lilac, and looks a very handsome stamp. The 1d. and 2d. on this new paper have also been issued with the addition of a broad band of colour round the margins of the sheet, bearing the date 1901.

NEW ZEALAND.—The 1874 issue overprinted "Specimen" and printed in trial colours, has been shown me. They are as follows:—

- 1d. venetian red.
- 2d. blue.
- 3d. lilac.
- 4d. rose.
- 6d. pale brown.
- 1s. green (accepted colour).

I have also in my collection the 6d. carmine current issue unperforated. At the beginning of this year the papers and perforations for the local printings of the ½d. and 1d. were altered, and I shall attempt to describe the varieties as lucidly as possible:—

Soft, thick paper, wmk. double lined NZ and star (wmk. very indistinct).

½d. green, perf. 14; 14 × 11; 11 × 14.

1d. carmine, perf. 14; perf. 14 horizontally; imperf. vertically.

Thin paper, same wmk., but distinct.

½d. green, perf. 14; 14 × 11; 11 × 14.

1d. carmine, " " " "

Thin paper, no wmk. " " " "

½d. green, 1d. carmine, perf. 14.

The 1d. of this issue, no wmk., can be distinguished from the English print by the dull, unperfected gum when unused, and when used, either by the thinner paper—through which the design almost shows—or by the date of postmark. I have seen two curiosities of perforation in the 1d., which, when seen, are easily understood, but to describe them is decidedly difficult. In one instance one stamp on a sheet was apparently found to be blotched after the sheet had been perforated; this was cut from the sheet by the printer, and a stamp from another sheet put in its place, fastened with strips of gummed paper and then *re-perforated* vertically. This is horrible enough, *but* the original sheet was perforated 14 × 11, and the inserted stamp 11 × 14. The result is in the single stamp; 1d. carmine; perf. 11 horizontally and 11, and also 14 vertically. The second curiosity of perforation consisted of a block of four 1d. (universal) which had been perforated 14 all round; the horizontal perf. was about quarter of an inch out of centre, however, so the thrifty printer gummed slips of paper over the "off" perf. and re-perforated the stamps horizontally, only *this* time he used a machine gauging 11. Result:—

1d. carmine, perf. 14 vertically × 11 horizontally, with an additional perforation, 14 at the top.

QUEENSLAND.—The 1s. grey, no wmk., 1862 issue I have, perforated with round holes (not hitherto catalogued), also the 1d., 1887 issue, *without* stop after value, in rose-pink.

Correspondence.

An Explanation.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—I note in your Editorial for March a reference to an article of mine in the January and February numbers of the *Philatelic Journal of India* relating to an ideal catalogue. Will you be so good as to allow me this opportunity of answering the final paragraph of your note. Readers thereof may think that I considered tête bêche pairs, &c., as something worse than printer's waste, but that of course is not the case. Class 7, *i.e.*, the class after that which contained printer's waste, was a special class, the stamps of which were of very different degrees of importance, but which were distinguished from all the other classes by the fact that it required either a pair or a strip, or the margins of the sheet to show the difference, and that *single* stamps were undistinguishable. And as my article referred not only to a catalogue, but also to an album planned in accordance with the catalogue, it would be unsatisfactory to have spaces provided for the stamps of Class 7.—I am, dear Sir, yours sincerely,

E. W. WETHERELL.

Mysore, India,
19-4-02.

[We insert Mr. Wetherell's letter with pleasure, correcting what certainly to us appeared a grave flaw in his otherwise excellent paper on this subject. We certainly did not read his paper in the way he evidently intended Section 7 to be construed, and we do not see even now why spaces in an album cannot be provided for tête bêches just as easily as for other varieties, which to our mind are of inferior interest.—ED.]

Unused South Australian O.S. Stamps.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—Paragraphs *re* unused South Australian O.S. Stamps have appeared recently, and as I know something about these stamps I would like you to make public what you think fit of the following: I have had from time to time some of these stamps, which I have obtained in a perfectly legitimate manner, and have disposed of to

Messrs. Gibbons and others in England, so you can quite understand that this quite unnecessary bobbery over these stamps is of interest to me. The following will, I think, go far to prove that unused O.S. stamps cannot be put quite on the same footing as the English I.R. Official stamps, and are not always the property of the South Australian Government:—

1. A certain number of these O.S. stamps in an unused state have on at least two occasions been sold by the South Australian Government for the face value. I am in possession of necessary details as to the values sold, etc., and names of buyers in reference to the above-mentioned two cases, and I furthermore purchased from one of the parties some of those stamps which in due course found their way into the stock books of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

2. A number of O.S. stamps pass through the post without receiving cancellation mark, and are bought by me in the ordinary way of business. These of course would be without gum.

3. An Adelaide Stamp Collector, employed in one of the Government departments, was called out of town on business for his department, and while absent had to write and post correspondence in connection with his work. Not carrying a supply of O.S. stamps he used ordinary ones, and on his return to the office sent in a requisition for stamps, which of course were supplied. These had fulfilled their purpose and were, I maintain, his property to dispose of as he liked.

4. On one occasion at least unused O.S. stamps were sold over the counter of the G.P.O.

A few years ago a strict account of the postage on official letters was not kept, consequently numbers of these stamps found their way into collections. This is altogether altered now-a-days, and current issue unused O.S. stamps are or ought to be rare.

Trusting this may somewhat remove the stigma attached to these stamps,—I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

GEO. B. BLOCKEY.

Adelaide, South Australia,
March, 1902.



THE
Philatelic Record.

JUNE, 1902.

Editorial Notes.

ACCORDING to the Auction reports, a copy of the London Philatelic Society's monograph on Oceana recently sold for twenty shillings, and West Indies for eighteen shillings, and the ten volumes of the *London Philatelist* for twelve shillings. The

Philatelic Literature.

monographs were sumptuously bound in half levant; the Journal of the Society was in unbound numbers.

But what does it mean? A few years ago the monographs of the Society were scarcely to be had for love or money. West Indies fetched from £4 to £5, and Oceana, though rather out of date, was, nevertheless, regarded as a valuable work and realised a correspondingly good price. Does it mean that latter-day specialists are less keen on providing themselves with good Philatelic libraries than the older generation of collectors? It is admitted that there are very few noted Philatelic libraries. Some say they can be counted on the fingers on one hand, even in this country. Surely it is not so bad as that! But when we hear how sadly even the premier society neglects its library, how can we wonder that individual collectors fail to realise the necessity, or even the desirability, of acquiring a Philatelic library?

And yet how little research can be carried on without a good library. The works that are necessary to every specialist who would go thoroughly into his hobby run into many volumes. They are not only desirable, they are absolutely necessary. No catalogue, however helpful it may be, can cover the ground that is covered by a good library. Hence, we are naturally somewhat puzzled when we are told that, despite the undeniable increase in the number of specialists, first-class Philatelic works go begging at greatly reduced prices.

Peculiarities of latter-day Collecting. THERE are some marked characteristics in latter-day collecting that were not even dreamt of a few years ago. In the old days, as soon as a dealer received a supply of any value, whether it was of perforated or imperforate stamps, he at once separated it into single stamps for the convenience of sale, for few collectors in those early days thought of including pairs, much less blocks, in their collections. The single stamp was considered sufficient for all purposes.

Now we have changed all that. The single stamp man takes a back seat. The latter-day collector collects in blocks of four, and in panes of sixty. It is perhaps the natural result of specialism, of the undue concentration of money and attention upon the issues of one

country. It is the favourite Philatelic sport of the man of wealth, but it is not altogether beyond the means of the ordinary man, for of low values panes of sixty may be had at current new issue rates for as little as 1s. 6d. In the eyes of some folks this sort of collecting is Philately run wild. But after all it may have its useful ends. How many problems that now seem insoluble in regard to the old issues would be supplied with chapter and verse if the older collectors had collected in panes or sheets.

We all have our likes and our dislikes. Each one, despite all the good or well-meant advice, will go his own road, and in the pursuit of a hobby, surely there may be the fullest freedom in all harmless directions. There may be a spice of speculation in sheet collection, but, even so, who shall say us nay? The price may be relied on to restrict the accumulation of sheets of rarities within reasonable limits, and as the holders retire from the Philatelic arena by death, or misadventure, or shameless desertion, their hoards will some day serve to satisfy the hungry ones of another decade.

ONE does not look for notable stamps in the auctions that dribble out the end of a season, but there have been a few in recent auctions that call for at least a passing word. Amongst them is an uncatalogued variety of Bechuanaland. In 1888-9 the English $\frac{1}{2}$ d. vermilion stamp was overprinted "Fourpence," in addition to the overprint "British—Protectorate—Bechuanaland." It is a stamp that has always been fairly common, but despite that fact an inverted variety has never yet been chronicled. Now, after all these years, one has turned up in Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's auction of May 13 last. It fetched £3. The Gambia 1s. CC., for some unexplained reason, ran up to £4 4s. in Mr. Plumridge's auction, *i.e.*, one guinea over catalogue, whereas it has generally brought about half to two-thirds of catalogue. Specialists are now devoting considerable attention to Sicily, a compact little country, but, for all that, full of rarities in the shape of retouches. This attention is reflected in the £6 6s. recently paid for the 1 grano, double print. Another notable rarity was the Gibraltar carmine stamp of 1889 with value omitted. It fetched £12 15s. But the tit-bit in recent auctions was a magnificent block of the English 4d. medium garter of 1855-7, on blue safety paper, in mint, unused condition. It brought £71.

THE new King's Head stamps are coming in slowly. They come mostly from the smaller colonies as yet, presumably because their stocks are small and more frequently renewable. With the exception of the fine series of new design for the Transvaal, all the Colonial King's Heads so far have been mere adaptations of current designs, and in too many cases are of a very makeshift character. To substitute the King's head for the late Queen's head was simple enough without interfering with the general design, but a crown has been introduced over the King's head, and this has frequently compelled the engravers to cramp the design. The little apology for a crown in the current Straits Settlements type is nothing short of ludicrous. Surely these makeshifts must sooner or later be replaced by creditably drawn designs.

Great Britain.

The 4½d. Stamp.

By R. F. Chance, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

COMPARATIVELY recently there was a good deal of correspondence in some of the Philatelic Journals about the discovery of varieties in this stamp.

As far as I have been able to discover, only four varieties have been mentioned. These varieties are:—

- (a) 20th Stamp in lower left pane of a sheet. There is a small red dot between the 1 of $\frac{1}{2}$ and the 4, in upper right "4½."
- (b) 20th Stamp in lower left pane of a sheet. There is a white hair line across the 1 of $\frac{1}{2}$ in the upper right "4½."
- (c) 17th Stamp in upper left pane of a sheet. The upper right 4 appears broken.
- (d) 20th Stamp in upper left pane of a sheet. There is a small white dot below the eye on a level with the point of the nose.

Varieties "c" and "d" occur on the same sheet. Thus "a" "b" and "c" are in the print of the duty plate, and "d" in that of the "head" plate. I have seen no sheet where "c" exists without "d," or *vice versa*, nor where "d" exists with "a" or "b."

With a view of endeavouring to trace these minor varieties to particular plates I turned to Messrs. Wright & Creeke's work on the Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles and found mention of three pairs of plates being used for this value, and rather jumped to the conclusion that "a" would be found with one pair, "b" with another, and "c" and "d" with the third. This calculation was, however, soon upset by sheets being mentioned in the journals showing no variety at all, which pointed either to these varieties being the results of injury or wear to previously perfect plates, or to the existence of a fourth duty plate. I am now able to give authentic details concerning the setting up and printing of these stamps, which I feel sure will be welcomed by Philatelists, more especially as they go far to prevent these varieties creeping into the ever-growing list of errors.

For the manufacture of these stamps only two "head" plates were constructed, and these have been used throughout the whole issue. They are each of 160 set, *i.e.*, eight panes of 20.

There have been three complete "duty" plates constructed, each in 8 sections of 20. Of these sections, Nos. 1 to 16, *i.e.*, 2 complete plates, were put to press with the above-mentioned head plates on August 12, 1892.

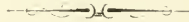
As these sections became worn they were replaced by new ones which were brought into use on the following dates:—

Section 17	-	July 6th, 1894.
„ 18	-	March 7th, 1895.
„ 19	-	March 13th, 1895.
„ 20	-	January 30th, 1896.
„ 21	-	December 15th, 1896.
„ 22	-	„ „
„ 23	-	„ „
„ 24	-	Was never used.

As far as can be ascertained, none of the sections and neither of the head plates show any sign of the varieties above noted.

If, as I am assured, these varieties are incidental to the printing, it does seem surprising that no other varieties have been recorded in this or any other value in the "Jubilee Issue," and not even in this value till it has been in issue over nine years! And further, that a speck of dust or a hair on the plate, or a small lump of pigment in the ink should remain on the plate until at least six impressions have been taken, for I have seen six sheets showing varieties "c" and "d," and I don't doubt that others have seen as many, if not more, showing "a" or "b."

Were my information derived from a source which I could in any way doubt, I should still hold to the opinion that the varieties were due to some slight defects in the plates, but I am bound in the face of it to regard the varieties as incidental to the printing, and therefore of no true Philatelic interest.



Herts Philatelic Society.

Competitive Exhibition.

By H. R. Oldfield.

REGARDED as an Exhibition alone, the display shown on Saturday, the 7th June, 1902, in the Rooms at Effingham House (kindly lent for the purpose by The Philatelic Society, London), can be properly described as an unqualified success. There were no less than 46 exhibitors and 126 exhibits, exclusive of those which were marked "Not for Competition." Three out of the five gold medals were awarded in respect of the stamps of countries which had never previously been shown in such completeness and detail, viz., Fiji, Portugal, and Chili. The attendance was excellent, probably not far short of 300, and the Rooms were full of interested spectators from about one o'clock until the close.

At the same time, it is probable that the promoters and organisers are not entirely satisfied with the result.

This Exhibition was an experiment based on the same general principles as those upon which the Exhibition of the International Philatelic Union was held in February of the previous year, and the objects were two-fold: To attract the general collector, and to place him as far as possible upon an even footing with the advanced and wealthy specialist.

The first of these objects was obtained by the I. P. U., at whose Exhibition there were 24 exhibitors and 84 exhibits, and in a still greater degree by the Herts Society, as in each case a large number of those showing stamps had never previously taken part in a competitive exhibition. The attempt, however, to place the general collector and limited specialist on equal terms with his wealthier brethren has proved a failure in each case, the principal awards having been carried off by collectors whose names have become well known in connection with certain countries and previous International Exhibitions.

This Exhibition was a distinct advance, however, from this particular point of view upon that of the I. P. U., and some slight further modifications in the rules taught by the experience of the past may ensure a greater measure of success in the future.

For instance: The following additional rules would have resulted in considerable alterations in the list of awards, and afforded an opportunity to other exhibitors.

1. No exhibitor may take a medal for any country in respect of which he has received a medal at any International Exhibition.

This rule would have disqualified Baron A. de Worms, who took the Extra Gold Medal for Ceylon, and Mr. H. R. Oldfield, who took two Silver Medals, one for Servia and the other for Bolivia.

2. No exhibitor may take more than one medal at this Exhibition.

This rule would also have affected Mr. Oldfield, and would have released three other medals, since Mr. Hausburg was awarded a Gold Medal for Victoria and a Silver one for India, while Mr. Hall received two Gold Medals, one for Chili and another for Fiji, and Mr. Ehrenbach a Gold Medal for Portugal and a Silver one for the Dominican Republic.

3. No exhibitor may take a medal for an exhibit of any country in respect of which a gold medal may have been awarded to him at any exhibition within the previous five years.

If I am not mistaken, this rule would have disqualified Mr. Hausburg for his Victorian exhibit.

It might also have been desirable, as it turned out, if the rules had limited the number of exhibits by any one exhibitor in a particular class to two instead of three; and if the number of specimens allowed to be shown had been increased from 50 to 75 or 100, and the number of cards from three to five.

This alteration would have gone some way towards meeting the objections of the Editor of the *Record*, who appears to have overlooked the fact that the Exhibition itself was in the nature of an experiment, and whose criticism upon the Rules and Regulations was somewhat ill-judged and erroneous, more particularly with regard to his assumption that the stamps shown would inevitably consist mainly of rarities. He had evidently overlooked the special directions as to completeness and evidence of Philatelic study and knowledge.

Generally, however, and taking everything into account, the Herts Society can be heartily congratulated upon a very successful show, and the Exhibition Committee upon the practical result of their arduous labours. In particular, the thanks of the Society are more especially due to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Reichenheim, and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Slade, while Mr. Bradbury should be proud of the result of the trouble and care he has taken in procuring an artistic medal worthy to commemorate the first Exhibition of a young and flourishing Society. The recipients will no doubt congratulate themselves upon the result of his work.

Proceeding now to a consideration of the actual exhibits, it will be noted that these were divided into four classes. One Gold, one Silver, and one Bronze Medal were allocated to each class, while in addition one Gold, two Silver, and four Bronze extra or special Medals were placed at the disposition of the Judges, and two Silver Medals were presented by Mr. Reichenheim for the best exhibits shown by lady members.

The Judges were Messrs. Bacon, Castle, and Gordon Smith, and Lieut. Napier, R.N.

Class I.

Limited to Great Britain and certain specifically named Colonies.

Gold Medal: Mr. L. L. R. HAUSBURG, for Victoria, 1850, 1d., 2d. & 3d.

Extra Gold Medal: Baron A. DE WORMS, for Ceylon, 1857 to 1862.

Silver Medal: Mr. J. E. HEGINBOTTOM, for Ceylon pence issues.

Bronze Medal: Rev. G. H. RAYNOR, for Great Britain imperf. issues, 2½d. lilac plate numbers, and high values.

There were 35 exhibits in this class.

Mr. Hausburg's exhibit of Victoria was complete and practically perfect. It comprised the varieties of die and printing, with shades and specimens of the rouletted and perforated stamps, together with the rare 2d. grey-lilac shade with value omitted. The stamps were carefully mounted and sufficiently described.

There is little to be said about Baron A. de Worm's exhibit of Ceylon, the stamps consisting of very fine picked copies from his large and well-known collection which was shown at London and at Manchester.

Mr. Heginbottom's exhibit of Ceylon was not particularly well mounted and a number of poor copies were included among the

stamps. Probably it was deemed worthy of a silver medal on account of the evidences of Philatelic study and knowledge which it displayed.

The Rev. G. H. Raynor's exhibit of British Stamps contained some fine copies and blocks of the 1d. black and the 1d. red unused, and a fine set of the plate numbers of the 2½d. rose-lilac, with specimens of some of the higher values.

Among the other exhibits in this class may be noted three of Great Britain from the Rev. Dr. Chetwynd Atkinson, most, if not all, of the stamps being unused and in good condition; three of New Zealand from Mr. H. L. Hayman, all being unused and in fine condition; one of New South Wales, comprising an excellent made-up plate of the 1d. Sydney Views and other copies of the 1d., 2d., and 3d., several of which, however, were very poor specimens.

If the Rules had been modified, as suggested, some one or more of these would probably have secured a medal or medals.

Mr. Hausburg also showed stamps from New South Wales and South Australia, both very fine exhibits, although I heard a doubt expressed of the 1d. imperf. deep green, as to which I am not qualified to offer any opinion. Baron A. de Worms had a third exhibit of St. Helena, all the stamps being well mounted and in perfect condition.

I also noticed among others: Exhibits of Queensland from Mr. Burton F. J. Cooper (the copies being fairly good), Mr. D. Thomson (better copies, but all used), and from Mrs. Hugh Rose, who was awarded for it one of the two Silver Medals presented by Mr. Reichenheim.

The following exhibits were, to my thinking, spoiled by reason of the number of poor and defective copies to be found in them: Ceylon, shown by Mr. Herbert Haynes; Victoria, shown by Mr. J. E. Heginbottom; and Great Britain, shown by Mrs. Prodgers.

There were interesting exhibits of Tasmania by Mrs. Hugh Rose and of Turks Islands and Ceylon by Mr. Fredk. A. Wickhart, but the stamps of the latter country were too crowded together, and a similar remark applies to the Transvaal stamps shown by Mrs. Field.

Mr. J. C. Sidebotham's exhibit comprised British stamps used abroad; fine copies and very interesting.

Class II.

Comprising Stamps of the remaining British Colonies and Dependencies not included in Class I.

Gold Medal: Mr. THOS. W. HALL, for Fiji—"Times Express" and other early issues.

Silver Medal: Mr. L. L. R. HAUSBURG, for India.

Bronze Medal: Mr. W. SIMPSON, for Gambia.

Four Extra Bronze Medals: Rev. Dr. CHETWYND ATKINSON, for Gibraltar;

Mr. L. E. BRADBURY, for Nevis;

Mr. R. MEYER, for Lagos;

And Mr. VERNON ROBERTS, for St. Lucia.

There were 41 exhibits in this class.

Mr. Hall's exhibit of Fiji was very fine, and was necessarily limited under the rules. It contained partially reconstructed plates of the "Times Express" stamps on quadrillé and on laid bâtonné papers, and specimens of the 1874 to 1875 issues, with the two rare V.R. surcharges. It included, I think, all, or nearly all, the varieties of these, which are very difficult to obtain, and the exhibit, in my opinion, was far ahead of any other in this class.

Mr. Hausburg had two exhibits of India. The first comprising the issues of 1854 to 1856, which contained all the varieties of colour design and spacing, and the inverted frame of the 4 annas, including a complete sheet of the 4 annas; while the second comprised the issues from 1855 to 1879, all unused, and in the pink of condition. From my notes the medal would appear to have been given for the first exhibit, but I think this is a mistake, and that the first exhibit was disqualified under the rules by reason of the duplication of varieties in the complete sheet and in a separate pair which was included in the exhibit.

The stamps of Gambia in Mr. Simpson's exhibit included the issues from 1869 to 1886-87, all of them being very fine specimens.

To my thinking, the stamps in Dr. Atkinson's exhibit of Gibraltar were much too crowded together; otherwise the exhibit was interesting and complete.

Mr. Bradbury's Nevis were well mounted and described, the copies were fine, and the whole exhibit gave evidence of Philatelic study and knowledge.

Mr. Meyer showed a nice lot of Lagos unused—just such a collection as anyone could acquire by visiting the various dealers' shops with a copy of Stanley Gibbons' catalogue. There was not a word of description on any part of the exhibit, which did very little justice to the Philatelic knowledge and ability that (as is well known) its owner possesses. In most of Mr. Meyer's exhibits the stamps were far too crowded together, but this particular one was rather an exception to the rule, and possibly it was for that reason the Judges thought it worthy of a medal.

The stamps of St. Lucia, from 1860 to 1886, as shown by Mr. Vernon Roberts, were complete, and in very fine condition.

The favourite countries in this class were:—

Gibraltar. Shown not only by Dr. Atkinson, but also by

Mrs. Field, who sent an interesting exhibit, including the 10 centavos of 1889, with the value omitted from the bottom label;

Mr. J. H. Roskilly, whose exhibit was well mounted and described, but unfortunately there were many vacant spaces;

And Mr Wickhart, who showed unused stamps in good condition.

St. Lucia and St. Vincent. Besides Mr. Vernon Roberts, who showed St. Lucia,

Mr. George Haynes had an exhibit of St. Vincent, which evidenced the care and attention he had given to this Colony.

Mr. Herbert Haynes sent stamps of St. Lucia, as also did Mr. Heginbottom, who had a separate exhibit of St. Vincent, which contained some good stamps, all of them being used copies.

Mr. E. P. Richardson also showed St. Vincent, but several of his stamps were in poor condition.

Labuan were shewn by Mr. T. S. Cooper, an interesting exhibit, neatly arranged; by Mr. W. Jacoby, and by Baron A. de Worms.

The following Colonies were also represented:—

Falkland Islands, by Mr. Herbert Haynes.

Cape of Good Hope, by Mrs. Field, who was the recipient of the other Silver Medal, presented by Mr. Reichenheim; the exhibit consisting of remarkably fine copies of the triangular issues.

Orange Free State, by Mr. W. A. Boyes, comprising three exhibits of the War Stamps, but not including the rarer errors.

Malta, by Lieut. Gatt; a small exhibit, which, however, gave evidence of study and care.

Gold Coast, by Mr. Bradbury and by Mr. Simpson.

Niger Coast, by Mr. Wane and Mrs. Watkin.

British South Africa, by Mr. Simpson and Mr. Wane.

Cook Islands, by Mr. Morley; all unused and in good condition.

British East Africa, by Dr. Atkinson.

And British Honduras, by Baron A. de Worms.

Class III.

Consisting of the Stamps of European Countries.

Gold Medal: Mr. R. EHRENBACH, for Portugal, 1870-1887.

Silver Medal: Mr. H. R. OLDFIELD, for Servia.

Extra Silver Medal: Mr. T. S. COOPER, for Spain.

Bronze Medal: Mr. F. REICHENHEIM, for France, 1870-1875 (Paris Issues).

There were 23 exhibits in this class.

Mr. Ehrenbach had two exhibits of Portugal; one of the earlier issues, all unused, showing types and issues, with descriptions, which gave evidence of some little haste in preparation; and the other, of the straight label issues—a magnificent show all unused, with illustrations of types recently discovered, and the rare (if not unique) 10 reis, yellow, perforated 14. This exhibit was one of the finest shown, and well deserved the recognition it received.

Mr. Oldfield had one exhibit of the early issues of Servia, comprising varieties of paper, design and shade, and including the error with "C K" misplaced, the 1 para, imperf., of the rare olive-green shade, and the 2 PARF in the yellow-brown colour, which has not been shown before.

Mr. Cooper showed the early issues of Spain, complete, and containing the rare stamps; most, if not all, of the copies being used.

Mr. Reichenheim sent three exhibits of France. 1849 to 1850: Paris issues, 1870-1875 (for which he received a medal); and Bordeaux issues, 1870 to 1871. All three were most interesting, although not very artistically arranged. The first comprising blocks with the tête bêche pair, Essays of Colour and Reprints; the second, several tête bêche pairs, the types of the 40 centimes, and a pair with the error of the 15 centimes in lieu of the 10, all being unused: while the third included various types and perforations.

Among the exhibits I noticed:—

One of Hamburg and two of Holland, all characteristic of the exhibitor, Mr. Meyer; but the second exhibit of the latter country, which comprised a complete set of the unpaid stamps, showing the four types in each value, was a very fine display, and its formation must have involved considerable trouble, while it was a proof of Philatelic study and knowledge not undeserving of recognition by the Judges.

Mr. J. W. Jones showed stamps of the 1869 to 1872 issues of Roumania (the head with and without beard), a very pretty exhibit, all unused, comprising the 15 bani value with a period before the "R," the 10 bani on laid, and the 25 bani on fawn paper.

Mr. Morley sent an exhibit of the provisional issues of Crete.

Mr. C. P. Sisley two of France, the first consisting of unused copies in good condition, but extending from 1849 to 1892, so that the range of choice was pretty extensive.

Mr. H. A. Slade also, who sent exhibits of Bulgaria and Roumania, did evidently not select his stamps so as to illustrate the completeness of the issues shown.

Mr. C. C. Tait had two exhibits of Portugal, comprising the first three issues, including used and unused copies, but the stamps were far too crowded on the sheets.

Mrs. Prodgers had two small exhibits of San Marino and Monaco; and Mrs. Watkin showed Naples and Sicily, but the former stamps were mostly poor copies.

Class IV.

Comprising the Stamps of any Country not included in Classes I., II., and III.

Gold Medal: Mr. T. W. HALL, for Chili Imperf. Issues, 1853-65.

Silver Medal: Mr. R. EHRENBACH, for Dominican Republic, 1865.
Reconstructed Plates.

Extra Silver Medal: Mr. H. R. Oldfield, for Bolivia, 1866-67.

Bronze Medal: Mr. R. FRENTZEL, Mexico, 1866-67. Maximilian Issue.

There were 26 exhibits in this class.

Mr. Hall's exhibit of Chili was one of the finest things shown in the whole Exhibition. The stamps were beautifully mounted and described, containing specimens of the errors in the Local lithographed issues, the discovery of which by Mr. Bacon and himself will be the principal feature of the current Philatelic season.

Mr. Ehrenbach's reconstructed plates of the Dominican Republic were shown for the first time. There were twelve varieties of the $\frac{1}{2}$ real on rose, eleven of the 1 real on green, twelve of the $\frac{1}{2}$ real on green, and ten of the 1 real on yellow. Anyone who has tried to plate these stamps will appreciate the trouble and time involved in securing so complete a collection.

Mr. H. R. Oldfield's Bolivian Stamps were evidently selections from a larger collection, no doubt intended to illustrate his views as to the possibility of obtaining a representative collection of this country without the necessity for multiplying specimens.

Mr. Frentzel sent three exhibits, selected from his well-known Mexican collection, and was possibly surprised to find a medal awarded to the Maximilian issue instead of to one of his other two exhibits.

Mr. S. Chapman had a very fine exhibit of the 1864 Eagle issue of Mexico, which seemed to me worthy of some special recognition, as it was most interesting, with full descriptions, and evinced considerable Philatelic knowledge.

Mr. Cooper had an exhibit of Antioquia, well mounted, mostly used, and containing several poor specimens.

Mr. Firth's Japans could not be described as a fine exhibit, there being an unusually large number of poor copies.

Mr. Hall also showed the early issues of Peru and of Uruguay, and, like all his other exhibits, they presented an object-lesson as to the way in which stamps can be mounted and described. Uruguay contained types of the Diligentia Series, a tête bêche pair of the 120c. in block letters, the 240c. in the rare shade, and a square block would have contained nine copies of the same value, but that what would have been the centre stamp was represented by a blank space.

Mr. Davidson's exhibit of Cuba was spoiled by bad copies.

Mr. F. J. Melville had three exhibits of Hayti.

Mr. Meyer showed a fine lot of Chili, with many unused, but without any description, and the stamps were far too crowded on the sheet.

Mr. Morley's exhibit of the stamps of the New S. A. Republic contained a tête bêche pair, a copy with the Arms inverted, and another with "Arms."

Mr. Wane had three exhibits of Persia, but without any description, and some of the copies were by no means fine.

Some two or three cases were filled with interesting stamps shown by Mr. Wickhart and Mr. Heginbottom, which were not entered for competition.



Notable Philatelists.

H. J. Crocker.

TO everyone having any knowledge of Philately in the States, the name of our Notable Philatelist this month will be perfectly familiar, while most of those who have had the fortune to visit the States and to go west, have a pleasant recollection of the princely hospitality ever extended by Mr. Crocker to Philatelists coming his way, and the great treat an inspection of his collection always affords.

In these days of specialism general collections in this country of real importance are becoming very few and far between, so much so that with perhaps at the most three exceptions, it would be almost hopeless to say where one could be seen. In the United States, however, specialism does not appear to be so rampant, and in several of the cases where the general collector has become a specialist of one or two countries, he has still retained his general collection and continues adding to it.

This is precisely what has happened in this instance. Mr. Crocker is a general collector to-day, and at the same time is an advanced specialist of Hawaii and Japan.

He commenced collecting as a school-boy thirty years ago, and has kept it up without intermission to the present, with the exception of a break of four years from 1885 to 1889.

He believes in his general collection, which is very complete in detail, containing nearly every stamp that was ever issued, omitting, of course, some of the unobtainables.

As evidencing the model upon which the collection is built, we will take as an example Great Britain, where we find the plate numbers complete, including a specimen claimed to be 77 of the one penny, Plate 17 of the fourpence green, Plate 2 of the tenpenny, Plate 13 of the sixpence chestnut, and mint specimens of the one pound, wmk. Anchor and Cross.

The most valuable portion of the collection is, as one might reasonably expect, that of the United States and "Colonies," and it is worthy of mention, as showing how the collection is kept up-to-date, that amongst them are to be found the 1 cent, 2 cents and 4 cents Pan-American, inverted.

Japan is a prime favourite to-day and has been so for some little time with Mr. Crocker, who made the discovery himself of the two plates of the 48 mons. some years ago, although they were known to specialists here when that happened. Yet the American collectors do not seem to have been acquainted with them until Mr. Crocker's discovery was spoken of by him, and he has naturally acquired the local reputation of being the first to notice them.

Notable Philatelists.



H. J. Crocker.

His Hawaii is probably the finest specialised collection of this country in existence, its value running into over £5,000 at catalogue prices.

In spite of having what may be termed a colossal collection, yet Mr. Crocker does not by any means confine himself to stamps. He is an extremely busy business man, being the owner of the oldest and most extensive printing and lithography business in California, Vice-President of a Bank, Director of another Bank, President of a Railroad, engaged in a lumber business, and Director of a Life Insurance Company—a typical successful American, finding time to organise the Horse Shows which have become so noted in San Francisco, and which he seldom leaves without several firsts for either the four-in-hand class, carriage class, etc. Particularly fond of horses, he is an excellent whip, and had the honour of having the late President McKinley for a couple of hours on his coach during his visit to "Frisco." We also recall the pleasures derived from his coach by the members of the American Philatelic Convention recently meeting in San Francisco and the photos of it which were reproduced in the *American Journal* at the time, giving the official report of the Convention doings.

To finish as we began, we cannot lay too much stress, especially at the present time, upon the thoroughness with which Mr. Crocker collects generally, not overdoing any part of his general collection, nor forsaking any part of it because he chooses to specialise one country at a time. His collection is truly cosmopolitan, if we may use the word. Whether, for instance, Transvaals are to the front, you can turn over the leaves and there find the inverted surcharges, wide roulettes, etc., or Cuba or the Philippines, where you have the first issue in sufficient numbers to be interesting. Maybe it is Peru or Australia you wish to see; well, turn over again, and you will find the "good goods," many of which, Mr. Crocker adds, "I gathered before the rise." The charm is, however, that they are *there* and have not been sold because he wanted to specialise Hawaii.



Decree.

United States of Columbia.

Decree No. 1463 of the 27th December, 1901, by which certain kinds of postage stamps are to be put into circulation again.

The Vice-President of the Republic having full executive powers, and in the execution of his legal faculties, and considering :—

That the stock of certain postal values is nearly exhausted at the Head Office of the Posts and Telegraphs.

That there exists in the said office a large quantity of old issues withdrawn from circulation by decree 1960 of the 4th July, 1892.

That the contract with M. Demetrio Paredes for the manufacture of postage stamps has lapsed long ago.

That there are insurmountable difficulties on account of the war for the quick and good manufacture of a new issue of postage stamps. Therefore some easy means must be found to replace, as occasion arises, the stock of these values, to avoid any loss which their absence may cause to the postal revenue.

DECREES :—

Art. I. The circulation of some former issues of postage stamps, prohibited to be used by decree No. 1960 of the 4th of July, 1892, be re-established ; and consequently, in order to avoid all fraud and to show that they have been put again into circulation, the date of the next year to come will be printed thereon in ink varying in colour from the stamps.

Art. II. A Special Commission of three persons, selected by the Postmaster-General, will be appointed to receive the postage stamps mentioned, their classes and values fully detailed, so that they can hand them over to the Director of the National Printing Works, in order that the foregoing paragraph may be given effect to.

The Director of the Printing Works will have thirty days from the date that he receives the stamps to return the various values to the Head Office of Posts and Telegraphs surcharged.

Given in Bogota, 27th of December, 1901.

JOSÉ MANUEL MARROQUIN.

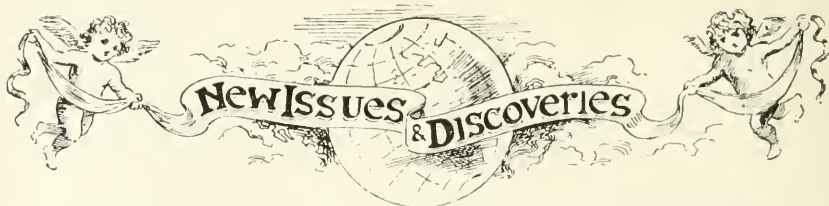
The Minister : GUILLERMO QUINTERO C.

The stamps thus put into circulation again will be, so we are informed, the following :—

1886 issue : 1, 2, 5, 10, 20c., 20c. retouched, 50c., 1, 5 and 10 peso, 2½c. (retardo), and 10c. (registration).

1890 issue : 1, 2, 5, 10 and 20c.

1893 issue : 5c.



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. FRED. H. GIBSON, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester.

The British Empire.

Gambia.—Though not yet received, the stamps specified below complete the set, of which we have already chronicled the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d. and 3d.

Adhesives.

2d., orange-red and lilac, wmk. crown, C.A., perf. 14.	
$\frac{1}{2}$ d., ultramarine "
4d., brown and blue "
6d., green and carmine "
1s., violet and green "
2s., grey and buff "

Great Britain.—The new 5d. is now to hand. *Ewen's Weekly* states that the first recorded date of sale was May 15th.

Adhesive.

5d., lilac and blue, wmk. crown, perf. 14.

We were aware when we gave the list of official stamps in our March number that it was probably incomplete, and we have since seen two varieties not there mentioned, the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green surcharged for use in the Royal Households, and the 2d. Office of Works.

Adhesives.

Surcharged for Official use.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., green (1902)	..	R. H. surcharged Official in black.
		O. W.
2d., green and carmine (1902)	..	Official ..

Grenada.—To *Ewen's Weekly* we are indebted for the undermentioned particulars of the new set.

Adhesives.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., lilac and green, wmk. crown, C.A., perf. 14.	
1d., carmine, " "
2d., brown, " "
$\frac{1}{2}$ d., blue, " "
3d., ochre, " "
6d., green, " "
1s., green and ochre, " "
2s., blue, " "
5s., carmine, " "
10s., mauve, " "

India.—Latest advices are to the effect that the new stamps will not be issued until early in 1903.

Mauritius.—Continental Exchanges give particulars, probably derived from "Specimen" sets, of eight new denominations, particulars of which we give.

The design of the lower values is the same as that of the current set, while in the 1, 2.50 and 5 rupees, which are much larger, it is similar, though more elaborated and the inscription "Postage & Revenue" has been added.

Adhesives.

Wmk. crown and C.A., perf. 14.

5c., grey-violet and lilac on yellow.
8c., green and black
12c., grey-black and carmine on white.
25c., green and carmine on pale green.
50c., grey-green and dark green on yellow.
1r., dark grey and carmine on white.
2r. 50c., sea-green and black on sky blue.
5r., lilac and carmine on red.

New South Wales.—Mr. J. W. Jones advises us of the receipt of the current 1d. and 2d., perforated $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$, on chalk-surfaced paper.

New Zealand.—The perforations, etc., of the stamps of this Colony will soon become far too complicated for us to attempt to chronicle all the varieties; the latest to hand are the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d., perf. 14-15, and without watermark—our correspondent informing us there was a temporary shortage of watermarked paper.

Adhesives.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., green, perf. 14-15, no wmk.
1d., carmine, "

Straits Settlements.—*Ewen's Weekly* mentions that another value besides the 8c. referred to last month has been issued.

Adhesive.

3 cents, lilac and red, wmk. crown and C.A., perf. 14.

Transvaal.—Mr. Tamsen informs us that the 3d. and 4d. values of the 1896 issue have been issued with the overprint E.R.I. The stamps were first sold at Pretoria on May 22nd, and all the stock was bought the same day. A further supply is, however, expected. We understand the 4d. value is much in request for registration fee, but there is little postal demand for the lower value.

Adhesives.

E.R.I. Series.

3d., reddish-purple and green.
4d., sage green and green.

Foreign Countries.

Abyssinia.—Though so far we have not seen a single specimen of the stamps chronicled as having been surcharged "Ethiopic," we understand they are obsolete, the same set now being overprinted "Posta" instead.

Bosnia.—The 20 heller of the current set now appears with value in black.

Adhesive.
20 heller, rosine and black, perf. 12½.

Columbia. PANAMA.—The 10c. registration label has been surcharged "20" (centavos); the overprint is applied over the original value on either side of the word centavos.

Adhesive.
10c., red on white, Registration label, surcharged "20" in blue.

Denmark.—We have the 3 öre pale mauve Service stamp, perf. 12½ all round.

Adhesive.
3 öre, pale mauve, perf., 12½.

Dominican Republic.—The printers of the new set described in March have not been long in succumbing to the temptation presented by a bi-coloured stamp. We have just seen the 1 cent with centre inverted.

Adhesive.
1 cent., green and black, error centre inverted.

Finland.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 10 pen of the current set printed in rosine instead of the shade of carmine in which it first appeared.

Adhesive.
10 pen, rosine, perf. 14 × 14½.

France.—We have now received the 20 centimes in the new type illustrated.



Adhesive.
20c., brown-lilac.

NEW CALEDONIA.—We omitted to mention in our last that of course the 5 and 15c. provisional exist with inverted surcharges.

Adhesive.
N.-C.E. 5 on 30c., brown. Variety, surcharge inverted
N.-C.E. 15 on 50c., vermilion

ZANZIBAR.—The 50c. Peace and Commerce design, type A, has been surcharged 5 annas for use here.

Germany.—The 2 mark of the Deutsches Reich set has not had a very long life. The stamp has been entirely redrawn, the inscriptions being in Roman characters instead of in German as before, the shading of the background has been modified, the ornaments round the design enlarged, while the eagles at the lower corners are on a plain background instead of a dotted one as previously.

Iceland.—Messrs. Kirkpatrick & Pemberton send us the 10 öre official stamp, perf. 12½ all round; it is also now printed in a bright ultramarine.

Adhesive.
10 öre, bright ultramarine, perf. 12½.

Persia.—There are five more denominations of the type-set provisionals chronicled in May. We illustrate one value below; with regard to the control marks, we understand that the lion, etc., in red, is employed for the stamps used from Teheran, while the black "Provisoire 1319" is in use at Tabriz.



10 ch., yellow, yellow burelé, control mark in red.
1 kran, violet, blue " " " "
2 kran, green, " " " "
10 " blue, " " " "
50 " red, " " " "

Peru.—The 10 soles, pale green, has been surcharged "Deficit Cinco Centavos" in two lines for use as an unpaid letter stamp of this value.

Adhesive.
10 soles, pale green, surcharged "Deficit Cinco Centavos," in black.

Portugal.—As our readers probably already know, the large unsold stock of Portuguese Colonials are being surcharged with new values. The numbers are enormous, and we doubt whether the authorities will find even this method of working them off successful. We are enabled to give the following list of the new varieties. We have to apologise for its length, but as we believe

it to be complete and accurate we think it worth putting on record.

ANGOLA.— *Adhesives.*

65 on 40 reis of 1886.
65 " 300 " 1886.
65 " 5 " 1893-4.
65 " 10 " "
65 " 20 " "
65 " 25 " "
115 " 10 " 1886.
115 " 200 " "
115 " 80 " 1893-4.
115 " 100 " "
115 " 150 " "
130 " 50 " 1886.
130 " 100 " "
130 " 15 " 1893-4.
130 " 75 " "
130 " 300 " "
400 " 5 " 1886.
400 " 20 " "
400 " 25 " "
400 " 2½ " 1893-4.
400 " 50 " 1893-4.
400 " 200 " "

CAPE VERDE.— *Adhesives.*

65 on 5 reis of 1886.
65 " 200 " "
65 " 300 " "
65 " 5 " 1893-5.
65 " 10 " "
65 " 20 " "
65 " 100 " "
115 " 10 " 1886.
115 " 20 " "
115 " 5 " 1893-5.
115 " 25 " "
115 " 150 " "
130 " 50 " 1886.
130 " 100 " "
130 " 80 " 1893-5.
130 " 200 " "
400 " 2½ " 1893-5.
400 " 50 " 1886.
400 " 300 " "
400 " 25 " 1893-5.
400 " 50 " "
130 " 75 " "

CONGO.— *Adhesives.*

65 on 15 reis of 1893.
65 " 20 " " "
65 " 25 " " "
65 " 300 " " "
115 " 2½ " " "
115 " 10 " " "
115 " 50 " " "
130 " 5 " " "
130 " 75 " " "
130 " 100 " " "
130 " 80 " " "
400 " 150 " " "
400 " 200 " " "

GUINEA.— *Adhesives.*

65 on 10 reis of 1886.
65 " 20 " " "
65 " 25 " " "
65 " 10 " 1893-4.
65 " 15 " " "
65 " 20 " " "
115 " 40 " 1886.
115 " 50 " " "
115 " 300 " " "
115 " 2½ " 1893-4.
115 " 5 " 1893-4.
115 " 25 " " "
130 " 100 " 1886.
130 " 150 " 1893-4.
130 " 200 " " "
130 " 300 " " "
400 " 5 " 1886.
400 " 200 " " "
400 " 75 " 1893-4.
400 " 80 " " "
400 " 100 " " "
130 " 80 " 1886.

PORTUGUESE INDIES.—

Adhesives.

1 real on 2 tangas of 1885.
2 reis " 4½ reis " "
2½ " " 6 " " "
3 " " 1 tanga " "
2½ tangas on 1½ reis " "
2½ " " 4 tangas " "
5 tangas " 8 " " "
1 real " 6 reis, 1895.
2 reis " 8 tangas " "
2½ " " 9 reis " "
3 " " 4½ " " "
3 " " 1 tanga " "
2½ tangas " 1½ reis " "
5 " " 2 tangas " "
5 " " 4 " " "

LOURENÇO MARQUES.—

Adhesives.

65 on 2½ reis of 1894.
65 " 5 " " "
65 " 15 " " "
65 " 20 " " "
115 " 10 " " "
115 " 200 " " "
115 " 300 " " "
130 " 25 " " "
130 " 80 " " "
130 " 150 " " "
400 " 50 " " "
400 " 75 " " "
400 " 100 " " "

MACAU.—

Adhesives.

6 avos on 10 reis, crown 1877.
6 " " 10 " " 1885.
6 " " 5 reis of 1888.
6 " " 10 " " "
6 " " 40 " " "
6 " " 5 " 1894.
6 " " 10 " " "
6 " " 15 " " "
6 " " 25 " " "
6 " " 80 " " "
6 " " 00 " " "
6 " " 200 " " "
18 " " 20 " 1888.
18 " " 25 " " "
18 " " 80 " " "
18 " " 100 " " "
18 " " 200 " " "
18 " " 300 " " "
18 " " 2½ " 1894.
18 " " 20 " " "
18 " " 50 " " "
18 " " 75 " " "
18 " " 150 " " "
18 " " 300 " " "

MOZAMBIQUE.—

Adhesives.

65 on 20 reis of 1886.
65 " 40 " " "
65 " 200 " " "
65 " 10 " 1893-4.
65 " 15 " " "
65 " 20 " " "
115 " 5 " 1886.
115 " 50 " " "
115 " 2½ " 1893-4.
115 " 5 " 1893-4.
115 " 25 " " "
130 " 25 " 1886.
130 " 300 " " "
130 " 75 " 1893-4.
130 " 100 " " "
130 " 150 " " "
130 " 200 " " "
400 " 70 " 1886.
400 " 100 " " "
400 " 50 " 1893-4.
400 " 80 " " "
400 " 300 " " "

S. THOMAS E PRINCE.—

Adhesives.

65 on 20	reis of 1887.
65 "	25 " "
65 "	100 " "
65 "	5 " 1893-5.
65 "	10 " "
65 "	15 " "
65 "	20 " "
115 "	50 " 1870.
115 "	10 " 1887.
115 "	300 " "
115 "	25 " 1893-5.
115 "	150 " "
115 "	200 " "
130 "	5 " 1887.
130 "	200 " "
130 "	75 " 1893-5.
130 "	100 " "
130 "	300 " "
400 "	10 " 1870.
400 "	40 " 1887.
400 "	50 " "
400 "	2½ " 1895.
400 "	50 " 1893-5.
400 "	80 " "

TIMOR.—

Adhesives.

5 avos on 25	reis of 1887.
5 "	200 " "
5 "	5 " 1893-4.
5 "	25 " "
5 "	50 " "
6 "	10 " 1887.
6 "	300 " "
6 "	2½ " 1894.
6 "	20 " 1893-5.
9 "	40 " 1887.
9 "	100 " "
9 "	15 " "
9 "	75 " "
15 "	20 " 1887.
15 "	50 " "
15 "	10 " 1893-5.
15 "	100 " "
15 "	300 " "
22 "	80 " 1887.
22 "	50 " 1893-5.
22 "	200 " "

ZAMBEZIA.—

Adhesives.

65 reis on 10	reis of 1894.
65 "	15 " "
65 "	20 " "
65 "	300 " "
115 "	5 " "
115 "	25 " "
115 "	80 " "
130 "	2½ " "
130 "	75 " "
130 "	150 " "
400 "	50 " "
400 "	100 " "
400 "	200 " "

Spain. FERNANDO PO.—The *Madrid Fileteluco* gives the following particulars as to colours and numbers of the forthcoming new set :—

5 centimos,	green,	10,000
10 "	blue,	10,000
25 "	carmine,	30,000
50 "	black-brown,	30,000
75 "	lilac,	25,000
1 peseta,	rose,	20,000
2 pesetas,	bronze-green,	5,000
5 "	vermillion,	2,000

Uruguay.—Seven values of the current set now come surcharged for official use. The overprint is applied diagonally in fancy capitals.

Adhesives.

1c.,	green, surcharged "Official" in black.	
2c.,	vermillion,	do.
5c.,	blue,	do.
10c.,	lilac,	do.
20c.,	pale blue (1900),	do.
25c.,	brown,	do.
1\$,	dark green,	do.

Philately in the Mags.

France: a Discovery and a Retrospect.

In the January number we published M. Mahé's discovery of two French stamps (Empire type, 20c. blue, 40c. orange), imperforate horizontally. We also gave an account by M. Marconnet of the method employed in perforating the French stamps, and his explanation of how such varieties could exist.

In giving this information to our readers we ventured upon a few critical observations, pointing to the fact that in our opinion M. Marconnet was wrong in his premises.

M. Marconnet's description of how imperforate horizontally specimens (in pairs) could *accidentally* be the product of a comb machine was more ingenious than anything else. Pairs imperforate either horizontally or vertically, are invariably, so far as we know at present, the outcome of a single-line machine; and this has since been shown to be the case also in the French stamps referred to. Curiously enough, in

the following number of the same paper (*L'Echo*), another correspondent announced that he had had for some years in his collection a pair of the 20c. of the 1862 issue, imperforate vertically. Now this could not under any possible combination of circumstances be the product of a comb machine. Single-line machines must have been employed to perforate some of the early issues of the Empire series, and it is quite possible that some of them may be private perforations because, as Major Evans has pointed out in the *Monthly Journal*, the date given by *The Philatelic Record* of the obliterations in the first two pairs forming M. Mahé's discovery are before the date given by M. Marconnet in his book on the Stamps of France as being that when the Government first used the perforating machines. It is curious that this fact escaped M. Marconnet; the gallant Major, however, is always so very wide awake.

France: The 20 centimes, blue, Empire, imperf.

We have been asked several times to continue the study of the French stamps of 1853-4. Having already given particulars of the 10c., bistre, we will now speak of the 20c., blue, July 1st, 1854. It is the French stamp which shows the greatest variety of colour and paper, and it is most difficult to give a detailed list of the different thicknesses of paper, and to specify which shade of blue is found on such and such a paper. We will, however, note the peculiarities which we have discovered, as far as we have met with them, and will proceed in chronological order.

The first stamps which appeared are in dull blue, some are almost pearl-grey, the paper being of a blue or grey tint. The blue deepens a little towards the end of the year, and the paper is deeper grey or yellowish. In 1855 the blue is slightly more intense without being dark, and bluish and yellowish papers are found, and towards the month of May the paper is tinted green, this being the chief variety of the 20c. stamp. The first paper shews two very distinct tones, one blue-green, the other sea-green. On the former the blue is very deep, but on the latter very light. In our opinion this cannot be a mere error, but a very characteristic instance of an impression on coloured paper. We have before us letters franked by these stamps dated in May and June and posted in different places—Paris, Belfort, Vire, Roubaix, Savigny, Lille, &c. The error would have been all the more important, as we find these stamps again on green some years later, but a green of quite a different shade.

The blue increases more and more in 1856, reaching a navy blue almost black, the variations of this shade being at least fifteen, the darkest shade occurring towards the month of July, and the paper being grey rather than azure and wanting in consistency. Another printing of the same blue was done upon grey, and the yellowish foundation gives to the stamp a peculiar appearance.

After August the blue decreases somewhat, although still of the navy blue shade; but in 1857 it becomes pale sky blue. About the middle of the following year the paper frequently changes colour, for we find it very deep grey-violet, violet-grey, violet, mauve, lilac, and lilac-rose, but we have never seen it absolutely rose, such specimens as are known being on blue paper rose tinted. On all these papers the stamps are invariably light blue, and often extremely pale. In 1859 the tinted papers continue, dark and light grey, bluish and lilac being found, and in this year the printing also begins to be defective.

In 1860, after fair printing, we have stamps in which it is extremely imperfect. Fillets are missing, inscriptions are indistinct, the lines of engraving on the face

are broken and full of faults. The foundation is often of a dirty or yellowish grey, the paper, however, being quite strong. Suddenly, towards the end of the year, this bad printing ceases, and we come to magnificent impressions on very slightly bluish paper in very decided blue. This good work continues through the first months of the next year—on very pale azure or light mauve paper; and we have even seen a stamp on unmistakably dark violet. In April we find green paper again, but this time yellowish, the blue being almost the same, in the shade of the ordinary stamp. The regular blue changes only in 1862, when it loses its brilliancy, the paper being tinted grey or azure.

To sum up, the blues of these stamps can be catalogued as under, according to the dates of issue:—

1. Pale dull blue	paper bluish.
2. Grey-blue	" grey.
3. Dull blue	" yellowish-grey.
4. Blue	" azure.
5. "	" yellowish.
6. Deep blue	" blue-green.
7. Light blue	" sea green.
8. Light navy blue	" grey.
9. Navy blue	" "
10. "	" yellowish.
11. Deep navy blue	" grey.
12. Very deep navy blue	" "
13. Black blue	" "
14. Pale	" azure.
15. Sky	" "
16. Blue	" deep grey-violet.
17. "	" violet-grey.
18. "	" violet.
19. "	" mauve.
20. "	" lilac.
21. "	" lilac-rose.
22. " (defective printing)	" azure.
23. "	" grey.
24. Brilliant blue (good printing)	" light azure.
25. Deep	" mauve.
26. Brilliant blue	" deep violet.
27. Dull blue	" bluish.
28. "	" grey.

Each of these blues can be found in shades, but our space is limited. We give all these varieties because they exist and ought to be chronicled, and not to advise collectors to secure them all, for it is evident that the enumeration of about 250 variations of a single stamp can only have a documentary interest.—*La Cote Réelle des Timbres-Postes.*

Argentine Confederation.

Mr. B. T. K. Smith writing in *Alfred Smith & Sons' Monthly Circular* says: In 1866 his firm received from its correspondent in Buenos Aires, Sr. A. M. Alvarez de Arenales, some sheets of the "large figure" 10 and 15 centavos of the Argentine Confederation. These two varieties were an entirely new discovery, the only kinds then known being the following:—

<i>Large figure.</i>	5 centavos (Feb., 1858).
<i>Small figure.</i>	5 centavos (Dec., 1858).
	10 " (" ").
	15 " (" ").

The dates are those given at the time by Berger-Levrault, and were the merest guess-work. It is now evident that they were

wrong, but they seem to have fixed in collectors' heads the idea that the large figure 5c. was issued first. This idea became an article of faith, and so we find the editor of the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* crushing a correspondent's arithmetical calculations (Vol. V., 174) with the triumphant note, "What does G. B. say to the fact, that all the postmarked copies of the 5 cents., large figures, known bear the earliest obliterating mark, and that the small figures 5, 10 and 15 rarely bear this, but often carry a different mark?" The "earliest obliterating mark" was a creature of imagination, and I mention the belief that created it only because it brought an element of confusion into a long and complicated discussion.

It is important to observe that the possessors of these stamps did not assert for a moment that the large figure 10 and 15c. stamps had been in use, but only that they were "veritable stamps, printed and prepared for circulation, but never issued."

Early in the following year Sr. Alvarez de Arenales wrote to Colonel Jerónimo Espejo, who had been charged with the inspection of the manufacture of these stamps in 1857, asking for information. The correspondence was published in full in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, the essential part being the following official statement:—

"From December 21st, 1857, to February 5th, 1858, it is shown that the Accountant-General's office received from the office of the Finance Minister, in various parcels, to be put into circulation . . . the following:—

4,571 sheets of 192 and 216 stamps of 5c. = 975,912.
1,306 " " 192 and 216 " " 10c. = 279,600.
653 " " 192 and 216 " " 15c. = 139,800."

Now, as it is and always has been known that the sheets with large figures all contain 192 stamps each and those with small figures 216 each, it is as clear as daylight that complete sets of both types were prepared and handed over. The chief opponent of the large figure 10 and 15c., Mr. E. L. Pemberton, who believed them to be reprints* solely because "the paper was thicker with a very slight bluish tinge" whereas the originals of the small figure type were on "paper more yellow and of less substance" was forced in defence of his theory to suppose that the above statement referred to small figure stamps only, and that "the first sheets of small figures contained 192 impressions and afterwards 216;" a case, as the S. C. M. dryly remarked, of "things which everyone has heard of, against things which no one has heard of."

Continuing the statement above, "This account was balanced on December 31st,

* The question may be asked: What did Mr. Pemberton mean by calling them reprints? The expression was loosely used. He believed the large figure 5c. then coming on the market to be reprints, and the large figure 10 and 15c. that came with them to be fancy novelties for collectors, "though," he added, "the latter are possibly reprints from old dies." The admission that "old dies" might exist was curious, and not likely to advance his own case.

1858, and the following stock was passed to the year 1859:—

3,741 sheets of 192 and 216 stamps of 5c. = 799,632
995 " " 192 and 216 " " 10c. = 212,424.
364 " " 192 and 216 " " 15c. = 77,376."

A comparison of the two accounts gives the following quantities sold:—5c. (179,280), 10c. (67,176), 15c. (62,424), and these quantities being divisible by 216 and not divisible by 192, it demonstrated that the stamps sold up to that date were of the small figure type only.

In February, 1868, Mr. Jas. J. Woods, a correspondent of the *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, made an arithmetical analysis of the first account given above and found that "the combination of sheets of 192 and 216 stamps which would produce the totals, both of sheets and stamps given" was as follows:—

4,095 sheets of 5c., small figures.
476 " " 5c., large figures.
1,202 " " 10c., small figures.
104 " " 10c., large figures.
601 " " 15c., small figures.
52 " " 15c., large figures.

The calculation has been exactly confirmed by the late discovery of the official record, and is important because the comparatively small quantities of the "large figure" stamps lent strength to the S. C. M.'s theory, which has never been upset to the present day. This is what the S. C. M. wrote, in reply to Mr. Pemberton:—

"Our correspondent ridicules the idea of the accidental retention in stock of the large figure, but this might result from so trivial a cause as the placing of the folds of sheets of this type, when the whole of the supply was handed to the post-office, below the sheets of small figure. The latter would then, being uppermost, be taken first, and as a large remainder was returned, it is not surprising that in such case the sheets placed below were not reached. That the non-issue of the large figure was due to accident we fully believe, and more than one probable and reasonable accident may be supposed as the cause."

In 1869, S. C. M. published another official document which proved that the large figure stamps could not be "recent reprints," as the stock (contained in three packages) of which they formed part was brought from the Audit-office of Paraná and placed in the archives at Buenos Aires as far back as 1862. It also explained why the manufacture of the stamps in sheets of 192 was quickly changed for that of sheets of 216. The latter was more economical than the former, especially as the sheet of 192 was made of two panes of 96 stamps, each pane printed apparently at a separate operation.

This was the end of the discussion. It was extraordinarily tedious and complicated, though I have tried to put it as simply as I can. Few collectors, I suppose, had the patience to examine it, and Pemberton's

was a name to conjure with. In his *Philatelic Catalogue* (1874) he again declared them "worthless," and appealed to Mr. J. K. Tiffany's "able analysis" of the statistics (*Phil. Journal*, 1872) as his authority. This analysis was a fearful production, in which the writer based his calculation on a "combination" ostensibly official, but in reality of his own invention. Not content with this support, Mr. Pemberton boldly stated that "it has been attempted to prove that a large number of both 10 and 15 cents [large-figures] were really used for postage." I have already said that the supporters of these stamps never made any such claim. And all this time he seems to have had a secret doubt in his mind, for he made the strange admission that they "were possibly essays," and in his later catalogue he no longer abused them, but simply said they "were never issued for public use."

M. Moens took no part in the dispute. In his opinion the stamps were too fresh-looking to be originals. Besides, he had learnt from what he darkly describes as "a work" by Sr. G. A. de Posadas, the Administrator-General of Posts at Buenos Aires, "that the 5 centavos only had been redrawn ("refait") at Paraná."* Twelve years later, in 1879, the *Timbre-Poste* published an article in which the apparent contrary was stated:—that the small-figure 5, 10 and 15c. were printed in 1858 at Paraná and the large-figure 5c. at Rosario in 1861, the latter being a temporary issue during the war. The writer of the article also believed that all used specimens of the large-figure 5c. bore the Rosario postmark. No authority whatever is given for the strange statement regarding the Rosario printing (and no attempt made to reconcile it with the official statistics, to which it is diametrically opposed), nor for the further information that the large-figure 5c. was reprinted in 1868, the large-figure 10 and 15c. being "created" at the same time. This is palpable fiction, since, as I said at the beginning, the much discussed impressions reached England in 1866.

I will now explain my object in raising the ghost of an old controversy. Dr. José Marcó del Pont, a great South American Philatelist, has just published a monograph on the *Sellos postales de la Confederación Argentina*. He has unearthed the originals of the documents published here in the sixties, together with a quantity of other documents and statistics, and has produced what I admit is a valuable study of the

* The value of any testimony from Sr. Posadas may be judged from the fact that in 1863, when he was shown the large-figure 5 centavos, it came upon him as a surprise, and he could explain its existence only by supposing that it was a forgery of European manufacture.

stamps in question. But he appears to be entirely ignorant of the fact that the most important documents of all, those which prove that the large and small figures were printed at the same period, are no novelties. He pretends that now he has published them they will be "a revelation for collectors." Dr. del Pont's work, of course, will be translated into English* and French, and his "discovery" will be applauded loudly enough, the Philatelic world being very willing to take a specialist at his own valuation. I do not know who was the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* writer: it may have been Mr. Overy Taylor, or Alfred Smith, or both. In any case the honour is due to the one who wrote thirty-five years ago in England, and I am anxious that it should not go abroad without a protest.

Destruction of the Stock of the German Issue of 1900.

We hear from Berlin that the stamps of this issue have just been burned. Their nominal value was nearly 5,000,000 francs, and the weight 10,000 kilos. The operation only took a few hours.—*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*.

The Post Office and the "Germanisation" of Poland.

We quote the following passage from Mr. W. Beaumont's work "La Prusse et les Polonaise":—

"The post—the service which above all others ought to be neutral—is becoming in its turn a means of 'Germanisation.' Letters addressed in Polish, or having the name of the town to which they are sent spelled according to Polish custom, are only delivered after three or four days' delay, 'having passed through the translation bureau of Posen,' as a specially stamped inscription indicates.¹ In spite of the international postal regulations, telegrams from Austria addressed to Poznan—the Polish name of Posen—are not despatched, and the office of Lemberg has been informed that there is no town of that name in Prussia. These paltry irritations are the more unbearable as they are of daily occurrence and affect a population whose nerves are almost strained to breaking."

¹ This translation bureau is a pure farce, almost all the postal employees of Posen understanding Polish. Besides, we have seen a photograph of a postcard addressed entirely in Hebrew characters, quite incomprehensible to any but a Jew, the name of the town, Strelno, alone being in Latin letters. Nevertheless, it was delivered at once without passing through the translation bureau."

—*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*.

* A true prophecy. The first instalment appeared in the *Monthly Journal* coming to hand a week after this article.—Ed.

Notes and News.

French Perforations.

A correspondent to a French contemporary writes that the perforation first used for the Empire issue is remarkable for its defects. He possesses two stamps of 5c., one of 10c., and one of 20c., from which the inscription "Empire Français" is entirely absent; one stamp each of 5, 10 and 20c., from which this inscription is absent at the top, but appears at the bottom; the 20c., in which the inscription 20c POSTES 20c. is at the top; another in which the vertical perforation touches the back of the head of the Emperor; and still another, in which his nose is nearly perforated.

The following issue, Napoleon laureated, also shows defects, but they are not so pronounced. The perforation of the 1871-1875 issues is a decided improvement, but in the allegorical issue the faults commence again, he possessing 38 stamps with defective perforation, e.g., double, part perforations in wrong places, caused by creases, &c.

All this is, however, insignificant when compared with the stamps of the current issue, of which no less than 36 defective types are known.

In conclusion, the same correspondent says that the manufacture of the French stamps was most carefully executed at the end of the Empire and the beginning of the Republic, but is to-day of a decided and culpable inferiority. There is not a single country in the world in which the stamps are more defective owing to carelessness than those manufactured under the administration of M. Mougeot.

The Wiles of Greece: or, What Necks!

(GREECE.—In a new design there is a profile of a young lady with Mercury's helmet and a very long neck. What the object of these may be, besides the raising of revenue from collectors, we do not understand.)

The *exegesis* of the somewhat cryptic formula "A. M." in the spandrels offers the Philatelist with a turn for philology a fair field for contemplative research. The following free rendering must not of course be taken too seriously, but I have been told that a literal interpretation of "A. M." is "After Money," *id. est.* A = "after," M = "money." Another rendering is "Anno Mundi"—in the year of the world—the inference being that Olympian little games have been going on since "the year one"—that is to say, for a considerable period;—and yet another "Anno Mundi" by the 'ear of the word—implying, idiomatically, that the new issue has the world "by the ear," or, as we should put it, is "pulling our leg."

The Σ. Κ. Φ. (a bi-weekly Philatelic paper of repute)—or it may have been the *M. J.*—gives as a solution of the enigma *Axia Metalliki*. This sounds clever, but I don't know what it means. All conjecture is, however, purely hypothetical.—*Philatelic Journal of India*.

Bavaria.

Some entire sheets of the early issues of the stamps of Bavaria have lately been discovered and have come on the market.

A Few Perforations.

The Austrian stamps of 1 kreuzer, 1890-1891 issue, are said to exist in 22 perforations, the 2 kreuzer in 29, the 3 kreuzer in 30, and the 5 kreuzer in 32. What a field for a specialist in perforations!

Caught Napping.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—*The Philatelic Record* contains an interesting note by Mr. W. Dorning Beckton on the subject of retouches of the 2d. "Diadem" type of the 1860 issue. We are surprised, however, at finding that Mr. Beckton states that it was only recently that he "saw the first intimation in print I remember having noticed on the retouch of the twopenny Diadem," as a very full description of the plate on which the retouching took place was published in *The Philatelic Record* for November, 1890. Dr. Houison, the author of the paper we allude to, shows that there were two plates of this value, on the second of which the impressions were more regularly placed (and we believe also rather wider apart) than on the first, thus rendering the sheets more suitable for perforation. The retouches extended over a block of four stamps, and were due to an injury to the plate caused by overheating. According to the history, stamps showing these retouches should only exist perforated, as there were no signs of retouching on the earlier plate, from which the imperforate stamps were printed. Moens catalogued the retouched stamps in 1892, but as perf. 12 only.—*The Monthly Journal*.

Next month we shall have much pleasure, through the kindness of a well-known Philatelist, in correcting history as to the imperforate stamps.

Destructive Fire at a Philatelic Printing Works.

Just upon going to press last month, information reached us of the total destruction by fire of the well-known printing works belonging to Messrs Brendon & Sons, of Plymouth. This firm have printed many Philatelic Journals and works, and are the

present printers of "*The London Philatelist*," and "*Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal*." The latter journal in a notice of the fire in the May number, which was a week late, a most exceptional occurrence for this Journal, in consequence no doubt of it, mentions the heavy loss, amounting to over 30,000 volumes, chiefly albums, which has fallen upon Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. In addition to these books, the firm have lost a new stock of fine paper, which had only just been delivered, and was to be used to print an edition of 25,000 of a new book, entitled "*Stamp Collecting as a Pastime*," by Mr. E. J. Nankivell. We gather from another source that the manuscript of this book was also in the flames, but fortunately the author kept a duplicate. A wise precaution.

Varieties of New German.

The official stamps of Württemberg, we are informed, are still in use, and we trust they may continue so until, at least, the German Postal Department has recovered from the chaotic condition into which it has so suddenly lapsed. Apart altogether from errors in the new issue which have already been chronicled, there are two distinct types of the 5 marks and of the 2 marks. In the latter stamp, one type has part of the inscription in old German letters, and the

other type is all in Latin characters. The stamp is, we admit, very paltry for a great Empire, and requires something added to give it some semblance of dignity. This may be the excuse. We extend our sympathy to our friends, and suggest to the Department the trial of Greek characters with the object of giving to the stamp some little claim to classic distinction. If this be still unsatisfactory, there remain the alternatives of Persian, Russian, Chinese, &c. When all have failed, perhaps it will at last dawn upon the responsible authorities that picture stamps are all very well for pettifogging Republics, but are not suitable for a country properly claiming to be a great Empire. The new German Customs tariff introduces an import duty of 20mk. per 22½lbs. on unused stamps, or about 1d. per lb. Used stamps are considered as waste material and free.

Some Rarities of Holland.

According to the *Ned Tijdschrift* the following are the rarest stamps of Holland and Colonies.

Holland 10c.,	Type I.,	perf. 10½.
" 15c.,	" I.,	"
" 15c.,	" II.,	"
" 20c.,	" I.,	"
" 25c.,	" II.,	perf. 14 × 14.
Curaçao Unpaid 25c.,	" II.,	
Suriname "	10c.,	" II.

Correspondence.

New Zealand ½d. Green, perf. 11 × 14.

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

SIR,—Your February number quotes a New Zealand ½d. green, perf. 11 × 14. Probably you are aware by this time that the Universal penny was also perf. 11 × 14.

This was caused by the new machine going wrong, and the half-perforated sheets were finished off with the old one.

I have a full sheet of our pink 6d. that are only perforated 11 downwards, being imperforate vertically.

On page 31 of the same number, there are some remarks on the colour shades of the Luxemburg stamps. I have seen two distinct shades of our 2d. on the *same* sheet, the stamps on one side being several shades deeper than on the other. Can you explain this?

New Zealand,
12th April, 1902.

GEO. T. JAMES.

[The fact to which our correspondent calls attention is by no means an uncommon one, and occurs to our knowledge on the sheets of stamps of many countries. The most interesting examples we can recall at the time of writing are the triangular Capes. When the sheets of these stamps turned up a few years ago, it was found that the shades

varied in this way, especially in the 6d. and 1s. values, the latter stamps in one corner being very light emerald green, while in the other, they were the normal emerald green. Mr. Vernon Roberts has a large block of each shade, and looking at them in his collection as they stand to-day, no one would at first believe the blocks had come from the same sheet. The cause in all instances is of course the uneven application of the printing ink to the plates.—ED.]

New Issue of St. Helena.

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

DEAR SIR,—It may be of interest to some of your readers to know that the new issue St. Helena (there are only the ½d. and 1d. values so far) is printed in sheets of 120, two panes of 60 each, divided vertically by the usual narrow blank space. Both panes are surrounded by a thick coloured line,—“the Jubilee line”—and over or below the second stamp from each corner in the top and bottom rows is the Plate No. in white, on circular coloured ground, in this case, Plate I.—Yours faithfully,

J. H. ROSKILLY.

St. Albans,
11/6 02.

THE

Philatelic Record.

JULY, 1902.

Editorial Notes.

IT will, we think, be generally admitted that the past decade has been the most momentous one in the annals of Philately. During this time, the pursuit has made immense strides in every direction, and, like everything else, has had its ups and downs, periods of excessive elation being followed by those of considerable depression. Of these extremes the one is as harmful as the other, and it does not require a philosopher to point out that safety can only be found in a middle course. This course the Philatelic Society of London has consistently adopted, and the success which it has achieved by so doing is demonstrated by the fact that it is recognised on all sides to-day as the premier Society of the world.

**The Event
of
the Month.**

Philatelists, whether members or not, cannot therefore be indifferent to its proceedings, especially when an event occurs of no less importance than the resignation of the Vice-President, who, under the special circumstances, occupies a position analogous to that of the President in other societies. Without in any way disparaging the share taken by his colleagues in the management of the Society—in fact, they will probably be the first to admit the justice of the observation,—its line of action during the last ten years has been that thought out by its Vice-President, and we know of no one who has personally done more in that time to direct the views and mould the thoughts of collectors than Mr. M. P. Castle. The policy of the one is the policy of the other; or in other words, from this point of view the London Philatelic Society and Mr. Castle are synonymous.

Having regard to what we have already said as to the work and influence of the Society, higher praise of the individual and what he has accomplished is impossible. In voluntarily going into retirement, Mr. Castle carries with him the hearty thanks of all for his energy in the past, and the desire that he will not in any essential degree lose touch with current Philately, a possibility which his fellow-members have wisely avoided by appointing him Honorary Vice-President, and giving him a seat upon the Committee.

WHAT is the future outlook as to stamps of the Official and Unpaid class? That is a question which not a few Philatelists are now and again asking themselves. And as the numbers of such stamps are increasing from year to year by the more than questionable issues of needy States, the problem must sooner or later ripen for solution. And when that time comes, what will happen? We cannot pretend to say, but we can reckon up the trend of opinion.

**The Future
of Officials
and Unpaids.**

Ordinary postal adhesives are bulking up into immense lists as each year's issues are added to each successive catalogue, and it is not a rash thing to say that, in one way or another, the process of limitation must be carried to greater and yet greater lengths. We have relegated postcards, wrappers and envelopes to the limbo of a separate catalogue, and restricted ourselves to the collection of adhesives. Locals are similarly shunted from the general collector's path. Even stamps concerning which there was any doubt as to their having been issued to the public have been thinned out. And yet the cry is, still they come in battalions, in New Issues, in Officials, in Unpaids.

Obviously the work of elimination must be continued even more ruthlessly than heretofore. Therefore, the question will arise, what can we next relegate to a separate catalogue? Who will deny that the next stamps to be attacked must be those of the Official and Unpaid class? They are not of the rank of adhesives sold to the public for ordinary public use. Officials are stamps for use of the inner circle of the official class. Unpaids are, strictly speaking, not postage stamps: they are merely labels indicating that the postage has not been paid. Of the great numbers of Officials and Unpaids that are now included in our catalogues, few, precious few, are honestly issued stamps for honest departmental requirements. The great bulk of both classes are issued for the sole and only purpose of milking stamp collectors. What earthly need can Crete have, for instance, of the long list of Unpaids recently issued. Our own country manages its vast postal system, so far as Unpaids are concerned, with a blue pencil, but a pettifogging, half civilised island needs a long array of Unpaids of both high and low values. And the same absurdity marks the issues of other shady postal systems.

Ergo, Officials and Unpaids are slowly, it may be, but nevertheless surely, ripening for exclusion from all respectable and recognised lists of adhesives. They may betake themselves to a separate catalogue, or to Hades. It matters little, so long as the ordinary catalogue is relieved of their incubus.



Further Notes on the Retouches of the 2d. "Diadem" Type of New South Wales.

By L. L. R. Hausburg.

MR. W. DORNING BECKTON has already described and illustrated the well-known retouch of the perforated 2d. "Diadem," Plate II., in the *Philatelic Record* for April, 1902. Mr. M. P. Castle first described this retouch in the *Philatelic Record* for May, 1890*, and Mr. A. F. Basset Hull in an article in the same Journal, January, 1897, adds the interesting note that he noticed the pair of stamps, the left one of which Mr. Castle describes, in the collection of Lieut. Beddome in 1885, and he gives its position on the sheet as No. 45.

Dr. Houison, who appears to have previously examined the plates without finding any trace of retouching, after having seen Mr. Castle's article on the above retouch, applied for permission to inspect the plates of the 1d. and 2d. "Diadem" type. He describes the differences between the two plates of the 2d. in the *Philatelic Record*, Vol. XII., page 198, as follows:—

"The first plate is three-sixteenths of an inch in thickness. It does not show so many signs of wear as the second plate, and, what is of more importance, *there are no traces of retouching about any part of it.*

"The second plate is seven-sixteenths of an inch in thickness. On closely examining it we find distinct traces of re-engraving in places, which must have been done shortly before the plate was put out of use. This I say on account of the freshness and sharpness of the retouches. These retouches extend over a block of four stamps."

He further adds, "the stamp specially described by Mr. Castle is the ninth from the right, in the fifth row from the top," on the plate; that is to say, No. 57, and not No. 45, on the sheet; and he says that Nos. 44, 45, 56 are also retouched. The sheet contained 120 stamps in ten rows, with twelve stamps in each row, and the stamps Nos. 44, 45, 56, 57 on the sheet, form a block of four.

In the stamps shewn in Illustrations I., III. it will be seen that in each case the line above the words TWOPENCE has been partially redrawn, and as this horizontal strip and vertical pair are connected by the presence of the same retouch II. in each, it follows that I., II., III., are Nos. 56, 57, 45 respectively.

The stamps on Plate I., which was ready for use October 10th, 1856, are very irregularly spaced, while those on Plate II., which was ready January 14th, 1860, are more evenly spaced, and much wider apart. The process of perforation was commenced on February 1st, 1860, and

* Vol. XII., page 91.

for the above reason impressions from Plate II. would naturally give better results than those from Plate I., but it must not be imagined that impressions from Plate I. were never perforated, or that impressions from Plate II. were never issued except in the perforated condition.

I have several pairs of the perforated stamps undoubtedly from Plate I., both in the early and worn states, and I have two strips of three, one very early and the other very late state, that could only be from Plate II. The earliest perforated specimen of Plate I. is dated March 20, 1860, and of Plate II. perforated, March 31st, 1860, but a pair of the latter plate dated as early as July 3rd, 1860, already shews considerable signs of wear.

The following letter with reference to the new 2d. plate is of very considerable importance:—

“STAMP OFFICE, 14th January, 1860.

“Sir,—I have the honour, in obedience to your letter of the 12th inst, to acknowledge the receipt of a new twopenny postage stamp plate, of which I would beg to enclose a proof (on plain paper) for your inspection. This plate is a decided improvement on the old one, and being more regularly engraved, has arrived most opportunely for carrying out the process of perforation, which has been authorized by the honourable the Treasurer to come into operation on the 1st proximo.

“With regard to the disposal of the old plate, I would suggest that it be allowed to remain in my custody, to be used only in case of emergency.

“I have, &c.,

“THOMAS RICHARDS,

“*Inspector of Stamps.*”

In spite of Dr. Houson's statement that Plate I. was never retouched, the specimens Nos. IV.—VIII. seem to prove the contrary, but these retouches being of a much less marked character than No. II., might easily escape notice on the plate. Now I have in my collection some twenty retouched specimens from Plate I. but all of these are imperforate, and I have never seen or heard of any of these in the perforated state. It seems difficult to understand how it is that specimens from Plate I. in an early state are found perforated, while the latest of all, shewing the retouches, have, as far as I know, never been seen perforated.

A possible explanation is that when Plate II. and the perforating machine arrived, there were still in stock some of the early printed sheets from Plate I., the sheets first printed naturally being the bottom ones of the pile. These sheets were perforated along with impressions from Plate II.; and, after the arrival of the latter no more were printed from Plate I. But when Plate II. was blistered while being heated for the purpose of printing, Plate I. which most likely by this time had been retouched where necessary, was again put into use. As the sheets printed from this latter plate, by reason of the irregular spacing of the impressions, had been found by the former trial to be unsuitable for perforating, there is little doubt that all this second printing from Plate I. containing the retouches, was issued imperforate.

When Plate I. again came into use, there was most probably a supply of sheets from Plate II. on hand, and as the perforating machine was temporarily out of use during the repair of Plate II., these sheets were no doubt issued imperforate along with the sheets printed from the retouched Plate I.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

I.—Plate II., No. 56. The part of line above the letters PEN of TWOPENCE has been redrawn.

II.—Plate II., No. 57. The engine-turning round the neck has been coarsely redrawn, so that the shape of the bust has been altered, and some of the lines extend on to the words TWOPENCE. The eye and mouth have also been retouched.

III.—Plate II., No. 45. The line above PENCE has been redrawn, and cuts into the top of the letters CE.

Plate II., No. 44. I have not been able to discover a copy of this.

IV.—Plate I. The diadem, eye, and parts of the hair have been redrawn, and the lines of shading on the neck deepened. The engine-turning round the head has been coarsely recut so that the shape of the neck is entirely altered. From the portions of the next stamps in the lower right-hand corner of the pair, it is evident that this retouch belongs to Plate I.

V.—Plate I. The retouch is one of the most interesting, as it is possible to illustrate the different states of the plate. The metal on this particular spot must have become extremely soft, as the retouched stamp, No. 4, shows much more signs of wear than Nos. 1, 2, 3, while the adjacent stamp to No. 4 is almost as sharp an impression as a proof.

In the retouch, the diadem has been almost entirely redrawn, and some of the lines of the hair deepened. The engine-turning of the background shows very considerable signs of wear, but has hardly been touched except just above the head, where the engraver's tool has evidently slipped across the letters AG of POSTAGE. This cut can be seen in 1 and 2, but is hardly visible in 3 and 4.

No. 3, showing portions of the next stamps is sufficient to prove that this retouch is from Plate I.

VI.—Plate I. The words TWOPENCE have been entirely redrawn, and some of the lines of the diadem and hair deepened. The pupil of the eye and the eyebrows are more clearly defined, and the engine-turning of the background is deepened in places, especially above the words TWOPENCE, where several diagonal lines have been added. I have a copy of this variety with a wide margin on the right, proving that it occurs on the right-hand edge of the sheet.

VII.—Plate I. The chief characteristics are some additional lines in the hair between the forehead and ear, and a slight deepening of some of the lines of the diadem. This variety being vertically below VI. must also be from the right-hand edge of the sheet.

It will be seen from the illustration of the block of fifteen that VI. is the stamp immediately above VII. The other copy of VII. shown proves that VI. and VII. are from the right-hand edge of the sheet. From the irregular spacing I think there is no doubt that this block is from Plate I.

VIII.—Plate I. The curls between the forehead and ear are slightly altered, and the lines above and below the words TWOPENCE redrawn, so that the lower one cuts off part of the letters CE.

This retouch is also most likely from Plate I., as the specimen on the right shows that the distances of the stamps above and below are respectively 2 mm. and 1 mm. from it.

The 2d. value was also printed on the paper of the 5d., with watermark double-lined 5, in March, 1857, and again in December, 1858, and was, therefore, from Plate I., as Plate II. did not arrive till January, 1860. No retouches have been found on stamps with this watermark, which is just what would be expected if the stamps from Plate I. in the retouched state were not issued till Plate II. was being repaired.

It is most unfortunate that the plates of the 2d. "Diadem" have been defaced, as, unless some more blocks are found containing the retouched stamps of Plate I., it will be impossible to determine their positions on the sheet.

It is quite evident from the illustrations that, unlike those of Plate II., the retouches of Plate I. are scattered over the sheet. VI. and VII. are right marginal stamps, IV. and V. are not on the margins, and VIII. is uncertain.



Statistics of Japanese Stamps.

Extracted from the Official Book published under the authority of the Japanese Empire.

FROM		IN USE		TO		VALUE.	COLOUR.	STAMPS SOLD.
January,	1871	February,	1872	48	mons	light brown	394,688	
"	"	"	"	100	"	blue	678,321	
"	"	"	"	200	"	red	552,251	
"	"	"	"	500	"	green	226,736	
February,	1872	September,	"	$\frac{1}{2}$	sen.	light brown	341,821	
"	"	July,	"	1	"	blue	821,185	
"	"	"	"	2	"	red	516,790	
"	"	May,	"	5	"	green	514,246	
September,	"	February,	1875	$\frac{1}{2}$	"	brown	2,685,204	
July,	"	"	"	1	"	blue	19,198,685	
"	"	July,	1873	2	"	red	3,450,332	
September,	"	February,	1875	10	"	green	525,902	
"	"	"	"	20	"	lilac	192,365	
"	"	"	"	30	"	grey	159,416	
"	1873	May,	1876	2	"	yellow	40,488,837	
April,	"	February,	1875	4	"	red	4,344,343	
January,	"	"	1874	6	"	violet-brown	515,219	
"	1875	June,	1877	12	"	carmine	182,958	
"	"	"	"	15	"	lilac	175,641	
"	"	August,	"	45	"	carmine	119,881	
February,	"	May,	1876	$\frac{1}{2}$	"	grey	395,968	
"	"	"	"	1	"	brown	1,809,740	
"	"	June,	"	4	"	green	1,993,634	
January,	"	"	"	5	"	"	235,566	
February,	1874	January,	1875	6	"	red	866,281	
"	1875	June,	1877	10	"	ultramarine	800,810	
"	"	August,	"	20	"	pink	216,553	
"	"	"	"	30	"	violet	114,500	
May,	1876	March,	"	5	rin.	grey	177,714,127	
"	"	October,	1879	1	sen.	black	62,414,603	
"	"	"	"	2	"	olive	71,837,891	
June,	"	March,	1888	4	"	bluish-green	29,051,346	
"	"	January,	1883	5	"	brown	2,208,949	
"	1877	March,	1888	6	"	brown-yellow	2,438,467	
November,	"	"	"	8	"	violet-brown	4,612,514	
June,	"	"	"	10	"	light blue	6,705,010	
"	"	"	"	12	"	pink	109,294	
"	"	"	"	15	"	green	631,129	
August,	"	"	"	20	"	blue	866,457	
"	"	"	"	30	"	violet	135,028	
May,	"	"	"	45	"	carmine	27,646	
October,	1879	January,	1883	1	"	red-brown	102,014,217	
"	"	"	"	2	"	violet	111,830,114	
January,	1888	March,	1891	3	"	yellow	2,536,029	
June,	"	"	1888	50	"	dull carmine	225,281	
January,	"	"	1894	1	"	green	134,155,618	
"	"	"	"	2	"	carmine	644,670,657	
"	"	"	"	5	"	blue	14,142,673	
March,	"	"	"	4	"	yellow-brown	18,636,740	
"	"	"	"	8	"	lilac	6,164,483	
"	"	"	"	10	"	reddish-brown	13,170,492	
"	"	"	"	15	"	violet	21,612,600	
"	"	"	"	20	"	red	1,082,577	
"	"	"	"	25	"	green	4,130,395	
"	"	"	"	50	"	red-brown	546,660	
"	"	"	"	1	yen.	carmine	171,627	
May,	1892	"	"	3	sen.	reddish-lilac	4,702,864	

The Late Sir Daniel Cooper, Bart.

We deeply regret to record the death of Sir Daniel Cooper, first baronet of Woolahoran, and first Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, which occurred at his London residence, on the 5th ulto., in his 81st year.

He was the second son of Mr. Thomas Cooper, of Sydney, and was born at Bolton-le-Moors, and educated at University College. In 1843, he went to Australia, and at the age of 28 was elected to the Legislative Council of New South Wales, and in 1856, after the grant of responsible government to the Colony, was returned to the first Legislative Chamber for Sydney Hamlet, and chosen the first Speaker of the new body, a position which he held until 1860.

After his resignation of that office, he was asked, but declined, to form an Administration in succession to the Forster Administration, and in 1861 he returned to England.

During the Crimean War, and the Lancashire cotton famine, he took an active part in the promotion of the Fund in Australia for the relief of the sufferers, and for this and other public services, he was knighted in 1857, created a baronet in 1863, and received the K.C.N.G. in 1880, and the G.C.M.G. in 1886.

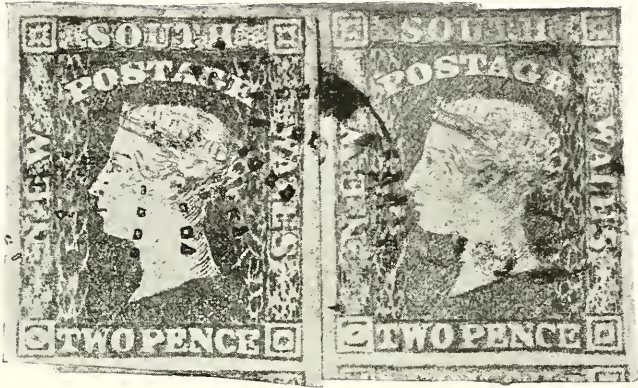
It was upon his return to England in 1861, for the benefit of his health, that Sir Daniel interested himself in the collection of postage stamps, and, in course of time, became the possessor of a very fine collection, especially strong in Australians.

This collection was purchased by Mr. Philbrick, Q.C., for £3,000, which in those days (1878) was considered an enormous price to pay for a collection of postage stamps. It passed ultimately with his Honour Judge Philbrick's collection to M. Philipp la Renotiére.

It is not so much, however, as the owner of a collection, which would to-day rank amongst the finest in the land, that Sir Daniel Cooper will be ever remembered by Philatelists, but rather as being the first to raise stamp collecting from being considered a pastime of schoolboys, to a hobby worthy of the attention of men of mature years, thereby taking the first, and by no means the least, important step towards placing Philately in the high position which to-day it deservedly occupies amongst scientific pursuits of a similar character.

In those times it must not be forgotten that stamp collecting was in its very infancy, and was threatened with an untimely end; the daily press, led by *Punch*, doing its best to laugh it out of existence. No more effective answer, therefore, to such press comments could be conceived than that a man of the calibre of Sir Daniel Cooper, not only was actively interested himself in the pursuit, but was not afraid of the world knowing it. He was one of the founders of the London Philatelic Society, and accepted the position of its first President, which he occupied for some years with the greatest benefit to the Society, and, which is of far greater importance, to Philately in general, as, by so doing, he secured for it that public recognition of which it was so sorely in need.

Plate I

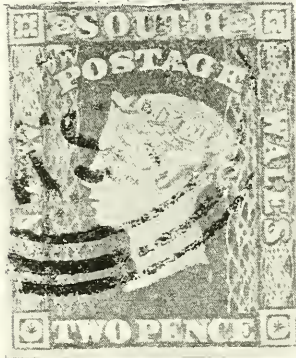


later state

VI

early state

Plate I



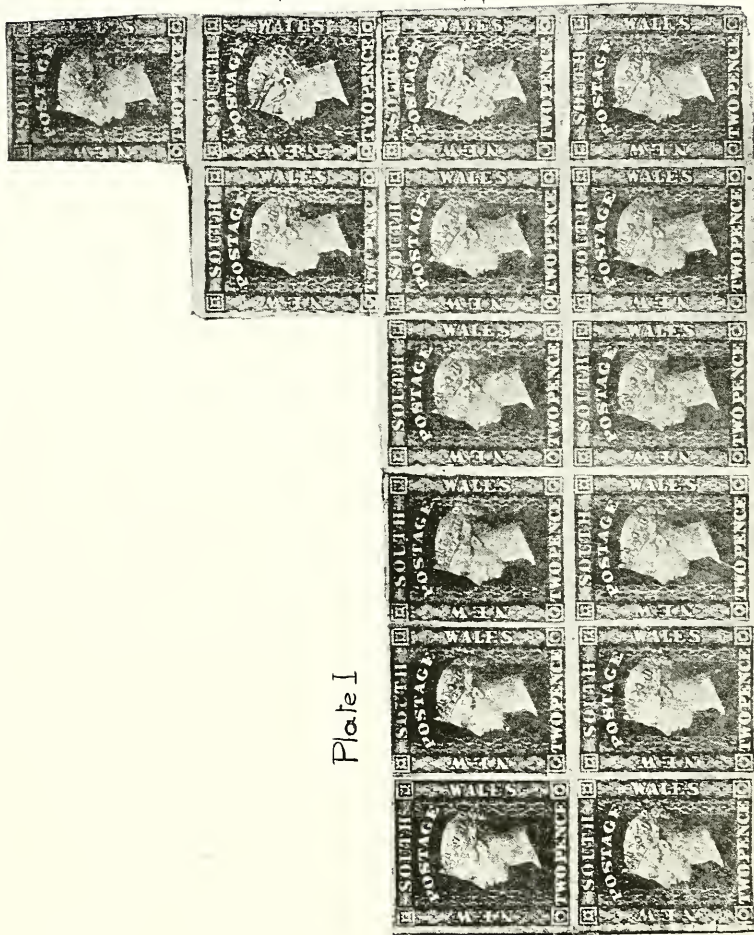
VII



VIII

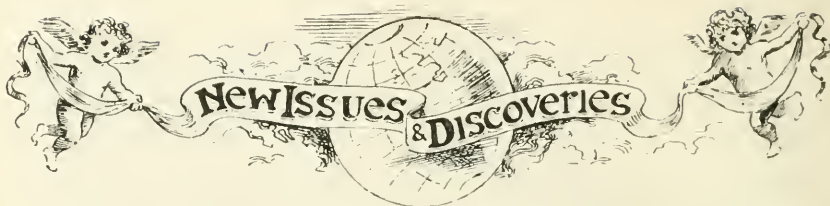
VI

VII





The Late Sir Daniel Cooper, Bart.



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. FRED. H. GIBSON, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester.

The British Empire.

Fiji.—Mr. J. W. Jones adds to the varieties mentioned in May with the new perforation the following.

Adhesives.

- 2d. green, perf. 11 × 11½.
1s. yellow-brown, perf. 11 × 11½.

Great Britain.—The new 10d. is reported as issued, but we have not yet seen it. Further to our list of last month we have now to chronicle.

Adhesives.

Surcharged for official use.

- Surcharged O.W. in black.
Official
5d. purple and blue (Queen's head).
10d. purple and scarlet, "
2½d. blue (1902).

Surcharged I.R. in black. Official

- 1s. green and carmine (1902).
5s. carmine "
10s. blue "
20s. green "

Surcharged Govt. in black. Parcels

- 2d. green and carmine (1902).

India. PUTTIALA. — The 1a. carmine now appears with black surcharge for this State.

Adhesive.

- 1a. carmine, surcharged Patiala State in black.

Malta.—The threatened Provisional on the 2½d. has duly arrived, and both Mr. North and Mr. J. W. Jones send us specimens. The surcharge is applied in two lines of block type, and is in black.

Adhesive.

- 1d., in black on 2½d. ultramarine, wmk. C.A. and crown, perf. 14.

New Zealand.—The *Monthly Journal* has now received the current ½d. and 1d., perf. 14 all round, watermark *single-lined* N.Z. and star. We have seen the 1d. of the

local print, and the 3d. and 6d. also exist imperf vertically.

Adhesives.

- ½d. green, perf. 14, wmk. single-lined N.Z. and star.
1d. carmine. " " " " "

Niue.—Three of the current New Zealand stamps have been surcharged for use here. The overprint is roughly applied but in block type; so far we have heard of no errors, though the ½d. is reported to exist with inverted surcharge.

Adhesives.

Wmk. double lined N.Z. and star.

- ½d. green, surcharged "NIUE ½ PENI" in red, perf. 14½.
1d. carmine, surcharged "NIUE TAHIA PENI" in blue, perf. 11 × 14½.

No wmk.

- 2½d. blue, surcharged "NIUE 2½ PENI" in red, perf. 11.

Orange River Colony.—Pending the new issue another Provisional has made its appearance. This time the current penny Cape of Good Hope has been pressed into service, and has received the same overprint as in the case of the ½d. green, *i.e.* "Orange River Colony" in three lines. As is usual, one stamp is to be found without stop after Colony.

Adhesives.

- 1d. carmine, surcharged Orange River Colony in black.
1d. " Variety, no stop.

Penrhyn Islands.—This group has also been supplied with a similar set to that of Niue. The surcharge is similar, the shape of the letters only differing in the case of the name, which is in tall, close capitals.

Adhesives.

Wmk. double lined N.Z. and star.

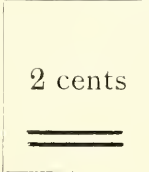
- ½d. green, surcharged "PENRHYN ISLAND ½ PENI" in red, perf. 14½.
1d. carmine, surcharged "PENRHYN ISLAND TAI PENI" in black, perf. 14½.

No wmk.

- 2½d. blue, surcharged "PENRHYN ISLAND 2½ PENI" in red, perf. 11.

Seychelles.—Mr. Peckitt has shown us five new provisionals; these consist of the 4c. altered to 2c., 75c. to 30c., 1r. to 30c., 1r. to 45c., and 2r. 25c. to 45c. In each case the original value is cancelled by two bars, but in the first variety these only follow the length of the surcharge, while in the others they extend across the stamp.

We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for the numbers appended to each value.



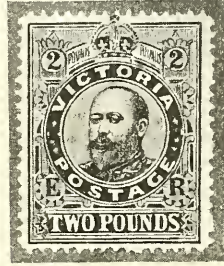
Adhesives.

Wmk. Crown and C.A., perf. 14.

2 cents in black on	4c. carmine and green	(18,000).
30 "	" 75c. yellow and violet	(18,000).
30 "	" 1r. mauve and deep red	(9,000).
45 "	" 1r. "	(9,000).
45 "	" 2r. 25c. lilac and green	(6,000).

Sierra Leone.—In latest advices from the Colony, we are informed that the new issue will not be on sale till some time next year.

Victoria.—The new £2 stamp appeared on 2nd of June, and a very poor production it proves to be; it does not bear the Queen's portrait as promised, but is practically only a variation of the previous £1 label.



Adhesive

£2 dark blue, perf. 12½, wmk. V. and crown.

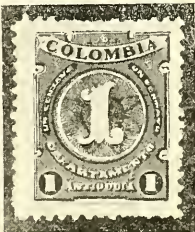
Foreign Countries.

Colombia. ANTIOQUIA.—We have seen a new set of this Province. The stamps are lithographed and perforated 12. The 1 cent before us is on laid, but the others are on wove paper.

The denominations run from 1c. to 5 pesos, and there is in addition a Too Late label, and one for Return receipt and for Registration, these two latter are diamond-shaped and oblong respectively.

Of the types we illustrate below, the 1, 2, 2½, 3, and 4c. have large numeral in the centre; the 5c. alone shows the arms of the State; the 20, 30, 40, and 50c. bear the portrait shown; while the 1, 2, and 3 pesos have that of another Antioquian celebrity. The imprint faintly seen at the foot of the illustrations is "Lit. J. L. Arango. Medellin."

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News mentions the occurrence of an error on the sheet of the 2c., the fortieth place being occupied by a 3c. stamp.



Adhesives.

- 1c. rose.
- 2c. blue.
- 2½c. mauve.
- 3c. green.
- 3c. blue (error of colour).
- 4c. purple.
- 5c. red.
- 10c. red-lilac.
- 20c. pale green.
- 30c. rose.
- 40c. blue.
- 50c. brown on yellow.
- 1p. black and mauve.
- 2p. black and rose.
- 5p. black and dull blue.
- 5c. black on rose.—Return receipt stamp.
- 10c. mauve on grey-blue.—Registration stamp.
- 2½c. violet.—Too Late stamp.

CARTAGENA.—The 10c. provisional, chronicled in April, now comes to hand rouletted as well as perforated 11½. We have also seen a sheet of the 5c. violet, containing ten stamps without the control mark.

Adhesives.

- 10c. brown. Rouletted.
- 5c. violet. Variety, without control mark.

Chili.—We have received the new 1 and 2c. of the type illustrated below.



Adhesives.

1c. green, perf. 12.
2c. carmine, "

Danish West Indies.—The *Weekly Philatelic Era* reports the discovery of a sheet of the recent 2c. on 3c. provisional, with the old perforation ($14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$).

Adhesive.

2 cents in black on 3 cents rose and blue. Perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

France.—The 10c. is now to hand in the new type as shown.



Adhesive.

10c. carmine.

DJIBOUTI.—We do not appear to have chronicled all the recent provisionals, and gather the following from various contemporaries.

Adhesives.

5c. in black on 40c. yellow and blue.
5c. " " 40c. Variety, double surcharge, second sideways.
10c. " " 10fr. (Obock).
5c. " " 25fr. rose and blue.
25c. " " 25fr. " "
50c. " " 50fr. blue and rose.
5c. " " 25fr. brown and blue (Obock).
10c. " " 50fr. lake and green (").
10c. " " 2fr. violet and orange (Obock).

NEW CALEDONIA.—The 5c. yellow-green and red of 1900, and the 5 on 2c. and 5 on 4c. of 1900-1, have been surcharged with

the letter T in a triangle for use as Unpaid Letter Stamps.

Adhesives.

Unpaid Letter Stamps.

T in triangle in black on 5c. yellow-green and red.
" " on 5c. in black on 2c. brown on buff.
" " on 5c. " on 4c. claret.

Persia.—We have now to add the following to our recent lists of provisionals:—

Adhesives.

Type-set series.

1 chahi grey, surcharged " Provisoire," etc., in black.
2 chahis brown, " " "
3 " green " " "
5 " red-brown " " "

Surcharged $\frac{5}{5}$ in two lines and Persian inscription chahis [in black].

5 krans, yellow (type-set series).

50 " brown (1899)

Surcharged " Provisoire," etc., in black.

5 krans, dull brown (1899)

10 " deep blue (")

With regard to the other provisionals mentioned in our May issue, we have now been shown five stamps, the 1, 2, 5, and 12 chahis in black, and also a 5 chahis in violet. We hear a 1 kran red exists. The stamps are roughly lithographed on white wove paper, and are rectangular; the value is shown in circles in the lower corners, between which, and also at the top, is an arched band, inscribed " Postes 1902 Persanes " in the case of the former the centre of the stamp is occupied by an oval bearing, the letters " V. C. " (Victor Castaigne), the Belgian Vice-Consul, and each stamp has in addition the same initials in red ink. The stamps have been in use in Meched for some two months past, and are available, we believe, for franking ordinary letters, though they are not sold to the public, but affixed to letters at the Post Office. This, however, is no evidence of a limited use, as it is quite a usual practice to send letters with the amount of postage for the stamps to be put on at the Post Office.

Adhesives.

1 chahi, black, initialled in red. Imperf.
2 chahis, " " "
5 " " " "
5 " violet, " " "
12 " black, " " "
1 kran, red (?)

Servia.—A correspondent forwards us for inspection three varieties of the 15 para on 1 dinar listed in December last. Two show respectively a thick and thin I, while the third stamp has a stop after 15, midway between it and ПАРА, and on a level with the top of the letters.

Philately in the Mags.

Stray Notes on Sheets of Stamps.

Russian stamps are not specially favoured by American collectors, but they deserve more attention than is usually devoted to them. They are all straightforward issues, with divers minor varieties to delight the heart of the specialist, and but few rarities to relieve his purse. Withal they are all of an attractive neatness, original in design and splendidly printed. As far as I know all the Governmental issues have been made in sheets of 100, 10 × 10, Russia having decimal currency. An exception is made in the case of the high ruble values, the 3.50 and 7 rubles; these were printed in sheets of 25, 5 × 5, presumably because of the small demand for them. If I remember right, these were furnished regularly to only two post offices, St. Petersburg and Moscow, and to others only on special requisition.

Some curious sheets are found in the issues of the Russian Offices in the Levant. The three issues given in Scott under 1864, 1865 and 1866 were not made by the Russian Government, but by a steamship company operating between Odessa and various ports on the Black Sea and the Mediterranean, which carried mail between these ports under the contract with the Russian Government, receiving a share of the postage proceeds. The initials of this company are found on the issues of 1865 and 1866; they are the Russian letters R. O. P. i T., standing for "Russkoie Obshtchestwo Parochodstwa i Torgowli" = "Russian Company for Steam Navigation and Commerce." The enormous labels of 1864 are printed in "sheetlets" of 4, perhaps the smallest sheets in point of number of stamps contained, but hardly in point of size, considering the size of the stamps. The issue of 1865 was made in sheets of 63, 7 × 9, there being that many varieties in the sheet. The differences are to be found in the network and ornamentation; if I am not mistaken, the steamship and eagle are uniform on all the stamps of the sheet, being printed from another stone which contained so many reproductions of the original die of the eagle and steamer. The 1866 issue came in sheets of 28, 4 rows of 7, though not type-varieties. I suppose these odd-sized sheets are due only to the convenience of the lithographers, as they have no relation to the currency. You will notice, by the way, that no currency is expressed on these two issues; I think that Scott's Catalogue correctly gives the value in Russian currency, but various European catalogues give the value of the stamp designated by Scott as 2 kopeks at 10 paras and that of the 20 kopeks at 2 piastres. I

doubt the correctness of this statement, as all the other stamps for the Russian Levant bear kopek values. The issues from 1868 up to the new surcharged issue are made in the same manner as the Russian Government issues; you will notice that these also bear no Government inscription, but merely the indication "Wostotchnaya Korrespondenzia" = "Eastern Correspondence."

I do not intend to deal with the so-called Russian Semstwo or Rural stamps, as they are no doubt collected by very few in this country. But as the stamps of Livonia (or Wenden) are often included in catalogues and albums, I make an exception by inserting here a note I find in my book. It concerns the issue of 1863 with plain oval; this was printed in small sheets of 16, arranged in 2 vertical rows of 8. Number 6 of the sheet, the third stamp from the top in the second row, is tête-bêche to the others. This merely by the way.—*The Adhesive.*

The "Connell" Stamp.

Donald A. King, writing to *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, says:—

"When the Hon. J. H. T. Manners-Sutton, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of New Brunswick, and his Executive Council in committee, on a day in December, 1859, authorized the Hon. Charles Connell, Postmaster-General of that colony, to procure a new set of postage stamps that had become necessary, they had no idea of what a tempest they were raising, what trouble for themselves, and for Mr. Connell.

"As in the other British North American colonies, the currency became a decimal one in 1860, and a new series of stamps was wanted and the above famous Minute of Council authorised them thus, 'Postmaster-General to obtain new postage stamps in one, five, ten and twelve and a half cents.'

"The Postmaster-General of New Brunswick, the Hon. Charles Connell, of Woodstock, believing that the Minute in Council referred to gave him full power and discretion as to design, colour, &c., while on a visit to New York, gave the contract to manufacture the new issue to the American Bank Note Co., of that city.

"No fault can be found with the designs submitted by the Bank Note Co., and chosen by Mr. Connell, they are both original and handsome, but the five cent, the value to be most used, instead of one of the various designs of the other stamps, had a remarkably fine portrait of Mr. Connell himself.

"From existing specimens we can judge of its appearance. He was not at all a

handsome man, the Bank Note Co. did not idealize or conventionalize him in any way, or even try to render him attractive by printing in a bright color, but in a sombre brown that was almost emblematic of its unhappy fate. In a word, it would be gross flattery to say that the stamp is attractive by reason of portrait, design, or color.

"Whether it was his own idea, or had been wickedly suggested to him by others, possibly the makers, is not known. The novelty of such a design was too great for those far-off days, even now it would be startling, familiar as we are with the vagaries of stamp-issuing Postmaster-Generals in various parts of the world.

"The stamps were manufactured in due time, and forwarded to Fredericton for issue to postmasters and the public, on the 1st of May, 1860. The necessary arrangements were made by Mr. Connell and his department for their issue and the recall of the pence series, the above date being the day the transaction was to be completed.

"Doubtless, pleased with the new stamps, and the portrait—which was a good one—Mr. Connell made no secret of the designs, and thus, before the eventful 1st of May to be, his colleagues secured specimens of the new issue.

"Perhaps through jealousy, perhaps through loyalty, possibly suspecting treasonable designs on the part of Mr. Connell, who does not appear to have been popular in the Cabinet, they claimed the privilege of approving the new stamps before they were issued.

"Mr. Connell was not in Fredericton at the time this step was taken, and his first intimation, received at his home in Woodstock, was a telegram from Hon. S. L. Tilley, the Provincial Secretary, that the issue could not be made until approved by the Governor in Council. The Postmaster-General did not appreciate the seriousness of their objection, as he telegraphed back to the Provincial Secretary to secure the approval at once, apparently believing it was only a necessary matter of form, and informing him that in three days' time the Post Office Department had arranged to issue them.

"Naturally, Mr. Tilley did not procure the necessary approval and Mr. Connell on March 28th, wired his chief clerk at Fredericton to postpone the issue for a few days—then to Mr. Tilley that he thought the approval was granted when authority had been given him to procure them, and an intimation that he would be in St. John in a week's time, the Council meeting there then on other business.

"It met as agreed upon, and the result was disastrous to Mr. Connell and his five cent stamp, as they, by a unanimous vote to the Lieutenant-Governor, recommended that the one, ten and twelve and a half cent stamps should be issued, and that the Post-

master-General be instructed to procure a new five cent one, with portrait of the Queen, instead of the one with portrait of Mr. Connell.

"In due time the Postmaster-General received these instructions from the Provincial Secretary; but instead of doing as he was instructed to, he held on to his portrait, and, in a letter dated the 15th of May to the Provincial Secretary, he said:

"Sir:

"I am in receipt of your favor informing me that you have been desired by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor to request that I would distribute the one, ten and twelve and a half cent postage stamps procured by me, and to take steps to procure a five cent stamp for future distribution. You will inform His Excellency that I was authorized by Minute of Council in December last, to procure a one, five, ten and twelve and a half cent postage stamp, and that all these denominations are now in the office of this department, ready for distribution.

"I have, &c.,

"(Sgd.)

Chas. Connell."

"This letter was laid before the Lieutenant-Governor and Council, and a reply sent to Mr. Connell that he answered in due course, stating that all arrangements had been made for issue, and that any delay would cause a loss of revenue to the Post Office Department, and finally asking that his resignation as Postmaster-General be accepted, he feeling that his usefulness was gone, when his authority was interfered with, and that, in justice to his constituents and the public, he could no longer hold his portfolio as minister. He also requested permission to publish the grounds of his resignation.

"The resignation was accepted, and the permission given he requested.

"In the explanation he published, Mr. Connell claimed that he did not resign because of the veto of the five cent stamp; but because he differed from his colleagues on other Governmental measures. Answering Mr. Connell's explanation, the Executive Council, in their turn, addressed a letter for publication to the Lieutenant-Governor, on the subject, concluding it by saying that the order to procure a new five cent stamp with head of the Queen, instead of the five cent already procured, was the real ground of his resignation, as it no doubt was. In answer to this Mr. Connell again addresses a letter to the long-suffering Lieutenant-Governor, and in it he states:

"I. In the memorandum under notice, it is intimated that the real reason of my resignation was the refusal of my colleagues in the Government to advise Your Excellency to issue the five cent postage stamp. This statement I must unhesitatingly declare to be incorrect, and if evidence is wanting to prove the contrary, I can refer to the Attorney-General."

"To this positive contradiction, the Executive Council reply that they were convinced that in the preparation of both the papers submitted by Mr. Connell, he

has been influenced more by a desire to avoid the discussion of the real ground of his resignation, than to represent accurately the policy and acts of his late colleagues in the Government.'

"Mr. Connell then has the last word, and replies in much the same strain as

before, that there was unwarrantable interference in his department by the Council, even in mere matters of detail, thus setting aside his right to conduct a minor arrangement of his department and that, as an honourable man, the only course left him was to resign."

Notes and News.

German Empire: 1875. 25 pfennige.

Mr. J. M. Bartels, Boston, writes of two types in the stamps of the German Empire, namely, the 25 pfennige, reddish-brown, of 1875. In one of the stamps the inscription in the oval surrounding the eagle reads as follows: • DEUTSCHE • REICHS — POST •, in the other there are circles instead of the dots, thus: ° DEUTSCHE ° REICHS — POST °. In addition, the drawing of the ornamentations above the word PFENNIGE differs in the two stamps.

From the description we are led to believe that the new type comes either from a re-engraved plate or is a forgery. So much, however, depends upon the description that we prefer seeing the specimens before saying more about it.

Bulgaria. Unpaid Letter Stamps.

The diversity of opinion amongst Philatelists among the ordinary Bulgarian stamps, surcharged with a large T in a circle, thus making them Unpaid Letter Stamps, has at last got a step further towards agreement. The *Philatelist* publishes the following official declaration:—

"The post and telegraph office at Rustschuk declares that this letter was not prepaid and therefore subject to a tax of 30c. As we had no unpaid letter stamps, this letter was franked according to an order of Administration No. 283/36283 of December 18th, 1901, with ordinary stamps, and in order to distinguish them they were surcharged with the letter T and the obliteration die.

(official seal) Station Rustschuk."

This declaration was written on the back of the letter, which is produced.

These Unpaid Letter Stamps were used from the 18-25 December, 1901, at Rustschuk only. An official decree for their use from headquarters does not exist, only a district order. Whether the postmaster of Rustschuk was entitled to issue such an order remains to be seen.

M. Paul Merwart.

The French painter, M. Paul Merwart, who designed the 1900 issue of stamps for the French Congo, died in the eruption of Mount St. Pelée, in Martinique.

New Postal Tariff in Denmark.

A new postal tariff has just been passed in Denmark to supersede the one which has been in force since April 5th, 1888. The principal alterations are as follows:—

	1902.	1888.
Ordinary letters up to 250 grammes,	10 oere.	8 oere.
Ditto, if not prepaid	20 "	16 "
Postcards	5 "	5 "
reply	10 "	10 "
Samples and printed matter up to 250 grammes	4 "	4 "
Insurance on letters up to 200 Kroner	15 "	16 "
From 200—400 Kroner	20 "	20 "
400—600	25 "	24 "
600—800	30 "	28 "
800—1000	30 "	32 "
For every 1000 kroner, or part thereof 10	15 "	16 "
Parcels up to 2lbs.	20 "	16 "
2lbs.—5lbs.	30 "	24 "
5lbs.—10lbs.	30 "	32 "
Money Orders up to 10 Kroner	10 "	8 "
10—30	15 "	16 "
30—60	20 "	20 "
60—90	25 "	24 "
90—100	25 "	32 "
100—200	30 "	32 "

The gain to the revenue by these changes is computed at Ko. 1,284,000 per annum.

According to the new postal rates stamps of 3, 8, 12, 16 and 24 oere and envelopes of 4 and 8 oere will no longer be necessary.

China.

The letters, B.R.A., on Chinese Imperial postage stamps have, according to the *Timbrophile Belge*, the following origin:—

"These stamps were issued by the administration of the railway from Tienstin to Shankaikwau, after it had been ceded to the British (British Railway Administration). The intermediate stations on the line were not served by the Post Office, and the train conductors undertook to deliver letters franked with such stamps. They were only in circulation from the 20th of April to the 19th of May, 1901."

The Mystic Letters.

The letters, P.S., surcharged on the stamps of Bussahir, do not stand for "Posthumous Stamps," or even for "Philatelic Swindle," but are the initials of the present Sultan's name, Padam Singh.

Switzerland: New Plates.

Baron A. de Reuterskiöld informs us that it is quite true that new plates have been prepared for the lower values of Switzerland

and put into use. The old ones are getting worn and the lines have all become thick. He adds that this can in no way be considered a new issue or anything of the kind. In this we fully concur, as the stamps are identical with the old ones, from which they can only be distinguished as we have indicated. Even this test would fail were a specimen from the early state of the old plate used for comparison. All the same, it is useful to chronicle the fact, especially as it points to no immediate change in the design being contemplated.

A Niue Field.

A correspondent of the *Montreal Philatelist* writes:—"Re the annexation of the Cook Islands I may mention that the following Pacific Islands have been included in the annexation papers, *i. e.*, Penrhyn (Mangarongaro); Palmerston (Avarau); Savage (Niue); Danger (Pukapuka); Rakaanga; Manihiki; and Suwarrow Islands. Now, the question is, What stamps will be used at these various islands? Formerly no stamps were used, but now times have advanced and in some cases British Agents or Representatives of the Crown have been appointed to carry out a proper Postal and Customs system, &c. So we may hope for more stamps for these Islands, although it is more than probable that the stamps that are used at the Cook Group will be used, as the Islands will be under the Governorship of Lieut.-Col. W. E. Gudgeon, C.M.G., who is British Resident at Raratonga, of the Cook Group. When definite news eventuates I will send you particulars, although I presume much will not be carried out till the sitting of the next New Zealand Parliament. Now that New Zealand has annexed the Cook Islands, she has appointed a chief postmaster for Raratonga from amongst her own postal officials. So now we may hope to have the postal affairs of these Islands conducted on the New Zealand system. Whether or not New Zealand stamps will be adopted at Raratonga, will be a vital question, but we must 'bide a wee' and wait events."

The expectation expressed in this letter has, alas, proved too true. Penrhyn and Niue have their own stamps, and if found to pay expenses of printing, of which we have no doubt, it is only reasonable to suppose the other Islands will quickly follow suit. It is perfectly lamentable having to confess that one of them we have never heard of before and we don't even yet know whether it is inhabited. It would be a pity, however, for such a small matter as that to be any obstacle in the way. The Authorities in New Zealand seem particularly obliging just now.

A Partnership Notice.

We have received a circular-letter from Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Birmingham, notify-

ing that he has, from the 1st instant, taken into partnership his son, Mr. Frank E. Wilson, who has been actively engaged with him in the business for the past 8 years. The business will be carried on as heretofore, and without any change in the name. Those who have attended the last four International Exhibitions will remember the pleasure derived from going over the exhibits with Mr. Frank E. Wilson, whose Philatelic acumen will, we venture to say, with increasing years and experience, be equal to that of his father, whose opinion has been held in the highest respect for many years by all Philatelists. At these gatherings, Mr. Frank Wilson, by his affable manner, made many friends, and they, we feel sure, will join with us in sending him our congratulations.

Auction Prices.

At an auction in London at the commencement of the month, an Orange River Colony one penny violet, being the error without "d," brought £9 15s., while the error without the numeral 1 only fetched £2 2s., at which price it may be considered cheap. Two stamps which generally sell well unused are Great Britain £1, wmk. Maltese Cross and the £1 wmk. Orbs; the prices were £16 10s. and £12 15s. The £1 wmk. Crowns sold for £4. The tit-bit of the sale, however, was India 4 annas, blue and red, 18mm. apart, with blue lines and rosettes, a very fine corner block of four with full margins and inscriptions. In spite of having a sketch in Sepia on the back which was partially cleaned off but still showed through on the face, it may be considered a bargain at £40. Stamps prepared for use but which have never really been issued seem to be on the down grade, for instance the V.R. sold for £6, the India ½ anna., red, a pair £7 5s., and Ceylon 24 cents, C.A., purple-brown, £8 10s., while the British Columbia, perf. 14, 1 dollar at £1 18s., and 10 cents at £1 12s. is a fall indeed; only five years ago the stamps were considered worth ten times as much. Buyers now-a-days prefer the good goods to the quasi ones which seriously threatened to be in vogue a few years since. It is very much better it is so.

Phenomenal.

American business firms are saving money by sending circulars in bulk to this country for the purpose of having them posted from here to the United States. A half-penny stamp will carry a business circular from Britain to America, but inland postage in the United States for a similar missive is, in most cases, higher. Business firms who send out thousands of circulars each week can thus save money by shipping them at a low rate to Liverpool, and then having them posted back to America.

THE
Philatelic Record.

AUGUST, 1902.

Editorial Notes.

SO little concern do people generally evince in the doings of the Post-master General, that many may even not know that the Marquess of Londonderry has retired, and has been succeeded by Mr. Austen Chamberlain. Bearing in mind the experience of the past, he who prophesies any startling changes in the policy of the Post Office Department would be bold indeed, since all Government Departments stink of red tape, and this one is no exception. To some no policy appears more masterly than that of inactivity, but we have a suspicion that the new Postmaster-General comes of a stock of whom it would be the last thing his most vitriolic opponents could say that they were content with the existing order of things.

The Postmaster-General. The Postmaster-General, or rather, to be more correct, the third assistant Postmaster-General in the United States, has been making every effort to put the Post Office there on a paying system, and has just issued an order prohibiting the sending through the mails, of logs, and bags of earth, and similar articles, when they weigh 200lbs. or over. The investigations showed that not only were logs and bags of earth shipped as mails, but they were so dispatched under franks; and it has also been discovered that roll top desks and other articles of furniture were being sent in the same way. Little wonder the Post Office does not pay.

Now, although the new Postmaster-General has nothing of this kind to contend with in this country, the system of franks having long been abolished, yet there is plenty of room for improvements, which would tend not only to reduce the irritation caused by certain red tape regulations, but would not materially reduce the capacity of the Department as a money-making machine for the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The innovations recently introduced, from a Philatelic point of view, certainly do not meet with our approval. We refer especially to the multitude of surcharges created on stamps for official use in the various departments, for we believe the number of different stamps of this class already runs to over seventy, and the cry is, "Still they come."

Let us hope that the "new broom" will sweep them away, and expend his energies in directions which will contribute to the more

business-like working of the Department, and curtail rather than increase postage stamps of this class, which appear to be quite unnecessary.

WHAT are pre-cancelled stamps? An American paper, which we believe is the official organ of the large Philatelic Association of the United States, would have us believe, **More Idiosyncrasies.** from the very large amount of space which has been devoted to them now for some months, that they are extremely collectible. We do not know whether this really is the fact or not, but we hope, for the fame of American collectors, that it is not really the case.

To enable our readers to judge, we would explain that stamps are cancelled in entire sheets by many of the principal Post Offices, and the stamps so cancelled affixed to large consignments of postage matter, such as circulars, etc. This is only the system adopted in lieu of the circular red frank used in this country under similar circumstances.

A special obliteration die for this object, or rather one which differs from the usual one, is used in the particular Post Office for obliterating purposes, and consequently single stamps when taken off the wrappers can be identified as belonging to this class, which are known as pre-cancelled stamps.

We need hardly point out that this system appears to be fairly generally employed all over the United States, and has been for some little time. Therefore, when we find a list, which by the way does not purport to be complete, of the pre-cancelled stamps, giving the different values so treated, the names of the offices which appear in the obliterating dies, and to crown all the different dates, it will readily be understood to what length the article in question has run already.

A well-known American paper which claims to have always advocated the greatest liberality in lines of collecting, informs its readers that its Editor returned the manuscript of the article in question because so few of its readers would be at all interested. As this paper enjoys, we believe, the largest circulation in the States of any Philatelic Journal we are inclined to suspect that their popularity is practically infinitesimal. This country is not free, by any means, from postmark cranks, who would have us believe that this is Philately, and we cannot expect America to be any different. All individuals of this class are ever ready to shout aloud, and apt to influence the younger members of the flock, and for this reason a word of caution is requisite from time to time.

There are plenty of knotty points still to solve upon the old stamps, as the paper last month upon the New South Wales Retouches in this Journal, and the ones on Chili now appearing in the *London Philatelist* show, without devoting time, attention, and money to matters which at the utmost are only very minor lights, if they are lights at all, of Philately.



The Stamps of Greece from 1900.

From the "Ill. Briefmarken Journal."

THERE is scarcely a country in existence which presents so many difficulties to the collector as Greece. The differences between Paris, Belgium and Athens prints, between thick and thin paper, the many variations of shades, may drive even an old collector to desperation.

A further misfortune is, that the stamps of Greece are largely and unfortunately extremely well imitated.* It really requires a long and very careful study to attain even a moderate knowledge of these stamps.

Several works have been published on the older issues, but the stamps since 1900 are scarcely known. In making a list of them, I hope to benefit collectors by giving them a clue, where they can master the intricacies of surcharges, &c., and at the same time to put them on their guard against the many forgeries and bogus stamps sent out, especially by the Athens dealers.

When buying the surcharged stamps I must recommend collectors to display the greatest caution. Not only the surcharge itself, sometimes alone, at other times reversed, double, treble, &c., is manufactured by them, but at one dealer's I even found an official obliterating die, with which he offered to obliterate any stamp it was my desire to possess in a used state.

A few stamps, for instance, the 3 and 5 drachme, have most probably never been used for postal purposes, and this is the case with most of the varieties and errors. When found used, they most likely owe their origin to an obliging postal official or to the machinations of a dealer.

As a few stamps are dearer without surcharge, this in itself provides a certain safeguard for the surcharge, provided, of course, the entire stamp be not forged.

In my case I do not take notice of the various shades, as these are only of interest to a specialist, neither do I speak of the slight differences of the position of the surcharge on the stamps, sometimes in the middle, sometimes higher or lower, due to carelessness in printing.

Surcharged with New Value and A.M.

I.—Surcharged in black letters.

1.—25 Lepta on 40 Lepta, violet (Belgian print, 1886).

a. imperforate.

b. perf. 11½.

* The stamps of Greece do present difficulties to a novice, but we think the writer greatly exaggerates them. The second paragraph is certainly news to us.—Ed.

2.—50 Lepta on 25 Lepta, light blue (Belgian print, 1886).

a. imperforate.

b. perf. 11½.

3.—1 Drachma on 40 Lepta, green, red-brown on bluish paper (Athens print, 1866).

a. imperforate.

b. perf. 11½.

4.—2 Drachme on 5 Lepta, green (Athens print, 1880).

a. imperforate.

b. perf. 11½.

II.—Surcharged in red letters.

Stamps of the Jubilee issue, 1896 (Olympians), perf.

5.—5 Lepta on 1 Drachma, blue.

a. light blue.

b. dark blue. This stamp can be recognised easily by the thicker lines in the engraving.

The M of the surcharge exists in two shapes:—

1. (Greek), **M**.

2. (French), **M**.

Variety: Double surcharge (over the entire sheet). As the second surcharge stands lower than the first, the stamps of the top row have twice the surcharge "AM AEIITA" and only once the "5." The second "5" is on the stamps of the second row. The stamps of the last row have in consequence, besides the entire double surcharges on the white margin of the sheet, a third "5."

6.—25 Lepta on 40 Lepta, purple.

7.—50 Lepta on 2 Drachme, olive-brown.

8.—1 Drachma on 5 Drachme, green.

Variety: In place of the A in the surcharge there is a Δ (ΔPΔXMH).

9.—2 Drachme on 10 Drachme, brown.

No other stamps but these nine have been issued, and if any are offered may be taken as bogus.

Provisional Stamps.

Surcharge of the new value in black-

1.—20 Lepta on 25 Lepta, blue (Athens, 1889).

1. Light blue—*a.* imperforate.

b. perf. 11½.

2. Ultramarine—*a.* imperforate.

b. perf. 11½.

3. Dark (indigo) blue—*a.* imperforate.

b. perf. 11½.

Varieties:—

- A. 1*b*, perforated $8\frac{1}{2}$, very badly done.
- B. 1*a*, 1*b* and 3*a*, with inverted surcharge.
- C. 1*a* and 1*b*, with double surcharge.
- D. 1*a* and 1*b*, with treble surcharge.
- E. 1*a*, vertical and horizontal shifting of plates. Consequently there are stamps which show only the surcharge “ΔΕΠΤΑ” or only “20”; one may find a pair, one with and the other without surcharge or with only a part of it.

2.—1 Drachma on 40 Lepta, violet (Athens print, 1889-92).

- a. imperforate.
- b. perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

3.—2 Drachme on 40 Lepta, violet.

- 1. Athens print, 1889-92—*a.* imperforate.
 - b.* perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.
 - c.* „ $13\frac{1}{2}$.
- 2. Belgian print, 1886-92—*d.* imperforate.
 - e.* perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

4.—3 Drachme on 10 Lepta, orange (Athens print, 1880).

- a.* imperforate.
- b.* perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

5.—5 Drachme on 40 Lepta, dull lilac-violet on bluish paper (Athens print, 1862).

- a.* imperforate.
- b.* perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

6.—30 Lepta on 40 Lepta, violet (Athens print, 1880).

- a.* imperforate.
- b.* perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

Variety: In consequence of insufficient inking of the surcharging plates the surcharge is missing.

7.—40 Lepta on 2 Lepta.

- 1. Yellowish brown (Athens print, 1882).
 - a.* imperforate.
 - b.* perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.
- 2. Pale yellowish brown (Athens print, 1862).
 - c.* imperforate.
 - d.* perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

8.—50 Lepta on 40 Lepta, salmon (Athens print, 1876).

- a.* imperforate.
- b.* perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

Varieties: Nos. 6, 7 and 8 with “ΑΕΠΤΑ” instead of “ΔΕΠΤΑ.” It is very doubtful whether the surcharges “ΔΕΠΛΑ” and “ΔΕΠΣΑ” on Nos. 6, 7 and 8 are genuine. They do not appear in all sheets, and

if not a forgery must be the result of an understanding between a dealer and a workman at the printing works.

Attention must be paid in Nos. 6, 7 and 8 to the differences of wide and narrow O, also to the varying distances between ΔΕΙΤΑ and the figure of value—large, medium and small—and lastly to the varying positions of the lower and upper portions of the surcharges in a vertical sense.

The latest stamps of Greece do not offer any difficulties and are generally known. I may mention that the 1 Drachma stamp black exists imperforate on one side similar to the 2 Drachme value, olive-brown, of the Jubilee issue, 1896 (without surcharge).

Concurrently with the above, a catalogue of the stamps of Greece by Mr. Capen was published in the *American Journal of Philately*, and we reproduce some of Mr. Capen's observations upon the surcharged stamps.

"It is said that there was only one sheet of the 40 Lepta on 2 Lepta bistre and two of the 2 Drachme on 40 Lepta violet, one of which was perforated. There were only 150 stamps in the sheet of the former surcharge, none of which were perforated, and therefore we have dropped from our catalogue this surcharge 40 Lepta on 2 Lepta perforated. The imperforate stamp as well as the varieties must therefore be exceedingly scarce.

"There were more stamps in the sheets of the 40 Lepta which were surcharged with 2 Drachme. Therefore, this stamp perforate or imperforate is not quite as rare as the 40 on 2 Lepta yellow bistre. The difference is reflected in our prices. There seem to have been very few of the double, triple and inverted surcharges, and they come in such a manner as to show this. For instance, the double surcharge comes upon the dull blue stamp, always in a badly perforated condition, and with one of the surcharges much less plain than the other. This shows that this second surcharge was done merely to make the printing plain. The double surcharge also comes upon the bright blue stamp. There was more than a single sheet of this, as is shown by the fact that the stamps come in different shades and with different degrees of blackness in the surcharge. The inverted surcharge of the 20 on 25 Lepta comes on the dull blue, bright blue and indigo, but we have not seen it on the ultramarine. The triple surcharge is on the dull blue only. The 20 above the word is on the bright blue only. The ultramarine 20 on 25 Lepta are all regular so far as we have seen them. What is true of the imperforate stamps is also true of the perforate stamps that correspond with them."



Notable Philatelists.

Mr. M. H. Lombard.

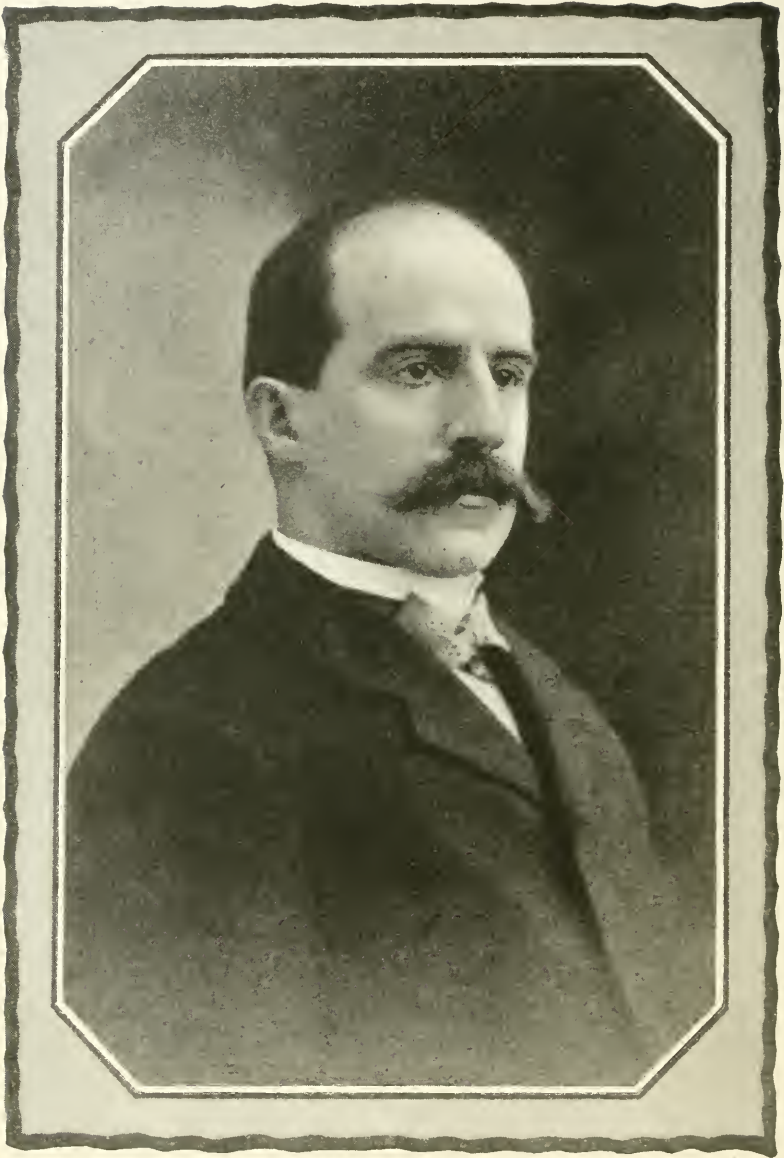
THE subject of our sketch this month is one who is well known in his native land, and is familiar to very many here as a successful exhibitor in Europe, as a painstaking and energetic Philatelist, and one who has done a very great deal to make the Boston Philatelic Society the second in importance of all the Societies in the New World.

The Collectors' Club of New York claims the place of honour just in the same manner as the Philatelic Society of London does in the Old World. It has often struck us there is a remarkable degree of similarity in their respective claims. Neither can be said to be ahead of the times, neither of them are in any way obtrusive, except when their position as premier Societies is seriously attacked, and both of them are so eminently respectable. Far be it from us to say that these characteristics are not very worthy ones; yet if a little more of the enterprise which marks the doings of the Boston Philatelic Society were infused into the one, and much the same kind of thing which has more than once or twice manifested itself in a British Society we could name, permeated the inner circle of the other, we fancy the positions of these Societies would rest upon a much surer foundation, and Philately in general be a gainer thereby.

We must confess to holding a high opinion of the usefulness of the Boston Philatelic Society. It does plenty of work which appeals to its members, and the most pleasing thing to note is the enthusiasm with which all of them seem imbued. This enthusiasm is just what is wanted; it is most infectious, and serves better than anything else in effecting the object all Societies aim at. The Boston Society claims amongst its roll of members many names who are known to collectors, men whose collections rank as the best in America, but none of them have worked harder, or with more success upon the lines we have indicated, than Mr. Lombard. It is not only ourselves who say this, others in the States will tell you the same thing, and that this is also the opinion of his fellow members is shown by their having recently unanimously elected him their President, after he had acted as Hon. Secretary for three years. He may well be proud of the Society, which averages an attendance of over 35 members at its meetings, figures which are not approached by any other Society in the world.

Mr. Lombard first made his acquaintance of a stamp album in his boyhood, but after his school days were passed laid it aside, and it was some twenty years after before he looked it up again. In the meantime the collection had entirely passed from his mind, but coming across it accidentally some seven years ago all his old-time enthusiasm

Notable Philatelists.



Mr. M. H. Lombard.

returned. He then began a general collection, and in a few years had gathered together a fairly good one, which he still has, and to which he keeps adding new issues. Seeing the hopelessness of the task of getting all the old ones, especially as he wanted them unused, he began specialising a few countries, and for the last few years has made a special study of them. France and Hawaii are the favourites, and a good field for study and research they afford.

When the "Thorne" collection was sold, we remember, to our cost, Mr. Lombard bought his French intact. These he has added to since by the purchase of two other well-known collections of this country, which, added to his own, form now a very nice lot indeed. They were awarded a gold and two silver medals in New York, 1899, and two silver medals at Paris in 1900. The collection then occupied 37 pages, whereas it has since increased to 98, and contains 38 tête-bêche.

His Hawaii have also met with success, having gained a first and a second prize on the two occasions on which they have "entered the lists." Mr. Lombard, adds: "My other favourite countries are United States Colonies, Luxemburg, Holland and Colonies, Argentine, Brazil, and Uruguay, a strange combination you will doubtless think. I have a good Philatelic library, and it is in constant use, as I devote a great deal of time in studying my stamps. The American writer quoted in your May number as saying that American Philatelists are dominated by the desire to purchase stamps that will increase in value, may have spoken for a large number, but I assure you there are a few of us over here who collect and study stamps for a recreation, and the pleasure we derive from them."

Of this fact we are fully convinced, it is the trait of all *Notable Philatelists*; others who wish to be considered notable fail, and cannot understand very often the reason. Yet he who runs may read.

In addition to being the President of the most active Society in the States, Mr. Lombard is serving his second term as a Director of the American Philatelic Association, is a corresponding member of the section of Philately of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, a member of the London, Paris, and Chicago Societies, and of the Collectors' Club, New York.

A final word. Mr. Lombard requested us not to over-estimate his work; we assure him we have not done so. It requires the display of qualities which are mostly highly thought of by mankind to achieve the success he has done. One of the qualities is modesty, which, Mr. Lombard's request shews, is not wanting in him.





The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. FRED. H. GIBSON, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester.

The British Empire.

Cook Islands.—The 2½d. value has now been changed in colour to conform with Postal Union requirements, coming in dark blue.

Adhesive.

2½d. dark blue, no wmk., perf. 11.

Great Britain.—Since writing under this head in July, we have seen the new 10d. and £1 values, which complete the set. The 10d. has been but slightly altered, but the £1, while retaining the shape etc., of the previous stamp, is of considerably more ornamental design.

Adhesives.

10d. purple and scarlet, wmk. Crown, perf. 14.
20s. green, " Crowns, "

Hong Kong.—The 12c. blue, watermark C A. and Crown, which we originally chronicled in dark blue, comes now in the pale shade of the old C.C. issue of this value.

India.—The *Monthly Journal* mentions the existence of a pair of the ¾a. blue of 1856, no watermark, surcharged Service in small type, *inverted* at the top of each stamp.

Malta.—An error occurs in the surcharge listed last month, two stamps in each sheet being overprinted "One Pnney" by mistake.

Mr. G. Pulis, of Valletta, kindly affords us the following information about the issue: ". . . the new provisional 1d. on 2½d. are printed in sheets of 120—two panes of 60 each. The second stamp in the ninth row of each pane is surcharged 'One Pnney,' so that there are two errors in each sheet. The majority of the stamps are those with yellowish gum, an issue that had been withdrawn from circulation some time ago as being insufficiently gummed. Only a few sheets with white gum have been surcharged, and are scarce."

From other sources we learn that all the three catalogued shades of the 2½d. have been overprinted, the error, presumably, existing in each.

Adhesive.

1d. on 2½d. (shades). Error, "One Pnney."

Mauritius.—Mr. Peckitt has just sent us seven new stamps. Two are of the familiar Arms design, and these we chronicled in June. They would, however, seem to be issued merely for the sake of appearing in the near future with an amended inscription, as they bear neither the word "Postage" nor "Revenue." To confirm this view, of the other five varieties Mr. Peckitt sends us, two are of this identical type overprinted with the missing words; the other three belong to the 1879-83 series which already bear the word "Postage."

Upon examination, only one variety is apparent, and that of quite a minor description. The twelfth stamp in the top right-hand pane of the 4c. has the "N" of "Revenue" raised above the rest of the letters.



Adhesives.

Wmk. Crown and C.A., perf. 14.

Surcharged "Postage and Revenue" in black.

4c. lilac and carmine on yellow.

6c. green and carmine.

25c. bistre (1882-3).

Wmk. Crown and C.C., perf. 14.

Surcharged "Postage and Revenue" in black.

50c. green (1879-80).

2r. 50c. brown-purple (1879-80).

New Zealand.—A correspondent of the *Monthly Journal* has found the 5d. olive-black, perf. 10 × 12½, a variety not hitherto recorded.

Adhesive.

5d. olive-black, perf. 10 × 12½.

Natal.—Mr. J. W. Jones sends us a fore-runner of the new set for the Colony, and

Straits Settlements.—Further to the two values (3c. and 8c.), chronicled in previous numbers, we have now received from Mr. Peckitt the 1 cent. and 30 cents. Appended is a full list of the issue, though the above four values have only been placed on sale so far.

	<i>Adhesives.</i>
1 cent green	wmk. Crown and C.A., perf. 14.
3 cents lilac and orange	" " "
4 " " on red	" " "
5 " " "	" " "
8 " " on blue	" " "
10 " " on yellow	" " "
25 " " and green	" " "
30 " grey-green and rose	" " "
50 " " and rose	" " "
1 doll. " and black	" " "
2 dolls. lilac and black	" " "
5 " green and yellow-brown	" " "

Victoria.—*Ewen's Weekly* is informed by a correspondent that he possesses the ½d. green, without postage, imperforate between.

Adhesive.

½d. green (Feb. 1901). Variety, vertically (?), imperf.

Trinidad.—The Gibraltar error, with value omitted, is no longer unique of its kind, as a sheet was recently discovered here, in which the lower label was blank. Six stamps were sold in the ordinary course, and the remainder withdrawn when the error was noticed

Adhesive.

1d. black on vermilion. Error, value omitted.

Foreign Countries.

Belgium.—*Le Timbrophile Belge* lists a new set of Parcel Post stamps which will be on sale on and after 1st October next. They are on plain white paper and are perforated 15½ × 15.

	<i>Adhesives.</i>
<i>Parcel Post Stamps.</i>	
10 centimes, brown and black.	
15 " grey and lilac.	
20 " blue and brown.	
25 " green and red.	
37 " orange and green.	
40 " green and lilac.	
50 " rose and lilac.	
65 " lilac and red.	
70 " blue and red.	
80 " yellow and brown.	
90 " rose and green.	
1 franc violet-brown and orange.	
2 francs bistre and green.	
3 " black and blue.	

Bulgaria.—We gather from the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* that the 2 leva stamp has been changed in colour from red and black to carmine and black, this to obviate confusion between it and the 1 leva, which was rather similar in colouring

Adhesive.
2 leva, carmine and black.

Crete.—Mr. Morley has discovered specimens of the first issue of 1898, printed on yellowish wove paper instead of the usual white laid.

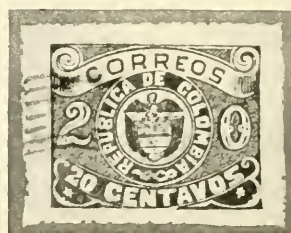
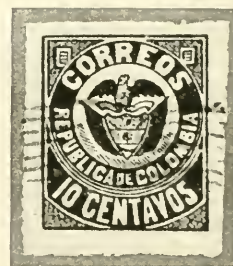
Adhesive.
20 par. mauve on yellowish wove paper.

Cuba.—The *Monthly Journal* mentions having seen a copy of the Special Delivery of stamps of 1899, in which there is no stop after the word "Cuba".

Colombia.—ANTIOQUIA.—It appears that laid and wove papers are used indiscriminately in the issue of which we gave particulars last month. We mentioned the 1c. on the former and have now seen the 1 peso, while various exchanges chronicle the set of peso values thus.

CARTAGENA.—Three more war provisionals are to hand and will be found

illustrated below. They are lithographed on plain white wove paper and pin perf, control mark of wavy lines in red.



Adhesives.

5c. yellow-brown, control mark in red.
10c. black " "
20c. red-violet " "

France.—Messrs. Whitfield King send us the 25c. blue in the new type.

Adhesive.

25c. blue, new type.

MADAGASCAR.—The above firm also send us the current 50c. carmine and blue, surcharged 05 in black, with a bar obliterating the original value. *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* also reports two other similar surcharges, a 10c. on 5 francs and a 15c. on 1 franc; both these and the first named are found with surcharge normal and inverted.

Adhesives.

05 in black on 50c. cent. carmine and blue.
10 " on 5 franc lilac and blue.
15 " on 1 franc green and rose.

TUNIS.—The stock of current 15c., amounting in all to thirty-five thousand stamps, have been surcharged 25 in red with three bars obliterating original value. This was necessitated by the confusion which took place consequent upon having two blue stamps, a 15c. and a 25c., on hand.



Adhesive.

25 in red on 15c. blue, quadrillé paper.

Guatemala.—Pending the receipt of a supply of one and two centavo stamps, the large square fiscal has been surcharged to supply the deficiency. The surcharge in each case is the same except for the difference in value expressed.



Adhesives.

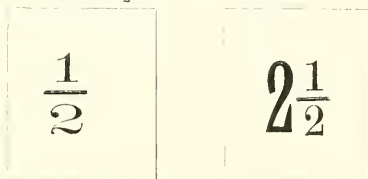
1 cent. on 1c blue, surcharged in red.
2 " " " " "

Hayti.—We have had sent us the current set of twelve values overprinted by the Provisional Government. The surcharge consists of the words "Mai. Gt. Pre. 1902" in three lines in an oblong frame with rounded corners, and is applied in black. *The American Journal of Philately* mentions the 8c. with double surcharge.

Adhesives.

1c. yellow-green, surcharged in black.
2c. carmine " "
3c. green " "
4c. red " "
5c. sky blue " "
7c. grey " "
8c. carmine " "
10c orange " "
15c. olive-grey " "
20c. black " "
50c. brown-lake " "
1g. reddish-purple " "
8c. carmine. Variety, double surcharge.

Holland. **DUTCH INDIES.**—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. and from Mr. Peckitt two provisionals: the 2 cents surcharged " $\frac{1}{2}$," and the 3 cents surcharged " $2\frac{1}{2}$."



Adhesives.

$\frac{1}{2}$ c. on 2c. brown.
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. on 3c. violet.

SURINAM.—*The American Journal of Philately* chronicles the 10c. on 30c. (1898), with double surcharge.

Montenegro.—The currency here is now expressed in "heller" and "kronen," and the stamps have been altered accordingly. The design has also been changed, but this we hope to illustrate next month. The unpaid letter stamps remain the same.

Adhesives.

1 heller blue.
2 " red-lilac.
5 " green.
10 " rose.
25 " blue.
50 " grey-blue.
1 krone brown-lilac.
2 kronen yellow-brown.

Unpaid Letter Stamps.

5 heller orange.
10 " olive.
25 " lilac.
50 " emerald green.
1 krone greenish-grey.

Return Receipt Stamp.

25 heller orange and carmine.

Persia.—Through the kindness of a correspondent we are now able to illustrate the provisional stamps referred to in our last. We cannot yet get confirmation of the existence of the 1kr. red. *The Monthly Journal* also refers to another value we have not yet seen, a 3ch. black. It appears that an attempt was made to roughly perforate these stamps, but it was given up. Our correspondent has a strip of three 5ch. violet perforated horizontally but not vertically, and some of the values we have seen are apparently rouletted. Messrs. Alfred Smith's *Monthly Circular* mentions that the authorities also tried their hand at perforating the type-set series, but without

success; so far, however, we have not seen any but imperforate specimens of these latter.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 1 kran carmine of 1899, surcharged for official use. There are three denominations, 5, 10 and 12 chahis. Except for the difference in the numerals and Persian equivalent thereof, the overprint is the same in the 5 and 12 chahis; but in the 10c the word "Chahis" appears diagonally with inscription above and below; the Persian figures follow the word as in the others, but the two lines underneath it are absent.



Adhesives.

Official Stamps.

5 chahis in black on 1 k. carmine of 1899.

10	..	..	..
12	..	..	..

Paraguay.—Foreign exchanges chronicle a new 28c. stamp and a 40c. blue with numerals at foot much larger; we also have an 8c. in grey-brown, all lithographed and on white wove paper.

Adhesives.

8c. grey-brown.

28c. orange.

40c. blue.

Notes and News.

Philately in the Senate.

It appears that there was more in the story of the temporary status of Philately in the Senate last week than we had knowledge of at the time the paragraph was written in the last week's notes. It appears that the opponents of the Nicaragua route made even more of the postage-stamp feature than we supposed. Instead of being a sort of side-play, it seems the stamp played a really "star" rôle in the proceedings. A Senator who strongly advocated the Panama route secured a large number of the stamps of the Central American State mentioned, bearing the illustration of the smoking volcano. Large numbers of a typewritten statement were made and a copy of the stamp was affixed to the upper portion of the sheet. The statement went on to point out that at the time that illustration was made the seashore was shown, with a large dock in the foreground, the country in the rear and the smoking volcano in the extreme background. That was the condition, according to the statement, of matters at one time. Then the statement went on to say that since the stamps were printed the volcano had broken loose and earthquakes had joined in, and that now there is no dock; the country is devastated and ruin has supplanted prosperity and plenty. It was

pointed out that this volcano was not nearer to the dock than would be a volcano to the proposed Nicaragua canal and that an eruption or an earthquake would ruin and completely wreck a piece of work costing a quarter of a billion dollars.

Well, the Nicaragua route was beaten. No one will probably ever know exactly how much influence a postage stamp had in the determination of the matter. It may have been considerable; it may have had practically none.—*Mekeel's Weekly*.

Inventor of the Postcard.

The inventor of the postcard, Dr. Emanuel Hermann, Councillor of the Austrian Ministry of Commerce, has died in Vienna at the age of sixty-three. The first idea of the postcard was suggested by Dr. Hermann in an article to the "Neue Freie Presse" in 1869, and was adopted by Austria and Hungary. The price was two kreutzers (less than a half-penny), and the card was allowed to contain only twenty words. This restriction, however, was soon dropped. The postcard was adopted by Germany, and afterwards by other nations.

Cuba and Politics.

If the following cutting out of *The Metropolitan Philatelist* be true, it would seem the

Cuba Republican stamps will have a short life:—

General Fitzhugh Lee, who is perhaps as well posted on Cuban affairs as any other man, asserts that the Cubans are facing a crisis, and predicts that the only probable outcome is annexation of the island Republic to the United States. He seems to think that the sooner this is accomplished the better for all parties involved. There seems to be quite a strong sentiment in Washington along this line, but it has been hinted that there is a lobby at work here pressing that feature of the matter for commercial purposes. The question will undoubtedly come up good and strong in the next session of Congress.

Griqualand.

The exhibits of this colony at the exhibition of the countries affected by the war held in the London Philatelic Society's Rooms, in November last, showed that the portion of the Society's book on this colony required correction. Lieut. Napier, R.N., very kindly undertook to write upon the subject, and his paper will very shortly appear in this Journal. The question of the settings up has been a most difficult one to settle in consequence of the scarcity of these stamps in very large blocks. We wonder if some of our readers could help? It is quite possible some who have not already been communicated with privately may happen to have one or more blocks of these stamps with either the small or large G, and, if so, will they kindly send them, per registered post, to Mr. G. Fred H. Gibson, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester. Every care will be taken of them, and the stamps will be returned in the course of a few days.

Bermuda.

Among the most dangerous forgeries of the scarce surcharges of Bermuda are a lot that a collector on the island was instrumental in having made at a printing establishment on the plea "that it was next to impossible to procure genuine copies of the originals, and if they could be got it would only be by paying a fabulous price for each copy; and having some friends who were enthusiastic stamp collectors, he had conceived of the idea of having some facsimiles of the originals made for presentation to his friends. The facsimiles, though valueless for purposes of sale or exchange, he said, would be prized because they would serve to complete collections in which they would appear as facsimiles only."—*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*.

Hayti,

V. Gurdji, Mt. Vernon, New York, sends us a specimen of the 1 cent of the new set of Haytian provisionals, and writes as follows: "The Haytian Government, finding the necessity for a provisional issue, has surcharged the 1898-99 issue from 1 centime to 1 gourde, with the following

overprint in black, 'Mai—Gt. Pre—1902,' in three lines enclosed in frame, which means, May, Provisional Government, 1902. These provisionals will be in use until the election of a new President, which will take place at the beginning of August."—*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*.

"A Peep Behind the Scenes."

Mr. Nankivell has recently written a book entitled, "Stamp Collecting as a Pastime," the preface to which commences, "Many people are at a loss to understand the fascination that surrounds the pursuit of stamp collecting. They are surprised at the clannishness of stamp collectors, and their life-long devotion to their hobby. They are thunderstruck at the enormous prices paid for rare stamps, and at the fortunes that are spent and made in stamp collecting. The following pages will afford a peep behind the scenes."

The sum of one shilling sent to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, whose address will be found in our advertisement columns, will enable our readers to take this peep.

Philatelic Loyalty.

The Salisbury newspaper for August 12th tells us that on Coronation night Castle Street was quite a blaze of colour, nearly every house displaying flags, and in addition numerous shops and residences were draped with bunting, etc. Mr. H. Brown's house was adorned in pleasing style and was illuminated at night by fairy lights and Chinese lanterns. The parapet of the building was draped with red, festooned with coloured flowers, and bands of red, white, and blue crossed each other from the corners of each window. Across the centre of the building was the inscription "God Save the King" with festoons of flowers on a red ground and below was a picture of his Majesty in a frame. In the space above the inscription was a crown and the letters "E.R." with gold on a red ground, whilst in another space was a trophy of flags. The whole was enclosed in a border of blue. The inscription was the work of Mr. Brown's employees, and was composed entirely of used postage stamps, some 10,000 being used in its composition. The picture of the King, which was the work of Mr. Brown, was, with the exception of the face, also composed of stamps of different colours, grey stamps being used for the ermine, yellow for the borders, and blue for the Garter riband, etc. The groundwork of the inscription, which measured eight yards long by two feet wide, was composed of the old red penny English stamps, the words of 2d. blue New South Wales, and the border of green 1d. South Australian. Bravo! Mr. William Brown de Salisbury.

New Postal Regulations.

From the 1st of July the issue of post-marked sets of Victorian postal issues will

be stopped. This will be gratifying news to the true Philatelist. Unfortunately, much mischief has already been done by the pettifogging and unnecessary tactics of the Victorian Postal Department, and it is a pity that Mr. Drake, the Federal Postmaster-General, did not abolish this illegal use of the postal regulations as soon as he came into power. We beg to remind him that the practice still reigns in New South Wales Postal Department, and we hope that he will at once stop it, as he has done in Victoria. From what has of late come under our notice, more than one reform is necessary in the Postal Departments over which he has supreme control. We have been shown several issues of Tasmanian stamps, now out of date, that have been postmarked "to order." As they all bore the same date, the evidence of fraud having

been committed is strong. The issues we speak of are apart from the "Revenue" surcharged set which ceased to be a postal issue on a certain date, but a large number of which were also, conveniently, postmarked on the last day of issue. Mr. Drake, unfortunately in this respect, is not a Philatelist, otherwise he would quickly realise the danger of allowing such nefarious practices to continue. It is also unfortunate that he holds to the opinion that the five years book-keeping clause in the Federal Constitution Act, must apply to the Postal Department also, and that no Federal stamps can be issued until that period expires. The legal reading of the clause has not as yet been thoroughly gone into, but the sooner the question is definitely settled the better it will be for the status of the Federal Postal Department.--*The Australian Philatelist*.

Correspondence.

3d. on 4d. Blue Orange Free State.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—I came across in one of Mr. W. Morley's stock books a pane of the 3d. on 4d. blue Orange Free State, and being interested in this country I took particulars of the setting. As it may be of value to your readers I enclose copy.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons give 5 types, A, B, C, D & E; there is also a minor variety of a dropped *d*, which I call A1, as it occurs only once on a pane.

e	e	e	e	c	c
c	c	c	c	c	c
c	c	c	c	c	b
b	b	b	b	b	b
b	b	b	b	b	b
b	d	d	d	d	d
d	d	d	d	d	d
a	a	a	a	a	a
a	a	a	a	a	a
a	a	a	a	a	A1

It will be seen the types occur on the pane as follows:—A 17 times, B 14 times, C 13 times, D 11 times, E 4 times— I remain yours faithfully,

J. H. ABBOTT.

St. Helena Mail.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—Many collectors may have wondered why letters arriving from St. Helena, and to all appearances satisfying the ordinary postal requirements of one penny per half oz., should bear three-halfpence in postage. The reason is this: St. Helena has but one "regular" mail per month, and advantage is often taken of freight steamers trading between the island and the Cape, or England, to send letters by them. Of course masters of these steamers want fair remuneration for their trouble, and now a notice has emanated from the Island Authorities stating that letters by private vessel must bear an additional half-penny stamp, such additional postage to be applied as compensation to the masters. This regulation also applies to letters bearing the ordinary foreign postage of twopence half-penny and sent via Cape, or England.—Yours faithfully,

J. HOWARD ROSKILLY.

St. Albans,

August, 1902.

P.S.—St Helenians, I believe, are very dissatisfied with the irregularity of their "regular" mail, mentioned above.

Burglary at Messrs. Bright & Son's.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—We regret to say that our premises were entered by burglars last night and a large quantity of stamps stolen by them.—Yours faithfully,

August 20th, 1902.

BRIGHT & SON.

THE
Philatelic Record.

SEPTEMBER, 1902.

Editorial Notes.

SOME months ago we were informed by one of our readers that there was a large stock on hand at Malta of the 2½d. stamps. The demand for this value became very small after the introduction of the one penny Colonial postage. Our correspondent went on to say that he had been informed by the Postmaster that it had been decided to work off the surplus stock by overprinting them One Penny. We were not at liberty to make use of this information at the time, as it had been given to our correspondent upon the express condition that it was not for publication. About a month after this we saw an announcement of a forthcoming provisional for Malta in one of the English papers. The information seems to have been given to several collectors under the same conditions, and consequently soon became an open secret. There is no surer way of advertising than of telling all your friends with the strictest injunctions as to secrecy.

**How the Game
is Played
at Malta.**

When the stamps reached the Post Office the error "Pnney" was discovered; in fact, we suspect it was known long before the stamps left the printing works. Our correspondent informs us that he left money at the Post Office for one entire sheet to be sent to him as soon as issued, and the Postmaster promised that this should be done. The promise was kept, so far as the date of issue was concerned; in fact, it is rather a question whether the stamps were not sent the day before they were put on sale to the public. But what did our friend receive? Two half sheets (we believe the sheets were divided before being surcharged), but with the two bottom rows of *both* missing, and extra stamps added to make up. In other words, the errors had been taken away.

Our correspondent immediately concluded there must be an error on the sheet, as his request had not been properly complied with, so at once wrote, sending a further remittance for one. This duly came to hand, and his feelings can be easier pictured than described when he found that the two bottom rows containing the errors had been again removed.

In view of these facts it will require something a little more convincing than the story of a motor car having shaken the printing

house and disturbed the type while the overprinting was being done, to satisfy us that the error was not intentional.

There were 3,000 sheets surcharged, consequently there are 12,000 of the error, there being four on each sheet and one on each pane.

The latest development shows the Postmaster is a salesman of remarkable acumen. There are, it appears, still some 2½d. stamps left, and to prevent, so it is said, these being bought by the public and surcharged unofficially, the Postmaster has put a manuscript tick in red ink at the corner of each of them. How considerate!

It is a clever move to make a market for the unsold stamps, but we sincerely trust that collectors, one and all, will set their face against such trafficking.

THE collection of fiscals has of late received more notice in the Philatelic journals than perhaps ever before, and we do

Fiscalism. not doubt that many more collectors are interested in them to-day than at any previous period. The recent announcement of the placing upon the market of a quantity of bogus fiscal stamps of Crete decidedly lends colour to this view. It is a long time since this kind of fraud was first practised upon Philatelists, and it has been often repeated, but we believe the present is the initial attempt of the smart set to operate upon fiscalists. Notoriety is absolutely essential to success, and never was this truer than it is to-day, wherewithal it brings penalties in its train, not the least noticeable of which is the one in question.

Personally, we can admit of very little sympathy with the collection of fiscals. We hold the perhaps old-fashioned view that the scope offered by adhesive postage stamps is sufficiently wide not to warrant one wandering into new fields. At least, such is our experience. In point of fact, we find it too large, and often sigh for ways and means of reducing it.

Again, such fiscals as Judicature, Dog Licenses, Bankruptcy, Probate, Tobacco, Customs, *et hoc genus*, are not the most enlivening reminders of the past. Fiscalists also unfortunately collect all used stamps, a form of collecting which has never appealed to us as the ideal, so far at all events as postage stamps are concerned. Whether if this were changed, and the collection of unused substituted, we should be drawn into the fold, must remain a hidden mystery. This much we can truthfully say, that in such a case we should have a tender spot in our hearts for fiscalists, especially those who purchased all the values of the Income Tax series, which we feel sure the Chancellor of the Exchequer would issue and sell at face value, without the slightest objection, for their and his benefit.



Notable Philatelists.

Mr. Wilmot Corfield.

THE City of Birmingham has been from the earliest days of Philately a centre of thought and activity, being for many years the home of Sir Rowland Hill, Messrs. E. L. Pemberton (the Apostle of Philately), Edward Shorthouse, C. J. Phillips, W. T. Wilson, and W. B. Avery, whilst its Society is perhaps the most progressive of its kind in the world. Here the subject of our interview was born in 1859, and well remembers the ubiquitous Mr. Pemberton in his famous velveteen jacket, and the part which he played in the "Pendragon" controversy.

Mr. Corfield began to collect at the early age of six, the date being impressed upon his mind by a sad occurrence. His brother, Winter, considerably older than himself, who had come under the influence of Mr. Pemberton, had a collection, excellent for those days, carefully mounted in a Lallier album, and was probably one of the earliest collectors in England. Wilmot used to watch his brother busy with his stamps, and naturally, in due course, received a few with which to start on his own account, at least one of which, an Sc. yellow, Hong Kong, 1862, is still in his possession. This happened only a few days before the death of his elder brother from an illness following upon an accident in the cricket field. Some years afterwards he acquired his brother's stamps, so that his present collection may be considered to date back even prior to 1865, and is no doubt one of the oldest continuous ones in existence. It has never been broken up, indifferent copies only having frequently been replaced by better specimens, but not a single stamp has been taken out for the express purpose of sale or exchange, nor does Mr. Corfield ever remember having bought a stamp with the sole object of selling it again, although of course he has many times been obliged to buy some not required when they formed part of a lot of which others were wanted. He has now a very large general collection, and is most particular as to arrangement and mounting, good condition, whether used or unused, being essential. He hates perforations, unless they are sufficiently pronounced to be easily discernible by the naked eye.

He collects everything, postal and fiscal, of all countries, believing that every Philatelist, no matter how enthusiastic a specialist in certain directions, should have a general collection also, and that he should never lose an opportunity of adding to it when he has the chance of doing so.

He well remembers his first visit to London, when neither such things as Temple Bar and Northumberland House, which were still standing, nor even a visit on the night of his arrival to the House of Commons under the personal guidance of the present Colonial Secretary, then new to Parliament and fresh from the Mayoral cares

Notable Philatelists.



Mr. Wilmot Corfield.

of Birmingham, impressed his youthful mind more deeply than a glimpse from the window of a passing cab on the way from Euston Station of a Gower Street doorway of somewhat severe aspect bearing the simple legend "Stanley Gibbons," and being the very portal of the shrine of shrines of Philately itself.

In 1882 Mr. Corfield settled in London, and in 1886 went to Calcutta, his experiences on the journey convincing him that it is a mistake to suppose that travel, as a rule, affords increased opportunities for Philatelic finds or research, but that, generally speaking, a collector has better chances of acquiring anything which he requires on easier terms and with less delay in London or Paris than anywhere else in the world, although it is an undoubted fact that a collection developed in various countries has for its owner charms which it could not possess had his hunting grounds been confined to the land of his birth. He could write chapters of interesting incidents, of peeps into curious places in Europe, Asia and Africa, of barterings with strange peoples, of friendships formed, of ever accumulating trivialities, each of interest in its way, and of many picturesque episodes in picturesque settings which have made up his Philatelic life from childhood to the middle forties.

In 1877 the *Philatelic Quarterly* awarded him the first prize in an open competition for an essay on "The Benefits Arising from Stamp Collecting," the prize being two guineas-worth of stamps from approval sheets. He then had a fair quantity of Heligolands, postmarked, but the approval sheets contained such a number of nice clean stamps of this country—so clean!—that he now possesses these, whilst the postmarked copies are gone.

About this time also a journal offered a prize for a poem of a Philatelic character. Mr. Corfield entered the lists, but his effort was sent in too late for competition. It was simply panoramic, the argument supposing the abolition of postage stamps by Great Britain. Why it was fancied that this country would ever permit anything so foolish, he cannot now imagine; but such was the case, and the consequences were painful, dreadful things happening all over the Empire. Canto XIX., in which Philatelia is upbraiding Britannia for her crass stupidity, was to this effect:—

"I hear the shouts that rend the air by Nelson's column in the Square,
When red-fanged mob with curse and blow hurl great Trafalgar's hero low;
I see fair Albion's legions fall, and red the turf of far Bengal,
While rebel Rajahs ride afar to greet the stallions of the Czar,
And crow and kite and raven large gorge blood from pave of mosque and taj.

* * * * *

Till victor by the Hooghly's tide the flapping Russian Eagles ride."

This all happening on account of the loss of the stamps as a factor in England's commercial prosperity! The poem was well meant, but after touching in the same strain upon misfortunes of a similar kind, which befell each stamp-issuing Dependency of the British crown, got rather on one's nerves. Still, it seemed a pity to waste it, so, very many years later, the author doctored it up, and parts of it appeared in one of the oldest of the English serio-comic weeklies, accompanied by a spirited cartoon representing Mr. Gladstone with an axe on his shoulder leading forth Hibernia, pallid and haggard, to an unpleasant

kind of death, while prominent politicians of both parties looked on in attitudes of delight or despair, varying according to their party tastes. Since then Mr. Corfield's pen has been fairly busy in various Philatelic directions.

He was an early member of the late Philatelic Society of Bengal, and edited its organ, *The Philatelic World* (except for a brief interval), from April, 1895, to March, 1897. On the formation of the Philatelic Society of India, into which that of Bengal was merged, he conducted *The Philatelic Journal of India* for the greater part of 1898. Finding, however, that the editing in Calcutta of an important periodical, with contributors scattered throughout India, and some in England, is not the easy matter which it would seem at first sight, but a very much heavier task than many imagine, and that his professional duties left him insufficient leisure for a proper performance of the necessary work, he was reluctantly compelled to retire from his position. By that time most of the Philatelic Olympians of the East had rallied round the new Society, and the *Journal* found in Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson an ideal editor of proved ability.

The Kasauli Stamp Exchange Club, of which he was secretary from September 1st, 1895, to September 30th, 1897, had a curious history. Commenced by the Rev. H. B. Hyde, and including amongst its members many of the best known Indian collectors, it became too prosperous, and its very success killed it. The secretaryship became a tax, and Mr. Corfield wisely does not believe in permitting any hobby to be other than a pleasure, but thinks that when its character is changed into a burden, it is time to drop it. He therefore looked out for some one to take his place, but, as no one volunteered, the Club died in the fulness of its strength, and the proceeds of its effects were handed over as a decent donation to the Philatelic Society of India. Its final Report states that no loss either of stamps or money was incurred during the whole time of its existence. Mr. Corfield subsequently took over the secretaryship of the Dum-Dum Stamp Club from the late Major du Moulin, relinquishing it later to Captain Dickson, and remaining a member of the committee.

He is a member of the Bangalore Club, joined the Philatelic Society of London in 1899, and, being a confirmed Fiscalist, the Fiscal Society a few months ago. He was treasurer of the Philatelic Society of India from its foundation in 1897 to the end of 1898, being specially fitted for such an office by his membership of the Society of Accountants and Auditors, and after a visit to Europe in 1899 was, on his return, elected secretary from January, 1900.

Mr. Corfield recalls from amongst his most pleasant Philatelic recollections the London Exhibition in the old Madame Tussaud's Rooms in 1890, and the one held in Manchester in 1899, which were of special interest to him as an active organiser and competitor at four successful exhibitions in Calcutta.

He well remembers the beginning of the *Philatelic Record*, and one of his regrets is that on leaving for India he parted with the earlier volumes for which he had subscribed, and which would now be most valuable for the representative Philatelic Library which he is forming for his own use.

Decrees.

Italy.

No. 295.

Referring to the Terms of the Postal Laws approved by the Royal Decree of December 24th, 1889, No. 501 ;

Referring to the Order for the execution of the said Terms approved by our Decree of February 10th, 1901, No. 120 ;

Referring to our Decrees of June 6th, 1901, No. 255, and September 12th, 1901, No. 442, by which the issue of new types of stamps was confirmed ;

In view of the opportunity of issuing also new post cards and letter cards :

On the proposition of our Secretary of State for Posts and Telegraphs,

We have Decreed as follows :—

Art. I. The Post Cards for correspondence mentioned in Articles 56 and 133 of the General Rules for the Postal Service, approved by our Decree of February 10th, 1901, No. 120, which shall be on sale from October 1st, 1902, shall bear as stamp our Sovereign effigy.

Art. II. The Letter Cards mentioned in Article 62 of the General Rules above mentioned, issued after October 1st, 1902, shall bear the franking stamp of the types adopted for the fiscal stamps by our Decree of June 6th, 1901, No. 255.

Art. III. The Post Cards and Letter Cards now in use shall remain so until December 31st, 1903. After that time they will no longer be available, but holders of them will be able to exchange them at any Post Office from January 1st, 1904, to December 31st of the same year. Afterwards they will lose all value.

Art. IV. Conformably with Article 139 of the Rules approved by our Decree of February 10th, 1901, No. 120, the Administration of Posts and Telegraphs reserves to itself the right to decide whether the Post Cards and Letter Cards actually current should be sold for collectors, and, if so, at what price.

We order, &c.,

Rome, July 3rd, 1902.

VITTORIO EMANUELE.

T. GALIMBERTI.

Witness : The Keeper of the Seals.

(Signed) COCCO-ORTU.

No. 330.

Referring to the Terms of the Postal Laws, approved by the Royal Decree of December 24th, 1899, No. 501 ;

Referring to the Order for the execution of the said Terms approved by our Decree of February 10th, 1901, No. 120 ;

Referring to our Decree of June 6th, 1901, No. 255 ;

On the proposition of our Secretary of State for Posts and Telegraphs,

We have Decreed as follows:—

Art. I. An issue of special Postage Stamps of 25, 20 and 5 centesimi, and of Post Cards of 10 centesimi for the use of the Italian Post Offices in Albania is approved.

The said Stamps and Cards shall be the same as those current in the Kingdom, but with the following surcharges in red, to be executed by the *Imprimerie Gouvernementale des Papiers-valeurs*:—

A.	On the stamps of 25 centesimi the surcharge	ALBANIA 40 Parà 40.
B.	.. .. 20	ALBANIA 35 Parà 35.
C.	.. .. 5	ALBANIA 10 Parà 10.
D.	On post cards of 10	ALBANIA 20 Parà 20.

Art. II. The Italian Post Offices in Albania to which the said stamps, &c., shall be sent at the price current in the Kingdom, shall sell them at the price indicated by the surcharge, and the difference, less or more, as the case may be, shall be debited to the balance of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs, or stand to the credit of the receiving office.

Art. III. The present Decree shall come into force from September 1st next.

We order, &c.,

Rome, July 3rd, 1902.

VITTORIO EMANUELE.

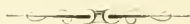
T. GALIMBERTI.

Witness: The Keeper of the Seals.

(Signed) COCCO-ORTU.

There are only three Post Offices in Albania: Scutari, opened on November 1st, 1901; Durazzo, on June 25th, 1902; and Janina, on August 16th, 1902.

The Stamps and Post Cards have now been issued, but the surcharge is in black, and not in red.—ED.]

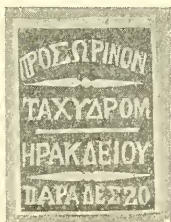


The Stamps of Crete.

By Theodor Haas.*

AS is well known, the existence of the stamps of Crete dates only from recent times and was a consequence of the war between Turkey and Greece, which commenced in the autumn of 1897. The cause of the war was, that the Christian population of the island desired to break away from the Turkish suzerainty and to join Greece. As was natural, the Hellenic State was quite agreeable to receive the beautiful island. Turkey, however, was not willing to be deprived of such a fertile province without a protest. The war commenced, and in Thessaly's plains the Greeks were defeated several times in such a decisive manner, that without the intervention of the European Powers there is no doubt that Greece would have lost her independence, or at least her best provinces. The victor had to be content with a few small portions of territory, which formed more or less only corrections along the frontier, but practically lost the island of Crete, which, although it was to remain under the Turkish suzerainty, was nevertheless to be ruled by a Christian Governor, under the supervision of the great European Powers. The first Governor was the Greek Prince George.

After the Turkish troops had withdrawn from Crete, several of the great Powers landed commandos on the island. The English were the first to establish in their district—the province of Candia—a postal service to the interior of the island. The decree was passed at the end of November, 1898, and stamps of the values of 10 and 20 parades were ordered in Athens. Meanwhile, *i.e.*, until the stamps were delivered by the lithographer Grundmann, of Athens, Mr. Berinda, the chief of the Austrian postal service, was requested to provide provisional stamps. The result was a very simple and primitive production.



Only 3,000 were made and circulated from the 25th of November, to the 3rd of December, 1898. The die was destroyed on the 20th of January, in the presence of several officials. The inscription reads: "Provisional Post Herakleion, parades 20"; the paper is white, the impression in colour, but in such a manner that the letters appear in white, imperforate.

20 parades, violet.

*Translated by G. B. Duerst from the *Illustr. Brief. Journal*.

From the 3rd of December the stamps printed in Athens were used. They were printed lithographically in sheets of 100 stamps, coloured impression on white paper and perforated 12. The inscription is the same as for the last issue, "Provisional Post Herakleion," and the value "10 or 20 parades" in the centre. The first value was intended for newspapers and the latter for letters.



10 parades blue, about 5,000 printed (?)

20 „ green, „ 50,000 „ (?)

Specimens imperforate vertically exist in both values.

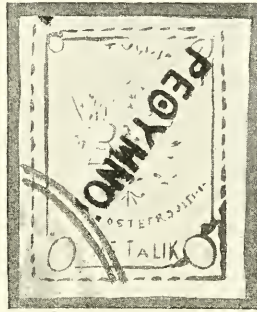
After about five months the stamps appeared in other colours. Whether they were in circulation until the issue of uniform stamps for the whole island on January 1st, 1900, is uncertain. The numbers printed of these two stamps is not known yet.

10 parades, light brown.

20 „ carmine.

During the occupation of Crete by the great Powers the Russians had seized the province of Rethymos, which name appears as Rethymnon or Rethymne also on the stamps and on the obliterating dies. It was not known for months that stamps had been issued by the Russian Military Authorities. The first news of this appeared at the end of June, 1899. It was at first generally believed that they were not official; not a single Philatelic journal chronicled them seriously. In fact it was said openly that they were common swindles, that stamps for the Russian postal service in the province of Rethymno were absolutely unnecessary, as in that province no postal service existed either before or during the Russian occupation. According to other reports, however, the Russians are said to have established several post offices in the interior of the province, in order to keep the lines of communication open between the various small bodies of troops. Even admitting this to be correct, it is no proof of the necessity of stamps, especially for a field-post service between different commandos, which, as is well known, is always conducted free of charge. Should, however, the stamps yet have been in circulation, then the third issue in two types must be considered without doubt as a bogus issue, as the different values of the first type appeared in six, and those of the second type in four different colours each.

The first issue was made with a hand die on white paper and was imperforate; the perforation was, however, indicated in the outside



line of the design. The shape is an upright rectangle, measuring 34×21 mm.; in the centre is the double-headed Russian eagle, above which is the word "RETYMNO," below in French "TIMBRE POSTE PROVISOIRE" and "METALIK"; there are small ovals containing the figure 1 in the four corners.

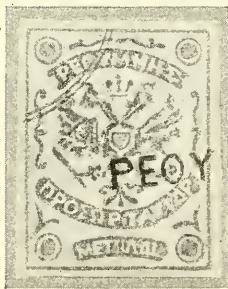
A metalik is said to be the fourth part of a Turkish piastre, consequently a little over $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

The first issue consisted of only one value—

1 metalik, blue.

I must also state that there is a control mark in violet on each block of four stamps. This control mark takes the form of a circle 33 mm. in diameter, and contains, besides the Russian eagle, the inscription, "Expeditionary corps on the island of Crete," in the Russian language.

The second issue bears a strong similarity to the first in design, but is by no means identical with it; the same control mark was, however, used, but in blue. The shape is an upright rectangle, in the centre of which is the Russian eagle; above and below are solid arched bands containing the inscription in Greek, "Provisional Post of Rethymne."



In the four corners are small circles containing the figures of value, and at the bottom in a curved band the word "METALLIK," also in Greek. The stamps were printed by hand on white paper and are imperforate.

1 metallik, light green.

1 ,, rose (?).

2 ,, very dark grey

The stamps of the third issue were printed lithographically, and are much better executed than the two first issues. The inscriptions are in Greek, but are not abbreviated as in the second issue. The translation remains, however, the same, "Provisional Post of Rethymne." In a tall oval there is the Trident, the attribute of the God of the Sea, "Poseidon," considered to be the protector of Rethymne. The four angles contain four circles with figures of values, the two upper ones being coloured and the two lower ones white. The value is at the bottom in metallik or grosion (equivalent to the piastre). The control mark is at the top, and consists of a small round die containing the Russian eagle, and is blue. Lithographically printed on coloured paper and perforated 11½.

1 metallik, blue, pink, green, violet, yellow, salmon, and black.

2 " " " " " " " " "

1 grosion " " " " " " " " "

The second type of this issue—one could almost call it a separate issue—shows the following primary differences: The figures in the lower angles are coloured, and in the white rectangular spaces between inscriptions of the oval there are coloured stars; the control mark is violet. Perforated and printed same as the first type.

1 metallik, pink, blue, green, violet.

2 " " " " " "

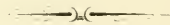
1 grosion " " " "

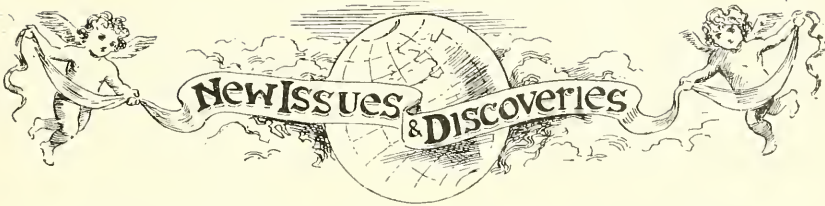
It is said that the plates for all these issues have been destroyed.

These issues were variously and in many instances very faultily described in the Philatelic press; in some cases the writers contradicted each other directly, and the consequence was that the Rethymno issues were relegated to a foot-note in the 1900 Senf.

This caused a gentleman living in Rethymno to send me copies of all the decrees bearing upon these stamps, as they exist in the archives of the town hall at Rethymno. The accuracy of the copies is certified by the Under-Secretary of the Prefect, who has added the official seal and also the fiscal stamp. The Prefect, Mr. A. Boreades, certified the signature of the Under-Secretary Dascalakis, and the English Vice-Consul the signature of the Prefect Boreades, adding a fiscal stamp "Consular Service" of 5s. The first two signatures are dated January 20th and February 1st, 1900. Before sending the copy, the possessor got the signature of the Prefect Boreades again certified by the Russian Vice-Consul, who also affixed his official seal. This was done on October 15th; the letter, with the copy, reached me at the beginning of November. After all these formalities there can be no doubt but that the copy I received is an exact copy of the original decrees.

(To be continued.)





The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

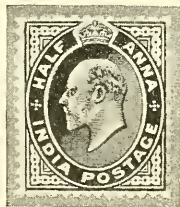
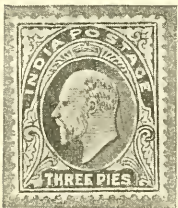
G. FRED. H. GIBSON, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester.

The British Empire.

Great Britain. — *Morley's Philatelic Journal* gives the following particulars of the number of stamps printed with the overprint "Board of Education."

½d.	..	..	..	..	60,000
1d.	..	..	..	..	240,000
2½d.	..	..	..	..	60,000
5d.	..	..	..	..	60,000
1s.	..	..	..	..	30,000

India. — Mr. Howard, of Bombay, sends us three stamps of the new type and mentions they were issued on the morning of the 9th of August. The colours, &c., are as before, but we illustrate two of the designs as they are an improvement on the previous types; the 1 anna is very similar to the ½ anna except that the words "One anna" and "India Postage" are more contracted and the space thus saved is occupied by the circle surrounding the head as in the previous 1 anna of 1900.



Adhesive.

3 pias, pearl grey, wnk. Star, perf. 14.	
½ anna, pale green	" "
1 anna, carmine	" "

Leeward Islands. — Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the current 4d., 6d., and 7d. stamps surcharged "One Penny." In the first two the overprint is applied in two lines, but on the 7d. the words are much smaller and read across the stamp; in each

case the original value is cancelled by a single bar.

There are no very noticeable varieties. Reports vary considerably as to the number issued. *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* puts the total at 31,200 stamps, while one of our correspondents in Montserrat mentions that the total sold there was only 2,700.

One Penny

One Penny

Adhesives.

1d., in black, on 4d., lilac and orange.
1d. " on 6d., lilac and brown.
1d. " on 7d., lilac and grey.

Mauritius. — Mr. Peckitt adds another Postage and Revenue provisional to those listed in our last; this time it is the 15c. green and orange that has been surcharged.

Adhesive.

15c., green and orange. Surcharged Postage and Revenue, in black.

L'Echo de Timbrologie gives the following interesting particulars of the numbers issued, both of those surcharges mentioned previously and the above.

Overprinted "Postage and Revenue."

4c. arms	..	..	540,000
6c.	..	..	180,000
15c.	..	..	250,500
25c. Queen's Head.	..	..	73,560
50c.	..	..	54,540
2r. 50c.	..	..	8,400

New South Wales. — *The Australian Philatelist* is informed on the best authority

that it is the intention of the New South Wales post office to immediately issue a stamp of the value of 2s. 6d., and that all the Australian States not possessing such a value in their current set are to at once follow suit. The resolution that the issue was to take place, dates as from the 1st July, and the idea is to similarize the values issued by all the States; thus we can expect a 2s. 6d. stamp for New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia almost immediately.

North Borneo.—A decent interval having elapsed since their appearance in January, the 10 and 16c. have been surcharged "British Protectorate," the first in carmine and the second in black.



Adhesives.

- 10c. dull purple and chocolate-brown, surcharged in carmine.
- 16c. yellow-brown and green, surcharged in black.

New Zealand.—We illustrate the new type of unpaid letter stamps. So far we have

only seen the denomination shown below. The stamps are on thick white paper, perf. 11, and do not appear to be water-marked.



Adhesive.

Unpaid letter stamps.

$\frac{3}{4}$ d., moss green, centre carmine, perf. 11.

St. Lucia.—The $\frac{3}{4}$ d. and 1d. of the new set are now to hand; they are of the usual Colonial type.

Adhesives.

- $\frac{3}{4}$ d. lilac and green, wmk. Crown C.A., perf. 14.
- 1d. lilac and carmine, " " "

South Australia.—Since chronicling two values of the new unpaid letter stamps, we are advised that the following have also been issued.

Adhesives.

Unpaid letter stamps.

- 1d. pale green, perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12, wmk. Crown and N.S.W
- 4d. " " " " "
- 5d. " " " " "
- 6d. " " " " "
- 10d. " " " " "
- 1s. " " " " "
- 2s. " " " " "
- 5s. " " " " "

Transvaal.—We have been shown the 2s. 6d. value overprinted "E. R. I. Pass Two Shillings" in four lines, while the original value is cancelled by two bars; we should imagine, however, it is only for fiscal use.

Trinidad.—Mr. Peckitt has shown us a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp of the current type, but printed entirely in dull green instead of lilac and green as before.

Adhesive.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. dull green, perf. 14, wmk. C.A. and Crown.

Uganda.—*Even's Weekly* has seen the current 1a printed in aniline pink, instead of carmine as before, watermark and perforation as usual.

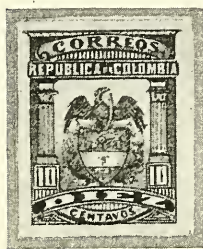
Adhesive.

1 anna, aniline pink.

Foreign Countries.

Colombia.—We have just seen two new stamps of the value of 10 and 20c., but whether these are only two denominations of a complete new set, or an isolated issue of two values, we do not know.

The stamps are lithographed on tinted wove paper, and are imperforate.

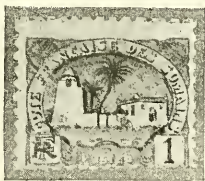


Adhesives.

10c. black on rose, Imperf.
20c. pale brown on buff. „

France. DJIBOUTI.—*Ewen's Weekly* mentions that the 30c. brown and green Obock, and the 50c. blue on rose Djibouti, have been surcharged for use as 5 and 10 centime stamps respectively.

We have also seen the 1, 2 and 5c. of the new pictorial design, and illustrate the initial value; the centre is in the second colour named.



Adhesives.

"5 centimes Djibouti" on 30c. brown and green Obock.
"10 centimes" on 50c. blue on rose Djibouti.
1c. violet and orange, perf. 11.
2c. brown and green, „
5c. green, „

Guatemala.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 25 centavos, carmine on buff, fiscal, surcharged "Correos, 1902, Seis 6 cts." in black in three lines.

Adhesive.

6 ctavos. on 25c. carmine on buff, fiscal stamp.

Italy.—We are indebted to a correspondent in Italy for specimens of the current stamps surcharged for use from Italian Post Offices in Albania, and list them below.

The surcharge is in two lines in black, the word Albania being followed by the

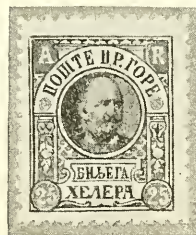
new denomination expressed in numerals both before and after "Parà."

Adhesives.

5c. green, surcharged "Albania, 10 Parà 10" in black.
20c. orange, " "Albania, 35 Parà 35" "
25c. blue, " "Albania, 40 Parà 40" "

Mexico.—We have seen the current 50c. 1 and 5 pesos, with double surcharge, and also single inverted surcharge. The *American Journal of Philately* also mentions the discovery of the 20c. brown-rose and 5 pesos scarlet of the previous issue with the surcharge inverted.

Montenegro.—Through the kindness of Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. we are now enabled to illustrate the new type both for postage and return receipt. The unpaid letter stamps are identical with those formerly in use, save for the difference in currency expressed.



Salvador.—Mr. Ostar has sent us rather a curiosity. It is an envelope addressed to a firm in Hamburg, at which town it arrived on 22nd November, 1892. The postage of 11c. has been defrayed by one of the ordinary 5c. stamps of this year, while two large type set fiscals, dated 1891, 1c. and 5c. make up the necessary amount.

Uruguay.—The tiny initials on either side of the surcharge on the official stamps have apparently had their use, as we have seen the 5 and 10c. of the set with two diamond-shaped pieces punched out, entirely removing the letters, and, considering their size, an unnecessarily large portion of the stamp as well.

Philately in the Mags.

Chili: 1854 Issues, 5c. Lithograph.

Mr. E. D. Bacon has recently written an exhaustive paper on the stamps of Chili, which contains a mass of most valuable information. In it he treats of a most interesting discovery he has made in these stamps. We will let him explain it in his own words, which we extract from the *London Philatelist* :—

I have now an important discovery to make known in connection with the printing of some of these early stamps. Very soon after I commenced collecting Chili stamps with the view of writing the present paper, my friend Mr. T. W. Hall showed me a postmarked pair of the five centavos value that had been sent to him by Mr. John N. Luff, of New York. The right-hand stamp of this pair had a curious break about the centre of the outside frame-line at the top, and Mr. Luff, with his usual acumen, pointed out that he did not see how this flaw could occur in a stamp printed from a line-engraved plate, and if he was right in his conjecture, could this particular pair, he asked, have been printed by lithography? I submitted the stamps to more than one practical printer in London, including Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., and they were all of the opinion that the pair showed unmistakable signs of having been printed from a lithographic transfer taken from the engraved plate. Since then Mr. Hall and myself, by dint of constant searching, have come across other specimens, and amongst these are two or three stamps which show even more pronounced flaws than the one I have described.

We know from an extract from a report of the Minister of the Interior, a translation of which I shall give further on, that the Santiago printers found great difficulty at first in producing the stamps from Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co.'s engraved plates, and there can be absolutely no doubt that in the case of the five centavos value they took a transfer from the plate and printed a certain number of the stamps by lithography. In laying the transfer paper on the stone slight folds or rucks occurred in a few places, which accounts for the abnormal varieties sometimes met with; just as in the examples of the lithographed fourpence Western Australia of the first issue, and the one-third and three groschen stamps of Oldenburg of January, 1861, we find specimens of a similar nature.

I am unable to say for certain to which printing of 1854 the lithographed stamps belong, but I think it is probable that after taking trial impressions from the plate of the five centavos in June, it was decided to

try to print the stamps by lithography. The result was so indifferent that it was probably quickly abandoned, and then the stamps of August and October were printed direct from the plates. We know at any rate that the ten centavos stamps printed in the two last months must have been made from the plate, as a most diligent search by Mr. Hall and myself has not resulted in the discovery of a single lithographed stamp of this value. If my surmise is correct, the number of the lithographed five centavos stamps was, therefore, 155,520.

The colour of the lithographed five centavos varies from pale to dark brown, and also from pale to dark orange-brown. The impression, as in all lithographs, has an appearance of flatness, and the details of the engine-turned background are very confused and indistinct, and there are sometimes blotches of colour about the design. Still, notwithstanding these defects, it requires a practised eye to pronounce a decision in *some* instances as to whether a particular specimen is lithographed or is printed direct from the plate.

I will now give a description of the abnormal varieties Mr. Hall and I have jointly met with :—*

1. The whole of the bottom part of the design has been rucked up, so that the stamp only measures 21½ mm. instead of 23 mm. in height. The top part of the letters "ENTA" of "CENTAVOS," the middle part of the letter "c" and the bottom part of the letters "vo" of that word have entirely disappeared (Bacon Collection).

2. The lower part of the numeral "5" is smaller and is of a different shape from the ordinary. The letters "HILE" of "CHILE" are smaller, and there is a break in the outer frame-line of the stamp at the right side, a little above the letter "s" of "CENTAVOS" (Bacon Collection).

3. Break in the outer frame-line of the stamp at the bottom, beneath the space between the letters "A" and "V" of "CENTAVOS." The letters "CENT" and left half of the "A" of "CENTAVOS" are smaller and misshapen. There is also a break in the outer frame-line of the stamp at the top over the letter "R" of "FRANCO," and the downstroke of the letter "F" of that word is thinner (Hall Collection).

4. Break in the outer frame-line of the stamp at the bottom, beneath the space between the letters "A" and "V" of "CENTAVOS." The letters "CH" of

* All ten varieties, with the exception of No. 6, are illustrated on the sheet of stamps presented with this number of the journal.

"CHILE" are smaller, and the letters "TA" of "CENTAVOS" are broken and misshapen (Hall Collection).

5. Break in the outer frame-line of the stamp at the top, about the centre. The letters "EOS-PO" of "CORREOS-POSTE" have the upper part cut off. (This is the variety sent by Mr. Luff.†)

6. Break in the outer frame-line of the stamp above the letter "O" of "CORREOS" and with a small blob of colour in place of the usual diagonal dash above that letter (Tapling Collection).

7. Break in the outer frame-line of the stamp above the space between the letters "R" and "A" of "FRANCO." The down-stroke of the letter "E" of "POSTE," and the loop and tail of the letter "R" of "FRANCO," are much thinner than usual; in fact, they are only of the thickness of a hair-line (Bacon Collection.)

8. Break in the outer frame-line of the stamp above the letter "R" of "FRANCO" and the whole of the line at the top is thick and irregular. The letter "F" of "FRANCO" slants more to the right, and there is a large blob of colour on the throat of Columbus (Bacon Collection).

9. Break in the outer frame-line of the stamp to right above the letter "O" of "FRANCO" (Hall Collection).

10. Extra outer frame-line at the left lower corner of the stamp, extending from the corner to beneath the letter "C" of "CENTAVOS" (Hall and Bacon Collections).

I do not for a moment pretend that the above list of the abnormal varieties is complete; in fact, I am almost certain that it is not, and I believe there still remain other varieties to be found.

† This is evidently the identical pair of stamps referred to in *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* for December, 1893, p. 105, and which, from the description given of it in the American magazine, the writer of the paragraph not unnaturally termed an impossible curiosity.

Greece.

In *The American Journal of Philately* Mr. Crawford Capen writes:—"We are not at the present time fully satisfied with the dark maroon stamp which is offered as the first Athens print. We shall be glad if any of our readers having an early dated specimen of this stamp will submit it to us for examination. We have never seen one dated, and the only copies that we have had we have classed with the proof, essay or printers' waste stamps, which have been produced in such quantities in Paris, but which never found their way to Greece itself. This whole class of stamps seems to be regarded by many dealers and collectors (the latter probably following the former) as being representative of the stamps of Greece. We find, in approval books that are sent us, some stamps that are marked essays, others proofs, again the same stamps gummed, offered as originals. We do not

care to condemn these stamps. They are the 'Perkins-Bacon stamps' of Greece; that is, they are not the stamps issued for use in the country and delivered to the postmasters for sale, but they are the same as the stamps that were, except in minor particulars which are sometimes evident and in other cases are very difficult to discern."

The portion of this extract which deals with proofs and essays of the Paris prints is nothing new to students of Greece, but we fancy the way in which the "dark maroon stamp" is treated will be. So far as our knowledge goes this is the first time that the *bona fides* of this, the first Athens r lepta, as it is known to collectors, has been doubted.

The question which is raised is an important one, and will, we trust, be thrashed out; but we, personally, shall be exceedingly sorry if Mr. Capen is right, as it would remove one of the idols of all Greece Specialists. At present we don't think he is.

The New Design of the French Stamps.

It is well known what severe criticism was called forth on the appearance of the vignette of the *Republique aux Droits de l'Homme*, the engraving was too heavy, the woman ungraceful: in short, the whole design had nothing attractive. M. Mouchon was obliged to overhaul his work, and these are the retouches which he made.

First, let us say that the subject is not changed, the Republic has only been lightened. If it only could be so really of—but we must not touch politics. The tablet which contained the value has become a shield surmounted by laurel leaves, and the figures are smaller. Still the money value has not been indicated, but fortunately we know in France what the *centimes* are which are understood. The word *POSTES* has been placed at the top of the stamp upon the frame of small leaves, which have been cleared by the removal of the veining in the middle. The Phrygian cap has been brightened as well as some leaves of the crown, and the face has lost several lines of engraving. The jaw, the neck, and the chest have been similarly treated, whilst the horrible depressions which the neck of the Republic shewed, have disappeared. The folds of the cloak, which covers the arm, and those of the skirts and the tunic have been thinned. The cuirass has benefited by the general brightening, and now the breast appears white. The hand of Justice—oh irony!—has been also touched up. Finally, the tablet of the *Droits de l'Homme* has been relieved of the dots which caused a shading on the right side. To sum up, the retouched type is of a much lighter appearance, and the substitution of the shield for the tablet has given a much smarter look to the stamp.—*La Cote Réelle des Timbres Postes.*

Notes and News.

The Annual Report.

The Postmaster-General's annual report is a really fascinating document. It shows once more how gigantic a business it is in which the humblest citizens are shareholders. Socialists will find in it abundance of illustrations for their propaganda. Pessimists, who are never happy except when they are miserable, will gloat over its evidence of the larger trend towards absent-mindedness, and rank haters of the new-fangled will be gratified by its snub to motor vehicles. Ten million letters and cards could not be delivered. They carried over £18,000 in cash and notes, and more than £650,000 in paper. Nearly 4,000 letters containing property were unaddressed, and they were worth, on an average, about £1 each. No motor vehicle can be relied on to carry heavy loads of mails with the same regularity as horse-drawn vans. The need for underground telegraph wires is manifest, for the snowstorm of last December cost the Department £30,000. How much the £30,000 cost the public has never been computed! Underground communication with London is promised this year to Wolverhampton, Stafford, Warrington, Manchester, Liverpool, and Chester, and the next extension will probably be from Manchester to the principal Yorkshire towns through Bradford and Leeds, and thence to Newcastle-on-Tyne. For which prospect much thanks will be given!

A True Prophet.

In 1894 a writer said: "Grecians and Chilians are creeping into popularity." The creeping, which has extended over a long period, has only recently developed into a rush.

First Issue Commonwealth Stamps.

Referring to the unpaid stamps for South Australia chronicled by us last month, *The Australian Philatelist* says these stamps, probably part of a full set of values, are printed in the Government Printing Office, Sydney, from the plates of the New South Wales postage due stamps now in use. The letters N.S.W. have been removed from the foot of the design, leaving a rather unsightly white blotch, and as no other letters (S.A. for instance) have been inserted in place of those obliterated, it is quite possible that they may be intended for use in the other States also; therefore, presumably, the first issue of Federal stamps. If such was contemplated by the Federal Postmaster-General, then we think he was right in giving preference to the designs of the Mother State. Such a course would, however, be at variance with his utterances on

several occasions, when he stated that there could be no Commonwealth issue until the five years' book-keeping, as laid down in the Federal Bill, shall have passed. Objections would also come from the other States if New South Wales, using "N.S.W." water-marked paper, were allowed the monopoly of supplying them with postage and duty stamps. Bearing in mind that the present one penny and twopenny postage stamps of Tasmania are printed in Melbourne on V and Crown paper, it is rather premature to speak definitely on the likely outcome of the South Australian new postage due series.

Dissolution of Partnership.

Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle, the stamp dealers of Sydney, have dissolved partnership. A circular reaches us from Mr. Nicolle, dated July 14th, 1902, informing us that he has that day taken over the business (including the stock of stamps) which will be carried on by him at the old address, 14, Hunter Street, Sydney. By the following mail the *Australian Journal of Philately* came to hand, in which there is a long account by Mr. Smyth of the dissolution and an intimation that he has commenced business at 88, King Street, Sydney, and will trade under the style of J. H. Smyth & Co. The *Journal* is to be published in future by Mr. Smyth. We have often had to acknowledge in these columns our indebtedness to Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle for information and specimens they have kindly sent, and hope we may continue to have occasion to do so in the future. We cordially wish each of the old partners every success in their new ventures.

Sale of a Collection.

We are informed that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., have purchased Mr. A. H. Harrison's collection of Holland. The stamps were all unused and in fine condition. A good opportunity is afforded specialists of this country of acquiring many desirable stamps.

A Souvenir.

We have to thank Mr. Corfield (the Hon. Sec. of the Philatelic Society of India), for one of the cards issued by the Society on Coronation Day, 9th August, 1902. It is not a post-card, but a white card some eight inches long, and contains photographic reproductions in black of the King's Head issue for India. The three lowest values of adhesives, the envelope, and the postcard (3) are reproduced. The whole forms a very pleasing souvenir of the occasion.

The Egyptian Market.

Mr. A. F. Basset Hull is contributing to the *Australian Journal of Philately* some descriptive notes on his tour, from which we extract:—

"From Colombo, where Mr. Coutts left to catch steamer for Singapore to Suez, nothing more was done in the Philatelic line. At the entrance to the Canal we were boarded by coloured hawkers who had books and sheets of stamps, mostly current Egyptian and Soudanese, with a sprinkling of Turkish, Greek and other Levantines. There were some sets of obsolete Egyptians, but all were rank forgeries, brilliant in colour and cancelled with up-to-date post-marks.

"From Port Said I went to Cairo, and there met with Mr. G. Aphonides, a collector with whom I had some correspondence 21 years ago. I well remember the first consignment of full sets of Egyptians I received from him in 1881, all fine copies and genuine. He had all my letters, together with over 4,000 others from all parts of the globe, for one of his hobbies is to keep all his correspondence in the original covers exactly as received, and a fine showing they make, including as they do all sorts of "whims and oddities" which the budding Philatelist delights in placing on his letters.

"The stamps exhibited for sale in the bazaars and hotel vestibules are the usual current rubbish, varied by a few of the pretty "Salt Tax" fiscals, and all are marked at outrageous prices—higher than catalogue in most instances. All examples of obsolete stamps with any pretence to rarity are forgeries. I saw a set of triangular Capes, with a few current varieties, the former being forged and the latter genuine. Over catalogue was asked for the lot, and the worst of it is that misguided tourists eagerly buy this rubbish, thinking that it must be genuine as the prices are so high!

"Egypt is a land of fakes!"

A Flit Across the Strand.

The alterations in the Strand have necessitated the removal of Mr. Peckitt. He has secured a lease of premises, No. 47 Strand, which is nearly opposite to his old address. As he will occupy the whole house, the room available will be considerably more extensive than that hitherto at his disposal, and he hopes to give attention to other departments of his business, which, owing to lack of space, has hitherto been impossible. We can sympathise with Mr. Peckitt in the worries and extra work involved in a removal; at the same time he is to be most sincerely con-

gratulated on the acquisition of such fine premises for the future.

The Imperial Post of India.

Mr. Stewart-Wilson informs us that Alwur, Bundi and Kishengarth will issue no more stamps, the Post of these States having been absorbed in the Imperial Post of India. The Posts of the Native Indian States are one by one disappearing, and the thanks of all Philatelists are due to the Postmaster-General of the Punjab for his exertions and the tact displayed by him with this object.

Trade Publications.

We have received an illustrated priced catalogue of the stamps of Australasia and adjacent Islands from Mr. Fred Hagen, which is a handy and useful guide for reference.

Messrs. Senf have recently issued a new edition of their catalogue.

The New Gibbons.

Every year at this season we are in the habit of purchasing Whitaker's Almanac, a book which it is quite impossible to dispense with. Recently we find ourselves beginning to look for the new Gibbons very much in the same way. Like the former, it is becoming a hardy annual, and both are invaluable. The similarity between these two household works scarcely ends here, for each time we buy the new volume we wonder why we have spent our money, believing that the old one would have done very well for another twelve months. Still, we go on doing so, and possibly always shall do; the expense, 2s. a volume, is small, and there is the feeling you are getting such good value, and the mild excitement inseparable from turning over the leaves of the latest edition.

The chief feature in the new Gibbons is the improvement in the lists of Australia and the increase in prices of these stamps.

It becomes yearly more difficult to discover flaws or omissions, and perhaps it is rather unkind to mention any when the *tout ensemble* is of so high a standard. Still, we should like to have seen the St. Helena 3d., double surcharge, catalogued, of which an undoubted used specimen is known, and as to the flaws, 6s. seems to us exceedingly cheap for a Montserrat 4d. C.A.

Greek Forgeries.

Just as we are going to press we have received from Mr. Mertzanoff information that a number of forgeries of the Athens prints, emanating from Paris, are on the European and American markets. They include the errors and varieties, and are offered at from 2s. 6d. to 5s. each.

Correspondence.

Malta: The New Provisional 1d. on 2½d.
To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—In the *Record* current number, New Issues, Malta, the following occurs: "The new provisional 1d. on 2½d. are printed in sheets of 120—two panes of 60 each."

The sheets may have been divided for convenience of printing the surcharge, but the surcharge was printed separately on each pane. Herewith I give you particulars of the numbers of stamps in each sheet of all the stamps of Malta. I took these particulars from the sheets at Post Office, Valletta, thinking it would be useful information for your readers.

1d.	Two panes of 60 (6 × 10*)	..	120 stamps.
2d.	Four "	60 (10 × 6)	.. 240 "
1d.	Four "	60 (10 × 6)	.. 240 "
2d.	Two "	60 (10 × 6)	.. 120 "
2½d.	Four "	60 (10 × 6)	.. 240 "
4d.	Two "	60 (10 × 6)	.. 120 "
4½d.	Two "	60 (10 × 6)	.. 120 "
5d.	Two "	60 (6 × 10)	.. 120 "
1s.	Two "	60 (10 × 6)	.. 120 "
1s. 6d.	One "	60 (5 × 12)	.. 60 "
5s.	One "	120 (10 × 12)	.. 120 "
10s.	One "	60 (5 × 12)	.. 60 "

* The vertical number is given first and then the number of stamps horizontally in each pane.—Yours sincerely,

JOHN C. NORTH.

Oldham,

August 31st.

Gum.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—Looking through my North American stamps recently, I find many of my unused Canadian, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia firmly adhering to the sheets on which they had been carefully mounted with the recognised hinges. Golfers are proverbial for the use of decorated language, but I think I could have given any champion a long start on viewing the situation. No doubt you sympathise with me, and I appeal to you for a remedy. How can I separate the stamps from the sheets without damaging the gum and leave them in mint state? If you have no remedy, perhaps some of your readers may have one.—Yours truly,

H. STAFFORD.

Notices.

Subscriptions:—The *Philatelic Record* will be sent, post free, to any address, at home or abroad, for 5s. per year. Orders to be addressed to Mr. G. F. H. GIBSON, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester.

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Advertisements must be received not later than the 15th of October for publication in the next issue.

All Foreign Orders for Advertisements must be *prepaid*.

THE

Philatelic Record.

OCTOBER, 1902.

Editorial Notes.

“IN order to accelerate the disposal of the remaining stock of embossed envelopes bearing 2½d. stamps of the old issue, the price of these is reduced by the Post Office until further notice.”

By this paragraph, which has been copied by the Press in general throughout the country, the public, or the portion of them who are ever alert for bargains, have been sadly disappointed, for although perhaps not going so far as to expect that the envelopes would be sold under face value, they were naturally led to believe that the Post Office would be disposing of them at face. Such, however, is very far from being the case, as the Post Office authorities are merely charging a penny instead of three-halfpence for every packet of ten; and, as equally good envelopes can be purchased from any stationer at a lower price, they may still experience considerable trouble in selling off.

Post Office Generosity.

On the Continent the general practice is to make no extra charge for envelopes over and above the value of the embossed stamps, and bearing in mind the number which are rendered useless for postage purposes by those who use them, and the consequent gain by the Post Office thereby, it seems that this plan has much to commend it. We have always understood that the objection to this course being adopted in this country, at the time they were introduced, sprang from the small shopkeepers who dealt in envelopes, and that charge was consequently fixed for them, which would prevent any unfairness. The time has surely passed for all this, now-a-days! At all events, a material reduction ought to be made in the price charged by the Post Office for all embossed envelopes, if the authorities desire their more general use by the public.

The only useful purpose they serve at present is when enclosing a stamped directed envelope for a reply, if you do not receive the reply, you have the satisfaction of knowing that the recipient cannot use the stamp for any other purpose.

FINDS of rare stamps are nothing like so common now as they were a quarter of a century ago. As the incentive to look up old correspondence, due to the enhanced value of rare stamps, is so much greater to-day than it was then, it shows to our mind that nearly all the available channels of supply have become exhausted. Many of our readers will remember some of the big finds of the past, the most notable perhaps being the one of the first issue of British Guiana, which were placed upon the market by the well-known northern dealer, the late Mr. Ridpath, of Liverpool. He it was who told the writer that collectors got so frightened at one time about circular Guianas that figuratively speaking he could scarcely give them away. Yet, where are they to-day? All absorbed in the great collections which in the next decade will probably be referred to as the classical or historical ones.

No important finds have occurred recently, with the exception of a stray Post Office Mauritius or two. One turned up some four years ago, and was tolerably quickly followed by two on the original envelope. All found a ready purchaser at a high figure, and no more are forthcoming.

The supply of unused Colonial stamps, chiefly of the Perkins Bacon prints which caused so much serious concern in recent times, we omit from the list, because in our opinion they do not fall in that category at all, any more than the stamps at present in Somerset House if placed upon the market would do so. This is, however, not in the least ever likely to happen, and, fortunately, the leakage of unused colonials has been stopped.

There has been, however, an important find of the Cape of Good Hope woodblocks on the original letters. This has furnished a specimen of the fourpenny red error in a block of four, a condition in which it was, we believe, hitherto unknown.

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, the well-known auctioneers, were fortunate to be entrusted with it for sale by auction, and the hammer did not fall until £350 had been bid.

We congratulate the auctioneers in establishing a record, which will require a great deal of beating, the vendor on the price, and the purchaser on the acquisition of a "unique piece."

IN our Correspondence column this month we publish a letter we have received from Dr. Chance, which, we think, will be read with interest. To assist those who are interested in the stamps of Holland, we reproduce an enlargement of the particular stamp referred to. While not satisfied ourselves that the peculiarities pointed out by Dr. Chance show that it is a Retouch, we think the matter one worthy of attention.

The paper we reproduced last month in "Philately in the Mags." upon the first issue of Chili, by Mr. E. D. Bacon, shows that there is still room for discovery and surprises among the oldest and best-known stamps. Having regard to the manner in which the third issue of Holland were produced, it is quite possible that retouches may exist, even if the one which our correspondent describes turns out to be but a flaw in the printing.

'Tis Never
Too Late
to Learn.

The American Contract. THE Bureau of Engraving at Washington for the last few years has been printing the United States stamps since the American Bank Note Co. lost the contract. Now the Bureau is a Government Department, and it occurred to the Post Office Department that it was paying a great deal too much for its stamps, and could get them printed much cheaper by placing the contract elsewhere. The facts which have come to light show this to be perfectly true; the only thing we are at all surprised at is that the Postmaster-General did not find it out before.

Knowing the certainty of the contract being lost, if put up to public competition, the workmen in the Bureau Department have been exerting every effort. The loss of the contract meant that some five hundred civil servants would become common civilians, having to earn a living like thousands of others, and this was not at all palatable to them. They petitioned here, and they petitioned there, politics were drawn in, and generally they appear to have been making things very lively. But the Postmaster remained obdurate. It was calculated that the American Bank Note Co. could afford to do the work for some 200,000 dollars less than the Bureau, this calculation being based upon the rate of wages payable by the one and the salaries paid by the other. Much to everyone's surprise, when the tenders were opened, it was found that the Bureau tender was the lower by some thousands of dollars. In other words, the Postmaster had saved his Department no less than 250,000 dollars a year. Has he saved the taxpayer anything? We fear not. It seems to us to be a case of robbing Peter to pay Paul. The taxpayer would probably have been much better served if the contract had been let to a private firm.



Greece.

By W. Dorning Beckton.

I AM once more much indebted to my friend Mr. Mertzanoff, of Athens, for his aid. This time it comes in the way of a warning concerning a number of dangerous forgeries which are just being placed upon the market. Mr. Mertzanoff does not give a list of all of them, but he has sent a number for my inspection, although I gather that there may be others which he has so far not succeeded in buying himself.

The list is as follows :—

Paris prints :

- 1 lep., pale brown.—Exceedingly dangerous.
- 10 lep., without numerals.—Dangerous.
- 10 lep., with numerals.

Athens prints :

- 10 lep., orange on *green* paper.—Quite distinct and unknown genuine.
- 10 lep., reddish-orange on blue-green paper.—Approaching printing G, but paper too highly coloured.
- 10 lep., 1876 issue, orange on cream paper.—Exceedingly dangerous.
- 10 lep., 1876 issue, orange red on deep buff paper.—An impossible colour to be genuine, there being nothing like it.
- 20 lep., pale indigo on semi-pelure, with worn spandrels, known as the *bien soignée* of 1870. The colour, however, is a representation of the next printing J, and the paper resembles printing J in being semi-pelure. The numerals on the back of the specimen before me are inverted. I conclude from the appearance of the forgery that the same block will have done duty to produce forgeries of the 20 lepta Paris prints (which so far, however, I have not seen), as the shading on the neck of the forgery is too light even for the worn spandrel issue.—This forgery is decidedly dangerous.
- 20 lep., blue on blue, printing K.—Decidedly dangerous.
- 20 lep., 1876 issue, pale ultramarine.—Poor colour.
- 20 lep., 1879 issue.—The block of four Mr. Mertzanoff sends are double-printed and in a fairly light blue colour. As these stamps do not exist double-printed they are not dangerous.
- 40 lep., solferino on blue.—Colour poor.

In describing the stamps, I have purposely confined my observations to the questions of colour, as this is an easy test for anyone having a trained eye for Grecian stamps, and it is one which the forgers will experience more difficulty in overcoming than is generally imagined. It is exceedingly difficult to exactly copy the tone, especially in the

well-known rarer printings, each of which possesses a characteristic peculiarly its own.

I have carefully examined the forgeries, and taken a note of the particulars in other respects in which they differ from the genuine, but these tests I consider it much safer not to publish, and thereby equip the forgers with material for improvement which it is tolerably certain they do not at present possess. I do not think it is possible to produce a forgery that could not be detected; but it would be very easy for the makers of these to so improve their work in the tests which I have indicated to exist, as to produce a fresh crop of difficulties for collectors.

This much further may be said, that it is evident that the forgers are well up as to how the two printings, Paris and Athens, were brought about, and that they have followed the same processes. I do not think that they used plugs for the different values, but that they made different plates, consisting probably of two stamps only, and did not use a "mother die" at all. Amongst those enumerated I find five distinct forgeries, or six including the Paris 1 lep.

In addition to the stamps of the first type of head the forgers have also manufactured some 40 lep., blue, and 1 dr. of the Belgian type, but of Athens prints.

Mr. Mertzanoff also informs me that they have not been made in Greece, but were brought to Athens by a certain dealer called A. Alissaffi, who is established in Paris, but was formerly of Constantinople. He had a formidable stock of forged Greek stamps, including varieties which I have at the time of writing not seen. These he attempted to sell as reimpresions, and the local dealers, or rather jobbers, offered them at four and five shillings each. Some of the Belgian type 40 lep. and 1 dr. were offered as originals at a low price to a collector, by whom they were detected, and the dealer denounced Alissaffi to the police and to the Post Office Director, which rather goes to show that, in some instances at all events, Alissaffi in selling them forgot to mention they were "reimpresions." The memory of those who deal in this kind of wares is proverbially fickle.

The affair has been placed in the hands of the "Procureur du Roi" who will confiscate the stamps if the law permits. This is, however, doubtful owing to both the types having been withdrawn from circulation by official decree.

Mr. Mertzanoff adds, "I heard that one of these pedlars, after having purchased a large quantity from Alissaffi, left on Saturday for Naupeia, where the English fleet is anchored, in order to sell stamps to the officers. I am sorry for it, as, although the forgeries are of foreign importation, the odium will fall on the back of the Greeks."

It is much to be regretted that in the land of Socrates the law concerning forged stamps has not been put upon the same footing as it is in this country.

Just after completing writing these notes I received another letter saying that Alissaffi had asked for a permit from the Home Minister to sell his stamps as "simple images," as being without gum, and that this permit had been granted and the contemplated prosecution stopped, which is bad news indeed. He has succeeded in selling a quantity at a uniform price of 40 lep. (gold currency), equal to fourpence each.

Notable Philatelists.

M. Albert Coyette.

THE subject of our interview this month will be known to our readers as the President of the leading French Philatelic Society, and perhaps more especially as the originator and energetic secretary of the Paris Exhibition of 1900. Those who have had practical experience of undertakings of this nature know to what an extent their success or failure depends, not only upon the amount of time which the secretary is able and willing to devote to them, but even still more upon his popularity with the people with whom he is brought into contact, his ability in surmounting serious troubles, and his tact in dealing with the numerous petty jealousies and minor difficulties which inevitably arise. That M. Coyette possessed all these qualities in no small degree was patent to all who saw the result of his work in connection with that Exhibition.

He was born at Cambrai, in the Department of the Nord, in December, 1860, and began to collect in 1872, when he was a student at the college of his native town. He had from the beginning a strong partiality for the stamps of the British Colonies and the United States, and has never ceased to pay special attention to them since. He has not parted with his first collection, which he steadily increased up to 1894, only neglecting it now and then to return to it with more pleasure and enthusiasm when the imperative necessities of study or business have enabled him to afford the time. For some years past he has devoted his attention to the collection of official essays of all countries.

He has still in his possession, and regards as precious relics, letters, prospectuses and price lists, which he valued in those early days when he made modest purchases from Alfred Smith & Co. (of Bath), and V. Gruat et Bonn, Tavistock Street, London. He well remembers his pride when the envelopes which he received from these English correspondents dignified him by the flattering title of "Esq." All these things made such an impression upon him, that when, twenty years later, he paid his first visit to London, he felt it both a duty and a pleasure to find out Tavistock Street, and his disappointment was keen, that, although the street, commonplace enough, was still there, the dealers in whom he was most interested had entirely disappeared.

Having retired temporarily from business in 1894, he gave up his time almost entirely to stamps, became a member of the Société Philateliqne Francaise, and was most regular in his attendance at its meetings. In 1898 he was elected President of the Société Francaise de Timbrologie, and still continues to hold that office. From 1898 to 1900 he was also editor of the *Revue Philateliqne Francaise*.

Notable Philatelists.



M. Albert Coyette.

In February, 1898, he brought forward a scheme for an International Philatelic Exhibition, to be held simultaneously with the Exposition Universelle in 1900, and secured its adoption by the Society, being appointed, as we have said, the general secretary. After two years' hard work he had the satisfaction of seeing the fruit of his labours, and the opening of the Exhibition at the appointed time was his reward. An additional recompense was the honour of being made Officier d'Academie, which was conferred upon him on the opening day by M. Mougeot, Under-Secretary of State for Posts and Telegraphs. He is also a member of the Executive Committee of the French C.T.C., an Officer of the Order of the Green Dragon of Annam, and Knight of the Order of Christ of Portugal.

If he were asked to mention the happiest incident in his Philatelic career, he would undoubtedly say that it was when he was certain that all the valuable stamps entrusted to him for exhibition in Paris were safely back in the possession of their owners, without damage or loss of any kind.

M. Coyette is the avowed enemy of that kind of specialism which concerns itself with stamps badly printed, wrongly perforated, and other freaks of a similar kind. He is a staunch believer in a general collection kept well up to date, and knowing that it is both expensive and difficult for amateurs who have only joined the Philatelic ranks in recent years to acquire such a collection, advises them to select a group of countries from amongst those which more particularly attract them, taking care that it is sufficiently interesting to induce them to collect not only the ordinary stamps, but also the minor varieties.



The Stamps of Crete.

By Theodor Haas.*

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 188.)



The first decree is superscribed "Ordre du jour No. 104," and dated April 24th, 1899, and reads as follows:—

"Town of Rethymo, 24th April, 1899.

"The Mayors of the Provinces of Rethymo, Mylopotamo, Amari and Saint-Basile are invited to come to Rethymo to take cognisance of their duties as heads of the postal service, also of the routes which are fixed for the postal service in the interior of the district of Rethymo.

"According to this, the Central Post Office will be in the town of Rethymo. Post offices in the provinces will be established at first in the following villages: Roustica, Nefs-Amari, Melambes, Spili, Selia, Agios Galinios, Castelli, Margarites, Garazo, Anogia, Damasta and Fodele.

"Lieutenant Selichoff is commanded to superintend this interior postal service. Further details regarding the service will be published in the supplementary sheet No. 20.

"The post offices will commence their functions on the 1st of May.

"(Signed) COLONEL VON SCHOSTAK."

The supplement No. 20 contains the provisions for the acceptance of ordinary and registered letters, and of parcels, for their forwarding and delivery to the addressees, &c., &c., rules for the service and the duties of the administrator and the mailmen. The supplement is signed by Lieutenant Selichoff, as Director of the Post in the Russian district of Rethymo, and Colonel von Schostak.

A further "Ordre du jour No. 108," reads as follows:—

"Town of Rethymo, 28th April, 1899.

"§ I.

"It is notified to the inhabitants of the Russian district that a postal service will be instituted in the interior of this district from the

*Translated by G. B. Duerst from the *Illustr. Brief. Journal*.

1st of May, 1899, and that the following places have been fixed upon as postal stations: Roustica, Pighi, Amari, Melambes, Spili, Selia and Agios Galinios, the establishment of other stations will be communicated later on.

“To levy the tax for the sending of letters, stamps of 1 and 2 metallik will be put into circulation.

“The tax for a single letter is 2 metallik, registered letters and telegrams 3 metallik; for 1-5 newspapers in the same wrapper, 1 metallik.

“For every ordinary or registered letter weighing more than 25 grammes, the tax will be as many times as the letter weighs 25 grammes or part thereof.

“The same for newspapers. If there are more than five newspapers in one wrapper, the tax will be charged on every further five newspapers or fraction thereof.”

The next is a notice about the places of letter boxes and when letters can be posted.

“In the town letters are delivered to all houses. To facilitate intercourse between the interior and foreign countries, the Mayors of the rural communes will keep a stock of French and Austrian stamps at the disposal of the inhabitants.

“(Signed) COLONEL VON SCHOSTAK.

The following “Ordre du jour No. 166” gives interesting particulars about the numbers issued and remainders on hand, also about the manufacture of the Rethymo stamps.

“Town of Rethymo, 30th June, 1899.

“§ II.

“When the provisional postal service for the interior of the district of Rethymo was instituted, we were obliged, on account of the lack of lithographic printing works in Rethymo, to make use of three dies, in order to print by hand the postage stamps necessary for the service.

“According to the report of the officer, to whom the superintendence of the service was intrusted, the following stamps were printed by hand:—

“Colour green, value 1 metallik	...	...	10,440 stamps.
“ „ blue, „ 1 „	...	...	4,800 „
“ „ red, „ 2 „	...	...	1,200 „
“ „ black „ 2 „	...	...	12,965 „

“Of these were sold:—

“Colour green, value 1 metallik	...	...	9,222 stamps.
“ „ blue, „ 1 „	...	...	4,800 „
“ „ red, „ 2 „	...	...	1,200 „
“ „ black, „ 2 „	...	...	11,675 „

“This amounts to 39,772 metallik. The remainders, consisting of:—

“Colour green, value 1 metallik	...	...	1,218 stamps.
“ „ black „ 2 „	...	...	1,290 „

“were burnt.

“ In consequence of the great inconvenience of printing these stamps by hand, new stamps of the value of 1, 2 and 4 metallik were ordered from Athens, which were to be printed lithographically in six different colours : red, blue, green, red-violet, orange, and yellow.

“ All were sold out for 41,160 metallik as follows :—

“ Value 1 metallik,	980 stamps in 6 colours =	5,880 metallik.
“ 2 „	980 „ 6 „ =	11,760 „
“ 4 „	980 „ 6 „ =	23,520 „

“ As the stamps of this issue were entirely sold out, a second issue with certain marks of distinction were ordered, and this issue is still in use.

“ § III.

“ In order to burn the 1,218 stamps of 1 metallik green and 1,290 of 2 metallik black, which remain from the first issue and were printed by hand, also to destroy the three dies with which these stamps had been printed, as well as the stone from which the first and second Athens issues of the lithographed stamps had been printed, I appoint a committee of the following gentlemen (here follow the names), who have to see that this order is executed to-morrow, Thursday, July 1st, 1899, and who have to put before me a signed declaration to this effect.

“ (*Signed*) COLONEL VON SCHOSTAK.”

From the “ *Ordre du jour* No. 168 ” of July 2nd, 1899, it will be seen that the stamps were really burnt, the dies and the plate destroyed.

Of importance also is the last of the copies as follows :—

“ Town of Rethymo, 12th July, 1899.

“ § I.

“ To complete the ‘ *Ordre du jour* No. 166, § 2, ’ I herewith declare that of the second issue ordered at Athens (with stars) the following numbers have been sold :—

Colour.	1 metallik.	2 metallik.	4 metallik.
“ Red	6,363 ...	4,200 ...	1,536
Green	6,399 ...	3,378 ...	1,825
Blue	6,960 ...	4,864 ...	1,440
Red-violet ...	6,400 ...	3,200 ...	2,942

“ The others were not sold, but burnt in the presence of”
(here follow the names).

“ § II.

“ The net receipts for postage stamps since the institution of the provisional stamps come to 38,956³⁵/₁₀₀ piaster, which amount has been received by Lieutenant Delgow, of the Governmental Treasury. The disbursements were :—

“ (1) For the hospital in the town	... ..	666.00 pstr.
(2) „ support of the newspaper <i>Anagenisis</i>	... ..	1,800.00 „
(3) „ church	... ..	34,690.35 „
(4) Given to the Mayor for the postal service	... ..	1,800.00 „

38,956.35 pstr.

“ The Commander-in-Chief of the District of Rethymo.

“ (*Signed*) COLONEL VON SCHOSTAK.”

Such are the decrees deposited in the archives at Rethymo, and after carefully reading them, one must come to quite another conclusion about these stamps from that which one could gather from the Philatelic journals.

At first Colonel von Schostak, the Commander-in-chief of the district of Rethymo, occupied by the Russians, ordered that from the town of Rethymo a postal service should be instituted to the interior of the occupied district. The number of post offices was fixed at twelve: Roustica, Nefs-Amori, Melambes, Spili, Selia, Agios Galinios, Castelli, Magarites, Garazo, Anogia, Damasta, and Fodele. Lieutenant Selichoff was nominated Administrator of the post and the Mayors of the various villages were to act as post-masters. It seems, however, that after four days the first six offices only were maintained to the end in addition to Pighi.

The new postal service commenced on May 1st. At first the necessary stamps were printed by hand from dies. Two values, 1 and 2 metallik were made. A description of them is not given, the first issue with French inscriptions is also mixed up with the second, having Russian inscriptions. There is an unknown value, 2 metallik red (in a price list from Crete, pale pink), which without doubt belongs to my first, French issue, whereas the value of 1 metallik rose—marked by me with (?)—is missing in the Russian issue. Perhaps it has been mistaken for the so far unknown value of 2 metallik. The chronicle is therefore as follows:—

1st May, 1899.

I.—Rethymo issue. Printed with dies by hand on white paper, French inscriptions, imperforate. Violet control mark on four stamps always.

1 metallik, blue	...	...	4,800 issued.
2 .. pale pink	...	...	1,200 ..

II.—Rethymo issue. Printed with dies by hand on white paper. Blue control mark on four stamps always. Russian inscriptions, imperforate.

1 metallik, green	...	...	10,440 issued.
2 .. black	...	...	12,965 ..

The next issue was ordered from a lithographer at Athens, as the manufacture by hand was too troublesome. The following values were delivered:—1, 2 and 4 metallik — 1 grosion in six colours. It cannot be denied that speculation entered the field, six colours for each value! We are only used to receive such things from Indian robber States (Philatelically speaking). Besides, every stamp was sold in an awfully short space of time. Let us allow only fourteen days for each of the hand-printed issues, then the third issue would have appeared on the 1st of June; yet, towards the end of June we find the fourth issue already in use. Thus the 17,000 stamps of the third issue must have been used within three weeks in a district like Rethymo, where up to a short time ago no postal service was required at all, and where most likely 90 per cent. of the sparse population cannot write. According to our ideas this quantity ought to have lasted for years.

I.—Athens issue; without stars; in the lower corners white figures; lithographed on white paper; perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$. On each stamp there is at the top a small control mark in violet.

1	metallik,	red,	blue,	green,	red-violet,	orange,	yellow.
2	„	„	„	„	„	„	„
1	grosion	„	„	„	„	„	„

Of each value and for each colour there were printed 980 stamps in all, therefore 5 880. The printing consisted of

5,880	1	metallik.
5,880	2	„
5,880	1	grosion.

Of this issue, stamps in black with blue control mark are met with, but I consider them printer's proofs.

After this lot had been happily sold, a further order was sent to the Athens lithographer, but with the proviso that he had to make some alterations in the drawing. He therefore added the two stars and caused the two lower figures to be printed in colours. How many were printed is unknown; we only know the number sold and that the remainders in uncertain quantities were burnt. When this lot was issued is not mentioned, but we find that this issue was "still in circulation" on June 30th. On July 12th the remainders of this issue were burnt, and as the remainders of the first three issues were burnt on July 1st, it is evident that they must have been sold between the 1st and 12th of July. There can be little doubt this issue was purely speculative, as every value was printed in four colours—an entirely unnecessary proceeding.

II.—Athens issue; with stars; in the lower corners coloured figures; lithographed on white paper; perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$. On each stamp there is at the top a small blue control mark.

1	metallik,	red,	blue,	green,	red-violet.
2	„	„	„	„	„
1	grosion,	„	„	„	„

As the numbers printed are unknown, we can only give the numbers sold:—

1	metallik,	red ...	...	...	6,363	sold.
1	„	blue	...	...	6,960	„
1	„	green	...	...	6,399	„
1	„	red-violet	...	...	6,400	„
2	„	red ...	...	...	4,200	„
2	„	blue	...	...	4,864	„
2	„	green	...	...	3,378	„
2	„	red-violet	...	...	3,200	„
1	grosion,	red ...	...	...	1,536	„
1	„	blue	...	...	1,440	„
1	„	green	...	...	1,825	„
1	„	red-violet	...	...	2,942	„

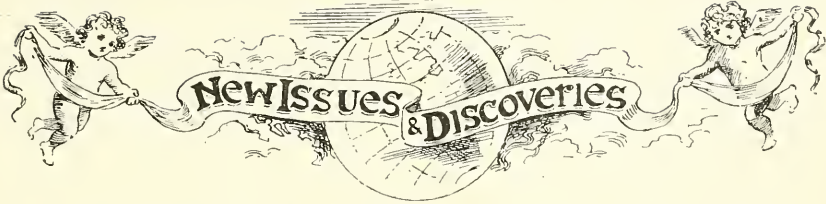
On Thursday, July 1st, 1899, the remainders of the I. and II. (hand printed) issues were burnt, the III. issue (Athens) was sold out, the remainders of the IV. issue (Athens) were burnt on the 12th of July, also on July 1st the two stones used for printing the Athens issues were destroyed, as well as the three hand stamps used for the manufacture of the I. and II. issues; the fourth, no doubt, had become useless through wear and tear, as it is not mentioned.

My opinion of the Rethymo stamps is, that the first two issues (hand dies) were scarcely made for speculative purposes, but were quickly bought up by speculators. Issues III. and IV. are, however, merely speculative. That the receipts were used for hospitals and churches and to support a newspaper is no proof to the contrary.

On the Greek New Year's Day—January 13th, 1900, according to our year—a number of post offices were re-opened in the island of Crete, and at the same time a new set of stamps, printed by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Ltd., of London, were issued. They are tastefully executed in six different designs. The values up to 20 lepta inclusive are intended for the inland service, and those from 25 lepta upwards for foreign countries. The latter have the surcharge ΠΡΟΣΩΡΙΝΟΝ which means "provisionally." The reason of this is said to be in consequence of the Cretan currency not yet being in unison with other currencies, so that the value indicated on the stamps could only be for a time, or provisional.

(To be continued.)





The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. FRED. H. GIBSON, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester.

The British Empire.

Great Britain.—We do not appear to have yet chronicled the 6d. lilac with Army Official overprint on the 1s. current type surcharged for "Government Parcels." We have also seen the 1d. carmine surcharged "C. A." in large block letters. This we are told is for use from the office of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, but we await further particulars before listing.

Adhesives.

Official Stamps.

6d. lilac (1902) surcharged "Army Official" in black.
1s. green and carmine (1902) surcharged "Govt. Parcels" in black.

Hong Kong.—*Ewen's Weekly* states that both the 12c. blue, crown and C. A., and the \$2 Stamp Duty are now obsolete.

India. BHOPAL.—The *Monthly Journal* lists a new set for this State. We take the following description from their columns :

"There is a uniform design for the whole set, consisting of Persian (?) characters in the centre as upon the rectangular stamps of the previous issues, surrounded by an oval band containing the inscription in English letters, 'H. H. NAWAB SULTAN JAHAN BEGAM,' but commencing at the upper right, instead of the lower left, and continuous as upon the 8a. stamps. This is enclosed in a fancy rectangular frame, with the letters 'B—L—C—J' in circles at the corners, and completed by narrow labels with a scroll pattern, broken in the centre at top and bottom by native characters, of which those below denote the value. The design is lithographed on thin yellowish white wove paper, imperforate. The $\frac{1}{4}$ a. value is in sheets of sixteen, the $\frac{3}{4}$ a., 1a., and 2a. in sheets of eight, and the higher values are probably also in sheets of that size, but we have only seen single copies at present. In each case there are, as before, as many varieties as there are stamps on the sheet, but we have not found any actual errors,

though the 'G' of 'BEGAM' usually resembles a 'c.'"



Adhesives.

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna, red.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ " black.
1 " brown
2 " blue.
4 " orange.
8 " mauve.
1 rupee, rose.

Leeward Islands.—We have received from Mr. Peckitt the new set of the current Colonial type for this group. The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 6d. show the denomination on a lined ground, but in the 1s. and 5s. stamps the value is expressed in words on a plain label.

Adhesives.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. lilac and green, wmk. Crown and A.C., perf. 14.
1d. " " carmine " " "
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " " ultramarine " " "
6d. " " chocolate " " "
1s. green and red " " "
5s. " " blue " " "

Natal.—We have to make a correction in our chronicle of last month. The 5s. and 10s. values should have been listed with "Crown and C.C." watermark, not "C.A.," as only the values up to 2s. 6d. inclusive are on this paper.

Newfoundland.—*Ewen's Weekly* mentions having seen the current 2c. imperforate. It will be recollected that the

3c. was discovered in this condition some time back.

Adhesive.

2c. vermilion. Variety, imperf.

New Zealand.—Mr. Ewen sends us the 3d. which is now coming with the single lined watermark. It is perforated 11 and badly, as the paper is thin and poor.

Adhesive.

3d. yellow-brown, wmk. *single lined* N.Z. and star, perf.

Niue.—The 3d. and 1d. values now come on paper with the new single line watermark, perf. 14.

Adhesives.

3d. green, surcharged in red, *single-line* watermark
1d. carmine " " in blue " " "

Orange River Colony.—Mr. Peckitt sends us a provisional, which was received by the mail reaching London on 27th September. It is the 5s. of the thick "V" printing surcharged "One Shilling" in red, the former value being obliterated with a fancy star.



Adhesive.
1s. in red, on 5s. black and green.
1s. " 5s. " variety, thick "V."

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal* has the following very interesting item:—
"Mr. C. J. Daun has shown our publishers a block of six (two horizontal rows of three), of the 2½d. on 3d., surcharged "V.R.1.," the two middle stamps of which have the thick letter "V.," while the lower one also has the Roman figure "1" in the "½." This is the first time we have heard of the thick "V." on this value; very few sheets can have been left when this printing took place.

Penrhyn Island.—The 3d. and 1d. values here also have arrived on the new water-marked paper. The surcharge on the 1d. is now in blue, as in Niue.

Adhesives.

3d. green, surcharged in red, *single line* watermark.
1d. carmine " " blue " "

St. Vincent.—As was expected, the new set has been increased by three values, 2d., 2s. and 5s. This completes the series, as no 4d., 5d. or 10s. stamps will be issued.

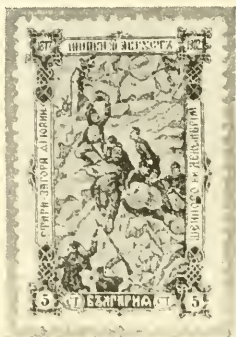
Adhesives.

2d. lilac and black, wmk. Crown and C.A., perf. 14.
2s. green and violet " " "
5s. green and blue " " "

Straits Settlements.—Mr. Peckitt has now shown us all the values of the set recently listed, with the exception of the five dollars, which is not, so far, to hand.

Foreign Countries.

Bulgaria.—Mr. W. T. Wilson sends us a set of three commemorative stamps issued in connection with the Shipka Pass celebrations. They are lithographed on plain wove paper, perf. 11½. These were in use for a few days only, and were available for internal postage and for letters to Russia.



Adhesive.

5 stot. carmine, no wmk., perf. 11½.
10 " green " " "
15 " blue " " "

Chili.—Three new stamps are to hand, a 20c. of the old or 1900-1 type and a 30c. and 50c. of the new small design.

Adhesives.

20c. grey. Rouletted.
30c. mauve, centre in black, perf. 12.
50c. orange " " "

Colombia.—The two stamps illustrated in September appear to be values of an entirely new set, of which we gather the following particulars from *E.W.S.N.*

Adhesives.

2c. black on rose.
4c. red on light green.
5c. dark green on blue green.
50c. " " on rose.
1p. purple on buff.
5c. purple on rose—"Retardo"
10c. blue on greenish—"A.R."
20c. red on pale blue—"Registration."

Denmark.—Mr. W. T. Wilson forwards specimens of the newly-issued ordinary and Official stamps. They are all of the current types.

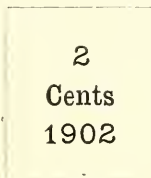
Adhesives.

1 ore orange, perf. 12½. wmk. Crown.
15 " pale violet " " "

Official Stamps.

1 ore orange, perf. 12½, wmk. Crown.
5 " green " " "
10 " carmine " " "

DANISH WEST INDIES.—The two Provisionals now come in a new setting, the word "cents." being in small letters with a capital "C."



Adhesives.

2 cents. in black on 3c. lake and blue, perf. 12½.
8 " " " on 10c. brown and grey, perf. 12½.

Ecuador.—The *D.B.Z.* illustrates a surcharge, apparently in the form of a signature, which has been applied to three values of the current set. It reads diagonally and appears in violet on the 1 cent. and in blue-black on the 10 and 20c.

Adhesives.

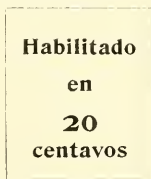
1c. red and black, surcharged with signature (?) in violet
10c. blue and black " " " in blue black
20c. grey and black " " " "

Greece.—Mr. Mertzanoff informs us that the 25 lep. current issue being exhausted, the Government has ordered in London 1,700,000 stamps of this value, and of the 5 and 20 lep., of which very few are left. An order for 334,000dr. worth of letter cards has also been placed.

A correspondent also mentions that when in April last the unpaid set was distributed information was given that they would be in use till October 14th (o.s.), 1904. Perhaps a set up to 50 drachmae, or two, one in silver and the other in gold currency, may be thought necessary then.

Italy.—With reference to the Decree with regard to the new post and letter cards recently reproduced in our columns, we are informed that the issue, which was originally fixed for 1st inst., has been postponed till January, 1903.

Paraguay.—The 24c. dark blue of 1900-1 has been surcharged "Habilitado en 20 centavos," in four lines.



Adhesive.

20c. in vermilion, on 24c. dark blue.

Guatemala.—The complete new issue, with the exception of the 75c, which was not ready when the mail left on 18th September, has now come to hand. The stamps are of the pictorial order, and are really beautiful productions in every particular.

We illustrate three values, the other six bearing different views, etc.

Perf. 13½, on plain white paper; the centre is in the second colour mentioned.



Adhesives.

1 centavo, green and violet.
2 centavos, dull red and black (J. Ruffino Barrios.)
5 " ultramarine and black (Palacio de la
6 " ochre and green. [Reforma.]
10 " yellow and ultramarine (Lag. de Amatilan)
20 " violet and black (La Catedral).
50 " red-brown and blue.
1 peso, yellow-brown and black (Colon).
2 pesos, orange and black (Instituto de Indigenas).

Hayti.—The unpaid letter stamps have now received the provisional Government overprint, chronicled in our August number.

Adhesives.

Unpaid letter stamps.

2c. dark indigo, surcharged "Mai Gt. Pre. 1902," in black
5c. brown-red " " " "
10c. orange " " " "
50c. slate " " " "

Peru.—There is undeniably a great demand for unpaid letter stamps here at present, as Mr. Peckitt has just shown us two more provisionals. They are formed by surcharging the 20c. blue unpaid of 1874, "Un centavo" and "Cinco centavos"

respectively. In the first provisional the overprint is applied horizontally in three lines in block capitals, while in the second the surcharge is in two lines placed vertically, the word "deficit" in thick block capitals and "cinco centavos" in thinner type. The surcharge in each case is in black.

Adhesives.

DÉFICIT
20c. blue surcharged UN in black.
CENTAVO,

DÉFICIT
20c. blue surcharged CINCO CENTAVOS, in black.

Uruguay.—Continental exchanges chronicle a set of unpaid letter stamps. They are inscribed "Tasa—Republic O del Uruguay—Centimos," while the numeral of value occupies the centre of the stamp. So far, five denominations have been seen; particulars of perforations, &c., are wanting

Adhesives.

Unpaid letter stamps.

1c., blue.
2c., carmine.
4c., violet.
10c., blue.
20c., orange.

Philately in the Mags.

Bisected Stamps of Servia.

The *Mitteldutsche Phil. Zeitung* writes as follows:—Bisected stamps are generally looked upon askance, and rightly so, when their use is one for pure speculation. It has, however, happened in some cases, where certain stamps have been sold out and no fresh supplies could be procured for some time, that it has been necessary to have recourse to such provisionals, and consequently their existence and right to be collected is justified. Bisected stamps, nevertheless, receive very scant treatment in most catalogues, and are often omitted altogether.

Falling in the latter category are the bisected Servian stamps of 1866 and 1869, although their existence and use was an absolute necessity. They all originated from a few post offices in the south-westerly part of Servia, a district which is very mountainous and inaccessible during winter. And it was only during the winter months that the bisected stamps were used.

Bisected Specimens of the 1866 issue, Belgrade Printing, obliterated Ivanitz and Pojega, post offices in the district of Uschitzo, are very scarce. The only value bisected is the 40 paras.

In the 1869 issue bisected stamps of 10, 20 and 40 paras were used by the same post offices.

In the year 1873 the stamps were cut even out of postcards and used on letters, as the supply of stamps of 20 paras was exhausted.

Mauritius.

PROVISIONAL ISSUE.—On June 26th, 1902, the public was informed by an official notice signed by the Acting Receiver-General of Mauritius, that "stamps heretofore used as postage stamps only, as well as further issues, whether surcharged or not with the words, 'Postage and Revenue,' may be used for Postage and Revenue purposes."

About July 7th, certain values of the current set were issued with the surcharge

referred to above, and doubtless the whole set from 1c. to 2r. 25c. will be so treated. Values 4, 6, 15, 25, 50c. and 2r. 50c. have already appeared and values 1, 2, 3c. are still to follow. In addition, the authorities have a number of new stamps in stock which, with two exceptions, have not yet been issued—values 3, 5, 8, 12, 25, 50c., 1, 2½, 5rs. The three high values are inscribed "Postage and Revenue," and will not, therefore, require to be surcharged, but the six low values have no such inscription, and will, no doubt, be surcharged in due course. Meantime, a few of the 8c. and 12c. are being issued without overprint. All these stamps, both surcharged and not, may be looked upon as provisionals, except the three high values, and, no doubt, a new permanent set, inscribed "Postage and Revenue," will ultimately take their place. The new values, 3c. to 5rs., were, we believe, printed several years ago.

The stock of the 36c. Jubilee is to be got rid of, by surcharging it 12c., a value more in demand. The 15c. Labourdonnais and the 15c. on 36c. will remain as at present, as the large demand for stamps of this value for correspondence with France will no doubt exhaust the stock before long.—*E. W. S. N.*

The Printer of the First French Stamps.

In the course of our enquiries into the history of the French stamps (*M. Maury* says, in the *Collectionneur*), we have made an entirely unforeseen discovery. Everybody has believed up to the present that *Mons. Hulot* had, from the beginning, manufactured all the stamps at the Mint in Paris—nothing in his writings or his conversation ever led anyone to presume the contrary. However, during the first three years, that is, until 1851, it was a *Mons. Tacquin* who had charge of the printing and gumming of the stamps; he supplied the workman and the necessary machines. All the work was done in rooms situated on the ground floor of the

Mint, rooms which were not very well adapted for this purpose, especially in winter, because the light was very bad.

It was, therefore, Mons. Tacquin who, as stamps were required, carried out the orders of the Post Office, which were transmitted to him by the Comptroller; he was, however, under the supervision and the control of Mons. Hulot, as far as the technical and artistic part was concerned, and of Mons. Barthe for the accounts and the administration.* His work was paid for directly by the postal authorities at seven francs for 100 sheets. The plates, the colours and the gum were at his charge, also the safety printing of the paper, as advised by Mons. Hulot. This safety printing was done lithographically by Mons. Marie. The paper was furnished direct by the administration.

The contract with Mons. Tacquin ended in 1851, when he claimed an increase in the price for printing the 20 centimes value in blue instead of in black.

*It seems to us that M. Tacquin was little, if anything, more than the foreman printer, and in view of the statement in this paragraph concerning M. Hulot we do not attach much importance to the alleged discovery.—Ed.

A Retouch of the English 1d. of 1841.

The *Philatelic Journal of India* reaches us just as we are going to press. We hastily cull the following article from the pen of a well-known Philatelist appearing in it. We have not time to comment this month, but hope to do so next. In the interim we shall be pleased to hear from English specialists on the question raised.

"Mr. W. T. Wilson has very kindly forwarded us the following notes on a subject of great interest to specialists of the stamps of Great Britain. The newly-discovered retouch described below must be of considerable rarity, and it is a most curious coincidence that, on the day this note was received, a specimen of the stamp turned up in one of the packets of the B.S.C., the thick lines at the side being particularly well marked, and the shading on the Queen's head almost invisible; the letters were S.A. We then proceeded to examine several hundred copies without being rewarded by the discovery of another specimen showing these thick side lines.

"The discovery, however, of another specimen with lettering differing from Mr. Wilson's illustration practically proves that the entire sheet of 240 stamps exists in this condition.

"It is a well-known fact that the rollers, after the die had been impressed on them,

were gone over by the engravers and the lines strengthened as well as the letters punched in corners, but, so far as I know, it has never been stated that the roller AFTER USE was ever retouched. That this has been done, is proved by a comparison of illustrations No. 3*, with Nos. 1 and 2; the thick outer frame lines strike the eye at once, whereas the general impression is from a worn state, as witness the absence of lines from face and faintness of eye.'

"This is a curious, but not an unexpected discovery; stamps from this plate must be scarce, as I have looked through a large quantity without finding a similar specimen; if common, this should have been noticed before, as such a number of collectors have closely examined these stamps for errors of lettering, &c. It is to be expected that the whole plate was retouched, and it will be interesting to find other stamps of different lettering showing this retouch.'"

*We regret being unable to reproduce the illustrations, but No. 3 is the stamp described as the Retouch; No. 1, Black 1d., early state; No. 2, later state of the 1d. 1841, red-brown.—Ed.

Brunswick First Issue.

M. Berger, in a short paper on the first issue of the stamps of Brunswick, regretted that he could say very little about the introduction of postage stamps in the Duchy, because one of the General-Postmasters had a terrible aversion to the accumulation of records and other papers, and had ordered everything to be burned. It is known that the stamps were manufactured by the firm of Meyer, but, as to this, all records are destroyed.

The stamps were sold to the public for the first time on the 1st of January, 1852, and then, just as now, a large number of purchasers awaited the opening of the post office.* Whether any collectors were amongst them is very hard to say; most likely many came out of mere curiosity. There were only three values, 1, 2 and 3 silbergroschen, and the gum was red. Only strips of 10 were sold to purchasers, but this order was cancelled in 1853. The reason that unused stamps of the first issue are so rare is that the Brunswick stamps were never demonetised, and could be used for the purposes of franking letters to the end of 1865. The rarest value is the first, and M. Berger considers the same in mint condition the rarest stamp of Europe.

*There is a very great distinction, however, in what they did with their purchases; otherwise these stamps to-day, in fine condition unused, would not rank as being amongst the rarest stamps of Europe.—Ed.



Notes and News.

The Fiscal Philatelic Society.

At a meeting held on October 3rd, 1902, Messrs. E. S. Auscher (of Versailles), A. Baillière (of Paris), F. Bernard (of Dunkerque), B. F. J. Cooper, C. H. Daly (of New York), and H. J. Spencer were elected members.

The resignation of Mr. White was accepted with regret, and Mr. Max Jacobs has ceased to be a member under Rule 4.

Mr. Morley presented a copy of his "Revenue Stamps of Spain," and Mr. Thompson "Moën's Fiscal Catalogue" to the Library. Further donations will be welcomed.

The election of officers for the ensuing season resulted as follows:—Hon. President, W. Schwabacher; Hon. Vice-Presidents, T. P. Dorman, A. P. Pearce, A. E. Lawrence (U.S.A.), M. Langlois (France); Committee, O. Marsh, W. Morley, E. H. Selway, A. M. South, H. Thompson, D. Thomson; Librarian, L. W. Fulcher; Sec., Treas., and Ex. Supdt., A. B. Kay; Auditors, H. Thompson, D. Thomson.

The society commences its second season with a membership of fifty. The Home Exchange Packet for October consisted of fourteen sheets totalling to £230 and the contribution from home members to the Continental Exchange to fr. 1,611.

At the meeting held on Thursday, October 16th, at 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C., the fiscals of Jamaica, Leeward Islands, Malta and Mauritius were discussed and catalogued.

Rules of the society, exchange sections, &c., will shortly be reissued, and copies of same or any other information can be had on application to the Secretary, A. B. Kay, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London, W.

A Change.

We have received the following notice, which speaks for itself:—

"Mr. P. L. Pemberton presents his compliments and thanks for past favours and begs to state that, his partnership with Mr. W. B. Kirkpatrick having been dissolved by mutual consent, he has taken into partnership Mr. E. P. Airlie Dry, an advanced Philatelist.

"The business will be carried on exactly as before, and in future the style of the firm will be 'P. L. PEMBERTON & Co.,' and all orders will receive the personal attention of both partners.

"229, High Holborn,

"London, W.C.

"October 1st, 1902."

The Fourteenth German Philatelic Congress.

The fourteenth German Philatelic Congress was held in Vienna from September 5th to 9th. Representatives of twenty-two Societies with 5,520 members took part, and work and pleasure seem to have been equally indulged in. The Chief Magistrate of the Capital of Austria invited the delegates to the Town Hall to luncheon. Various excursions were made into the beautiful environs of Vienna. Stamps to the value of £50,000, it is said, changed hands. Next year the meeting will take place at Pforzheim.

Our Daily Press.

At a recent auction a reporter, evidently not a collector, heard with astonishment the prices given for certain old English stamps. He had, of course, his catalogue and noted the various prices obtained. Next day in the paper all the stamps appeared as "imperfect!" The catalogue said imperf.

Portugal and Colonies.

Portugal has decided to improve the relations between herself and her colonies. A single letter between them has hitherto cost 50 reis, in future it will be reduced to 25 reis. The same rate will apply to letters between the various colonies. The new stamp of 25 reis will be rose.

The McKinley Post Card.

The factory at Rumford Falls, Maine, is turning out the McKinley post cards at the rate of 3,000,000 per day, and this is not fast enough to meet the exceptional demand.

A Presentation.

The members of the Herts Philatelic Society a short time ago decided to show their appreciation of Mr. Slade's services by making a presentation to him. A testimonial fund was opened, to which members' subscriptions were limited to half-a-crown, and Mr. W. Simpson, a member of the Society, acted as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. The response to Mr. Simpson's appeal has proved so general that about £15 has been subscribed wherewith a silver salver has been purchased, and this was handed to Mr. Slade at the meeting of the Society held on Tuesday, October 14th. We have in the past alluded to the vigour displayed by the Herts Society, a condition due, so far as we can judge, almost entirely to Mr. Slade, who, wherever the Society is concerned, is indefatigable in his work and his interest never flags.

Crete.

The island of Crete entered the Universal Postal Union on the 1st of July. The consequence will be that the French, Austrian and Italian post offices existing in the island will soon disappear.

Provisional Stamps of Dutch Indies.

The following are the numbers issued of the last provisional stamps of the Dutch Indies:—

½c. on 2c.	2,000,000
2½c. on 3c.	2,500,000

With these numbers there will be more than enough to go round!

A Champion Forger.

On July 5th the remaining stock of the firm of Adrien Champion, of which we spoke in our April number, was sold by public auction at Geneva. M. Huot, a name unknown in Philatelic circles, was the purchaser at £220. It is surmised that the stock is again in the hands of Adrien Champion. Our readers will remember that under the alias of Henri Bauche he is still wanted in this country on a charge of selling some excellent forgeries of rare Swiss and others. After his arrest in London on this charge he was allowed bail and fled, his bail being estreated. This was poor satisfaction to those whom he swindled. The whole circumstances point to Champion again being on the war path, and it behoves collectors to be on their guard.

Danish Postal Officials' Salaries.

The salaries of the Danish postal officials have been increased, and in order to make up for this the postal administration have raised the postage on town letters from 4 to 5 öre, and on inland letters from 8 to 10 öre. The new values will be found in our chronicle of New Issues this month.

Automobile Postal Service.

The postal service of Tunis in the interior is conducted on automobiles.

Postcard Statistics.

How many postcards per head do the inhabitants of various countries receive each year? In the United States, 77; Great Britain, 71; Belgium, 51; Switzerland, 46; Holland, 43; France, 42; Germany, 30; Austria, 21; Italy, 14; and Russia, 2.

Charles Roussin.

M. Charles Roussin, one of the oldest dealers in stamps, died in Paris on July 26th. In 1874 he founded a Philatelic journal called *L'ami des Timbres*, which has appeared monthly up to the present time. It was one of the few papers that devoted some pages to fiscal stamps at a time when in so doing it stood quite alone. He had an extensive knowledge of all Philatelic matters and was highly esteemed by all with whom he

came in contact. His large and valuable stock has been purchased by the well-known dealers, Messrs. Hugo Griebert & Co. (see page viii.)

Obituary Notices.

We also regret to announce the deaths of two well-known German philatelists—J. H. Anheisser and Ernst Poenicke. The former is, perhaps, better known in England through his articles on Mexican stamps, which appeared in the *Stamps News Annuals* for 1893 and 1895, and on those of Alsace and Lorraine in 1894. He was an all-round good Philatelist, and a co-worker with Dr. Lindenberg and Dr. Kalckhoff in the compilation of their great handbook. He also made occasional contributions to the *Timbre Poste*. His age was 56.

The latter collector was not so well known outside his fatherland. As president of various Philatelic Congresses he came in contact with nearly all the leading Philatelists, and everyone knowing him will regret to hear of his death in his 42nd year.

Up-to-date.

Last month we inserted a hurried note concerning the removal of Mr. Peckitt into new premises in the Strand. Since then we have had the pleasure of paying a visit, and cannot refrain from expressing admiration both in regard to the size of the new premises and the excellent manner in which they are fitted up.

The shop itself is light and airy, while for those who desire to make their purchases without their neighbour knowing what they are going in for, or those who desire to dip deeper into Mr. Peckitt's stock than the casual shop buyer is in the habit of doing, there is an inner room, some 30 feet long, and well lighted.

Upstairs, there is a suite of rooms for the clerks, and Mr. Peckitt's private room, where, we presume, the princes of Philately are received. A very cosy sanctum sanctorum it makes! Overhead, again, more rooms for the correspondence and other clerks.

In the basement is a big strong room where all the stock of valuable stamps is kept at night. A lift runs up from the strong room to the shop for the purpose of transferring the stock likely to be wanted during the day.

The thing which particularly struck our fancy was the arrangement which has been made by Mr. Peckitt for the convenience of his customers, whereby they can leave their albums with him for safe custody, during their temporary absence from home. A series of separate small safes have been provided in the strong room, each having a separate key. The collector can place his stamps in one of these safes, lock it up, and go away with the key, knowing that no one can even look at them until he returns to unlock his box. It is the principle adopted

a long time ago by the Safe Deposit Companies, but not introduced in this way until the present time.

Yes! Mr. Peckitt is up-to-date—very much up-to-date.

Franks.

Mr. Howard, of Bombay, sends us some entire covers posted at Lyons in 1853, Hamburg in 1868, Canton in 1853, Shanghai in 1860, and Hong Kong in 1846, 1858, and 1859. The first was apparently unpaid and stamped with a large figure 5, signifying the amount of postage due, the second bears the familiar P.D. in red, while all the others have red postmarks containing the words "Paid" or "Paid At," with the name of the Post Office, Shanghai or Hong Kong, as the case might be, and in some cases surmounted by a crown. Our correspondent asks us whether these should not be placed in the same class as the Falkland Islands franks used in 1871, quoted in Stanley Gibbons' catalogue? To this question we answer, Yes. It seems to us they are in the same category and equally interesting. The mistake of course arises through the Falkland Islands franks being admitted to catalogue rank at all, and our correspondent will observe from the last catalogue recently published, they have been reduced to a footnote, which is a step in the right direction, although to our mind it would have been better still had they been omitted altogether. There are a large number of these franks used by different colonies before the introduction of postage stamps—those employed by Lagos and other West African Colonies, where the issue of postage stamps only took place in the seventies, being fairly common.

The Junior Philatelic Society.

Mr. H. F. Johnson, the Hon. Sec. of the Junior Philatelic Society, has sent us an advance proof of the Prospectus of the Society for the season 1902-3. In addition to the Rules of the Society, and of the Stamp Exchange Branch worked in connection with it, the Prospectus contains the programme for the present session. In it we notice several interesting items, the display of a specialist collection of Great Britain in sections on eight different evenings, and two debates, one upon "Should Particulars of Forgeries be Published?" and the other "The Pricing of Stamps in Exchange Packets," can scarcely fail to call forth expressions of opinion which are as wide apart as the Poles, and ever likely to remain so.

Other meetings are devoted to papers and displays (we note the names of several well-known specialists down to give them), lantern exhibitions, etc.

A good feature in the Programme is, we think, the variety of fare provided at each

meeting, held as a rule on alternate Saturdays. In this way every member attending can scarcely help but find something to his liking, which is not always the case when the whole evening is devoted to one subject.

It is too early to judge yet whether the Society will achieve the object it has in view, the increase in the number of adult collectors, by nurturing the boyish affections of the juniors, and forming a feeder as time goes by for the other Philatelic Societies. We hope that it may be successful in this. It is perfectly plain that the President, Mr. Melville, and the others in office with him, deserve success for the pains they are taking.

Floreat St. Helena.

We have to thank Mr. J. H. Roskilly for the following cutting from the *St. Helena Guardian* for September 18th, 1902:—

"POSTAL STATISTICS.

"We are enabled this week to publish for the information of the general public a comparative statement of the working of the Post Office for the past eight months of this and last years. These statistics are of great interest, and go far to show what amount of work must be performed by our small Post Office Staff. Under every other except amount of Money Orders sent to the Cape (in which there was a decrease of £104 2s. 11d.) there is an increase—and no small increase either, as for instance: the increase of number of mails received from England and issued by the Post Office was 24,—4 in excess of the whole number received up to a like period of 1901, and 443 bags of mail more than last year, which is also a larger increase than the whole amount received in 1901, meaning that there was upwards of a hundred per cent. more mail to be handled than the previous year! The Money Orders received were nearly fifty per cent. more. Another matter entailing much work is the number of registered letters sent from the Island to England,—there being an increase of 1,186, or over fifty per cent on last year's, the total amount for 1902 being 3,264. For each of these letters a receipt had to be given! These figures, however, are only of mail matter to and from England. In the statement below the figures for mail matter to and from South Africa will also show a large percentage of increase, but not so high as that of the English mails. The large increase of monies received in the Island is also worthy of notice, as much as £1,260 odd being shown, the total amount being upwards of £4,716, of which sum considerably more than two-thirds was received from South Africa. It now remains to be seen what percentage of decrease will be shown by the end of the year, after all the surplus population of Troops and Prisoners of War have left the Island."

Correspondence.

Holland: Issue iii. ? Retouch of the 10 cents.
Type 1., perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$.



To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—Rather over a year ago I came across one of the above stamps which struck me as possibly being a print from a retouched plate. Quite recently I obtained another copy, which shows exactly the same variations from the normal, and it occurred to me that the notification of this minor variety might be of interest. The stamp in question varies from the normal in the following points:—

(1) The lower parts of the letters CENT., and the stop after them are very faint, the lowest parts being non-existent.

(2) The lower corner ornaments similarly appear worn in their lower parts.

(3) The left side of the right lower ornament is distinctly out of the straight.

In addition to the above, the figures 10 will be seen to be very clearly marked right to their lowest point and the bottom line of the frame to be clear and well defined.

How can one account for these variations? The die for the whole stamp, with the exception of the figures, was in one, and must have been transferred to the plate as such, so that it is difficult to see why the lower parts of the letters and corner ornaments should wear without the lower parts of the figures, and the bottom frame line sharing the wear. A horizontal dent in the plate is hardly likely to have missed the place where the figures come. I have never seen a pair showing this variety, nor one with any margin, so that one cannot be sure of its position on the plate, but I believe it to have been on the bottom row and possibly at a corner.

What I believe to have happened is this: The lower edge of this stamp (and possibly others in the same row), on the plate has

become worn away by the inking and printing of the plate. (This would be all the more likely if the plate had been very slightly bent, which makes me think the stamp is probably in the bottom row or even more probably at either end of it.) The figures were probably repunched on the plate, the bottom line redrawn, and the corner ornaments partly touched up. Variation No. 3 seems to point to this very strongly, as, so far, I have not come across a single copy in any value showing this irregularity in the right lower ornament. I should be extremely glad if anyone can give me information on this "? Retouch," as if the above suggestions be not correct, I fail to see how the variety could occur. I should also be glad to hear of any similar variety in any of the other values.—Yours faithfully,

R. F. CHANCE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Greece.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—Referring to the last *Philatelic Record* (p 139), Mr. Crawford Capen does not appear to have succeeded in identifying the first Athens 1l. I gather this from his calling it *maroon*, and from his classing it with the "proof, essay and printer's waste stamps," all of which are Paris prints, and as far as the 1l. is concerned are further of a very light printing, the neck shading not being at all strong. The first Athens 1l. *might* be confounded with a Paris print, but only with very heavily shaded ones. I have two used copies and four unused, and I believe Mr. Beckton has a large block unused. Short of getting one on entire, Mr. Crawford Capen is not likely to find a dated one, as at that period, 1861-62, they did not use a date stamp to cancel with, as they did later on. As regards the Paris "remainders," bar the absence of gum, they appear to me to be identical with some of the issued stamps with the exception of two or three shades of the 1l. (one almost black and another very pale), and one shade of 2l.—Believe me, yours sincerely,

F. H. NAPIER.

London,
29th September.

Gum.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—I have known of a golfer being bunkered, but not of a Philatelist getting into such a horrible mess, until I

read the letter from Mr. H. Stafford, in your last number. In each case, however, there appears to be a penalty—in golf it is to drop a ball and lose a stroke; in Philately, it is to drop the stamps into cold water and loose the gum. Under such trying circumstances, I rather suspect the language of the Philatelist for the moment might be similar to that of the golfer. This would, however, I am sure, be quite exceptional!—Yours, truly,
M. HEATON.
October 2nd.

Re Niger Coast Stamps.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—One of the principal Philatelic Auctioneers has lately written to me as follows with reference to the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Surcharged, in black on $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue, of Niger Coast Protectorate, 1894 issue:—

"We were under the impression from records we have heard of that the Postmaster issued 1,200 of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in black on $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue."

As I am interested in the stamps of this Protectorate, I like to correct any wrong or mistaken impression about them when I know it to be wrong.

No such "record" as the Auctioneers in question say they have *heard of* can exist—*i.e.*, no genuine record—for the number issued was 960, not 1,200.

I was at Old Calabar at the time these stamps were over-printed and issued by the Postmaster-General (in August, 1894), and having been a stamp collector for about 25 years, and therefore knowing the value of such information, I made a point at the time of finding out how many were issued.

The $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue stamps ran 48 to the sheet, and twenty (20) sheets only were over-printed "one half-penny" in black, which makes a total issue of 960.

If you have also "heard of" any such "record" as my Auctioneer correspondent speaks of, I should be glad if you would ask to see it, and I shall be still more glad if you could arrange for me to see it.

Unauthentic information as to stamps (given by *black clerks* with *European* names) is frequently swallowed as Gospel, and subsequently acted on and quoted by those who do not know any better!—Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR G. GRIFFITH.

Ryde,
October 17th.

Official Date of Malta Issue of "One Penny" Provisional.

To the Editor of the Philatelic Record.

DEAR SIR,—The following information has been given by the Postmaster-General regarding the official date of issue of the "one penny" Provisional:—

"General Post Office, Malta,
3rd October, 1902.

"In reply to your application of the 24th ultimo, I have to state that 3,000 sheets of $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. postage stamps surcharged 'One Penny' were issued to the public on the 4th of July last."

The date of issue of this stamp has, as far as I know, not yet been mentioned in any Philatelic paper.—Yours faithfully,
G. PULIS.

Valetta,
October 11th.

Notices.

Subscriptions:—The *Philatelic Record* will be sent, post free, to any address, at home or abroad, for 5s. per year. Orders to be addressed to Mr. G. F. H. GIBSON, I, Clarence Street, Manchester.

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Advertisements must be received not later than the 15th of November for publication in the next issue.

All Foreign Orders for Advertisements must be *prepaid*.

THE
Philatelic Record.

NOVEMBER, 1902.

Editorial Notes.

EXACTLY twelve months ago, in commenting upon the agitation which has been so long continued for the issue of an International Postage Stamp, we expressed the opinion in these columns that the necessity for a stamp of this nature in order to secure a reply from foreign countries must have almost disappeared, owing to the reductions in the postage tariffs, but we pointed out the real need for the issue of International Postal Orders, to meet the demand which certainly exists for a cheaper means of remitting small sums than is at present furnished by Post Office Orders.

**The
International
Postage
Stamp.**

The question of the International Postage Stamp is, we understand, to be again revived by Denmark at the next Congress, and to be opposed by France, the principal objection being based upon the contention that the stamp, if issued, would *ipso facto* create a new International Money Exchange to the detriment of Post Office Orders, and consequently entail a heavy loss in a most remunerative portion of the Post Office business of the principal trading countries.

A more striking instance of official confirmation of the need which we ventured to assert now exists would be difficult indeed to find.

IN spite of the flood of new issues in recent years, it is not often that any of them call for special comment. For the most part they are speculative, often transitory, poverty-stricken in design, and almost invariably mediocre in point of execution. Why people should continue to collect all the rubbish which is issued we cannot understand, but we suppose they always will do so, and it certainly does not concern us.

We have a great feeling of regard for Portugal on political grounds, but, from the Philatelic standpoint, have long ago given up the country as beyond redemption, and we should think the last crop of provisionals amongst the Colonies will have choked off most of her admirers.

Denmark, from all points of view, we have ever looked upon with favour, and regarded it as forming, with the Indies and Iceland, a charming group, particularly free from the surcharge fiend. But, alas! Iceland has fallen badly, as will be seen from our chronicle of New Issues this month. There is, nevertheless, something which appeals to one in the new surcharge, something which recalls the past in Spain. The old Iceland stamps have been overprinted ^{I GILDI} 02-03, which means "valid, or available for postage during 1902-3," and, in this way, is the

equivalent of the Habilitado, of Spain, in the sixties. Though the stamps lack the historical associations of the Spanish, we doubt not that they will create an interest among collectors generally, and, maybe, appeal to the older ones in much the same way as they do to us.



Decree.—Iceland.

“NOTICE.

“With reference to a letter from the Minister for Iceland dated 24th ult. new Icelandic stamps and postcards have been issued as follows:—

“Common stamps	3 Aur.	Common stamps	100 Aur.
“ “	4 “	Postcards single	3 “
“ “	5 “	“ “	5 “
“ “	6 “	“ “	8 “
“ “	10 “	“ “	10 “
“ “	16 “	Postcards double	3 “
“ “	20 “	“ “	5 “
“ “	25 “	“ “	8 “
“ “	40 “	“ “	10 “
“ “	50 “		

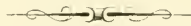
“All older stamps and postcards have been annulled, but up to the 31st of December of this year they can be exchanged at the post offices for stamps and postcards of the new issue.

“The older stamps and postcards will bear the following imprint :
I GILDI
'02—'03 and with this addition will remain in force till the end of the year 1903, after which time only the new stamps and postcards shall be used.

“Reykjavík 9th October 1902.

“The Governor of Iceland,

“MAGNÚS STEPHENSEN.”



The Philatelic Society, London.

Exhibition of the Stamps of some of the African Colonies.

A PRIVATE Exhibition of the Stamps of the African Colonies unaffected by the late War will be held in the Society's Rooms, Effingham House, Arundel Street, W.C., on Saturday, the 13th of December, 1902, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The stamps of the following countries will be exhibited:—British Central Africa, British East Africa, Gambia, Gold Coast, Lagos, Madagascar (British Consular Mail), Mauritius, Morocco Agencies, Niger Coast, Northern and Southern Nigeria, St. Helena, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Uganda and Zanzibar.

No charge will be made for admission, and tickets can be obtained on application to Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, Hon. Sec. of the Exhibition Committee, “Rothsay,” Weybridge.

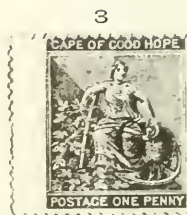
TYPES OF RED PRINTING, SETTING A.



Type 1a.



Type 1b.



Type 2a.



Type 2b.



Type 3.



Type 4.



Type 5a.



Type 5b.



Type 6.

10



Nos. 40, 41, 42, 46, 47, and 48. Left pane.
 No. 40, broken, Type 3.
 No. 47, Type 2b, only one in setting.

Notes on the Stamps of Griqualand West. With Autotype Illustrations.

By Lieut. F. H. Napier, R.N.

THE stamps of Griqualand West were in issue for rather more than three years—that is from March, 1877, until October, 1880. Before and since that period the stamps current in that province have been those of the Cape of Good Hope. During the three years in question, the stamps used were those then current in the Cape of Good Hope overprinted with the letters “G. W.,” or with “G” alone. It is with the varieties of the latter surcharge that we are now chiefly concerned. I am indebted to my friends Mr. W. Dorning Beckton and Mr. R. Yardley for kindly allowing me to examine their collections, for lending me stamps necessary for illustrating this article, and for furnishing me with many useful Philatelic hints of which I have taken full advantage in these Notes. I must also acknowledge my obligations to previous writers who have been my predecessors in the same field of inquiry, especially to the compilers of the list given in the London Philatelic Society’s work on the Stamps of Africa. In short, my intention is to endeavour by the help of recently acquired information to supplement what has already been written on the subject, without pretending to supersede the work of more able pens than my own.

I will first briefly mention that as far back as 1874, during a temporary dearth of One-penny stamps at Kimberley, a provisional stamp of that value was produced by surcharging in pen and ink “1d.” on the Cape of Good Hope 4d. blue, type with outer frame; the colour of the ink was red—or, rather, lake-red. I think this might be classed with the stamps of the Cape with greater propriety than with those of Griqualand West.

The stamps first issued for Griqualand West in March, 1877, were the Cape of Good Hope 1d. red, type without outer frame, and 4d. blue, type with frame, overprinted with “G.W.,” in black on the 1d., and in red on the 4d.

These were followed later in the same year, 1877, by a set of six values, from ½d. to 5s., overprinted, as were all subsequent issues, with “G” alone.

It is not easy to say how many actual “issues” were made in the course of the next three years, as this term is an extremely elastic one; but I think a good plan is to divide the subject matter into two sections. In Section I. I include all stamps on which the overprint

measures 4 mm. in height, or more ; and in Section II. those on which the "G" is considerably smaller, that is between 2 and 3 mm. in height, and proportionately smaller in other respects. I subdivide each section into two "printings," and then, where necessary, make a further division, either by "settings" or by the colours of the overprints. Perhaps the following synopsis may make my meaning more plain :—

Section I. Large "G"	(i.) First printing, in red, but in black on the 1d.	(Setting A, of 120 overprints ; 9 types. Setting B, number of overprints and types unknown.
	(ii.) Second printing, all in black.	
Section II. Small "G"	(i.) Antique capitals.	(a. In black. b. In red. c. In black and in red.
	(ii.) Ordinary capitals, in black.	

The above arrangement has the additional merit of keeping everything in the proper chronological order, that is, as far as I know it.

SECTION I.

In considering this section, let us for convenience call the first—the earlier printing—the "Red," and the second—the later one—the "Black" printing, these being the colours of the respective overprints. The one exception to this in the 1d. of the first printing, which was overprinted in black. This must be borne in mind when we are speaking of

The "Red" printing.

Of this there were at least two settings, differing from each other in the types used to make them up, and in the disposition of the types in the setting. Of only one have we any precise knowledge; we will call it "Setting A," and treat of it first. The values overprinted were as follows, all being done in red except the 1d., which was in black :—

- $\frac{1}{2}$ d. black.
- 1d. rose.
- 4d. blue (type with frame).
- 4d. blue (type without frame).
- 6d. violet.
- 1s. green.
- 5s. orange-yellow.

The watermark of these stamps is Crown and C.C., and they are perforated 14 by a comb-machine.

It is necessary here to give some description of the way the stamps were arranged in the sheets, and especially of the manner of their perforation.

They were printed in sheets of 240, divided into four panes of 60 stamps each, the panes being in two horizontal rows. The lateral space between the two panes of one row is about 10 mm. The make of the

comb-machine used for perforating them was such that a single vertical line of perforation bisected this space, leaving 5 mm. of margin to the stamps of the inside vertical columns of the panes. Stamps from this position can be told by this margin, and whether from the left or right pane is determined by the side on which the extended margin is found. This will be found a very useful fact in our investigations; at the same time we must remember that the converse does not hold good—that is to say that the absence of such a margin does not prove that the stamp lacking it does *not* come from the inside column of a pane. The printers sometimes used a machine of a different construction, which made *two* perpendicular lines of perforation about 8 mm. apart down the space between the panes, so that when the margin is detached there is no difference to be seen between these marginal stamps and any others of the sheet. I do not think that many sheets so perforated were overprinted for Griqualand West, as examples of it are rare, but there is a notable one in Mr. Yardley's collection. It was he who first called my attention to this point.

The overprints were *probably* in a setting of 120, covering two panes in a horizontal line. I say "probably" because a complete sheet of four panes is unknown to me, nor have I ever met with an upper pane, nor even with a marginal block that could be identified as having belonged to an upper pane of this printing. There is in Mr. Dorning Beckton's collection a lower half-sheet of $\frac{3}{4}$ d. black with only eleven stamps missing from it. The stamps absent from the left pane are Nos. 3, 19, 31, 37, 43 and 49, and from the right pane Nos. 6, 48, 53, 54 and 60. As regards the left pane, there is in the same collection a block of 50, the missing stamps in this case being the inside column, which is intact in the left pane of the above half-sheet. The five stamps wanting in the right pane have been seen in various blocks from different sources, so that as far as the two panes of the lower half-sheet are concerned we know exactly how the setting of 120 was made up. That this setting was repeated twice in the sheet there can hardly be any reasonable doubt, seeing that nothing has been found indicating the only alternative, that the setting was one of 240, with no two panes alike. Further than that, we know for certain that the "Black" printing was in a setting of 120, as was also the printing that immediately followed it—that in small antique capitals.

There are in the two panes together nine different types of "G,"—that is capital letters from nine different founts of type,—besides "varieties" made by certain overprints being broken or otherwise marked so that when found detached from other stamps they can be identified by the nature of the break or mark. I refer my readers to Plate I., figures 1 to 9, for the illustrations of the nine types. I have numbered them in a somewhat arbitrary manner, my motive being to keep numbered from 1 to 6 the six types recognised by M. Moëns in *Le Timbre Poste*, by the compilers of the London Philatelic Society's list, and by the latest edition of Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue. The three additional types in my list are distinguished by letters added to the numeral. Type 1*b* is thicker and more clumsy than 1*a*; Type 2*b* is intermediate in size between 2*a* and 3, and also differs in shape from either of these two types. Fig. 10 of Plate I. is a block of six showing the only Type 2*b* in the whole setting—No. 47 of left pane—with its

position relative to No. 40—a broken Type 3. This is a more satisfactory illustration than the one in Fig. 4, which is from a somewhat heavily printed specimen. The difference between Types 5*a* and 5*b* is not very great. There is only one 5*b* in the setting, No. 60 of left pane. It differs a little in size and shape from 5*a*, notably about the upper serif, but is probably from the same fount of type, and might with equal propriety have been classed with the “broken varieties.”

The nine types are distributed between the two panes in the following manner:—

Type.	Left pane.		Right pane.		Total.
1 <i>a</i>	...	12	...	13	— 25
1 <i>b</i>	...	11	...	5	— 16
2 <i>a</i>	...	1	...	8	— 9
2 <i>b</i>	...	1	...	None.	— 1
3	...	11	...	13	— 24
4	...	5	...	5	— 10
5 <i>a</i>	...	5	...	2	— 7
5 <i>b</i>	...	1	...	None.	— 1
6	...	13	...	14	— 27
		<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
		60		60	120

The following is the

SCHEME OF THE “RED” PRINTING, SETTING A.

LEFT PANE.						RIGHT PANE.					
2 <i>a</i>	1 <i>b</i>	1 <i>b</i>	1 <i>b</i>	1 <i>b</i>	1 <i>b</i>	2 <i>a</i>	1 <i>b</i>	1 <i>b</i>	*1 <i>b</i>	1 <i>b</i>	1 <i>b</i>
1 <i>b</i>	1 <i>b</i>	1 <i>b</i>	1 <i>b</i>	1 <i>b</i>	1 <i>b</i>	6	6	6	6	6	6
*6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>
1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	*1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	*1 <i>a</i>
1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	1 <i>a</i>	3	3	3
3	3	3	*3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	2 <i>b</i>	3	*3	3	3	3	2 <i>a</i>	4
4	4	4	4	4	5 <i>a</i>	4	4	4	4	5 <i>a</i>	5 <i>a</i>
6	5 <i>a</i>	5 <i>a</i>	5 <i>a</i>	5 <i>a</i>	5 <i>b</i>	2 <i>a</i>	2 <i>a</i>	2 <i>a</i>	2 <i>a</i>	2 <i>a</i>	2 <i>a</i>

The broken varieties are marked by an asterisk.

BROKEN VARIETIES IN RED PRINTING, SETTING A.

1



Type 1a, No. 27, left.
Top serif broken, &c.

2



Type 1a, No. 30, right.
Broken S.W.

3



Type 1b, No. 4, right.
Broken S.

4



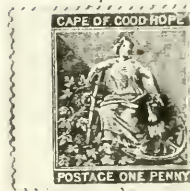
Type 2a, No. 1, left.
Broken S.E.

5



Type 3, No. 40, left.
Broken N. W.

6



Type 3, No. 43, right.
Broken N.

7



Type 6, No. 13, left.
Broken N.E.

8



Type 6, No. 10, right.
Broken S.E.

TYPES FROM RED PRINTING, SETTING B.

9



Type 3, broken N.W.
Right column of left pane.

10



Type 7a, as in
black printing.

11



Type 7b, as in
black printing.

There are on each pane four overprints showing more or less damage. These are illustrated in Plate II., Figs. 1 to 8, and are as follows:—

1.	Type	1a,	No. 27,	left	pane,	broken	N.W.
2.	..	1a,	.. 30,	right	..	..	S.W.
3.	..	1b,	.. 4,	..	..	..	S.
4.	..	2a,	.. 1,	left	..	..	S.E.
5.	..	3,	.. 40,	..	..	..	N.W.
6.	..	3,	.. 43,	right	..	..	N.
7.	..	6,	.. 13,	left	..	..	N.E.
8.	..	6,	.. 10,	right	..	..	S.E.

the point of the compass indicating the position of the break.

I call my readers' attention to the broken Type 3, Plate II., Fig. 6. It is a marginal stamp from the left vertical column of a right pane, and I have found a good many copies of this particular variety. Moreover, there is in Mr. Yardley's collection a block of 15 from the lower left corner of a right pane containing this broken Type 3, which fixes its position as No. 43 of that pane. The corresponding overprint in Mr. Beckton's half-sheet does not show any break, and this is certainly one of the most puzzling points we meet with in connection with these stamps. There are two ways in which it could be explained; one hypothesis is that Mr. Yardley's block of 15, as well as all the other single copies of the broken No. 43 that have been found, are from Setting B, a second setting to be presently considered—see synopsis before given. But the block differs in no other single particular from the corresponding 15 overprints in Mr. Beckton's right pane, and the more probable explanation is that this particular type was damaged in the course of printing, and that Mr. Beckton's half-sheet was printed prior to this accidental injury.

So much for Setting A. Let us now consider certain stamps we find of the "Red" printing that assuredly do not belong to that setting. I have elected to call such stamps "Setting B," but I must premise that there is nothing to show that these stamps, to be now described, are all from one and the same setting, or, granting that such be the case, whether the setting was one of 60, 120 or 240. I believe that this is the first time these stamps of Setting B have been discussed in print, all knowledge concerning them having been acquired at a very recent date. It is true that the London Philatelic Society's list gives two settings of the "Red" printing, each being a setting of 60; but the Society's "two settings of 60" are identical with our Setting A, which is one of 120. If the scheme of that setting given above be compared with the one of 60 given by the London Society as the first setting, it will be readily seen that our right pane corresponds with it, and our left pane with their second setting. It is only since Mr. Beckton's discovery of the two panes *se-tenant* that we know that the Society's two settings of 60 really formed one single setting of 120. I have the best authority for stating that the compilers of the Society's list did not have before them when they made it any complete pane of what they called "the first setting of 60"—that is, our right pane,—but took their scheme from that of M. J. B. Moëns in *Le Timbre Poste*. Their description and illustration of "the second setting of 60"—our

left pane--was taken, I believe, from the block of 50 of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. now in the collection of Mr. Beckton. What makes all this material to our subject is that the compilers of the Society's list, as well as other specialists of Griqualand West, had been misled by Mr. Moëns into believing that the first sheets were overprinted in a setting of 60, repeated four times on the sheet. I shall revert to this statement of M. Moëns a little further on. Let us now see how much, or rather how little, is known as to

SETTING B.

There is in Mr. Beckton's collection a block of unused 5s., with an extended margin on the right showing it to be part of a left pane. This block may be described as one of three horizontal rows of six stamps each, of which the third, fourth, fifth and sixth stamps of the upper row are missing, as well as the fifth stamp of the second row, thus leaving thirteen stamps *se-tenant*. The last stamp of the second and third rows have the extended margin on the right. All these thirteen stamps are overprinted with the same type, that is, Type 3. In one overprint the type is broken, but it differs in the break from both the broken Types 3 illustrated in Plate II., Figs. 5 and 6. It is quite evident that this block cannot belong to Setting A (see scheme on page 226), so it is clear that at least for the 5s. there was a second setting. Mr. Beckton has also a group of three used 5s. *se-tenant*, all with overprint Type 3, and one of them has a broken type identical in the break with the one in his block of 13. This is no doubt another example of Setting B. How the remainder of this setting was made up, and whether it covered one, two or four panes, is at present unknown, but a few other single stamps have been found that throw a little more light on the subject.

First, in Plate II., Fig. 9, there is shown a 1s. with a broken Type 3. The margin is extended on the right, showing it to be from a left pane. If it belonged to Setting A it must necessarily be either No. 42 or No. 48 of the left pane, but in Mr. Beckton's half-sheet neither of these have broken overprints. It is therefore probable that this stamp is from Setting B, although there is always a possibility, as I remarked before, that Setting A may have had one or more of the types chipped in the course of printing, and that the half-sheet we know was printed before the damage was done.

The three 1s. stamps illustrated in Plate II., Figs. 10 and 11, and Plate V., Fig. 1, are more important. They all have the Kimberley obliteration, and seem to be undoubtedly genuine. The overprints might be taken for Type 3, but that type is never sharp in outline as all these are, and they also differ from Type 3 and from each other in other respects. They are, in fact, to all appearances identical with types that are plentiful in the next, or "Black," printing, that is, Types Nos. 7a, 7b and 8. I refer my readers to Plates III. and IV., and to the scheme of the "Black" printing given further on. The negative evidence against this printing ever having been done in red is very strong. The setting is full of broken types that can be easily recognised in single stamps, but I have never found any of these in red. Moreover, it contains four types of large italic "G" that could not hitherto have escaped notice did they exist in red. I think all this

goes to prove what we call Setting B of the "Red" printing was probably made up of types used before in Setting A, together with Types 7*a*, 7*b* and 8 of the "Black" printing, as these last might easily escape notice owing to their likeness to Type 3. There is also a possibility that it contained Type 11 of the "Black" printing as well. This is said to exist in red, but I have failed to find one postmarked "Kimberley" or that I considered genuine—forgeries of course abound.

It will be seen that all the evidence we have up to now of Setting B is derived from 1s. and 5s. stamps. There was a great demand for both the high values, as is evidenced by the great number of used copies extant, out of all proportion to what we might expect if we consider their face value; and so it may be that it was only on these two values that Setting B was printed.

I have already referred to Mr. Moëns and *Le Timbre Poste*. In the number for July, 1877, when describing the stamps just received, he states distinctly that the setting was one of 60, repeated four times in the sheet of four panes. Writing in October of the same year he says, "The latest sheets of stamps we have received have the surcharges arranged in a different order to that which we gave." The plan of the setting of 60 given by him in the July number is identical with the right pane of setting A as we know it, and there can be no question here of Setting B. If M. Moëns was right the setting of 60 must have been afterwards expanded into one of 120 without disturbing the arrangement of the right pane; but I think it more probable that it was an error on M. Moëns' part to say it was one of 60. Had it been so there must have been *left panes* overprinted with what now forms the right pane of Setting A, and the right vertical column being in that case the inner column of a left pane would have the margin extended on the right. This column contains a Type 4 and a Type 2*a*, types that do not occur in the corresponding column of the left pane of our Setting A. I have failed to find either of these types on stamps with a margin extended on the right, and if these cannot be found I think it conclusive that the setting on the right pane of our Setting A, and described by M. Moëns, was never printed on any left pane, and that no setting of 60 was ever made.

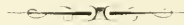
It is not quite clear to me to which setting M. Moëns was referring when he wrote in October, 1877. It may be that he had for the first time seen a left pane of Setting A; *or*, it may be the "Black" printing to which he alludes; *or*, it may even possibly be that he had before him our Setting B, either whole or in part. Whatever it may have been it must long since have been broken up and dispersed; we can only now regret that he gave no plan in October as he had done in the previous July.

A few remarks as to the rarity of some of the stamps of the "Red" printing may not be out of place. The relative rarity of the different types can be easily seen by referring to the scheme of the setting. Our want of knowledge as to Setting B does not affect this question, except as regards Type 3, which probably is more common than might be supposed from the number in Setting A. As regards the different *values*, both the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. are common stamps, except that the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. is rare used. The 4d. of both types, the 6d. and the 1s., are all fairly rare unused, but common enough used. The 5s. used is about on a

par with used specimens of 4d., 6d., or 1s. Unused it is a great rarity, and I should say that an unused copy of the 5s. Type 2*b* was the most desirable stamp of Griqualand West.

Collectors wishing to specialize to a modest extent will find it interesting to make up sets consisting of all types and broken varieties for each value overprinted. This will not be difficult to do if used specimens be taken when unused cannot be found.

(To be continued.)



Notable Philatelists.

Mr. C. F. Larmour.

ONE'S SELF! Surely an easy subject to write about, and yet how difficult! Here have I been sitting for the past hour or so sucking the end of my pencil while my eyes have been fixed in a vacant stare at the rotary fan above my desk in the vain hope that inspiration might come and that I may be permitted to write something about myself which should be of interest to the ordinary reader.

"How to begin? I take it that the reader, ordinary or otherwise, takes little interest in my personality. My age, height, weight, and other etcetera do not concern him in the least and have no bearing on the subject at issue. It is stamps he wants to read about, Postage Stamps and nothing else, since I collect neither telegraphs nor fiscals nor postmarks nor matchboxes.

"We call it Philately now-a-days, and we place it high up on a lofty pedestal, and we make 'Poojah' (do you know what 'Poojah' is?) to it as a 'minor science.' All this is just as it should be. We must advance, not go back, and if we choose to ennoble our hobby, who is to say us nay? But when I began stamp collecting, which was away back in the very early 'sixties,' we were satisfied with being called mere stamp collectors. If anyone had called me a 'Philatelist' I should have resented it as an insult, and if he had been anywhere near my fighting weight I should have punched his head and risked the consequences.

"When did I begin? Well, looking back into the long vista of the past, now fast fading from my memory, I think it must have been some time in 1861 or 1862. I must have been quite an 'advanced collector' by '63, as I see that on the flyleaf of my old Lallier Album the fact is recorded that it was given to me by my father on the 27th August of that year, that being my birthday. My initiation into the mysteries of stamp collecting was curious and began in turmoil. We had a boy in school who hailed from Coquimbo, in Chili, and he went

Notable Philatelists.



Mr. C. F. Larmour.

by the nicknames of 'Chili John' or 'Johnnie Coquimbo' as it pleased our fancy. One day in class Chili John showed me some Chilian stamps and proposed that I should become the happy possessor of them by the simple process of exchange and barter, viz., that I should hand over to him what was left of the twopenny packet of peppermint drops in which I had just invested at the tuck shop, and he would give me an inalienable right to the stamps. I thought the proposal quite fair, and, after surreptitiously extracting one of the dainties, I passed the packet over to him and he handed me the stamps. I was a decided gainer by the transaction, for, whereas I succeeded in slipping my stamps into my desk unobserved, he was caught munching his sweets in class, an unpardonable offence which resulted in prompt punishment and confiscation, as a set-off to which, when class was over, he demanded the return of the stamps or challenged me to fight for them. I chose the alternative and a gory battle followed, compared with which the then recent combat between Sayers and Heenan was mere child's play. The big boys stopped us before any definite result was obtained, and the 'Head' caned us both with cheerful impartiality. But I kept those Chilian stamps and so commenced my collection.

"I continued that collection until I came out to India in 1869, when it was put away for twenty years, often being perilously near given away, until the fever came on me again in 1889. It often strikes me that it was a pity that collection was not lost or parted with. A magnificent opportunity was missed of weaving a halo of romance about it. I have heard the most awful lies told about the wonderful stamps which 'I had in my schoolboy collection.' Early British Guiana, double Geneva, first issues Roumania, Sydney Views galore, and even on one occasion a POST OFFICE Mauritius were among those stamps which, 'like a fool, I gave away when I left school,' and I have had to sit still and grind my teeth in envy because my unfortunate 'schoolboy collection' was there in all its pristine glory to tell the simple story that it was nothing more than it pretended to be, containing many forgeries, much wall-paper, and a few decent stamps. Such as it was, it helped to form a nucleus when I commenced again in 1889. Why need I dilate on what followed? It is but the experience of every collector. For some time I took everything that fell in my way, all was fish that came to my net: Seebecks, Commemoratives, Speculatives and all else, the bad with the good. A magpie was not in it with me in the collecting line. This continued until 1891, when I made the astounding discovery that it was impossible for me to conquer the world in Philately with my limited purse. My labels numbered something over 5,000, but they made a meagre show. True, they were the admiration of schoolboys and other magpies, but collectors looked at them with a patronising smile which roused all the angry passions within my breast. Then came the parting of the ways. I desired excellence, but I saw it was out of the question to expect it so long as I remained a magpie. Guided by the advice of a friend well known in the Philatelic world, I decided to cease amassing stamps and set myself to work to collect intelligently and with a purpose. It began to dawn upon me that I might yet rise to the rank of a 'Philatelist.' The weeding out process continued until I was positively able to look upon a new issue of Nicaragua without breaking

the tenth Commandment, and the non-possession of an Argentine Provisional roused no feeling of envy in me. I realised I was a 'Specialist' at last!

"Of late years I have been compelled to suspend operations, not from any want of interest in the subject, but mainly because I find that years are telling on me, and my eyes will not stand much night work, especially such close attention as the inspection and arrangement of stamps necessitates. My business, moreover, demands all the time I can give to it, so that little leisure is left me. Some day, possibly, when I have plucked all the fruit I can from the Pagoda Tree, and am spared to retire to the Old Country, from 'India's Coral Strand,' I shall, in all probability, resume an active interest in my hobby.

"Hobby, did I say? Well, let it stand. Candid confession, it is said, is good for the soul, and I candidly confess I have never looked upon stamp collecting as anything other than a hobby and a pastime—pleasing, fascinating and instructive, but still a pastime—and, as such, I have always endeavoured to extract as much pleasure from it as I could without permitting it to become a burden to myself or those about me. I have preached and I have practised, and, further, I practise as I preach. I do not belong to the school of any particular sect in Philately. If I cannot afford an unused copy of a particular stamp, I am quite content with a used copy. Excellence, by all means, but not excellence at the expense of convenience and pocket. To each I say, 'Collect as you please, without regard to what others do. Eliminate the speculative tendency from your collecting. Let it be a source of enjoyment, instead of a burden and an anxiety.'

"My specialising has confined me to Great Britain and the Colonies, but even in this I have my favourite countries. The Mother Country, the Australian group, Mauritius, Ceylon, the 'Islands of the Sea,' are among those I care for most. One deviation I have permitted myself, and that is Portuguese India, in which I have excelled, and which I have found one of the most interesting and fascinating countries in which to specialise. My collection of Portuguese Indies gained a silver medal at the Manchester Philatelic Exhibition and the gold medal at the one in Calcutta.

"I cannot pretend to any startling rarities among my stamps, but I have a few which may be called medium rarities, such, for instance, as the 10d. plate 2; the 9d. hair lines; the 6d. plate 13 brown; the 1s. Turks Islands; 2d. large fillet Mauritius; Nevis, practically complete, with most of the values plated; several fine copies of all the values of Sydney Views; 1s. Newfoundland; New Brunswick and Nova Scotia; many fine Canadians; and several other good stamps. But, after all, it is only a big collection among inferiors, and would go a very little way among the great collections in England."

It has fallen to Mr. Larmour's lot to take a public part in Philately. He has edited two papers devoted to the pastime, is Vice-President of the Indian Society, and has successfully run three Philatelic Exhibitions with the loss of only two stamps. These Exhibitions we consider great achievements, and think they alone entitle him to a niche in the Temple of Philatelic Fame.

The Stamps of Crete.

By Theodor Haas.*

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 210.)



Printed in colours on white paper, perforated $1\frac{1}{2}$:—

- 1 lepton, reddish-brown (Hermes).
- 5 lepta, green (Hera).
- 10 „ scarlet (Prince George, Governor of Crete).
- 20 „ carmine (Hera).

The following bear the red surcharge ΠΡΟΣΩΡΙΝΟΝ :—

- 25 lepta, blue (Prince George).
- 50 „ lilac (Hermes).
- 1 Drachma, violet (Talos, a mythological boundary guard of King Minos).
- 2 Drachme, brown (Minos, a mythological king of Crete).
- 5 „ green, centre black (St. George and the dragon).

A postcard appeared at the same time.

* Translated by G. B. Duerst from the *Illustr. Brief. Journal*

The surcharge was also applied in black. The 1 drachma exists with surcharge inverted: it is said only two sheets, or 200 stamps, were thus issued.

25 lepta,	blue,	surcharge black.
50 "	lilac,	" "
1 drachma,	violet,	" "
2 drachme,	brown,	" "
5 "	green, centre black,	" "

Error:—

1 drachma, violet, black surcharge inverted.

The first printing of this issue is as follows:—

1 lepton,	500,000	—
5 lepta,	500,000	—
10 "	1,000,000	—
20 "	500,000	—
25 "	1,000,000	—
50 "	300,000	—
1 drachma,	50,000	red surcharge, only 6,000 (?).
2 drachme,	50,000	" " " 6,000 (?).
5 "	50,000	" " " 2,000 (?).

Later on, at the beginning of 1902, the 25 lepta was discovered having a larger but badly-printed surcharge in black. It is said that such specimens were surcharged in the island itself. That this stamp must have appeared in 1900 or 1901 is evident, as later on the surcharge disappears entirely from the Cretan stamps.

25 lepta, blue, larger black surcharge.

About the 1st of March, 1901, the 20 lepta value was issued in orange instead of carmine, and the 50 lepta in ultramarine instead of lilac, both without the surcharge, and the higher values as well without the surcharge.

A set of Unpaid Letter Stamps were also issued; all are printed in the same red colour, and are perforated 14½.

20 lepta,	orange (Hera)	} All without surcharge.
25 "	blue (Prince George)	
50 "	lilac (Hermes)	
50 "	ultramarine (Hermes)	
1 drachma,	violet (Talos)	
2 drachme,	brown (Minos)	
5 "	green, centre black (St. George)	



Unpaid Letter Stamps:—

1, 5, 10, 20, 40, 50 lepta, 1 and 2 drachme, red.

Before this set appeared, the Cretan stamps are said to have been used as unpaid letter stamps, after a cross, consisting of 13 holes, had been punched through them.

The 1 lepton and 1 drachma values of the unpaid letter stamps being so very much alike through having been printed in the same colour, this fact gave rise to mistakes, and it was decided to surcharge the 1 drachma with 1 ΔΡΑΧΜΗ in black.

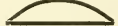

1 drachma, red, surcharge black.

Victoria Retouch.

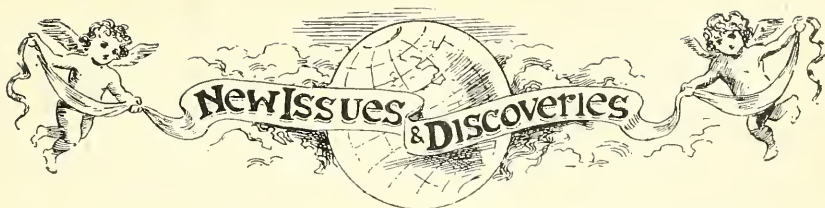
By B. T. K. Smith.*



The die of the current 1 penny Victorian stamp was retouched some time ago, the general effect being the lightening of the oval background. I think the change was made about September, 1901, but I am not sure of this. The reproductions given here are not quite successful; the shading of the left-hand part of the oval in Type I. comes out in a rather exaggerated way, and contrariwise in Type II, the lightening of the oval is exaggerated so as to make white blotches which do not exist in the originals.

However, they serve to show the points of difference which I will describe. (i) Taking, as a starting point, the horizontal line which, if produced, would touch the top of the O of ONE, and counting upwards, there will be found in Type I., between the 6th and 7th lines, a fragment or beginning of another line. This crowding of three lines where two should be comes out as a dark blotch in the illustration, and indeed in some heavy impressions of the originals. (ii) In Type I., beneath the TO of VICTORIA, the lined oval is finished off with a curved line at the top, thus,  (in the stamp it is open, but the illustration shows a solid figure). In Type II. this has been cut through and forms a short and a long line, thus, 

*We desire to thank Messrs. Alfred Smith & Son for the loan of the illustrations, which first appeared in their *Monthly Circular*.—Ed.



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. FRED. H. GIBSON, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester.

The British Empire.

British Honduras.—So far the new King's Head issue is represented by only one value, though the remainder of the set are expected at the end of the year. The newcomer is a 5c. blue, of the usual "Postage and Revenue" type.

Adhesive.

5c. grey blue and ultramarine on blue, wmk. Crown and C.A., perf. 14.

Cayman Islands.—The stock of $\frac{3}{4}$ d. stamps of the 1900 issue having at length been used up, the new stamp of this denomination, bearing the King's Head, has been placed on sale.

Adhesive.

$\frac{3}{4}$ d. green, wmk. C.A. and Crown, perf. 14.

Cook Islands.—The $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue, no wmk., has not had a very long life, as *Ewen's Weekly* lists this, and also the $\frac{3}{4}$ d. green and rd. carmine with single lined N.Z. and star watermark. The $\frac{3}{4}$ d. is found in some very pronounced shades, the rd. and $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. only varying slightly.

Adhesives.

Perf. 11, wmk. single lined N. Z. and star,

$\frac{3}{4}$ d. green (shades).
rd. light rose pink.
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. dark blue.

Great Britain.—The current 9d. has now appeared with the Government Parcels overprint.

Adhesive.

Official Stamp.

9d. purple and blue (1902), surcharged Govt. Parcels in black.

LEVANT.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the 5d. surcharged for use from Levant offices, and Mr. Peckitt has forwarded the 10d. value, similarly overprinted.

Adhesives.

5d. lilac and blue, surcharged 80 paras in black.
10d. purple and scarlet, " 4 piastres "

India. HYDERABAD.—A new $\frac{1}{4}$ a. stamp has appeared, and is illustrated below; it is on thin, hard paper, and is perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$.

The *Monthly Journal* gives particulars of some changes of colour that have recently occurred in the stamps of this State. The 4a. is issued in green, and the 12a. in slate, instead of in slate and blue respectively, as hitherto.



Adhesives.

4a. deep green.
12a. slate green.
 $\frac{1}{4}$ a. blue (new type).

Labuan.—Particulars are given below of a new set just received, the design of which we hope to illustrate next month. They are handsome stamps, though not of the pictorial description we have been so long accustomed to, and are the work of Messrs. Waterlow & Sons.

Adhesives.

2c. green and black, perf. 15.
4c. red and black, "
8c. orange and black, "
10c. slate-blue and black, "
12c. yellow and black, "
16c. brown and pale green. "
18c. yellow-brown and black, "
25c. greenish-blue and slate, "
50c. grey-lilac and violet, "
\$ 1 orange-red and lake, "

New South Wales.—The *Australian Philatelist* has been informed on good authority that when the present stock of $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. and $12\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps are exhausted, no more will be issued. This may be considered to be the first step towards equalising all the various values of the States of the Commonwealth

Leeward Islands.—Mr. Peckitt has sent us the following interesting table from the *Antigua Standard*, which finally settles the question of the total number issued:—

PRESIDENCIES.	Total Original Face Value £ s. d.	NUMBER SURCHARGED AS 1d.				VALUE. £ s. d.
		7d.	6d.	4d.	Total.	
Antigua..	3,570 0 0	16,800	16,800	16,800	50,400	210 0 0
St. Kitts-Nevis	2,550 0 0	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000	150 0 0
Dominica ..	1,275 0 0	6,000	6,000	6,000	18,000	75 0 0
Montserrat ..	382 10 0	1,800	1,800	1,800	5,400	22 10 0
Virgin Islands..	127 10 0	600	600	600	1,800	7 10 0
Totals ..	£7,905 0 0	37,200	37,200	37,200	111,600	£465 0 0

Mauritius.—Though an early description of new issues is desirable, we often find a want of reliability about the particulars taken from "Specimen" sets which appear in Continental exchanges. We have just received from Mr. Peckitt the five values last issued, which complete the set described in June, and find the 5c. there listed as a yellow, to be on buff, and that the watermark on the 1 rupee is CC, while in the case of the 2rs., and 5rs., it is C.A. sideways. Mr. Peckitt also sends us another provisional; it is the 36c. Jubilee stamp which has again been surcharged, this time the value being altered to 12 cents.



12
CENTS

Adhesive.

36 cents, orange and blue, surcharged ¹²/_{cents} in black.

South Australia.—Referring to the unpaid letter stamps recently chronicled, the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* mentions that certain values are as we originally described them, *i.e.*, with the letters,

"POSTAGE STAMPS.

"Table showing the number of *provisional Stamps* issued during the month of August, 1902, in the Colony of the Leeward Islands to replace the 1d. value, exhausted.

"N.S.W." removed, leaving a plain white space, but that others, so far only the 5d., 1s., 2s. and 5s., have the ornamentation surrounding the central tablet extended so as to cover the uncoloured portion. The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* also lists a 3d. in the first type, which we do not appear to have specified.

Adhesive.
Unpaid letter stamp.
3d. emerald green, type A.

Mr. George Blockey, of Adelaide, sends us a specimen of the new 9d. stamp. It is of the long type, but with the inscription at the top now reading "Postage" only on a plain white ground. Mr. Blockey mentions that the date of issue was September 19th, and also writes as follows:—"The 3d. has been withdrawn from use, probably to have the word "Revenue" erased; date of withdrawal, September 17th. There will be a new issue of 1½d., 8d. and 10d., and an issue of letter cards and other accessories." Since receiving the above, we have been shown a new 2s. 6d. in the same modified type. Both stamps are perforated 11½ clean cut, and are on paper watermarked "S.A. and Crown," which appears twice.

Adhesives.
9d. lilac-rose, wmk. S.A. and Crown, perf. 11½.
2s. 6d. deep lilac

Sudan.—We have seen the 2 mils green and brown, with the multiple Star and Crescent watermark.

Adhesive.
2m. green and brown, wmk. Star and Crescent.

Perak.—*Even's Weekly* has been shown some values of the 1900 provisionals, as follows:—

3c. on 8c., double surcharge, both being legibly printed
.. no stop after "cent."
.. wrong font "c" in "cent."
3c. on 50c. .. "l"
3c. on 81 .. "l"

Foreign Countries.

Chili.—The 10c. now comes in the small design. It is printed in two colours, as in the case of the 30c. and 50c. listed last month.

Adhesive.

10c. scarlet and black.

Colombia. ANTIOQUIA — The error (3 cents) in the sheet of the 2c. new issue has now been corrected.

CARTAGENA.—Another lithographed provisional is to hand, this time a view described as "At the foot of the Popa," has been attempted. As will be seen, the result is not particularly charming. The stamp appears both in dark blue and in violet, and is on plain white wove paper, imperforate, pin perf., and roughly perforated $1\frac{1}{2}$. Mr. Stuart J. Anderson has shown us the violet variety, very clearly printed on the back.



Adhesives.

20c. dark blue, imperf., pin perf., pert. $1\frac{1}{2}$.
20c. Violet,
20c. " " variety, printed at back.

Corea.—The *American Journal of Philately* mentions having seen the current 2 cheun blue in a pair, imperforate between.

Crete.—The current 1, 5 and 25 lep and rdr. are reported in an imperforate condition.

Cuba.—The 3c. purple has been surcharged with a large figure "1" and an inscription in carmine. Further particulars we are unable to give, as the specimen before us is unfortunately very heavily obliterated.

Adhesive.

1c. in carmine on 3c. purple.

Ecuador.—In addition to the three values chronicled in October, the 2 and 5c. have been similarly treated; the 1c. also exists with black surcharge.

Adhesives.

1c. red and black, surcharged with signature in black-
2c. green " " " " in light blue.
5c. violet " " " " " "

Dominican Republic.—We have already referred to the 1 cent. of the current set with inverted centre, but several exchanges now list the 2 and 5 cents. in a similar condition. Possibly the set may exist; anything is likely here. Below we illustrate the design of the new set of official stamps.



France. ALEXANDRIA. — *L'Essor Ph.* mentions the existence of the 25c. black on rose with inverted surcharge.

Adhesive.

25c. black on rose, error, surcharge inverted.

HOI-HAO.—The 15c. blue exists, surcharged "Hoi-Hao" in red. Only one sheet was so surcharged, the new grey stamp supplying the remainder of this value.

FRENCH GUIANA.—*L'Echo de la T.* chronicles a new 2 francs.

Adhesive.

2 fr. violet, carmine on rose.

DJIBOUTI.—Two more values have appeared in the new oblong type, a 10c. rose with centre in vermilion, and a 15c. chestnut, centre in ultramarine.

10c. rose and vermilion.

15c. chestnut and ultramarine.

MADAGASCAR.—Some more provisionals have been issued here. So far as we can gather there are, in addition to those chronicled in August, the following:—

Adhesives.

0,01 on 2c., red-brown.
0,05 " 30c., brown.
0,05 " 30c., brown (Diego Suarez).
0,10 " 50c., rose.
0,15 " 75c., black-brown.
0,05 " 30c., bistre and blue.
0,15 " 1 franc.

In several cases there are two types of the surcharge, and it is stated that in the case of the 0,01 on 2c., and the 0,05 on 30c., one stamp in each is surcharged respectively 00,1 and 00,5 in error.

Of the 10c. on 50c., one sheet was printed on the Diego Suarez issue instead of that of Madagascar.

ZANZIBAR.—The *Metropolitan Philatelist* states the 20 annas on 2 fr. exists, with the word Zanzibar spelt Zanzibas.

Guatemala.—Messrs. Whitfield King inform us that the 20c. of the bird type has been changed in colour, as it now appears in brown. Apparently it was issued about the same time as the set chronicled last week, of which we can now illustrate and list the missing 75c.



Adhesives.
20c. brown.
75c. lilac and black.

Hayti.—The 5c. brown of 1898 is to be found with the provisional Government surcharge, and the following varieties in the stamps already chronicled are mentioned by the *American Journal of Philately*

Adhesives.

5c. purple brown, surcharged "Gt. Pre," in black.
1c. yellow green " variety, surcharge inverted.
1 " " " " double surcharge.
2 carmine " " " "
7 grey " " " "
8 carmine " " " "
10 orange " " " "
2c. dark indigo (postage due), surcharged, variety.
surcharge inverted.
2c. " " " variety, double surcharge.

Iceland.—Mr. W. T. Wilson has sent us, with the official notice which appears in another column, a specimen of the 6 aur grey. The surcharge is in carmine.

Adhesive.

6 aur grey, surcharged ¹GILDI '02-'03 in carmine.

The new stamps bear the portrait of King Christian IX., and are as follows:—

Adhesives.

3 aur, orange	perf. 12½.
4 " rose and grey	"
5 " green	"
6 " grey-brown	"
10 " red	"
16 " red-brown	"
20 " blue	"
25 " green and brown	"
40 " lilac	"
50 " steel blue and grey	"
1 krona, brown and blue	"

Paraguay.—The *Monthly Journal* has seen the 1 peso of 1892 surcharged "Official" in black.

Adhesive.

1 peso, sage-green, surcharged "Official" in black.

We understand from *McKeel's Weekly Stamp News* that a complete new series of ordinary

stamps, ranging in value from 1c. to 10 peso, is threatened.

Persia.—The two chahis of the type-set series has been surcharged, "P. L. Teheran," in two lines in black. The surcharge, which we take to mean, "Poste Locale Teheran," is applied diagonally from left to right.

Adhesive.

2 chahis, red-brown, surcharged ^{P.L.}Teheran in black.

Roumania.—*Even's Weekly* chronicles the following:—

25 bani, pale blue, no wmk., compound perf.

Unpaid letter stamps.

2 bani, green, wmk. "P.R." perf. 11½.
5 " " " " compound perf.
10 " " thin paper, no wmk., " "
30 " " " " perf. 11½.

Spain. FERNANDO POO. The new set has now been placed on sale. It is of the usual design, and bears the date 1902. The stamps are numbered on the back as in the current issue of Spain.

Adhesives.

5c. dark green.
10c. " indigo.
25c. " lake.
50c. " dark chocolate.
75c. " light mauve.
1p. " bright rose.
2p. " bronze green.
5p. " light orange-red.

Venezuela.—The *Monthly Journal* has been shown a series of type-set provisionals, which they describe as follows:—

"There are two distinct varieties, each consisting of almost the same inscriptions, but set in different type and with a different pattern of frame. The shape is oblong in both cases, and the inscriptions are in five lines.

"1. Inscriptions thus—'CORREOS DE VENEZUELA' (the "L" of this word is apparently a broken "F," with the centre limb removed, turned upside down)—'Carupano 1902—No hai estampillas—PROVISORIO—Vale B. 0.05' (or '0.25,' '0.50,' or 'B. 1 00'). These are evidently printed from the same setting, the value only being changed.

"2. Inscriptions thus—'CORREOS DE VENEZUELA—Carupano: 1902—NO HAY ESTAMPILLAS—Sello provisorio.—Vale B. 0.10."

All are imperforate.

Adhesives.

0.05, purple on orange.
0.10, black " "
0.25, purple on green.
0.50, blue on yellow.
1.00, " rose.



FROM ORIGINAL DIE.

THE

Philatelic Record.

DECEMBER, 1902.

Editorial Notes.

BECAUSE the official correspondence in Germany is not franked with postage stamps, a general belief exists that it is carried by the Post Office free of charge. This assumption is, however, erroneous. The position is that the Treasury pays a fixed sum to the Post Office each year. This sum was some time ago

Jahlmarken. 7,500,000 marks annually, but the Postal Department were dissatisfied and it was raised to 8,800,000 marks a year. The Postal Authorities still think the amount too small, and, being unable to agree, have arranged with the Treasury that all official mail matter during the coming year shall be franked. A special series of stamps is to be issued for the purpose, the values to correspond with those of the current issue up to 50pf. The design is also to be the same, except that in lieu of the figure of "Germania" there will appear the inscription "Frei durch Ablösung Nr. 21," or Free in accordance with arrangement No. 21. The stamps are to be employed from the 1st of January next to the 31st of December, when an account of the total number used is to be taken, and the sum of money so arrived at is to be the basis of the future annual payments by the Treasury to the Post Office for official correspondence during the next few years. This is a sensible arrangement, and one we commend to the attention of our Postmaster-General. It would stop the senseless overprinting which has become so prevalent of late.

The stamps locally are referred to as "Jahlmarken" (number stamps), though for what precise reason we do not quite follow. Our German contemporaries are discussing whether these stamps are collectable. We have no doubt upon the subject ourselves. They appear to be exactly in the same class as the Departmental Stamps of the United States, I.R. Official of Great Britain, and hosts of others. So long as collectors take these they will have to include the "Jahlmarken," though they are only to be in issue a year, and will probably be difficult to obtain unused.

Exhibition of the Stamps of some of the African Colonies.

By W. Dorning Beckton.

A PRIVATE EXHIBITION of the Stamps of the African Colonies other than those directly affected by the late war was held in the Rooms of the Philatelic Society, London, on Saturday, December 13th, 1902.

The Exhibition was a corollary to the one held in the same rooms at the end of last year, and fully reported on page 304 of Vol. XXIII., and in many ways it reproduced the striking features of that one, except that on this occasion the weather was propitious and the attendance satisfactory.

As the space at the disposal of the Exhibition Committee was limited, the plan adopted with so much success last year was followed in securing displays from those members who were known to possess collections strong in the particular Colonies desired. Mr. Hansburg, upon whose shoulders as Hon. Sec. of the Exhibition Committee the bulk of the work devolved, is to be congratulated upon the success achieved, as well as for his experiment of mounting by means of a combination of long narrow strips of thin cardboard and drawing pins, whereby all damage to the sheets was avoided.

Taking the exhibits altogether the standard of merit was very high; in fact, quite up to the best traditions of the Society, which is saying a great deal. Apart from the fact that no less than five Post Office Mauritius were shown—this being, by the way, the first time on record that so many have been on view in the same room—the displays of the other colonies were in many instances the best extant, to wit, Mr. C. J. Daun's Niger Coast, Lord Crawford's St. Helena, and Mr. Vernon Roberts' Gambia. The Pride of Honour must, however, be awarded to Mr. Duveen for his Mauritius, which are the finest I know, after the Tapling collection.

Looking round the room I must confess what struck me more perhaps than anything else was the utter wretchedness of the issues of the De la Rue series as compared with the Perkins Bacon types. If you had taken away St. Helena, Mauritius and Gambia, the remaining stamps shown, from the artistic point of view, would have been tame indeed—they are so monotonous.

In pointing out a few of the better things in the exhibits, if I have elaborated the description of some of the old colonies to the detriment of the newer ones, my reason alone is the lack of interest the latter afford when the older stamps are displayed with them side by side.

British Central Africa.

British East Africa.

Mr. Eliot Levy showed his well-known collection of these colonies, which is built upon the lines of a single and pair of each unused and specimens used. In B.C.A., 1896, the £20 and £25, no watermark.

unused; 1892, one penny on 2d., double surcharge; July, 1898, one penny, unused; 1891, Perf. 14, the 2d., 8d. and 1s. values cut in half and used: B. E. Africa, practically complete in pairs; 1895, 4½ annas on Company's issue, double surcharge in block of four, one stamp only being double; 1a., 3ru., 5 rupees, all with double surcharge. Of the hand-stamp surcharges of 1891-5, ½ on 2a., used and unused; 1a. on 4a., used; manuscript ¾a. on 2a. (AB); ¾a. on 3a. (AB); ¾a. on 3a. (TCER); ¾a. on 3a. (TECR); 1896, 1 rupee, a block of four surcharged both horizontally and vertically.

Gambia and Gold Coast.

Mr. Vernon Roberts' display of the former colony is recognised as the best known. It comprises entire sheets of everything except the 4d. and 6d., imperf., no wmk., and includes sheets of the CC and CA series shown for shades of printing, the range of his 6d. being very fine.

The Gold Coast compare unfavourably as an exhibit with Gambia; no attempt is made to show entire sheets, and wisely so, except in the case of the recent surcharges, Mr. Roberts being content with double lines from the top and bottom of the panes showing the control and plate numbers. In this latter respect his collection is very complete, including a specimen of Plate II. of the 4d. CA, and Plate I. of the 2s. CA, both unchronicled in the Society's work.

Lagos and Sierra Leone.

Baron de Worms was happy in these two exhibits. Of the first issue of the former, perf. 12½, there were blocks of four of each value, the 1d., 3d. and 1s. showing plate number. The stamps were all unused and complete, which applies to Sierra Leone as well, where I noticed several large blocks of the 12½ perf. and one of four of the 4d. blue CA. The halfpenny on 1½ CC unused.

Mr. C. McNaughton had a fine series of the 1897 Provisionals, including a block of twenty-five of the 2½ on 2s. being a double row across the top of the sheet and half of the third row, counting from the left. The arrangement of Types was as follows: First row, all Type A; second row, 1, 3, 4 (square stop), 7, 10, Type A, 2 Type F (square stop), 5, 6 Type C, 8 Type D, 9 Type B; third row, 1, 5 Type A, others Type D.

Madagascar

were shown by Mr. J. N. Marsden and Major Evans, apparently complete.

Mauritius.

Mr. H. J. Duveen in this exhibit provided the finest individual one in the room. Since it was shown at the Manchester Exhibition it has received some notable additions, to wit, the two Post Office, the one penny being used on original, and the twopence unused. His 1848 issue included some of the finest known unused, especially brilliant being a copy of the 2d. Of the one penny of this issue, unused, I noted three early state, three medium state, and eight very worn. Of the twopence, three early state, three medium state, and one very worn. The used of this issue were exceptionally strong and included reconstructed plates of both values. The small fillets were good and the large fillets very strong, including a reconstructed sheet (used) in which were a pair

with margins (exceptionally rare). The 1859 unused included two pairs of the one penny red and four singles deep red, the blood red being shown used. What an extreme rarity this stamp is unused. The twopence in a fine pair and two singles. His used examples were numerous and fine, and formed with the later issues a model exhibit in one of the most difficult of our Colonies.

Mr. W. B. Avery, although having to take second place, displayed what would otherwise have been considered the best in the room. In one respect, and a very important one, his two Post Offices, both unused, were the finest shown. It was in the 1848 issue where he lost ground with the former exhibit, not being able to show anything approaching the same number unused. In a used condition his two pennies were good and included three all early state, one being brilliant in colour and the other two fine examples of the vertical shading.

The Earl of Kintore.—Yet another Post Office, the one penny on entire and a very fine specimen with a nice clean postmark. This, I believe, was the specimen once belonging to Mr. Vernon Roberts and disposed of by him when he acquired the unique envelope containing two penny stamps. Of the 1848 issue a pair of 1d., unused (? cleaned), and a fine 2d., unused, and one ditto PENOË. Amongst the used was a VERY early 2d. and a slip of three used, the centre stamp being the variety PENOË (fine), and an excellent used specimen of 1859 1d. blood red.

Morocco Agencies.

The Earl of Crawford had a frame of these, including blocks of four of the London and Local prints, showing the varieties broad M and inverted V. This Colony is capable, however, of much greater amplification.

Niger Coast.

Mr. C. J. Daun's collection of this Colony is admittedly unrivalled, containing, amongst other good things, 1893 surcharges; Half-penny on 2d., block of six, one surcharge being vertical and the others horizontal; a pair, one being diagonal and the other horizontal, a strip of three showing S.G. & Co.'s numbers 21 and 16; Halfpenny on 2½d., strips of three as follows: I quote the numbers from S.G. & Co.'s catalogue—25, 24, 25; 25, 18, 25; 26, 24, 26; 26, 18, 26; a block of six, 18, 13, 13; 26, no surcharge, 15; 1893-4 issue, 20s. in black (No. 35) unique, 20s. in red (No. 24), one of two strips issued; 20s. in violet (No. 33), one of five issued; 5s., pair (one sideways); 10s., a block of four. The other stamps, including surcharges, were very fully displayed.

Northern and Southern Nigeria and Sudan.

Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, although not a specialist of any African Colonies, kindly stepped into the breach and showed these as well as they admit of, everything, including varieties and the inverted surcharges, being mounted in blocks of four.

St. Helena.

The Earl of Crawford.—Possibly the handsomest stamps in the room, displayed to excellent advantage, well-arranged and carefully written up in the notes appearing in pencil on each page. Perfect in point of condition, this exhibit deservedly attracted special attention. Of the imperf. issue, a block of forty-two being a double row from the

top of the sheet and the third and fourth row, with the last three stamps in each missing, all 19mm. A vertical strip of three, the two top ones being 19mm., and the lower stamp 16½mm. Fourpence, a block of six. 1863, trials made by surcharging the existing blue 6d. stamp in black ink, and red ink one penny (the latter without obliterating bar). These were deemed unsatisfactory, and a change of colour ordered, printed on Crown CC paper and in lake. The 6d. blue was also surcharged Four Pence in block type, but not approved. Specimens of all these were shown, and the 6d. lake, no surcharge, which is considered now-a-days as a proof, and Lord Crawford's exhibit seems to confirm this theory, wherewithal the stamp is extremely scarce.

Amongst the short bar of 1868 the 1d. was shown imperf. (see *Philatelic Record*, vol. XXIII., p. 75); 3d. ditto, with and without specimen; 4d., double surcharge, used; 1s., a vertical double row of this value, showing the double surcharges and the two bottom stamps without surcharge (see *Philatelic Record*, vol. XXIII., p. 71).

An unchronicled variety of double surcharge on the 3d. CA used was shown.

Mr. W. Dorning Beckton sent a small display of this colony, complete, in the catalogued varieties, unused, and some blocks of the first issue—6d., 1d., and 4d. (six). The compound perforations, including the 1s., in blocks, unused; the 3d., short bar, imperf., and perf. 12½, double surcharge (used), unchronicled; 1864, 1s., no bar; a good range of shades of the 6d. value, all unused, in the different perforations.

Seychelles.

Mr. R. Ehrenbach mounted two frames, everything in blocks, and many partially entire sheets of the numerous surcharges. The chief interest in this exhibit lay in that it demonstrated the existence of two dies for the De la Rue Queen Victoria *garden* type for the colonies. The two types do not run through the whole colonies because the second die (Plate II) was requisitioned early and before this commonplace design was adopted for such colonies as Gambia for instance; the differences between Plate I and II will be described next month.

Uganda.

Mr. E. Beveridge.—The type-written issues are very difficult, but were capably shown. In addition to numerous single specimens of the values in violet and black, of the June 1896, a block of twelve being a vertical strip from the left of the sheet with three odd ones at intervals in the second row (*se-tenant*), and showing the varieties V over C, Ugandw, and g over ?. A pair 20c. K over A, K over Z, strip of three 20 cowries, the middle stamp being variety R over Z.

Zanzibar.

Mr. C. J. Daun.—A wonderful array of minor varieties.

ENVELOPES.—British Central Africa.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was pleased to send a few of these interesting envelopes from his collection showing the manuscript alteration of the value—twopence (printed in error) to fourpence, and initialled by the Postmaster, then the local surcharge of fourpence in small type and ultimately the London correction by surcharge in larger type.

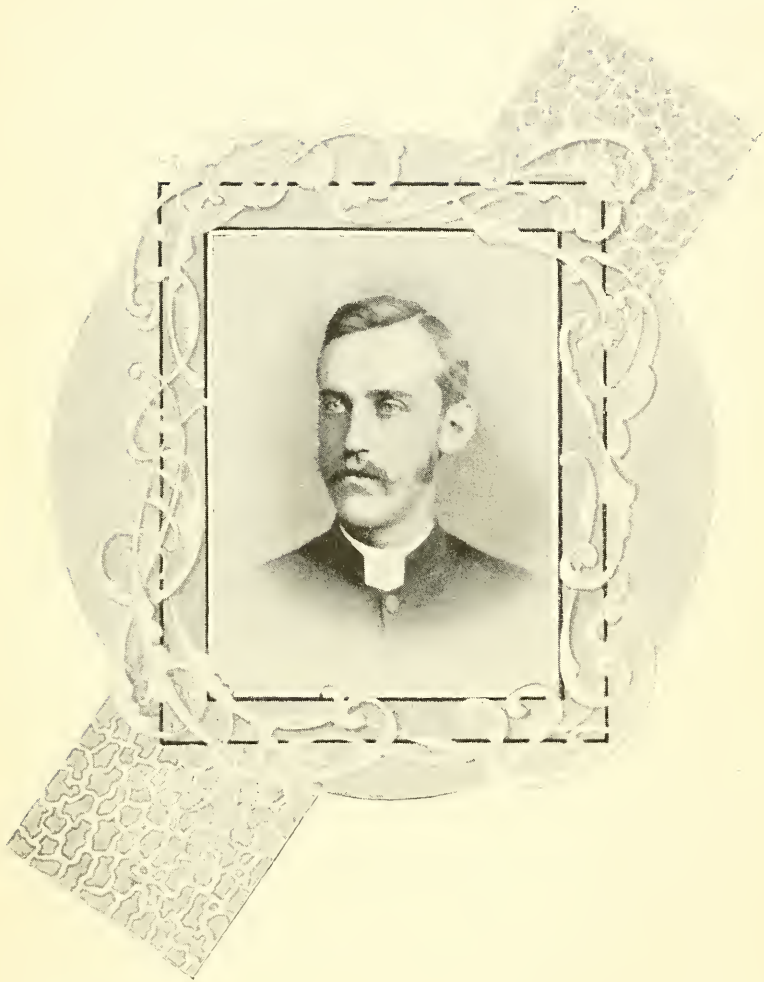
The Late Rev. W. Bell, M.A.

By the death of the Rev. William Bell, Ireland has lost one of her most prominent Philatelists. It has always struck us as remarkable that Ireland should share with Scotland a curious isolation so far as good Philatelists are concerned, for the temperaments of the two countries are so dissimilar that we should have thought our hobby would have appealed to one of them, especially as England for so long has occupied a prominent position in this respect amongst the countries of the world.

In the deceased, however, we had an exception to the rule, as he had for a long time been domiciled at Kilmeen, in County Cork, and was a collector well known and popular amongst Philatelists in general. The writer has had the privilege of knowing him for a long number of years, and ever considered him one of his most affable and pleasing correspondents. The news of his death—a tragedy—came as a shock, and the sincere sympathy of the large number of his fellow collectors will go forth to his widow and family.

It is only as a resident that Mr. Bell can be classed as an Irish Philatelist, as he contracted his affection for stamps before settling in Ireland, although it was since that time that he has become known as an earnest Philatelist, and in this way has been looked upon as an Irish collector. He worked assiduously for many years, confining his attention almost exclusively to Great Britain and Colonies and United States of America, of which he possessed a good all-round collection.

He it was who first hit upon the scheme of illustrating the differences in stamps by means of the lantern, giving a demonstration at St. Luke's Parochial Hall, Cork, in October, 1888, and using photographic lantern slides uncoloured. The late Mr. Ridpath, apparently ignorant altogether of this, himself conceived a similar idea, and gave his first exhibition in 1895 in Manchester, only to find, when he claimed originality for it, that he was seven years too late. In this second instance the slides were ingeniously coloured, and original consequently in that respect alone, the honour of being first resting with the late Mr. Bell, who, had he lived within easier reach of one of the centres of Philatelic thought, would, we believe, have reached the uppermost rungs of the ladder of fame.



The Late Rev. W. Bell, M.A.

Notes on the Stamps of Griqualand West. With Autotype Illustrations.

By Lieut. F. H. Napier, R.N.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 230.)

The "Black" printing.

No difficulties such as leave open some questions touching the "Red" printing here present themselves. A good many complete panes are known, and Mr. Yardley's collection contains the left and right panes *se-tenant*. Mr. Beckton has both upper and lower panes with the same setting of 60, showing that the setting was repeated twice in the sheet of four panes.

The values of this printing are :—

1d. rose.

4d. blue (type without frame).

6d. violet.

It contains thirteen different types of G, but the differences between some of the types are small. Type 6 is the only one of Setting A of the "Red" printing that reappears. There are twelve of these in the right pane, and as the 1d. is overprinted in black in both printings, in single copies it is not easy to tell to which printing a stamp may belong. Roughly speaking, when the Cape stamp itself is on highly surfaced paper it is the "Black" printing, and *vice versa*, but I think there are exceptions to this rule. It must be noted that the three broken overprints of this type that appear in the setting all differ entirely from the two broken Types 6 of the "Red" printing.

Types 7*a* and 7*b* may be distinguished by the contour of the back, both inside and outside. Type 7*c* is slightly larger than these, but smaller than Type 9. There is only one in the setting, it is No. 13 of the right pane, and can always be told by its extended margin on the left.

Type 8 has a round body. It forms the two upper rows of the right pane of the setting, and there is another, No. 55 of the same pane. More than half of these thirteen overprints are defective.

Types 9 and 10 are larger than the preceding. No. 10 is taller than No. 9.

Type 11 is a block capital, not unlike Type 6, but smaller and with an upper serif. It is the type that is said to have been seen in red, and therefore may have appeared in the "Red" printing, Setting B.

Nos. 12*a*, 12*b*, 13, and 14 are all italic capitals of different sizes. No. 14 is considerably the largest, and it is No. 54 of the right pane to which all the italic types belong.

Type 15 seems to differ from all others, there is only one in the setting, No. 2 of the left pane, and it appears to be damaged.

The complete setting of the "Black" printing is illustrated in Plates III. and IV.; exigencies of space have necessitated the two panes being given separately, and deprived them of their margins. The following gives the number of each type in the setting:—

Type.	Left pane.	Right pane.	Total.
6	... None.	... 12	— 12
7a	... 23	... None.	— 23
7b	... 6	... None.	— 6
7c	... None.	... 1	— 1
8	... None.	... 13	— 13
9	... 25	... 2	— 27
10	... 5	... 3	— 8
11	... None.	... 11	— 11
12a	... None.	... 9	— 9
12b	... None.	... 2	— 2
13	... None.	... 6	— 6
14	... None.	... 1	— 1
15	... 1	... None.	— 1
	—	—	—
	60	60	120

And this is the scheme or plan of the setting:—

LEFT PANE.						RIGHT PANE.					
*10	*15	*10	10	*10	*10	8	*8	8	*8	*8	*8
9	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	*8	*8	*8	8
9	9	9	9	9	9	7c	11	11	11	11	11
9	9	9	9	9	9	11	11	11	11	11	11
9	9	9	9	9	9	*6	*6	6	6	6	6
7a	7a	7a	7a	7a	7a	6	6	6	*6	6	6
7a	7a	7a	7a	7a	7a	13	*12a	12a	13	*13	12a
7a	7a	7a	7a	7a	7a	12a	12b	12a	*12a	13	12b
7a	7a	7a	7a	7a	9	12a	*13	13	12a	12a	14
7b	7b	7b	7b	7b	7b	8	*9	9	*10	10	*10

The broken types are marked with an asterisk. They are very numerous and are mostly on the right pane, and even when not collected for themselves will be found great safeguards against forgeries. For that reason I will here give a detailed list of them.

Left pane,	No. 1,	Type 10,	broken N.
„	„	„ 2,	„ 15, „ W.
„	„	„ 3,	„ 10, „ upper serif.
„	„	„ 5,	„ 10, „ both serifs.
„	„	„ 6,	„ 10, „ S. E.
Right	„	„ 2,	„ 8, „ N.
„	„	„ 4,	„ 8, thin backs.
„	„	„ 5,	„ 8, „
„	„	„ 6,	„ 8, „
„	„	„ 9,	„ 8, broken S. W.
„	„	„ 10,	„ 8, „ N.
„	„	„ 11,	„ 8, thin back.
„	„	„ 25,	„ 6, broken S. W.
„	„	„ 26,	„ 6, „ S. E.
„	„	„ 34,	„ 6, „ S. W. and S. E.
„	„	„ 38,	„ 12a, spot in back.
„	„	„ 41,	„ 13, top serif short.
„	„	„ 46,	„ 12a, broken S.
„	„	„ 50,	„ 13, several small spots in back.
„	„	„ 56,	„ 9, lower serif broken.
„	„	„ 58,	„ 10, broken N. W.
„	„	„ 60,	„ 10, upper serif broken.

The most remarkable varieties are:—

No. 54,	right pane,	Type 14,	largest italic type.
„ 2,	left	„	„ 15, largest type of its class.
„ 5,	„	„	„ 10, both serifs broken.
„ 58,	right	„	„ 10, large break N. W.

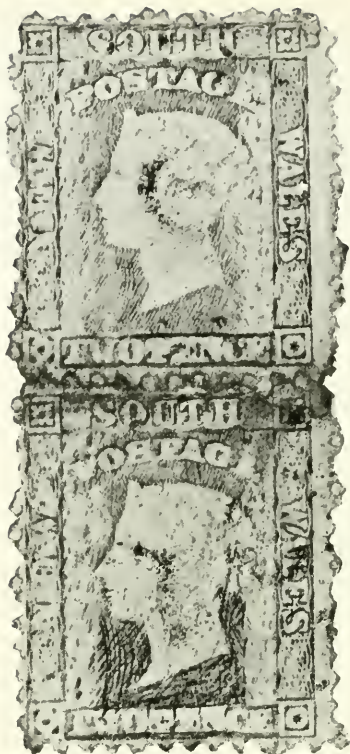
As regards relative rarity, I must leave the numbers of each type to speak for themselves. The 1d. is common unused and rare used, although in the cases of types and varieties of which there is only one in the setting of 120 even a 1d. may be rare. The 4d. and 6d. are not common used, and are rare unused; indeed, of these two I have never seen some of the principal varieties unused. There is a magnificent block of 32 unused 4d. in Mr. Beckton's collection, consisting of 8 rows of 4, with margins, from the top right corner of a right pane, and containing the rare italic type No. 54.

Some of the broken varieties of this printing are not very well marked, hence a collection of these in single stamps is not so satisfactory as in the case of the "Red" printing, but pairs or even fair-sized blocks of the 1d. are still obtainable.

There are no double overprints known on any stamp in this section. Such things when examined are always found to be a "jump" done at the moment of printing, or else a "take-off" from the sheets having been placed in a pile before the ink was dry. In this way a reversed impression is made by the wet sheet on the back of the sheet immediately above it, then when the upper sheet is moved a little and pressed down it transfers from its back on to the sheet below the pale and fragmentary ghost of a second overprint. Such things are not collectable.

We will now pass on to the small overprints in which the "G" is under 3 mm. in height, and here I may say that the reason why I

Plate II



III
No. 45

II
No. 57

Plate II



I No. 56

II No. 57

have refrained throughout from giving exact measurements is that the variations in size caused by different inking and pressure in printing makes all attempts to do so futile and misleading.

SECTION II.

This section may be divided into two "printings," one of "Antique" and one of "Ordinary" capitals.

The "Antique" printing.

The overprints in this are characterized by the body of the "G" having a thin outline of uniform thickness throughout, and by the absence of an upper serif which is generally marked only by a dot. I call these "Antique capitals," which, if not absolutely a correct term, will still serve.

The setting was one of 120 and consisted of two types, one an upright "Roman" and the other a sloping "Italic" capital. The left pane of 60 consists exclusively of Roman, and the right pane (with two, or perhaps more, exceptions) wholly of italic capitals. I have never seen a complete pane of this printing, but the above is the conclusion I have come to after examining a great number of blocks and marginal stamps. If there had been any italic types on the left pane we might reasonably expect to find a certain variety of double surcharged $\frac{1}{2}$ d., which, as we shall see later on, is not known to exist. On the right pane among the italic there are at least two Roman types. One of these is a right-hand marginal stamp: Mr. Yardley has a horizontal strip of six containing it. The other is the fifth stamp of the fourth or fifth row—No. 23 or 29. There is in Mr. Beckton's collection a block of 1d. which consists of nine horizontal rows, from which are missing the two right-hand stamps of the first, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth rows, so that there are 44 stamps left in the block. It contains but one Roman type, all the rest being italic, and that one is the fifth stamp of the fourth row. As we do not know whether the block has had the top or the bottom row removed, we can only say that this variety must be No. 23 or No. 29. Since the other Roman type, whereof the existence is known, is not in this block, it must be one of the missing marginal stamps, and all we know is that it is not Nos. 3, 4, or 5. It is not impossible that out of the remaining stamps not represented in this block more than one may be a Roman type; but the two types *se-tenant* are rare, and it may well be that there are but two Roman types on the right pane.

The values overprinted with the small antique capitals were as given below. I have arranged them according to the colours used for the overprint. The two values with the double overprint must not be looked upon as freaks; no doubt the colours with which they were first overprinted were found to be not sufficiently conspicuous, and so a second overprint in a different colour was added.

Black overprint.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. black.
1d. rose.
4d. blue (type with frame).
4d. blue (type without frame).
6d. violet.

Red overprint.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. black.
4d. blue (type without frame).

Two overprints, *one black and one red.*

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. black.

1d. rose.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. with single black surcharge is only known with it inverted.

The 1d. with the two overprints always has them both inverted. It was certainly issued, as I have seen plenty of used specimens, some on originals.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. with the double surcharge always has the black overprint upright and the red inverted, which is the cause of three curious varieties. We must remember that the left pane of the setting consisted wholly of Roman, and the right pane, with two exceptions, of italic types. Inverting the setting naturally turned the italics to the left, and the Romans to the right, giving rise on the sheet—already overprinted with a black surcharge—to two varieties:—

1. $\frac{1}{2}$ d. black with Roman "G" in black, and inverted italic "G" in red.
2. $\frac{1}{2}$ d. black with italic "G" in black, and inverted Roman "G" in red.

But we must also remember that on the right pane there are two Roman among the italics, so that when the setting was inverted and printed in red, two Roman types in red from the left pane fell on them. In the same way the two red Roman types from the right pane fell inverted on two Roman types already printed in black on the left pane—hence we get a third variety:—

3. $\frac{1}{2}$ d. black with Roman "G" in black, and inverted Roman "G" in red.

Of which there are two at least on each pane.

A fourth variety, like the third but with two italic instead of two Roman types, *might* exist were there any italic types on the left pane; and the fact that such a thing has not yet been seen is additional evidence that the left pane of the setting was made up *entirely* of Roman types.

In this printing inverted surcharges are of frequent occurrence. The values so overprinted are as follows:—

Inverted overprints.

Black overprint.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. black.

1d. rose.

4d. blue (type without frame).

Red overprint.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. black.

4d. blue (type without frame).

Double overprints are also found. Besides the two already mentioned there are:—

Double overprints.

Black overprints.

1d. red.

4d. blue (type without frame).

Red overprints.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. black.

Of the above the double surcharges, in black, on the 1d. and 4d. (type without frame), are also found inverted.

I have now enumerated all the varieties of this printing that are known to me. I do not believe in the existence of the $\frac{3}{4}$ d. with single overprint in black in the normal position. As we shall see presently, there was in the next printing one or two "Antique" Roman types included in the setting of "Ordinary" types. This would account for such Roman types as have been seen upright on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. The Antique Italic type has not yet been seen upright on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

In Plate V., Figs. 2 to 8, illustrations of both of the Antique types are given. Some variations in size exist in the setting, especially among the Roman types. That in Fig. 6 is slightly smaller than in Figs. 3 and 4; and in Fig. 7 it is so small that it might easily pass as an "Ordinary," but the stamps from which Figs. 6 and 7 were taken are both from the same sheet. I do not know what was the position of this small "G" in the setting.

To anyone who studies these stamps the Antique capitals will prove an interesting series. A set of all values, with pairs of the two types *se-tenant* and with all varieties of the overprints, would be something a collector might be proud of, as proving at once both his patience and his skill, rather than the length of his purse. In this series there are many rare things, some difficult to find even used. I may mention the double black overprints on the 1d. and 4d. The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. with double red overprint is not so rare, although a good stamp. I would class with it for rarity the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. with double surcharges in red and in black. All these three stamps are as common unused as used.

The 4d. with red overprint is a rare stamp, and so is the 4d. (type with frame) with black surcharge. I have only seen one of the latter and none of the former unused. The other type of 4d. and the 6d. are rare unused, and the first of these is very rare inverted. I must not omit saying that there being only two Roman types in the pane with the italics, pairs showing the two types *se-tenant* are very difficult to find. For the same reason the third variety of the $\frac{3}{4}$ d. with black and red overprints, of which there are only two on each pane of 60, is one of the rarities of Griqualand West. When we consider that the ordinary varieties of this $\frac{3}{4}$ d. have a catalogue or fictitious value of about £2, it will be seen that such a *trouvaille* would be one not lightly to be despised. There is an unused specimen in the collection of Mr. Yardley.

The "Ordinary" printing.

My acquaintance with this printing is limited to several large blocks I have seen—no complete sheets or panes being known to me. The printing was made on the

- $\frac{1}{2}$ d. black.
- 1d. red.
- 4d. blue (type without frame).
- 6d. mauve.
- 1s. green.
- 5s. orange-yellow.

It is necessary to notice that the 6d. of this printing is the later 6d. *mauve*—not the *violet* of the former printings, and that all overprints other than the small ordinary capitals on the *mauve* 6d. must be bad. The word "ordinary" best describes the type of the small "G"; in fact

so ordinary is it that the forgers have had a very simple task with this printing in contrast with their absolute want of success with any of the former printings. It behoves us therefore to accept with great caution any of the numerous double, treble, quadruple, &c., &c., surcharges that abound. Our best protection lies in the fact that the higher values unused were too expensive material for our friends to work on, so that most of the forgeries are on used stamps that are betrayed by their postmarks. It does not follow that stamps with Cape Colony postmarks are necessarily bad, since after the overprinted stamps ceased to be issued for Griqualand West, the remainders were issued in the Cape Colony.* However, the safest plan with this printing is to take no used stamps except with well-known Griqualand postmarks, such as "Kimberley" or "Dutoitspan."

Besides the ordinary small capitals, there are in the setting quite a number of varieties, all of a minor kind; that is letters of slightly different shape apparently from different founts. The overprinted capitals being so small it is difficult to describe these little variations, nor can they be efficiently illustrated. As it is difficult here to discriminate between the true and the false, it is better to secure blocks in which they appear with others of a normal character.

Besides these there are in the setting at least two overprints—and probably more—that may be correctly described as "Antique Roman" type. One of these is illustrated in Plate V. Fig. 12. I believe it to be this variety of the ½d. of the "Ordinary" printing that has given rise to the belief that some of the sheets with the single Antique types upright escaped the additional surcharge in red.

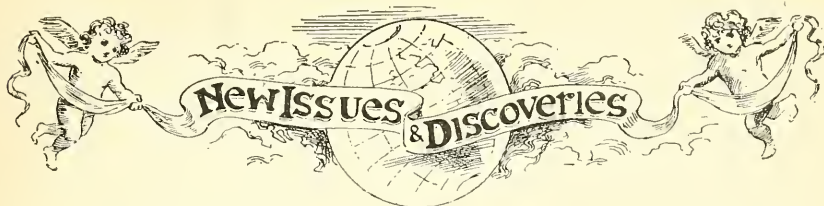
The only authentic inverted overprints I know of are on the 1d. and 6d.

All values are known with double surcharges, and the 1s. and 5s. are found trebly overprinted. I believe these and all other double-overprints in Section II. to have been done intentionally, with a view to making the overprinting more conspicuous; they are therefore eminently collectable, which is more than can be said of many other double surcharges we meet with in Philately. Owing to the ease with which forgeries of the small "Ordinary" 6 can be made, these double and treble surcharges are best collected used, with the Kimberley date stamp, and specimens with four or more surcharges may be confidently rejected.

Before we part, one word as to forgeries. Genuine postmarks are always a good protection, and, in the case of single stamps of the last printing of all, the only one. I have never seen a dangerous forgery of the "Antique" types. I hope the Plates illustrating these notes will prove a complete protection against forgeries of the overprints of Section I.

In conclusion, I have to thank, besides the gentlemen already mentioned, the Managing Director of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and Mr. J. W. Jones, of Cheapside, for allowing me to overhaul their stocks, and use some of their stamps for the autotype plates. I hope that the publication of these notes may result in discoveries being made, and some additional interest taken in the stamps of a hitherto rather neglected country.

* London Philatelic Society's list.



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. FRED. H. GIBSON, 1, Clarence Street, Manchester.

The British Empire.

Cook Islands.—The complete set now comes watermarked single lined NZ and star; we have just received from Mr. Peckitt the 1½d., 2d., 5d., 6d., 10d. and 1s., and we had the ½d., 1d. and 2½d. some weeks back.

Adhesives.

Perf. 11, wmk. single lined NZ and star.

1½d. bright violet.

2d. dark brown.

5d. olive black.

6d. purple.

10d. green.

1s. carmine.

Great Britain.—The *London Philatelist* is informed that the 10d. (1902) has received the Office of Works surcharge.

Adhesive.

Official Stamp.

10d. purple and scarlet, surcharged O.W. in black.
Official

Labuan.—We illustrate below the type of the new set listed in our last.



South Australia.—The latest to appear in the new "Postage" type are the 8d. and 5s., while the 4d. and 20s. are shortly expected.

Adhesives.

8d. dull ultramarine, wmk. SA and Crown, perf. 11½.
5s. rose " " "

Tasmania.—Mr. Peckitt sends us the Penny of the Pictorial type in a fresh

printing. The impression is poor and coarse, while the colour is now a pale dull red.

Adhesive.

1d. dull red, perf. 12½, wmk. V and Crown.

Tonga.—It is stated by the *Australian Philatelist* that a new paper has been used in printing the fresh supplies required by this Government. The paper is thinner than the previous, and the watermark shows much more clearly on back. Only four of the low values have been issued—the ½d., 1d., 2d. and 2½d., but it is presumed, as stock becomes exhausted, the other values will be issued on the new paper.

Transvaal.—A curiously late arrival is reported here in the shape of the old 1896 2s. 6d. surcharged E.R.I. Possibly a big stock has been found at some outlying office, and it was thought better to work them off thus than to destroy them.

Adhesive.

2s. 6d. purple and green, surcharged E.R.I. in black.

Southern Nigeria.—Though perhaps not yet on sale in the Colony, the following comprise the new set bearing the King's head.

Adhesives.

Wmk. Crown and CA, perf. 14.

½d. yellow-green,	centre grey-black.
1d. carmine,	" "
2d. brown-red,	" "
4d. olive-green,	" "
6d. violet,	" "
1s. black,	" green.
2s. 6d. brown,	" grey-black.
5s. yellow,	" "
10s. brown-red on yellow,	" "
20s. violet-blue,	" green.

Trinidad.—The 2½d. now appears in brown-violet and blue on blue paper.

Adhesive.

Wmk. Crown and CA, perf. 14.
2½d. brown-violet and blue on blue.

Western Australia.—This Colony has now started to make use of its neighbour's dies and papers, and has deserted its stately swan for some very cheap and nasty-looking productions formed by adopting various dies of Victoria 1901 "Postage" set.

So far we have three new values: 2s., 2s. 6d. and 5s. These are in the types of the 2s., 5d. and 2½d. of the above-mentioned Victorian set; the first two are respectively on yellow and pink paper, while all are

watermarked V and Crown upright, and perforated 12½.

Since noting the above we have received the current 1d. in a new printing, apparently a local one, as it is very poorly done. This is also watermarked V and crown, and perforated 12½.

Adhesives.

1d. rose,	wmk. V and Crown, perf. 12½.
2s. red on yellow,	" " "
2s. 6d. dark blue on pink,	" " "
5s. bright green	" " "

Foreign Countries.

Argentine.—A very handsome stamp was issued here on 25th October to commemorate the completion of the harbour works at the Port of Rosario. The impression is in dark blue, perforated 11½, watermark large suns.

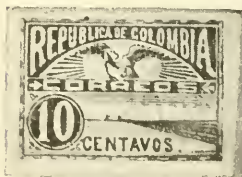
Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the specimen we illustrate below.



Adhesive.

5c. dark blue, perf. 11½, wmk. large suns.

Colombia. CARTAGENA.—The exigencies of the situation here apparently demand two or three new stamps every week, as we now have three additions to the pictorial 20c. mentioned in November, but it seems hardly necessary to have two colours for each denomination. The three listed below are lithographed on plain white paper, and this time imperforate and without control marks.



Adhesives.

2c. dark blue,	imperr.
2c. pale blue-green,	"
10c. red,	"

Cuba.—Referring to the surcharge on the current 3 cents, a large figure "1" in the centre indicates the new value, while the inscription at each side and at the top reads "Habilitado un centavo, Octubre, 1902."

Meckel's Weekly Stamp News states that the surcharge exists inverted.

Ecuador.—*Ewen's Weekly* affords the following interesting information regarding the mysterious signature, their correspondent writing:—"I see . . . that you note a new surcharge on Ecuadorian stamps, and ask for information in regard to same. The Consul for Ecuador at this port read me an extract from one of his Official Gazettes on the subject which may be of interest to yourself and readers of your *Weekly*. He states that in the fire which nearly burnt down the city of Guayaquil a few months back, considerable quantities of stamps were stolen, so to protect the Postal Authorities, the Governor of the Province of Guayas, in which Guayaquil is situate, signs (probably by indiarubber facsimile stamp) all stamps before being issued by the Postal Authorities to the general public. The signature is 'C. Benj. R.,' and his name is Carlos Benjamin Rosales—the latter name being, no doubt, his mother's name, which doubtless you know is often strung on to their own proper name.'

France.—The following new stamps have appeared for use at the various Foreign Post Offices under which they are mentioned. The type is the current one of France, but the word "Postes" is replaced by the name of the country or city for which it is intended. In the oblong values the inscription at the bottom now reads "Poste Francaise." Some sets are apparently not yet completed.

Adhesives.

ISSUE FOR ALEXANDRIA.

1c. grey.
2c. claret.
3c. orange red.
4c. brown.
5c. green.
10c. red and blue.
50c. brown and lavender.
1fr. lake and yellow-green.
2fr. slate and dull yellow.
5fr. deep blue and buff.

ISSUE FOR CAVALLE.

- 5c. green.
- 2 piastres on 50c. brown and lavender.
- 4 " " 1fr. lake and yellow-green.
- 8 " " 2fr. slate and dull yellow.

ISSUE FOR CRETE.

- 1 centime grey.
- 2 centimes claret.
- 3 " orange red.
- 4 " brown.
- 5 " green.
- 40 " red and blue.
- 50 " brown and lavender.
- 1fr. lake and yellow-green.
- 2fr. slate and dull yellow.
- 5fr. deep blue and buff.

ISSUE FOR DEDEAGH.

- 5 centimes green.
- 2 piastres on 50c. brown and lavender.
- 4 " " 1fr. lake and yellow-green.
- 8 " " 5fr. slate and dull yellow.

ISSUE FOR OFFICES IN CHINA.

- 5 centimes green.
- 40 " red and blue.
- 50 " brown and lavender.
- 1fr. lake and yellow-green.
- 2fr. slate and dull yellow.
- 5fr. deep blue and buff.

ISSUE FOR LEVANT OFFICES.

- 1 centime grey.
- 2 centimes claret.
- 3 " orange red.
- 4 " brown.
- 5 " green.
- 40 " red and blue.
- 2 piastres on 50c. brown and lavender.

ISSUE FOR MOROCCO.

- 5 centimes in red on 5c. green.
- 50 " " black on 50c. brown and lavender.
- 1 peseta in black on 1fr. lake and yellow-green.
- 2 " " 2fr. slate and dull yellow.

ISSUE FOR PORT SAID.

- 1 centime grey.
- 2 centimes claret.
- 3 " orange red.
- 4 " brown.
- 5 " green.
- 40 " red and blue.
- 50 " brown and lavender.
- 1fr. lake and yellow-green.
- 2fr. slate and dull yellow.
- 5fr. deep blue and buff.

ISSUE FOR ZANZIBAR.

- $\frac{3}{4}$ anna on 5c. green.
- 4 annas on 40c. red and blue.
- 5 " " 50c. brown and lavender.
- 10 " " 1fr. lake and yellow-green.
- 20 " " 2fr. slate and dull yellow.
- 50 " " 5fr. deep blue and buff.

Nicaragua.—Two provisionals are reported here, the 1 and 2 cents of 1900 surcharged 15c. and 30c. respectively. The overprint is in two lines in black.

Adhesives.

- 2c. orange red surcharged 15cvos.—1902.
- 1c. lilac " 30cvos.—1902.

Russia.—We find that we have not yet chronicled certain values of the current set which have recently appeared on vertically, instead of horizontally, laid paper as heretofore.

Adhesives.

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 kop. orange, | vertically laid paper |
| 2 " green, | " " |
| 5 " mauve, | " " |
| 7 " blue, | " " |
| 10 " blue, | " " |
| 14 " blue and rose, | " " |
| 20 " blue and carmine, | " " |
| 1 rouble brown and orange, | " " |

Switzerland.—The 1 franc of the current type now appears in bright red.

Adhesive.

- 1 franc red.

United States.—Mr. M. H. Lombard has just sent us a specimen of the new 13c. Though the space containing the likeness of President Harrison has of necessity been made rather limited, the stamp, as will be seen, is a very handsome one.



Adhesive.

- 13 cents brown and purple, perf. 12, wmk. U S P S.

Uruguay.—We have now seen the set of unpaid letter stamps chronicled in October. The colours are as specified then, except that the 1 cent is of a very green-blue, almost to the extent of being actually green. The stamps are on plain white paper and are perforated 14, 15. Though well engraved, they are of a commonplace appearance.



Philately in the Mags.

Some Vagaries of Dutch Stamps.

Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson has sent to the editor of the *Philatelic Journal of India* an enlarged photograph of a curiosity in the case of the 10c., type 1, perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, of the third issue, the white line above the word "Nederland" being about four times as thick as usual, giving the appearance of a break, in which the top line has been separated from the rest of the stamp, which is practically an impossibility. In the normal type, the word "Nederland" is fairly evenly placed between two coloured lines, having a white space above and below, but in the newly-discovered variety, the word is far too near the lower line with reference to the line above.

There is a very slight difference in measurement in the stamp taken from the outside lines. It would appear that there has been a deletion of the lower portion of the upper coloured line and an addition to the upper portion. Mr. Wetherell has examined several hundred of these stamps and finds that the frame lines are composite and composed of three fine lines, which usually coalesce more or less in consequence of the thickness of the ink. The only solution he can offer for the abnormal stamp is that the lower (third) fine line of the upper band has been erased. In many copies the lowest fine line is partially wanting and possibly the defect was remedied by completely erasing this line and also the one above it, and the insertion of additional lines inserted above. Mr. Stewart-Wilson has two copies, but has not found it in type 2, nor in the other values.

Can any reader give us information on the subject?

(B). The other curiosity is the $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. of 1877. There are two types of this stamp.

(a) Circle small, fraction bar short and thick.

(b) Circle larger, fraction bar long and thin.

Type (b) is uncommon. He found two copies only in 1000.

The colour is also different, being pale claret instead of pink or rose.

This is clearly a case of a new die, the stamps being distinguishable at a glance.

A Retouch of the English 1d. of 1841.

Major Evans, in *The Monthly Journal*, commenting on Mr. W. T. Wilson's important discovery reported in these columns in October, says:—

"As many of our readers are aware, the copies of the original die are transferred to the plate by placing the roller upon the latter under very heavy pressure, and then rocking the roller backwards and forwards

until the design is impressed on the plate; the latter is then shifted, and another impression from the roller taken by the side of the first, and so on until a complete plate (in the case of the English stamps containing 240 impressions) has been made. The pressure is so great that ridges of metal are forced up between the impressions, and these have to be removed before the plates can be printed from; it is the rough surface thus caused which produces the blurs and patches of colour sometimes seen between the rows of stamps printed from steel plates. These ridges, we gathered, would be especially noticeable at the sides of the impressions, because they were so placed on the roller as to be rolled in sideways, not up and down; and the formation and removal of the ridges seem frequently to have resulted in the removal wholly or in part of the extreme outer line of the design. The letters in the corners were punched on the plates separately, and this punching, we are told, invariably damaged the outlines of the corner blocks, which had to be restored, thus accounting for the prominence frequently to be noticed in these lines. Our informant further told us that, if in doing this cleaning and touching up the engraver saw that the outline of the stamp was especially weak, he would naturally run his graving tool from top to bottom, thus producing just such an outer line as that found in the stamps in question. Such a thing may have occurred in one case on one plate and in another case on another plate, and the specimens that have attracted attention are probably the results of cases where the outline was more damaged than usual, and thus a heavier line had to be cut. That such specimens are rare proves the general excellence of the work.

"We were assured that these lines must have been on the plate from the commencement, and that if any re-engraving had been required, on account of wear, it would have been done by the re-entering process, and special attention would have been paid to the shading of the face rather than to the outer lines of the design. It is not impossible that all the fine lines may have been a little weak in certain impressions on the plates, which would have caused both the outline to require strengthening and the shading of the face to disappear quickly; re-entering might afterwards have taken place, and both the peculiarities have been removed. These varieties are certainly of considerable interest, and the study of them has added not a little to our knowledge of some of the details of the manufacture of the stamps, for which we are greatly indebted to Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co.

Notes and News.

A Demonstration Sale.

The "Demonstration Sale" may be considered quite a success, as it clearly shows the sort of stamps required by American collectors. It clearly demonstrates that U. S. stamps are in greatest demand, with a probability that the fiscal stamps of our own country have the greatest number of collectors. Foreign revenue stamps, U.S. locals and Telegraph stamps did not secure a single buyer, while post cards, South Americans and U. S. envelopes met with few interested parties. Damaged stamps, if offered low enough, will find purchasers, but British Colonials are sure sellers to all who have not secured specimens of the varieties offered, for it should be noted that the 3p. Transvaal was the dearest stamp on the list, double face being paid, yet it came in an easy second of all the stamps offered and disposed of.—*The Metropolitan Philatelist.*

The late Mr. H. C. Merry.

It is with sincere regret we hear of the death of Mr. Henry C. Merry the well known stamp auctioneer of America. He was universally known to all American buyers and by very many in this country who take an interest in the auctions, and was popular alike with all.

Finland Reminders.

Messrs. Carl Willadt & Co., Ltd., announce having purchased from the Government of Finland all the remainders of the issue of Finland, 1885 [1883?]. Among the lot there were "a few over 200 each" of the very scarce 5 and 10 mark values [catalogued 30s. and 50s.], of which only 5,000 each are said to have been printed. The firm are offering 100 of each at the following rates:—

	s.	d.
1 mark, rose and grey	2	9
5 " " " pale green	20	0
5 " " " moss green	18	0
10 " " " yellow-brown	36	0
10 " " " dark brown	40	0

After 100 sets are sold, price will be advanced. Will there be remainders of the other sets? We believe the 1889 set was still current at the beginning of this year, but it cannot now be had at the G. P. O., Helsingfors.—*E.W.S.N.*

The New 8c. U.S.A.

The Metropolitan Philatelist has seen the drawing of the new 8 cents United States, and comments as follows:—

"The picture of Martha Washington is a very pleasant one; being in fact the one we have all been familiar with. The face is turned slightly to the west, although nearly full facing. Mrs. Washington

wears an attractive head-dress of veiling which falls down about her shoulders, giving a "grand-motherly" appearance to the figure. The general effect of the design is very good indeed, resembling in some degree the four cents of the new series."

We understand the design has been approved and that the engravers are at work upon the die. It is just possible that this and three other values may be ready for issue before the end of the year.

The Problem of the Hour.

The Section of Philately of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences is preparing for an active season. At a recent meeting a committee consisting of Messrs. H. E. Robinson and Geo. W. Ring was appointed to draft rules and regulations for a competitive exhibition to be given for one evening, and to report its recommendations to the next meeting early in November. It is proposed to give only a few medals, but to select subjects for competition that will appeal to collectors both large and small.—*M.W.S.N.*

We are in hearty sympathy with this movement, but consider it a most difficult problem to solve, and wait with interest to see the measure of success our American Cousins achieve in this direction.

Greece.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have submitted some pairs of the current issue 2 lep. and 10 lep. received by them from Greece and described as imperf. and offered to them at prices commensurate with their description. This well-known firm, however, point out that a blind perforation is distinctly visible.

This is certainly the case, and it seems to us that it is incorrect to chronicle such specimens as being imperf., an opinion shared by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. It is perfectly evident the stamps have passed through the perforation machine, but it has done its work imperfectly. Stamps imperfectly perforated cannot be imperf. We are calling attention to the matter, in view of the fact that these stamps seem to have been chronicled by some of our contemporaries as imperf. without any explanatory note whatever.

Great Britain.

A mint block of 119 one penny black, 1840, creased, sold for £112 at Mr. Hadlow's sale in November. The stamps formed the lower part of a sheet from Plate 1 and belonged to a lady in the north of England. They were bought by Mr. Peckitt acting on behalf of Mr. H. J. White.

The International Philatelic Union.

The Committee have decided to offer Prizes of Stamps to the value of £3 3s. and £1 rs., to be selected by the winners, from any dealer, for the two best sets of three essays sent in under the following conditions:—

I.—The essays are to be written upon the following subjects:—

1.—What advice would you give generally to anyone proposing to form a specialized collection, and more particularly from any one of the following countries:—

France, Greece, Holland, Japan. Persia, Siam, Egypt, Natal, Orange River Colonies, Argentine, Chile, Ecuador, Fiji, Queensland, and Western Australia.

2.—Describe the differences in the various methods of printing stamps, and indicate how specimens printed by different processes may be distinguished.

3.—The third paper is to be written on one or other of the undermentioned subjects, but not both:—

(a) The advantages of stamp collecting.

(b) Whether it is desirable to describe and illustrate forgeries.

All members on the roll on March 1st, 1903, are entitled to compete, and the essays (written on one side of the paper only) and not to exceed 500 words must reach the Hon. Secretary by April 13th. The programme for the season is as follows:—

1902.
Wed., Nov. 12.—8 p.m. Display, "Forgeries and Reprints," Mr. KAY.
Display "Servia."
" Dec. 10.—8 p.m. Paper, "What kind of Minor Varieties should be included in a General Collection?" Mr. FULCHER.
1903.
Wed., Jan. 14.—8 p.m. Paper and Display, "Travelling through the Great Unknown, Fascination of Virgin Ground, or Fiscal Stamp Collecting," Mr. W. SCHWABACHER.
" Feb. 11.—8 p.m. Paper, "What is Limited Specialism?" The President, Mr. H. R. OLDFIELD.
Thurs., Mar. 12.—7.30 p.m. Lantern Display.
Wed., April 8.—8 p.m. Display, "British East Africa," Mr. H. L. HAYMAN.
Display "India States Surcharged Issues," Mr. JOSELIN.
" May 13.—8 p.m. Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers and Committee. At this Meeting the result of the Prize Essay Competition will be announced and the successful Essays will be read

New and Dangerous Reprints of the 1868 Issue of Mexico.

Mr. W. T. Wilson kindly sends us the following important item:—

Access has evidently been had to the Plate from which this issue was made, as I have had submitted to me for opinion very dangerous reprints of the 6c., 50c., 100c. black on brown, and 100c. brown on brown,

both imperf. and saw-tooth perf., also the error 12c. black on brown. All I have seen had forged name, number and date, and so cunningly have these surcharges been applied that the correct numbers corresponding to the Town name has been applied.

I consider it inadvisable to point out the differences, but will gratuitously examine any of these stamps if sent me with stamped addressed envelope for their return

These reprints emanate from St. Louis, U.S.A., and are usually mixed with genuine 12 and 25c. The reprint from altered Die of the 3c. Eagle, 1864, usually accompanies the above

Bright & Son's Catalogue.

We have to thank Messrs. Bright & Son for a copy of the "5th King Edward Edition" of their A B C Catalogue. It contains the adhesive stamps and stamped stationery of the whole world in one volume, and in this respect is, we believe, a unique catalogue printed in English.

The advantages of having the adhesives of the world at all events in one instead of two volumes are obvious, effecting a saving in pocket to the collector, and so far as the medium collector is concerned, a saving of unnecessary worry. The catalogue is notable in this edition for the continued appreciation in value of stamps of the British Empire and for the inclusion of the new issues for Great Britain and Colonies having the effigy of the King. The production of the work *in toto* reflects the highest credit upon Messrs. Bright & Son, and at half-a-crown is a cheap line for all, but especially so for general collectors, who will find the prices quoted for the cheaper stamps more to their liking than in other publications of a similar nature

A Philatelic Libel Action.

Mr. Champion objects to the notoriety he is obtaining by the continual reference to his doings in the Philatelic press, and is therefore bringing an action for libel against one of our continental contemporaries to suppress further references to his little ways. The action, we understand, is to be heard in Switzerland. Mr. Champion has every reason in the past to be obliged for the leniency of the Swiss law in reference to forged stamps, but it seems unwise on his part to presume too much.

Duty Off Postal Matters.

The *Australian Philatelist* informs its readers that the Federal Customs Department has decided to abandon the duty on postage stamps, either used or unused. This is very satisfactory news to all collectors and dealers, and especially to those who were directly affected by the duty. We are certainly free traders, at all events so far as stamps are concerned.