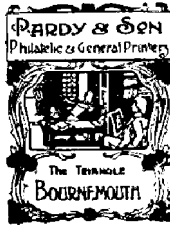


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TO  
THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN.  
1909.



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OF GREAT BRITAIN,

AND  
Philatelic Review of Reviews

EDITOR - - F. F. LAMB.

*The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union  
and the City of London Philatelic Society.*

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*VOL. XIX.*

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JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 1909.

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PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL

OF GREAT BRITAIN

AND OF THE KINGDOM OF IRELAND





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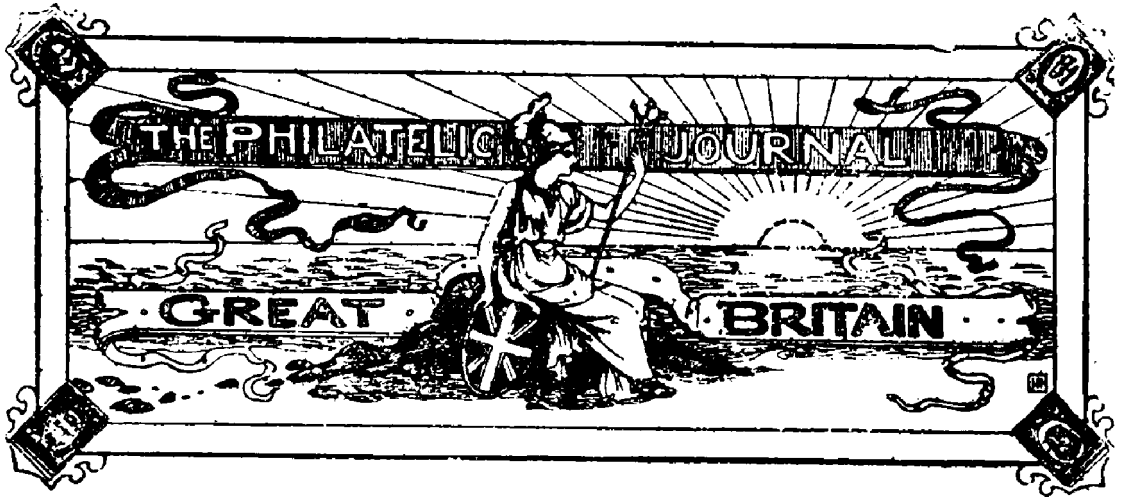
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## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

BEFORE another month has passed the great Manchester Postage Stamp Exhibition and Congress, will be a matter of past history. The last few Exhibitions, notably that held at Caxton Hall nearly a year ago, have been so well patronized, and so much appreciated, that we have little hesitation in prophesying a huge success for the February

**The Coming Exhibition.** Manchester alone contains a great number of very active collectors, a fact well emphasized by their holding an Exhibition, but when it is remembered that practically every collector and dealer, from every part of Great Britain, who can possibly attend, will do so, we need hardly point out to our readers, that, if success rests on an attendance record, it is surely already assured. No efforts have been spared by the Executive Committee to see that their plans have been effectively carried out, and it will be entirely the fault of the individual collector does he remain in ignorance of the capital philatelic gathering that has been prepared by our Manchester *confrères*.

It is fully expected that practically all the well known collectors will be present, while those philatelists who are not so

well known may rest assured that an equally hearty welcome will be extended to them. If they are of a convivial nature they will find plenty of brother collectors who are of a like disposition, while, if they prefer to spend a few quiet hours studying the exhibits they will likewise find many studious devotees. As most collectors will doubtless combine a little conviviality and study there is every prospect of the Manchester week being from a social, as well as a philatelic point of view, a huge unqualified success.

Elsewhere in these columns will be found the latest information relating to the Exhibition and we cannot do more here than remind our readers that if they miss attending Manchester during the third week-end of February, they will miss an opportunity that may never occur again.

\* \* \* \*

In the December number of the *Philatelic Record* we are informed that that journal will, with the January number,

**The Philatelic Record.** pass under new management. Of a conservative nature, we do not readily welcome new innovations, the *Record* during the past eight years of its career has contained

a vast amount of valuable and original information, and it will be a very difficult task for the new proprietors to maintain such a standard of excellence. Naturally enough during the eight years that the *Record* has been edited from Manchester we have had some numbers that contained less information than did others, but, viewed as a whole, the journal has been a great success from the subscribers' (and we hope the publishers') point of view.

The *Record* has always been noted for its articles containing original research, a notoriety which we trust will be maintained.

Mr. L. W. Fulcher, so well known as a capable philatelist, is to succeed to the editorial chair, and, assisted as he will be by another almost as well known collector, will, without doubt, fully maintain the *Record's* traditions.

We wish the new managers every success with their new venture; they are London men of proved philatelic and journalistic capacity, and not likely to fail at any task to which they turn their hands. The *Philatelic Record* is such an old and tried friend that any events in its career are of interest to collectors, and we feel sure that the late proprietors could not have chosen better successors to carry on their work.

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## Proposed Philatelic Club.

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THE Provisional Committee formed for the purpose of drawing up a scheme for the formation of a Philatelic Club in London, met on January 7th, when the following gentlemen were present: P. L. Pemberton, W. H. Eastwood, Cyril J. Phillips, T. B. Widdowson, A. B. Kay, T. H. Hinton, W. Cool and J. E. Joselin. After some hours deliberation, the following proposal was drawn up for publication:—

### CENTRAL PHILATELIC CLUB, LTD.

It is proposed to form a Club bearing the above title in the Strand district of London. The Club is intended to be run on social lines under the auspices of existing Societies and open to all classes of Philatelists. Suitable premises of from four to six rooms have been offered to the Committee and it is proposed to make provision for a restaurant, reading room, general committee room, &c.

The Company should be formed with a

nominal capital of £500 in £1 shares and should raise working capital by the issue of £500 debentures bearing 5% interest. It is estimated that the expenses of inauguration and of the first year's work would not exceed £500 and it would be necessary to raise this amount from the above two sources, in order to enable the scheme to be proceeded with. The Provisional Committee consider that membership should be secured by holding a £1 share and an annual subscription of 10/6. The management of the Club should consist of a Committee composed of one representative from each Society holding in its corporate capacity at least one share. Country and foreign membership could be obtained by any member of a shareholding Society for the proposed subscription of 5/-.

This scheme will be brought forward for discussion at the Manchester Congress by Mr. P. L. Pemberton. Meanwhile any correspondence on the subject should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary of the Provisional Committee, Mr. T. H. Hinton, 26, Cromford Road, E. Putney, London, S.W.

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## The Subject of Condition.

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BY SPY-GLASS.

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A SIGNIFICANT feature of the past year has been the absolute disregard of precedent, in the shape of catalogue and other quotations, which collectors and dealers have shown in buying scarce stamps when in exceptionally fine condition. This tendency has often been in evidence at Auction Sales in England. The present writer had, recently, to pay 26/- for a 1/- N.S.W. imperf., catalogued by Gibbons at 15/-. This specimen was lightly, but clearly, cancelled, had large margins, splendid colour, sharp impression and in fact, the freshness of a stamp which has just been printed. That a stamp, such as this, with all the attributes of fine condition accentuated, should in these days of advanced philately, command double the catalogue quotations, is not surprising. It is now fully recognised that there is no catalogue price for exceptionally fine copies of early stamps. Any specimen with claims to being the finest copy in existence must naturally rise superior to the usual considerations. In fact we must appraise not only the ordinary rarity of the stamp itself, but also the extraordinary rarity of its perfection.

A much more remarkable example than that I have just quoted, comes from New York, where, on December 9th last, a Newfoundland 6d. carmine-vermilion was sold for \$210, which is equivalent to £42 10s. This stamp is catalogued \$75 by Scott, and £7 by Gibbons. The condition of this specimen may be left to the imagination. It may be

taken for granted that it had large margins and was in that glowing colour which is occasionally found in the stamps of this issue.

It is, however, in France that "prime" stamps are most highly appreciated, and frequent reference has been made in the *Ph. J. of G.B.* to the large prices obtained at the Hotel Drouot auctions in Paris.

A writer in *La Circulaire Philatélique*, who signs himself La Sagittaire de Verdun, has an interesting article on this very subject in the January number of that journal. To point his remarks, this writer has drawn up a list of twenty-seven British Colonial stamps sold at the Hotel Drouot during the past year. I am taking the liberty of publishing this list, which, as will be seen, shows, in parallel

but a comparison of the standard catalogue prices with the auction figures is sufficient to show the high appreciation in which fine specimens, especially of early issues, are held in France.

It should be explained that at all French Auction-Sales the purchaser is bound by law to pay the auctioneers' commission of 10%, which amount is added to the total of his purchase. In the first column of the above table the 10% has been added to each item, thus exactly representing the amounts paid by the buyers.

To extract the essence from this table it is necessary to take the total auction price (=4743 francs) and the total of the average catalogue prices (=3719 francs) when we find

	Auction.	CATALOGUES.				Average cat. price on Continent.	
		Official French.	Yvert et Teller's.	Senf.	Galvez (Madrid).	Gibbons	Gibbons
Cape, 1d. woodblock, carmine..	204	150	125	172	90	134	151
" 4d. " " blue ..	143	100	90	74	68	83	88
*Gold Coast, 20 - green and red ..	338	250	300	308	225	271	302
Mauritius, 1859, 2d. ..	770	500	500	554	450	501	402
" " 1d. red, Greek border ..	154	100	125	92	90	102	150
*St. Helena, 1863, 4d. carmine ..	37	40	35	43	33	38	42
Antigua, 1862, 6d., no wmk. ..	40	35	38	37	36	37	38
Canada, 1852, ½d. rose ..	23	18	18	20	16	18	19
" " 10d. blue ..	55	40	45	43	45	43	44
" " 1857, 6d. violet, perforated ..	178	175	150	185	135	161	176
Brit. Colombia, 50c., perf. 12½ ..	47	40	40	55	45	45	50
Brit. Guiana, 1851, 1c. black on red ..	219	175	160	185	135	164	176
" " " 4c. black on blue..	264	225	200	246	180	213	226
" " " 1853, 1c. vermilion ..	73	75	60	74	54	66	94
" " " 4c. blue ..	33	30	30	27	45	23	31
Nova Scotia, 1851, 6d. dark green ..	62	40	45	74	45	51	76
*Newfoundland, 6½d. vermilion..	330	350	300	344	360	339	352
" " " 6d. orange ..	95	100	90	92	90	93	75
Trinidad, 1858, 1d. slate ..	99	60	60	92	63	69	—
" " " 1d. blue-grey ..	114	75	75	92	90	83	—
New South Wales, 1d. Sydney, plate I.	75	70	60	74	36	60	—
" " " 1d. " " II.	89	60	60	74	54	62	—
" " " 2d. " " I.	105	45	50	49	45	47	—
" " " 3d. whip omitted ..	270	200	N.C.	N.C.	N.C.	200	—
Queensland, 6d. green, imperf. ..	128	110	100	98	90	100	100
Tasmania, 1853, 1d. blue ..	99	100	90	98	68	89	88
British Guiana, 1856, 4c. red ..	699	600	650	615	N.C.	622	628

columns, the prices obtained at auction and the quotations of four well known Continental catalogues, with another column shewing the average catalogue price for each stamp. To these columns I have added another, shewing Gibbons quotations, translated into francs, so that they may be easily compared with the figures in the other columns. The lithographed Trinidads and the Sydney Views exist in so many varieties and condition that it is impossible to guess which stamps are alluded to. In these instances the prices in the table convey nothing, and the same may be said of the Cape woodblocks, any of which might have been very dear or very cheap at the prices for which they were sold.

It is a pity that the Galvez catalogue was taken into account, as the quotations therein for British Colonials are much too low,

that the difference is 1024 francs. Thus, for these twenty-seven stamps, collectors and dealers have paid about 25% more than catalogue prices.

The most exceptional price in the above list appears to be the £30 paid for the Mauritius 2d. of Oct. 1859, which it catalogued by Gibbons at £16, and it will be noticed, that generally speaking, the imperf. stamps fetch the highest relative prices.

Do not forget to pay our publishers a visit at their stall, when you are in Manchester next month, for the Exhibition.

Binding Cases for Vol. XVIII. are now ready. Post free, 1/3.

# Manchester Postage Stamp Exhibition,

HULME TOWN HALL, STRETFORD ROAD, MANCHESTER, I

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 18th, 19th and 20th, 1909.

STAMP collecting of to-day is no longer the mere accumulating of stamps, but occupies the serious attention of collectors of all ages and classes, who study not only the stamps themselves but their manufacture and origin.

It being ten years since an Exhibition of Postage Stamps was held in Manchester, the Committee feel that they are complying with a public demand in organising this Exhibition with a view of further popularising the hobby of stamp collecting.

The numerous promises of support which have been received from many eminent collectors will, it is hoped, enable them to make an interesting display of both British, Colonial and Foreign Postage Stamps, Proofs, Forgeries and Reprints, together with other objects of Philatelic interest.

The Exhibition area consists of about 7,000 square feet, and the display will be made all on the same level in a large and small hall, both of which are eminently suited for the purpose. They are lofty and well lighted, and there is no top light whereby the stamps might be faded. The display is entirely non-competitive, but a diploma has been designed, suitable for framing, which will be presented to all exhibitors as a memento of the occasion. All stamps will be exhibited under glass, in locked or sealed frames or cases, night and day watchmen will be employed, and every possible precaution will be taken to secure exhibits from damage or loss. The building is fireproof, and in addition has under the same roof a station of the Manchester Fire Brigade.

The "Ross" Ladies' Band has been engaged, and will perform in the main hall throughout each day.

Accommodation has been found for fourteen trade stalls—most of the principal London and Provincial dealers will be represented—thus affording for the first time in Manchester an opportunity for collectors and dealers to make personal transactions.

The large hall above the Exhibition will be devoted to the first Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, and to Lantern Lectures on popular and educational Philatelic matters.

A large hall has been set aside for a refreshment room, and the catering will be undertaken by a well-known local firm.

Admission to the Exhibition will be entirely free by ticket, which can be obtained from all stamp dealers, or the Hon. Sec., J. R. M. ALBRECHT, EXHIBITION OFFICES, 9, ALBERT SQUARE, MANCHESTER.

## THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS.

This will be the first opportunity afforded in this country to philatelists of all shades and opinions to confer upon many important matters connected with Philately. The most important British Societies have already expressed their willingness and desire to help it forward and take part in it.

Delegates have already been appointed to attend, the result of whose deliberations must undoubtedly be of permanent value to the hobby. Special matters of philatelic importance will be discussed, such as the following:

*The formation of a National Society or Federation.*

*The holding of an Annual Congress.*

*The suppression of unnecessary or speculative issues, etc., etc.*

*The compilation of a Collector's Catalogue or Guide.*

Suggestions of further subjects of interest will be carefully considered, and all Philatelists are heartily invited to attend and make the Congress successful and worthy of the traditions of British Philatelic Societies.

Please address all communications and suggestions to—

J. J. DARLOW,

Exhibition Offices, 9, Albert Square,  
Manchester.

## Competitions.

*Open to all stamp collectors under 18 years of age.*

Two First Prizes will be awarded:—(1) for the Collection displaying the greatest care in arrangement, and largest amount of Philatelic research; (2) for the best Essay on any Philatelic subject.

A limited number of other Prizes will be awarded to the competitors next in order of merit, and full details will be sent to intending competitors.

The First Prize shall, in each case, consist of Two Guineas' worth of Stamps, Albums, Philatelic Literature or Outfit. The First Prize winners to select their prizes from any of the dealers having stalls at the Exhibition.

There will be no entrance fee nor other charge, and the Competition will be open to any collector, of either sex, under the age of 18 years.

The Manchester Junior Philatelic Society will take every care of the Albums and Collections, but cannot accept any responsibility.



The successful Collections will be exhibited in glass cases, and arrangements will be made to publish the successful Essay.

Competitors must observe the following Rules:—

#### Collection Competition.

Albums intended for this section must be addressed to Mr. J. R. M. ALBRECHT, EXHIBITION OFFICES, 9, ALBERT SQUARE, MANCHESTER, not later than February 1st, 1909, marked "Competition."

2.—An addressed cover, with sufficient stamps for return postage and registration, must be enclosed with each.

3.—The collection must be the sole property of the competitor, who must, on the 20th February, 1909, not exceed the age of 18 years.

4.—A written testimony to that effect, signed by parent, guardian, schoolmaster, or other responsible person, must accompany each entry.

#### Notes to Competitors.

The rarity or value of the stamps in collection will have little effect on the decision of the judges, neither will the size or price of the albums; neatness, care, and condition, together with the amount of study shown in the arrangement, however, will.

A collection may be either general or specialised; may be of used stamps or unused stamps, or both.

There are no restrictions as to size.

#### Essay Competition.

1.—Competitors must be under the age of 18 years on 1st February, 1909.

2.—All Competitions must be addressed in envelope marked "Essay" to Mr. J. R. M. ALBRECHT, Exhibition Offices, 9, Albert Square, Manchester, not later than February 1st, 1909.

3.—The Essay should not exceed 500 words, and may be written on any Philatelic subject. It must be written on one side of the paper (foolscap) only.

4.—Each Essay must bear, on the top of the first page, the name and address of the Competitor, and must be accompanied by a note, signed by a responsible person, that it is the entire work of the Competitor, unaided by suggestions or corrections.

Any further details will be supplied on enquiry, by J. R. M. ALBRECHT, Hon. Sec., Exhibition Offices, 9 Albert Square, Manchester.

#### WHAT TO SEE AT THE EXHIBITION.

*Main Hall.* Collections of the Postage Stamps of Great Britain and British Colonies, both used and unused, will be shown.

*Fourteen* of the principal dealers will display the latest in Albums, Philatelic Accessories, etc., together with an unequalled stock of stamps.

*The "Ross" Ladies' Band* will perform each afternoon and evening.

*The Small Hall.* Collections of Foreign Countries and their Colonies.

*Philatelic Curiosities,* Pictures made of Stamps, Proofs, Essays, Forgeries, etc.

*Postal.* On the Ground Floor will be found a working department of the Post Office.

*Manchester Junior Philatelic Society's Stall.*

*Dinners, Teas, and Refreshments* at popular prices in the Restaurant.

#### THE LATEST FROM MANCHESTER.

Writing on the formation of the 12th of January, Mr. J. J. Darlow informs us that the following subjects for discussion will be brought forward at the Congress:

I.—The formation of a National Society or Federation (paper by P. C. Bishop).

II.—The holding of an Annual Congress.

III.—The suppression of unnecessary or speculative issues, &c.

IV.—The completion of a Collector's Catalogue and Guide.

V.—The formation of a Body or Committee to take in hand the disposal of a deceased Collector's stamps, &c., where the relatives have not the necessary Philatelic knowledge.

VI.—The desirability of forming a Philatelic Club in London with premises always open to members. Opened by P. L. Peimberton.

Mr. Darlow also tells us that his Committee will be much obliged if other Delegates will kindly write at once communicating their plans.

Mr. I. J. Bernstein, writing on the same date, tells us that in addition to those Societies already listed, the Birmingham Junior Philatelic Society, London, and Irish Societies have notified their adhesion or willingness to participate in the Congress.

The Junior Philatelic Society and the Leicester Society have kindly loaned a number of frames for exhibits, while many philatelists have subscribed to the fund. Intending exhibitors and subscribers are requested not to procrastinate.

### The 2½a. on 4½a. Indian Stamp of 1891.

OWING to a reduction in the postal rates between India and the United Kingdom, which came into force on January 1st, 1891, there arose a demand for a two and a half anna stamp, with the result that a supply of the then current four and a half anna stamps was locally surcharged in Calcutta.

Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, in the British India Handbook, says: "There are several varieties in this surcharge due to variations in the relative positions of the letters and figures." These varieties are fully described in the handbook; but, as this work is an expensive

one, and the stamps described of considerable rarity, we think it would be interesting to our readers were we to illustrate and describe the four main varieties of this interesting surcharge. The first one, illustrated below, we described in the January 1907 *P.J. of G.B.*



As will be seen the "AS" on the left-hand stamp is very considerably raised, instead of the letters being almost on a level with the lower limb of the smaller "2" they are on a level with the fraction bar of the " $\frac{1}{2}$ ."

The second type we illustrate shows the letter "S" raised almost to a level with the fraction bar while the "A" remains in a normal position.



This variety, in common with the one illustrated above, has previously been described in this *Journal*.

The following extract from the *P.J.G.B.* for February, 1907, written before the Indian handbook was published, is worth reproducing.

It is quite certain that both these varieties were corrected before the issue became obsolete, as entire sheets are known which do not contain them. It is very curious that such marked varieties should not be described until fifteen years after the issue of the stamp, and this fact alone shows how rare they must be.

In the Indian handbook, Mr. Hausburg describes a type, which we are not able to illustrate, in which the "2" of " $\frac{1}{2}$ ," the "AS," and the large "2," are all on the same level. This is illustrated and numbered 36.

The following extract, referring to this stamp, is of interest:

Complete sheets are known in which only the variety shown in Illustration No. 36 occurs, and it follows that either there were two settings of this surcharge or else that the displacements of the letters and figures were noticed and corrected, or assuming that the surcharge was made by means of loose type, the frame containing the set up surcharge was shaken and some of the type disarranged.

The fact that these varieties are of great rarity seems to point to the fact that some of

the type worked loose. The normal variety, although catalogued, respectively 1/- and 3d. unused and used, is a very common stamp, so common that it is really very surprising that no definite information can be obtained regarding the varieties of surcharge.

The third variety we are able to illustrate shows the "A" raised, while the "S" is in a normal position.



Perhaps the most interesting of all the types is the one with the full stop after the "S" raised, the rest of the surcharge being in the normal position. This stamp is illustrated below and we think our readers will agree



with us that this variety (in common with the others already mentioned) is worthy of catalogue rank.

According to Mr. Hausburg, two other marked varieties are known, one in which the "2" of " $\frac{1}{2}$ " and the "AS" are all on the same level, and another, already referred to as No. 36. These two varieties are the least noticeable and, were there not other more marked types, would be of little interest.

Another type, a very minor one, is illustrated below, it will be noticed that the serif of the figure "1" points upwards, instead of pointing downwards.



These surcharged stamps were only in use for twelve months, before they were replaced by the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  anna stamps of 1892.

## Well-known Philatelists.

NO. 108.—THE HON. LT.-COL. SIR DAVID PARKES MASSON, KT., V.D., C.I.E., A.-D.-C.

THIS distinguished philatelist began to collect stamps while quite a youngster, but had to give up the pursuit when he entered the Banking profession, as an apprentice, during the early sixties. A true philatelist at heart, it is not surprising to learn that he returned to the philatelic fold at the first favourable opportunity, which by-the-by occurred, so Sir David tells us, when he helped to assist his daughter arrange her schoolgirl collection.

Beginning afresh as a general collector he for some time collected all countries, at least

until his attention was attracted by the then little-studied stamps of Kashmir. Spending the hot months of the year in Kashmir, where by-the-by he indulges freely in golf, Sir David is quite at home, not only with the stamps of Kashmir, but with the people of that quaint country. Most of our readers are doubtless aware that Sir David's book on the stamps of Kashmir is not only the only authoritative handbook published, but that it contains all the information that can possibly be gleaned concerning the curious stamps of this country. This work was published within three years of his return to philately—eloquent testimony to what indefatigable perseverance and study can

do. Having conquered the stamps of Kashmir, and seeking fresh fields of discovery he turned his attention to Afghanistan, with the result that the fruits of his labour are now available in the recently published monumental treatise on these stamps. One of the results of his study of these intricate stamps is that some collectors, who previously were afraid to tackle these stamps have now mastered some of the initial difficulties, while another is that his exposure of the Die I. stamps and other hoary headed imposters which for 30 years have been sold in Europe at high prices, created a sensation in the philatelic market.

Sir David's collections of Kashmir and Afghanistan stamps are undoubtedly the finest in existence, the latter country being valued at an exorbitant figure.

President of the Indian Philatelic Society,

Sir David has contributed largely to the *Philatelic Journal of India*, the Society's journal, a precedent which some of the leading members of the "Royal" might well follow with their journal.

Philately, however, is not by any means allowed to entirely monopolise Sir David's time, not only is he A.D.C. to the Viceroy of India but he is a keen volunteer of forty-five years experience, the last fifteen having been spent in command of his Corps, the 1st Punjab Rifles, the uniform of which gallant force he is wearing in the photograph that illustrates this interview.

Apart from volunteering, Sir David Masson has rendered valuable services to the country as Honorary Secretary to the Punjab Famine Committees in 1897 and 1899, as President of the Committee on commercial education, and as a member of the Provincial Legislative Council to which he was appointed some years ago. He is a true friend of the people of the country and never loses an opportunity of showing his sympathy for them in a practical manner. As President of the Punjab Association Club, which is composed almost entirely of Indian Gentlemen, Sir David Masson has done much to improve the social relations between Europeans and Indians in the Punjab. He has been always an active and generous supporter of Lahore charities. In the seventies, he founded the Lahore Orphanage for European and Eurasian girls and boys, co-operating with the Chaplain, the Rev. J. R.

Baldwin. In many other ways Sir David has proved himself a real friend to the people of India and we feel sure all of our readers will wish him more honours to add to his already lengthy list, and a fresh wide field of philatelic conquests.

## The Amsterdam Exhibition.

The Amsterdam Exhibition, to be held from the 3rd to 10th of June next, is already attracting a great deal of notice. Very influential support has been secured and there is no doubt but that some exceptionally fine exhibits will be on view. Intending exhibitors should write to the Secretary, Philatelic Exhibition, Warmoesstraat 193, Amsterdam, for entry forms.



# Notes on Australian Stamps.

BY THE EDITOR.

## INTRODUCTION.

DURING the course of the year I inspect a large number of collections, the great majority of which are very weak as regards Australian stamps. Why this should be so is difficult to understand, unless it is that many collectors hold the mistaken idea that Australian stamps are hard to classify. In the course of these papers, I shall try to dispel this erroneous idea, for, not only are they amongst the easiest to arrange (with a few noted exceptions which I shall refer to later on), but they are, collectively, *par excellence* the most beautiful group of stamps known to collectors. The collector who merely collects stamps because they fill blank spaces in an album, or who chooses a stamp because it has a gaudy picture on it, is not likely to be particularly interested in Australian stamps, and my candid advice to such is to leave Australians severely alone. The collector, however, who is really interested in the many details which help to make our hobby the science it is, will find them of great interest, and, provided he cares to spend some little time in mastering the initial difficulties, will find his time well repaid by the pleasure he will obtain. That there are yet difficult problems to solve I do not deny—the mere fact that so many well-known philatelists are at work studying them is proof conclusive—but this applies mostly to certain issues, and not to the general run of Australian stamps.

In the matter of perforation, Australian stamps are certainly a little more intricate than those of some other countries, but this is more noticeable when the stamps are taken as a group and not when each Colony's stamps are considered on their individual merits. As an instance of this, it will probably be news to many of my readers to learn that in South Australia, until 1893, when the machine perforating 15 was brought into use, there were only four varieties of perforation. The first of these a roulette, the second a gauge of  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , the third (a very rare one by itself) gauging  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , and the fourth showing the abnormally big gauge of 10.

Each one of these four varieties of separation may be, and usually is, found in conjunction with another gauge, thus  $10 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$  or  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ , but, as in the case of nearly all compounds, these varieties can be easily picked out without the aid of a perforation gauge. As a matter of fact there is not really any need to use a gauge on any South Australian stamp issued prior to 1902 unless it be for the little halfpenny stamps (which by reason of their small size are sometimes deceptive) or for some of the early perf. by roulette stamps.

The only Australian Colony where the perforations are apt to prove a little difficult is Tasmania, but I will refer to this difficulty later on, and, I hope, make the trouble a little easier.

Australian stamps, excepting some issued during the past few years, have so many manifold attractions that it is most remarkable that they have not, long ere now, been boomed sky-high. Fortunately this has not been the case with the result that practically speaking all the other stamps in very fine condition are worth full catalogue, while in many instances they are worth double.

It is true that some recent issues have been somewhat largely speculated in, notably Victorians and New South Wales, but as these later issues are, by themselves, of little interest, I do not think the medium specialist in Australians need bother his head much about "cornered" stamps.

A very strong argument in favour of Australian stamps is that up to the present the up-to-date forger has not given them his attention, which, as many of the stamps are line-engraved, is not to be wondered at. The only really dangerous forgeries I have seen have consisted of some remarkably good imitations of plate 2 of the one penny Sydney View, and some well-executed forged surcharges on the 1d. and 2d. West Australians. Forgeries of a kind are, however, fairly common, but, consisting as they mostly do of very crude lithographs, constitute absolutely no menace to the careful collector.

Fakes are far more numerous, and mostly take the form of faked perforations, or stamps from which bank cancellations have been cleaned, both of which malpractices, however, are common to all other groups. In the case of Australians it is in only a few issues that stamps are found which were liable to be bank cancelled, so it is comparatively easy to give doubtful specimens a wide berth.

Reprinted Australian stamps are not troublesome, as in nearly every case they are clearly marked "Reprint" or "Specimen" on the face, or else they are printed on differently watermarked paper to that used for the original stamps. In the case of Queensland, Government reprints exist of the 1868-79 stamps, but they are now very rarely met with, moreover they are printed in slightly different colours to those employed for the original stamps.

\* To be more correct I should call them States, but as I am dealing almost entirely with the older issues long before the Commonwealth, I prefer to call them Colonies. My notes also apply to New Zealand stamps as I include this Colony under the general heading of "Australia."

The stamps of the first type of both Victoria and New South Wales are undoubtedly specialists' varieties, and, as such, can be well left alone by the medium specialist until he has advanced sufficiently to understand their subtle intricacies. With these two notable exceptions, and a few lesser ones such as the 2d. New Zealand and 6d. Tasmania, London prints, and some of the perforations of the 6d. and 1/- stamps of the latter Colony, the stamps of Australia offer as few real difficulties as those of any other group.

In all the Australian Colonies there are many scarce shades, some of which, especially in the case of South Australians, can occasionally be picked up at real bargain prices. Bargains, however, are not only confined to shades, and the careful collector who studies his stamps is far more likely to purchase rare Australians at cheap prices than any other class of stamps. The reason for this is that many of the English dealers do not carry a big stock of these stamps and, as frequently follows, they do not attach very much importance to the countries that are not well represented in their approval books; with the result that oftentimes a really scarce variety is priced at an absurdly low figure.

Those collectors who are particularly interested in used stamps will find Australians of great interest as, not only are dated copies fairly easy to obtain (except in the case of early Queenslanders) but the stamps are, taking them all round, lightly cancelled.

Minor varieties abound in all the early issues, many not being yet catalogued, while valuable and much sought after retouches can sometimes be picked out of *dealers'* stock books at a nominal price. Those collectors who find a particular charm in searching for watermarks (and what true philatelist does not?) will find the watermarks of Australian stamps most fascinating; with, perhaps, the exception of the two types of Crown and N.S.W. they are all wonderfully simple, especially when they are studied *in conjunction* with the paper in which they are found, and not only as isolated specimens of a watermark.

Although many very fine collections of Australian stamps have been formed and are being put together at the present time, it is remarkable how few really very fine lots have come into the market during the past ten years or so.

In the course of these notes it is my intention to deal with the stamps of New Zealand and the six States of the Commonwealth, namely, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania. I certainly do not expect to appeal to specialists, they know far more than I do, but I hope, by drawing attention to the many errors of classification that have come under my observation, to help other collectors to elucidate what have

previously been to them somewhat knotty problems.

Needless to say, my remarks will be very incomplete, but, assisted as I am by owning a very fair collection of used Australian stamps, and with the experience that a good many years of collecting has brought, I hope to be of some slight service to those of my readers who anticipate strengthening their collections.

Like a wise man I have kept my strongest argument in favour of Australian stamps until the last; it consists of the fact that the leading specialists of the day are mostly keen collectors of these stamps. I need only mention two names, those of Messrs. Yardley and Hausburg, to convince my readers that Australian stamps possess, in concentrated form, all those particular attractions which fascinate the heart of the true philatelist and student. Needless to say there are many other keen philatelists who, although their names are not so familiar to stamp collectors as those of the two gentlemen already mentioned, are ardent students and devotees.

Should any of these advanced philatelists chance to read these words they will I am sure agree with me that I am right in advising my readers, who have not already done so, to pay attention to the stamps that emanate from the land of the Southern Cross.

It is only by patient study that anything can be accomplished in the philatelic world. Remembering this, I hope my readers will not be too critical, as I have yet a good deal to learn, and unlearn, regarding philately. Nevertheless, I trust my forthcoming papers may contain some information which will be of interest to the general collector as well as to the philatelist of more limited tastes.

Next month I hope to get down to business, commencing with the stamps of South Australia.

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## New Leaves to Cut.

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### THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST.

THE YEAR BOOK OF THE AMERICAN  
PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

We have received a copy of this capital handbook which is sent free to all members of the great American Society. Capitally gotten up, it is alone well worth the annual subscription that entitles members, both in the States and abroad, to receive the numerous benefits conferred by a membership of the American Philatelic Society.

Consisting of 244 pages, it contains a great amount of interesting matter, interesting alike to members and non-members of the Society.

Mr. John N. Luff, the President of the American Philatelic Society contributes a comprehensive review of the postal issues of Egypt. Messrs. D. M. Berthold and J. M. Bartels are responsible for a capably written paper dealing with rare U.S.A. envelopes, while Mr. C. A. Howes and others, help, with well written articles, to make the Year Book a grand success.

We do not know whether others than members of the American Philatelic Society will receive the *American Philatelist*, but Mr. Willard O. Wylie, a gentleman well known to British collectors, will, we feel sure, be pleased to send particulars on application. His address is 104, Hanover Street, Boston, U.S.A.

### GREAT BRITAIN LINE-ENGRAVED STAMPS.

\*By FRED J. MELVILLE.

WE have received from Mr. W. H. Peckitt the first of the Melville Stamp Books. This work deals exhaustively with the line-engraved stamps of Gt. Britain, and is truly a masterpiece of elegance and cheapness.

Mr. Melville, the author, has provided his readers with a most interesting little booklet of nearly ninety pages, every one of which contains information of interest and value. Mr. Melville could not have chosen a better subject for his work than the line-engraved stamps, for they appeal to a very wide circle of collectors, all of whom would do well to invest in a copy of No. 1 of the Stamp Books.

Throughout the book there are numerous illustrations, including portraits of Sir Rowland

\*Published by the Melville Stamp Books, 47, Strand, W.C. Price 6d.

Hill, Charles Heath and many others, while there are many excellent blocks which portray the subtle differences between Dies 1 and 2; how stamps are transferred from the roll to the plate, what an "ivory" head is, the difference between the "thin" and "thick" lines on the twopenny stamps, and the dozen and one other interesting details that help to make the study of our early stamps the science it is.

It would be hard to enumerate any particulars likely to be of interest to the collector, that Mr. Melville has not already thought of and described. Double letters, double perfs., errors of lettering, blued papers, guide lines, inverted watermarks, retouched corner letters, worn plates, and a hundred other interesting details are all fully mentioned, with the result that collectors will have a renewed zest in looking through their duplicates for hitherto unlooked-for varieties.

The first chapter, dealing as it does with the actual manufacture of the stamps themselves, is alone well worth the modest sum asked for the whole book. It deals exhaustively with the design, how it was engraved, (from a drawing made from the portrait of Her Majesty on Wyons medal), on a steel die, how transferred to a transfer roll, how again transferred to the printing plate, how the engine-turned background was added, or rather how the engraved "head" was added to the background, and so on until the stamps were printed, the gum added, and they were actually ready to be issued.

The remaining six chapters are all nearly as interesting and we must again compliment Mr. Melville on his latest success.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Australian Commonwealth.** In the November *Journal* we chronicled the 5/- stamp with bar added to the figure of value. The *Australian Philatelist* now states that all the postage dues from 1/- to 20/- have been issued with the bar after the numeral.

**Solomon Islands Protectorate.** Mr. J. A. Leon and Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have kindly shown us complete sets of the new stamps for these islands.

In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* we find the following details:—

"The stamps were printed by Messrs. De La Rue by the line-engraved process, probably from steel plates, the design being practically that of the last issue, although the stamps are reduced to the usual dimensions. We have authoritative information that the number of stamps received at Tulagi was as follows:

1720	sheets of	½d.	..	103,200	stamps.
1749	..	1d.	..	104,940	..
1697	..	2d.	..	101,820	..
1726	..	2½d.	..	103,560	..
506	..	5d.	..	30,360	..
520	..	6d.	..	31,200	..
508	..	1/-	..	30,480	..



*Adhesives.* Multiple CA., ordinary paper.

- 3d. green.
- 1d. carmine.
- 2d. greyish slate.
- 2½d. ultramarine.
- 5d. olive.
- 6d. purple.
- 1/- black on green.

**Canada.** The new 50c. King's Head stamp is to hand. The design is the same as that of the other values.

*Adhesive.*  
50c. violet.

**Gold Coast.** A correspondent has sent us copies of the new 1d. stamp. This stamp, although mentioned in our June number, has not yet been formally chronicled.

*Adhesive.* New design, with value in lower corners on a triangular shield.  
Wmk. multiple CA., ordinary paper.  
1d. carmine.

The *Colonial Office Journal* announces that the Gold Coast "has decided to adopt the new colour scheme and 6d. stamps have been supplied in accordance with it."

**Leeward Islands.** The *Colonial Office Journal* says these islands have decided to adopt the new colour scheme.

**Natal.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the receipt of three of the new stamps inscribed "Postage—Postage."

*Adhesives.* Corrected design. King's Head, multiple CA., ordinary paper.  
2/- blue and lilac on blue.  
5/- red and green on yellow.  
£1 black and lilac on red.

The 6d., 1/-, 2/6, and 10/- stamps will be issued shortly.

**New Hebrides.** We have received from a correspondent a full set of the new stamps. These startling novelties, two of which are illustrated below, are the current Fijian stamps surcharged "New Hebrides Condominium" in two lines.



- Adhesives.*
- 1d. green.
  - 1d. carmine.
  - 2d. purple and orange.
  - 2½d. blue.
  - 3d. purple and mauve.
  - 4d. .. black.
  - 5d. .. green.
  - 6d. .. carmine.
  - 1/- green and carmine.

**New Zealand.** In the June number of this journal we chronicled the £1 postal fiscal stamp as having been overprinted "Official." We also described this stamp as being an absurdity for which there was no earthly use. In the December number of this journal we published a letter from Messrs. Wilcox, Smith and Co., of Dunedin, the well-known New Zealand dealers, who stated that they had seen "two copies legitimately used to Europe."

In the November number of the *Australian Philatelist* we find the following very interesting information:

"NEW ZEALAND OFFICIALS. — Mr. A. T. Bate writes: 'I noticed some time ago reference was made to a 10/- (or was it a £) stamp surcharged 'Official.' This was never used postally, but simply in connection with the P.O. vouchers. Most of the 2/- and 5/- passed as postally used are in the same category. The stamps were taken off vouchers by a junior in the G.P.O. The cancellation, however, gives the high value stamps away. Any genuinely used would undoubtedly be used for heavy packages, and would be cancelled with the ordinary circular hand stamp. Those off the vouchers bear the machine stamp, consisting of lines, &c., with which you are no doubt familiar.'"

**Papua.** The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles two marked shades of the current 2½d. stamp (permanent type).

**St. Vincent.** The *Colonial Office Journal* reports as follows:—"St. Vincent has ordered a supply of 2/- and 5/- postage and revenue stamps, to be printed from the Universal King's Head key-plate, in the colours allocated to their values, in the list given in our last issue. The new 6d. and 1/- stamps were despatched at the end of November. The new 1d. stamp plate is in hand, embodying certain small improvements, which will be found in the 6d. and 1/- stamps referred to above."

**Tasmania.** The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the current 10/- stamp, perforated 11.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11.  
10/- mauve and brown.

**Travancore.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles a new 4 cash stamp.

*Adhesive.*  
4 cash, pink.

**Virgin Islands.** The *Colonial Office Journal* announces that in future these Islands will adopt the new colour scheme for their stamps.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Argentine Republic.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles a fourth value of the new San Martin type.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Sun. Perf. 13, 13½.  
12c. dull orange.

**Belgian Congo.** We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. two novelties, namely, the 5c. and 10c. stamps surcharged as per the following illustration.



*Adhesives.*  
5c. green and black.  
10c. red

**French Colonies. Martinique.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us the following three low values, one of which we illustrate.



*Adhesives.*  
1c. yellow-brown and purple-brown.  
2c. olive green  
4c. marone and purple-brown.

**Holland.** The 15c. stamp in new colours has now made its appearance.

*Adhesive.* Perf. 12½.  
15c. rose and blue.

**Hungary.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles another of the Postage Dues with the small perforation.

*Postage Due.* Perf. 15.  
5f. green.

**Rio de Oro.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that they have just received a new provisional stamp consisting of the 1 peseta of 1907, overprinted with the words "Habilitado para 15 cents" in an oval in violet.

**Salvador.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us specimens of the current 1c. stamp and the 3c. official stamp surcharged "Deficiencia De Franqueo."

**Siam.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us four startling novelties from this country while *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles a fifth! namely an 8a. stamp.

The stamps in question consist of the below values surcharged Jubilee 1868-1908, in English and Siamese inscriptions.



*Adhesives.* 1906 issue overprinted.  
1a. green and yellow.  
3a. green.  
4a. on 5a. rose and carmine.  
8a. olive-bistre and dull black.  
18a. pale and deep red-brown.

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* says the 8 atts stamps were sold out in a few minutes after the opening of the Post Offices!

The same journal chronicles a new series of high values.

*Adhesives.*  
1 tical green and violet.  
2 ticals lilac-rose and orange.  
3 .. yellow-green and blue.  
5 .. lilac and olive green.  
10 .. colours?  
20 .. ..  
40 .. ..

From the same source we extract the following information:

"The sheets of the recently chronicled 9 on 10 atts blue contain an error in the Siamese setting, the word 'att' being spelt 'hatt.' The English figure 9 in the surcharge is also larger. The error 'hatt' only occurs once on the sheet and about 400 sheets had been surcharged before it was noticed and corrected."

What an horrible haccident.

**Switzerland.** Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. kindly send us specimens of the new 2c. stamp. We have also received the new 1f. stamps. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 40c. stamp in a modified design. The alteration consisting in the initials "CL" only appearing on the rock on which "Helvetia" is seated, instead of the full inscription "C. L'Epplateunier." In *Gibbons Weekly* we also find a new 25c. stamp chronicled.

*Adhesives.* Modified design, initials "C.L." only.  
40c. orange and yellow.

Current type.  
25c. blue.  
1f. green and claret.

New design.  
24c. bistre.

**United States.** Mr. E. Wilson kindly sends us a sheet of the new 1c. stamps while Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. are the first in



the field with the 3c., 4c., 5c. and 8c. stamps. The 1c., like the 2c. stamp, chronicled last month has not the value expressed in numerals. The higher values however all conform to the new scheme.

*Adhesives.*  
1c. green.  
3c. purple.  
4c. brown.  
5c. blue.  
8c. olive-green.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* also chronicles a new 10c. Special Delivery stamp, describing it as follows:—

“The Special Delivery stamp was issued on Monday. The design shows a large oblong tablet inscribed U.S. Postage Special Delivery. The hat of Mercury is the principal device. The stamp is nearly square.

*Special Delivery Stamp.*  
10c. dark green.

## Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

DEAR SIR,

The enclosed notice issued to-day *re* Natal stamps may be of interest in connection with your very interesting Journal. To us here, this comes as quite a shock, as, although it was rumoured a little time back that Revenue stamps were to take the place of the present higher values available for both Postage and Revenue, it was not anticipated that such a drastic reform was contemplated and we thought the “combined” ones would have been used up in the ordinary way first and the separate ones “worked in” as the “combined” stock gave out.

Yours faithfully,

W. PERCY WILLIAMS.

P.O. Box 100,  
Durban (Natal),  
10/12/08.

### NATAL STAMPS.

#### NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL.

The combined “postage and revenue” stamps of all denominations from 6d. to £1 (inclusive) have now been withdrawn from public use, and are being substituted by separate issues, as follows:—Postage: 6d.,\* 1s.,\* 2s., 2s. 6d.,\* 5s., 10s.,\* and £1. Revenue: 6d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s. and £1.

For the present, however, the denominations marked thus \* are not on sale, and until they are, the combined “postage and revenue” stamps of these values will be available at the public counters at Maritzburg and Durban for telegrams and cablegrams only, and for no other purpose. They are not, therefore, to be used for postage or for stamping deeds or other documents.

TO THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

DEAR SIR,

### DAMAGED STAMPS.

Referring to your note on page 248 of this month's issue, I have sent stamps to the following places to be exchanged, on the ground that they were badly centred, and of no use to me as a collector.

*St. Kitts.* Sent six 2/6, and received six 2/6 in exchange, as badly centred as those I sent out. Returned the six stamps and received a quantity of other values, well centred. Enclosed a small fee for the service, but it was declined.

*B. Somaliland.* Sent over 30/- worth, asking for same values, or the high values, in exchange. Returned with the remark that all stamps in the Treasury were as badly centred as those I sent out. Quite incorrect, for I never saw the high values badly centred.

*Fiji Islands.* Sent out fourteen 1/- stamps badly centred, and received back fourteen well centred.

*Gold Coast.* Sent out about 30/- worth, chiefly badly centred, but including a £1 stamp with corner torn off. Received back same values, well centred.

*O.R.C.* Sent out a number of badly centred stamps. Received them all back; refused to exchange.

*W. Australia, South Australia, New South Wales.* Sent parcels of stamps to these Colonies, and all were exchanged, but in one case (I forget which) 10% on the face value was charged.

*Northern Nigeria.* Sent out two 10/- stamps to be exchanged. Received back two well centred stamps of same value.

In each case I enclosed from 1/6 to 2/6, as commission for the service. In most cases this was refused and stamps sent for the amount. I quite forget who charged me 10% for the exchanging, but believe it was the N.S.W. people.

By the way, the N.S.W. people have old stock in hand, for they sent me a 5/- stamp catalogued at 20/- and a 3d. stamp catalogued at 1/-.

Yours truly,

H. A. CRESSWELL.

149, Burnt Ash Hill,  
Lee, S.E.,  
December 19/08.

TO THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

DEAR SIR,

### N.Z. PICTORIALS.

I have read J.A.L.'s notes on New Zealand Pictorials in your last issue with some interest, which was not diminished by a few inaccuracies they contained. These, I trust, you will allow me to point out. The author says that the threepenny and sixpenny values in the reduced size have a minute dot between the

stamps in the horizontal rows, from which we are led to infer that the shilling value bears no such dot. The contrary is however the case, as J.A.L. might easily have discovered by a little more careful use of the magnifying glass.

Then, as regards the  $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$  comb used in 1906, J.A.L. states that it was applied to the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. values. This is correct as far as the latter is concerned, but I am very sceptical as to the existence of the former. I have seen most of the specialised collections of these stamps, and have never yet met with this variety, and shall continue to doubt its existence until a block of it can be produced. The list of stamps imperf. between I can supplement by the addition of the 1d. on Cowan watermarked paper, dull gum, perf. 14 horizontally and imperf. vertically.

I enclose my card, and am, sir, yours faithfully,

"ONEHUNGA."

11th January, 1909.

## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

AFTER perusing the many pussy cat editorials that have appeared in the philatelic press of recent months, together with a number of unnecessary space fillers in the shape of articles compiled with the aid of a good encyclopædia and a few old catalogues, it is a great treat to pick up the last few numbers of the *Philatelic Journal of India* and read one of Editor Crofton's straight from the shoulder home thrusts. In the November number he had something to say about the Royal Society and amateur dealers, with the result that a few collectors who dearly love a title, and mouth the term "my friend the Dook" with nauseating frequency, have taken Mr. Crofton's remarks to heart. Amateur dealers forsooth. Of course not. How could A or B or C, who merely purchase (usually at lower rates than real collectors secure) whole countries en bloc, with the view of re-selling immediately, as the A or the B or the C collection, how can they be possibly considered dealers?

Talking of collector dealers reminds me that one of that advertising ilk wrote me some time ago to the effect that he had a nice lot of stamps of a certain country, in which he knew I was interested, and that, after the Prince of Wales had seen them, I should be favoured with a sight of the Royal rejects!

As loyal a subject as could be found in Great Britain, I, nevertheless, don't fancy any of my stamps any the more because H.R.H. has, or has not had a sight of them.

I have wandered rather from my subject, namely, the recent capital editorials that the *P.J. of I.* has contained. The December

number actually warns its readers against buying current colonial stamps, likewise to refrain from buying current minor varieties at exorbitant prices, also to avoid, like the plague, stamps that are boomed!

Really Mr. Crofton, how can you so ruthlessly trample on the tender susceptibilities of so many collectors. No wonder India is in an unsettled condition. But isn't it good to read a little common sense now and again?

In the Major Evans' number of *G.S.W.* it is very instructive to notice the countries that are represented in the New Issue columns. Below is the list and readers will I am sure agree with me that it would be almost impossible to gather together a more representative crew of philatelic (?) undesirables: Brunei, Canada, Crete, Ecuador, Nicaragua, North Borneo, Nyassa, Paraguay and Rio de Oro. A sweet smelling little group, with the exception of poor old Canada, who has been drawn into bad company of late years, there isn't a country represented but whose whole postal system shouldn't be done away with.

Fancy subscribing to a new issue service to secure the latest Ecuadors, Nicaraguas, Paraguays, etc. No wonder Don Cipriano Castro doesn't want to go back to that part of the world again.

I don't like the idea of grinding out a monthly stamp book, but by jove the first of the series is an eye-opener. Have you seen it? Mr. Melville has achieved a very great triumph and I guess that the man who can go one better, as far as interesting information, good illustrations, and general daintiness are concerned, will have to get up very early. Buy a copy and see if you don't think likewise.

"Tancred," who doesn't like perforations, thinks that some of the recent Bosnian stamps, those with the sanguinary perfs., would have been better had they been perforated by a "harrow machine" so that the 240 or so stamps could have a different perforation gauging from  $1\frac{1}{2}$ —40. Not a bad idea Farmer Tancred, the only additional suggestion that I can make is that the stamps would have been better had they been also chain harrowed, disc harrowed, trypod harrowed, and sulky harrowed and then ploughed in six inches deep by a good old three furrow stump jump plough.

A week or so ago Mr. F. Martin Duncan gave an extremely interesting lecture at the London Institution, his subject being, "Romance of Animal Life." One of the anecdotes he relates is as follows:

Sammy, the white bear, which recently died, had a mania for collecting, his particular hobby being ladies' umbrellas and parasols. These he obtained by exercising a little ingenuity. On days when the collecting mania was very strong he would reserve some of the fish he had been given for his dinner, tear it into pieces, and by an effort of standing on his hind legs push a piece under the grating at the top of the pit. Then he would sit on his haunches, looking miserable,

until a lady with an umbrella would come along, see the fish and say, "Poor thing; someone has put his fish where he can't get it." Then she would attempt to push it over, and in a moment, by a dexterous grab, Sammy and the umbrella would join company. In this way he often collected a dozen umbrellas and parasols in an afternoon.

Poor old Sammy, one of these days, if the Chief of the Transmigration of Souls Department is kind, he (Sammy) will turn up in Kent or Sussex and collect "King's Heads" and "Cayman Islands."

Needless to say the McTavish hopes to look in at Manchester next month. So many well known collectors will be there that it would be a shame to disappoint them, wouldn't it? Besides that I want to hear the Band.

Those scoffers who cannot see any interest in British stamps used abroad, should have been at the International Philatelic Union meeting last week, when Mr. W. H. Moore's collection was handed round. It was a superb display, many of the stamps being unique, while the garden variety of the 2/- brown was there in its dozens. Even the I.P.U.'s tame inveterate grumbler could only gurgle out that it was very fine, but it was a pity the stamps were all used.

I hear that the last number of the S.C.F. suddenly went into mourning. Why I wonder? Perhaps the staff was too busy playing chess. At any rate I remember that the last time Mr. Telfer whopped me over the chequered board he was very careful to guard his bishop safely before he rooked.



## January 1909, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1908-9.

*Hon. President:* HIS HONOUR JUDGE PHILBRICK, K.C.

*Hon. Vice-Presidents:*

W. DORNING BECKTON. H. L. HAYMAN. H. R. OLDFIELD.  
VERNON ROBERTS.

*President:* J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.

*Vice-Presidents:*

W. SCHWABACHER. L. W. FULCHER. W. SCHWARTZ.

*Committee:*

P. P. BROWN.	A. B. KAY.	W. E. LINCOLN.
W. J. BOVILL.	W. S. KING.	DR. MARX, M.A.
W. HADLOW.	MAJOR LAFFAN, R.E.	F. H. OLIVER.
J. E. JOSELIN.	F. F. LAMB.	P. L. PEMBERTON.
	E. W. WETHERELL.	

*Hon. Sec. & Treasurer:* T. H. HINTON.

*Hon. Exchange Superintendent:* DR. E. F. MARX, M.A.

*Hon. Counterfeit Detector:* W. HADLOW.

*Hon. Librarian:* W. S. KING.

*Hon. Solicitors:* MESSRS. OLDFIELDS.

## MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and Subscription, 5/-, should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members, not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

The following is now proposed in accordance with the above:—Senor Luis Perez Hernandez, Parana, Argentina; proposed by H. Thompson, seconded by T. H. Hinton.

## NOTICES.

The third meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, 14th inst., when there were present J. C. Sidebotham (in the Chair), Guy Semple, F. F. Lamb, J. E. Joselin, Alt. H. L. Giles, C. Nissen, Oswald Marsh, A. B. Kay, W. Schwarte, W. Hadlow, P. L. Pemberton, F. H. Oliver, and visitors V. Gregory Owen Fearnley, H. J. Bignold, Herbert F. Johnson, and the Hon. Sec. W. W. H. Moore being unfortunately unable to be present, Mr. Guy Semple kindly undertook, on his behalf, the display of his very fine specialised collection of English stamps used abroad. This extensive collection includes many fine and unique things, amongst others many 2/- brown, 5/- and 10/- stamps, and a fine lot of West Indian and South American in addition to very complete sets of the European issues; also many scarce Crimean and South African War issues and curiosities on entire originals. The display was followed with keen interest by all present and on its conclusion a hearty and unanimous vote of thanks to Mr. Moore for sending the collection and to Mr. Semple for kindly displaying it, was moved by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Joselin and carried. A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded a very interesting evening.

The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall, on February 11th, at 8 p.m., when Mr. R. B. Yardley has kindly undertaken to give a display of his Collection of Trinidad. All members and any visitors are cordially invited to attend.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union.  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

January 16th, 1909.



JAN. 20, 1909.

## Philately at Home.

The *London Philatelist* for December contains a further long instalment of Mr. Frank H. Melland's article dealing with the stamps of the British South Africa Co. The portion of Mr. Melland's paper relating to the fiscal and postal cancellations to be found on these stamps is particularly interesting. He writes as follows:—

Postally cancelled stamps have a postal cancellation, almost invariably in black (though in a few newly opened offices it has been for some time in violet), and, with one exception, always have the word "RHODESIA" and never "THE BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY." The one exception is that a few offices in N.E.R. had at one time (1900-1) a small-sized, round cancelling stamp with "B.S.A.C." instead of the name of the office. Secondly, the postal cancelling stamps have always the date in the centre. Thirdly, they are when round—some are square—always smaller than the round Revenue cancelling stamps. The same remark as to size applies to the B.C.A. stamps, where the postal cancellations have a much smaller circumference than the fiscal cancellation stamps.

Thus, to sum up, if a stamp has a cancelling mark on it which contains the words "BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY" instead of the name of the post office, and "RHODESIA" (or "N.E. RHODESIA" or "N.W. RHODESIA"), or if it has not the date in the centre, or if the circumference is large, giving a diameter of about 34 mm., then it is a fiscally cancelled stamp.

Baron Percy de Worms contributes a short paper dealing with the perforations of the 10d. star, Ceylon. In a recent number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* it was suggested that this stamp might possibly exist perforated  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ . Baron de Worms clearly proves that this combination could not possibly be found, in fact his evidence is so conclusive that we feel sure Mr. Crofton will be one of the first to admit that the 10d. stamp does not and could not exist perf.  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ , unless in the form of a trial perforation, an extremely unlikely supposition. The usual features, and a prospectus of the forthcoming Amsterdam Exhibition complete a good number of our contemporary.

The *Philatelic Record* for December con-

tains the announcement that, commencing with the January number, the *Record* will be under new management. The following extract briefly explains the reasons for this unexpected change.

This is the last occasion on which the present Editor will have the pleasure and privilege of extending greetings to those who for so long have been such kindly critics and friends, and our words are peculiarly halting under such conditions. After the issue of the present number the *Philatelic Record* will undergo a change in management, brought about mainly owing to the fact that those who have guided its fortunes during the past eight years can no longer devote the time which such work demands, and also because they have felt at times a staleness creeping over them, and recognise that the Journal will greatly benefit by the infusion of new blood. Yet when the moment comes to say good-bye, how hard it is to do so! We can assure our readers that an affection exists between us and the *Philatelic Record*, and it is not without many pangs of regret that we lay aside our pen, but our task is made the easier by the knowledge that those who will follow us in the editorial chair are not only eminent philatelists, but are animated by the same feelings towards the Journal as ourselves.

Mr. B. T. R. Smith concludes his excellent article on "The Stamps of Liberia." Mr. Alfred Moschkau, the well-known German collector is the Notable Philatelist.

Mr. I. J. Bernstein concludes his paper entitled "The Universal Postal Union," and Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg brings to a finish his admirable article on "The Lithographed Queensland Stamps of 1881." The usual New Issue list and a capital selection of "Notes" completes the December *Record*.

Number 2 of the *Philatelic World* is a capital production, full of articles of genuine interest. Mr. Séfi describes and illustrates three minor varieties of the 3d. Beaver Canadian stamp. These "varieties" are really "double strikes" and the following description is of interest.

The double strike generally occurs in a downward direction, or occasionally towards the right. It may be distinguished as follows:—In the ordinary stamp the design is enclosed in a double-lined rectangle, the space between which is quite clear, but in the double strike we always find that part of the "3" cuts through the inside line and encroaches on the white space between the lines.

We are likewise informed that the double strike occurs on all the various papers.

Mr. Séfi, in common with other collectors of early Canadian stamps, has found that blocks of these stamps in a used condition are exceedingly scarce. The following is a very likely explanation of their rarity.

When the officials in the post offices received a supply of stamps they promptly proceeded, with the help of a knife and ruler, to cut the sheets into horizontal strips. This done, they were ready to cut off, probably with a pair of scissors, as many stamps as were required by their customers. Thus it is that, while the top and bottom of these stamps are generally evenly cut, one frequently finds them cut into on the sides.

Another article of real value, from the pen of the same writer, is a continuation of his paper on "The 'Silk Thread' Issues of Switzerland." In the course of the current instalment, Mr. Séfi points out, and illustrates by means of enlarged photographs, several interesting little "flaws" that appear to be constant on the various printings of the 5 rappen stamps. The most noticeable consists of a small line, projecting in a downward direction, from the left-hand side of the "R" of Rappen. In the course of this article the author describes briefly each value. Dealing with the 10 Rappen stamp on red thread paper, he says:—

The 10 rap. did not appear until August 18th, 1856. The colour was a milky-blue, and the thread red. I have this stamp on paper as thin as the thinnest Munich, but it seems extremely scarce, the paper usually met with being medium to thick.

That the red (carmine) thread stamps should be catalogued by S.G. as only appearing on thick paper is manifestly absurd, not only are they found on paper equally as thin as that used for the early Munich and Berne stamps, but are fairly common in this state. Surely Mr. Séfi is in error in describing them as seeming extremely scarce.

A long translated instalment of Capt. P. Ohrt's "Handbook of all Known Reprints of Government Postage stamps and entires, showing how to distinguish them" and a number of other interesting items complete a capital number of our youngest contemporary.

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, dated December 19th, contains, among other interesting matter, a short article contributed by Mr. C. L. Harte-Lovelace, entitled "Notes on the Postage Stamps of China." Mr. Lovelace has an intimate knowledge of

these stamps and his paper, which deals only with the 1878 type is of great interest. Three sets can apparently be made, namely:—

- A. On thin, transparent paper, measuring in size  $24\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2}$  mm.
- B. On the same paper, but measuring  $26\frac{1}{2} \times 29\frac{1}{2}$  mm.
- C. On thicker, more opaque paper, measuring  $24\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2}$  mm., as in Set A.

Of these three sets the first is the commonest, the second the scarcest.

The following brief extract will be found of interest:—

#### SET A.

This set was first issued in August, 1878.

The sheets were made up of five rows of five, with unusually large margins at the top and bottom, measuring about 40mm., while the side margins were about 5mm. Twenty-five different clichés were evidently used, for I know of at least three distinct settings, in all of which the same varieties appear, but in different positions on the sheet.

The stamps were perforated by a single-line cutter, one punch of which—near the end—was broken. The perforation gauges exactly  $12\frac{1}{2}$  and is quite regular. Consequently the only varieties of perforation to be found are where one line has been missed, and the stamps are consequently imperforate between, either vertically or horizontally.

The stamps belonging to set B. were also made up in five rows of five, but in set C. this setting was varied and we find the clichés were set closer together and five rows only containing four stamps.

Mr. Lovelace's article contains a lot of very readable information, one item of which is that the writer has three specimens of the 1 candarin (set B) on water-marked paper. The watermark consists of the letters "O.N" and is clearly part of the paper maker's watermark. As several thousands of these stamps have been examined for watermarks and only three specimens found showing traces, it is quite evident that here is a scarce variety well worth looking for.

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* dated December 26th, Major Evans' number, contains a further long, and, as it deals with postcards only, very uninteresting instalment of Mons. L. Hanciau's article entitled "The Postal Issues of the Danish Colonies."

The first instalment of what promises to be an extremely interesting article entitled "Malta Post Office; a History of the P.O. and the Stamps of Malta," contributed by Lieut. W. R. Gatt; three pages of the Editor's "Philatelic Notes and Queries"; an instalment of the article on Orcha stamps, and a reprinted paper from the *P. J. of India*, dealing with the stamps of Bhor and Orcha, completes the list of contributions, outside the usual New

Issues List and Societies Report pages. In Lieut. Gatt's article we find a wealth of early Maltese postal lore. The following is a readable extract:—

In 1859, I find that the conveyance of the country mails was done by an omnibus company, at an annual remuneration of less than £100; in addition there was a sum of £40 voted by Council for the mails between Malta and Gozo, St. Julians, Sliema, and Valletta.

Important local letters were seldom entrusted to the Island Post Office at all. Moreover, as though to accentuate the uncertainty of the local post, letters were not as a matter of course delivered at their addresses, but were left at the Police Stations to be called for, unless they were prepaid an extra half-penny; whilst insufficiently prepaid and registered letters were not sent out for delivery at all (except to Gozo), but remained at the local Post Office until the addressee happened to go there in search of correspondence.

Contemporaneously with the Island Post Office there was a Crown establishment of the Post Office, which dealt with the correspondence for abroad, the revenue derived from the postage going into Imperial funds. The work was supervised by a Packet Agent. The earliest date of such appointment that I could find was 1817, when Mr. Robert Macnab was made Packet Agent.

In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, for January 2nd, we find the first instalment of what promises to be a very interesting paper on the "Stamps of Belgium," contributed by M. Ch. De Bont. We have not space for lengthy extracts, but the following short list of varieties, to be found of the two stamps comprising the first issue, will be found acceptable by our readers.

The stamps of this issue may be found unwatermarked, but such specimens are extremely rare, and come from the edges of the sheets. Specimens may also be found which show double figures in the upper corners, together with a border line, which is not found in ordinary copies; these are met with in both values.

The 20 centimes, pale blue, is known with a large thick "0" in "20."

There exist copies of the 10 and 20 centimes having a line drawn across them in either red or black ink. This species of cancellation was replaced later by a stamp reading "Specimen."

Varieties are also known in both values, that show not only the ordinary watermark in frame, but also a second watermark consisting of one of the letters of the inscription "Ministère des travaux Publics—Bruxelles Belgique—Postes" (Ministry of Public Works—Brussels—Belgium—Posts).

The first issue of stamps was, by-the-by, issued in three distinct printings as follows:—

The Stamp Office produced these stamps in three distinct printings: the first printing dates from May, 1849, and comprises 2,600,000 copies, all on thick paper; of this quantity 1,450,000 were the 10 centimes, deep brown, and the balance, 1,150,000, the 20 centimes, deep blue.

The second printing was made on wove paper towards the end of the same year. It comprised a greater number of stamps; actually 3,000,000 of the 10 centimes, grey-brown, and 3,600,000 of the 20 centimes in two shades, pale blue and milky blue.

Lastly, the third printing took place, during April, 1850, on a fairly thin paper; it did not comprise a

great quantity of stamps, there being only 800,000 of the 10 centimes, brown, and 500,000 of the 20 centimes in both deep and pale blue.

Stamps of this last printing sometimes occur showing the whole of the impression quite clearly on the back.

The *Philatelic Adviser*, for December, contains a capital article dealing with the 1868-72 Stamps of Mexico. Mr. Wetherell heads his article, "Philately in its Shirt Sleeves" a very appropriate title as he has literally taken his coat off and "gone" for 80 or so 12c. stamps, (or is it 25c. stamps he is writing about?) with the result that the discovery has been made that ten types of this stamp exist. Mr. Wetherell's description of his methods, as usual, is most interesting.

The *P. A.* also contains an excellent little article entitled "Perforations," wherein Mr. Wetherell discourses many words of great wisdom. We make the following long extract:—

The relative importance of perforation varieties differs enormously in the case of different countries. For instance, the 12½ and 14 of De la Rue and the 14 and 16 of Perkins, Bacon have come to be considered as prime varieties, partly because of their actual importance and partly because they have been listed in standard catalogues for very many years and have been recognised as important since philately was born. There are many other countries in which perforations play an important part, for the same reasons as mentioned above, such as early Australians, British Guiana, etc. Then again there are those countries whose perforations are important, but of which the differences have been worked out only during the last ten years or so, and these lack the glory which long-standing "catalogue rank" would give them—such as Holland, where not only the gauge is important, as it indicates time, but the sizes of the holes have to be taken into account.

Then in the case of many other countries, such as Austria, Bosnia, and modern Australians, the variations lack most of their importance for the simple reason that many of the machines are in concurrent use by the same manufacturers, and it is just a matter of chance or of convenience which one happens to be used for a particular batch of stamps. Unfortunately many of these have attained to catalogue rank although in many cases quite unworthy of it.

The following list, although by no means as complete as it might be, is an excellent one.

Primary Importance.	Secondary Importance.
De la Rue perforations.	Portugal.
Perkins Bacon ..	Roumania.
Holland.	Greece.
Luxemburg.	Early Bosnia.
Transvaal.	Sweden.
Early Australians.	Montenegro.
Belgium.	Middle Austrians.
Russia.	Middle Austrians.
Early Austria (eagles).	Mexico (simple).
Bavaria.	Bolivar.
Denmark.	South Americans.

Slight Importance.  
Recent Austrians.  
Recent Australians.  
Recent Bosnia.  
Compound Mexico.

When it is remembered that Mr. Wetherell considers perforation gauges "an unmitigated nuisance," or at least did so some years ago, when we had the pleasure of interviewing him on behalf of our readers, his views, those of an advanced philatelist, will be highly valued. The following short paragraph is distinctly good.

Bosnia is shocking, and to consider the modern compounds as interesting seems to me to be on a par with the man who collected books and arranged them by the colours of their bindings.

A comprehensive "New Issue" list, and other good features help to make the December *Philatelic Adviser* a very good production.

We have received the 1908 volume of *Morley's Philatelic Journal*, from the "Editoria" we cull the following:—

With the close of the December number of last year various articles are left unfinished, as well as the supplement catalogue of the Revenue stamps of the United States, Mexico, and Central America. As our publisher felt that it would be unsatisfactory to relinquish the *Journal* in this incomplete state, he has decided to issue the numbers for this year altogether in one volume and this we now offer to our readers, with the hope that they may not find its contents without interest.

The contents of the volume before us are of great interest to the collector of Fiscal stamps. Mr. W. Morley is responsible for a capital paper on "The Revenue Stamps of Belgium," and other contributions. Dr. F. Kalkhoff writes about the "Cigarette Duty Bands of Germany," while last, but not least, Mr. L. W. Fulcher contributes a long and masterly article dealing exhaustively with "The Revenue Stamps of Japan." This article is well illustrated and should prove of great value to collectors of Fiscal and Postage stamps alike.

Although only catering to the wants of the collector of Revenue stamps *Morley's Journal* is an old friend and we shall miss its periodical visits.

The November and December numbers of the *British Philatelist* contain a good deal of information likely to be of great value to the specialist in British stamps. In the earlier number will be found illustrations of the 1/- octagonal stamp printed in brown, the colour afterwards adopted for the tenpenny value.

In the December number will be found an illustration, and particulars of a forgery of the 2d. blue, imperf. with lines. The following extract contains full particulars:

We have lately seen *proofs*—times are advancing!—of extremely well-executed forgeries of certain British stamps, which we intend to chronicle as a warning, more to collectors than to the authorities, the stamps imitated having been demonetised by that wonderfully drawn Official Notice which appeared in the *London Gazette* of 19th April, 1901.

The first to be mentioned is the TWOPENCE, blue, with lines, plate 9. This forgery has evidently been produced by the photogravure process, and seems to be practically correct in every detail; it is printed on a thin, unwatermarked paper, in a violet shade of blue, such as is found only in the printings from the later plates. Printed in the proper tone of blue, on a thicker paper, it would be sufficiently dangerous to pass the majority of collectors, especially as the watermark—which must be Large Crown for the real stamp—would probably not be examined; the proof is lettered "C J—JC," and is now in the collection of a well-known specialist.

There is a little grain of comfort, however, for we have reason to believe that the prosecutions of the last year have so convinced forgers of the error of their ways that none of the imitations will ever get beyond the "proof" stage.

In the same number of the *B.P.* is a capital article on watermarks.

The *Stamp Lover* for January contains several interesting and instructive articles, chief of which is a paper dealing with "The Twopence (Experimental Plate) Impressions on Dickinson." Mr. L. W. Crouch contributes a second instalment of his capital article dealing with the stamps of Hayti. Mr. C. B. Purdom contributes a paper, entitled, "Philately at a Distance," the following brief extract is worth reproducing as it will doubtless amuse several of our Home and Indian readers.

"Amateur dealing is becoming the bane of the hobby and will in time wreck it. Like all amateur trading it is unsound and does much harm to the true collector and the true dealer. As a trade, the stamp trade can be conducted on as firm and sound lines as any other trade, but the irregular dealing in stamps is unfair to the *bona fide* trader, and destructive to all true philatelic interests. The amateur dealer cannot be relied upon, for he has no reputation to care for, and will generally sell just whatever he can get a man fool enough to buy. Amateur dealing is not a hobby, neither is it healthy trading."

Other good articles help to make the January number of our contemporary a capital production.

The last two numbers of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* have both contained a number of interesting contributions. In the copy dated January 9th, we find a paper dealing with the "N.S.W. Stamped Covers of 1838." Writing of these "envelopes," Mr. P. C. Bishop says:—

The history of the issue can be traced and certified by means of official documents and public notices. Just as Great Britain unquestionably produced the first adhesive stamp, so New South Wales was undoubtedly responsible for the first stamped cover. But of course the two things had, virtually, a common origin. Both were due to proposals for postal reform laid before the British Commissioners by Rowland

Hill. It is in evidence that one James Raymond, who was Postmaster of New South Wales from 1829 to 1851, was instrumental in bringing about the introduction of the stamped covers of 1838. Some credit also must be given to Sir George Gipps, sometime Governor of New South Wales. Sir George began his term of office in February, 1838, and it is probable that before proceeding to the colony he had read, and been much impressed by, the report (1837) of the British Postal Commissioners on Rowland Hill's proposals. The Postmaster of Sydney, was another who had carefully studied Rowland Hill's plans, for under date September 7th, 1838, he wrote to the Colonial Secretary, Sydney, putting before him a cut-and-dried scheme for stamped letter covers. He begins that letter with the words, "Having attentively perused the suggestions of Mr. Rowland Hill —"

The December *West End Philatelist*, is devoted entirely to the first portion of a very valuable article on "The Stamps of the Falkland Islands," by the Editor, Mr. B. W. H. Poole. As the article is not finished we will defer any extended review of it until the appearance of the concluding portion, and will content ourselves with saying that Mr. Poole has given a very simple explanation of certain of the marks found on the stamps, which Mr. Pemberton erroneously termed secret marks, in his article in last month's *P.J.G.B.* These are said to be engravers' guide marks. As regards the dots in the E and lower left spandrel on the one penny stamps, Mr. Poole does not offer any explanation. The article is one of the best and most original that we have read for a long time and we look forward, with much interest, to its completion.

## Philately Abroad.

*Le Journal des Philatélistes.* 30th November.  
31st December, 1908.

Our contemporary, rising to the occasion, gives a very readable resumé of the history of Bulgaria, and refers to the types of certain stamps as illustrative of occurrences during the struggles which have been perennial. On the stamp issued in 1907, commemorative of the twenty-fifth year of the War of Independence, there figures a cannon of such ostensible peculiarity of construction that calls for explanation.

During the revolution of 1875, Bulgaria was ravaged by the Bashi-Bazouks, and the Bulgarians, almost without arms, and distracted by the atrocities of the Turkish hords, constructed several cannons made of cherry-wood, whose shortcomings and frailty were compensated for by the valour of the combatants. One of these cannons, the picture of which appears on the stamp, is preserved in the National Museum at Sophia, and took part in the

festivities held in honour of the anniversary of the Revolution in 1901.

In the December number is given a reproduction of a curious combination of stamps on one envelope. This was posted in the New Hebrides on 30th October, 1908, and bears two 5 centime stamps of New Caledonia side by side with a Fiji 2½d. King's Head, CA single watermark, surcharged "NEW HEBRIDES CONDOMINIUM," the whole an interesting example of a mixed postage consequent upon the dual government of the islands, and the journal under review gives its customary particulars of the circumstances which render such an arrangement possible. The position has given rise to a series of issues from various sources, but it is stated that the present vagaries will be ended either by the cessation of these islands to England in exchange for territory in Sierra Leone or by the creation of stamps for common use.

M. Hanciau contributes to the same number an article on the varieties of the ¼ real 1855-7 of Cuba.

*Le Timbre-Poste.* December, 1908.

This journal records, for what they are worth, three varieties in the surcharge of EAAAΣ on the stamps of Crete. In the first the A is replaced by Δ, in the second the first A is missing, in the third the position of the second A and the A are reversed:—EAAAΔΣ; E AAΣ; EAAAΣ.

Of the last surcharged issue of Rio de Oro, quotes this journal from another French contemporary, very few were issued. The numbers are given as follows:—2c. on 2 pes. 1420; 5c. on fiscal, 950 (two varieties); 10c. on 50 pes. 950; 10c. on 75 pes. 1100; 15c. on 25 pes. 1000.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie.* 15th December, 1908.

The third sale of the Koch collection maintain the reputation for sensational prices established by the two previous sales, and the superb condition and unusual nature of some of the lots receive full recompense at the hands of the buyers. Our contemporary asks whether a wave of insanity passed over the bidders, who, it says, were carried away by the occasion and paid unnecessarily high prices for what could easily have been obtained cheaper in the market. Auction sales are of course, always a temptation, but it is probable that the opportunity for obtaining superb stamps occurs too seldom, and the demand is greater than the supply. All who saw the fine catalogue which M.M. Gilbert and Köhler issued feel sure that the unique pieces would fetch high prices. From a long list we select a few items of special interest:—Baden, 3 kr. imp. on original 220 f. 50; ditto Land-post, 12kr. on original 550f.; Bavaria, 1849, 1kr. block of 12, one tête-bêche 2090f.; ditto, 1895, Postage due, 2pf. on 3pf. (only six copies issued) 5555f.!.; Bremen, 1855, 3gr. complete sheet 244f.; Bergdorf, 1¼sch. on original 330f.



and 396f. !; Brunswick,  $\frac{1}{2}$ sgr. on green, strip of five on original 231of.; Lubeck,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ sch. error, used, 289f. 30; another on original 55of.; ditto, 1862,  $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. lilac, block of four on original 445f. 50; Mecklenburg-Strelitz,  $\frac{1}{2}$ sgr., two pairs on original, 105of. 50; Oldenburg (which was splendidly represented by some beautiful pieces, nearly all of which exceeded catalogue quotations) 1859,  $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. unused, 281f. 50. used 253f., a pair on piece 66of.; 1861, the whole series in blocks of six, unused, 610of. 70; Saxony, 3pf. red, six copies fetching from 203f. to 238f. each; ditto, 1857,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ngr. on blue error, a pair 550f. 10. A collection of Thurn and Taxis essays brought 5291 francs. Throughout the sale, even when prices did not exceed the usual catalogue rates, they approached very near to them, and the consistency with which bidding held firm throughout this sale is quite remarkable. The three catalogues issued by M.M. Gilbert and Köhler reflect the highest credit upon their enterprise, and deserve a place on the shelves of every philatelist as a record of one of the greatest philatelic auctions ever held.

The interesting series of articles on the postmaster issues of the United States is continued in the present number.

From a foot-note to a translation, from Lieutenant Ohrt's monograph, of the status of reprints of various kinds, in the number of *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for 31st December, we are interested to learn that the publishers of this journal have actually in the press the promised French translation of the book as far as issued.

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The December number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* contains another of Mr. Crofton's admirable "Editorials" entitled "On Buying Stamps." The author sounds many warning notes, some of which, although not new are well worth reproducing:—

The investments in V.R.I. stamps during the South African War are well known to have been enormous and we are constantly meeting fresh holders of this class of stuff. It has been bought on the supposition that it will always be worth what was paid for it and is quite likely to bring in very much more. But it was not recognised that the South African governments were under no permanent obligation to redeem all this paper, and the Transvaal has now taken the step which all thoughtful people might have expected, and demitised these issues.

It is not sufficiently well known that unused stamps in bulk are practically unsaleable unless in absolutely mint condition. How often have we been shown sheets that are a little bit off—either creased or stained or minus the gum! On active service and even in the ordinary wear and tear of constant transfers in times of peace, it is exceedingly difficult to keep sheets in prime condition, apart from the ever present possibility of theft.

Avoid like the plague stamps that are boomed, they are sure to come down badly. This applies equally to stamps subjected to a general boom like Mafekings and to those boomed by a particular holder like the Somaliland officials. A good many people have had to accept about a third of what they gave for both these sets. You may take it as certain that a dealer does not put money into advertisements for philanthropic reasons and that he knows a good deal more about the value of stamps than you do. If you are lucky enough to get a chance of buying fashionable stamps at an unfashionable price, take it by all means, but get quit of them at once before the boom dies or the fashion changes. Quick ripening means quick decay.

Mr. Crofton gives other useful and reliable information, most of which could be profitably followed by many of the present-day school of collectors. "The Standardisation of Indian Stamps," "The Six Annas of 1866," "Indian Petition Stamps," "The Current Numbers of Colonial Plates," and "The Nawanagar Alphabet," are all short articles of interest especially to those collectors who specialize in Asiatic stamps. A capital budget of "Notes and News" and some other readable matter completes a very good number of our Indian contemporary.

The November number of the *Australian Philatelist* contains a number of interesting short articles, all dealing with Australian stamps. The following extract, headed "Federal Prospects" is of interest.

### STAMP PRINTING.

The Federal Treasurer in his Budget Speech delivered in the House of Representatives last month said:

"It is proposed to establish at once a Commonwealth Stamp Printing Office, under the control of the Treasury. All stamps required by the Commonwealth, with the exception of New South Wales and Queensland, will be printed in this office. It is intended to transfer Mr. Cooke, who has been in charge of the stamp printing in Adelaide, to take charge of this branch, and it is hoped that a considerable saving in expenditure will result."

It remains to be seen to what extent this change will affect philatelists. It is almost certain that the machinery and plant in the Adelaide office which belongs to the Federal Government will be transferred to Melbourne, and it may be taken for granted that not only will Mr. Cooke endeavour to assimilate the manner of printing the stamps, but will also strive to establish new methods. A glance at the differences in style, colours, and perforations between the South Australians and those of the other three States which have been for some time printed in the Melbourne (State) Printing Office will show the possibilities of the new departure. Something is bound to happen. Moral:—Those collectors who have not completed their sets of the current stamps of South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and West Australia should do so without further delay.

The moral is a good one; all the same, we rather fancy there is no immediate hurry to scramble for current S.A.'s etc.

All the numbers of *Mekeel's Weekly* that come to hand contain interesting information, sometimes in the form of long

articles but more usually contained in short chatty paragraphs. In the copy dated December 19th, Mr. C. B. Bostwick says, concerning Caymans:—

Since I wrote you about the inverted overprint errors of the Cayman Islands, Fifth Provisional, 1d. on 4d., 1908, Postage-and-Revenue type, I have discovered among the few I have, another interesting variety.

I have a vertical pair of these stamps in which the figure one of the overprint has failed to appear, and has been supplied by carefully inking in a figure "1" by hand. On the few of these stamps I have seen, the figures seem to vary in thickness but as far as I can judge, this is merely the natural result of any impressions applied by handstamp. All of them appear to have been overprinted with the same handstamp.

Cayman Island stamps are extremely popular in the States, where, as a rule, recent British Colonials are not very favourably received. Possibly our American cousins are thinking of annexing the Cayman Islands, at the time they confer the freedom of American citizenship on the inhabitants of Jamaica!

In the same number of *Mekeel's* the following list of U.S.A. stamps issued during the year ending June 30th, is published.

Postage Stamps.	Commemorative.	Ordinary.	Postage Due.
1 cent	30,730,300	2,573,458,600	6,607,600
1c. books	—	42,687,360	—
2 cent	49,419,900	4,329,055,000	18,869,400
2c. books	—	276,559,320	—
3 cent	—	50,587,800	602,000
4 cent	—	66,213,800	—
5 cent	2,322,200	105,244,900	1,465,900
6 cent	—	23,952,000	—
8 cent	—	34,965,400	—
10 cent	—	51,549,100	4,969,550
13 cent	—	6,770,700	—
15 cent	—	7,733,120	—
30 cent	—	—	3,630
50 cent	—	439,930	3,630
1 dollar	—	68,890	—
2 dollar	—	1,355	—
5 dollar	—	730	—
10c. special delivery	—	12,119,430	—

**Correspondence.**

TO THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

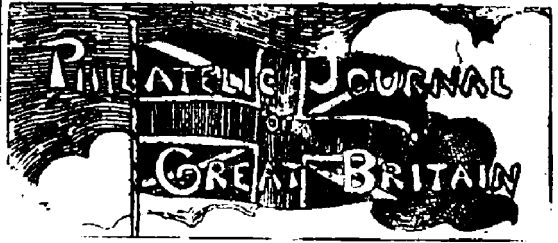
DEAR SIR,

I beg to point out an error in your last month's *P.J. of G.B.* Page 249, entitled "A Clever Post Office Mouse," line 2, "a mice."

Yours, etc.,  
C.S.

Ballymacmoy, Killavullen,  
Co. Cork, Ireland.

[Another instance of how hard it is to please everybody.—ED.]



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**Publishers' Note.**

THE publishers of this journal have taken stall No. 4 at the Manchester Exhibition which is to be held at the Hulme Town Hall, on February 18th, 19th and 20th next. Mr. P. L. Pemberton, himself an old Mancunian, will be in charge and will be very pleased to renew old friendships and also, we hope, make many new ones. The *P.J.G.B.* will, it is needless to say, be on sale at our stall and we trust many of our country subscribers and readers will take this opportunity of inspecting a portion of our stock of stamps.



The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, and the Sheffield Philatelic Society.

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FEB. 20, 1909.

[PRICE 2D.]

## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

ELSEWHERE we publish a letter from a correspondent in which he raises the question regarding the status of damaged *v.* repaired stamps. Needless to say our readers (with probably the one exception of a much advertised collector, who occasionally twists our remarks to suit his own ends), know that at no time

do we advise the collecting **Knowledge** of damaged or repaired **is Power.** stamps (except on behalf of the advanced specialist who frequently takes a quarter of a stamp if by so doing he is likely to advance his studies). Nevertheless we cannot ignore the fact that a great number of collectors prefer to fill a blank space with either a damaged or a repaired stamp, rather than wait until opportunity or wealth permits them to add a perfect specimen to their collection.

Personally we have a great dislike to all stamps that have been tampered with in any respect, and would much rather collect, had we to choose between the two, a stamp that was minus a corner to one that was immaculate in all the glory of faked perforations or margins.

That such stamps exist must be common knowledge to even the beginner in philately—but to what an extent faking is

carried on, is, we think, a sealed secret to the vast body of collectors. Personally we cannot understand how any collector can tolerate any repaired stamp, knowing it to be such, in his collection, but there is no accounting for individual tastes and the fact remains that there is a demand for skilfully-doctored stamps. In some cases the repairer or faker adds a row of perforations to do away with an unsightly(?) blind edge; sometimes he skins the back from one stamp and welds it securely to the back of a badly thinned specimen, while, sometimes, it is a missing corner that is replaced with one from another and yet more badly damaged stamp. These are the dark methods which stamp doctors avail themselves of, all equally reprehensible.

The only weapon which is likely to be of any avail against the wiles of the stamp faker is knowledge, as without experience the collector is very apt to be victimized. To gain an intimate knowledge of all the world's stamps is an impossibility, the next best thing is to thoroughly study the stamps of one or more countries. By so doing the collector reduces the odds of being defrauded to a very remote chance, so remote indeed that the faking community would in all probability go out of

business. That *rara avis*, the general collector is naturally the most easily taken in, as his philatelic knowledge, good as it may be, does not extend from Afghanistan to Zululand, with the result that he falls an easy prey to the rogue who is able to flood the market with faked stamps. The only claim to recognition that repaired stamps can possibly have, is that they are made to look attractive, but surely when a collector realizes that a repaired stamp is only a damaged specimen that has been faked for the pecuniary benefit of some probably very shady individual who would not hesitate to turn his nefarious talents to total forgery, were he able to do so with safety, he would shun all repaired stamps like poison. Although we regret it very much there is no ignoring the fact that a number of

stamps are skilfully repaired and sold as such, each stamp being marked "repaired" on the back. This practice, although to be greatly deplored is fairly harmless.

It is the unscrupulous faker who sells his wares in the hope that they will pass muster as genuine stamps that we should like to see eradicated. Not only does he sicken the specialist, who frequently however has the opportunity of checkmating him, but he frequently so completely disgusts the beginner who becomes aware of his malpractices, that many would-be specialists are lost to our pursuit.

As we have already pointed out, the collector best arms himself by devoting his time to the study of a particular group, thus enabling him to compete more favourably with that very acute person, the faker of stamps.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**British Honduras.** Although we chronicled the 2c. rose some months ago, this stamp appears to have only been actually issued a fortnight ago.

**Cayman Islands.** In *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* we find that the 1d. on 4d. stamp exists with inverted surcharge. In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* we find this variety also chronicled, together with the normal variety, as it is said that some were postally used.

**India.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the issuing of 10 and 15 rupee stamps. It is also understood that there is a 25r. value.

Adhesives. Wmk. Star.  
10 rupees green, frame pink.  
15 " " " brown.

**New Hebrides.** Owing to our publishers telling us last month that they had received a full set of the recently overprinted Fiji stamps, we chronicled the 3d. and 4d. values in error. The full set of New Hebrides Condominium stamps only consists of the ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., 6d. and 1/- values, the 3d. and 4d. Fijians not being overprinted.

**New Zealand.** Our publishers have shown us a truly remarkable variety which evidences the economy practised by the New Zealand authorities. It is a pair of the ½d. pictorial on watermarked Cowan paper, perf. 11 all round, but the two stamps were evidently printed at different times, as the shades are totally different! The stamps are joined together, as in the mixed perf. varieties, with a strip of paper at the back and perforated through the patch. We can only suppose that two sheets were torn or damaged in some way, before they were perforated, and that one entire sheet was made from them, by this method of patching. Both stamps in this pair are from the old plate.

It seems that the machine gauging 11 is now only used for cases requiring this sort of treatment and, possibly, for sheets that have partly, or entirely, escaped perforation by the usual machines. All the mixed perf. varieties are stamps which have been perforated very much off centre by the original machine. Sheets thus defective are handed over to the man operating the 11 machine, who seems to be a sort of stamp doctor. The misplaced rows of perforation are then pasted over at the back with narrow strips of paper, and the single-line machine gauging 11 is then used in the requisite position.

We have, by the way, seen the 2d. with mixed perfs.; this has not, hitherto, been chronicled. The 3d. stamp, reduced size is also chronicled by several of our contemporaries, perf. 14×15.

*Adhesives.* Mixed perfs.  
2d. purple.  
Perf. 14×15.  
3d. brown.

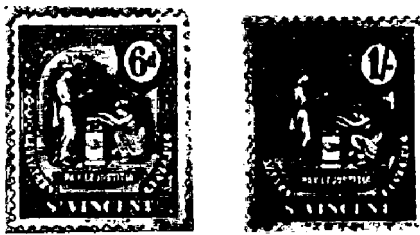
**Papua.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that all the values of the current set have now been punctured with the letters "O.S." for official use. *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 2d. stamp with the large perforation, while *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 2/6 value, perforation not given.

*Adhesives.* Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11.  
2d. violet and black.  
? Perf.  
2/6 brown and black.

**Queensland.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 1/- stamp on Crown and A wmk.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Crown & A. P. 13.  
1/. mauve.

**St. Vincent.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us specimens of the new 6d. and 1/- stamps. As will be seen from the below illustration the design, although at first glance, very similar to the 1d. value, differs materially. In all likelihood the lower value will be changed.



*Adhesives.* Multiple CA.  
6d. lilac.  
1/- black on green.

In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* the 1/- stamp of the 1883-4 issue is chronicled as existing imperf. Copies are known used on original envelopes.

Wmk. Crown & C.A. *Variety imperf.*  
1/- orange-vermilion.

**Tasmania.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 1/4d. stamp on Crown and A paper. Both varieties of perforation are to hand, also three shades!

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12 1/2.  
1/4d. deep green.  
Perf. 11.  
1/4d. green.  
1/4d. sage green.

**Tonga.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 1d. ultramarine of the 1893 without surcharge.

*Adhesive.* Error. With surcharge 1/4d. omitted.  
1d. ultramarine.

**Turks Islands.** In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* we find that the 2 1/4d. red-brown, of 1889, with the "One Penny" surcharge, is chronicled with *double surcharge* and *double surcharge, one inverted*.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Belgian Congo.** An article in *L'Annuaire Timbrologique* contains a lot of information about the overprinted stamps, of which we chronicled two values last month. The whole set up to 5fr., as well as the two Parcel Post stamps, 3fr. 50c. and 10fr., have been similarly overprinted. It appears that, as first issued, the surcharges were hand-stamped, and that, subsequently, they were typographed. To make matters worse—or better, according to the point of view—there are three varieties of the hand-stamp, and so four sets can be made. The principal differences are as follows:—

### HANDSTRUCK OVERPRINT.

Letters measuring nearly 4mm. in height.

*Type A.* The L of BELGE is very close to the G, in some cases these two letters touch at the foot. The overprint is about 1 1/2mm. shorter than in types B and C.

*Type B.* This type is distinguished by the E of BELGE, which has the topmost arm slightly raised. The letters are irregularly spaced.

*Type C.* The topmost arm of the E is quite horizontal and the letters are regularly spaced. This type closely resembles the typographed overprint.

### TYPOGRAPHED OVERPRINT.

Letters measuring 3 1/2mm. in height.

More clearly printed than the handstruck, the letters being more sharply defined. The overprint shews through on the back of the stamp. The ink is blacker and glossy.

The list is as follows:—

	HANDSTRUCK.		
	Type A.	Type B.	Type C.
5c. green	—	—	—
10c. red	—	—	—
15c. ochre	—	—	—
25c. blue	—	—	—
40c. green	—	—	—
50c. olive	—	—	—
1fr. rose	—	—	—
3fr. 50c. vermilion	—	—	—
5fr. lake	—	—	—
10fr. green	—	—	—

TYPOGRAPHED.—All values.

The numbers of stamps printed are given as follows:—

	Handstruck.	Typographed.
5c.	4000	22,900
10c.	3000	16,900
15c.	2000	74,900
25c.	1700	100,900
40c.	1000	64,000
50c.	1000	97,000
1fr.	1000	72,900
3fr. 50c.	100	22,400
5fr.	200	25,550
10fr.	175	19,300

**Crete.** The following interesting information is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. We have received official information that the 1 and 2 lepta postage stamps overprinted "ELLAS" are completely exhausted, and that an order has been sent to Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. for a fresh supply. Whether they will be a new type is not stated, but in all probability they will be the same as before but with the overprinting done in London, we shall of course send you specimens as soon as we receive a supply. Meantime some provisionals have been issued which are strictly forbidden to be sold except for postal use, but we have managed to get 50 of the 2 on 20 lepta from a private correspondent. These are Postage Due Stamps overprinted for ordinary use as postage stamps. It is said that only ten sheets were issued.

*Adhesive.*  
Postage Due stamp surcharged for postal use.  
2 on 20l.

**France. China.** We illustrate below the latest of surcharges from this part of the world. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. were good enough to send us specimens.



*Adhesive.*  
2c. on 5c. green.

**French Somali Coast. Gibbons Stamp Weekly** chronicles the 75c. bi-coloured of 1902 with centre inverted.

*Adhesive.* Centre inverted.  
75c. mauve and orange.

Why not?

**St. Pierre and Miquelon.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us that a new set of stamps has been issued for this colony. There are three designs. The 1c. to 20c. have a Fisherman's head as the central design. The 25c. to 75c. a Seagull, while the franc values have a Fishing Schooner represented.

*Adhesives.* Pictorial design, 1909.  
1c. orange and sepia.  
2c. sepia and blue.  
4c. violet and sepia.  
5c. green and sage-green.  
10c. carmine and red.  
20c. brown and chocolate.  
25c. indigo and blue.  
30c. orange and chocolate.  
35c. green and chocolate.  
40c. chocolate and green.  
45c. violet and green.  
50c. sepia and green.  
75c. brown and olive.  
1f. green and blue.  
2f. violet and brown.  
5f. brown and green.

**German Colonies. Kiautschou. Gibbons**

**Stamp Weekly** chronicles the 20c. stamp on watermarked paper.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Lozenges. Perf. 14.  
20c. black and carmine.

**Hungary.** The *Philatelic Adviser*, on the authority of a continental exchange, chronicles another of the Unpaid Letter stamps with the small perforation.

*Postage Due.* Perf. 15.  
2f. green and black.

**Peru.** We illustrate below a specimen, which Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. sent of the Express stamp, chronicled by us some months ago.



**Russia.** We have received a supply of the new 7 kopeck stamps. The design is quite new and not particularly effective. The stamps have the appearance of being printed on paper which is coated with thin lines of varnish, these lines intersect and form a lozenge-shaped pattern. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. also send us copies of the new 2k., similar design.



*Adhesives.* Perf. 14, 14½.  
2 kop. green.  
7 kop. blue.

**Siam.** The colours of the three high value stamps chronicled last month are, we learn from *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*; 10t. rose-carmine and brownish olive, 20t. brown and greyish-slate, and 40t. black-brown and greenish-blue.

**Switzerland.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., kindly send us the 3c. and 5c. stamps of the new type.



*Adhesives.*  
Granate Paper. Wmk. Cross. Perf. 11½.  
3c. deep lilac.  
5c. green.

**Turkey.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles five new stamps issued to commemorate the granting of a Constitution. They are described as being similar to the stamps of the current issue, except that they are made taller to allow a curious imprint to appear above each stamp.

*Adhesives.* Commemorative Issue. Perf. 12 to 13½.  
5 par. brown-ochre.  
10 .. green.  
20 .. rose-carmine.  
1 pius. ultramarine.  
2 .. black.

**United States.** Mr. E. Wilson has kindly sent us a supply of the new 6c., 10c. and 15c. stamps. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us the 1c. and 2c. stamps imperf. *Mekeel's Weekly* chronicles the 13c. and 50c. stamps.



*Adhesives.*  
6c. orange.  
10c. yellow.  
13c. blue green.  
15c. blue.  
50c. dull violet.

*Varieties. Imperf.*  
1c. green.  
2c. blue.

The following information, just to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., of Ipswich, will doubtless interest our readers.

"On the 12th inst. a new 2c. United States stamp is to be issued bearing a portrait of President Lincoln, the date being the 100th anniversary of his birthday. A correspondent writes us that the members of Congress and the American people generally were very much put out when the Postmaster-General took Lincoln's portrait off the 4c. stamp, especially on account of Lincoln's centenary coming off this month. They made so much fuss about it that Congress took the matter up and ordered the Postmaster-General to get out a 2c. stamp with Lincoln's portrait on it; we suppose this is a permanent issue and will replace the 2c. Washington stamp, although we have no definite information on the subject. Another correspondent informs us that the colour of the 10c. recently issued is to be changed, reason not stated."



## Recent Varieties of the 2d. Stamp of Queensland.

BY WALLABY.

Few stamps have undergone so many vicissitudes as have the 2d. electrotyped stamps of Queensland. During the course of the following few notes I shall, however, only deal with the twopenny stamp after the die had been cut to allow the figures of value to be inserted in all four corners. This stamp, illustrated below, is one of the most common



of all Australians as, not only does it prepay the local postage rates but it was in use for the lengthy period of nearly ten years.

There is not the slightest need for me to describe the design of the stamp, but, before illustrating the retouched type of 1906, I should like to draw attention to an interesting, constant and collectable "flaw" which can be found on the earlier printings. As will be seen on reference to the illustration below, the flaw

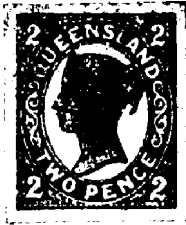


in question consists of a breakage, showing on the stamp and can easily be detected, in fact so noticeable is it that the neck of the Queen appears to be completely severed in a diagonal direction.

Towards the end of 1906 the design of the stamp was redrawn, with the result that in the *P.F.G.B.*, for January, 1907, I find the following information, relating to the redrawn head.

"The front of the crown is higher and touches the oval frame line, the curl at the back of the head is shorter; the coil of the hair touches the frame; the chin recedes more and has a much "weaker" appearance; the ear is smaller; the point of the bust touches the frame-line of the oval; and the shading on the face and neck is heavier."

This redrawn type is illustrated below, and, on Crown and Q paper, is common, as it was in use for fully twelve months.



Towards the end of 1907, however, the paper was changed to Crown and A with the result that as a further alteration in the design was made, the stamp illustrated above is likely to be fairly scarce on Crown and A paper.

At the beginning of April, 1908, another alteration was made, as will be seen from the accompanying illustration.



Mr. S. Dalby, of Brisbane, was the first to draw my attention to this second "retouch" which he describes as follows:—"The ear is rendered more distinct, the chin strengthened, the shading lines of the face and neck made lighter, and the front of the diadem separated from the oval frame line."

Altogether it seems as though an attempt had been made to restore the head to its original condition.

The salient differences between the three types can be roughly summed up as follows:—

Type I.—Diadem, back hair and point of bust do not touch oval frame line.

Type II.—Diadem, back hair and point of bust all touch oval frame line.

Type III.—Diadem does not touch oval frame line, back hair and point of bust do.

The only one of these varieties that is at all likely to become scarce is the redrawn type of 1906 on Crown and A paper (1907). The following list may be of use to my readers.

1897-1906. Wmk. Crown & Q. Perf. 13.  
2d. pale blue. 2d. deep blue.  
2d. violet blue.

Variety—

Flaw on neck, (afterwards corrected).  
2d. blue.

Nov. 1906. Redrawn type.  
Wmk. Crown & Q.

2d. pale blue. 2d. deep blue.

Dec. 1907. Wmk. Crown & A.  
2d. blue.

April 1908. Again redrawn.  
Wmk. Crown & A.  
2d. blue.

## The Stamp Trade Protection Association, Ltd.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1908.

The present strength of the Association is 51 subscribing members, two having been elected during the past year and one retired; at this moment four gentlemen are applying for election.

The Brighton case, which resulted in a conviction for forging stamps, has now been fully wound up, the expenses amounting to £140. The Association still has a substantial balance in hand towards any future case.

The financial position of the Association is very sound, after heavier expenses being met than had ever previously been incurred, a good credit balance being carried forward.

The number of cases placed in the hands of the Secretary during the year amounted to 314; in nearly 50% of these cases cash or stamps being recovered.

Full particulars of the Association can be obtained from the Secretary, 63<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

## Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

DEAR SIR,

I have had an offer of a good collection of stamps at what I consider a reasonable figure. Before purchasing, however, I should like to know, as some of the rare stamps are repaired, whether it would be worth a quarter of catalogue, only including those stamps listed at a 1/- or over. I do not know very much about the earlier stamps, and consequently do not know quite what is the status of a repaired stamp, compared with that of a damaged specimen.

Trusting you will be able to let me have an answer.\*

I am, Sir,  
Yours truly,  
A.C.F.

\* A.C.F. will find we have partly answered his enquiry in this month's Editorial.—Ed.



## Well-known Philatelists.

No. 109.—MR. VICTOR H. GREGORY.

THE subject of our present sketch is a well-known philatelist to all those numerous collectors who are interested in the stamps of our own country. As most of our readers must know he is a very keen specialist in the stamps of Great Britain, while he possesses a superb collection of these stamps. Born in London in the year 1875, Mr. Gregory commenced stamp collecting about twenty years ago, and the following details he gives us will be found very interesting. He says, "As is usual I commenced collecting all countries till about 1893, when I saw the folly of attempting to get anything like a representative lot, so disposed of them and took up Great Britain to which I have kept ever since." Mr. Gregory collects pretty well all possible varieties that are really clear and distinct.

Amongst the better things he has are the 1d. black and 2d., 1840, with numbered MX postmark, 9d. hair-lines, 1½d. O.P.P.C., a quantity of firms' surcharges on stamps of various plates and values, also a goodly supply of inverted watermarks, double perforations, double letters, coloured postmarks and varieties of a similar nature. He has confined himself chiefly to used copies. Writing about his discoveries he says:—

"I had the good fortune to be the discoverer of the very rare 'error' large Crown watermark, this was on the 1d. red, plate 92, and used at Norwich. Since when I have been successful in procuring two or three more of these errors, including a fine *unused* example.

My chief error, however, is that I am in the habit of buying duplicates, a practice hard to resist when specimens are fine and the price moderate.

For several years I was a member of the Herts Society, but at present am only connected with the Junior Philatelic Society.

Am at present a member of several exchange clubs such as the Otterdale, Cleveland and Postmark Society, but since I have been a collector have been a member of many others.

Amongst my other hobbies are motor-cycling, experimental engineering work, and the collection of meteorites, those rare and remote visitors from the Firmament

which reach the earth occasionally. There are very few collectors of meteorites however, although they are of extreme interest, due to their variations of character and scarcity."

Mr. Gregory is, needless to say, a very busy man; by profession he is an electrical and mechanical engineer, and as a member of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Junior Institution of Engineers, Auto-Cycle Union, and other societies it is surprising that he can spare time to manage the English Stamp Exchange Society. The E.S.E.S. was originally started about 1893, by, we believe, Mr. Bignold. Mr. Gregory took over its management at the end of 1900 and has worked it up into a very strong position with a membership that does not fall far short of fifty.

Writing of his club, of which he is naturally proud, Mr. Gregory says, "It was formed for the sale and exchange of stamps of the British Isles exclusively, and a number of rare and fine specimens have been circulated in its monthly packets. It is chiefly supported by specialists in British. Nett pricing is adopted, which, in my opinion, is the best system. Accounts are squared monthly."

This brief sketch of Mr. Gregory's philatelic career would be very incomplete, were no mention made of his own special album. In reply to our enquiries for particulars he kindly writes us as follows:—

"My patent album of course embodies the accepted principle of loose leaves, but the fundamental point is in

the construction of the pages. The stamps, either strips, blocks, or singles, are permanently hinged on pieces of thin card which fit into pockets formed in the pages. The relative position of specimens can be easily changed, which is a particularly useful feature to specialists, who are continually getting additions of unthought of varieties.

If the position of specimens be changed any particulars or inscription on the cards to which they are attached of course always applies.

A very important feature is that it is impossible for any rubbing of the stamps to take place, and the leaves close upon each other at their margins and so are quite dust proof."

We have had the pleasure of examining a portion of Mr. Gregory's collection, mounted in one of these albums, and we think them a capital invention, especially adapted to the needs of the specialist.



# Notes on Australian Stamps.

BY THE EDITOR.

(Continued from Page 9).

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

In describing the stamps of South Australia it is not, needless to say, my intention to detail all the various issues and their *raison d'être*, such a task would be of immense proportions and quite beyond my capabilities. It is necessary, however, to draw attention to certain important details which beginners must remember, otherwise they will find themselves hopelessly fogged. In the first place the stamps of South Australia are found on six varieties of watermarked paper, only two of which however offer the slightest difficulty to the collector. Needless to say I refer to the two types of star watermark, the first of which is only found on the early stamps. This type has narrower rays than has the second, while it is, in ninety cases out of a hundred, fairly hard to detect. The second type has much broader rays, giving the star a much blunter appearance, while, in nearly every case, it can clearly be seen without even holding the stamp up to the light. I have met so many beginners who complain about their inability to distinguish between the two stars that this article will not have been written in vain if my readers will only remember the following one crucial fact, namely, that when the star watermark on any South Australian stamp is clearly visible it is almost invariably the *second*, or *broad* type of star. The reason for this is that the watermark is very deeply impressed in the paper, so much so that in many cases it is visible from the face of the stamp. The reverse is the case with the early type, with the result that the watermark is nearly always, more or less, hard to detect, especially on those stamps printed on thickish paper. Both the types of star watermarks are always found in an upright position. To those collectors who find the terms "clearly visible" and "fairly faint" of only theoretic value I would suggest the purchasing of two stamps from a dealer, one showing the first type and one the second; for this purpose the 2d. stamp of 1859, catalogued at 1/-, and the 6d. stamp of 1876, catalogued 6d., would offer the cheapest method of comparison. Next to the watermarks, many budding (and sometimes well-advanced) specialists in Australian stamps come to grief over the many various catalogued shades, and I must confess that herein lies a very serious difficulty.

The collector who has a quantity of early South Australian stamps would quite easily be able to separate them out into a number of little piles, the stamps in each heap having the same characteristics. This would be fairly

simple work for the youngest collector, although probably he would be unable to say *why* certain stamps were delegated to their respective heaps.

The difficulty of colour nomenclature becomes acute when the beginner has only one or two stamps, none of which he is able to classify.

To overcome this difficulty I will try and explain the various issues in their catalogue order, before I do this, however, I think it would be advisable to outline my plan of campaign, which is as follows:—

### A—Line-engraved stamps on the First Star paper.

1. Imperforate stamps printed in London.
2. Early " " " in the Colony.
- 2a. Early rouletted stamps.
3. Later " "
4. Rouletted and perforated stamps.
5. The perforated stamps.

### B—Surface-printed stamps on wide S.A. paper.

6. The 1d. and 2d. values.

#### C—Varieties of Watermark.

7. The 2d., 4d. and 10d. values.

#### D—The second type of Star watermark.

8. Perforated stamps only.

#### E—The second type of Crown and S.A.

9. The ½d. to £20 values.

#### F—Crown and A. paper.

10. The ½d. to 10/- values.

### 1. IMPERFORATE STAMPS, LONDON PRINT.

Commencing with the London printed stamps we find three values, no one of which should prove difficult to identify. In the first place they are all imperf.; secondly, they are printed in shades that are not matched by any of the later Colonial printed stamps.

The one penny value is in a deep shade of green; the twopence, described as dull carmine, has a tinge of brightness in it that none of the later printings have; while the six penny value is printed in a very deep hard blue. All these stamps have a very clean clear looking appearance, quite distinct from the blurred look of the early Colonial imperf. stamps.

The one penny value is becoming fairly scarce, certainly as a single; curiously enough, however, pairs are, in proportion, not so rare. The two penny value is common and is frequently met with in pairs and strips, while the six penny value is also fairly common, at

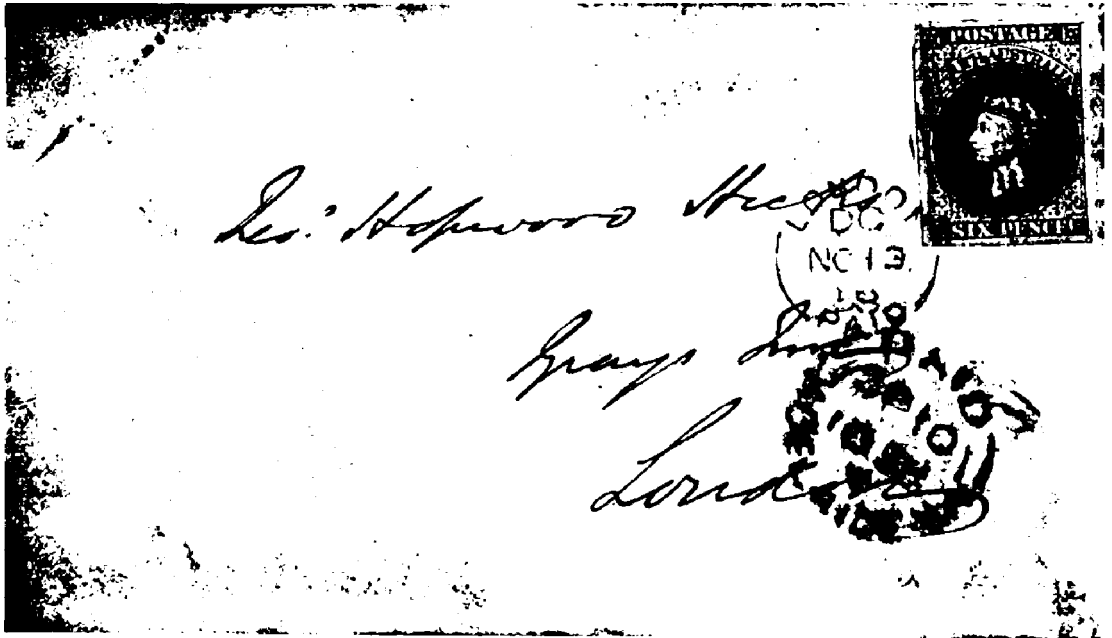
any rate, in medium condition. Blocks of any of these stamps are exceptionally rare.

The 1/- violet stamps, sent out by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., were never issued by the Colonial Authorities, why, I do not know, the plate for this value remaining idle for some months until the one shilling orange stamps of the next issue were printed from it. The entire I illustrate below is franked with one of the sixpenny London prints, and is dated Adelaide, Sept. 10th, 1858, London, Nov. 19th, 1858.

2. IMPERFORATE STAMPS, COLONIAL PRINT.

Although Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. sent out a big consignment of ink at the time they forwarded the plates, paper, etc., the Adelaide printers were unable to reproduce the same colours, possibly owing to the way the ink was

As all these stamps, with the exception of the two pence in the blood red shade, were afterwards issued rouletted it is very desirable to obtain them with big margins. Pairs are scarce, and blocks almost unobtainable. The two catalogued shades of the one penny value, namely pale and deep yellow green are really scarce stamps—especially the deeper shades. The real blood red twopence is under-catalogued at 6/-, while, in my opinion the sixpence slate blue is priced a little too high. The one shilling stamp priced at 40/- is very cheap at that figure, if in very fine condition. A variety of the twopence pale red shade is listed printed on both sides. I have not seen this stamp, but if it is like the other values that are catalogued, the print on the back is a very faint one. In my opinion these varieties are of very minor importance

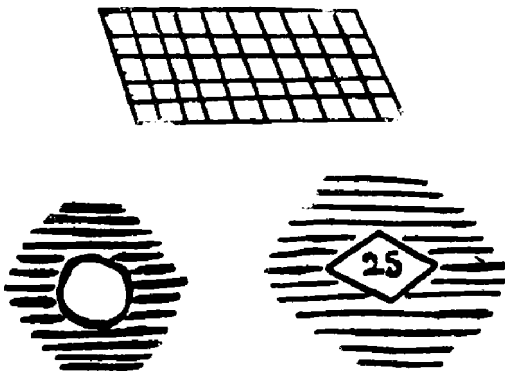


mixed, or possibly owing to climatic influences. This being the case we find the colours vary considerably, the one penny stamps were printed in shades of yellow-green, the twopenny, first in a very curious shade known as blood-red, which gives the stamps the appearance of having been well soaked in water, and later in a pale red, with less of the carmine which characterises the London prints. The sixpenny value is only found in a colour termed slate-blue, while the one shilling stamp, printed from the hitherto neglected plate is only known in orange. All these values, with the exception of the twopence, are fairly scarce, while they nearly always have an indistinct look that is quite foreign to the London prints. In many cases this is caused by bad printing. The ink on the plate not having been wiped off, with the result that the whole of the surface is smeared with colour.

and I only mention them because some beginners fancy that the print on the back is as distinct as that on the face, a very erroneous idea. As postmarks form a very valuable adjunct to the study of used stamps it might be of interest were I to illustrate the three main types usually to be found on the early stamps. The circular date stamp was not brought into use until early in 1857.

The first type illustrated was only in use for a comparatively short time, or else was relegated to some "way-back" township, as it is rarely met with.

The second type is common, two very marked sizes of the circle being found sometimes, but very rarely this circle contains a numeral. In type 3, the commonest of all, we find numerals in the diamond-shaped centre, the highest number I have seen being No. 157. Curiously enough, this cancellation was in use



until quite recently, as I have stamps as late as the perf. 13 issue of 1895 so postmarked.

### 2a. EARLY ROULETTED STAMPS.

In dealing with the first of the rouletted stamps it is well to remember that the shades are identical with those of the imperf. Colonial prints, the stamps being exactly the same, only with roulettes added; the only addition being that the washy appearance of the six penny slate-blue led to another mixing of the ink, with the result that we get a so-called purple-blue, also that the later supplies of the one shilling stamps were printed in yellow. To make up for these two new additions we can delete the twopence in blood-red, as the stock of this printing was exhausted before any of the stamps could be rouletted. All these stamps are easy to obtain in singles. The value that varies most in shade is the sixpence purple-blue, some remarkable variations of colour being obtainable.

In the *South Australian Handbook* it is suggested that the violet or purple ink, sent out with the plate for the shilling stamps, and which was not used, was utilized for the purple-blue sixpennies. This, I think, very probable.

Several well-known collectors of South Australian stamps who have made a study of dated copies have been struck by the fact that the sixpence purple-blue shows a very wide range of dates, a fact, I think, that is accounted for by the theory that a number of sheets were overlooked for some years and were afterwards put on sale concurrently with the later printings of the rouletted stamps.

### 3. LATER ROULETTED STAMPS.

Under this heading I group all the numerous shades that were issued between August, 1860, and the end of 1867, and I think I can safely say that any troublesome shades can be safely allotted to this period. Three new plates were sent out by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. for the 4d., 9d. and 2/- values, while a tenpenny value was created by printing the ninepenny

stamps in orange-red, afterwards yellow, and surcharging them with the words "TEN PENCE" in blue, and afterwards in black. The one shilling value was changed from yellow to brown. All these later rouletted stamps are fairly easy to procure, with the exception of the one penny deep green, a variety I have not seen, and the sixpence Prussian blue. The rouletted Prussian blue is the same colour as the perf. by roulette stamp of the next issue and like that stamp varies somewhat in shade.

The one penny stamps are found in various shades of green, all of which are distinct from the yellow-greens already mentioned. The twopenny stamps occur in shades of vermilion, the carmine tinge having disappeared, and the fourpenny stamps in a monotone-purple. The sixpenny stamps occur in innumerable shades, none of which, however, is quite like the slate-blue of the early roulettes, as even in the shades most approaching slate there is a more decided tone of colour.

The catalogue descriptions, deep blue, dull blue and sky blue, are really most inadequate, as the shades to be found are very numerous. The new nine penny value appeared in a dull washed-out grey-lilac, while the tenpenny stamps can be found in a very rich and handsome shade of orange-red, and also in yellow. The one shilling stamps, no longer printed in yellow, were issued in a dull grey, almost dull purple-brown, red-brown and chestnut, while the new two shilling stamps appeared in a dull rose-carmine.

In my opinion it is the one penny stamps that are likely to cause the most confusion, at least to the collector who has only one or two specimens, the only suggestion I can make is that it might be advantageous to purchase, from a reliable dealer, a copy of the first rouletted one penny stamp, namely, the yellow-green of 1859. By comparison with this stamp it should be fairly easy to place the other shades of this value. As the trouble with the rouletted stamps is only a matter of shade it is well to again emphasize the fact that the Colonial imperfs. and the first roulettes are identical while the later roulettes are mostly the same as the perf. by roulette, and perforated stamps.

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The next number of the *P. J. G. B.* will contain a full report of the Manchester Philatelic Exhibition and Congress, now being held at the Hulme Town Hall, Manchester. For other special features of next month's number see Publishers' Note on page 44.

## Falkland Islands.

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

IN an article on Falkland Islands just concluded in *The West End Philatelist*, Mr. B. W. H. Poole gives some most original information, the result of very careful and minute study of entire sheets. The information which is of most importance may be summarized under three heads:—(a) The manner of printing, (b) The flaws and the constant marks on the stamps, (c) The question as to whether Messrs. De La Rue printed any of the Queen's Head stamps.

With regard to the first of these questions, Mr. Poole raises doubts as to whether the stamps really were produced by the line-engraved process, as has always been supposed. That there is some reason for the doubt is evident from the curious facts which Mr. Poole brings to light. The most remarkable of these is found in a comparison of entire sheets of the 4d. and 1/- values, which are found to be exactly alike, even to the reproduction in each value of minute flaws found on different parts of the sheet. For instance, on the first stamp on the sheet in both values there is a small coloured dot below the right-hand end of the ornamental scroll in the left lower spandrel. On the seventh stamp in the top row there is a small line on the oval below the F, and smudges on right lower spandrel. In all, Mr. Poole describes flaws appearing on fourteen identical stamps in both values.

This remarkable uniformity is too faithful, as Mr. Poole says, to allow of any other supposition than that one plate was reproduced from the other in some way, which is quite incompatible with all that we know of the manner in which steel plates were manufactured. This, coupled with other incongruities which I shall refer to in connection with the constant dots and marks, raises a very interesting question. It is inconceivable that a roller could have been employed large enough to take the impression of the entire sixty designs at once, and yet this seems to be the only method by which all those minute imperfections could be transferred in the line-engraved process.

In his study of the small constantly recurring dots, which I termed secret marks when I mentioned them in my recently published article, Mr. Poole has discovered several that had escaped me. It will be remembered that in my article I mentioned a small dot on the E of ONE, and another in the left lower spandrel immediately to the right of the central curl, both dots occurring on all stamps except those in the bottom row. Mr. Poole found that the dot in the spandrel occurs in the same way on the 4d. and 1/- values, and is also missing from the stamps in the bottom row. He also points out that these three values all have a dot just

above the tip of the uppermost leaf in the left lower spandrel, this dot appearing on every stamp on the sheet, though in some instances it is exceedingly indistinct.

The 6d. stamp shows none of these dots, but it also has a characteristic, found only in the stamps of the bottom row. In these ten stamps the lowest curve of the scroll in the left lower spandrel is broken in the part between the two little projections. This peculiarity is almost impossible of explanation if the stamps were printed from line-engraved plates made in the ordinary way. It is easy to add marks on a plate (before it is hardened) which would show in colour in the printing, but next to impossible to delete a mark, or, as in this case, to make a break in a line.

The plates of the 4d. and 1/- stamps being, as we have seen, practically identical with the exception of the value labels, one would naturally expect that the one penny plate, which is so like them in the arrangement of the dots in the spandrels, as well as in other respects, would also be a replica, but this is not the case.

Mr. Poole wisely does not attempt to speculate upon the way in which the plates were prepared, and is satisfied with hinting that he preserves an open mind on the subject. At any rate, he has raised a very interesting problem, which might well occupy the attention of experts in stamp printing.

The dots on the ½d. and 2½d. values, seen in the centre of the uncoloured oval behind the head, are shown to be engravers' guide marks. I incautiously called them "secret marks," classing them with the dots in the spandrel and elsewhere on the 1d., 4d. and 1/- values, but it is quite evident that Mr. Poole's explanation is the correct one. The original die from which a plate is constructed has a small dot on one side of it, and when an impression is made on the plate this dot leaves a mark which serves as a guide for the placing of the next impression. As a rule, in the case of the Falkland Islands, the dot was covered by some part of the design where it would not show on the stamp, but in the ½d. and 1d. it happened that the dot fell on an uncoloured portion of the design, where it is visible. On the right-hand margins of the sheets the dots can be seen distinctly. I have an entire sheet of the 1/- in front of me as I write, but curiously enough there is no sign of the guide-line in the margin opposite the ends of the first and last rows, though it is very prominent opposite the four middle rows. On none of the other sheets and blocks of any value that I have seen does the guide-mark show in the margin of the bottom row. This is another peculiarity which requires some explanation.

The third interesting point which Mr. Poole makes is the demolition of the theory that Messrs. De La Rue & Co. printed the issues of the Queen's Head type on *Crown CA* paper.

He shews conclusively, to my mind, that the original printers, Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co., continued to print the stamps until the introduction of the current issue.

His reasons for thinking so are so evident and convincing that I am ashamed to think of the blind way in which I have always taken the old theory for granted. The first of these is that the perforation, which is from a single-line machine gauging about  $14\frac{1}{2}$ , is unlike that of any machine ever used by Messrs. De La Rue. The popular error has arisen through supposing that the CA issues are perforated  $14$  like other De La Rue stamps. As a matter of fact the perforation is the same as on the first issue, and never altered, while the Queen's Head stamps were in use.

In support of the contention, Mr. Poole omitted to bring forward what seems to me to be equally strong evidence that Messrs. De La Rue did not print the stamps. This is that the colours employed, especially for many shades of the  $1d.$  value, are totally different from any used by Messrs. De La Rue for other colonies. When we remember that colours were used again and again for different colonies by Messrs. De La Rue, and that there is hardly any colour which was not repeated, this argument appears to settle the matter.

In conclusion, I heartily congratulate Mr. Poole on writing one of the most original articles on a philatelic matter which I have read for a very long time.

## Current Chatter.

By ANGUS MCTAVISH.

I SEE that Messrs. Glendining, at their sale held on January 27th, had a lot described as follows: "New South Wales 1854-6,  $2d.$  two pieces of three copies each." I was not able to be present but I hear that there was spirited competition among the condition cranks to obtain a piece with a perf. on it.

Editor Croften, in the *Philatelic Journal of India*, has done it again. He considers "it would be an excellent thing for our hobby if a law could be enforced to make it a criminal offence to ask or receive more than a sovereign for any stamp."

His idea is that there is no stamp (except unused high values) that did not come into someone's hands at one time or another for next to nothing.

What a ripping idea, I guess the P's, Phillips, Peckitt, and Pemberton, would welcome the twenty shilling scheme.

Personally, I think it ought to come into force the month after next, if so, it would be fun lining up on the night of the 31st waiting for the doors to open, wouldn't it? Only I guess some mean chap would get there on the 30th and pick out all the plums.

I see that in the February *Philatelic World*

Editor Séfi says: "We give away a complimentary ticket with this number, and hope to see a large number of our readers taking advantage of it." There's generosity for you. The Irish blood in me makes me wish it were possible for me to see the fight.

I hear from Mr. Edgar Nelton, of New York, that stamps on original covers are in great demand in the States. Mr. Nelton is a very keen enthusiast himself, and he writes as follows:—"Covers going high here, Brazil  $280$  red, small on cover, catalogued  $12/-$  (?  $10/-$  Ed.) brought  $23/-$  at Tuttle's sale,  $20$  bidders after it on the floor." Waal I kinder reckon there aint no spots on the New York boys, but I guess five dollars seventy-five was a bit tall. Anyway I calculate I must go thro' my bunch of covers and see if I can dig up that elegant  $280$  Edgar planted on me for two dollars, wayback, last year. Perhaps, however, it would sell well in London—at any rate if only *ten* bidders were on the floor after it, it would be a sight worth seeing.

The poor old Editor of this Journal has a rough time of it sometimes doesn't he? I see that the Editor of the *Postage Stamp* has discovered that in the *P.J.G.B.* the  $3d.$  and  $4d.$  Fijian stamps were chronicled overprinted for use in the New Hebrides. Needless to say this was an error. Editor Nankivell, however, is so proud of his wonderful astuteness that he chuckles over it in his paper for January 30th, and again in the February 6th edition, has two more separate allusions. Looks like a fondness for repetition doesn't it? As an instance of this fondness it is amusing to refer to the *Postage Stamp* for February 22nd, 1908, we find there a reference to the New Zealand  $1d.$  current type, perf.  $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ . Nearly eleven months passed, and on January 2nd, 1909, we find another reference to this stamp, it is in the nature of an extract from the *P.J.G.B.* and reads "a comb machine gauging  $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$  was used" (for the  $1d.$  stamp). Evidently the fact that such a stamp exists must be commencing to penetrate because in the *Postage Stamp* for February 6th, we find the  $1d.$  stamp, perf.  $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ , actually chronicled as a *new* issue.

Naturally enough one does not always expect a specialist in the later issues of New Zealand to know much about stamps. When it comes to a matter of general knowledge, however, Mr. Nankivell shines conspicuously. In the *Postage Stamp* for February 13th, I read:—

"It is no secret that Mr. Winston Churchill was personally inquiring into this Cayman Island business when he was shifted to the Board of Trade and Lord Crewe made Colonial Secretary in his place."

The daily papers evidently don't disturb the serenity of some of the Tunbridge Wells-ites.

There has been so much "intelligent anti-cipation" lately, especially as far as "New Issues" are concerned, that I think the following few items may be of interest. (1)

The Manchester Stamp Exhibition was a great success, the doors having to be closed for several hours at a stretch. (2) Many very well-known collectors and dealers attended. Space prevents my mentioning others than Messrs. Bernstein & Albrecht. (3) It was raining when McTavish arrived in Manchester. (4) There will be many alterations in the prices in the new S.G. Part 1. (5) Professor Donald McTavish has kindly estimated that twenty-seven tons 2 cwt. of free philatelic literature were circulated in Manchester, February 18th to 20th.

*Apropos* the Manchester Exhibition. I am told that a well-known London dealer, who intends visiting Cottonopolis, is going to wear two very thick woollen vests. To absorb the superfluous moisture, so he says. Unfortunately, or perhaps fortunately, the McTavish has a rather nasty peremptory invitation to attend a Grand Jury on the following Tuesday, so he wont be able to see the fun out. (P.S.—For the benefit of malicious readers Mc. wishes to say that he will appear in the *Jury* box).

Bit of an artist our Editor, isn't he? When I caught him at work one night with pencil and paper, I thought he was drawing plans of (1) a spider's nest, (2) the Argentine sun, (3) a bull fight in Spain. It seems I was wrong, the diagrams merely represented South Australian postmarks!



## February, 1909, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1908-9.

- Hon. President:* HIS HONOUR JUDGE PHILBRICK, K.C.  
*Hon. Vice-Presidents:*  
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### MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18

years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and Subscription, 5/., should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members, not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

The following are now proposed in accordance with the above:—C. P. Rogers, Yelverton, Devon; proposed by P. L. Pemberton, seconded by T. H. Hinton. B. Gordon Jones, Holloway, London, N.; proposed by T. H. Hinton, seconded by P. L. Pemberton.

### NEW MEMBER.

L. P. Hernandez, Parana, Argentina.

### NOTICES.

The fourth meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, February 11th. Present: J. C. Sidebotham (Chair), Major J. de C. Laffan, L. W. Fulcher, P. P. Brown, F. F. Lamb, Guy Semple, W. J. Bovill, A. B. Kay, W. Schwarte, P. L. Pemberton, the Hon. Sec. and Visitors, R. B. Yardley, H. F. Johnson, D. B. Armstrong, and Owen Fearnley. Mr. R. B. Yardley gave a display of his fine and complete specialised collection of Trinidad, including two Lady McLeod locals, on entires, and all the early issues and rare provisionals. The notes given by Mr. Yardley were much appreciated, and in moving a hearty vote of thanks, Mr. Fulcher referred to the scientific research which had been brought to bear in forming this collection. This was seconded by Mr. Pemberton and carried unanimously, and a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded a pleasant evening.

The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, March 11th, at 8 p.m., when Mr. P. L. Pemberton will read a paper on a subject of philatelic interest. All members and any visitors cordially invited.

### FORGERY COLLECTION.

Donations from Messrs. J. C. Sidebotham, W. Hadlow and Oswald Marsh are acknowledged with thanks and have been added to the collection, which is available for reference at all meetings, and for which further contributions are solicited.

### THE MANCHESTER EXHIBITION AND CONGRESS.

The Delegates representing the I.P.U. are Messrs. P. L. Pemberton, F. F. Lamb and Wm. E. Lincoln.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Due on January 1st, should be forwarded to the Hon. Sec., who will promptly acknowledge same.

### THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union,  
 26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

February 15th, 1909.



FEB. 20, 1909.

## Philately at Home.

The January number of the *London Philatelist* contains more philatelic articles of general interest than any number of that paper for many months past. Mr. M. P. Castle details the stamps shown by several members of the Royal Society at the last meeting; from a perusal of this list it appears that a number of very rare and very interesting stamps were exhibited, while the idea of the members each contributing a small display of scarce stamps, is an admirable one.

Mr. T. Wickham Jones contributes the first instalment of his paper dealing with the "Retouches of the Swiss Stamps, Issues of 1882 to 1908." Mr. Wickham Jones has a very fine collection of these stamps, which he has studied for many years. The following extract detailing the method of printing, or rather of retouching, these stamps is of interest:—

Now this is how the retouching, or perhaps it would be more correct to say, the touching-up occurs:— Either the original plate may be a little faulty, or the transfer has not taken well, or does not come out clearly on the metal plates from which the actual printing is done, and consequently the printer has these final plates (galvanos) touched up. In no instance have I been able to find any proof that the original plate has been retouched. Owing to there being, previous to 1900, two and after that date four separate printing plates, all made from the one original plate, there are at first two and afterwards four separate plates which may, and in many cases do, bear different retouches. With regard to the prominent retouch of 1900 of the 25c., we know that this stamp is the sixteenth in the lower half-pane of 50, and I was not surprised to find two different retouches of this same stamp. I think that probably the sixteenth stamp in the lower half-pane of the original plate, although not faulty, transferred badly. This retouched final plate, Mr. Zumstein informs me, was destroyed by the postal authorities. I am able to show you a complete lower half-pane with this stamp retouched, and Baror de Reuterskiöld has kindly lent me three retouches, two unused and one used, and there is also a specimen in my collection; you will be able to see for yourselves that the stamps have been transferred from the same original plate, the two stamps being identical except as to the retouches. You will also note that there is

another retouch of the same plate, but it does not appear in my half-pane, though, of course, it may be in the upper half-pane of the same plate. At a later date fresh "galvanos" of the plate were most likely taken, and I show you several stamps, perf.  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ , showing retouches as follows, viz. above the shield, between head and spear, the whole of the background, between spear and oval, and in large label of value. These same plates were used for the issue in 1905, so I am able to give the numbers on the plates of some of the stamps, and when dealing with that issue I shall show some of the same retouched stamps.

Mr. Wickham Jones describes fully the varieties to be found of the 20c., 25c., 30c., 40c. and 50c. stamps, while we are told that the 1f. value was apparently not retouched.

Mr. Frank H. Melland contributes a further instalment of his paper entitled "Notes on the Issues of the British South Africa Co." A number of Government Postal notices are dealt with. A good budget of "Occasional Notes," a very good "New Issue List" and a few pages devoted to "Societies Reports" and "Auction Prices" complete the contents of our leading contemporary.

The first of the *Philatelic Records* to be edited by Mr. L. W. Fulcher is a really magnificent production, excellent alike for its high standard of literary contents and its typographic features.

If the managers can maintain so high a level of excellence, they will, indeed, have reason to be proud of their efforts, as it is, they have undoubtedly produced a paper that is a more eloquent testimony to the printer's art than any other philatelic paper. Several features of the old *Record* have disappeared, notably the "New Issue List" and the "Notable Philatelist" pages. The principal articles of importance in the January *Record* are "Notes on the Diligencia Stamps of Uruguay," by Thomas William Hall. "The Ten Centavos of the 1883 Issue of the United States of Colombia," by E. D. Bacon and the first instalment of an article dealing with the stamps of



Turkey, by L. W. Fulcher. In Mr. Hall's paper (illustrated with a plate showing various types) we find those rare and interesting stamps of the first issue of Uruguay fully described.

We make the following brief extract:—

The date generally accepted for their issue is the 14th October, 1856, I suppose, because there is a circular of the administration of posts of that date relative to the prepayment of correspondence, but which contains no mention of the use of postage stamps for the purpose.

There are three values:—

60c. blue for single letters.

80c. green „ double „

1 real, red „ triple „

All lithographed in colour on white wove paper without watermark.

The plate is made up of seven vertical rows of five=35 stamps in all, which were never cancelled by a postmark, but when they were obliterated at all it was with a pen and ink, by means either of a diagonal cross or a written date. The stamps, as I have stated, are certainly lithographs, and their mode of production was probably as follows:—

The 60c. was the original die, and from this 35 transfers were taken to make up the lithographic stone.

For the 80c. the numeral of value only, was erased from the above stone, and the new figures of value re-engraved on the stone itself.

For the 1 real, the whole of the bottom label was taken out and separate transfers containing the word "1 real" inserted. These could not be replaced mathematically in the same position on each stamp, which consequently gave rise to small variations in the spacing between the outer border line and the beginning of the inscription of value.

Mr. E. D. Bacon in his paper dealing with the 10 centavos stamps of the 1883 issue of the United States of Columbia, tells us that on certain sheets of this value two errors of transfer were made. In two cases a transfer of the 20c. value of the same issue having been inserted by mistake on the stone used for printing the 10 centavos. Mr. Bacon tells us the error was corrected by the numeral "2" being erased and replaced with the figure "1." He also says:—

A comparison of a specimen of the variety in question with one of the 20c. stamps shows that this is the true explanation, for not only do the words "De Los" correspond exactly in size and shape in both stamps, but the letter "A" of "Colombia" is lower down and almost touches the frame line of the inscription band. All the other minor details of the design, if compared, will also be found to correspond with those of the 20 centavos.

The 10 centavos stamp with the "De Los" in the inscription the same size as on the 20c. value is apparently a desirable stamp to obtain.

In Mr. Fulcher's instalment of his paper dealing with the stamps of Turkey, he points out that Turkish stamps have been very much neglected by philatelists, while he classes them as among the most difficult of European stamps to understand.

A capital *resumé* of the philatelic happenings of 1908 and a goodly selection of "Notes and Reviews," complete, with the exception of an eight-page supplement, the contents of our valued exchange.

The supplement in question has no fewer than four pages devoted to Auction Prices. We extract one or two quotations which prove the absurdity of devoting space to such unreliable items as "Auction Prices."

*Ceylon*, the collection of the two cents surcharges unused and used, including errors, catalogued £14 10s.—£2 12s.

An absurd price if all the varieties were in fine condition and genuine, and much too dear if most of them were bad.

*Great Britain*, the very scarce error 1½ O.P.P.C., very fine—£1 11s.

Another misleading price, as this stamp, if very fine, would be cheap at £3.

The 9d. lilac-brown *Ceylon*, a well-known medium rarity, described at a sale held on Jan. 5th, as being "very fair" realized £1 14s. Two days later at another sale a copy of the same stamp, described as "fine" only fetched a bid of £1 8s., a difference of 20%, to say nothing of the very vague terms "very fair" and "fine."

One more instance, to show the fallacy of reprinting auction prices.

Cape of Good Hope, 1874, 3d. on 4d., the "Pench" error, fine, with exceptionally light postmark, £2 15s., or only 5/- less than full catalogue. Needless to say the inference is that *scarce* stamps in *superb* condition always fetch close up to catalogue and in many instances from 10 to 100% *over*. "Fine," "fair," and "very fair" copies, however, find their own level, usually well below half catalogue—but a personal inspection of the stamps would be necessary before forming an opinion based on auction catalogue descriptions, or sale prices.

All the numbers of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* to hand contain some articles of value to the general collector. In the number dated January 16th we find a continuation of Mons. Ch. De Bont's article on the "Postage Stamps of Belgium, from which we extract the following statistics relating to the 1865 issues.

There were no less than six distinct printings of the 1865 issue, the details being as follows:—

*First printing*.—November, 1865. Very good impression. Perf. 14½ x 14, by Gouweloo & Co.

10c. grey .. ..	15,000,000
20c. blue .. ..	9,000,000
30c. red-brown .. ..	900,000
40c. pale rose .. ..	1,200,000
1fr. violet .. ..	90,000

*Second printing.*—December, 1866. Fair impression on thin, white paper.

10c. grey .. ..	7,500,000
20c. blue .. ..	3,000,000
30c. brown .. ..	600,000
40c. rose-carmine .. ..	300,000
1fr. deep violet .. ..	30,000

*Third printing.*—February, 1867. Common-looking impression on thin, white paper.

10c. grey .. ..	9,000,000
20c. blue .. ..	6,000,000
30c. pale brown .. ..	600,000
40c. pale rose .. ..	600,000
1fr. violet .. ..	45,000

*Fourth printing.*—July, 1867. On white, thick or medium paper.

10c. deep grey .. ..	12,000,000
20c. deep blue .. ..	7,500,000
20c. yellow-brown .. ..	900,000
40c. deep carmine .. ..	600,000
1fr. deep violet .. ..	90,000

*Fifth printing.*—February, 1868. Perf. 15. On thick, white paper.

10c. grey-black .. ..	21,000,000
20c. greenish-blue .. ..	12,000,000
30c. yellowish-brown .. ..	1,500,000
40c. carmine .. ..	1,500,000
1fr. pale violet .. ..	120,000

*Sixth printing.*—Perf. 15. On thick, yellowish paper.

10c. blue-grey .. ..	15,000,000
20c. sky-blue .. ..	9,000,000
30c. yellow-bistre .. ..	1,200,000
40c. deep rose .. ..	600,000
1fr. deep violet .. ..	90,000

In *G.S.W.* for January 23rd the chief contents are, we find, a continuation of Mons. Ch. De Bont's article, and an interesting article dealing with various kinds of paper used for printing stamps on, contributed by Mr. D. B. Armstrong.

*G.S.W.* for January 30th, the number edited by Major Evans, contains a further instalment of Mons. L. Hancian's article dealing with the "Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies." Major Evans writes about the "Stamps of Poonch," while there is a further instalment of Lieut. Gatt's article dealing with the "Stamps of Malta." The two following extracts make curious reading; they are said to be Government notices necessitated by the custom some people had of pinning the stamps to the cover, in the early days of stamps.

"The stamps upon all letters and packages must be affixed on the *outside* thereof and above the address thereon."

"Persons posting letters should affix the requisite number of stamps previous to depositing them in the letter receivers, as when posted in a damp state the stamps are liable to rub off, and thereby cause the

letters to be treated as unpaid. Do not pin the stamps."

Are we to understand that the Maltese were in the habit of affixing the stamps *after* depositing them in the letter-receivers?

Some pages of *Philatelic Notes and Queries*, and the usual capital New Issue list, complete the contents of the "monthly" weekly.

In the *Weekly* dated February 6th we find a further instalment of Mons. Ch. De Bont's Belgian article; some "Notes on the 1890-93 Issues of Shanghai," contributed by Mr. B. W. H. Poole, and a host of other philatelic items.

The *Philatelic Adviser* for January comes with a new cover and with fewer pages than usual. Mr. Frank Oliver has entirely taken over the onerous duties of Editor, a fact which leads us to hope that in the near future we may look forward to some bumper numbers of the *P.A.*

The present number, beyond some good Editorial Notes, a page of Tancred's Topicalities, the first instalment of an article dealing with the Arms types of Ecuador and a capital New Issue List does not contain anything startling. From the Editorial Notes we extract the following information relating to the recently surcharged Java stamps.

#### OVERPRINTED DUTCH INDIES.

In our November issue we make mention of the fact that our correspondence from the above place was franked indiscriminately with either "JAVA," "BUITEN BEZIT" stamps, or with stamps without either of these overprints. Commenting on this the *Postage Stamp* (December 19, 1908) says:—

"For all practical purposes we have no doubt that these surcharges helped the authorities to arrive at the facts desired, and a few stamps used in a freakish manner by stamp collectors would hardly affect the statistics one way or another."

Our esteemed contemporary is really childlike in its trustfulness. We say most emphatically, that the only possible information that the Dutch Indies Postal Authorities can gather, in addition to the information that they can always obtain of the amount of sales of stamps in any of the Islands in any given period, is the additional sales resulting from orders for stamps from dealers and collectors for what is known to be a provisional issue and consequently a quick-selling line. The amount of sales of each denomination not only in each Island, but, if necessary, at each Post Office, could have been obtained not merely for three months, but for any day by a little ordinary book-keeping.

It is very strange, to say the least of it, that an Agent was appointed for the sale of these stamps, who was able to supply them to dealers at *face value* without commission, and that this person has the sole right to sell the Official and Unpaid Letter Stamps in an unused condition.

No. 2 of *Griebert's Philatelic Notes and Offers* is a most readable paper. As most

of our readers are aware, this excellent circular is printed in three languages, English, German and French, and is sent free to all applicants. Although essentially a trade circular, it nevertheless contains more items of philatelic interest than do many of its contemporaries. The following extract, illustrating a leading London dealer's views on the half catalogue question, is of interest:—

One of our correspondents who had read our article on "Prices" in our previous number, wrote to us and tried to prove that most of the stamps in existence could be procured at an "enormous" discount on catalogue prices.

On this point we could argue much. We ourselves mentioned that every dealer who has any large stock can often allow such a discount as 50%, and at times even greater. Now if certain people imagine that this can apply in a general way to all stamps they are evidently beginners, or they care very little whether a stamp is in perfect condition or shows small "unimportant" defects.

Advanced collectors know from their own experience what a great mistake the "50% Buyers" are making. How often it happens that Stamp Dealers receive want-lists in which the greatest rarities are put down, but of which the "Discount Buyer" does not receive anything. In many instances the thoughtful collector states that he would be willing to pay full catalogue price, and yet he only receives very little according to his list. We need not look far to see the reason of this, for unfortunately various publishers of Catalogues make a point of fixing prices for unused as well as used stamps, even for those which are most difficult to obtain, and this causes the collector to believe that any stamp, for instance, priced at £5 can be procured everywhere with the usual discount of 25-50%. Very often, however, it is not possible to acquire certain rarities, even at double the catalogue price.

Quite so, but when will some collectors realize it?

No. 3 of the *Philatelic World* maintains that standard of excellency which the two previous numbers have led us to expect. Mr. Séfi contributes an interesting little article dealing with the "Provisional 1888 Issue of Br. Guiana," a subject dealt with in the last number of the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal*. The same author contributes a further instalment of his capital paper dealing with the "Silk Thread" issues of Switzerland. The following extract, relating to the destruction of the remainders of the 1859-62 issue, is of value:—

SUPPRESSION AND DESTRUCTION OF THE REMAINDERS.

On 2nd April, 1862, it was finally decided to destroy all the remaining stock of the thread issues on the appearance of the new issue. On 7th July, 1862, all the stock of 15 rap. stamps was called in, this value being now the least useful; after 1st September they were declared to be no longer current; and on December 29th, 1862, the whole stock (bar 104), amounting to 546,534 stamps, was burnt. All the other values were called in on 1st July, 1863, and were declared no longer current after 1st August, 1863. On

27th October and 28th November, 1863, the entire stock of all values was burnt.

Number destroyed:—

2 rap.	..	9,647	..	1,178
5 ..	..	7,909	..	5,335
10 ..	..	1,879	..	1,943
15 ..	..	40	..	2
20 ..	..	18,614	..	1,043
40 ..	..	185,422	..	2,972
1 franc	..	295,966	..	520

A further translated instalment of Capt. Ohrt's Handbook of Reprints and a number of short paragraphs of general interest, completes the list of the chief contents of our latest contemporary.

The January and February numbers of the *Monthly Report* of the Herts Philatelic Society are both excellent productions, containing much that is good.

In the January number the Editor, Mr. Franz Reichenheim, contributes a capital little paper dealing with the "Susse Perforation" of French stamps. A translation of Messrs. Susse Frères' letter to the their clients, offering to perforate stamps free of charge, is given, while the plate which accompanies the article shows a reproduction of Messrs. Susse's circular, showing at the bottom their method of perforation. In the February number we find the first instalment of what promises to be a very good article contributed by Mr. Rudolf Frenzel, entitled "Notes on Unpublished Varieties of the Postage Stamps of Mexico, until 1885," also the first instalment of an article dealing with that familiar subject "A Catalogue for Collectors," written by Mr. Burton F. J. Cooper.

Mr. Cooper, well known as a specialist in Queensland stamps, pluckily makes a commencement by listing the first few varieties of Queensland. We extract his list as far as it goes:—

QUEENSLAND.

1860. (Jan. 26).

Provisional Issue. Stamps of New South Wales of the issues 1854-6 used by the Queensland Post Office pending the receipt of a supply of its own stamps.

Watermark double-lined numeral corresponding to the value of the stamp. Imperf.

1. 1d. vermilion.
2. 2d. deep blue.
3. 3d. deep green.
4. 6d. grey.
5. 6d. yellow-brown.
6. 8d. orange.
7. 1s. red.

No wmk.

8. Registration Stamp. Orange and blue.

Variety. Error of watermark. 8 for 6.

9. 6d. grey.

The Issues next following were engraved and printed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co.

1860. (Nov. 1st). Type 1 (S.G.) Greyish white wove paper. Wmk. a large 6-rayed Star. Type W1.

## (a) Imperf.

- 10. 1d. carmine-rose.
- 11. 2d. deep blue.
- 12. 6d. deep green.
- 15. deep violet was prepared for use, but was not issued imperf.

## (b) Clean cut perfs., 14-16 simple and compound (A1).

- 13. 1d. carmine-rose.
- 14. 2d. deep blue.
- 15. 6d. deep green.
- 1860. Wmk., a small 6-rayed Star (13mm. long. Type 2).

## (a) Clean cut perfs., 14-16, simple and compound (A1).

- 16. 2d. blue (pale to deep). (1861).
- 17. 3d. brown. (1861, Mar. 9th).
- 18. 6d. deep green.
- 19. 1s. dull violet (1860, Nov. 15th).
- 20. Registered olive-yellow.

## Variety (i.) Imperf.

- 20a. 1d. carmine.
- 20b. 6d. green.
- 20c. 1s. violet.

Mr. Cooper deserves all praise for making a commencement. His idea is also that all the members of the Herts Society should lend a helping hand. The following extract explains how:—

My idea is that every member of the Herts Philatelic Society should bear his part in this work, by helping, with other members, to compile a list of his (or her) favourite country or countries. No doubt our specialist members would bear the brunt of such an undertaking, but those amongst us whose collections could not furnish any additions to the varieties already known, in any country, might render much useful assistance by thoroughly searching the files of philatelic journals and other publications. It is surprising what a number of interesting varieties unrecorded in the priced catalogues may be found hidden in the pages of the philatelic magazines and journals.

When all such information as is obtainable has been accumulated, I would suggest a committee of the Society, chosen not solely from advanced specialists, whose duty it would be to determine:—

- (i.) What are the leading varieties to which it would be desirable to direct the attention of the beginner.
- (ii.) What further varieties may be deemed worthy of collection by the "medium" collector or "limited specialist."

All remaining varieties would form an enumeration of what is possible to the advanced specialist.

Even if the task of listing the varieties of all stamp-issuing countries of the world should be found to be too exacting, it should not be impossible for our Society to publish such a catalogue of the stamps of Great Britain and her Colonies.

Our old friend, the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, has shown many and varied improvements of late months. In the number dated January 23rd we find the first instalment of a very interesting paper dealing with the "Laureated Stamps of New South Wales." In the copy dated February 6th we find the conclusion of this article. Mr. Walter Scott, the author, certainly does not add much to our knowledge of these most interesting stamps, but, as he so truly says: "I

think a stamp collector never tires of seeing and hearing what he has already seen and heard of his pet stamps." This remark is especially applicable to such old favourites as are the "Laureateds."

Mr. W. Macdonald MacKay is responsible for the first instalment of an article dealing with the "Stamps of Crete," being the paper read by him before the Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society.

Mr. H. Perkins also contributes his paper entitled "The Stamps of the Orange Free State, now the Orange River Colony" (why is it philatelists love such long headings?), read before the South Wales and Monmouthshire Philatelic Society.

The most important article, however, is the first instalment of Sigismond Jeans' work on the Stamps of Uruguay, translated into English. This translation, illustrated as it is with the original blocks used for the book should appeal strongly to those collectors interested in the fascinating stamps of Uruguay.

The February number of the *Stamp Lover* contains, as is to be expected, several capital articles. Mr. L. W. Crouch contributes a lengthy and interesting instalment of his paper entitled "The Postage Stamps and Cards of Hayti." Another interesting feature in an article entitled "Great Britain: Some Problems," wherein the writer deals with the subject of the transfer roller used for the old line-engraved penny stamps.

This controversy is of especial interest to those of our readers who have read Mr. Melville's recently published book on the line-engraved stamps of Great Britain. The following extract will doubtless be appreciated:—

## THE AD VARIETY.

A point on which we have had occasion to reconstruct our views is in reference to the "AD" variety described on page 82 of "Great Britain: Line-Engraved Stamps" as:—

"Traces of stars in lower right angle of stamp lettered AD. In early impressions similar traces can be seen in the lower left angle."

We are inclined to think that the reference to early impressions is wrong, inasmuch as a fuller examination of the process appears to show that those would be *later* impressions. The defect, as is well known, occurs on a plate which had an unusually long life, printing over one million impressions. It is a very prominent defect, and is scarcely likely to have been passed, had it appeared on the early impressions at all. In order to make ourselves quite clear, we had better explain the new theory in detail.

In laying down the roller it has been placed in the wrong position. The defect has been erased and the surface burnished, and the roller then applied in the correct position. We have ourselves witnessed such an error and correction, and have applied a powerful glass to the plate and found no trace of the original error.

The plate is put to press, and is, of course, perfect, no sign of the error being perceptible. After working the plate for a considerable period, however, it occasionally happens that the error will begin to show, and if one goes on long enough it should make a very noticeable impression.

There can be little question that this is what happened with the AD variety, for it is *most prominent* on the souvenir proof impression, which was the 1,000,000th or the 1,000,001st impression from the plate on which it occurs. Furthermore, it was *not* noted on the *imprimatur* sheet (a *first* impression) by Wright & Creeke, who were very painstaking in their examination of such details.

A short paper dealing with the Centenary of Lincoln and his portraiture on postage stamps; interesting reports of the recently held Paper-making Exhibition and other J.P.S. items; some good Reviews and some capital "Philatelic Nothings" complete a very good number of the *Stamp Lover*.

### Philately Abroad.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie.* 15th January, 1909.

A critical and statistical article on Commemorative Stamps has a prominent place in this Journal. The criticisms are mostly favourable, too favourable, we think, to these superfluous emissions, and it is broadly hinted that the publishers of the *Echo* might publish an album for Commemorative stamps only, which, it is averred, would supply a long felt want! How sadly and completely has the demise of the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps been justified! It is with sorrowful resignation that we read the following:—

"If the abuses of recent years are not renewed we might predict a great future for Commemorative stamps. They are nearly all pretty, very few are rare, and they disseminate an agreeable perfume of history."

A Commemorative is defined as "a stamp issued or surcharged by the Government of a Country for the purpose of recalling the memory of an event in the history, or a phase in the evolution, of that country." It is further stated that a Commemorative, must, to come under that philatelic classification, be of a certain provisional character. This definition excludes such stamps as the 1869 issue of United States, the 10d. Canada, of 1852 with portrait of Jacques Cartier, and other complimentary but not ephemeral productions.

We are then reminded truly, but illogically, that the first Commemorative stamp ever

issued, was the 1d. lilac, New South Wales, of 1888, which, with its companions of the same series, commemorated the 100th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Colony. It is quite true that this is a commemorative but it was not by any means a provisional, as it remained in use for upwards of ten years! The next Commemorative in chronological order is the 2 cents Hong Kong of 1891, with the Jubilee surcharge. It did not take the Roumanian authorities very long to see the possibilities of this kind of issue and they followed the Hong Kong, in the same year, with a series of Jubilee stamps.

Though not quite the first in the field, Roumania easily holds the discreditable record for the largest number of Commemoratives issued by any one country, namely 51, all issued in the course of fifteen years.

The following is a list of the countries which have offended in this way, with the number of different Commemoratives that they have issued. No perforation, or other varieties are included, and in cases where Commemoratives have been converted into regular issues by the addition of surcharges, these have also been excluded. As an instance of the latter, the De Ruyter Postage Due stamps of Holland are cited. The list comprises stamps included in Yvert et Tellier's Catalogue, latest edition.

Azores	36	Macua	8
Port. Africa	8	Madeira	8
Br. S. Africa	6	Mauritius	2
Argentine	3	Montenegro	34
Austria	17	Mozambique	9
Barbados	17	Mozambique Co.	13
Belgium	5	Nicaragua	8
Rhopal	1	New Caledonia	22
Brazil	8	New South Wales	8
Bulgaria	12	New Zealand	5
Canada	25	Paraguay	1
*China	10	Holland	3
Corea	2	Peru	13
Austrian Crete	6	Porto Rico	1
Dominican Republic	22	Portugal	42
Ecuador	20	Roumania	51
Spain	10	St. Helena	6
United States	39	St. Lucia	1
Greece	26	San Marino	3
Guatemala	14	Salvador	6
Grenada	1	Servia	8
Hayti	13	Shanghai	8
Br. Guiana	5	Switzerland	3
Hong Kong	1	Newfoundland	14
Port. Indies	8	Tamor	8
Inhambane	14	Tonga	1
Japan	10	Transvaal	1
Labuan	6	Trinidad	1
Johore	7	Uruguay	10
Leeward Isles	8	Venezuela	9
Aust. Levant	9	Wurtemberg	15
Lenzeno Marques	17		

The grand total of these is 708. It will be noticed that the importance of a country is, as a rule, in inverse ratio to the size of its contribution to this list, though the United States cuts an inglorious figure with a total of 39. France, Germany, and Great Britain are all free from *adhesive* commemoratives, and so, also, is Russia, but the last mentioned country

issued a set of War labels which, if not commemoratives, are quite as bad.

The *Echo* also contains, in the same number, an article on the 1906 issue for French Post Offices in Indo-China, giving a concise history of the facts in connection with the three printings of the overprints. The third printing was made recently at Saigan, and though it is said to be from the same type as the others, can be easily distinguished from the first and second printings by the glossiness of the ink. In the case of the red surcharge it is impossible to be mistaken, for, while the 1906 issue was overprinted with bright, shining Chinese ink, that of the third printing is pale and dull. This third printing is, happily for speculators, only a small one and will hardly affect the value of the set, while the rare values, 75c. and 2fr., will be as difficult to get as ever.

A further instalment of the translation of Ohrt's book on Reprints, a newsy "English Letter," by Wm. Ward, and the usual new issue chronicle make up a splendid year's number.

*Le Timbre-Poste.* 10th January, 1909.

This number opens with a translation of Mr. Pemberton's article on Malta, which appeared in the *P.J. of G.B.* in June, 1907. This is followed by a capital article on the stamps of Tahiti. In this, two types of the surcharge 25c. on 35c. of 1882 are illustrated; the first type has the "C" rather open and measuring 4mm. in height—this is the one illustrated in Gibbons' Catalogue; in the second type the tail of the "C" is more rounded and the letter measures only 3mm. in height. It so happens that the illustration in the French Official Catalogue is of this type II. It is explained that these surcharges were hand-struck from a block made of box-wood; from this it may be easily understood that minor varieties may be found, caused by defective printing and the wearing of the wood. Four different printings of this surcharge were made on June 9th, July 11th, August 10th and September 6th, 1882, respectively.

The same surcharge is also found on the 40c. vermilion, and on the 35c. straw, perforated, both of which are very rare, especially the latter of which only a few copies are known, one copy, on entire, being in the celebrated collection of M. Phillipe La Renotière.

*L'Annonce Timbrologique.* January 1909.

This newsy journal contains an exceptionally interesting lot of notes, also an exhaustive article on the recently issued Belgian Congo surcharges. It appears that these surcharges were first printed from type and afterwards by typography. Further, the type-set surcharges are found in three varieties. Here we have an issue that has not yet been in use for three months, and yet what has, or might be, written

about, them would fill a book. If the surcharges had been printed twenty years ago, the small differences would have passed unnoticed by the philatelic press of that period and would have provided an interesting subject for research to later-day philatelists. Even though they have been noted so soon there seems to be much difficulty in deciding as to the order in which the three types of the typographed surcharges were issued.

*Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde.*

The January number contains some interesting notes by Heer J. E. Bohlmeijer on different settings of the figures of value in the Dutch postage dues. In the same number the 2½c. on 10c. Curaçao of 1897 is reported with the perforation 13½, i.e. Gibbons' No. 16, surcharged with type 6.

The *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* of January 27th, contains, among many other interesting items, a few notes from this journal, duly acknowledged, but in a couple of instances the translation is the exact opposite of what we had intended to convey. *Verb. sap.*

The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* begins a highly interesting article on the precursors of postage stamps of the German Foreign Post Offices and Protectorates.

These correspond to our own "used abroad," and like them, well repay studying. The author, Herr Joseph Kröger, has the subject at his fingers' ends, and has the additional charm of wielding a facile pen. He begins with the German offices in the Levant, enumerating the (unsurcharged) German stamps used, and illustrating the various postmarks; after similarly dealing with the Offices in China and Morocco, he takes the protectorates seriatim, and has so far dealt with German New Guinea and East Africa. No specialist in German Colonies should fail to subscribe to the *I.B.J.*, if merely for the purpose of this series of articles.

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## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

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The *Philatelic Journal of India* for January contains some interesting reading matter. In the Editorial, another of Mr. Crofton's plain spoken outbursts, we find some curious reading. Dealing with the financial side of philately Mr. Crofton does not shine, as is evident from the fact that he is apparently unaware that there is any such thing as bulling and bearing in stamps. We make an extract:—

There was a time when every British stamp collector who could pay £10 for a stamp bought, let us say, a 4d. Ceylon imperf. Now-a-days nearly everyone who can afford that sum is a specialist, and it is a good deal more than ten to one against his being a specialist

in old Ceylons. In this connexion it would be interesting to take a census of the Royal Society itself. The result would probably reflect the position of the general philatelic public fairly accurately. We think it is the growth of specialism which has depreciated the stock rarity, and so long as fresh vistas of specialism open out, so long also will the stock rarity continue to depreciate until it reaches the usually lower level of the general collectors' purse. Even among general collectors there is a problem whether their increase is as rapid as the increase of collectible varieties, and even if it is so, it becomes more and more difficult for a general collector to put £10 into a single stamp. If general collecting is to continue, it must of necessity exclude more and more of those stamps which can possibly be rejected on the score of being mere varieties. When, in the not far distant future, watermarks and perforations find no place in general collections, the market for the rarer Perkins Bacon Ceylons will suffer a further serious relapse.

Our Indian contemporary seems to have overlooked the fact that whereas the general collector was satisfied, ten years ago, with one 4d. Ceylon imperf., the specialist of to-day takes *ten*. Also that specialism tends to glorify the watermark and perforation of a stamp.

A continuation of "The Current Number of Colonial Stamps," and an article entitled "The Employment of De la Rue Postage Stamps in the Bombay Presidency," complete the principal contents of our exchange. From the latter article we extract the following concerning the 6a. 8p. stamps of 1867:—

The 6 annas 8 pies value was first issued in Bombay on the 29th April, 1867, 1,000 sheets having been received from Calcutta on that date. Only one other supply was received, namely, 1,572 sheets from England on the 3rd July, 1868. Nearly 1,716 sheets were destroyed on the 4th July, 1874, which, with the six sheets reserved, leaves a total consumption of 750 sheets. It has often been stated that this stamp in unused condition is underpriced in the catalogues. Personally we do not share this opinion, for the 18 reserved sheets, amounting to nearly 3,000 specimens, are believed to have all been placed on the home market, and these added to the normal importations by dealers while the stamps were current, must take a great deal of working off. The truth of the matter is that the stamp is much scarcer in India than it is at home, both in used condition, because it was employed almost entirely for home postage, and unused, because of the 3,000 remainders.

The remaining items are a capital review and criticism of Mr. Poole's recently published Hong Kong Handbook; a number of reprinted press notices relating to the Afghanistan Hand-book; a budget of "Notes and News" and a short review of the philatelic papers.

The December number of the *Australian Philatelist* contains little likely to interest home readers, as it is mostly filled with local Societies' news, and reviews of books, already noticed in the English papers.

The following information, relating to the printing of the current 4d., 6d., 8d. and 1/- N.S.W. stamps, may be of interest to our readers:—

Until recently the New South Wales 4d., 6d., 8d., and 1/- (current types) were placed "heads and tails" on the plate. To be more precise, 240 stamps were on one plate, 120 were placed topside up and 120 were placed upside down. After the sheet of 240 was printed it was cut in two. Apart there is no difference on the face of the stamp—some would say the watermark was inverted: this is not so; it was the stamp that was inverted. Now, since the new electros were made, all the stamps are placed the same way.

The December number of the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal* contains a number of capital articles and is, altogether, a very creditable number of our half yearly contemporary. The principal contribution is a paper on "The 1888 Provisional Issue of British Guiana," by Mr. A. D. Ferguson. We make two lengthy extracts:—

The stamps which form the subject of this paper were surface printed in double fugitive ink by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., from the British Guiana plate of the issue of 1876 upon wove paper, watermarked Crown CA. The cent values, of which there were ten, viz.: 1c., 2c., 3c., 4c., 6c., 8c., 10c., 20c., 40c. and 72c., were printed in double fugitive purple and the dollar values of which there were five, viz.:—\$1, \$2, \$3, \$4 and \$5, were printed in double fugitive green. These stamps were overprinted in black type "Inland" over the word "Postage" in the top label, and "Revenue" at the bottom, in the vacant label where the value appeared in the 1876 type. This overprint being 1½ mm. high. The values were printed in black type 3mm. high, about 1mm. above the top purple line of the lower label.

The gum which was originally of a whitish colour became, in the course of years, a dark brown. The stamps were supplied to the colony in panes of 60 stamps, machine perforated 14.

*Varieties*:—The overprinting on these stamps are very free from errors or flaws. There are, however, a few that are worthy of being chronicled.

4c.—In each pane of 60 stamps the 3rd vertical row of 10 stamps has a large 4; the other 50 stamps have a small 4.

6c.—In each pane of 60 stamps the 4th and 6th vertical rows of 10 stamps have the figures six with a straight top, thus:—6—while the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th vertical rows of 10 stamps have the figures six with a curved top, thus:—6

\$4.—In each pane of 60 stamps the 2nd vertical row of 10 stamps has a large 4; the other 50 stamps have a small 4.

The words "Inland" and "Revenue" are also found badly centred in the labels and in some instances the letters "I" and "R" are printed beyond the purple line of frame.

From the tabulated list given below you will observe that the catalogued values as per S. Gibbons do not correctly represent the relative scarcity of this issue. Of the cent values the 40c. is the rarest. The \$1, \$2 and \$4 are equally scarce. Considering that most of these stamps issued were used fiscally. I regard the catalogue prices, except perhaps the \$1, to be much below their actual value. The low values are probably correctly priced according to the numbers issued.

These stamps have been generally unpopular among collectors abroad and probably more so in Europe, and the cause is solely due to their being classed as fiscal

stamps. They are however, full of interest and form a very desirable series of the postage and revenue stamps of British Guiana, and not being much sought after the numbers in existence of the higher values much be very small, and they are consequently much scarcer than is imagined.

## SYNOPSIS OF ISSUE.

	Stamps supplied by De la Rue & Co.	Surcharged in Colony 15th July 1890.	Destroyed in Colony Nov. 7, 1901, & 26th Jan., 1905.	Issue in the Colony.
1c.	123,000	..	..	123,000
2c.	307,800	273,300	..	34,500
3c.	123,000	..	46,273	86,727
4c.	123,000	..	39,910	83,090
6c.	123,000	..	..	123,000
8c.	123,000	..	71,517	51,483
10c.	123,000	..	96,595	26,405
20c.	123,000	..	111,003	11,997
40c.	121,200	..	117,061	4,139
72c.	123,000	..	110,401	12,599
\$1	123,000	121,800	..	1,200
\$2	121,800	111,000	9,561	1,239
\$3	123,000	111,000	..	12,000
\$4	123,000	54,000	67,467	1,533*
\$5	123,000	..	..	123,000

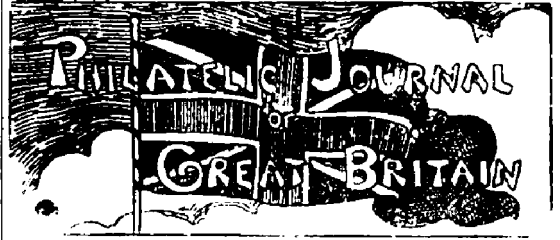
\* This represents about 255 with large 4.

## An Interesting "Split."

BY WALLABY.

I HAVE just added to my collection of entires a cover, franked with a 10c. New Brunswick stamp, together with a diagonally divided half of another 10c. stamp. These stamps are in a pair and are cancelled with the usual post-mark employed for the pence, and the early cents issues, namely an oval shaped gridiron containing a number of short vertical bars. The postmarks on the back, five in number are all illegible, one looks as if it might be "W. O. Armstrong's Brook," one "—Pettico—" while of the remaining three none is decipherable, although one certainly might commence with the letters B.A.T. (Bathurst?). I have studied an up-to-date map of the Province of N.B. and cannot locate these "possible" places. There is a township named "Petitcodiac," not far from Harvey, Albert County (the destination of the letter), possibly this is one of the offices through which it passed.

I wonder if any of the readers of this journal can help solve the problem? The cover is undoubtedly authentic, but I cannot find any reason for a 15c. rate being needed. Several combinations are known of the pence stamps, in split varieties, to make up the equivalent rate of 7½d., but these were used on letters sent to addresses outside N.B. The half of a 10c. stamp, used as a 5c. value, is also well known, as this was permitted by the postal authorities owing to the delay that was caused by the famous Connell stamps being printed bearing a photo of that gentleman.



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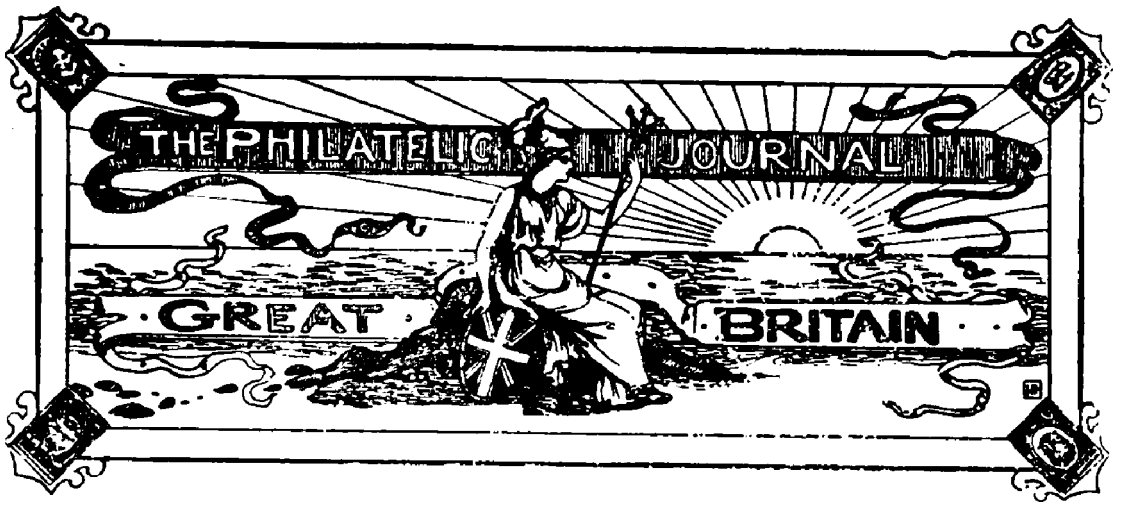
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### Publishers' Note.

OWING to pressure on our space we have unfortunately been compelled to hold over our reviews of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Scott's new catalogues, both of which publications are excellent in every respect. Next month we hope to publish these reviews, and at the same time we are going to devote more attention to our New Issue Columns. We have also in hand the first instalment of an exceptionally good article on Chili stamps, from the pen of that well known specialist, J. R. Burton, which we hope to publish in our March number. Moral: Look out for the next P. J. G. B.





The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, and the Sheffield Philatelic Society.

No. 219. VOL. XIX.

MARCH 20, 1909.

[PRICE 2D.]

## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

THE output of new issues increases at such an alarming rate, that many general collectors have, of late years, fully realized the impossibility of keeping their albums up to date. This being so, it almost naturally follows that an increasing number of collectors give up the hobby altogether, or specialize in the stamps of one or more countries. To our mind specialism is the natural outgrowth of, and the natural cure for, this increasing plethora of unsavoury varieties, but it must be remembered that in some instances the cure is apt to prove as harmful as the evil it is intended to remedy. By this we mean the collector who commences, without mature experience, to specialize, in a headstrong fashion, in the stamps of one or more countries, is apt to create a demand for abnormal stamps, a demand which some dealers, and in some instances postal officials, are only too eager to pander to. As an instance of this, we can quote the recent surcharged Cayman Islands stamps, Maldives, and many others. Those purists who maintain that these recently surcharged abortions were the result of a genuine shortage of certain values at the local post offices, are to a certain extent

right in their deductions. Were they to consider, however, that this lack of certain values was only brought about by London dealers, and others, who invested in these denominations, they would, we are sure, see the wisdom of our calling such stamps "made for collector varieties."

Surely no collector, whether he fancies stamps, coins, books, china, or any of the hundred and one hobbies of accumulation to which flesh is heir, would willingly purchase and treasure some curiosity that had been manufactured with the sole object of extracting money from his purse.

The plea of the rabid new issue collector generally is that the stamps are issued by the postal authorities, and, as some of them have done postal duty, they are collectible. O gullible collector, no wonder your friend, who has hobbies other than stamps, regards you as being beyond the pale of sanity! Imagine the china enthusiast's disgust were he told that he had to add some recent tawdry example of table ware to his cabinets, simply because there was a big demand and a big sale for such an article! Fortunately, specialism and accumulation are not synonymous, although a great many collectors think both words have the same meaning. One of the worst features of modern day collecting is that "collector"

speculators hoard whole sheets of King's Heads and cloak their defence with the plea that they are specialists.

Another unnecessary type of specialist is the collector who has an unhealthy appetite for abnormal varieties of overprints; not satisfied with a horizontal

surcharge, he persists in searching until he finds a vertically overprinted specimen. Needless to say, there are plenty of people who are ready to willingly oblige, with the result that vertical, diagonal inverted, and every other kind of perverted surcharge is placed on the market.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**British South Africa.** It is rumoured that the current B.S.A. stamps will shortly be issued surcharged "Rhodesia," also that a new set in a new design is contemplated.

**Federated Malay States.** The *Monthly Circular* chronicles the two following novelties. The paper and watermark are not mentioned, but we think they can be safely listed as ordinary multiple.

*Adhesives.* Wmk. multiple C.A., ordinary paper.  
3 cents red.  
8 .. blue.

**Gold Coast.** — The *Monthly Circular* chronicles the 6d. stamp printed entirely in purple.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. multiple C.A.  
6d. purple.

**Indian Native States.** *Hyderabad.* Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co. send us the following varieties, which do not appear to have been chronicled:—

*Adhesives.* Perf. 12½.



½ anna, slate-purple.  
1 .. green.  
1 .. red.  
2 .. mauve.

**Jamaica.** A correspondent to *Ewen's*

*Weekly Stamp News* says the following novelty has been issued —

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Crown and CA multiple.  
2½ red-brown.

**Mauritius.** The *Monthly Circular* chronicles the following values in a "redrawn type." We described these stamps in the November *P.J.G.B.*

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 2c. stamp. The main feature of the altered design seems to be that the key is turned to the right.

*Adhesives.*  
2c. brown.  
3c. green.  
6c. rose.  
15c. blue.

**New Hebrides.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the discovery of a block of the ½d. on single wmkd. paper. Mr. O. Marsh, the discoverer, says he found the block amongst a batch on the multiple paper.

*Adhesive.* Fiji stamp surcharged "New Hebrides Condominium." Wmk. Crown and C.A.  
½d. green.

**New Zealand.** We have received from Mr. Pottinger a copy of the new surface printed 1d. stamp, overprinted "Official." Mr. Leon tells us he has received a block of four of the new stamps without the overprint. It is fairly obvious that Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., having taken over the preparation of uniform sizes for the New Zealand stamps (*vide* 3d., 6d. and 1/-) have decided to cut a new die for the 1d. value, rather than use the one prepared by Messrs. Waterlow & Co. The stamp differs from its predecessors. In the first place it is printed on surfaced paper and produced by the surface printing method. The whole design has been redrawn, the most noticeable points of difference being that the rosettes in the upper corners have been considerably altered, the shading on the dress of

the figure in the centre of the stamp is very distinct, and is vertical, instead of diagonal, and the lines of shading on the globe are diagonal. There are also other well defined differences.

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 6d. stamp, reduced size, overprinted "Official."

*Adhesive.* From a new die, surfaced printed on surfaced paper, wmkd. N.Z. and Star, perf. 14 x 15.

1d. carmine.  
*Surcharged Official.*

1d. (as before).  
6d., reduced size. Perf. 14 x 13½.

**Papua.** The perforation of the 2/6 stamp chronicled last month should, it appears, be 11.

**Straits Settlements.** The *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift* chronicles specimen copies of a 5c. orange King's Head stamp.

**Transvaal.** The *Monthly Circular* chronicles the 2½ King's Head stamp, all in blue.

*Adhesive.* Multiple wmkd.  
2½d. ultramarine.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Abyssinia.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us seven of the newly issued stamps. We hope to illustrate the designs next month.

<i>Adhesives.</i>	
½ guerche,	pale green.
1 "	rose.
2 "	green and orange-red.
2 "	blue.
4 "	green and rose.
8 "	red and green.
16 "	brown-red and rose.

**Argentine Republic.** The values of the new "San Martin" set of stamps are coming out but slowly. The *Metropolitan Philatelist* chronicles the 30c, and *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* the 10c. The following have also been issued:—

<i>Adhesive.</i>	Perf.	13, 13½.	Wmkd.	Sun.
3 centavos,				green.
4 "				violet-brown.
10 "				slate-green.
30 "				claret.

**Crete.** In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* dated February 27th we find no fewer than twenty-nine varieties of the recently overprinted "Ellas" stamps chronicled. In most cases one of the letters has been omitted, or else the whole surcharge is inverted.

**Dutch Indies.** Several of our contemporaries announce that a new series of stamps, all values up to the 50c. will shortly be put into circulation.

**France.** *Martinique.* Two more values similar to those chronicled by us in January have now made their appearance.

<i>Adhesives.</i>	
5c.	purple-brown and green.
10c.	" and carmine.

**New Hebrides.** The *Australian Philatelist* in chronicling the New Caledonian stamps (which we listed last October) says:—

"We have received the series overprinted on New Caledonia stamps as announced in our November number. They came to hand from Port Vila on the 14th December. Several of our English contemporaries announce the issue of these stamps. This is owing to the fact that the stamps for all French colonies are procurable at the Postal Bureau in Paris.

"We have been informed that both the British and French Resident Commissioners in the New Hebrides have decided to prohibit the sale of the new stamps in large quantities to dealers, the idea being to check trafficking in them.

"We have been further informed that the omission of the word 'Condominium' from the New Caledonia stamps was an error, and as soon as the present supply is exhausted it will be rectified."

**Italian Foreign P.O.** We learn from *Ewen's Stamp Weekly* that eight sets have been issued, one with each name.

*Adhesives.* Surcharged at foot of each stamp.

- 1 Constantinopol.
- 2 Durazzo.
- 3 Gerusalemme.
- 4 Iania.
- 5 Salonico.
- 6 Scutari d'Albania.
- 7 Smirne.
- 8 Valona.

10 para	in black on 5c. green.
20 "	" " 10c. rose.
30 "	in violet, 15c. grey.
1 piatra	in black on 25c. blue.
2 piastre	" on 50c. violet.
4 "	" on 1 lira brown and green.
20 "	" on 5 lire rose and blue.

**Italy. Levant.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us specimens of the current 15c Italian stamp, overprinted 30 PARA 30, in violet for use in the Levant.

*Adhesive.* Italian stamp surcharged for use in the Levant.  
30 para on 15c. slate.

**Panama. Canal Zone.** The *Metropolitan Philatelist* (U.S.A.), chronicles the first of the new set as follows:—

"The first of the new set for the Zone has at length been issued, it will be remembered that we announced that the Panama stamps on which it is surcharged was ready as early as July last. The new stamp is similar to the one it supersedes, but both plates are engraved in place of a lithographed head in an engraved frame as heretofore. Head of Jose de Obaldia in arched frame, inscription above 'Correos Republica de Panama' below value in two lines. Outside the frame is the imprint of the American Bank Note Co. The surcharge 'Canal Zone' is about as heretofore."

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* also chronicles a new 2½c stamp.

<i>Adhesives.</i>	
2½c.	red.
10c.	violet and black.

**Paraguay.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us four stamps of the "1904" type overprinted "1908" in black. The *Monthly Circular* chronicles the 20c. value as well.



*Adhesives.*

1 centavo,	green.
5	.. green.
10	.. brown.
20	.. orange.
30	.. red.

**Roumania.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us specimens of the new 3b. stamps. *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* also chronicles the 1b.

*Adhesives.*

1b.	black.
3b.	chestnut.

**Russia.** Two more values have been added to the stamps chronicled last month.

*Adhesives.* Perf. 14, 14½.

1k.	orange.
4k.	rose.

The design of the 4k. is slightly different from that of the other values, as the figure of value is at each side.



**Surinam.** We are indebted to *Mekel's Weekly* for the following information:—

"Jan de Vries sends a novelty from Surinam and we are also indebted to A. W. Dunning and the Scott Stamp and Coin Co. for a glimpse of the same stamp. It seems that the regular supply of stamps failed, and pending the arrival of a new lot from the Netherlands the local printer was called upon, and with the aid of a set of fancy corner pieces and some ornamental type, managed to produce a very creditable looking stamp. The size is  $21\frac{1}{2} \times 25\frac{1}{2}$  mm., the printing being a horizontal oblong, like the regular stamps. The colour is practically the same as the regular issue. The stamps are issued in sheets of 100 stamps, ten rows of ten stamps, five rows with top of stamps in normal position, while the other five rows are inverted. Evidently there was but one forme of 50 stamps,

and two operations were required to complete each sheet. Therefore the two vertical rows in the centre of the stamp are available for tête bêche pairs. The stamps are perforated with a curious sawtooth roulette, but very well done, so that the separation is clean and well defined. Mr. de Vries says they were issued at Paramaribo, Jan. 20, and will remain in use until a new supply is received from the mother country."

*Adhesive.*

5c. red.

**Switzerland.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us the new 10c., 12c. and 15c. stamps. We illustrate the design.



*Adhesives.* Wmk. Cross. Perf. 11½, 12.

10c.	red.
12c.	yellow-brown.
15c.	mauve.

**United States.** The remaining value of the new set has made its appearance. We also received, on Feb. 22nd, the new Lincoln Commemorative 2c. stamps. Messrs. J. F. Seybold, J. C. Woolley (of the Boston Philatelic Society), and E. Wilson, kindly sent up specimens.

*Adhesives.* 1908-9 series.

\$1 brown-black.

*Commemorative Stamp.*

2c. carmine.

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 5c. blue of the issue just superseded, in an imperf. condition.

1902-3 issue.

5c. blue, imperforate.

## Death of Mr. Nankivell.

With deep regret we have to announce the death, on the 18th March, of Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, at the age of 61. As a collector, and a writer on Philately, Mr. Nankivell was widely known and respected, while of late years he had edited the *Postage Stamp* with conspicuous success.

The sad news only reaches us just as we go to press. Next month we shall give a more extended notice of his life and career.

# Notes on Australian Stamps.

BY THE EDITOR.

(Continued from Page 32).

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

### 4. STAMPS PERFORATED X ROULETTE.

Although I have classified the perforated by roulette stamps into a group by themselves, I do not consider them of very great importance. In my opinion they are merely an intermediate group, and are on a par with the "not so" and "very rough" perforations of West Australia. The catalogue, however, gives a list of stamps perf.  $11\frac{1}{2}$  X roulette, also  $12\frac{1}{2}$  X roulette, the two stamps belonging to the latter list being decidedly rare. As previously explained, it is not my intention to list in these articles a lot of minor uncatalogued varieties. I know many such, but the catalogue is, for the general collector and the amateur specialist, already overburdened. I will therefore try to confine my attention to the business of trying to explain a few matters of philatelic interest which the prescribed nature of a general catalogue does not allow. The early stamps of South Australia being rectangular, and printed in twenty horizontal rows of twelve, it follows that two sides of a sheet would measure considerably more than would the two remaining sides. This being the case, we find that the  $11\frac{1}{2}$  machine was only used for perforating the horizontal rows, the vertical rows being put through the rouletting process. As a rule, the roulettes show up very distinctly, and no confusion is likely to take place in distinguishing between a perf. by roulette and a perforated stamp. There is, however, always the possibility that the roulettes have been faked—a not very difficult operation for the up-to-date faker. A frequent mistake for some collectors to make is to call stamps perf.  $11\frac{1}{2}$  all round, perf. by roulette, simply because the vertical rows of perforation happen to be less clean cut than the top and bottom rows. The shades of the perf. by roulette stamps in nearly every case are identical with those of the late rouletted stamps.

### 5. THE PERFORATED STAMPS.

In connection with the early perforated stamps, we find we have three gauges to deal with, namely,  $11\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , and 10, or any of these compound. The  $11\frac{1}{2}$  machine was undoubtedly the first, as it was sent out from London in July, 1867, and brought into use almost immediately on its arrival in the colony. The  $12\frac{1}{2}$  perforation is not so easily accounted for, in fact there is still a good deal to be learnt concerning this gauge. In conjunction with  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , the  $12\frac{1}{2}$  perforation is common; by itself, however (*i.e.*, stamps perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$  all round), it is extremely rare. The opinion generally held

by specialists in South Australian stamps is that the  $12\frac{1}{2}$  stamps were perforated by the  $11\frac{1}{2}$  machine,—in other words, that the pins of the  $11\frac{1}{2}$  machine were so irregularly spaced that for about an eighth of their total length they were so arranged that they gave a gauge of  $12\frac{1}{2}$ . Personally, I believe this to be so. This being the case, it was really the result of an accident when stamps were perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$  all round, and probably they were produced by a left footed or handed operator at the machine. This somewhat peculiar explanation is perfectly feasible when the size of the sheets is considered, in conjunction with the fact that the row of perforating pins would be longer than the row of stamps. If an illustration is needed, take a piece of cardboard, say 6in. by  $5\frac{1}{2}$ in., to represent the sheet of stamps, and a pencil about seven inches long to represent the row of teeth of the machine. If it is granted that the first six inches of the pencil gives a gauge of  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , and the seventh inch a gauge of  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , it is quite easy to follow in practice the fact that the same sheet of stamps could contain stamps with a perforation of  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , and of  $11\frac{1}{2}$  with  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , also, possibly,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , according to the way the operator "fed" the machine. A well known authority on South Australian stamps, however, believes that a machine perforating  $12\frac{1}{2}$  was in use, and the reason that stamps with this perforation are so scarce, is that the  $12\frac{1}{2}$  machine was almost invariably used in conjunction with either the  $11\frac{1}{2}$  or the 10 gauge, and not by itself.

His reason for this belief is that stamps showing the irregular gauge, *i.e.*,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  on the same side, are only known with fairly rough perforations—a fact which seems to prove that the machine had done a considerable amount of work before the compound perforations were arrived at. Furthermore, the very early shades of the perforated stamps are not known with the irregular perfs.

This theory is, of course, a plausible one, especially if the needles of the  $11\frac{1}{2}$  machine were altered in their alignment when the machine was repaired (granted that repairs were needed, a very likely contingency). Moreover, the fact that the  $12\frac{1}{2}$  stamps are known amongst the earliest of the perforated stamps, with very clean cut holes, is slightly in favour of this theory.

When experts disagree, however, it is not for me to say who is in the wrong. The matter, however, is of importance, inasmuch as if the  $12\frac{1}{2}$  stamps are from the same

machine as are those perforated  $11\frac{1}{2}$  all round, they should not, in my opinion, be given catalogue rank as main varieties. If, however they were perforated by a  $12\frac{1}{2}$  machine they are as important as any other standard perforation variety. Perhaps Mr. Hausberg or Mr. Yardley, or Mr. Kutner, will come to my help with a lucid explanation?

In dealing with the shades of the early rouletted and perforated stamps, it is a noticeable fact that dated copies of used stamps, although very numerous, are not quite so reliable to base one's studies on as the dated copies of many other Colonies. By this, I mean that some shades seem common for a certain period, then almost disappear and then perhaps turn up again a year or so later. I have heard several explanations of this, one very plausible idea being that before the stock

economical, the printers would, instead of allowing the residue of ink to spoil, utilize it for printing a reserve stock of stamps ready to fill future orders. These surplus sheets might easily remain on the printers' hands for a considerable time, with the result that when they eventually found their way to Adelaide P.O., they practically constituted a "re-issue."

Arranging the perforated stamps on first Star paper, according to my grouping, we find that we have—

- (1) Perforated  $11\frac{1}{2}$ .
- (2) "  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ , or  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ .
- (3) " 10.
- (4) " 10 and compound.
- (5) "  $12\frac{1}{2}$ .

The catalogue arrangement, namely, that of mixing the surface printed 1d. and 2d. stamps



Wm. Hecks & Son  
 Gray, Inc  
 London.

of a certain value ran too low a fresh supply was ordered; when the new sheets arrived they were placed on top of the old ones, with the result that perhaps three or four thousand sheets would have to be "worked" off before the remainder of the old stock came to light. The obvious result of such a proceeding would apparently be a "re-issue" of certain shades.

Mr. Kutner, however, thinks that in all likelihood the reason for these apparent "re-issues" is that the printers, on receiving an order for a certain number of sheets would mix a "bath" of ink, and, it being impossible to gauge the exact amount of ink required, it would naturally follow that a certain quantity would be left over after the requisite number of stamps had been printed off. Being

and their many varieties, with the perforation varieties of the early-line engraved stamps is, to my mind, apt to be confusing, although I admit it to be chronologically correct. No new dies were made for any of the perforated stamps, the only *new* value, namely the three-pence stamp, being created by printing from the fourpenny die in blue, and afterwards surcharging with the value "3 PENCE" in red or black ink. The only main colour change that took place was the printing of the ninepence stamps in 1872, in varying shades of violet, against the original grey-lilac shades of 1860-67. It will thus be seen that the plate for the ninepenny stamps was made considerable use of, first to print the original "ninepenny" grey-lilac stamps. Second, to print yellow and orange stamps afterwards, sur-

charged and used as a "tenpenny value. Third, to print brown stamps afterwards surcharged "8 Pence"; and finally, until its abandonment in 1902, it was used for printing huge supplies of the violet stamps.

(To be continued.)

## New Leaves to Cut.

### STANLEY GIBBONS' CATALOGUE.

\*TWENTIETH EDITION, 1909.

#### PART 2—FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

In the new edition of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue of Foreign Stamps we find a number of improvements. To commence with our green friend has taken unto himself thirty additional pages, while many countries have been wholly or partially re-written. The question of prices has evidently received careful consideration, with the result that there are far more advances than reductions. As the financial side of our hobby naturally appeals to a large number of collectors we will consider the matter of pricing. In the first place there seem to be few if any advances in the prices of "stock" rarities, such old friends as the first issues of Saxony, Reunion, Schleswig-Holstein, Sandwich Islands and many others show no changes. In some countries however we find very considerable advances, notably those popular countries Uruguay, Egypt and the United States; although even here the alterations in value seem in many cases only to affect certain issues. As an instance of this we note that the 1859 to 1872 issues of Uruguay, the first three issues of Egypt, and the popular early stamps of the United States, all show a constant rise, while the middle and later issues of those countries show practically no variation.

In Uruguay we find one or two marked changes, for instance, the 80c. yellow of 1860, priced at 6/- unused, last year, is now 15/-; while the 6c. brick red of 1864, formerly 12/-, and 4/- used, is now 18/-, both used and mint. One stamp, however, in the Uruguayan section has suffered a relapse, namely the inverted surcharge of the 1c. on 20c. orange of 1892, formerly 40/- now only 25/-.

Turning to Egypt we notice a steady but not sensational rise in the prices of the early stamps, although a few of the quite common stamps have "jumped up," to wit, the modest 1 piastre rose-red of 1867, now 2/6 and 3d., against last year's 1/- and 1d. The *tête bêche* varieties, curiously enough, have fallen considerably from grace, as is evidenced from the following list:

\* Published by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391, Strand, W.C. Price 2/6.

	1908.		1909.	
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
10 para	25 0	25 0	20 0	20 0
1 pia.	25 0	30 0	25 0	20 0
2	80 0	—	60 0	70 0
2½	100 0	—	80 0	80 0

Several countries, notably Persia, Turkey, Panama, Paraguay, Siam and Nicaragua, have been re-written. In the last mentioned Republic we find, among other improvements, that the 1907 issue of Waterlow stamps has been reduced to seven values, against the thirteen of the previous catalogue. Those collectors who find the varieties of the 1851-60 issue of the United States confusing will welcome the new illustrations embellishing that section.

As we have stated before, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' catalogues are a marvel of accuracy and cheapness, both of which factors make the 1909, Part 2, a great acquisition.

### SCOTT'S STANDARD CATALOGUE.

\*SIXTY-EIGHTH EDITION, 1909.

The Standard American catalogue arrived a few days in advance of the 1909 Gibbons, and a comparison between the two volumes is interesting. In Messrs. Scott's publication we find 781 pages, containing lists of the whole world's postal issues, whereas in our S.G. we find 665 pages devoted to foreign stamps only. Needless to say the Scott catalogue does not go into detail to the same extent as its English rival. For that reason, and because minor varieties are given in very small type, enabling the collector to ignore all but the most important, we think that Messrs. Scott's catalogue is the best in existence for the general collector. One serious drawback the U.S.A. publication suffers from is the fact that the U.S.A. section is not illustrated except by means of diagrams, while the stamp blocks used for the other sections are not so clearly reproduced as those in the Strand publications.

The question of pricing has evidently been carefully considered, in many cases we find that the stamps are priced higher than they were in the last edition, while in many cases they are very considerably higher than for the same varieties in English catalogues. For the purpose of comparison we have selected the following half dozen well known rarities:—

	SCOTT, 1909.	GIBBONS, 1909.
France, 1f. vermilion, used, £15		£9.
Egypt, unpaid, 5 piastres, grey, used, 30/-		£1.
Mexico, 1st issue, 4 reales used, 3/-		5/-.
U.S.A., 1869, 90c. unused, £8.		£6.
Uruguay, Diligencia Stamp, 1re. deep vermilion, used, £2.		£2 5s.
Sicily, ½g. orange, used, 6/-.		8/-.

\* Published by the Scott Stamp & Coin Co., New York; Agent for Great Britain: W. T. Wilson, 292, Birchfield Road, Birmingham. Price 2/6, post free, 2/10.

As in previous editions, Messrs. Scott include in their catalogue very helpful lists of "Hints for Collectors," "Coin Tables," "Technical Terms, likely to be of use to collectors in English, French and German," and other useful features. Those of our readers who find Gibbons publications rather too advanced and yet who want a catalogue that lists sub-varieties would do well to write to Messrs. Scott's agent in Great Britain, namely, Mr. W. T. Wilson, 292, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

#### BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA AND NYASALAND PROTECTORATE.\*

We have received from Mr. Peckitt the second of Mr. Melville's new series of stamp books. This work, like the recently published book dealing with the line-engraved stamps of Great Britain, is a tribute to Mr. Melville's knack of compiling an interesting and dainty little booklet.

Although containing little, if any, matter that has called for original research on its author's part, the book should still be of great interest to the general collector. Mr. Melville has a very fine library at his disposal, with the result that he has been able to draw largely on all articles on B.C.A. stamps that have been written during the past few years.

The first chapter, dealing with the postal arrangements of the Colony, is perhaps the most interesting. Chapters II., III. and IV. deal respectively with the B.S.A. stamps overprinted B.C.A., the B.C.A. issues, and the Nyasaland Protectorate stamps. The remaining four chapters deal with postmarks, proofs, colour trials, etc.

Well illustrated and well printed, number two of the Melville stamp books should prove an acquisition to any philatelic library.

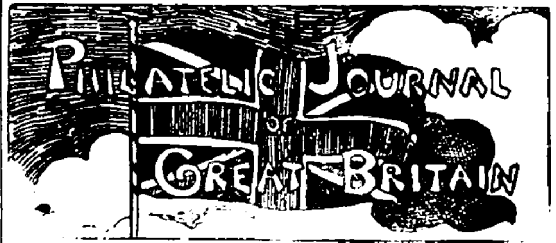
#### "THE WEST END PHILATELIST" YEARLY VOLUME.†

Mr. Field has kindly sent us a bound yearly volume of his useful publication, the *West End Philatelist*. This paper, as doubtless most of our readers are aware, is published on the 15th of each month. The volume before us (No. 5) contains a great deal of very interesting matter, chief of which is an exceedingly good article dealing with the stamps of the Falkland Islands. Mr. Poole's article on the stamps of Hong Kong is also included in Vol. V.

Attractively bound, our little contemporary makes a useful presentation book and the price asked, namely, 3/6 nett, is quite reasonable.

\* Published by the Melville Stamp Books, 47, Strand, London. Price 6d.

† Published by D. Field, 4/5, The Royal Arcade, Old Bond Street, W.



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### Publishers' Note.

NEXT month's issue of the *Ph. J. of G.B.* will contain the first instalment of an important article on "The Stamps of Chili," by Mr. J. R. Burton, the well-known specialist; besides several other articles of general interest.

We are very much gratified at the number of new subscribers who have been added to our list since January; considering that so many other Philatelic Journals are now being published, we think this is eloquent testimony to the worth of the *Ph. J. of G.B.*

Those subscribers whose subscriptions have recently become due are requested to remit as soon as possible in order to prevent dis-appointment.



## Well-known Philatelists.

NO. 110. — MR. MARK EASTON.

LIKE so many of our well-known philatelists, the subject of this sketch commenced his collecting career at an early age, while still a boy at school. Having since collected continuously for more than thirty years, we feel sure that Mr. Easton's views regarding Philately will be of more than ordinary interest to our readers. Born in Newcastle in the late sixties, he had the usual schoolboy's luck in acquiring specimens for his collection, some of the least cherished of his acquisitions being a nice lot of the 1877 V.R. surcharged Transvaals. Most of these now very much regretted V.R.'s were cheerfully exchanged with other boy enthusiasts for such—in those days—desirable rarities as the 1866 issue of Peru, the 1869 Nicaraguas, or similar then hard-to-procure stamps. Fortunately half-a-dozen or so of the V.R.'s were retained by their owner, with the result that he is able to turn up his Transvaal pages and mournfully think what their resplendent glory *might* have been.

Until as recently as last year, Mr. Easton was an omnivorous, or general collector, but finding the difficulty of keeping up to date—to say nothing of the heavy expense—far too onerous, he disposed of all his foreign countries with one or two exceptions. The favoured countries retained were France, Norway, Argentine, and U.S.A., all of which afford excellent openings for the studious collector. Naturally enough, it followed that when the general collection was broken up, specialism stepped in, with the result that the stamps of Canada and Jamaica claimed the most attention. Here again a very judicious selection of countries was made, and one likely to take some time, as Mr. Easton finds neither easy to complete in that superb condition that all true philatelists hanker after.

A very energetic and keen clubite, the subject of this sketch is naturally proud of the North of England Philatelic Society, a body of collectors he was so instrumental in bringing together.

Asked to give our readers some information regarding his now so well-known Society, Mr. Easton writes:

"In December, 1903, at the request of a few

well-known collectors in Newcastle, I called a meeting at the Y.M.C.A., to consider the possibility of forming a Society in the City, and the outcome was 'The North of England,' which began with twenty members and now numbers seventy-six.

"We have as President Mr. G. B. Bainbridge, who is known for his fine collection of Triangular Capes; Mr. T. D. Hume, our Vice-President, is a collector of wide philatelic tastes and knowledge; and the present Committee is a very enthusiastic one, the Exhibition coming off on March 26th and 27th being largely due to their initiative, especially that of Mr. W. W. Sanderson.

"I have been Secretary since the formation of the Society, and am, as you will see, Treasurer also."

The prominent position now held by the North of England Society is largely due to Mr. Easton's untiring energy, and his name deserves a prominent position on the scroll of fame that all energetic philatelists, especially those who combine the duties of Secretary and Treasurer are entitled to.

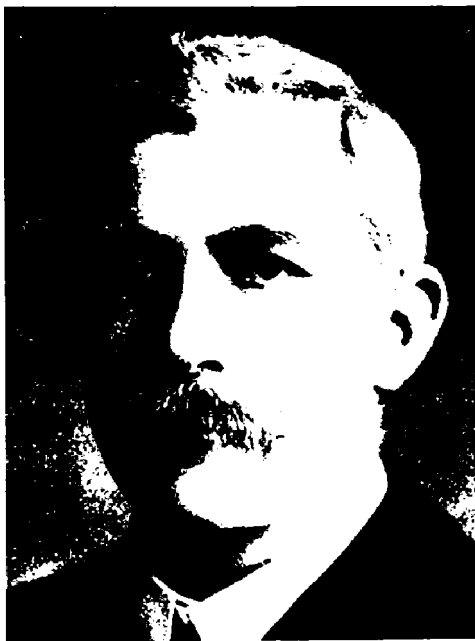
Arranging for the forthcoming Newcastle Exhibition naturally takes up a good deal of Mr. Easton's time. Pressed for details, he says:

"We have promises of support from several of the Manchester Exhibitors, viz.: Mrs. Field, Major Evans, Messrs. M. P. Castle, J. H. Taylor, and others. Mr. M. H. Horsley, of West Hartlepool, one of our members, is going to

show his Canadians, also his Sydney Views; Mr. O. K. Trechmann, his pence Ceylon. Our President and Mr. Horsley are entering for the 25 Rare Stamps, Class 11. The Exhibition is to be opened by the Lord Mayor of Newcastle, J. J. Forster, Esq., a keen philatelist, on Friday, 26th, at 3 p.m.; and our Exhibits accommodation is almost all spoken for.

"The Academy of Arts is most centrally situated, being practically in the very centre of the city, and all the car routes except one either pass the door or are within 100 yards of it."

In addition to Philately, Mr. Easton is much interested in Shorthand, not only is he the second oldest in point of membership in the "Newcastle and District Shorthand Writers Association," but he is one of the Readers,



and for the last seven years has been Acting President of the Association. A keen cyclist, he unfortunately is not able to spend as much time a-wheel as he would like, but during the season nearly every Saturday afternoon sees him on the road, with the result that he estimates he averages fully 1500 miles in the course of the year in Saturday afternoon "spins."

A member of the "Northern," "Otterdale," "Stamps," and "Junior" Exchange Clubs," Mr. Easton sees a lot of stamps, some of which, when priced at fairly high prices, remind him of his early days, when similar varieties could be found in some dealers 1/- packets. One of these packets, purchased from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons in 1878, contained among other desirable stamps, a 1d.

green Virgin Islands, 1d. Nevis unused, and a 4d. dark blue St. Vincent.

Questioned concerning his views regarding the future of our hobby, he writes:

"I see no reason why Philately should not continue one of the most popular hobbies, and I do my level best to get youngsters to take it up, by giving them duplicates and advice. The only danger to the hobby being perhaps, that of over specialism."

We agree that too much attention paid to minute varieties is likely to prove dangerous to the future of our hobby, but we think that when the danger becomes acute the remedy will be in the jetson of a number of present catalogue varieties, and returning to the simpler, but by no means simple, life.

## The Manchester Exhibition.

THE Postage Stamp Exhibition and Philatelic Congress, which was held at the Hulme Town Hall, Manchester, on 18th, 19th and 20th February last, cannot fail to be epoch making in the history of Philately. The undoubted success scored by the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society was amply shown not only by the number of leading and eminent Philatelists that attended, but by the fact that over 35,000 people visited the Exhibition during the three days it was open.

The exhibits were arranged in the fine large hall and a smaller one adjoining, and were so displayed that notwithstanding the crowds in constant attendance they could be viewed in comfort. Large and commodious stalls were ranged round the main hall and occupied by the leading stamp dealers, who were, we think, agreed that they had done more business than at any other Exhibition they had previously attended.

The Opening Ceremony was attended by a big crowd filling the large hall. Amongst others may be mentioned:—The Earl of Crawford, the Lord Mayor of Manchester, Major E. B. Evans, Messrs. W. D. Beckton, M. P. Castle, Franz Reichenheim, W. W. Sanderson, J. H. Abbott, W. H. Tarrant, P. C. Bishop, L. W. Fulcher, W. M. Gray, H. Wade, G. B. Duerst, G. F. H. Gibson, J. R. M. Albrecht, W. W. Munn, J. S. Higgins, junr., etc. The Trade was represented by C. J. Phillips, W. H. Peckitt, D. Field, W. E. Lincoln, P. L. Pemberton, S. E. Gwyer, C. Nissen, W. T. Wilson, Oswald Marsh, J. Douglas and many others.

Mr. I. J. Bernstein (Chairman of the Executive Committee) presided, and said:—

\*My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I am

glad to welcome so large a company and so many distinguished philatelists who have come from all parts of the Kingdom. He said he desired to take this opportunity, the only one he had, of publicly thanking all those who had contrived to make the Exhibition a success. This was a great day for Manchester philatelists. There had been more important and there would again be greater exhibitions than the one about to be opened, but few except those who had actually experienced it would realise the amount of work necessary for even so unimportant a show as this. It spoke volumes for the fascination of the hobby that even busy business men stole time from their ordinary pleasures, and even their business, to help—literally in their shirt sleeves, and he thanked them one and all for the work they had done. One of the main objects of the present Exhibition was to show the advance made in stamp collecting. In by-gone days the collector took any kind of stamp—or portion of a stamp—while the greatest concern was to securely fasten them in, not caring whether gum, glue, cement or even pins were used. Nowadays collectors studied their stamps, the why and the wherefore, the work of manufacture, and wrote them up carefully and fully; and the acquisition of stamps meant the acquisition of knowledge. Once more thanking all who assisted, he called upon the Lord Mayor to open the Exhibition.

The Lord Mayor (Alderman Holt, Lord Mayor of Manchester) said that one of the penalties of a man who took up the position he held was he had to preside at many meetings dealing with all kinds of subjects, but he never anticipated, when he took office, being called upon to open an Exhibition of Postage Stamps.

\*We are indebted to Mr. I. J. Bernstein and to *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for reports of the speeches.

He well remembered that when a boy at school he had a collection of stamps, and then his ambition was to have something better than his fellow schoolmates. In those days they not only fixed their stamps in with cement, but they sometimes *pinned* them in.

Nowadays he did not look upon stamp collecting as a hobby, but as a science, and he considered that to collect stamps was really an education, as it taught so much, such as to know where all places were. Collecting stamps helped to keep the brain alive, and taught boys to reason out things and to think for themselves.

He especially thought that this was a capital hobby for those of later life who had retired from business, as stamp collecting gave them something to occupy their mind.

He thought there was much waste in our present scheme of education, as boys and girls when they left school promptly forgot nearly all they had been taught; if they took up and stuck to a hobby like stamp collecting, their education would be continued.

He understood that the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society had been in existence for only three years, and thought that the Exhibition reflected great credit upon them, inasmuch as they had been able to get together such a fine exhibition of stamps to place before the public. He thought that at present stamp collecting was only in its infancy, and that many Juniors of to-day would in a few years be able to see great advances in their science.

He had very great pleasure in declaring the Exhibition to be open.

Major E. B. EVANS said:—

“Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have very great pleasure in proposing a most hearty vote of thanks to the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of Manchester for his coming here to-day to open this Exhibition, and for all the kind and complimentary things that he has said about Philately in general and Manchester Philately in particular, all of which I need not say I most fully endorse. We have the more reason for thanking him for his presence here because he is, I regret to hear, only now recovering from a long and serious illness, and while expressing our warm thanks to him, I would also express our most sincere hopes that he may very shortly be fully restored to health, and may suffer no permanent ill-effects from all that he has recently gone through.

Manchester seems to me to be singularly fortunate in her choice of chief magistrates from a philatelic point of view, and I doubt not from all other points of view also, but as I am a mere humble philatelist, I would not venture to express an opinion upon Lord Mayors from any other than a philatelic point of view. This is only the second time that I have had the pleasure of visiting the city of Manchester. On each occasion I have come to see a very fine

Exhibition of Stamps, and on each occasion it has been opened by the Lord Mayor.

His Lordship has confessed that he had a collection of stamps in his earlier days, and I trust that at some future time he may return to our hobby and become an active and enthusiastic member of one or both of the Manchester Philatelic Societies.”

One of the most interesting features of the Exhibition was a temporary Branch Post Office, opened in the Hall to enable writers to post letters, etc.—all of which were post-marked with the special Exhibition and Congress cancellation. Many prominent dealers had stalls, and, we believe, they all were pleased with the financial result of their business foresight. At any rate, we heard no complaints from our Publishers.

Most of the best known collectors in the north of England and Midlands, and a good sprinkling from London and the South, visited the Hall during the three days the Exhibition was open.

Miss Ross's Ladies Orchestra enlivened the proceedings each afternoon and evening with a well-selected programme.

A special Souvenir post card was prepared by the Committee of the Exhibition, and many thousands of them were sold, though they, needless to say, have no philatelic significance.

Unfortunately, want of space prevents our mentioning more than the most important Exhibits. Speaking generally, most of the British Colonies were well represented, not by huge bloated collections but, as a rule, by compact and almost complete collections. In this connection we may mention that we did not hear so much complaint from humble collectors (as we have been in the habit of hearing at the great International Exhibitions) who feel discouraged at the sight of the hugeness and unwieldiness of specialised collections, which are considered necessary by the judges at the larger shows. We are strongly of the opinion that an Exhibition on the simpler lines does a great deal of good to the hobby.

The foreign section was not nearly so well represented, though the few countries that were shewn were of equal merit with those in the Colonial section. The following is a brief account of some of the most prominent exhibits:—

#### BRITISH EMPIRE.

##### GREAT BRITAIN.

J. S. HIGGINS, JUN.—A specialised collection of the stamps issued up to 1900, *all unused*, comprising all the regular issues, and many scarce varieties. This collection also includes Essays, Proofs, color trials and specimen stamps. The plate numbers are all complete. 1840, 1d. black includes a block of six and strips of four and five; 1840, 2d. blue, strips of three and five; 2d. blue, large crown, perf.

14 and small crown perf. 14. The octagonals contain 14 copies, including a pair of the 10d. and 1/-. There are two copies of the 10/- Maltese cross, and the £1 Maltese cross, the £1 watermark, three crowns and three orbs. The officials are practically complete, including £1 watermark crowns, 5/-, 10/- and £1 green; also the 1d. Government Parcels, inverted surcharge, etc., etc.

J. R. M. ALBRECHT.—A specialised collection of Mulreadys, containing upwards of 300 specimens, including of the first varieties: proofs on Indian paper, before and after the insertion of value, complete sheets and copies showing early post-marks.

#### BRITISH LEVANT.

DR. E. W. FLOYD.—The regular issues are complete, used and unused, and include Constantinople and Beyrout provisionals, used on pieces. The 12 piastres on bluish paper is represented by three copies mint and one used. There are a number of varieties of type, including several of the small o in 80, both unused and used. British stamps used in all the different post offices are also shewn.

#### BARBADOS.

E. HEGINBOTTOM.—Used collection, including the rare pin perf. 12½ (1d.) blue, and six halves of the 1878 provisionals, with the "comma" variety, etc.

#### CANADA.

MAJOR H. C. FRENCH, R.A.M.C.—A good collection of used and unused, practically complete, with a fine range of shades. In the early issues the 10d. is represented by three mint copies, and the 6d. perf. also by three mint copies. In the 1852-57 issues are a number of superb used copies, including ¼c. rose on vertically ribbed paper, and there are two copies of the 10c. black brown, 1859, on originals. An interesting lot of essays, proofs and color trials are shewn.

#### CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

W. H. TARRANT.—A collection showing mint or unused specimens of all the values of the De la Rue issues of triangular stamps. Some of the best are nearly mint; 1853 brick-red on blued paper; a mint brick-red on white paper; mint 6d. lilac; slate lilac; slate lilac on blued; 1/- yellow green, and pairs of dark green. The De la Rue 1863 issue is shown mint in pairs, and some blocks.

Rouletted. Three specimens, two of which are from the Roberts collection; "Wood-blocks," include the rare retouched corner; two brick-red; five crimson, one of which has the shaded letters "One penny"; six pale blue, and three dark blue. Two of the blue are on original letters, one showing the very early post-mark "Port Elizabeth, Mar. 5, 61.," and the other (a fine dark blue) the late post-mark "Nov. 5, 61."

A letter sheet is also shown with a 6d. slate-lilac, and half a 4d. blue to cover postage 8d.

The rectangular issues are nearly complete in fine mint specimens, and the provisionals and errors are very fine, used and unused. Some of the best are the "TH.EE" (No. 49); "PENCB" (No. 50); the 3d. lilac-rose, without surcharge (No. 51); a strip showing the two varieties of surcharge (Nos. 52 and 53); a pair of C.A., 5/-; also some uncatalogued varieties of the surcharge 2½d. on 3d. (No. 72).

#### CEYLON.

BARON A. DE WORMS.—This fine exhibit comprises the first four issues unused, and includes imperf. 4d., 8d., 9d., two of each; 1/-, 2/-, four of each. Perf. pair of 4d. dull rose; 6d., 8d. brown, 9d. bistre, 10d., 1/- lilac, three specimens; C.C. 2d. yellow green, three; 10d. vermilion, five; besides the following in blocks of four; imperf. ½d., 1d., 2d., 10d.; perf. 1d., 2d., 4d. rose red, 5d. 8d. yellow brown, 9d. deep brown, 1/- and 2/-. No watermark, 1d. 5d., 6d. and 1/-; C.C. 6d. perf. 13 (1863). There are also shown several used pairs, among which are 4d., 1/9, and 2/- imperforate.

O. K. TRECHMANN.—In this exhibit, with few exceptions, the whole of the "cents" issues are well represented, used and unused, including most of the varieties in the surcharges, viz., inverted, double, and double with one inverted.

#### CYPRUS.

J. C. NORTH.—The principal stamps of note in this collection are British stamps used in the Island prior to 1880; ½d. plate 19, used and unused; vertical pair of 1d., top stamp not surcharged; all 1d. plate numbers, including mint strip of three plate 174; corner blocks of plate numbers, one showing double surcharge; 4d., 6d. and 1/- used and unused; ½d., all the plate numbers, used and unused; showing varieties of surcharge; 30 paras on 1d. inverted surcharges, plates 216, 220, also error "80" for "30" paras. C.C. issues complete, used and unused, including ½ and 4 piastres imperf. The rare ½ on half-piastre (S.G. No. 22) mint. C.A. the rare ½ piastre in shade of C.C., two copies, as well as all known shades of all values, both types; fine block of eighteen ½, ¼, on half-piastre, one stamp showing large 1 on left. King's Head issues complete in corner blocks, and used. A beautiful set of artist's colour trials and sketch.

#### GIBRALTAR.

G. FRED H. GIBSON.—All values of the Queen's Head issues in blocks of four and upwards, unused, also in blocks, pairs and single specimens, used. In the third issue the two types of 5, the short I, the broken N, and the G varieties, are shown used and unused, in blocks, pairs and singles; also a complete pane of the 25 cent on 2d. brown lilac. In the

fourth issue, the 10 centimos, carmine, with value omitted, and with value misplaced, also cut diagonally and used as 5 centimos. In last issues, 4d. with short F. King's Head, all issues in blocks of four, unused, also eleven and eight colour trials of the 2d. and 2/- respectively.

#### HONG KONG.

THOMAS H. HINTON.—Practically complete, except a few errors, &c. Issue of 1862, no watermark, is shown complete, including varieties of shade, as also those from 1883 to 1880, watermark CC., and from 1882 to 1903, watermark CA., including a number of surcharged provisionals. The large Revenue stamps authorised and used for postage, include the 12 cents on \$10 unused, and the \$10 used. The King's Head, single CA. are complete, and specimens of multiple CA. and chalky paper are also in evidence. A few forgeries are shown for comparison, also various issues bearing postmarks of Chinese cities and Treaty ports, including Wei-Hai-Wei.

#### INDIAN NATIVE FEUDATORY STATES.

ALEXANDER J. SEFI.—*Jammu and Kashmir*.—This collection is highly specialised. Only a small portion of it is exhibited. Of the rarity, the ½-anna ultramarine on laid batonné paper, three copies are shewn, including a magnificent used pair; the error of colour, ½-anna sage green, also in bright green used. Some of the rarer varieties are shewn in sheets.

#### NEVIS.

W. WAITE SANDERSON.—This exhibit has the 1861 issue complete on both blued and greyish paper, in most cases in unused and used condition; 1867 issue complete in unused and used state, including unsevered sheet of 1d. value; 1878 complete, with sheets of the 1d. and 1/- perf. 15, and 1d. perf. 11½; 1879 to 1882 complete, with bisected specimens, and the surcharges of 1883. The 1883-90 are shewn mint, principally blocks, the 6d. green in shades, and all except 1/- lilac used. Postal fiscals complete, including 1d. Revenue, bisected, used as ½d.

#### ORANGE FREE STATE.

JAMES H. ABBOTT.—Selection in blocks and sheets. In the 1877 issue, 4d. on 6d., there is a block of four and strip of three, and one with surcharge inverted. 1881, 1d. on 5/-, a complete pane; ½d. on 5/-, complete sheet; 3d. on 4d., a partly re-constructed pane, also pairs and blocks, 1888, complete pane of 2d. on 3d., 1d. on 3d., many varieties including the Roman 1.

#### QUEENSLAND.

O. K. TRECHMANN.—A fairly complete and interesting collection of the stamps of this Colony in fine condition.

#### ST. VINCENT.

E. HEGINBOTTOM.—Practically complete in used state, including the rare 1d., no watermark, perf. intermediate "A1," "A2," and the same 1d., no watermark, with compound perms. Also all the rare early provisionals, with the 5/-, star watermark, and King's heads, etc., up to date.

#### SARAWAK.

HUMPHREY BENNETT.—A collection, mostly unused, containing a copy of the 3 cents 1869 issue, engraved on surface-coloured paper, used; also colour trials of the 1895 issue, and two-die proofs of the 2 cents of 1895 issue; also trials of a pence issue, surcharged on the colour trials of 1895 issue; four copies of the 2 cents on 12 cents 1899 issue, with the inverted surcharge, shewing the types in the words of value, as well as various faulty surcharges.

#### SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

W. W. MUNN.—collection of used and unused, shewing a fine range of shades from the Perkins Bacon plates. London print, 1d. pair; Colonial prints, imperf., 1d., 6d., 1/-; rouletted many specimens of each value; the various perforations single and compound are also shewn. In this exhibit is included a block of twenty-one of the 1/- orange, imperf., used.

#### SUDAN.

BERTRAM W. H. POOLE.—This colony is shown practically complete, including the five types and the most noticeable varieties of the first issue in singles and blocks. There is a copy of the 1 mil. with inverted surcharge, and the 1 mil, and 3 mils without dot in the first native character are shown. The camel series are complete, a copy of the 5 mils on 5 piastres, with inverted surcharge being included. Postage dues are shown complete in singles and blocks. The first official stamps perforated SG are shown with the punctured letters inverted and reversed. The OSGS stamps with their numerous varieties, the army official, and the army service stamps are also practically complete.

#### TOBAGO.

W. WAITE SANDERSON.—A used and unused collection fairly complete, including a number of varieties of surcharge. 1879 5/- is represented by five copies, two used, and 1880 6d. stone is shown in two shades.

#### WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

W. W. MUNN.—A collection of this colony, used and unused, in numerous shades, contains in the first issue a block of six, 4 pence blue, and blocks of six, and twelve of the one shilling brown, unused; also swan watermark, 2d., 4d., 6d., and pair of 1/-, imperf., unused; and mint pairs and blocks of four of later issues.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

## BELGIUM.

F. E. WILSON.—A very representative collection of this country, unused. 1849, six 10c., three and a pair 20c.; 1850, 10, 20 and 40c., wmk. L.L. framed; the first two issues are also shewn used, and include strip of ten 20c. and a 10c. with double corner figures. The following are all unused:—1851, wmk. L.L. without frame, and include three 40c; 1861, no wmk., include blocks and strips of 1c., five 40c.; 1863-65, the three sets of perfs. in many shades, and blocks of all values, 1865. London prints:—Seven 1fr., 1866. Belgian prints:—perf. 14½ by 14, three 1fr. and nine 1fr. perf. 15, pages of shades of most values of subsequent issues to 1883 only.

## BULGARIA AND EASTERN ROUMELIA.

JAMES H. ABBOTT.—*Bulgaria*.—First issues in blocks and pairs unused, also the error of colour 5st. carmine is shewn on original letter. *South Bulgaria*.—Early issues in blocks and pairs, with many varieties of surcharge. *Eastern Roumelia*.—First issue in blocks and pairs, unused.

## COSTA RICA.

J. R. M. ALBRECHT.—A highly specialised collection, including proofs, colour trials, and errors of perforation. The ¼ real (imperforate) of the first issue. The error "CORREOS" without the "C" on the 1889. 5c. fiscal. A representative display of the issues for official use and also the issues for the Province of Guanacaste; the scarce vertical overprints on the 1c. and 2c. fiscals. Among the "officials" are pairs of the S.G. types, 02. and 03. "se tenant." The collection contains the following unrecorded varieties:—1887, 5c. overprinted "oficial." S.G. type 01. Official 1887 10c. with figure "1" in error for the first "1." 1889 10c. blue, overprinted "CORREOS." Several complete sheets are also shewn.

## FRANCE.

FRANZ REICHENHEIM.—Representative show of all the issues. First issue complete, mostly in unused pairs and blocks of four, containing three unused specimens and a used pair of 1fr. orange red, one pair "Vervelle," three unused copies of 1fr. brick red, one stamp shewing "Ceres" with the beard, three unused single copies and a block of four of 15c. green, "tête bêche" pairs of 1fr. carmine, of 25c. blue (3), of 10c. bistre Reprints of 40c. orange in a block of four, containing the two stamps with "wider" figure 4, and of 25c. on 25c. blue, etc. The Circular of the P.M.G. of 1st December, 1849, referring to the change of colour of the 1fr. from red-orange to carmine is also exhibited. Of the following issues only one or two sheets of each are shewn, containing the following rarities:—1852, pair and two singles, 10c. bistre, unused. 1853, unused blocks and unused "tête bêche" pair of 1fr.

carmine, together with a reprint of the same stamp in a block of nine shewing "tête beche." 1855, unused copies of 20c. blue on green, greenish, rose and yellow paper. 1860, unused pairs and blocks of four and "tête bêche" pair of 80c. rose. 1861, Susse Frères' Circular. 1863, "tête bêche" pair of 4c. grey. 1870, two unused copies of 20c. blue (Bordeaux) type 1. and a copy of the "Marseilles" Forgery on original letter. 1875, unused pair of 10c. and 15c. bistre on rose "se tenant." 1876, a vertical strip of four and used horizontal pair of 25c. Prussian blue, shewing both types "se tenant." 1876, 20c. Prussian blue on slightly blued paper (not issued). 1880, an unused pair of 1c. black on indigo. *Newspaper Stamps*: two copies of 2c. rose imperf., 5c. lilac, blue and rose imperf., and ¼c. on 1c. and 3c. of 1900. Unpaid Letter stamp, 1870. 15c. (Bordeaux) altered by manuscript into 25c. on official letter.

W. GRUNEWALD.—This exhibit is only a portion of a highly specialised collection of this country, and illustrates the issues of the Republic from 1870 to 1875. In the Bordeaux issue are shown two single copies of the 20c. blue first type. The principal stamps in addition to singles, pairs and blocks, are the following:—10c. bistre, strip of ten stamps from the bottom of the sheet, showing position of "tête bêche," also two "tête bêche" pairs unused and one pair used. 20c. blue, five "tête bêche" unused and one used; 15c. bistre, one "tête bêche" unused and one used; 25c. blue, two "tête beche" unused and 1 used; 10c. bistre on rose, two "tête beche" unused and two used; and one unused pair of 10×15 bistre on rose, "se tenant."

W. H. EARL.—This collection contains the following:—*Adhesives*: 1840 to 1908, including two sets unused, by Mons. E. Lorin, for use during the Commune, 1871. *Entires*: Balloon Post letters, envelopes prepaid by combined French and German stamps, from the French provinces occupied by the German troops 1871; also a number of post cards.

## HAYTI.

J. H. M. SAVAGE.—A general and almost complete collection. This exhibit is strong in inverted and double surcharges, and also "imperforated" varieties of the perforated issues. Numerous minor varieties, flaws, etc., are shown.

## JAPAN.

W. DORNING BECKTON.—A very highly specialised collection of this artistic country. The first issue is shown in entire sheets. The stamps being separately engraved differ one from another on the sheet. Specimens from the second and scarce plate of this issue are included in this exhibit. The second issue is displayed upon similar lines, including some fine shades. The collection includes in the subsequent issues many interesting entire sheets.

## MODENA.

W. DORNING BECKTON.—The stamps of the ancient Duchy of Modena are shown practically complete in their several printings, and include some sixty "errors" and abnormal varieties, some of which are of considerable rarity; to wit, the Provisional Government issue of 1859, 40c., with inverted figure before "CENT," unused, of which only one other specimen is known, and that is used. The proofs and essays in the collection and the manner in which the stamps are written up, add materially to the philatelic interest of the exhibit.

## ROUMANIA.

C. H. COOTE.—This exhibit is only a portion of a highly specialised collection of this country. 1862, 3, 6, and 40 parale on laid paper, handstruck, a pair of 30 parale being "lête bêche." 1863, complete sheet of each of the three values, machine printed. 1863, specimens of the above three values, forgeries. 1865, Corner portion of a sheet of the 20 parale, red, showing the missing clichés. 1867, corner portion of a sheet of the 2 parale, black on yellow, showing the missing clichés, and also two specimens of this value showing damaged clichés. 1867, corner portion of a sheet of 5 parale, black on blue. 1867, corner portion of a sheet of 20 parale, pale rose, showing missing clichés. 1868, corner portion of a sheet of 2 bani, orange, showing missing clichés; 1868, two specimens of the "Fosta" error. 1870, block of 23, 3 bani, violet, showing missing clichés. 1871, 10 bani, orange, an unused specimen on laid paper. 1871, 15 bani, reddish-carmine, strip of three used. 1872, block of 34, 25 bani, brown (perforated), showing missing clichés. 1872, block of six, 10 bani, blue, showing missing clichés; 1872, specimens of colour trials; 1894-6, two blocks of nine and a pair of 5 bani, blue, showing the error 25 bani. Specimens showing designs from 1863-1903, including the Unpaid Letter stamps, unused, and in mint condition.

## SIAM.

ALFRED HOLT, JUN.—Practically complete and largely in mint condition. Includes nearly all varieties of double and inverted surcharges, also surcharges on back and front of stamps, also some sheets and large blocks shewing varieties and different spacing of surcharges, with a few essays.

## SICILY.

JOHN H. TAYLOR.—A specialised collection of the interesting stamps of this country, arranged according to the different plates. Each plate is well represented by a variety of shades, both used and unused.

The stamps of the 1 Gr. Pl. III. 2 Gr. Pls. I., II., III., 5 Gr. Pl. I. (first and second printing), and also Pl. II. have been plated. A number of the rare retouches are shown:—

1 Gr. Pl. I. (two copies); 2 Gr. Pl. I. (five copies), Pl. II. (one copy); 5 Gr. Pl. I. (two copies); Pl. II. (one copy); 10 Gr. (three copies); and also the very rare retouch of the 20 Gr. No. 72 (slate back—the rarest shade used). Specimens are also shown on the original envelopes, together with a number of forgeries.

## Newcastle-on-Tyne Stamp Exhibition.

To be held under the auspices of the North of England Philatelic Society,  
at Newcastle-on-Tyne, March 26th & 27th, 1909.

AN Exhibition will be held in the Academy of Arts, Blakett Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on March 26th and 27th, 1909, under the patronage of the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and promoted by the North of England Philatelic Society. The Exhibition Secretaries are Messrs. C. L. Bagnall, The Groves, Winlaton-on-Tyne; and R. W. Wilkinson, 1, Evelyn Terrace, Gateshead-on-Tyne. The following schedule of classes has been adopted:—

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| Class 1. | Great Britain. (Open).   |
| " 2.     | Best Exhibit any Country.<br>(Members N.E.P.S.)  |
| " 3.     | Best Colony in Asia or Africa, not exceeding 150 stamps. (Open).   |
| " 4.     | Best Colony in Australasia, not exceeding 250 stamps. (Open).  |
| " 5.     | United States of America, over 200 and under 500 stamps. (Open).   |
| " 6.     | Any European Country (excluding Great Britain) and not exceeding 300 stamps. (Open).                       |
| " 7.     | Any Colony in West Indies, not exceeding 150 stamps. (Open).   |
| " 8.     | Any British North American Colony, not exceeding 150 stamps. (Open).                                       |
| " 9.     | Any Country, Rest of the World, not exceeding 300 stamps. (Open)   |
| " 10.    | King's Heads, any five Colonies, not exceeding 500 stamps in all.  |
| " 11.    | 25 Rare Stamps.<br>(Members N.E.P.S.)  |
| " 12.    | Collection in Album the sole property of any Collector in Northumberland or Durham, under 16 years of age. |

As the Exhibition will be opened a few days after the date of publication of this number of the Journal, we are afraid our readers will not have time to enter any exhibits. A cordial welcome, however, will be extended by the Exhibition Committee to all visitors, so those of our subscribers who can spare the time should make a point of visiting Newcastle-on-Tyne on March 26th or 27th.

## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

THE McTavish had a splendid time of it at the Manchester Exhibition. I think it would be a good idea to hold a Monthly show there, don't you? The only complaint I have heard about Mancunians is that they spend all their spare £ s. d. on entertaining their guests, and have none to devote to stamps. Judging from a week-end visit this seems likely—they are a most hospitable lot, and gave a right royal welcome to their London visitors.

Unfortunately, several visitors and residents contracted severe colds on the following Sunday and Monday; colds which could only be cured by constant application of soda water syphon. I also heard it rumoured that Mr.—on arriving home on a stretcher on Saturday night—or rather Sunday morning—was so overloaded with excitement that he had to immediately refer to his collection of Hollands.

One of the charms of the Exhibition was that common or garden collectors could rub shoulders with Editors and Delegates. Of the 35,000 visitors, I am told 34,589 were Editors or Delegates.

The number of visitors, namely 35,000 is Mr. Bernstein's estimate—personally I think only 34,999 attended. As a matter of fact I feel certain that on one occasion, when I went down to wire to Cruft's Show, Mr. B. booked three newcomers as four. The door flip-flapped so quickly that I may have made a mistake, but, at any rate, I could only see three!

Writing of Delegates reminds me of that old saying of King Solomon,\* namely, that "Silence is golden." Many of the Congress people evidently thought so too, judging at least from the way they sat looking intelligent and keeping quiet. Perhaps, however, they were only *trying* to look quiet, who knows?

One poor beggar, suddenly called upon by Mr. Bernstein to make a speech dealing with a question about which he knew nothing whatever, plunged gaily for the space of two seconds, then he stopped and thought hard about that "Silence is golden" proverb. He thought so hard that for half an hour (at least *he* says it was half an hour) that you could hear the tweezers in the various Delegates' pockets calling to one another. For ought I know he may be still thinking.

Tancred being too busy to contribute a page of topicalities to the current number of the *Philatelic Adviser*, Editor Oliver steps into the breach with the announcement that the prices for the 1858-63 issues of France will be raised in the new A B C Catalogue—as an instance, the following prices, among others, are quoted:—

1858-9.	Perforated 15.	7th Edition.	8th Edition.
Type I.		Unused.	Unused.
2 Soldi	yellow	—	35/-
3	black	10/-	20/-
5	red	3/-	4/-
10	brown	4/-	6/-
15	blue	8/-	20/-

If these drastic changes take place with French stamps, I dread to contemplate what the triangular black nine rouble stamp of the Gold Coast will be priced at.

Curious how many errors creep into the philatelic papers, isn't it? Even the last number of the *L.P.* contains several glaring examples, while the *P.S.* makes a speciality of them.

My old friend the *S.C.F.* says, *apropos* the Manchester Exhibition:—"The welcome extended to philatelists by many who had, in some cases, only known them hitherto, was cordial and whole-hearted." Now of course they will be known henceforth.

What an excellent idea it is for publishers to send Editors review copies of new publications, isn't it? I mean for the Editors, of course. The idea appeals to me. Will my readers therefore please note that I am open to receive a review copy of an eight-roomed house, a good hunting hack, and a new overcoat. *P.S.*—Please send the overcoat per parcels post, and the gee-gee per *C.P.*

I heard rather a good yarn the other night at an *I.P.U.* meeting, at least it wasn't exactly a regular meeting but rather one of those informal choice gatherings of *raconteurs*, a kind of *I.P.U.* after-math. The story is quite authentic and quite reproducible.

### Locale—London.

*Dramatis Personæ.* A well known Dealer and a Benevolent Collector.

*B.C.* What a capital eye you have for stamps Mr. D.

*W.K.D.* Indeed Mr. C. how strange you should notice that, altho', as a matter of fact I *do* rather pride myself on my powers of observation.

*B.C.* Quite so Mr. D., I have only seen one other eye equal to yours and that was when I was travelling to India. I was leaning over the side of one of the *P.* and *O.* boats, in the Red Sea, when a shark bobbed up to the surface and looked at me with one eye.

There was also a good little yarn about a curly haired little boy of ten, but ———

I was in a well-known dealer's office the other day when a postman brought in a couple of postcards. One requested that a good selection of Canadian Quebec stamps—used and unused—should be sent on approval, while the other asked that an approval book of Benadir Postage Dues should be sent! And yet some collectors maintain that the life of the dealer is a happy one.

\*If it wasn't King Solomon, it must have been Queen Anne or Ruyard Haggard "McT."





## March, 1909, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1908-9.

*Hon. President:* HIS HONOUR JUDGE PHILBRICK, K.C.

*Hon. Vice-Presidents:*

W. DORNING BECKTON. H. L. HAYMAN. H. R. OLDFIELD.  
VERNON ROBERTS.

*President:* J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.

*Vice-Presidents:*

W. SCHWABACHER. L. W. FULCHER. W. SCHWARTZ.

*Committee:*

P. P. BROWN.	A. B. KAY.	W. E. LINCOLN.
W. J. BOVILL.	W. S. KING.	DR. MARX, M.A.
W. HADLOW.	MAJOR LAFFAN, R.E.	F. H. OLIVER.
J. E. JOSELIN.	F. F. LAMB.	P. L. PEMBERTON.
	E. W. WETHERELL.	

*Hon. Sec. & Treasurer:* T. H. HINTON.

*Hon. Exchange Superintendent:* DR. E. F. MARX, M.A.

*Hon. Counterfeit Detector:* W. HADLOW.

*Hon. Librarian:* W. S. KING.

*Hon. Solicitors:* MESSRS. OLDFIELDS.

### MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and Subscription, 5/., should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members, not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

The following is now proposed in accordance with the above:—Alfred Benjamin, London, S.W.; proposed by W. Schwabacher; seconded by T. H. Hinton.

### NEW MEMBERS.

C. P. Rogers, Yelverton, Devon. B. Gordon Jones, London.

### NOTICES.

The fifth meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, March 11. Present: J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), J. E. Joselin, Guy Semple, F. F. Lamb, W. E. Lincoln, A. B. Kay, P. L. Pemberton, W. Schwartze, and the Hon. Sec. The Hon. Sec. having made a few remarks with reference to the recent Congress, moved that the best thanks of the Union be accorded to the delegates, Messrs. Pemberton, Lamb and Lincoln, for their services thereat. This was seconded by Mr. Joselin, supported by the President, and carried unanimously. Mr. P. L. Pemberton then read a carefully thought out paper on the stamps of Prince Edward Island, which

was much appreciated by those present. A hearty vote of thanks, moved by Mr. Joselin, and seconded by Mr. Semple, closed a pleasant evening, only marred by the regretted absence of some members through illness.

The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall, on Wednesday, April 14th, at 8 p.m., when Mr. T. W. Hall will give a display of Uruguay. All members and any visitors are cordially invited.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union.  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

March 15th, 1909.

## Correspondence.

The following letter is published with sincere apologies to the Editor and Publisher of the *Philatelic Adviser*:—

TO THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

DEAR SIR,

PHILATELY IN ITS SOX.

Having read, with great interest, an article on the 37<sup>1/2</sup> peseta stamp of the 1868 issue of Mexico, in the December number of one of your valued contemporaries. I venture to inform you that I also have made some interesting discoveries regarding this issue.

I have half a copy of the 4 annas solferino, two whole copies of the 13 lepta lobster carmine, a small portion of the 7<sup>1/2</sup> groschen Peckitt blue, one copy (some missing) of the 1/2 kopec McBlithier tartan yellow, threequarters of one of the rare 15,781 reis spotted zephyr Bow Street blues, a really fine copy of the 3<sup>1/2</sup> guerche mouse coloured green, seven complete specimens of the 18 sen coon yellow, and four stamps—colour, design and country of origin doubtful.

Have deleted the four doubtfuls. I have 19<sup>1/8</sup> stamps left. From a study of these I asked myself the following questions:

1. How many stamps have I?
2. How were the stamps printed?
3. Could the stamps be plated?
- \*4. How were the types arranged?

I now, in order of rotation, have (1) the Impression, (2) Original Die Marks, (3) the Design, and (4) the Toothache Perforations, to consider; but, owing to the Ayah having just come in with Cuthbert Augustus, Jun., I shall have to hold my deductions over until next month.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

A. SHIVER DE SHIVER DAS.

Linganaboyanacherla Villa, India.

\*We have to delete the remaining 96 questions as space in the *P.J.G.B.* is limited, even to correspondents; for instance, question No. 87: "Why did the pedigree dachshund mew?" does not seem to have but an indirect bearing on the subject in question.—Ed., *P.J.G.B.*



MAR. 20, 1909.

## Philately at Home.

The February number of the *London Philatelist* contains an account of the recently held Manchester Exhibition and Congress, and a second instalment of Mr. Wickham Jones' admirable article dealing with the "Retouches of the Swiss Stamps, Issues of 1882-1908. The usual budget of "Notes," "New Issue List" and other regular features, complete a good number.

The *Philatelic Record*, for February, the second number to be edited by Mr. L. W. Fulcher, is a splendid production. The Editorial deals with the question of a Catalogue for Collectors and we find some very forcible arguments brought to bear, as in all Mr. Fulcher's writings there is evidence that a great deal of thought has been given the subject. The following extract is most readable.

It must, however, be recognized that there are and always will be several styles of collecting. Those who wish to go in for scientific specialism will always be few in number, because it demands serious work and this is more than the average collector is willing to bestow on his hobby. Moreover, it is doubtful whether specialism can be undertaken with success without a previous experience of general collecting. To collect the stamps of the whole world, even on "general lines," is now impossible. There will be no "general collecting" in the widest sense in the future. The best type of "general collector" will be he who limits his attentions to a group of countries and collects these on intelligent lines with due regard to *important* varieties. He will not for example debar all variations of perforation on the ground that he does not collect varieties of perforation, but he will collect or reject them according to their importance. For example, he may reject the perforation varieties of the recent issues of Australians and Austrians, but he will pay due attention to the older Perkins Bacon or De La Rue perforations. Other good types of "general collectors" are those who limit themselves by date, either collecting all stamps issued before a certain date or after a certain date, for example, the new issue collector. There are also other collectors who devote their labours to some particular object; for example, those who collect the stamps showing the work of some prominent firm of stamp printers; and many other kinds of "special" collecting are probably existent. All these types are worthy of encouragement and should have the means in the shape of a good

reference catalogue, whereby they may inform themselves so as to collect intelligently.

Mr. E. D. Bacon, contributes a few more notes concerning the variety of the 10 centavos Colombia stamp of 1883, which he described in the January number. A strip of three of the 10 centavos is illustrated, the middle stamp being the variety with the big lettering "De Los." This variety, although not mentioned or catalogued by Stanley Gibbons has been listed in Bright's Catalogue for some years, a fact evidently unknown to Mr. Bacon.

Dr. Emilio Diena contributes the first instalment of some "Notes on the Stamps of Modena." He refers interestingly to the two comparatively recent finds of old Modena and other stamps.

Mr. R. R. Thiele is responsible for the first instalment of an article entitled "Stray Notes on the Designers, Engravers and Printers of the World's Postage Stamps."

Mr. Fulcher contributes a further instalment of his article dealing with the Stamps of Turkey.

A very interesting feature is the reproduction of some letters written to the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* more than forty years ago wherein the writers discuss in an animated manner the question of scientific collecting. In those days the idea of distinguishing between an imperf. and a perforated stamp was considered an absurdity by the majority of collectors. The late E. L. Pemberton however was greatly in favour of the scientific study of stamps and his letter, one of the four reproduced, provides most entertaining reading.

Several pages of reviews and a number of "Notes" complete a capital number of our contemporary. If the *Record* can maintain such a high standard of excellence it need fear no serious rivals for the

honour of being the leading philatelic journal of the day.

As is usual all the copies of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* contain some interesting articles. The number dated Feb. 27th, edited by Major Evans contains several instalments of really valuable philatelic papers.

M. L. Hanciau writes about the Reply Paid Cards, Letter Cards and Official Cards of Denmark, also the Private Local Posts. Major Evans contributes some interesting "Notes on Great Britain," mostly in the form of comments on the notes made by the late Mr. Peacock, of Somerset House.

Lieut. W. R. Gatt is responsible for a long and interesting instalment of his paper dealing with the Post Office and Stamps of Malta.

Concerning the ½d. yellow stamps he says:—

The printings (if I may be allowed to call them so) of the halfpenny yellow stamp are fourteen in number; and each exists in one or more shades which may be regarded as minor varieties and about which the average collector need not trouble himself.

I find that the stamps were ordered from the Agents-General for the Colonies at intervals of about one year up to 1866, according to the official record, and I have every reason to believe that the orders from 1866 to 1880 were biennial, as would appear from the list of the fourteen printings compiled from copies which have been seen on the original cover.

Oliver Firth, in his work "Postage Stamps and their Collection," mentions the Malta halfpenny stamp on *bluish* paper as imperforate. It was even so catalogued by Moens in 1891. Although the stamp in this condition was seen in an English collection at the Berlin Philatelic Exhibition in 1904, and although a similar copy was for sale in December, 1904, at one of Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's stamp auctions, I have been assured on good authority that the stamp was never issued imperforate. Probably a leakage from proof sheets may account for these copies, which are unused and with the original gum.

I have seen a third copy, but with Crown and CC watermark, and on white paper, through the kindness of Mr. J. C. North, of Huddersfield, who has had it in his possession for about eight years.

Table showing the fourteen printings of the Malta halfpenny yellow stamp:—

No.	Date.	Colour.	Perforation.	Wmk.	Remarks.
1	1.12.60	Buff on bluish	14	None	Shades.
2	Nov. '61	Buff-orange	14	..	
3	1862	Bistre	14	..	
4	1863	Buff	14	Cr. & CC	
5	1864	Brown-orange	14	..	
6	1865	Yellow-buff	12½	..	Rough pfs.
7	1866	Buff	12½	..	Clean-cut perf.
8	1868	Bright orange	14	..	
9	1870	Dull orange	14	..	
10	1872	Yellow-buff	14	..	
11	1874	Golden yellow	14	..	Yellow at back.
12	1876	Brown-orange	14	..	
13	1878	Yellow-buff	14 x 12½	..	Or 12½ x 14
14	1880	Yellow-buff	14	Cr. & CA.	

Lieut. Gatt comments on each of the

fourteen printings and his deductions are of the greatest interest.

Major Evans is the author of a goodly budget of "Notes and Queries," all most eminently readable, while Mr. C. J. Phillips contributes an account of the opening ceremony at the Manchester Exhibition, together with a list of the exhibits.

The March 6th and 13th numbers of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* are mostly devoted to a verbatim report of the recently held Manchester Congress. Mr. C. J. Phillips has reason to congratulate himself on his enterprise, as his paper is the only one that—so far—has contained anything like a full report of the Congress delegates' speeches. A very interesting departure has been made in these numbers in commencing an article dealing with the Postmarks of the British Isles from 1840 by the late John G. Hendy. This article will run through *G.S. IV.* for some months, and should prove a great boon to readers of the *Weekly*.

In the March number of the Herts Society's *Monthly Report* we find a good deal of assorted philatelic matter. Mr. F. Reichenheim contributes a brief account of the Manchester Exhibition and Congress. Mr. Charles J. Phillips a few notes relating to a display of forgeries, reprints, etc., of the Italian States, given before the Herts Society. Mr. Percy Ashley, the first instalment of his paper entitled "The Italian States, 1815-1870," being a paper read after Mr. Phillips' display. Messrs. R. Frenzel and Burton F. J. Cooper both contribute instalments of their articles, respectively, "Notes on Unpublished Varieties of the Postage Stamps of Mexico until 1885" and some notes on a proposed "Catalogue for Collectors with Illustrative Reference List of the Stamps of Queensland." Some pages devoted to Correspondence, Reviews etc. complete a splendid number of the *Report*.

From Mr. Frenzel's Mexican article we extract the following brief note, dealing with those interesting stamps known as the Eagle issue:

With this issue, the well-known Eagle issue of Maximilian, we come to a new departure in controlling the supplies of stamps from the Chief Post Office in Mexico to all the Sub-Offices in the entire country. Not only did the Postmasters receive instructions to surcharge the stamps sent them with the name of their district, but every supply sent from Mexico was

provided with a control number and the date of the current year. This system was adopted as soon as the new Government was in working order, consequently the earliest supplies were sent out without any surcharges, and some with names only.

The stamps are finely engraved, showing a crowned eagle with spread wings holding a serpent in its beak to the right, printed in colours on various kinds of white paper, imperforated and representing the following values:—

3. Tres Centavos, brown of various shades.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ . Medio Real, brown, lilac, red-lilac, grey, &c.
1. Un Real, blue, ultramarine, pale blue, Prussian blue, deep blue.
2. Dos Reales, yellow, orange, red-orange, and brown-orange.
4. Cuatro Reales, pale green, dark green, yellow-green, blue-green.
8. Ocho Reales, red, pale red, brick-red, &c.

These stamps were issued as follows:—

1. In May, 1864. Without any surcharge.
2. From May to July, 1864. Surcharged with names of districts only.
3. From July to September. Surcharges with names of districts.  
Consignment numbers and date, in large Egyptian type, numbers being 118/179.
4. Surcharged with names of districts, consignment numbers and dates.  
From October to end of 1864, the consignment number being 180/244.  
From January to December, 1865, the consignment number being 1/225.  
January to August, 1866, the consignment number being 1/131.

Both the recent numbers of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* before us contain, besides instalments of M. Sigismond Jean's "Stamps of Uruguay," and Mr. Nissen's "Tricks of the Modern Forger," a number of capital short articles of philatelic interest. The copy dated March 6th also contains the conclusion of the paper read by Mr. W. Macdonald Mackay before the Liverpool Junior Society, dealing with the Postage Stamps of Crete. We make the following extract:

#### BOGUS ISSUES.

Just a final word regarding the bogus issues of 1905, the so-called Revolutionary series, catalogued by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Nos. 110 to 123. I give it on the authority of the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, of Crete, that they are entirely bogus, and had apparently been printed to "raise the wind." I learn that they are the speculation of a dealer in Athens, where they were hawked round the principal hotels, frequented by British visitors. Envelopes have been seen bearing these stamps, apparently postmarked in Athens and Crete, but the Crete cancellation stamp was a bogus one, and the postmark at the back of the envelopes was done by some obliging clerk in one of the Post Offices in Athens.

Cretan postage stamps, despite these bogus issues and the speculative Russian series, remain a fine interesting lot of stamps, and are a striking testimony to the love of the island people for their ancient departed glories of the past. There are no varieties of perforation or watermarks to trouble the collector, and only a few printers' errors in the overprinted series, which the general or average collector may leave alone.

Our welcome little contemporary, the *West End Philatelist*, always contains some

capital matter. Mr. Poole, the Editor, is an adept at providing his readers with most interesting little "stamp stories." The following, although by no means original, is well worth reproducing, as it helps to make that well known rarity, the "Inverted Swan" appear more approachable.

One of the rarest of all Australian stamps is undoubtedly the 4d. of the locally produced stamps of the 1854 series for Western Australia, with the centre portion of the design inverted. When the postal authorities of this Colony decided on the issue of adhesive stamps for the prepayment of the postal charges, an order for a supply of suitable labels was sent to Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co.

Through some misunderstanding only 1d. stamps were supplied, and as it was imperative that 4d. and 1/- stamps should also be issued, and there was no time to await the arrival of a supply of these values from London before the date chosen for the inauguration of the new system, these were produced by lithography in Perth.

The 4d. stamp, which is the only one with which we are now concerned, was required for the prepayment of single letters (*i.e.*, those not weighing more than half-an-ounce), to England, and it was prepared in the Surveyor General's Department at Perth, and printed by the lithographic press in the office. It is fairly evident that the central portion of the design was obtained by taking transfers from the 1d. stamp supplied by Perkins, Bacon & Co. According to Mr. E. D. Bacon, who has made a close study of these early stamps, the method of procedure was as follows: Sixty transfers were taken from the plate of the 1d., and, after the borders had been removed, the central portions were printed upon a sheet of stout paper or card at equal distances apart, in six rows of ten stamps each. Transfers were then taken from the new engraved octagonal border, cut out and pasted around the central portions of the design. The block of sixty stamps was then transferred four times to the lithographic stone to form the printing plate.

It was during the process of pasting on the frames that the error occurred, one being applied wrong way up. This resulted in the well-known error with inverted swan, or rather, it would be more correct to term it an error with inverted frame.

It will thus be seen from the above description that the whole sheet consisted of 240 stamps in four panes of sixty each, and, apparently, there was an error in each pane, though I have been unable to ascertain its position.

The error is not known in the entire panes of this value that were discovered some years ago, and as there are only six or seven copies in existence, it is evident the error was detected and corrected before many sheets had been printed.

The February number of the *Philatelic Adviser* is an interesting little paper, Unfortunately it does not contain any original articles of philatelic merit, but Editor Oliver contributes some pithily written comments on current topics. Reviewing an article, which appeared in the *P.J.G.B.* recently, relating to the subject "Condition," Mr. Oliver says:—

We have seen numberless collections spoilt, not only in appearance, but for sale, by the too obvious

presence of damaged specimens. A possible purchaser of a collection "spotting" a cleverly mended stamp which to the great majority of observers would appear to be a perfect specimen would take a large discount off his valuation on the possibility of there being many others in a similar state which would only be discovered by soaking in water.

A capital "New Issue List" is a leading feature of the *P.A.* Another good point being that our contemporary was published on time, a virtue many other monthly stamp papers might advantageously emulate.

Several recent numbers of the *Postage Stamp* have contained interesting articles contributed by Mr. B. W. H. Poole. In the February 20th issue we find a readable little paper dealing with the 1883-94 Issue of Tobago. A week later there is an article dealing with the U.S.A. 2 cent stamps of 1890-99. We make the following extract:

The stamp was first issued in 1890 the die being engraved and the stamps printed by the American Bank Note Co. The chief characteristic in the design of this issue lies in the upper corners, which are merely filled with horizontal lines of shading placed fairly close together. Evidently a good many plates were made during the four years this design was current, but how many and the dates they were respectively brought into use are points I must leave for the specialist to elucidate. The printing ink varied in colour from time to time resulting in various shades.

On one or more of the plates used in the production of these stamps were several defects resulting in some interesting minor varieties in the figures of value—the "2's" having a square uncoloured "cap" affixed. Some exist with these caps on both figures, others on the left hand "2" only, and yet others with the cap only on the figure in the right hand lower corner.

It would be interesting to know how many plates had these defects, how many stamps on the plate were "capped" varieties, the position on the sheets of these varieties, and the dates the defective plates were put to press. I believe these flaws were not detected until 1899 though copies are known to have been used in October, 1892. Probably some specialist will be able to clear up some if not all the points on which information is at present lacking.

In 1894 the Government Bureau of Engraving and Printing undertook the production of all United States stamps and the immediate effect of this change of printers was a slight modification in the design of the 2c. stamp. The upper corners instead of being plain as before were embellished with double-lined triangles with a coloured dot attached to each side of the inner triangles. The first notification I find of this change is in the *Monthly Journal* for October, 1894, so we may presume the first 2c. plates made by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing were brought into use sometime about this date.

There are three distinct varieties of the triangle ornaments and these, in the order of the illustrations shown in Gibbons' catalogue, are as follows:—

- (a) With thick lines of shading across the triangles.
- (b) With thin lines of shading across the triangles.
- (c) Without any shading in the space between the two triangles.

In what order these varieties appeared and how many plates of each were made are problems I must leave to the specialist. Possibly they appeared in the order a, c, b, for the first reference I can find to type

(c) is in various journals issued in the early part of 1895, while type (b) does not appear to have been known until later. It is, of course, quite probable the plates of all three types were in concurrent use.

In the same number of the *Postage Stamp* is a paper entitled "Collectors in Council" contributed by "Sir Charge." The only excuse that Mr. Nankivell can possibly have for printing such an effusion is, we suppose, that it is intended to appeal to the sense of humour (?) that some of his readers possess.

The following extract is typical.

Take for instance the question of a Catalogue for Collectors: this new society would of course tackle that most lightheartedly, but what value would it possess? what influence would it exert? Absolutely none. Your so-called National Philatelic Society will fizzle out into small potatoes like the International Philatelic Union.

"Here, here, I say, hold hard, old chap," said Charlie, "or you will be court-martialed by my friend Mr. Hinton as secretary of the said International Philatelic Union."

"Let him court-martial," said Tête Bêche, "the National Philatelic is not likely to do much more to justify its title than the International Philatelic Union has done. It is I believe a very excellent society in its way, with a judicious mixture of dealers and collectors, but when do you hear of any International work that it does?"

Such extremely cheap sneers at the expense of the "I.P.U." will surely do more harm to the paper they are published in than the Society they are launched at.

The principal contents of the *March Stamp Lover*, namely, a continuation of Mr. L. W. Crouch's admirable paper dealing with the stamps of Hayti. Major Evans' paper, read before the J.P.S. some months ago, entitled "Ocean Penny Postage Envelopes," and a resumé of Mr. G. Lulgair's paper, "Mauritius Memories," read before the Brighton Branch of the J.P.S., all make capital reading. Mr. Lulgair, for many years an official in the Mauritius P.O., says:

In 1862, and for many years thereafter, the General Post Office in Mauritius was a small, low, wooden building in Government Street, Port Louis, opposite Government House. The office of the Colonial Postmaster was situated in the yard, and consisted of one room. The stock of stamps drawn from the Colonial Treasurer, now Receiver-General, was kept by him in an iron safe for issue, on indent, to the clerks entrusted with their sale to the public and to Deputy Postmasters, and it was common knowledge that the plates—copper, I think—engraved to produce the locally prepared stamps were in his custody. These plates subsequently found their way to the custody of the Receiver-General, and were located in the strong vault. They are probably still there.

The clerical staff of the General Post Office was likewise relatively small, consisting of only seven persons, plus sundry letter carriers and peons. Deputy Postmasters dealt with letters in the rural districts. Only on the arrival and departure of regular monthly mail steamers were additional hands employed as volunteers. One clerk, with his tin box by his side, sitting at a window, to which only one person at a time could

approach, proved sufficient to meet all demands for stamps, and applications for ships' and poste restante letters. A careful examination by three officers of the stamps remaining on hand at the close of each day determined the exact amount of revenue to be accounted for. This operation occupied about 15 minutes, so that one may now form some idea of the small number of stamps required by the public. On the day of departure of mail packets, one, sometimes two, additional vendors would be on duty to supply the requirements of merchants and weigh their letters.

We have duly received No. 3 of the Fiscal Philatelic Society's little paper, *The Bulletin*. This paper, an invaluable publication to the collector of fiscals, published a short and interesting article contributed by Mr. C. S. F. Crofton, and a long list of discoveries and novelties in the fiscal world. Those of our readers who are interested in fiscal stamps should write to the Hon. Sec., Mr. A. B. Kay, 18, Melrose Gardens, Hammersmith, W.

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The February number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* does not contain very many original articles. With the exception of a readable editorial, and a capital article entitled, "The Cataloguing of Bahamas," its contents are mostly made up from other journals.

The Bahamas article, however, is very interesting and the following extract will no doubt be much appreciated by our readers.

The stamp (the 1/- green) is said to have been issued in September, 1863; it must therefore have been produced in August. At that time it is pretty generally agreed that there was no perforating machine gauging 12½ in existence. It is also well known that the 12½ perforator was applied to no other surface-printed stamps until about 1867, and that all the contemporaries of the shilling Bahamas, namely, Jamaica, Mauritius, Hongkong, Cape, and N.S.W. 1d. London print were uniformly done with the Somerset House 14 comb. Is there a scrap of evidence on which the unique condition of the Bahamas is based? Then, again, the stamp is shown to have been in use for twelve years, and yet it is priced ten pounds unused and a sovereign used, while the 14 perforation, seven years in use, is put at only two shillings used or unused! We are ready to pledge our reputation on the statement that it was first issued perf. 14, and that the 12½ gauge was applied for only a short time between 1867 and 1875, and most probably towards the end of this period.

Our next point of criticism is that if the stamp was sent out in the beginning of September, and if it was accompanied by a consignment of the line-engraved, the latter must have been perf. 12 by the provisional De La Rue single cutter. The catalogue puts the perf. 12 in front of the perf. 13, which we think is wrong. Nos. 9 to 12 should be the former, and the shilling green, if it *must* be put among

the line-engraved, should be No. 13 instead of No. 21. Since it went out with stamps totally different in even the minor points of watermark and perforation, there is no reason left for mixing it up with them in one issue.

The last appearance of the stamp in the catalogue is among the unappropriateds. No possible argument can get over the fact that its condition here is the veriest minor variety of No. 29. The catalogue is full of instances of admissions that green and blue-green shades possess only this reduced status. The separation of minor shades into two issues is least of all excusable when one of them is tacked on to stamps of a different nature and of a date fourteen years removed from that of the minor variety. If fourteen years discrepancy can be overlooked there should not be much difficulty in getting over sixteen years, and entering the blue-green shade as No. 29a. It is for these reasons that whether it is looked upon from the chronological, historical, philatelic, scientific, or common sense point of view, we consider the cataloguing of Bahamas hopelessly bad.

The January number of the *Australian Philatelist* contains, as it usually does, a number of short interesting notes and paragraphs, mostly of interest to the collector of Australian stamps. Mr. P. Malone contributes a short article, dealing with the 1899 New Zealand Postage Dues. In the course of his paper he objects to the way these stamps are listed in Gibbons' catalogue, and by way of amendment suggests the following tabulation:

### SYNOPSIS.

Issued in December, 1899, wmk. N.Z. and Star, perf. 11. Value in second colour.

Type I., "N.Z." small. Last ornament in circle turning outwards.

Type II., "N.Z." large. Last ornament in circle turning inwards.

No.	Type.	(a) large "D."		(b) small "D."	
		Value	Colour.	Value	Colour.
1.	I.	½d.	(a)	green and carmine.	
2.	II.	½d.	(a)	"	"
3.	I.	1d.	(a)	"	"
4.	"	1d.	(b)	"	"
5.	"	2d.	(a)	"	"
6.	"	2d.	(b)	"	"
7.	"	3d.	(a)	"	"
8.	"	4d.	(b)	"	"
9.	II.	5d.	(b)	"	"
10.	"	6d.	(b)	"	"
11.	"	8d.	(a)	"	"
12.	"	10d.	(b)	"	"
13.	"	1/-	"	"	"
14.	"	2/-	"	"	"
Varieties.—No stop after "D."					
15.	I.	½d.	(a)	green and carmine.	
16.	II.	½d.	(a)	"	"

The December number of the *North American Collector* has just come to hand. The *N.A.C.* has now attained the great age of six months and, as it has just been chosen as the official organ of the Canadian Philatelic Society, there is every likelihood of it reaching a ripe old age. Like most of our American exchanges, the columns of the *North American Collector* are filled with scrappy notes, in lieu of one or more long articles. Perhaps col-

lectors on the other side of the pond like their journals to be so filled; at any rate they (the journals) help to keep alive philatelic enthusiasm.

We have received the first number of a new American stamp paper called *The Collectors' Journal*. Mr. H. L. Lindquist, of Chicago, is Editor and Manager, a fact which leads us to look forward to some capital numbers of our new contemporary. Like so many other American stamp journals, the *Collectors' Journal* devotes a portion of its space to other matters besides stamps, but in this case the philatelic contents are really so good that we do not cavil at a page or two devoted to mineralogy. Mr. J. B. Howe writes most entertainingly about Mr. J. F. Seybold, of Syracuse, and his wonderful collection of stamps. Mr. S. Schachne writes about the advantages of Postal Card Collecting, while the Rev. L. G. Dorpat, and others, all help to make the first number of America's latest a very interesting little production. May it live long and flourish.

The first two numbers of a new little contemporary hailing from Winnipeg, Canada, called *The Hobbyist* are also to hand. Both numbers contain a variety of interesting, if somewhat scrappy, items of philatelic interest. We wish our Canuck friend all success and trust future numbers will expand in size.

## Philately on the Continent.

The February number of the *Rivista del Francobollo* brings another instalment of M. Mennerée's article (in French) on the Stamps of the Argentine Republic. It deals with 1867-1884 issues, is adequately illustrated, and well written.

The same number gives a list of the printings of the first type 1 lepton of Greece. It appears to be entirely taken from Mr. Beckton's article in the *Record* of 1897; the little formality of acknowledgment was probably omitted in the hurry of going to press.

In the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* of 20th February, Herr Kröger continues his interesting article on "Germans Used Abroad." This time he deals with German South-West Africa; the earliest date he mentions is 1486! though he unfortunately fails to illustrate the postmarks of this period. Perhaps the reason is that it had not yet become a German colony.

In the February Number of *Der Philatelist*, the veteran Dr. Moschkau makes an attempt to revive the interest in entires. His tone on

the whole is pessimistic, and we feel that in this country, at all events, there is not much hope of their restoration to favour.

The *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung*, in its number of 27th February, contains the first instalment of an article on New Zealand Pictorials by an author whose anonymity is thinly veiled under the *nom de plume* of "Basted." The article is well illustrated and not without interest.

The same number also contains a violent attack on the "Germania Ring" by Herr Kosack, who, even if he does not mince matters, appears to have right on his side.

The February number of the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* contains a readable article by Rear-Admiral von Raimann, on Austria, 1st issue on laid paper, which it is remarked, are of the greatest rarity. The author's researches lead him to the conclusion that a few sheets of the paper used for Fiscal stamps in the early forties, had by some means or other, been utilised for postage stamps.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie*. 15th February, 1909.

This number opens with an article entitled "Notes on some Stamps and Postage Dues of New Zealand," in which is shown why it became necessary to use the high value fiscal stamps for postage. It is pointed out that between 1882 and 1891 there was no higher value in the postal series than 1/-, and that, having regard to the high rates of postage in force in the early '80's, and even later, there is no wonder that large numbers of the high value fiscal stamps were pressed into service.

In this connection the following table, showing the rates for postage obtaining in New Zealand in 1890 and in 1896, is of interest, and serves to remind us that cheap postage is a boon of very recent birth:—

TABLE OF POSTAL CHARGES IN NEW ZEALAND.

	In 1890.	In 1896.
Letters for Great Britain	6d.	2½d.
" " foreign countries	6d. to 1/6	2½d.
Book post to Gt. Britain	1/4 to 1 8 per lb.	4d. per lb.
" " Inland	8d. per lb.	4d. per lb.
Newspapers for abroad	1d. each and from 1/4 to 2/8 per lb.	4d. per lb.
Parcel Post, Inland	7d. for the first lb.	6d. for the first lb.
" " to Australia	From 1/2 to 1/6 for the first two lbs. and 7d. and 9d. per lb. afterwards	8d. for the first lb. and 6d. for each additional lb.
Charge for re-addressing letters in the interior	2d.	no charge.
Charge for re-addressing letters from abroad	From 6d. to 1/2	

Everybody knows that in 1900 the postage to Great Britain and within the Empire was reduced to 1d., and that since that date the issue of the "Universal" type of stamp has commemorated the granting of the boon of Universal 1d. postage on letters leaving New Zealand for any part of the Empire.

But we are digressing from the subject of the article, which goes on to describe the

Land Deeds, Court Fee, Life Insurance, Official franks and the stamps surcharged O.P.S.O. (on Public Service only). It is true that the article is little more than a catalogue of these varieties (and not a very minute one at that), but its significance lies in the fact that French collectors collect all these "extras," most of which are ignored in England. The French albums are made to include them all and the catalogues give them prominence.

The vexed question of colour-nomenclature, which has, from time to time, been discussed without any result in the English philatelic press, is now troubling our French *confrère*; evidently not for the first time, for the Editor's remarks thereon have a "tired" look. In referring to Ohrt's Colour Table (brought out under the auspices of the Germania Ring) which is about the best colour chart yet published and contains upwards of 600 tints, *L'Echo* says, and with much reason:—

"It may be remarked that the more complete a colour chart is the more difficult it is to make any use of it. However logical and simple the arrangement of the colours may be, you soon arrive at that state of confusion 'where you dunno where you are.'" (N.B.—This is not a literal translation, but an intelligent effort to anglicise the writer's views.)

The fact is, we fear, that the colour difficulty will never be settled and will vex cataloguers and users of catalogues for all time.

The *Echo*, dated 28th February, has an account of the Manchester Exhibition, by Wm. Ward, which is rather smart work. We note in the same number a record of some interesting prices obtained at one of Messrs. Gilbert et Kohler's auctions—South Australia 6d. grey-lilac, perforated on three sides and rouletted on the left, unused, no gum, f.303.50. New South Wales, Sydney View, 2d. deep blue, pick and shovel omitted, large margin, f.170.50. British South Africa, 1896, 8d. green and violet, block of four of which the two lower stamps are imperforate on all sides, f.220. Niger Coast, 5/- on 2d., f.346.50; ditto, 10/0 on 5d., f.337.70. Madagascar, British Consular Mail, collection of 53 stamps, f.726.

The same journal contains an advertisement of Messrs. Gilbert et Kohler, announcing the sale of the first portion of the superb collection formed by the late M. Mirabaud. This sale, which is to take place during March, comprises the French section, in which nearly everything seems to be represented in mint blocks of four, and in which one of the principal items is an entire sheet of the 20c. black of the first issue containing the *lête bêche*. Tuscany with three copies of the 3 lire and four of the 60 crazie. Naples, two unused and five used copies of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  tornese, Arms, and two unused and twelve used of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  tornese, Cross. German States, Italian States, and Greece, all up to the same standard.

*Le Timbre-Poste*. February 10th, 1909.

An excellent number of this welcome Exchange, containing articles on the "Secret Marks of the Old Issues of Venezuela," illustrated, and on the "Stamps of South Bulgaria." In the latter the two types of the Lion overprint are illustrated and minutely described.

## Catalogue Reform in Germany

THE following circular has been issued by the Dresden Philatelic Society, the most powerful body of philatelists on the Continent. If the project therein suggested is carried out—and there seems every likelihood that it will be—it will have a far-reaching effect in Germany and on other parts of the Continent where Senf's Catalogue is at present accepted as the standard.

"In consequence of a long-felt general desire among collectors and dealers, the International Philatelic Society of Dresden, in agreement with, and with the promised co-operation of Societies in Hamburg, Vienna, Munich, Augsburg and Berlin, as well as the International Society of Stamp Dealers, &c., has decided to transform the Catalogue published under the title of 'Illustrierter Briefmarken-Reform Katalog,' by the firm Paul Kohl, Ltd., of Chemnitz, into a Standard Catalogue.

"Tentatively it is proposed to include in it the entires of Germany, the German Empire, and the German Colonies.

"All Societies interested in this project are requested to bring it up for discussion at their next meetings.

"Applications for co-operation in fixing prices of stamps, as well as for the inclusion of the respective Societies' names on the title-page, are to be addressed to the International Philatelic Society, Dresden.

"The price of the Standard Catalogue has been fixed at 2M. 50Pf. It is requested that orders may be sent in as soon as possible, in order that some idea as to the extent of the edition may be obtained. On account of orders already on hand, it is intended to go to press at the earliest possible moment.

"The undersigned will at all times be pleased to furnish any further information."

International Philatelic Society, Dresden.

*Dr. Kloss, Dresden.*

German Philatelic Union.

*A. E. Glasewald, Gössnitz.*

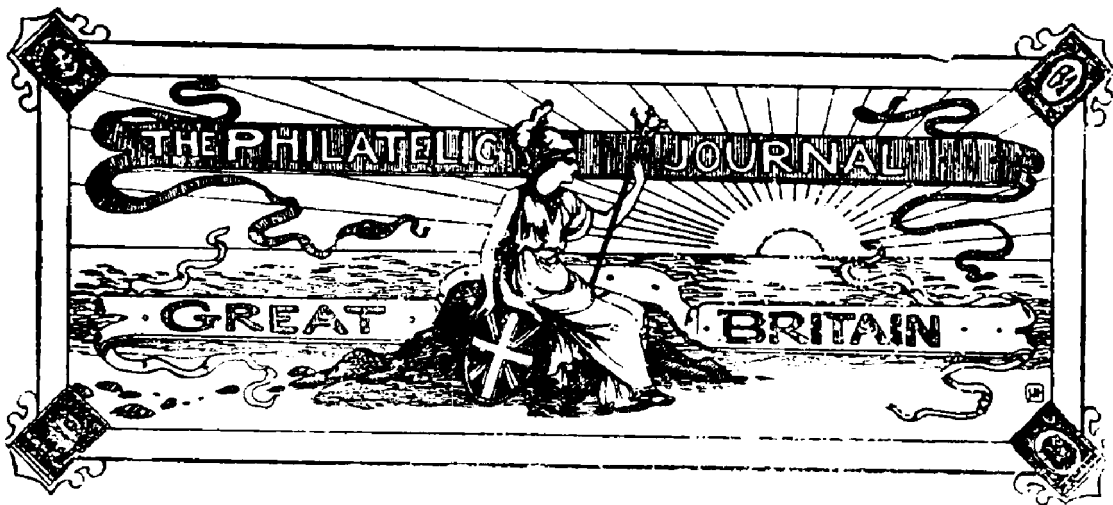
Austrian Stamp Dealers' Society.

*Rudolf Friedl, Vienna.*

*Paul Kohl, Chemnitz.*







The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, and the Sheffield Philatelic Society.

No. 220. VOL. XIX.

APRIL 20, 1909.

[PRICE 2D.]

## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

SO much is heard on all sides about the overburdened condition of our leading catalogues, and **Compound Perforations.** so many suggestions are made whereby the load might be lightened that we are moved to contribute our quota to the sea of controversy.

So many unnecessary varieties are now-a-days catalogued that it is hard to know where to commence the work of expunction, but, surely a step in the right direction would be taken if the majority of compound perforations were omitted. As a matter of fact it is very hard to puzzle out the reason why compound perforations ever succeeded in gaining catalogue recognition as they are, in most cases, merely a repetition of previous gauges, but in conjunction. The only time that compound perforations are of genuine interest as compounds is when one of the gauges represented is not known to have been employed to perforate the normal stamps of the same issue. As an instance of this we can quote the recently issued picture set of Bosnians. This set consists of sixteen values, all certainly handsomely executed, but we find, on reference to our catalogue, that no fewer than *one hundred and thirteen* varieties are listed, with, as these stamps are still current, the possibility of yet more to come.

This wonderful array is made up of (a) seventeen stamps perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$  (one variety being listed in two shades), (b) sixteen stamps perforated  $9\frac{1}{2}$ , (c) ditto perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$  and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  compound, (d) ditto  $12\frac{1}{2}$  and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  and  $6\frac{1}{2}$ , (e) ditto  $12\frac{1}{2}$  and  $6\frac{1}{2}$ , (f) ditto  $9\frac{1}{2}$  and  $6\frac{1}{2}$ , and (g) the set imperforate.

It will thus be seen that, although only *three* perforating machines were used, we have ninety-seven perforation varieties. Of the gauges, one, namely the  $6\frac{1}{2}$ , is only found in conjunction with either the  $9\frac{1}{2}$  or the  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , consequently if it is thought necessary to collect the work of the machine with the pins gauging  $6\frac{1}{2}$ , we must take for our collection, a set of sixteen values. Two other sets, respectively, showing the work of the  $12\frac{1}{2}$  and the  $9\frac{1}{2}$  machines might also be considered necessary, giving us a total of forty-eight stamps. If, however, the set with compound perforation was taken as representing the work of two machines only one "simple" perforation set need be taken. Granted, however, that three sets are collected we find that sixty-five abortions are left unaccounted for. On analysis they work out as follows:—

One shade variety of the normal perf.  
Sixteen abnormal imperforate stamps.  
Forty-eight totally unnecessary varieties of perforations.

These last mentioned stamps have, in our opinion, no interest whatever and their creation was only the result of an unhealthy demand from many present day collectors.

Some compound varieties of perforation are extremely interesting, the 1882-1889 Queensland as an instance, but spare us from long lists of current compounds, of which recent Bosnians are a flagrant example.

Another glaring instance of a country overburdened with perforation varieties is Roumania. During the period 1885-1902 we find that no fewer than *two hundred and fifty-seven* catalogue varieties were issued. Eighty-five of these were perforated by a machine gauging  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , ninety-four by a machine gauging  $13\frac{1}{2}$ , while the remaining seventy-eight varieties are those stamps which were perforated by both machines. If we collect perforations, as representing the work of different machines, which undoubtedly we do, surely it is the height

of absurdity to collect stamps merely because they bear evidence of having been through both machines.

When perforation varieties mark the use of new machines, or a new printing contract, they are of great interest and value but when they merely denote whether the top, or the side, of a sheet has been "fed" first into the perforating machine, then it is surely time to consider whether present day philately is based on a firm and sane footing, or whether its supports are not built on a rotten foundation of greed, absurdity, and an insane desire to possess one-more-variety, than anybody else. Collectors have the remedy in their own hands, while they certainly cannot blame the cataloguers, or the authorities who cause such rubbish to be so maltreated if its sale means a considerable addition to their own, or their Government's exchequer.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Australian Commonwealth.** The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the 3d. postage due stamp, perf.  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ , and the 4d. value, perf. 11, both on Crown and A paper.

*Postage Dues.* Wmkd. Crown and A.  
3d. pale green, perf.  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ .  
4d. " " " 11.

**Federated Malay States.** Numerous correspondents from this part of the world have sent us specimens of the newly issued 3c. all red stamps. As surmised last month, the paper they are printed on is multiple, ordinary.

**India. China Expeditionary Force.** Mr. W. T. Wilson kindly sends us specimens of the current India 1a. stamp (Postage and Revenue) and the 12 annas overprinted C.E.F.

*Adhesives.*  
King's Heads, Indian stamps, overprinted C.E.F.  
1a. carmine.  
12a. purple on red.

**Indian Native States. Hyderabad.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* adds another value to the set of four chronicled by us last month.

*Adhesive.*  
3a brown-orange.

**New Hebrides.** In *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* we find the following:—

"We have received a letter from the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, dated 20.2.09, confirming the fact that the overprinting of these stamps was done in the Government Printing Office, at Suva. The quantity surcharged was as follows:—

12,000 stamps, value	$\frac{1}{2}$ d.
30,000 " "	1d.
20,136 " "	2d.
30,000 " "	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
12,000 " "	5d.
6,000 " "	6d.
2,880 " "	1/-

"At the time of sending the above information it was not known whether any further supplies would be similarly overprinted."

**New Zealand.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following stamps, perf.  $14 \times 15$ .

*Adhesives.* Current type. Perf.  $14 \times 15$ .  
4d. blue and brown.  
5d. deep brown.

The 2d. stamp is also chronicled in a new shade.

Perf. 14.  
2d. red-lilac.

**Northern Nigeria.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 5d. stamp on chalky paper.

*Adhesive.* King's Head. Multiple CA., chalky.  
5d. purple and chestnut.

**Rhodesia.** We have received from the Secretary of the British South Africa Co. the following letter :

"The postage stamps issued by the British South Africa Company for use in Rhodesia have hitherto only borne the name and Arms of the Company. The Company has now provisionally overprinted all values of its current issue of stamps up to £1 with the word 'RHODESIA,' in black letters. Specimens of the ½d., 1d. and 2½d. stamps, so overprinted, are enclosed."

The following values in the form of a surcharge have been added to the issue.

5d. on 6d.	10d. on 3/-
7½d. on 2/6.	2/- on 5/-

**St. Vincent.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly tell us that a correspondent informs them that the stock of 1d. Arms first type and the 6d., 1/-, 2/- and 5/-, King's Head stamps, are to be destroyed, now that the new types are in circulation.

**Sierra Leone.** A correspondent to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* says he has seen a used copy of the 2/- on blue paper.

*Adhesive.* King's Head.  
2/- on blue.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Argentine Republic.** The new 12c. stamp chronicled by us in January last is it appears already obsolete. In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for April 3rd. we find this value now chronicled in *blue*, to conform to Postal Union colours. In *Mekeel's Weekly* for March 20th, we find the 30c. stamp chronicled as *claret*. Last month, on the authority of an American exchange, we listed this stamp as *green*. As the 3c. value is green we think the colour of the 30c. is more likely to be *claret*. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have kindly sent us a copy of the 12c. *blue*.

*Adhesive.* New type.  
12c. blue.

**Belgium.** Mr. F. E. Wilson, of Birmingham, very kindly sends us a specimen of the recently issued 30c. unpaid letter stamp.

*Postage Due.* Perf. 14.  
30c. blue.

**Bosnia.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, on the authority of Mr. Stewart Wilson, chronicles the 1kr. stamp of 1890 (plate 1) with the 9-9½ perforation. A number of perforation varieties of the Postage Due stamps are also given.

*Adhesives* 1890. Perf. 9, 9½.  
1 (kr) grey.

*Postage Dues*, 1904. Perf. 10½.  
4h. black, red and yellow.

Perf. 12½, 13, and 10½ compound.  
1h. black, red and yellow.

2h. " " "

15h. " " "

20h. " " "

Perf. 12½, 13 and 9 compound.  
3h. black red and yellow.

Perf. 10½ and 9 compound.  
2h. black red and yellow.

**Brazil.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the discovery of a copy of the 300r. (1890 type), surcharged 500r., perforated 11, 11½. This stamp has previously only been catalogued perf. 12½ to 14.

*Adhesive.* 1899.  
300r. slate-blue of 1890 surcharged 500r.  
Perf. 11, 11½.

**Crete.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us another batch of provisionals from this very much troubled island. We prefer to wait a month or so before we attempt to chronicle this class of rubbish, as inverteds (and every other kind of perverted error) are sure to turn up.

**French Colonies.** *Martinique.* The remaining values of the new set are chronicled in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*. The five lowest values we have already listed.

*Adhesives.* Pictorial Design.  
Central design, name and value in purple-brown.  
Perf. 14 x 13½ or 13½ x 14.  
20c. deep lilac.  
25c. blue.  
30c. Venetian red.  
35c. deep lilac.  
40c. pale sage-green.  
45c. deep brown.  
50c. rosine.  
75c. greenish-black.  
1f. dull greenish-blue.  
2f. grey.  
5f. Venetian red.

**Honduras.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles a lithographed copy of the 1c. green of the 1907 issue. Up to the present all the stamps of this set have been engraved, but possibly, they are now to be issued lithographed on the score of cheapness. A correspondent to *Ewen's Weekly* informs the paper that the 5c., 10c., and 20c. stamps have also been issued.

*Adhesive.* 1907 design. Lithographed, Perf. 14.  
1c. dull green.  
5c. blue.  
10c. brown.  
20c. blue.

**Italy.** *Somaliland.* In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* we find it announced that the current Postage Due stamps, overprinted "Somalia Italiana"—"Meridionale" in two lines, have now been issued without the "Meridionale." It is stated that the 60c. stamp has not been issued.

**Portugal.** *Angola.* *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles a used copy of the 100r. of the 1893 design on chalky paper, perforated 11½.

*Adhesive.* 1893-94 design. Chalky paper. Perf. 11½.  
100r. brown on buff.

**Roumania.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 25b. stamp of 1900, on unwatermarked paper in the 13½ perforation. This stamp should follow No. 419 in the catalogue.

*Adhesive.* Issue of 1900. No wmk. Perf. 13½.  
25b. blue.

**Russia.** The *London Philatelist* contains, in the form of a letter contributed by Mr. Albert Scheindling, some remarkably interesting information concerning the new Russian stamps, several values of which we have already chronicled.

"LIBAU (RUSSLAND),  
"24th February, 1909.

"DEAR SIR,—Enclosed I beg to hand you a used copy of each of the 1 cop, orange, 2 cop, green, 4 cop, rose, of the new issue. One of the clerks at our post office has already seen the 3 cop, rose (similar to the 7 cop), and 10 cop, blue (similar to the 4 cop); they unfortunately escaped him, but you may chronicle them on my responsibility. No doubt the 5 cop will soon appear, and as far as I can judge it will be similar to the 7 cop and the colour will be violet. You will see that the 4 cop and 10 cop are of a different shape than the other values, and the reasons are, firstly, in order to distinguish the 3 cop from the 4 cop and 7 cop from the 10 cop, and secondly, because the words 'РЕТЪПЕ' (four) and 'ДЕКАТЪ' (ten) are too large to be placed on the left side of the figure of value, therefore the latter had to be placed on each side of the eagle, the inscription, however, at the foot of the stamp.

"I have also been shown the official journal published by the Postal Department, according to which new 25 and 70 cop stamps are daily expected, whether they will be bi-coloured and bear the eagle embossed as hitherto, I couldn't gather; but I don't doubt that it will be the case, as well as with all the other new stamps from 14 cop upwards (a full set up to 25 roubles is expected), because the Postal Department does everything to prevent the forging or cleaning of stamps, and the bi-colouration and embossing are very good guards against these dangers. For this purpose the new stamps have also got a secret mark impression on their face, which consists of rectangular diagonal crossing lines, looking like a watermark.

"Some stamp papers mention that the new stamps are printed in colours which wash off, but I can assure you that this is not the case, and I enclose a number of the 7 cop stamps to enable you to make the necessary experiments, which will prove to you that I am right. Whether the colours will also withstand the cleaning off of the postmark is a question I cannot yet answer, but I have already commenced to investigate the matter, and I am also trying to get information *re* the secret mark.

"Each sheet consists of 4 panes of 25 stamps each, and the size of the sheets is 247 x 307.

"Regarding the Jubilee stamps mentioned in my last letter, which you don't intend to chronicle (according to the rules of your paper), I think you would do very well to simply mention them (in the same way as the Siam Jubilee stamps, see page 25), as this set is extremely interesting to Russian collectors, and these Jubilee stamps are no speculative stamps, but they will only commemorate the third century of the house of Romanow."

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles new 50 and 70k. stamps. The designs have not been changed, but the shades of colour are slightly different, and the stamps are coated with lines of varnish.

*Adhesives.*

With thunderbolts. Wove paper. Perf. 14, 14½.  
50k. yellow, green, and purple.  
70k. orange and pale chocolate.

**Siam.** In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* we are told that the currency of Siam is likely to be changed. We are also informed that there is a variety in the Jubilee overprint, which probably occurs on all values, although the *Weekly* has only as yet seen it on the 1a., 3a. and 18a. The variety consists of a small "i" in "Jubilee" and occurs twice on every sheet.

**Spanish Colonies.** We are indebted to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* for the following information; also to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a set up to the 50c. of the Rio de Oro stamps.

We think that all our readers will agree with Mr. Ewen's remarks concerning the speculative nature of these stamps.

The *Madrid Filatélico* (31.1.09/7) states that issues of an entirely new design were forwarded to the Spanish Colonies on 30.1.09.

New design. Head of King Alfonso to right in small oval with "Correos" in small letters above, a palm tree on either side and a broad band at foot inscribed with the name of the colony. Value in each upper corner on an 8-rayed star.

(i) Inscribed "Territorios Espanoles del Golfo de Guinea" (this set is for use in Fernando Poo, Guinea continental española and Flobej, Annobón y Corisco, the one set being issued now instead of three).

1c. red-brown	200,000
2c. "currant"	200,000
5c. bluish-green	100,000
10c. red	100,000
15c. black-brown	100,000
20c. violet	60,000
25c. blue	80,000
30c. brick-red	80,000
40c. rose	100,000
50c. violet-brown	150,000
1p. dark green	25,000
2p. orange	25,000
4p. carmine	25,000

The colour of the 2c. is given by our contemporary as *grosella*, which is not very illuminating as he omits to say whether he means white, red, black or green currants ("green currant" is the name of the gooseberry). The three values which one would have supposed would

be most required, namely, 5c., 10c., and 25c. are printed in comparatively small quantities, but large stocks of the 40 and 50c. are waiting handy to be surcharged!

(ii) Same design, inscribed "Colonia de Rio de Oro."

1c. carmine	10,000
2c. orange	10,000
5c. bluish-green	10,000
10c. red	10,000
15c. dark green	10,000
20c. violet-brown	10,000
25c. blue	10,000
30c. rose	10,000
40c. brick-red	10,000
50c. violet	10,000
1p. black-brown	5,000
4p. "currant"	5,000
10p. dark rose	5,000

The proportion printed of the several values alone, stamps this as a speculative issue. In view of the demand from stamp-collectors, it is absurd to print only £3 worth of the 1c. stamp; the fact is that the stamp is printed solely to be bought up and retailed at a premium, if in fact the Rio de Oro Post Office ever sells its stamps otherwise than in sets. On the last occasion it will be remembered the quantity printed was 1750 sets, all values exactly alike, with the result that provisional 2, 5, 10, 15 and 25c. stamps had to be made.

**United States.** Mr. Nelton tells us he has seen the current 3, 4 and 5 cent stamps imperforate. We have also seen the new Lincoln 2c. stamp imperf.

*Adhesives. Varieties imperf. 1909 issue.*

- 3c. purple.
- 4c. brown.
- 5c. blue.

Lincoln Commemorative Stamp.  
2c. carmine.

## New York Letter.

WE have received the following very interesting letter from Mr. Edgar Nelton, of New York. For very many years Mr. Nelton has been a collector of stamps on original covers while he possesses a very fine collection, especially strong in North Americans. We are therefore glad that the New Brunswick cover, described in our February number is known to him as an authentic issue. Mr. Nelton holds strong views concerning the recently "issued" 3, 4, and 5c. U.S.A. imperforates, many of our readers will doubtless join him in condemning them as "speculative."

116, Nassau Street,  
New York City.

TO THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

DEAR SIR,

Noticing your remarks *re* New Brunswick covers in the February issue of your paper, I drop a few lines to state that the 15c. rate has been seen here (although not common),

made up—as in the case of the entire you describe—of one 10c. stamp and half a 10c., to pay triple rate, or double rate and registration. One of your postmarks is, no doubt, Petticodiac, which town was, up to 1871, an important stage route centre for mails.

The 5c. provisional, made up of half a 10c. stamp, was required because the 5c. stamps, being largely used for the domestic rate, soon became exhausted. This 5c. provisional was not used to replace the famous, or to speak more correctly, the infamous Connell stamp, which I am positive never was used to prepay postage or even issued to Postmasters. No authentic cover bearing one has ever been seen on this side, although it may have been discovered on the Continent (Italy and Switzerland being capable of supplying most any old thing wanted).

We can, however, supply some few things here, and the latest bid for philatelic popularity and collector's money are the current 3, 4 and 5c., new issue imperforate. These imperforates are not issued in the regular way by the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, or the Post Office Department at Washington. The 1 and 2c. values are, and have been for some time, furnished to owners of slot machines, which sell the two low values automatically.

An enterprising New York dealer saw an opportunity, however, and induced one of the automatic vending machine proprietors to make a request for \$1200.00 worth of 3, 4 and 5c. imperforates, ostensibly to use in the machines. These stamps were supplied but all fell into dealers' hands with the result that "suckers" who "bite" have to pay over double face. I for one will not buy them and maintain that they were not regularly issued.

The 2c. Lincoln imperf. and the 1 and 2c. stamps of the new issue have been supplied to the New York Post Office, but they are sold only in sheets of 400.

The 2c. Lincoln's were soon bought up by dealers and local speculators, but I hear that late comers will be shortly supplied as a further supply is to be printed.

This Lincoln stamp was supposed to be issued as a commemorative for one day only (perforated) to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Lincoln's birthday—Feb. 12th, 1909—but now that our P.O. Department has had a taste of collector's money there is no telling how long the imperforate game will be played.

We have a fine lot of politicians running the P.O. Department in this country, who object to the use of "cuts" of U.S. stamps in catalogues and philatelic papers, so for the present U.S. imperforate stamps are to be more common than any picturesit seems, just as long as collectors are fools enough to buy this trash, which will, however, prepay postage.

Yours truly,

EDGAR NELTON.

## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

I AM afraid this month's Chatter will not be so scintillant as is usual. There are many reasons for this—one, because the effort of emitting the word scintillant was somewhat of a strain, and another, because the Easter holidays have left an aftermath. There are also three hundred and twenty-two other reasons.

Unfortunately, as it happens, the Great One is so busy with his monumental treatise, dealing with the stamps of South Australia, that he has asked me to reply to a few correspondents. The Great One forgot to give me the letters, also to tell me what they were about, but as he has given me the names of the seekers after knowledge, I will do my best.

(1) *Ptolemy Boggis*.—Thanks for kind wishes for happy Xmas. Your *blue* halfpenny English late Queen's head, is certainly not a colour changeling. It is a very rare error of the  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. vermilion. Only one other copy is known.

(2) *Blossom*.—Thanks dearest for sweet letter, unfortunately, your letter, like those of my other correspondents, has got lost, consequently I don't know what you enquire about, but I should fancy it must be a very rare stamp indeed, worth quite 8d. or 9d. 2, The best way would be to plaster them on to a soup tureen. 3, Please don't tire those sweet blue eyes by looking for nasty wet watermarks.

(3) *Ernest*. Possibly a solution of strong tincture would give relief. 2, No; 3, No; 4, No; 5, No; 6, No; 7, Use a typewriter and mark your letter Private.

(4) *Powder Puff*.—(I wonder whether this is the nom de plume of an Amazon or a Terrier, anyway I must be circumspect in my reply.—McTav.) Thanks, warrior, for your manly letter. Your devotion to our mutual hobby is worthy of decoration. 1, Wash in warm water and use a *strong* mount; 2, Yes, benzine evaporates very quickly, especially if you place a lighted match on a big lump; 3, Yes, Manchester is in Somersetshire.

(5) *Chutney*.—Your letter is almost illegible. 1, Yes; 2 to 57, ditto; 58, Unanswerable in these columns; 59 to 99, No; 100, A safety razor *might* meet your case, but it would have to be used at least *once* every week.

(6) *Mc Splash*.—Glad to hear you contemplate a lengthy holiday. 1, Risky; 2, Very risky; 3, Exceedingly risky.

(7) *Cuthbert*.—Certainly not.

(8) *Freddy*.—1, Diet yourself almost entirely on oatmeal; 2, Cold bath *every* morning; 3, Shooting niggers is a very expensive sport in England, cheaper in Texas and Kentucky, where they only cost a few dollars each.

(9) *William* (Cotonopolis).—Never mind Willie, you will grow out of it when you arrive at maturer years. All *really* great authors have suffered from the disease of assertiveness at one time or another.

The following extract from a letter to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, published in a recent number of *G.S.W.*, makes good reading:

"The album was thrown about sixty yards (the result of an explosion) on the veldt, and I thought I had lost it. but I came across it again, not at all damaged, and none of the stamps were missing, owing to my using excellent mounts."

How's that for a testimonial, eh?

Possibly in the future we shall read "ads" in the philatelic press as follows:

"The 'Holborn' Stamp Mounts. These mounts are guaranteed to stick anything from a breath of wind to a fine buttress. Extensively used by the Admiralty for the Dover Harbour Works instead of concrete. Used by Royalty and commoners. Useful as a substitute for bread and butter puddings. Recommended by market gardeners for growing mushrooms on. Used largely by the Swiss Navy for armour plates. Recommended by Lord Roberts for use as Service tents. Used by the Turkish army as rations—one box (1,000 mounts) guaranteed to contain enough nourishment to sustain a regiment for one week. These mounts have revolutionised modern cavalry warfare—every man now provides his own mount. Motorists and cyclists helpless without them. Quite safe to use. Worth a guinea a box."

The *March Philatelic Journal of India* reprints a couple of pages of "Current Chatter." What does it mean, I wonder? Either a typesetter made a mistake and set up "Current Chatter" instead of an instalment of Mr. Ruddypotsky's valuable article on the type set provisional issues of Jerusalem, or else Editor Crofton thought that a little light *badinage*, don't you know, would do his readers good during the hot season, act as a sort of tonic. Angus appreciates the honour, but he would like to take this opportunity to inform editors at large (some of 'em oughtn't to be) that it is a bit rough on the wee Angus to have to read "Current Chatter" a month or more after he hoped it was safely forgotten.

*Punch*, a paper really devoted to philatelists, prints the following letter to the Bengal Postmaster-General.

"SIR,—Although the English mail train passed through Bally station shortly after noon yesterday, for some reason or other, it was after 7 o'clock until the Bally letters reached—P.O. Despite the importance of the mail, the postmaster made no attempt to deliver the Bally bag to Bally postmaster or to advise him to call for it. We afterwards discovered that Bally postmaster had sent three or four times for bags."

India so far has escaped Ballyhockey, Ballybunion, Ballyfad, and Ballycommon—Babu effusions.

## Death of Mr. Edward J. Nankivell.

As briefly announced last month, Mr. E. J. Nankivell passed away on Thursday, March 18th, at his home in Tunbridge Wells. He was greatly respected and much admired by all philatelists with whom he came into touch, and the collecting world has indeed to mourn the loss of one of its most celebrated leaders. one who at all times was a fighting opponent to all the many abuses which of late years have threatened to undermine our hobby. Warm hearted, sometimes perhaps slightly impetuous, Mr. Nankivell embodied the many virtues that the Duchy so frequently endows her sons with. A keen lover of stamps and an expert journalist, he was able to do a great deal of good by waging war in the columns of the *Postage Stamp* against speculative and faked stamps, and we have but little doubt that the seed so sown will bear good results in the future.

As doubtless many of our readers know, Mr. Nankivell launched his excellent publication, the *Postage Stamp*, nearly two years ago, since when, by ceaseless perseverance and untiring energy, he made his paper one of the most eagerly anticipated of all philatelic publications.

Eight years ago Mr. Nankivell kindly came into the *P. J. C. B.* as one of our Well-known Philatelists, and we think it would be of interest were we to reproduce here a portion of his biography.

"Born on the north coast of Cornwall in 1848, he has been a stamp collector almost continuously from 1866. Like all other boys, he made a general collection; but having relatives in Australia he was fortunate enough to get a very good lot of early Victorians and Tasmanians. Even in those days he was fastidious in the selection and care of his specimens. Of course, they were gummed down in the style of that day, but he used tissue paper leaves.

"In 1871 he came to London to join the *London Daily Press*.

"For several years he was on the editorial staff of the *Central News Telegraphy Agency*. Subsequently, he was invited to join the editorial staff of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, then



under the editorship of Mr. John Morley, and was a colleague of Mr. Stead, Sir (then Mr.) Alfred Milner, and Mr. E. T. Cook. For several years he filled the position of City Editor.

"He may be said to have started his philatelic career in 1881, when he joined the Philatelic Society of London, on the invitation of Mr. E. D. Bacon. At one of the first meetings which he attended, he was introduced to Mr. Tapling.

"Though Mr. Nankivell had sold his general collection, he had sufficient foresight to retain all his Transvaals, of which he had several hundreds.

"Mr. Tapling was an enthusiastic specialist in Transvaals, and at once advised Mr. Nankivell to study up the country and specialise in it.

"On the resignation of Mr. W. A. S. Westoby in January 1896, Mr. Nankivell undertook the editorship of the *Philatelic Record*, which he continued for three years. On assuming the control of the *Record*, he changed the size to a larger page, and introduced many new features. In 1899 he formed one of a syndicate which purchased the *Record* and turned it into a limited company, and once more resumed the control of that journal.

"Mr. Nankivell has read many papers before the London Society, while he was a prolific writer for the Philatelic Press at home and abroad.

"Of Mr. Nankivell as a well-known London journalist, it is hardly our province to speak, but we may say that he has a very successful monthly, which is now in its 21st volume, and that although he confines his work to his own study, he still keeps alive his old connection with the *London Daily Press*. His elaborate method of filing newspaper cuttings worth preserving would alone afford sufficient employment for any ordinary man. He is an enthusiastic cyclist and a very early riser, 6 a.m. being his favourite hour for starting his day's work.

"Returning to matters philatelic, Mr. Nankivell is one of the most fastidious of collectors as to specimens for his albums, and he hinges his stamps at the left side instead of at the top, contending that by so doing the stamps close naturally with the page, and stand less danger of being caught and doubled up by the closing book."

# The Stamps of Prince Edward Island.

*A Paper read before the International Philatelic Union, on March 11th, 1909.*

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, which now forms part of the Dominion of Canada, had, during the time that the stamps were in use, a separate government. It was in 1873 that the formation of the British North American Confederation brought about the cessation of the issue of special stamps, and the amalgamation of Prince Edward Island, together with Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and British Columbia, with the Dominant Colony of Canada.

Though an agitation of some years duration was kept up by the Prince Edward Island people and Government in favour of the issue of stamps for prepayment of postage, the British Government withheld permission until 1860. It has been said that the refusal was made on the grounds that it would be very easy for stamps to be counterfeited and very difficult to catch the culprits. This excuse sounds very ridiculous, coming as it did from a Government which had (presumably) permitted the preparation of such crude productions as those of the first issues of British Guinea, Mauritius, and some other colonies. The explanation probably is that the Governor of Prince Edward Island sought advice on the subject from the Home Government, and was advised that no highly finished set of postage stamps, manufactured by either of the processes then employed for the purpose in England, could be procured without incurring an expenditure greater than Prince Edward Island was prepared to make.

However this may be, the question of cost was evidently a very important one, as the stamps which were eventually issued were very poorly electrotyped on cheap paper without any watermark. It is known that the first issue, consisting of 250,000 stamps, only cost £57 delivered in Charlottetown, the capital. This does not amount to 4/6 per thousand, and cannot by any means be deemed an extravagant price, especially when one remembers that Charles Whiting, of London, who printed the stamps, did not make any charge for making the plates, as proved by Mr. Tilliard in an article in *The London Philatelist* (Vol. II., Nos. 13, 14, 15 and 16).

The official notice announcing that stamps were in readiness and would be issued on Jan. 1st, 1861, was published in *The Royal Gazette* on Dec. 26th, 1860. This issue consisted of three denominations only, viz.: 2d. rose, 3d. blue and 6d. green. They were perforated

with large perforations gauging 9. The machine which performed this somewhat abnormal feat made comparatively small holes, with the consequence that the teeth are very blunt and are, normally, rounded instead of being pointed. The result of this was that the stamps were difficult to tear apart, and perfect specimens with all the perforations intact are, consequently, seldom met with.

The paper used for these stamps was, as I have said, of very poor quality and slightly yellowish in tone. The 2d. and 3d. vary considerably in colour, the dark rose shade of the 2d. being decidedly scarce. Among the remainders sold in 1874 there were a few sheets each of the 2d. and 6d., but none of the 3d., which accounts for that value being so much the best of the set in this perforation.

The cancellations found on this issue consist of (1) an oval shaped obliterator composed of about 10 parallel bars, (2) an oval mark, similar to the 1844 obliteration of Great Britain, composed of horizontal bars with the number "13" between and the ends enclosed with curved vertical bars, and, (3) large circular town-dated postmark. The last of these is much the scarcest and decidedly the most attractive. Sometimes the stamps are met with pen-marked, as some country post-offices were not supplied with postmarks.

Before the stamps were issued, the postal authorities, deeply conscious of the inadequacy of the set of three denominations, and especially of the want of a 1d. stamp, announced that the 2d. and 3d. stamps would be received, for payment of half the sum indicated, if cut in two diagonally.

The half of the 2d. stamp was required for soldiers' and seamen's letters which were allowed to be sent to, and received from, Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia at the special rate of 1d. Similar letters for Newfoundland, West Indies and Great Britain were charged 1d. sterling. The half stamps were also useful in making up an odd rate such as 7d., which was the 4 oz. rate for book-post to certain British Colonies.

The necessity for half the 3d. stamp has puzzled many writers on Prince Edward Island, but clause 17 of the Post Office Act, of 1860, shows that a 1½d. stamp was clearly a necessity. This clause reads:—

"Letters to be forwarded to Newfoundland or Bermuda are liable to the charge of nine-pence currency per rate, 3d. of which must be



prepaid. Newspapers addressed to the foregoing places are subject to the charge of one penny half-penny currency, which must be prepaid."

This is the only use for a 1½d. stamp that the list of postal changes reveals and the fact that halves of three pennies were only used for newspapers, the covers of which are nearly always destroyed, accounts for the extreme rarity of this provisional.

Though only the 2d. and 3d. were specially mentioned as being available in halves, the 6d. is also said to exist used in this condition though whether this would be the perf. 9 stamp or a later one I am unable to say.

An exhaustive article on Prince Edward Island, written by Donald King, appeared in the *Monthly Journal*, vol. v, and to this I, with all others interested in these stamps, am greatly indebted for much information.

In this article extracts from the Post Office accounts are given, showing the various entries referring to amounts paid to Charles D. Whiting for postage stamps. The first of these is taken from the accounts of the fiscal year ending March, 1861, and shows the payment of £57 for 250,000 stamps, these being, without doubt, those perforated 9. Unfortunately, it is not known how many there were of each value, but, judging from their present relative rarity, taking both used and unused into account, I should estimate that the figures would be probably about 150,000 for the 2d., 40,000 for the 3d., and 60,000 for the 6d. At any rate, it is extremely unlikely that there would have been more than 150,000 of any one value.

Before leaving this issue I must warn collectors against proofs with forged perforations. Imperf. proofs, especially of the 2d. and 3d. are not uncommon, and a short time ago there were a good many of the 3d. about with a rather dangerous imitation of the 9 gauge. The shade of this proof, however, is considerably paler than the issued stamps.

ROULETTED AND IMPERF. VARIETIES.

The 2d. rose is known rouletted, but all that is known about it is contained in the following paragraph, which I extract in full from Mr. Donald A. King's article already referred to. He says:—

"This variety was first discovered by myself in October, 1888; it was found in a large quantity of used Prince Edward Island stamps sent me from Charlottetown; they were principally the 2d. perforated 9, and only one specimen of the rouletted was found. The papers from which this lot of stamps came eventually fell into the possession of a friend of mine, Mr. Bartlett, and he was fortunate enough to discover four more. Up to the present date these are all the specimens known to exist, and, taking the limited number of them as a criterion, they should rank among the great rarities. The paper is the same as that of the other values, and the

colour is a deep rose, with almost a shade of the *claret* tint of the 2d. perf. 9. It is a very common shade in that value. The roulette points are quite distinct. Whether these stamps were sent out rouletted or not is open to question, though I am inclined to think that they were."

"All the specimens are from the papers of one firm, and were probably on the correspondence of one person. At the time that these stamps were found the taste for collecting on the entire covers was in its infancy, and not one of the five was so kept; thus no trace of the date they were used or the Post Office that they emanated from, remains."

Mr. King suggests that owing to the unsatisfactory nature of the large perforations, Mr. Whiting sent over a few sheets rouletted, for trial, and that some of these were used. This seems a more feasible solution than the suggestion that one sheet, or more, having escaped perforation, were rouletted locally, for it is extremely unlikely that there should have been a rouletting machine in the island at that date.



The 2d. has been found imperforate, used on the entire, but it seems that the margins were not quite large enough to satisfy Mr. King that it was a genuine imperf.; on the other hand there would be nothing to prevent an imperf. proof passing through the post. This value is also known imperf. vertically and perf. 9 horizontally and also *vice versa*.

THE PENCE ISSUES PERF. 11 AND 11½ TO 12.

The warrants for payments to Mr. Whiting for postage stamps supplied between 1862 and 1868 are as follows:—

1. Mar., 1862	£23 8 10
2. Mar., 1863	£100 0 0 & £25
3. Nov., 1865	£28 6 10
4. End of 1867	£73 1 3

It is unfortunate that no quantities are mentioned here, and that we can only guess what values the payments were for.

From the fact that there were some few of the stamps perf. 9 amongst the remainders it would appear that the warrant which I have numbered 1., dated early in 1862, was for some new values, and Mr. King's supposition that the consignment to which this refers consisted almost (if not entirely) all of pennies and nine pennies is probably correct, especially as copies of both values, on entires, used in the middle of that year are known. These first printings of the 1d. and 9d. were in the brown-orange and lilac shades respectively, all later

supplies being in orange to yellow-orange for the 1d. and reddish-lilac for the 9d.

Marginal stamps generally show, on the outer edge, and at a distance of 1 mm. from the design, a thin line of colour. The lines are generally very much broken and disconnected, especially on the 9d. where, in fact, it appears but seldom; in later printings of both values it became much more indistinct.

The electrotyping was more carefully done than in the case of other values, to be described later on, and the only noticeable variety which I have noted on either value is one of the 9d. stamps, with an uncoloured dot before the "P" of "PRINCE." This was evidently caused by a slight defect on the plate, and occurs on the 1st stamp in the 4th row.

The large payment of £125 mentioned in the warrant number 2, which was dated only a year later than the last, was no doubt for fresh supplies of the 2d., 3d., and 6d., to supercede the perf. 9 stamps, the stock of which must, by this time, have been running low.



From the evidence of the earliest-known used copies of the 1d. yellow-orange and 9d. rosy-lilac it is pretty clear that warrant No. 3 was for a consignment which included new supplies of these values. Dated copies of this issue are very rare, and dates can only be fixed when stamps are found on the entire envelopes, consequently it is very difficult to find out even the approximate dates on which the various values came into use. The 4d. presents more difficulty than any other in this respect. Mr. Donald King thinks that it was included in the consignment of 1863, for the following reasons:—The warrant of that year was for a very large sum, which seems far too much for the three values which are known to have been included in it, whereas, for the same reason, the warrant of 1865 was far too small an amount. Failing its inclusion in either of these consignments from the printer, it could only have come in the one dated end of 1867, but there is much evidence to show that all the 4d. stamps in that lot were on the rough bluish white paper, and that the ones on the yellowish-toned paper were from an earlier printing. The fact that nearly all the used *fourpennies* are on the yellowish paper is significant, and yet no copies on the entire have yet been found with a date earlier than 1867. According to the generally accepted theory the 4d. was not issued until 1868, when the postage to the United States was reduced from 6d. to 4d. Here is a little problem for

specialists, and perhaps some of my readers will be able to throw some light on it.

Warrant No. 4 was certainly for the 2d., 3d. and 4d. stamps on bluish-white paper, which constituted such a large proportion of the remainders. If there were any 6d. stamps in this lot they must have been those in the blue-green shade, which, however, were printed on the yellowish-toned paper of the earlier issues. For my part, I think it more likely that all the stamps in this consignment were printed on one and the same kind of paper, and that the bluish-white, on which only the 2d., 3d. and 4d. are known to exist.

Now turning to a study of the stamps themselves, we are fortunate in having the best of evidence as to the way in which they were produced. This is found in some of the actual plates from which some of the values were printed; these are in the possession of the Royal Philatelic Society. As this may be news to some of my readers I make no excuse for taking the following extract from the article by Mr. Tiliard which appeared in the *London Philatelist* for January, 1893.

"Some months ago, Mr. A. W. Tuer, a gentleman well known in the City in connection with the Leadenhall Press, but who is not a stamp collector, was introduced to me with the view of obtaining information as to some of the beautiful Beaufort House essays, which had come into his possession. It appeared that, being a student and collector of all objects pertaining to the art of printing, he had attended the auction sale of the effects of the successors in business of Mr. Charles Whiting, of Beaufort House, Strand—sold on the winding-up of the business—and that he had there acquired the essays referred to. He told me that, amongst other items purchased by him, there were some dies and electrotypes of stamps, which he kindly offered for my inspection. These proved to be the original dies, and the electrotype plates, of some of the stamps of Prince Edward Island. They consisted of the completed dies of the 1d., 2d., 3d., and 9d., and of the 1 cent, 3 cents, 4 cents and 6 cents stamps. With them were found an engraving on wood of the head employed for the cents issue, and a reproduction on copper of the same, and also a metal plate of the head used for the pence stamps.

"In addition to these there was an engraving on brass of a stamp, finished with the exception of the inscription, in form similar to the 3d. stamp, although the details of the background are not the same. As the head also varies in several small particulars, I should imagine this was probably prepared before the stamp as issued was finally decided upon, and was not adopted.

"The electrotype plates were those of the 2d., 4d., 3 cents, and 12 cents, and, in the case of the 3 cents, there were parts of impressions in red and in black pasted on the back of the wooden block. The 2d. plate measures 6×8½

inches, and consists of 60 stamps in six horizontal rows of ten, the 4d. plate measuring  $6 \times 4\frac{1}{2}$  inches and having 30 stamps in six horizontal rows of five. The 3 cents plate measures  $10 \times 4\frac{1}{8}$  inches and contains ten vertical rows of five stamps, while that of the 12 cents measures  $5 \times 8\frac{1}{2}$  inches and had five horizontal rows of ten.

"In addition to the reasons given above, I think that the fact that the electrotypes had evidently been used, conclusively sets at rest the question as to the nature of the process employed for the production of the stamps of this Island. From the description given it will be seen that, in the case of the pence issue, the whole sheet of stamps consisted of but one impression from the plate, while in the case of the cents issue where the sheet consists of 100 labels, the stamps were printed either from two plates clamped together or by twice printing from the same plate."



These plates and dies were afterwards purchased from Mr. Tuer by Mr. Tilliard and presented to the Philatelic Society, and they were used for illustrating Mr. Tilliard's article. Their discovery effectually disproved the fallacy, which had been universally held until then, that the Prince Edward Island stamps were lithographed. This mistake was a pardonable one as the electrotyping was poorly done.

(To be continued).



### April, 1909, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1908-9.

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Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and Subscription, 5/., should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members, not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

The following is now proposed in accordance with the above:—Alfred Benjamin, London, S.W.; proposed by W. Schwabacher; seconded by T. H. Hinton.

### NOTICES.

The sixth meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall, on Wednesday, April 14th. Present: J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), L. W. Fulcher, A. B. Kay, Dr. Marx, P. L. Pemberton, F. F. Lamb, W. E. Lincoln, the Hon. Sec., and visitors: T. W. Hall, Owen Fearnley, M. Z. Kuttner, and H. J. Pearson. Mr. T. W. Hall gave a display of his superb collection of the Stamps of Uruguay. Many years have been spent in forming this collection in which is included all the rarities and pairs, strips, blocks and entire sheets in profusion. Many interesting facts in connection with the various issues were pointed out by Mr. Hall, as the stamps were passed round, which afforded much interest to all present. A hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Dr. Marx and seconded by Mr. Pemberton, concluded a very enjoyable evening.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

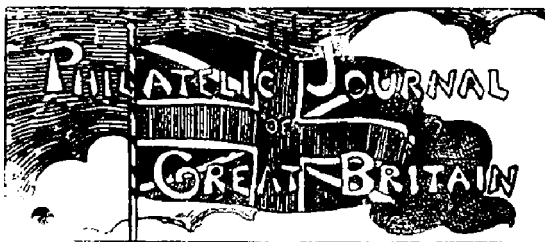
The Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers and Committee for the ensuing year will be held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, May 13th, at 7.30 p.m. (Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.) Displays of Interesting Stamps will be given by members present.

SUBSCRIPTIONS, Applications for Membership, or Donations to the Forgery Collection will be gladly received and duly acknowledged by

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

April 15th, 1909.



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## New Leaves to Cut.

### THE STAMPS OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.\*

By B. W. H. POOLE.

WE have received No. 2 of the "W.E.P." Handbooks, and heartily congratulate Mr. Poole, the author, on the result of his labours. As many of our readers are aware, Mr. Poole's article, dealing with these interesting stamps, appeared in the *West End Philatelist* for December and January last; while we have already reviewed his work in the February number of this journal.

The handbook contains no fewer than forty pages, while several of the chapters have been materially lengthened by the inclusion of facts which have only come to light since Mr. Poole's work was published in his journal. He has had one, or more, interviews with Mr. H. H. Hill, of Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., the printers of all the Queen's Head Falkland Island stamps, with the result that he has been able to add a good deal more information.

Although of moderate size, Mr. Poole's little handbook contains an immense amount of original research, and should take a leading place amongst the many philatelic works of recent years.

### UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS, 1847-1869.\*

By F. J. MELVILLE.

No. 3 of the Melville Stamp books, as attractively "gotten" up as its predecessors, deals with those fascinating stamps the first issues of the United States. The information contained in the booklet, however, is far from original, as it is made up of about 95 % of verbatim extracts from Mr. Melville's book, "The Postage Stamps of the United States," published some three years ago, plus a few extracts from publications, possibly not available, when the original book was written.

### PART I. STANLEY GIBBONS CATALOGUE.

THE long expected Part I. is at last published, much to the delight of many collectors. From a somewhat cursory inspection it does not appear that very many alterations have been made in the prices, Mauritius being the only country where sensational rises have taken place. Many cheap popular stamps show an upward tendency, notably the commoner early Canadians. Australians generally have not fluctuated, except in the case of New Zealand where several quite common stamps show a decided, and quite unnecessary tendency to soar skywards.

Those popular stamps, the early issues of New South Wales, show practically no alterations.

Recent issues, all things considered, are priced very moderately, with, of course, a few exceptions, notably the 10/- Grenada, King, multiple wmk., priced at 80/-, surely a misprint.

Many of the colour names of the stamps have been altered, while the lists of Papua and Fiji show many, and marked tabulation improvements.

\*Published by D. Field, 4-6, Royal Arcade, Old Bond Street, W. Price 6d.

\*Published by the Melville Stamp Books, 47, Strand, W.C. Price 6d.

## Alleged Stamp Frauds.

### STAMP DEALERS ARRESTED.

AT Bow Street, before Sir Albert de Rutzen, John Stewart Lowden, 29, Stamp Dealer, Villiers Street, Strand, and Henry Harmer, 39, Stamp Dealer, Preston Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, were charged with conspiring to obtain money by fraud from persons buying from them, or from the West End Stamp Company, or Herbert Mack and Co. (Ltd.), stamps purporting to be issued for postage and revenue purposes in British North Borneo.

Mr. Wallace appeared on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions; Mr. H. H. Olley (for Mr. Harry Wilson) defended Lowden; and Harmer was represented by Mr. Pumfrey.

Mr. Wallace intimated that it was only proposed at present to call evidence of arrest.

Chief Detective-inspector Stockley, of Scotland Yard, said he saw Harmer at Westcliff on Tuesday afternoon, and read the warrant to him, mentioning that a Mr. Brown, of

Salisbury, was one of the persons who complained of being defrauded. He said:

"Yes, I have had some business with him. There is an explanation of all this. I suppose you know I severed my connection with Mr. Lowden some time ago?"

Witness found in the house a large quantity of foreign stamps, including many British North Borneo. The same evening Lowden was apprehended in Villiers Street, and was told that Mr. Ackland, of Brighton, was one of the complainants. He remarked, "I know him. This is a very bad business." Large numbers of stamps were found in the office, where Lowden had carried on a fairly extensive business for some years past.

In reply to the magistrate, witness said that proceedings which were being taken against a certain individual in Paris had no connection with this case.

Prisoners were remanded.

Sir Albert remarked that he had very little knowledge of the case at present, and he should therefore require heavy bail, until next week at all events. Lowden must find two sureties in £1,000 each, and Harmer two in £500 each.—

*Daily Telegraph*, April 15th, 1909.

## Adhesive Postage Stamps of Chili.

By J. R. BURTON.

IN all probability solely owing to the fact that the country is not a British colony, the stamps of Chili have never been so warmly taken up as their Philatelic status undoubtedly deserves.

Unstained by "Seebeck," "Local," or Commemorative contamination, though situated in the highly infected area of South America, the postal issues of this small Republic of four million inhabitants have ever been made solely with a view to the service of the community and without the slightest suspicion of any attempt to plunder the pockets of persevering philatelists.

The contours of the Republic may be shortly described by the use of Euclid's definition of a line, "length without breadth," for although in length from North to South they stretch for some five hundred miles, they rarely exceed a width of seventy.

The history is appropriate to the country consisting of a long, long shady past, buried amidst the ashes of countless generations of sparse barbaric peoples, terminating in a scintillating span of modernism, which began so recently as 1760, when Pedro Valdivia conquered the country, to the glory of Spain and to his own advancement to the proud post of Governor of the new domain. His half-length portrait, grim and perforce *tailless*,

appears amidst Huemals hirsute and Huemals unadorned, on the telegraph stamps of later times.

In 1817 the leading strings of Spain were rudely sundered and the Republic arose and commenced a career, which has, until this day, pursued a course unique amidst the erstwhile colonies of the Dons in its sustained success.

The principal cities are the capital, Santiago, with its seaport, Valparaiso, wrecked by earthquake in 1906, and Concepcion in the South, linked by a ragged coast with the purloined provinces of the North, containing the important industrial nitrate centres of Iquique, Antofagasta, etc.

The currency, so far as it affects the postage stamps of the country, consists of the Peso divided into hundredths — Centavos — and about half the value of the Dollar of the United States, i.e., somewhere in the neighbourhood of 2s. 1d.

Postage stamps were first introduced in the year 1853, the system being inaugurated in the most unexceptionable manner by the issue of very handsome labels, the handiwork of those unrivalled stamp craftsmen, Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. It is quite as good a thing for a country to commence with a "Perkins Bacon" Issue, as for an English

family to boast an ancestor who came over with the Conqueror.

The design, I venture to think, is one of the best ever turned out by the firm and well worthy to rank with their happiest efforts on behalf of the British Colonies.

Adaptations of the designs of the background and framework of the grand old First Issue of New Zealand were used.

The standard work of reference on this group of Chilian stamps is to be found in Nos. 126 to 128 of the *London Philatelist*, and is from the pen of Mr. E. D. Bacon, F.R.P.S.L. Delving in almost virgin soil, the writer reaped a fine harvest and produced an article which must remain for all time the basis of any further investigations. In this labour he was assisted most materially by Mr. T. W. Hall, F.R.P.S.L., who to this day possesses the finest collection extant of the stamps of the country.

One of the principal sources of information concerning Chilian stamps was naturally found in the published "Anales" of the "Philatelic Society of Chile" or—as it was called at first "of Santiago." But even this local knowledge was very incomplete and proved to be inaccurate on some points by Mr. Bacon. It will be found that we shall further amend it in other particulars.

Mr. Bacon had the privilege also of going through Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co's records—a painstaking task rewarded with discoveries of the highest importance.

Having digested the information supplied in these articles, the would-be Specialist in Chilians can next take Messrs. Gibbons' catalogue, revised as it is in regard to this country by the most capable hands, and set out to conquer on his own account. Some fifteen or more discoveries of varying importance will be set forth in this paper, and, without a doubt, there yet remains much ground to be explored. The first plates were ordered through the agency of Messrs. Lyons Bros., of Valparaiso, one for 5 centavo stamps, and one for 10c., on the lines of a suggested design, rough sketch of which was enclosed with the order, but has since disappeared. With the plates were ordered to be sent 300,000 and 200,000 ready printed stamps of each value respectively, a quantity of watermarked paper for future local printings and obliterations for postmarking purposes. Each plate was made up of twenty horizontal rows of 12, with the marginal inscription, "Es preciso colocar las estampas arriba de la direccion y hacia la derecha. En Mojando el Dorso es preciso cuidar de no quitar el cimientto," i.e., it is necessary to place the stamp above the address and towards the right. In moistening the back it is necessary to take care not to remove the cement."

It is unnecessary to minutely describe the design, the chief feature of which was a bust of Columbus with the Spanish version of his

name—Colon—above, rather strangely in larger letters than the name of the country—Chile—below. The watermark 5 was about 9mm. high, and 7mm. wide, and has a



markedly sloping neck, quite different to the illustration in Gibbons; it is usually the most difficult of all the Chilian watermarks to distinguish even with the aid of Benzine. The stamp was printed in brownish red, to my eye a duller shade than that of the then current English penny; but the paper became very blued and Ivory head, and similar varieties can frequently be found. The watermark 10 was about 8½mm. high, and 11mm. wide, and it is a thinner and smaller looking watermark altogether than that on the 1862 stamp. The ink appears to have been the same kind as that used in 1862, but in a considerably darker shade. There was, I am inclined to think, one of the last local printings of a dark shade, to be dealt with when I come to that series, which might be mistaken for it. The ink for this London printed 10c. stamp also blued the paper more or less.

The sheets were not perforated; indeed one of the features of Chilian stamps is their freedom from perforation complications. Only 300,000 5c. and 200,160 10c. were printed and the bulk even of these has evidently been lost to Philately, as shown by their scarcity; in fact unused they are quite in the first class of rarities, so few copies being known that if the country were European or British they would run into very big figures. They are supposed to have been first on sale on July 1st, 1843. They are generally found cancelled with the postmark of four concentric rings surrounding six or seven straight lines, which quite likely was the work of the obliterations sent out at the same time, also occasionally with large letters forming portions of the town names of Santiago and Valparaiso. The patient investigator may find the cognomen of other cities.

We now come to the stamps printed by the Chilians themselves including the most interesting lithographs, whose discovery in 1902 created quite a sensation. As a matter of fact the first lithograph found was noted by an American journal in 1898, but as it was described as printed from a broken and mended plate, which sounded impossible, it was not generally believed in. But some years later the same stamp came into the possession of Mr. John N. Luff, who at once

saw that the crumpled look of the print was due to its having been printed by lithography from a stone, the transfer to which had been badly done. Mr. T. W. Hall, to whom this interesting find was posted, set up in conjunction with Mr. Bacon a vigorous search which has continued to the present day, resulting in the discovery of a dozen or more most obvious creases in the impression on the stone, giving some of the stamps almost as distorted appearances as the "before" and "after" concave and convex mirrors do to the patrons of some of London's cheap eating houses. Some portions, however, of the lithograph transfer were all right, and stamps from such parts can only be told from those printed from the engraved plates by the usual tests for lithography, viz., a flat look about the ink when seen through a powerful magnifying glass and a rather smooth feel of the surface. The work around the head in the background always comes out very confused and indistinct in the lithographs compared to the results obtained from the engraved plate.

Owing to the recorded fact that the Chilian printers found great difficulty in printing from the engraved plates, the theory was formed that at first they tried to do the work by lithography, and the lithographs were therefore the first local printings. I put forward an alternative theory which may be worthy of some consideration, and that is that the local printers damaged the 5c. plate in some way—hence the necessity of taking transfers from some undamaged portion of the plate and using several to make up the correct size stone for the complete sheet. The creases would be likely to occur in the endeavour to make the portions fit one another on the stone.

In spite of most careful search no lithograph 10c. has so far been found, if the "Anales" are to be trusted several hundred thousand were printed in 1854, if they could print the 10c. off the engraved plates why not the 5c.?

Then why a new plate of the 5c. ordered in 1854 and none of the 10c. which apparently lasted *unworn* until 1862?

Then take the question of the ink, we know the beautiful rich reddish brown called burnt sienna was one of the earliest printings, I am inclined to think it *the* earliest, and the colour then deteriorates through a series of printings by way of reddish-brown and pale reddish-brown to the dull reddish-brown, No. 12 in Gibbons' Catalogue. The colour of the lithographs is far more like that of No. 12 than of the burnt sienna No. 5.

Taking all these points into consideration there seems to be some case for placing the lithographs at the end of the last series of local printings in the latter part of 1854 before the arrival of the new plate. We shall next have to consider the subject of the second plate, which, it is absolutely certain,

had *no* marginal inscriptions, and the many questions which are therefore aroused by the discovery of a stamp *with* marginal inscription in the carmine-red shade of 1865, and apparently with the large watermark of that year, type 8 in Gibbons Catalogue, and postmarked "Cancelled" with the handstamp which did not come into use earlier than the end of 1861.

For some reason—according to my theory a damaged plate—the Government wrote off post haste in 1854 for a new 5c. plate and a supply of 2,040,000 ready printed stamps to be sent with it. They sent a sample, now in the collection of Mr. W. T. Hall, F.R.P.S.L., of Perkins Bacon's first work back to them and asked them to reproduce it as clearly as possible. This the firm did very successfully, the only difference particularly noticeable being in the watermark, which is 10 to 10½mm. high and 8 to 8½ wide and has an upright neck, whereas that of the first issue was rather smaller and had a sloping neck. Messrs. Gibbons catalogue illustrations of these two watermarks appear to be transposed and No. 4 is also reversed. Along with the official order for this new plate I cannot help thinking that a covering letter must have been sent urging a very special effort at quick delivery. For not only were the *clichés* put together with incorrect alignment and the engravers stayed not to put the marginal inscription on the plate, but they also appear to have hardened it insufficiently, because it actually showed signs of wear in the printing of the first batch, which was carried out by the firm itself, a specimen in my own collection showing marked signs of wear in the position behind the neck, where it became very bad on several *clichés* during the later local printings. If as has hitherto been supposed, this plate only was used for *all* the 5c. of this type thereafter printed locally, it certainly wore very badly as far as the background is concerned.

The local printings went steadily on, on the old paper until 1865, when a fresh supply was sent out with the long necked watermark measuring 12½mm. high and 7mm. wide. The shade of red ink used was gradually changed from brownish to rose and carmine-red.

This ends the description of the varieties of the first type of 5c. and the collector now should not have much difficulty in classifying his specimens. Both the Perkins Bacon prints are on paper heavily blued and the watermark differentiates between them, the only hard stamp to find amongst the local prints is the lithograph of 1854, but a considerable field of research still remains to the investigator.

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family to boast an ancestor who came over with the Conqueror.

The design, I venture to think, is one of the best ever turned out by the firm and well worthy to rank with their happiest efforts on behalf of the British Colonies.

Adaptations of the designs of the background and framework of the grand old First Issue of New Zealand were used.

The standard work of reference on this group of Chilian stamps is to be found in Nos. 126 to 128 of the *London Philatelist*, and is from the pen of Mr. E. D. Bacon, F.R.P.S.L. Delving in almost virgin soil, the writer reaped a fine harvest and produced an article which must remain for all time the basis of any further investigations. In this labour he was assisted most materially by Mr. T. W. Hall, F.R.P.S.L., who to this day possesses the finest collection extant of the stamps of the country.

One of the principal sources of information concerning Chilian stamps was naturally found in the published "Anales" of the "Philatelic Society of Chile" or—as it was called at first "of Santiago." But even this local knowledge was very incomplete and proved to be inaccurate on some points by Mr. Bacon. It will be found that we shall further amend it in other particulars.

Mr. Bacon had the privilege also of going through Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co's records—a painstaking task rewarded with discoveries of the highest importance.

Having digested the information supplied in these articles, the would-be Specialist in Chilians can next take Messrs. Gibbons' catalogue, revised as it is in regard to this country by the most capable hands, and set out to conquer on his own account. Some fifteen or more discoveries of varying importance will be set forth in this paper, and, without a doubt, there yet remains much ground to be explored. The first plates were ordered through the agency of Messrs. Lyons Bros., of Valparaiso, one for 5 centavo stamps, and one for 10c., on the lines of a suggested design, rough sketch of which was enclosed with the order, but has since disappeared. With the plates were ordered to be sent 300,000 and 200,000 ready printed stamps of each value respectively, a quantity of watermarked paper for future local printings and obliterations for postmarking purposes. Each plate was made up of twenty horizontal rows of 12, with the marginal inscription, "Es preciso colocar las estampas arriba de la direccion y hacia la derecha. En Mojando el Dorso es preciso cuidar de no quitar el cemento," i.e., it is necessary to place the stamp above the address and towards the right. In moistening the back it is necessary to take care not to remove the cement."

It is unnecessary to minutely describe the design, the chief feature of which was a bust of Columbus with the Spanish version of his

name—Colon—above, rather strangely in larger letters than the name of the country—Chile—below. The watermark 5 was about 6mm. high, and 7mm. wide, and has a



markedly sloping neck, quite different to the illustration in Gibbons; it is usually the most difficult of all the Chilian watermarks to distinguish even with the aid of Benzine. The stamp was printed in brownish red, to my eye a duller shade than that of the then current English penny; but the paper became very blued and Ivory head, and similar varieties can frequently be found. The watermark 10 was about 8½mm. high, and 11mm. wide, and it is a thinner and smaller looking watermark altogether than that on the 1862 stamp. The ink appears to have been the same kind as that used in 1862, but in a considerably darker shade. There was, I am inclined to think, one of the last local printings of a dark shade, to be dealt with when I come to that series, which might be mistaken for it. The ink for this London printed 10c. stamp also blued the paper more or less.

The sheets were not perforated; indeed one of the features of Chilian stamps is their freedom from perforation complications. Only 300,000 5c. and 200,160 10c. were printed and the bulk even of these has evidently been lost to Philately, as shown by their scarcity; in fact unused they are quite in the first class of rarities, so few copies being known that if the country were European or British they would run into very big figures. They are supposed to have been first on sale on July 1st, 1843. They are generally found cancelled with the postmark of four concentric rings surrounding six or seven straight lines, which quite likely was the work of the obliterators sent out at the same time, also occasionally with large letters forming portions of the town names of Santiago and Valparaiso. The patient investigator may find the cognomen of other cities.

We now come to the stamps printed by the Chilians themselves including the most interesting lithographs, whose discovery in 1902 created quite a sensation. As a matter of fact the first lithograph found was noted by an American journal in 1898, but as it was described as printed from a broken and mended plate, which sounded impossible, it was not generally believed in. But some years later the same stamp came into the possession of Mr. John N. Luff, who at once



saw that the crumpled look of the print was due to its having been printed by lithography from a stone, the transfer to which had been badly done. Mr. T. W. Hall, to whom this interesting find was posted, set up in conjunction with Mr. Bacon a vigorous search which has continued to the present day, resulting in the discovery of a dozen or more most obvious creases in the impression on the stone, giving some of the stamps almost as distorted appearances as the "before" and "after" concave and convex mirrors do to the patrons of some of London's cheap eating houses. Some portions, however, of the lithograph transfer were all right, and stamps from such parts can only be told from those printed from the engraved plates by the usual tests for lithography, viz., a flat look about the ink when seen through a powerful magnifying glass and a rather smooth feel of the surface. The work around the head in the background always comes out very confused and indistinct in the lithographs compared to the results obtained from the engraved plate.

Owing to the recorded fact that the Chilian printers found great difficulty in printing from the engraved plates, the theory was formed that at first they tried to do the work by lithography, and the lithographs were therefore the first local printings. I put forward an alternative theory which may be worthy of some consideration, and that is that the local printers damaged the 5c. plate in some way—hence the necessity of taking transfers from some undamaged portion of the plate and using several to make up the correct size stone for the complete sheet. The creases would be likely to occur in the endeavour to make the portions fit one another on the stone.

In spite of most careful search no lithograph 10c. has so far been found, if the "Anales" are to be trusted several hundred thousand were printed in 1854, if they could print the 10c. off the engraved plates why not the 5c.?

Then why a new plate of the 5c. ordered in 1854 and none of the 10c. which apparently lasted *unworn* until 1862?

Then take the question of the ink, we know the beautiful rich reddish brown called burnt sienna was one of the earliest printings, I am inclined to think it *the* earliest, and the colour then deteriorates through a series of printings by way of reddish-brown and pale reddish-brown to the dull reddish-brown, No. 12 in Gibbons' Catalogue. The colour of the lithographs is far more like that of No. 12 than of the burnt sienna No. 5.

Taking all these points into consideration there seems to be some case for placing the lithographs at the end of the last series of local printings in the latter part of 1854 before the arrival of the new plate. We shall next have to consider the subject of the second plate, which, it is absolutely certain,

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The biggest questions are raised by the specimen with marginal inscription in my collection referred to above. The marginal inscription shows it *must* be either from the first plate or from a hitherto unknown plate, sent out with the new plates of 1c., 10c. and 20c. in the latter part of 1861. If it is from

the first plate, then a printing in rose-red must have been made before 1855, or my theory about the broken plate is wrong and the old plate was used concurrently with the new one from 1855 onwards. The watermark has unfortunately been obscured by a zealous dealer having marked it over with indelible ink, but it shows every indication of being the long necked one of 1865. Further specimens must be hunted up and diligent search made for copies on dated envelopes. The 5c. on entire envelope is a rarity of the first class and any one fortunate enough to secure a specimen should treasure it and communicate its details to the philatelic press.

The 5c. on long-necked 5 paper is known printed on both sides, three copies having been discovered at one time and another.

We now come to the consideration of the varieties of 10c. which, to my mind, are far harder to separate and classify than any other, as excepting in one case there is little to distinguish one printing or issue from another.

The first 10c. printed by Perkins Bacon was in a very deep shade of blue, somewhat similar to the last printing in 1862, and as the 1862 stamp is the cheapest of the series, being catalogued only at 6d., one has a cheap starting point. The 1862 stamp was printed from a new plate on a paper with a watermark about 9mm. high and 12mm. wide. The watermark of the 1853 stamp was only 8½mm. high, and 11mm. wide; so, if amongst our 10cs. purchased at 6d., or less, we find one (or happily more) very much darker than the others, with a watermark rather smaller and much thinner-looking in the body of its component figures, we may congratulate ourselves on a bagain and joyfully place the specimen amongst our selection of the first issue. Almost all the 10c. blue stamps show slight blueing of the paper due more probably to the smearing of the ink than to chemical changes due to gum and ink in combination, and occasionally this state is sufficiently marked to warrant the stamps being described as *bleuté*. The make-up of the plate was the same as that of the 5c., including the injunction against licking off the gum; unused copies are about as rare as Post Office Mauritius, and even then are not mint, so we cannot decide whether this warning was required owing to the attractive flavour of the gum, or the unpaid and hungry state of the Post Office officials; if the public absorbed too much of the succulent adhesive matter, one wonders how they fixed their stamps, nailed them or sewed them on the correspondence perhaps!

The local printers do not seem to have had any difficulty in printing from the 10c. plates, though their early efforts were rather blurred and smeared, due probably to insufficient cleansing of the plates.

Colour shades, particularly of blue, are very hard to describe in words, and the only

satisfactory way to classify these stamps is to obtain copies on originals, by no means an easy task; failing that, the best guide I can offer to the enquirer is that to my eye all the early local printings have a soft milky tone about them, one deeper shade being nearly as dark as the first issue but having a tinge of Prussian blue in its composition. This particular printing was very well done on well-cleaned plates, and the resultant stamp is about the handsomest of the series. The last local printing of 10c. was probably in 1861 and is that numbered 16 in Messrs. Gibbons Catalogue, described as dark blue. I consider by a number of dated copies on entires in my own collection that this stamp is the deepest in shade of the whole series and it is very difficult to distinguish from the first Perkins Bacon print; It may be a coincidence but all the copies that have gone through my hands have appeared to be on thicker paper than the other printings, the last packets of the first lot of paper may have happened to be a little thick, being hand-made goods, but possibly more or less damping or drying or some similar reason in the local printers' work caused this lot of paper to have this appearance and also to tear with a rough edge.

It was in 1861 that two new values were added, 1c. in lemon-yellow colour and 20c. in deep green, the plates were prepared by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. on the same pattern as their predecessors, and a new 10c. plate, as already mentioned, was manufactured also, a supply of stamps of each value was sent to Chile and as far as is known the plates were never used again. A comparatively small proportion of the 20c. was sold to the public and it is a mystery what became of the balance, they may have been destroyed as useless remainders, because, when during the Peruvian war stamps ran short in Chile and reissues were made none of these 20c. turned up.

"The Anales" and other authorities have supposed that none of these stamps was issued prior to 1st Jan., 1862, but a dated original in my collection has a strip of four 10c. postmarked Nov., 1860.

The 1c. was in a very poor yellow colour, which showed the design up most indistinctly, but furthermore, from the appearance of both used and unused specimens I am inclined to think that this plate also wore badly; these stamps properly postmarked with concentric rings, "cancelled" or any of the other usual postmarks, are many times rarer than either postmarked or unused specimens.

The sheets were watermarked with a double lined numeral "1" of large size, with serif, one to each stamp, and every one on the sheet differs to such a degree that any philatelist in search of a job might very well try to plate them.

(To be continued.)



APRIL 20, 1909.

## Philately at Home.

The March No. of the *Philatelic Record* fully maintains the high standard of excellence the last few numbers have led us to anticipate.

Dr. E. Diena concludes his "Notes on the Stamps of Modena." The following short extract will interest our readers, especially those who are fond of postmarks.

Another interesting particular in the Modenese stamps is the use by the post offices of Modena and Reggio, of obliterating stamps bearing a shield with the Savoy arms, surmounted by the royal crown. These were introduced a few days after the Duke Francis V. had quitted his kingdom for good. The earliest date I know is 20th June for Modena, and 17th June for Reggio, and in the latter case the postmark is circular, with POSTA LETTERE REGGIO in capitals between two circles. A curious detail with regard to this postmark, which has not hitherto been recorded, is that during the first few days of its use the heraldic portion alone was used, the legend is wanting, and within the circles there is a circular band. I have only seen this obliteration "before letters" for 17 to 20 June; on the 21st June the legend is there.

This can be explained when we remember that political considerations made it desirable that the Savoy arms should figure as soon as possible upon correspondence, and this was done by the cancellation of the postage stamps, seeing that the arms could not appear upon the stamps themselves, which naturally could not be manufactured in a few days. Furthermore, it is known that engravers usually possess partially prepared seals, destined for use in the public service, bearing the arms of the state, the remaining portion of which receives as required the necessary inscription.

Mr. R. R. Thiele contributes another instalment of his erudite and interesting series of notes, entitled "Stray Notes on the Designers, Engravers, and Printers of the World's Postage Stamps." The designs of the first issues of Baden, Hanover, Oldenburg, Bremen, are minutely dealt with. An account of the recently held Manchester Exhibition and Congress, a Quarterly list of New Issues, a brief review of the world's philatelic press, and a lot of other capital matter, make the March *Record* a most desirable production.

In the March *London Philatelist*, Mr. T. Wickham Jones concludes his valuable paper dealing with the various retouches of the 1882 to 1908 Stamps of Switzerland. The following is his summary of principal retouches:—

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| 1882-1904. | Control mark.   |
| 25c.       | green, retouched in background.   |
| 25c.       | blue " "  |
| 50c.       | green " "   |
| 1905-6.    | Watermark a Cross, white paper.   |
| 20c.       | orange-red, retouched in background and numerous retouches in upper part over "Helvetia." |
| 30c.       | brown, retouched in background.   |
| 50c.       | green " "   |
| 3fr.       | brown " "   |
| 1907-8.    | Same watermark, granite paper.  |
| 20c.       | orange-red, numerous retouches in upper part over "Helvetia."                             |
| 30c.       | brown, retouched in background.   |
| 40c.       | grey, wreath obliterated.   |
| 50c.       | green, retouched in background.   |
| 3fr.       | brown " "   |

Mr. F. H. Melland contributes a further instalment of his paper, dealing with the Postal Notices issued by the British South African Company. Six pages of our contemporary are devoted to describing the Earl of Crawford's recent display before the Royal. As a description of the stamps described as "abnormal varieties of the various Plates of the surface-printed stamps of our Postal Issues," is not likely to interest very many readers, it seems a pity that so much space should have been devoted to the list.

*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* for March 20th contains a varied selection of readable articles; M. Ch. De Bont contributes a further instalment of his admirable article, "The Postage Stamps of Belgium." R. Anthrobus—some capital "Notes on the later printings of New Zealand Pictorials." Mr. B. W. H. Poole, a continuation of his paper, dealing with the 1890-93 issues of Shanghai. Other articles, a long instalment of "The Postmarks of the British Isles from 1840," a New Issue List, and a

letter from Bermuda, contributed by Mr. E. B. Power, make this number of the *Weekly* a splendid production.

The following extract from Mr. Power's letter is interesting :—

I had an introduction to Mr. Tucker, the Postmaster-General of Bermuda, and he very kindly appointed a morning for an extended interview, which we greatly enjoyed. Mr. Tucker showed me the official collection, now sadly in need of arrangement. It is most interesting to note that the rare Bermudan surcharges were missing! but the issues sent through the Postal Union were well worth inspection, especially so as many of them were very rare *reprints* of the original stamps. The Bermudan Post Office is probably one of the most up-to-date colonial post offices, enjoying lock boxes, American distributing racks, etc., all very up-to-date and perfect. The stamps on sale are as follows: 4d. multiple; 4d. all green; 1d. all red; 2d. bicolour multiple; 2½d. bicolour (a large stock of these will delay the appearance of the "all blue" for some time); 3d. bicolour single; 4d. Queen; 6d. violet, Queen, CC, 12½ × 14; 1s. brown, Queen. The 1s. green, CC, had been on sale until quite recently, but they have all been sold out to local speculators, who advertise them at three shilling each.

The *Weekly* dated March 27th contains a further instalment of M. L. Hanciau's article, entitled "The Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies"; a further instalment of Major Evans' article, dealing with the stamps of Poonch; while Lieut. W. R. Gatt continues his paper, entitled "A History of the Post Office and the Stamps of Malta." From this article we make a couple of short extracts.

In the 4d. and 1s. stamps inverted watermarks have been met with. Of the halfpenny stamps there were apparently only two sheets thus printed, one issued at the Victoria Post Office at Gozo, in 1888, as is evident from all the date-postmarked specimens that have been seen; the other at the Valletta Post Office about 1890. This variety in the One Shilling is very rare; only one copy has as yet been detected: it is postmarked "8th Sep. 90—Parcel Post Office Valletta"; probably there was only one sheet. Another watermark variety in the halfpenny value, which must not be omitted, consists in a peculiar letter "C" of "CA," which is so much squeezed in that it forms a regular "O" and is a smaller letter than the usual "C."

#### THE FOURPENCE IMPERFORATE.

The 4d. imperforate was discovered on the 16th of December, 1893, by a police official who happened to send for a stamp of that value to the Valletta Post Office. He immediately showed it to a Mr. Leonardini, an old and experienced Maltese collector, who at once sent a messenger to the Post Office and bought the rest of the sheet—the only one found in that condition.

Mr. Leonardini wrote to many English firms about this discovery, and offered them pairs and blocks, for cash or exchange, but he was told that a variety of that nature was of no importance.

Thereupon he sent a pair to Monsieur Pierre Mahé, of Paris, who kept one of the stamps and enclosed fifty francs for it.

An unused pair realized £12, in 1902, at a London stamp auction. The price of pairs is increasing enormously.

The sheet, as usual, contained 120 stamps in two panes, each pane having 60 stamps.

Major Evans, in his "Notes & Queries," refers to the recent Cayman Islands Scandal. A capital "New Issue List" completes a splendid number of our contemporary. We have still, however, to mention a most important and interesting feature of the *Weekly*, namely an eight-page supplement, dealing exhaustively with early British postmarks. This feature will be continued in future numbers of *G.S.W.* and should prove a great attraction.

In the copy dated April 3rd, we find a wealth of really interesting matter. The *Weekly* provides us now with almost as much good reading as did the old *Monthly*, a fact much appreciated. We are also very glad to see that the "Office Boy" has discontinued his contributions. Also that the babes, and very immature sucklings amongst the subscribers, are not catered for to the extent they were some months ago. M. Ch. De Bont continues his exhaustive article, dealing with the stamps of Belgium. Mr. Buckland Edwards contributes a capital short article, relating to the Provisional 2½d. stamp of Jamaica.

Mr. Eustace Power is responsible for a budget of breezy American Notes, while Mr. Frank Phillips, Mr. Barnsdall, Mr. Wyeth, and others, all contribute interesting articles. Mr. Wyeth's paper, a very short one, deals with Greek stamps used in Turkey. We venture to reproduce his few notes.

As so much has been said about English stamps used abroad, it may be interesting to know that other countries' stamps are, and were, used the same way. It is well known to a lot of advanced philatelists that Greek stamps were used in this way. I write this more especially to arouse a greater interest and thereby bring out further details of which I am ignorant. They were first brought to my attention by Dr. Emilio Diena of Rome. I am unable to give any historic facts concerning them, but hope something will now come out about them. Possessors of large collections find it hard to add to their treasures, therefore I think this would be a very good field to explore. Almost every large or small dealer's stock contains some of these stamps.

My earliest specimen is dated in 1863, and latest in 1880.

The cancellation is a circle containing the town name, date, and the word ΤΟΡΚΙΑ at bottom, excepting in Alexandria, Egypt, where both this name and No. 97 is found; also in those used on Crete, the town name and No. 163 is found.

The March number of the *West End Philatelist* contains the first instalments of two promising articles, dealing respectively with the stamps of Zululand and Bulgaria, neither instalment contains any

original information, although we have no doubt but that so capable a philatelist, as is the Editor of our West End contemporary, will have made many interesting discoveries, consequently the next number of the *West End Philatelist* should prove of exceptional interest.

The April number of the *Stamp Lover* is one of the best numbers of that journal yet published. Perhaps the most interesting feature is a biographical sketch of M. Jacques Wiener, the engraver of the early postage stamps of Belgium and Holland. Mr. Crouch contributes a further instalment of his article, dealing with the stamps of Hayti. Mr. H. Lee is responsible for a capital short treatise on the Locals of St. Thomas, La Guaira, Puerto Cabello, and Curacao. These articles are well illustrated.

Other features of the *Stamp Lover* include a paper, embodying some very sensible ideas, contributed by Mr. C. W. Care; a further instalment of "The Penny Post of 1680"; an interesting article dealing with the minor varieties of the 1881 issue of Grenada; and some correspondence. From a capital letter, contributed by Mr. A. H. Dingwall, a well known dealer who has retired from business, we make the following long extract:

This brings me at once to the subject of the title and what it is that collectors are wanting. From the plaintive bleats of various Congress members I gather that what they really want is not a catalogue at all but a price list, which is a totally different sort of thing, and I may say at once that it would be a very difficult matter for any body of collectors to produce one that would be at all satisfactory, for the simple reason that in order to price any of the older stamps you ought to know where the remaining stocks still are, and of how many specimens they consist. To compile a simple catalogue of all existing stamps would not be a matter of much complexity to a small body of collectors, as the existing price lists would give them the greater part of the information, and various handbooks would provide the rest; but does anybody want that or would they buy it if it were printed? I believe not, and if I have correctly gathered the meaning of the meeting, the present winter of our discontent is caused by the one combination of catalogue and price list being in the hands of a firm of traders who manipulate prices to suit their own stock-books, as if it were possible to draw up a "price list" on any other basis! But surely it must occur to every collector that a price list produced in such a manner must offer unlimited possibilities to the intelligent collector, for the simple reason that a firm of such long standing as Gibbons, must, in the course of the last few decades, have garnered good old stamps for which there has not perhaps been a brisk demand, and that on that very account they can now be obtained at far below their proper value. And by proper value I mean their value compared to other and perhaps more popular varieties.

And now for the reasons of the faith that is in me.

Will you all spare me a few minutes and let me inspect your collections, and we will begin, let us say, at Wurtemberg! Very well! Take the 1863-4 issue and look up Gibbons price list, if you have it. The first three stamps are different shades of the 1kr., and the third stamp is called blue-green. Now, then, how many of you have this stamp? Please do not all speak at once. An ominous silence! Can we muster two really respectable specimens? The stamp is catalogued the same as the green, so far as price is concerned and the reason why none of you are able to fill that vacancy is because you are waiting to get that stamp at half catalogue, as we call it, whereas Germans, who know the comparative scarcity of these shades, would pay a great deal more for a really fine copy on piece of original. There is not time nor space to explain here how such a discrepancy has occurred; suffice it to say that for some esoteric reason Senf does not price that shade, and when I have vainly tried to buy it from the country of origin I have had dirty greens, smudgy greens, and all sorts of greens sent to me other than the true blue-green, which certainly exists, and whose value, compared with the two relations, is about 7/6, at the least. Don't turn over yet? Where is your specimen of the 1874 1kr., perforated, in either shade? I think that in about 150 collections which my firm has acquired during the last 15 years I have seen two copies of that evidently quite common stamp! I have seen a great many more specimens of the 18kr. orange rouletted than of the 1kr. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ , on thick paper, and no doubt that is because the 18kr. came over here, whereas the 1kr. values were only in use locally, that is, from one part of a town to another, or for a tiny circular from one town to another. The silk thread 6kr. green overlapped the next issue without thread by a great many months, and, in consequence, the later 6kr. is a far scarcer stamp though priced only 6d. higher.

We very much wish we could reproduce yet more of Mr. Dingwall's letter, which contains a very great amount of common sense, combined with knowledge.

The March number of the *Philatelic World* contains a further lengthy translated instalment of Capt. P. Ohrt's "Handbook of all known Reprints of Government Postage Stamps and Entires, showing how to distinguish them." The reprints of Angola and Antioquia, are dealt with.

Mr. Sefi contributes a few notes, entitled "Arabic and Persian Numerals," in the course of which he illustrates Persian and Arabic numerals—1 to 10; thus enabling collectors of Asiatic stamps to decipher dates on stamps and entires. A warning relating to some very clever San Marino forgeries, which, by the bye, have been known to collectors for some time. A lengthy report of the recent Manchester Exhibition, and a short letter dealing with the postal arrangements of Paraguay, complete the principal contents of our contemporary. The following brief extract from the Paraguayan letter is of interest.

Since our last bit of a revolution, the state of the Post Offices, and of the G.P.O. in particular, beats all description.

From many parts of the country all letters come stampless, and the postal authorities refuse to sell stamps, taking the cash instead.

Indeed, now-a-days it is perhaps safer not to stamp one's letters, as they reach their destination free of extra charge, while otherwise they would probably be destroyed for the sake of the new stamps upon them.

It took me several hours waiting at the Post Office to get the high values I send, whilst some of the other not being in constant use, I had to get through a friend.

The 20 centavos yellow, overprinted 1908, should be very scarce. I have bought for you all that they had at the post office—38 copies.

What a perfectly sweet state of affairs !

The March 20th and April 3rd numbers of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* both contain some good reading. In the earlier number we find an article entitled "Notes on South African Issues," being the paper read before a recent meeting of the Bath Philatelic Society, by Mr. B. D. Pope. Both numbers contain an instalment of M. S. Jean's translated work on "The Postage Stamps of Uruguay."

From the editorial of the February number of *The British Philatelist* we learn that the publishers of that interesting little paper are going to extend the scope of their publication and that in future occasional articles dealing with Colonial stamps will be published.

The number before us contains a capital article entitled "Modern Fakery" in which the author warns his readers against forgeries, or rather fakes, of the V.R. 1d. black; the 2d. blue, no lines; the 1½d. "O.P.—P.C." error, and other British stamps.

The March *Philatelic Adviser*, beyond some capital editorial notes and the first instalment of what promises to be a useful paper, dealing with the stamps of Heligoland, does not contain anything very exciting. The stuffing consists of a humourously written account of the Manchester Exhibition, some Societies Reports, and a capital New Issue list.

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## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

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The March *Philatelic Journal of India* contains an article dealing with "The Current Numbers of Perkins' Bacon Plates," an interesting paper dealing with

the subject of "Guide Dots," and a few notes concerning "The 10d. Ceylon perf. 12½ × 14." Reprinted articles, a few notes, and a capital Editorial complete the list of contents of our Indian contemporary. The Editorial, one of Editor Crofton's outspoken effusions, provides good reading. Mr. Crofton certainly has the courage of his own convictions, while he enriches philatelic journalism with a few novel renderings of somewhat weather-worn platitudes. The following extracts are from Mr. Crofton's inclined-to-be-pedantic Editorial:—

The commonest form of progress in controversy is to add something of one's own to something done by someone else, and here we come to an enormous pit-fall in the path of the working philatelist. We cannot express ourselves too strongly on the fatal habit of using what we term the "high authority" argument, which consists in disposing of a question altogether by retailing the second-hand opinion of Mr. Blank, the authority. Nobody should ever use Mr. Blank's opinion without, firstly, having carefully gone through and accepted the steps by which he arrives there, or, secondly, showing clearly that it is merely Mr. Blank's opinion for which he alone is responsible. This argument is especially objectionable (to no one perhaps more than Mr. Blank himself) when it is couched in terms that emit a glow of satisfaction at having so easily pulverised the opponent.

Another important rule is to be quite certain that one is quoting the person criticised correctly. To criticise on a misquotation is to reach the depth of obloquy. By quoting correctly we do not only mean that the original wording should not be changed, for this is of minor importance so long as the meaning is retained, but also that the whole of the original wording bearing on the point at issue should be considered together. To omit a sentence or half a sentence when it materially modifies the remainder is as bad as to omit a "not" or an "if." We think it is wise, at least we have found it so ourselves, to read over anything we are tempted to disagree with about six times. It is wonderful how liable it is to develop a little word somewhere which makes our too hasty opinion seem a little foolish.

A minor point in quotations is not to translate figures into words. A figure is easily misprinted and so long as it remains a figure is easily corrected, but when translated the mistake is crystallized for ever.

Of course, strictly speaking, Mr. Crofton's homilies have no philatelic value, but they are so true, especially these days when every other collector writes, or essays to write for the philatelic press, that we feel sure our readers will appreciate the extracts we have made. Personally, we deplore the slackness shown by many of our home writers, and the only consolation we find, especially in the crushed worm condition Mr. Crofton has reduced us to, is in the fact that the London life is a strenuous one and philatelic writers (and even poor reviewers) have usually too many irons in the fire, to heat one properly.

The February number of the *Australian Philatelist* is a capital production; con-

taining as it does, many items of interest to the collectors of Australian stamps. The following extract, relating to recent N. Z. varieties of perforation, will be appreciated by our readers.

**NEW ZEALAND PERFORATING MACHINES.**—Within the past two-and-a-half years we have had to reckon with four different gauges, viz., 14 rough perf., 14×14½, 14×13½, and 14×15, all clean cut, and our difficulty is to know which are obsolete and which current. It would appear that the two latter have to some extent superseded those formerly in use, that the 14×13½ and 14×15 machines are being used concurrently and promiscuously, that the 14 rough perf. is still used for the large-sized stamps, and that the 14×14½ machine was only in use for perforating postage stamps for a short time.

Having asked Mr. A. T. Bate to help us to unravel the mystery, that gentleman has written us as follows: "I purchased blocks of our penny stamps, perf. 14×14½, in October, 1906, it being issued either in September or October of that year. It was perforated by the first of the new perforating machines ordered from England. For some reason which I have not heard, the Government Printer ceased using this machine for perforating the 1d. after the first batch of sheets, and, so far as I am aware, it has never been used since, at any rate on the penny stamps. Possibly it has been put into use for some other purpose, as the old rotary machine has been in evidence on the penny since that time."

Those of our readers who are interested in Australian punctured Official stamps will find the articles now appearing in our Australian contemporary of the greatest value.

*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, dated March 13th, is a particularly interesting number. The principal article deals with "U.S.A. Stamps used in China during the Boxer Uprising of 1900." The following extract makes good reading.

There was a Japanese post-office as well as a branch office of the Chinese Imperial Post in Tien Tsin, while the British and other nationalities speedily established postal facilities for their troops and country-men; carrying their mail on war vessels, to their nearest dependency ports in Asia, whence their mails were forwarded by the regular channels; so I frequently took advantage of those routes and franked my letters with different stamps of several nationalities in order to get them through speedily. All my mail reached its destination in safety and not a single letter or parcel forwarded by me from China was lost. As soon as it was recognized officially at Washington that U.S. troops were to remain some time in China, the authorities promptly made provisions for mail service with the U.S. similar to that already established in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. On the 2nd of August, 1900, the P.O. Dept. issued an order establishing Postal Agencies at Tougka, Tien Tsin and Peking, China, under the supervision of Mr. G. M. Hunt, Postal Agent for the sale of U.S. stamps, the registration of packages and issuing money orders as well as for the distribution and forwarding of the mail.

The regular issue of U.S. postage stamps were used probably because the authorities realised the temporary character of our occupancy and that our mails were not to pass through foreign postal agencies,—being forwarded by our own War Ships and Transports. The U.S.

stamps surcharged for the Philippines were accepted and all "Soldiers Mail" certified to be a commissioned officer U.S.A. was authorised to be sent to its destination, postage due to be collected from the recipient. The U.S. postal facilities continued until May 15th, 1901, when the U.S. forces were withdrawn from Peking and were finally discontinued Aug. 1st, 1901. During the time of our occupancy, 11,639 pieces of registered mail was shipped from three offices in China.

## Philately on the Continent.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie*. Another article on the colour question, which had been dismissed in a previous number as being impossible of solution, is published in the issue of March 31st. This latest contribution to the subject was prompted by the receipt of a copy of the "*Répertoire de Couleurs*," which is published at Rennes by M. René Oberthür for the use of floriculturists and, more particularly, of chrysanthemum growers. The Royal Horticultural Society of London, The French Society of Chrysanthemum Growers and other important bodies have made this chart their standard. All the names of colours are expressed in five languages, viz.: French, English, German, Spanish and Italian, and is said to realize a considerable advance on anything of the kind that has preceded it. It is published at 20 francs and is contained in two volumes.

In spite of the excellence of the work the *Echo* does not think that a similar chart on the same scale would be of much practical assistance to philatelists. "Let us remark to begin with" says our confrère, "that when no varieties of shade exist the exact designation of the colour, however interesting it may be, is only of relative importance. Let us take, for example, some stamps of fixed shades, which we, in our catalogue, name violet, and see what the application of this system would give us.

Japan	No. 82.	8 sen	blue-lavender.
Japan	.. 80.	15 sen	laconite.
Venezuela	.. 58.	1b. (Miranda)	violet.
Uruguay	.. 141.	5 mil.	petunia.
Victoria	.. 120.	2 pence	violet.
Timor	.. 14.	25 reis	wine-violet.
Transvaal	.. 121.	6 pence	clear violet. (violet franc.)

"We believe that Philately would gain nothing" the *Echo* continues "by such exactitude and that the clearness of the catalogue would only lose by it. The essential, and it ought to suffice in the circumstances, is, that the above named stamps, placed in the sets to which they belong, give clearly, to all eyes, the impression of violet."

Our contemporary admits, however, that when a stamp exists in one or two definite shades of the same colour the most exact nomenclature is essential, but the difficulty is that in many cases the shades are so numerous

and so closely resemble one another that names would be impossible.

The same number of the *Echo* contains an account of the seizure, by the Italian police, of the entire plant used by a man of the name of Sperati, for the manufacture of forged stamps. The seizure took place at Pisa, and included typographic presses, packets of stamps, reams of white paper, chemicals, and a large number of negatives, one bearing the portrait of Victor Emmanuel III. Unfortunately, the culprit himself, with his two brothers and mother, who appear to be implicated as well, have escaped. Philatelists have cause for congratulation in the activity of the Italian police, who have at last put a stop to the manufacture of some of the most dangerous forgeries of recent years.

The issue of *L'Echo* for March 31st informs us that one of the brothers Sperati has been arrested at Viareggio.

The editor of *La Revue Philatélique Française* has, in the number for March 31st, 1909, an article which should be of interest to English readers at the present time. It is on the subject of the Federation of French Philatelic Societies. Since a similar suggestion was thrashed out at the recent Congress at Manchester, it is interesting to note that the writer in the official organ of the premier French Philatelic Society regards the project as impossible in France, though he admits that he is in entire sympathy with its aims. The article is written in a very entertaining manner and should be read by every one interested in the subject.

*Le Timbre Poste* for March is a very interesting number. The principal article is entitled, "The Varieties and the Classification of Swiss Stamps of 1882 to 1909." There is a summing up of all that has been written on the Helvetia issues, with some new information added. The article is signed G.B., and should be of great use to collectors interested in this latest field for specialization.

The same journal contains an article on the 5 francs stamp of Belgium, which is very readable.

Of all the French journals, *Le Postillon* is the most entertaining. M. Montader, the editor, wields a facile and fearless pen, and his comments on topical subjects are generally pointed. The number dated March 25th contains some exceedingly caustic remarks about the Manchester Philatelic Congress, remarks which are called forth by some references made by Mr. Dorning Beckton and Major Evans to the prices in the French Official Catalogue. It will be remembered that Mr. Beckton said that there were stamps priced in the French catalogue at a few francs for which he would be willing to pay as many pounds. M. Montader invites Mr. Beckton to order from him, the director of the Official Catalogue, the stamp which he has in mind. For ourselves we do not think Mr.

Beckton would have much difficulty in making out a list which would more than justify his remarks. M. Montader is also exceedingly sore with Mr. M. P. Castle and with Major Evans, and winds up with some rude remarks about Gibbons' Catalogue, the Royal Philatelic Society's Expert Committee, and the British Nation.

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## The Newcastle Exhibition.

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THE North of England Philatelic Society is to be congratulated both on the excellence and the success of its first Postage Stamp Exhibition, which was held in the Academy of Arts, Blakett Street, Newcastle, on March 26th and 27th. The opening was performed by Alderman J. J. Foster, the Lord Mayor of the City, who is himself an enthusiastic collector, and there was a large attendance of the leading Philatelists of the North of England.

In the opinion of competent judges the Exhibition ranks high and, in variety of stamps shown as well as in quality, is considered to surpass the recent Exhibition of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society, although, of course, that was on a larger scale. This was probably due in some measure, to the competitive nature of the Exhibition, and the silver and bronze medals awarded drew representative exhibitors from all over the country.

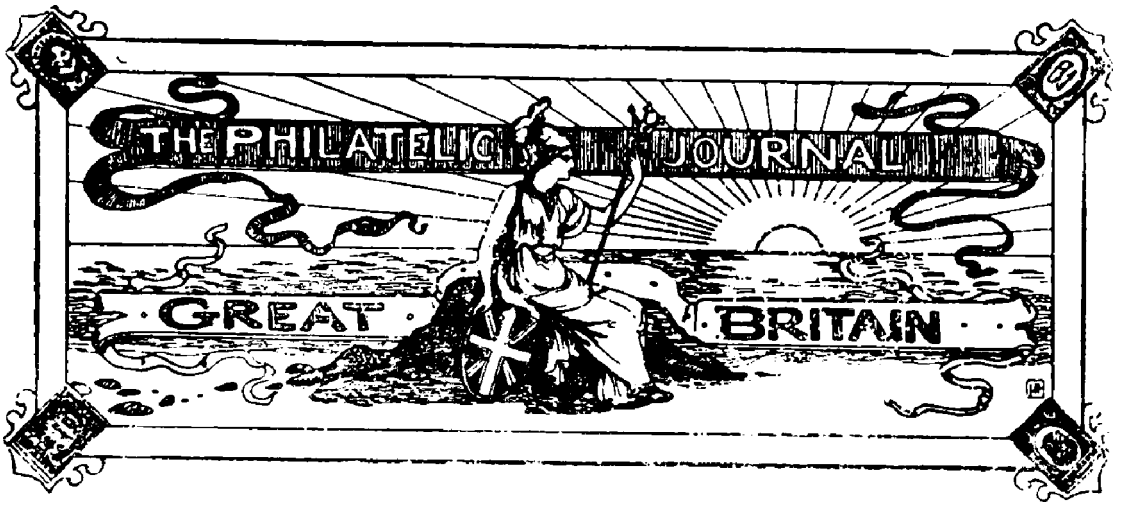
Amongst the more notable exhibits to be mentioned were the fine collection of the President, Alderman G. B. Bainbridge, his magnificent and almost complete collection of triangular Capes attracting universal admiration. Mr. W. Waite Sanderson of Newcastle, exhibited a complete set of Nevis stamps, and also took a bronze medal for a fine exhibit of Western Australia. Other notable Collections on view were Mr. Cochrane's Caricatures of Mulready Envelopes, the well-known English collection of Mr. J. S. Higgins, Jun., of Manchester; Mr. J. H. Taylor's Sicily Exhibit; Canada and New South Wales, shown by Mr. M. H. Horsley, of West Hartlepool; and Mr. Wade's early U.S.A.

There was also an unusually fine exhibit in the Section for Rare Stamps, for, while there were only three entries, the exhibitors had a remarkably valuable 75 stamps among them, Mr. Bainbridge, the President, again carrying off the Medal.

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In the May number of this journal we hope to print the completion of Mr. Pemberton's article on "Prince Edward Island"; also a further long instalment of Mr. Burton's article on "Chili."





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[PRICE 2D.]

## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

THE traffic in used and unused stamps has increased so tremendously of late years, that we feel sure but few collectors realize the possibilities of our hobby.

Even the commonest of stamps have their market value when they are quoted for by the thousand, or hundred thousand, while quite desirable stamps, catalogued at a few pence each, find a ready sale when they are offered by the dozen or hundred.

Of rare stamps there are not sufficient to supply the demand, nor is, naturally enough, the demand for scarce varieties, in proportion to their value, anything like so great as that for the common stamps.

Rare stamps, however, in fine condition, always find buyers, so do the medium varieties, a fact that is eloquent testimony to the wide-reaching hold stamp collecting has on the diverse peoples of the world. This ever constant demand for medium and common obsolete stamps provides food for reflection, when we remember that few general stamp collections are permanent, together with the fact that the loss of specimens, through fire, wear and tear, and the other accidental destructive agents, is very infinitesimal. In the old time, when stamps were stuck down with gum into books, their man-

agement was only accomplished with a generous percentage of casualties; but in these days of the universal stamp mounts, the loss by damage is very slight.

Every year, however, the tendency is for prices to increase, a fact somewhat hard to account for, especially when we consider that finds of old letters are always taking place, and that collections are always being sold.

Perhaps one potent reason why the older medium stamps show a marked upward tendency, as regards catalogue value, is that owing to the universal spread of philatelic knowledge, dealers are not able to buy as cheaply as they could a few years ago. The vendor, knowing that his find of old stamped envelopes has a market value, hawks them around until he accepts the highest of various offers; a few years ago this was not the case, the lucky finder being only too glad to accept the offer of the first dealer to whom he offered his wares.

We do not, in these few random remarks, mean to infer that stamps in general are catalogued too much or too little, that question is and always will be a debatable point, but what we marvel at is the enormous hoarding capacity of the stamp collecting public.

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STAMP collectors are fortunate as regards the many relaxations that our hobby affords to its devotees—at least those amongst them who are members of **Philatelic Festivities.** standing. The Herts Society undoubtedly leads the way with its annual banquet. This year's festive gathering, which took place on the 4th inst., was an unqualified success, the

whole of the spacious seating capacity of the International Hall, at the Café Monico, being completely filled, while the catering and entertainment were of the very best. Collectors who attended were privileged to meet several distinguished guests—men whose names are household words—while the gathering together of so many collectors can but result in many future friendships.

## The Stamps of Prince Edward Island.

*A Paper read before the International Philatelic Union, on March 11th, 1909.*

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

*(Continued from Page 79).*

There were many flaws on the plates which produced dots or lines on the stamps. I will not weary my readers by giving a long list of these minor varieties, but there are a few well-marked ones which are worthy of mention; these are:—

2d.—There is a dot between the "I" and "S" of "Island" on the tenth stamp in the top row.

There is a dot after the word "POST-AGE" on the second stamp in the fourth row and on the end stamp of the same row, the latter stamp having, in addition, a small dot in the "C" of "PENCE." In some sheets the "O" of "TWO" in the third stamp of the 6th row is broken and looks like a "C."

3d.—The "I" of "ISLAND" appears like a reversed "L" in the second stamp in the 3rd row. There is a dot after the "E" of "PENCE" on the second stamp of the 5th row.

4d.—The "R" of "FOUR" has the tail entirely missing, making the word read "FOUP," though in some printings part of the tail shows, which makes the letter look like a P with a dot under it. This is the fourth stamp in the 4th row.

6d.—There is a dot before the "P" of "PENCE" on the second stamp of the sheet.

There is a dot after the "E" of "PENCE" on the third stamp of the 2nd row.

I have already mentioned the only prominent flaw on the 9d. stamp.

Mr. Bartlett, in an article many years ago in the *Stamp News Annual*, gave a very extended list of the flaws, from which it would seem that the stamps might be plated, but it

appears that some of them are not constant, and are therefore useless for that purpose.

In his article Mr. Donald King gave a long list of perforation varieties, but it is not only incomplete, but inaccurate. In one important particular, however, he is quite correct, namely, the statement that the first printings of the 1d. (yellow-brown) and the 9d. (dull lilac) are only found perforated uniformly 11.

These two stamps should certainly be separated from those of other printings, as they are never found in any other perforation.

In 1863 the 2d., 3d. and 6d. were issued perforated 11 to 12 irregularly. I have examined large numbers of these stamps in blocks and find that the single-line machine which was used for these stamps varied, in different parts of its length, from a gauge of 12 to one of almost 11; it is almost impossible to find a length of two centimetres in which the gauge of the perforations is constant. It must have been only a very small length which gave the gauge almost exactly 11,—not long enough, I should imagine, to extend the whole length of the side, though I have found it along the entire top or bottom of a stamp. A very peculiar feature of the perforations is that the stamps frequently have not only a gauge which is different horizontally from what it is vertically,—which is only what one would expect from such a machine,—but the top very frequently differs from the bottom, and one side from the other.

Every combination of 11½ and 12 seems possible to such a machine, and Mr. King's list of only twenty varieties, including all values, is therefore, very incomplete. But if it had been complete, would it have been more useful? Most certainly not, for the fact is that all these vagaries of one machine are of no account and, philatelically speaking, they can only be treated as the same.

But Mr. King was even further from the mark when he stated that the stamps, on bluish white paper, were perforated uniformly 12. As a matter of fact, I find no difference between the perforations of this printing and those of the earlier ones, which I have just described. It is inexplicable to me that an article which has stood for so long as the last word on Prince Edward Island stamps, should have been so inaccurate with regard to the perforations, and should have remained so long unchallenged in this particular.

We have, therefore, evidences of two single-line perforating machines, one, the earlier, giving a gauge of 11, uniformly, and the other an irregular gauge of anything between 12 and 11, the 11 only occurring in a compound with 12 and (or) 11.

The first machine was evidently very little used after the 1d. orange-brown, and the 9d. dull lilac were issued, as, up to now, I have only found the 1d. orange-yellow, among the later printings, with the 11 gauge.

My list is therefore as follows:—

YELLOWISH-TONED PAPER.

A. *Perf. 11, uniform.*

- 1862, 1d. orange-brown, 9d. lilac.
- 1865, 1d. yellow-orange.

B. *Perf. 11 to 12, irregular.*

- 1863-65, 1d. orange, yellow-orange, 2d. rose, 3d. blue, 4d. black, 6d. yellow-green, blue-green, 9d. rose-lilac.

BLUISH-WHITE PAPER.

*Perf. 11 to 12, irregular.*

- 1867-68, 2d. rose, 3d. blue, 4d. black.

All the above stamps vary in shade considerably, while the paper also varies in the degree of the yellowish tone.

Some partly perforated varieties are known, the 9d. rose-lilac, perf. 11 to 12 horizontally and imperf. vertically is not uncommon, while the 2d., 3d. and 4d. on bluish white paper also exist with either the horizontal or vertical rows of perforation missing. The practice of using halves of stamps did not die out when the necessity for it had gone, for all values have been found so misused.

Among the remainders, which were sold in 1874, were the following quantities of the pence issues:—

241,000	...	...	2d.
226,000	...	...	3d.
277,000	...	...	4d.
21,000	...	...	6d.
100,000	...	...	9d.

and 143,000 mixed stamps.

THE 4½D. STAMP.

The beautiful 4½d. stamp, printed by the British American Bank Note Co., of Montreal, was required when the letter rate to England was reduced by a half in 1870. Formerly the postage for a half-ounce letter had been 9d.,

if paid for in the local currency, or 6d. if paid for in English money, which, presumably was worth 50% more than the local. This is the reason for the value on the 9d. being inscribed "NINE PENCE currency equal to 6d. sterling" and on the 4½d., "3d. Stg.—4½d. Cy."

This stamp in a collection serves to accentuate the poorness of the appearance of all the other Prince Edward Island stamps. It was engraved in *taille douce* and printed in sheets of 120, two panes of 60 each, ten rows of six. The perforation, like that of all other American Bank Note Co.'s stamps is uniformly 12.

The remainders included 42,600 of this value. From this it will be readily understood why it should be so much rarer used than unused, as it was only in use for four years.

THE CENTS ISSUE.

Prince Edward Island was the last of the British North American Colonies to give up the British currency and adopt the decimal system. Canada had made the change in 1859; Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in 1860; Vancouver in 1865; Newfoundland in 1866, and British Columbia in 1867. One can therefore only wonder that Prince Edward Island, with its complicated currency and sterling system, should have made such a long delay before adopting a system which must have considerably simplified business relations with the neighbouring countries. It was not until 1871 that the following notice was published by the Prince Edward Island Government.

"AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A DECIMAL SYSTEM OF CURRENCY ON THIS ISLAND."

(Passed April 17th, 1871).

"Whereas it is deemed expedient to assimilate the currency of this Island to that of the Dominion of Canada and of the United States of America, and to introduce a decimal system of keeping accounts in the Public Offices of this Colony.

"Be it therefore enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council, and Assembly, as follows:

"1.—The unit of account on this Island shall be the dollar of one hundred cents, the value of which dollar shall be on the basis of four hundred and eighty-six cents and two-thirds of a cent to the pound of British sterling money.

"2.—The accounts at all public offices on this Island shall be changed and kept in the decimal system, which shall go into operation at the times following: For the accounts kept at the Savings Bank at the Public Treasury on the first day of December next; for the accounts kept at all Post Offices, the Money Order Offices and at all Excise Offices, and at all other public offices except the Treasury, on the first day of January next; for all accounts kept at the Public Treasury on the first day of February next.

"3.—The Lieutenant-Governor in Council is hereby authorised to empower the Commissioner for issuing Treasury notes to have suitable notes of the decimal currency prepared and signed, the same to be exchanged with the Colonial Treasurer for the Treasury notes already in circulation, for the purpose of the Act.

"4.—Gold and silver coin shall be legal tender at the rates set forth in Schedule A here annexed.

"5.—The Lieutenant-Governor in Council is hereby empowered to provide a coinage of copper cents for this Island, and to cause postage stamps of the new denominations to be issued as soon as practicable."

The new stamps referred to were issued on 1st January, 1872. Fortunately Mr. Tilliard, when investigating among the remnants of the effects of Mr. Charles Whiting came across a ledger which included an account of the numbers of the stamps of this issue which were supplied. The entry was dated June 4th, 1872, and is as follows:—

*Prince Edward Island Post Office.*

294,500	Postage Stamps, 1 cent, orange.
100,000	" 2 cents, blue.
290,000	" 3 " pink.
200,000	" 4 " green.
300,000	" 6 " black.
200,000	" 12 " mauve.

The price of these stamps was at the rate of only 2/- per 1000 all round, which, compared with the 4/6 per 1000 paid for those of the 1st issue shows a very considerable saving. The issue was only in use for a year and six months and some of the stamps, very few, were used, as may be gathered from a perusal of the list of remainders as given by Mr. Donald King in the *Monthly Journal*. This is as follows:—

124,500	of the 1c.
5,000	" 2c.
10,000	" 3c.
94,000	" 4c.
162,000	" 6c.
165,000	" 12c.

The number given for the 2c. remainders is almost certainly wrong. I should think that it is a misprint for 50,000. Mr. Emerson, who was the agent for the sale of the remainders in England, informs me that while he cannot remember any figures, he is quite certain that the first value to run short was the 3c.

We are thus able to get at the exact number of each value that was issued while they were in use. These were:

1c.	170,000.
2c.	95,000.
3c.	280,000.
4c.	106,000.
6c.	138,000.
12c.	35,000.

The stamps of the "cents" issue were electrolytically as before. The sheets, however,

were a different size, there being 100 stamps in ten rows of 10. The designs, though similar to those of the first issue are really quite different. The head of the Queen is a different portrait, showing ribbons drooping from the chignon. As is proved by the dies in the possession of the Royal Phil. Society the head was drawn separately and replicas of it were used for each value of the set.

The paper was rather thinner than, and not such a dead white as, that used for the last printing of the pence issue, in appearance it resembles that of the earlier printings, but it is of a different texture. Two sets can be made one having pure white gum and the other yellowish to perfectly brown gum which stains the paper considerably. The commonest are those with *slightly* yellowish gum. The shades of all values vary considerably, the one penny more than any.

Some bisected varieties of this issue are known to have done postal duty, the list given by Donald King being as follows:—

6c.	made of half a 12c.
3c.	" " " 6c.
3c.	" with a 2c. and half a 2c.

In this issue there appear to have been two perforating machines in use, one being the old one gauging 11½ to 12 and the other giving a measurement of 12½-13. I think the products of these two machines ought to be as fully catalogued as similar varieties in other Colonies. Unfortunately there is no means of distinguishing between the two machines in the case of a stamp perforated about 12 all round, but when the gauge is either 11½ or 12½-13 there can be no doubt as to which machine it came from.

The two machines were not used much in conjunction; up to now the only undoubted compound I have seen is the 1c. Further, I have as yet only found four values with the 11½-12 perforation, viz., the 1, 3, 4 and 6 cents, while with the other perforation I have seen all except the 4c. The perforation most frequently met with is 12 all round, and stamps showing any variations either way are much scarcer. Before leaving this subject, I may remark that Gibbons' Catalogue is right in giving the perforation of the pence issue as 11 to 12, but wrong in assigning the same perforation to the decimal issue. To me it seems remarkable that the perforations of this Colony have been so neglected, as they yield to classification quite as easily as many Australian perforations which have been elaborately studied.

In conclusion, I would add that this country seems to be the only British Colony left which has not been thoroughly studied, and I can assure any one who likes to take it up that he will find an interesting and productive field for his researches.

In spite of the large number of remainders that came out in 1874, most of the stamps are

not easy to find in blocks. This is partly to be accounted for, in the case of the "cents" issue, by the fact that the paper is so brittle and the perforation holes so large, that the

stamps barely hang together; they require very careful treatment (which they don't always get in dealers' stock books) if they are to be kept in blocks.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Cayman Islands.**—We have received the 1/- Cayman Islands on multiple chalky paper.

*Adhesive.*  
King's Head. Multiple wmk., chalky paper.  
1/- black on green.

**Dominica.** The *Colonial Office Journal* states that this Colony has "agreed to adopt the new colour scheme" for its stamps.

**Fiji.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us specimens of the 1/- stamp on multiple chalky paper.

*Adhesive.* King's Head. Multiple chalky.  
1/- green and carmine.

**Gibraltar.** The *Colonial Office Journal* states that this Colony will shortly adopt the new colour scheme for its stamps.

The following new varieties have been sent out to the "Rock."



*Adhesives.* King's Head. multiple chalky paper.  
6d. purple.  
2/- purple and blue on blue.  
4/- black and red.

**Gold Coast.** The *Colonial Office Journal* says that the following stamps have been sent out to the Colony.

*Adhesives.* King's Head. Multiple wmk.  
2d. grey.  
3d. purple on yellow.

**India.** *Charkari.* We extract the following information from *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*. We are also indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., for a sight of these stamps.

"This State has issued a new set of stamps, ranging in value from 1 pice to 1 rupee, the highest and lowest values being in exactly the same colour. The design consists of two swords, crossed in the centre, with 'CHARKARI STATE C. I.' in an arch above them, and 'POSTAGE STAMP' at the top; below the swords are characters denoting the value, and four lines of inscription: 'INDIA—BUNDEL-KHAND' two words in Devanagri, the first of which seems to read *Charkari*—and the value '1 PICE,' etc. The whole is in white on a solid rectangular ground of colour, surrounded by a white and a coloured frame line. The stamps are lithographed on thin wove paper, perf. 11."

1909. Lithographed. Wove paper. Pin-perf. 11.

1 pice, chestnut.  
½ anna, scarlet.  
1 .. light green.  
2 annas, blue.  
4 .. deep green.  
8 .. brick-red.  
1 rupee, brown.

*Jhind.* *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the current 2½a. Indian stamp overprinted "Jhind State."

*Adhesive.*  
2½a. ultramarine.

**Jamaica.** The *Colonial Office Journal* says that this Colony has agreed to adopt the new colour scheme for its stamps (*vide P.J.G.B.*, Nov., 1908). Jamacian specialists may therefore commence to save up their bawbees.

**Natal.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles four more of the new "Postage—Postage" series.

*Adhesives.*

King's Head. Wmk. multiple C.A., ordinary paper.  
6d. purple.  
1/- black and green.  
2/6 carmine and black on blue.  
10/- carmine and green on green.

**New Zealand.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles one of the N.Z. Life Insurance stamps with "mixed perforations."

*Life Insurance Stamp.*  
Wmk. N.Z. and Star. Perf. 11 and 14 mixed.  
½d. bright purple.

**Orange River Colony.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 1/- stamp on multiple wmk. paper.

*Adhesive.* King's Head. Multiple, ordinary.  
1/- bistre and red.

**Papua.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 1/- stamp, perf. 12½.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12½.  
1/- black and orange.

**Rhodesia.** We illustrate below one of the newly overprinted B.S.A. stamps.



**St. Kitts-Nevis.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following.



*Adhesive.* Multiple wmk., chalky paper.  
2d. brown and lilac.

**St. Vincent.** We have to chronicle the penny value, redrawn, and now uniform with the 6d. and 1/- stamps chronicles by us in February.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. multiple Crown and CA. Perf. 14.  
1d. carmine.

**Sierra Leone.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the following novelties:—

*Adhesives.* King's Head. Multiple wmk., chalky paper.  
6d. dull and bright purple.  
1/- black on green.  
5/- green and red on yellow.

**Somaliland Protectorate.** The *Colonial Office Journal* states that the following stamps have been supplied:—

*Adhesives.* King's Head. Multiple, ordinary paper.  
2a. green.  
1a. red.  
Chalky paper.  
2a. violet.

**Southern Nigeria.** The *Colonial Office Journal* states that this Colony has recently agreed to adopt the new colour scheme. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* gives the following list of probable new issues: 2d. grey, 2½d. blue, 3d. purple on yellow, 4d. black and red on yellow, 6d. purple, 1/- black on yellow, 2/6 black and red on blue, 5/- green and red on yellow, 10/- green and red on green, £1 purple and black on red.

**Straits Settlements.** In March we chronicled specimen copies of a 5c. orange King's Head stamp. We now learn from the *Colonial Office Journal* that 25c. and \$5 stamps will also shortly be sent out, printed in dull and bright purple, and green and red on green, respectively; chalky paper. When a further supply of 30c. stamps is needed, they will be printed in purple and yellow.

**Tasmania.** The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles some abnormal varieties of the current 9d. stamp, as follows:—

"The 9d. has also come along in both perfs. and we have likewise seen the latter value in a variety of compound perfs., (on three machines) of 11, 12 and 12½, as well as some stamps with a badly perforated line pasted over and the stamp re-perforated. These are known as mixed perfs. It would appear that these stamps had been perforated on the 11 machine in Melbourne, and that subsequently it was discovered that some lines were missed, mostly marginal lines, and the defect was remedied on the 12½ machine. On arrival in Hobart it would appear that some rows were still overlooked, and the use of the 12 machine in that office was brought into requisition."

*Adhesives.* Watermark Crown and A.

9d. blue, perf. 11.  
9d. .. .. 12½.  
9d. .. .. 11 three sides x 12.  
9d. .. .. 11 .. x 12½.  
9d. .. .. 11 .. x 12½ x 12, horizontal.

Bang goes the thermometer up to 159° in the shade.

**Trinidad.** Although this colony has adopted the new colour scheme, the colours of the 5/- and £1 stamps will remain as they are at present, according to the *Colonial Office Journal*. All other values will be adapted to the scheme.

**Victoria.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 2½d. stamp, Crown over A wmk., with the 11 perforation.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11.  
2½d. deep blue.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Belgian Congo.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles three stamps of the 1896-1900 issue overprinted

### TAXES

for use as postage dues.

*Postage Dues.*  
Issues of 1896-1900 overprinted in blue.  
5c. black and green.  
10c. .. carmine.  
15c. .. ochre.

**Japan.** *Post Offices in China.* Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have re-

ceived specimens of the two recently issued high values of Japan, overprinted, uniform with the lower values, for use in China.

*Adhesives.* Overprinted (in black) ?  
5 yen, green.  
10 .. deep lilac.

**Liberia.** Mr. H. Hayman has very kindly sent us particulars of a new issue of the ten lower values, 1 to 75 cents. All the stamps have been designed, engraved and printed from steel plates by that well known firm of stamp engravers, Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., Ltd.

The 1 cent gives a view in a coffee plantation in Liberia, with hills in the distance, the frame being simply arabesque in style with numerals in the upper corners and a few coffee beans at each side.

The 2 cents, with a small portrait of President Barclay, from a very life-like photograph by Messrs. Fradelle & Young, has rather a more ornate style of frame, with numeral in left-hand bottom corner.

The 5 cents is perhaps one of the most remarkable "seascape" stamps ever seen. The Liberian gunboat "Lark" is seen lying, with steam up, ready to protect the shores of the Republic, the effect of the Postal Union blue sea and sky being very pretty. A rope frame with the usual knots, with numerals in lifebuoys in the bottom corners, completes a very unique stamp.

The 10 cents is triangular in form, with allegorical figures representing Commerce, with anchor, &c.

The 15 cents shows a native woman making cotton threads, sitting under the branches of a huge tree, with her bowl of carded cotton; holding the spool high in her left hand, she twists it rapidly and the thread is drawn off by the right. Numerals are in both bottom corners, and palms overshadow the vignettes in a graceful manner.

The 20 cents is one of the "plant series," showing the Malagueta pepper plant, a native of Liberia, with its leaves and flowers. The frame, with numerals in left bottom corner, is a suggestion of Borassus palm leaves, blending very prettily with the pepper plant.

The 25 cents gives the idea of a calendar or show-card, but instead of the almanac, a pretty native view of palms, and hills in the background, is shown.

In the 30 cents, one colour stamp, we have a larger and a very striking portrait of the President. Such an effect as is shewn in this stamp is only possible in plate work; surface printed stamps can never show the like.

The 50 cents stamp has been pronounced the most beautiful of the series. The four natives in their "dug-out" canoe, three rowing, one steering, on the broad river, with the jungle foliage in the background, show a typical native scene. The frame with the "travellers' tree," a wonderful kind of palm tree of the country, on either side, gives an appropriate surrounding.

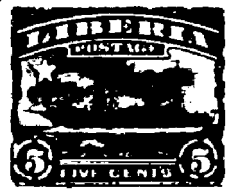
The 75 cents is, we suppose, one of the

most singular and extraordinary and at the same time appropriate stamps ever designed. The last of the series of views is, most suitably, an album of views! No similar stamp has to our knowledge ever been printed. It shows the book, as accurately as circumstances will allow, and on the cover is a label with a pretty view of a native village. The illusion is complete and we can only commend the designers of this elegantly devised novelty for their ingenuity.

We think all philatelists will congratulate Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. upon their latest production, and express the hope that they may have the opportunity of exercising their talent upon some of the other issues of the world, where artistic merit is conspicuous by its non-existence.

The "On Service" stamps are printed from the same, but in different shades and colours from the ordinary stamps, the letters "O.S." being in writing style as before, the stamp being varied according to the design.

All stamps are perforated 14, by the comb machine, with the exception of the 10 cents stamp, which is rouletted. We illustrate four of the most artistic designs.



*Adhesives.* Perf. 14, except the 10c., which is rouletted.

1c.	black and yellow-green.
2c.	.. brown-red.
5c.	.. blue.
10c.	.. purple.
15c.	.. indigo-blue.
20c.	myrtle and dull rose.
25c.	black and black-brown.
30c.	.. brown.
50c.	.. myrtle.
75c.	.. chocolate.

*Official Stamps.*

- 1c. black and green (red).  
 2c. chocolate and rose (blue).  
 5c. black and blue (black).  
 10c. blue and black (red).  
 15c. black and purple (blue).  
 20c. myrtle and bistre (black).  
 25c. grey-green and blue (black).  
 30c. blue (red).  
 50c. grey-green and brown (black).  
 75c. black and violet (red).

The colour in brackets is that of the overprint.

**Mexico.** *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles another postage due to be added to the set we chronicled a year ago.

*Postage Due.*  
 1c. dark blue.

**Paraguay.** To the set of stamps overprinted "1908," which we chronicled in the March number of this journal, we have to add, on the authority of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, the 60c. and the 1 peso received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

*Adhesives.* Types of 1904 overprinted "1908."  
 60c. rosy-crimson.  
 1 peso blue.

**Peru.** Last September we informed our readers that a brand new set of money extractors was on its way. They have now arrived, and Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us specimens. *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* describes them as follows, and also chronicles a few postage dues and officials. The whole set is most beautifully printed, as was to be expected from that famous firm of stamp manufacturers, the American Bank Note Company of New York; as usual the line-engraved process was used for all values.

*Adhesives.* 1909. Perf. 12.  
 1c. slate-grey.  
 2c. green.  
 4c. red.  
 5c. mauve-violet.  
 10c. Prussian blue.  
 12c. greyish blue.  
 20c. chestnut.  
 50c. yellow-bistre.  
 1 sol. blue-black and lake.

*Postage Due Stamps.* 1909. Perf. 12.  
 1c. chocolate.  
 5c. "  
 10c. "  
 50c. "

*Official Stamps.* 1909. Perf. 12.  
 1c. vermilion.  
 10c. brown.  
 50c. olive-green.

**Russia.** The *London Philatelist* chronicles the 10k., 14k., 15k. and 25k. stamps. The following letter, from the columns of our contemporary, should prove of great interest to our readers. We chronicled the 50 and 70k. stamps last month.

"The new 25 and 50 cop. stamps are of exactly the same types as the 1889 and 1905 issue; but instead of being on vertically laid paper, they are now printed on wove paper with lines of varnish on their face like the small values already chronicled. The 25 cop. is now light green, instead of dull green; and the 50 cop. brownish mauve, instead of mauve.

It seems that only the small values have been altered in type, and the reason is in order to protect the farming people in the interior (the Mushiks), who are very ignorant and uncivilized, and therefore do not know anything about cleaned and forged stamps, and as their demand does not extend to the high values above 10 cop. the Post Department did not think it necessary to alter the type of the values above 10 cop. too. The lines of varnish on all the values do not extend all over the sheet, but only on the space occupied by the stamps themselves; and this is in order that the margins of the sheets might not be used by forgers for manufacturing forged stamps on the original paper, as has repeatedly been done with forged 70 cop. and 3½ rouble stamps of the 1902-4 issue, and 3½ and 7 rouble stamps of the 1883 issue; for this purpose, in the year 1907, the margins on the sheets of the values over 1 rouble have been overprinted by large coloured crosses and triangles, because the margins on those high values were extremely large and bore the watermarks. By the way, I may inform you that the new issue has found very little sympathy in Russia; the paper being too thin, the gum does not stick, and the lines of varnish are very sensible towards external influences. It is rumoured that this issue will soon be replaced by another issue."

*Adhesives.* Perf. 14, 14½.  
 10k. blue, type of new 4k. wove paper, safety bars.  
 14k. blue and rose, old type, wove paper, safety bars.  
 15k. claret and blue, old type, wove paper, safety bars.  
 25k. light green and mauve, white wove paper, safety bars.

**Surinam.** In the March number of this journal we chronicled makeshift provisional stamps for this Dutch Colony. We now learn from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. that these stamps have now been issued perforated.



*Adhesive.* Perforated.  
 5c. carmine.

**Switzerland.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles two more of the Postage Due stamps as having been issued on the new watermark paper.

*Postage Dues.* Perf. 11½.  
 1c. olive green.  
 20c. "

**United States.** The following extract from the *Metropolitan Philatelist* will please those collectors who make a speciality of commemoratives:—

"We learn from the daily press that the



Alaska-Yukon Exhibition is to be commemorated by a special stamp which is described as follows: The new stamp is to be rectangular in form and of the same size as that issued to commemorate the Jamestown Exposition. Panels at the top and bottom contain respectively the words 'U.S. Postage' and 'Two cents.' In the centre of the stamp the larger part of a circle rests on the lower panel and encloses a ribbon bearing the inscription 'Alaska-Yukon-Pacific 1909'; the circle frames the picture of a seal standing on a cake of ice. On either side of the stamp is an ellipse containing the Arabic numeral 2, with laurel branches in the background. It is expected that the stamps will be placed on sale about June 1st, the opening day of the exposition."

From other sources we learn that the inclusion of a seal "standing on a cake of ice" has given offence to some of the Alaska residents, as it seems to infer that seals and ice are the main features of the country. Possibly, therefore, the ice cake issue will be immediately followed by stamps showing grapes, peaches, &c., as a centre piece.

## Correspondence.

THE following letter from a distinguished Indian philatelist, who but thinly veils his identity, will be read by interest by our readers, at least those among them who do not suffer from cerebropathy, or require a dose of nitro glycerine.—Ed., *P.J.G.B.*

TO THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

SIR,

In your issue of March 20th, you publish a letter in your Correspondence column, entitled "Philately in its Sox." May I be allowed to point out that your correspondent is illiterate, as every schoolboy knows the correct spelling is *soks*. He speaks of the *guerche* values of the 1868 issue of Mexico, whereas everyone knows that coin did not come into general currency until late in 1872 or early in 1873—this shows he is no numismatist.

He mentions—horror of horrors—the MacBlithers tartan-yellow. Now, when the MacBlithers (*temp.* Robert Bruce) absorbed the Frasers, MacGregors, Grants, Campbells, Stuarts and other minor clans, they abolished their own tartan, which was emerald with a crisscross of puce, for a composite one, to show the different clans who had been united in one great clan, MacBlither, and there was no yellow in it—your correspondent is no historian.

Again he mentions mouse-green—the man must be mad—there is no such colour (even in a stamp catalogue!) there is mouse-violet and lizard-blue, cold-salmon-grey and rat-poison-magenta, but no mouse-green, he is no artist, and colour blind to boot.

He says "having deleted the four doubtfuls" no philatelist would delete a "doubtful," he would sit down and worry it for a month or two, so your correspondent is no philatelist.

He mentions a 15781 reis stamp, there is no such value, the nearest approach is 1478<sup>2</sup>sk. b.c.o. of the first issue of Denmark, it is therefore obvious that he is inexact and careless.

At the end he mentions toothachey perforations—what does that mean? Surely he refers to *toothachey denticulations*, but it is only when one examines these stamps about 2 a.m. with an astronomical telescope that one can be certain whether the perforator had a pain.

To conclude, your correspondent is scarcely human. A person who would christen a son "Cuthbert Augustus," is not a man, he's a toadstool. But what could be expected of one who spells "Shiva" as Shiver?

I am,

Your obedient servant,

HAVALITTLJOKJEE CHATTERJEE

TIMBREWALLAH.

Professor of Education and other  
Diseases of the Brain.

Portia Cottage,  
Bombay.

## New Leaves to Cut.

GAMBIA.\*

By F. J. MELVILLE.

NUMBER 4 of the Melville Stamp Books deals with the Stamps of Gambia, and is, like the preceding three booklets of the series, an extremely well printed and attractive little brochure.

One great feature of this work is that the author has been able to illustrate his text with blocks representing no fewer than thirteen full-sized panes of stamps, thus enabling his readers to distinguish at a glance those perforated by the single line and the two comb machines.

Many specialist's varieties are dealt with, including those of the sixpenny value known as "sloping label" varieties, while special attention has been paid to watermark and perforation variations.

The value of Mr. Melville's latest handbook is greatly enhanced by the inclusion of a most interesting chapter, entitled "Notes on the Postmarks," contributed by Mr. Douglas Ellis. Those of our readers who are interested in the fascinating embossed stamps of Gambia will do well to invest in a copy of the book in question, as it contains all the information that any student or would-be Gambia specialist can possibly need to help him in his studies.

\*Published by the Melville Stamp Books, 47, Strand, W.C. 6d. nett.



## May, 1909, Report.

### List of Officers and Committee, 1909-10.

*Hon. President:* HIS HONOUR JUDGE PHILBRICK, K.C.

*Hon. Vice-Presidents:*

W. DORNING BECKTON. H. L. HAYMAN. H. R. OLDFIELD.  
VERNON ROBERTS.

*President:* J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.

*Vice-Presidents:*

W. SCHWARACHER. L. W. FULCHER. W. SCHWARTE.

*Committee:*

P. P. BROWN. MAJOR LAFFAN, R.E. P. L. PEMBERTON.  
J. E. JOSSELYN. F. F. LAMB. E. W. WETHERELL.  
A. B. KAY. W. E. LINCOLN.

*Hon. Sec. & Treasurer:* T. H. HINTON,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, London, S.W.

*Hon. Exchange Superintendent:* DR. E. F. MARX, M.A.,  
11, Woodgeange Avenue, Ealing Common, W.

*Hon. Counterfeit Detector:* W. HADLOW,  
12, Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.

*Hon. Librarian:* W. S. KING,  
65, Cadogan Street, Chelsea, S.W.

*Hon. Solicitors:* MESSRS. OLDFIELDS,  
13, Walbrook, E.C.

All Officers of the Union are ex-officio Members of the Committee.

### MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and Subscription, 5/., should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members, not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

The following is now proposed in accordance with the above:—C. R. Porter, Southsea; proposed by Capt. Gervers; seconded by Dr. Marx.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers and Committee for 1909-10 was held at Essex Hall, on Thursday evening, May 13th, when there were present: J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), P. L. Pemberton, A. B. Kay, G. E. Strong, F. F. Lamb, A. Levy, and the Hon. Sec. Reports and letters, regretting their inability to attend, were received from Dr. Marx, M.A., W. S. King and W. Schwarte. The minutes of the last

Annual General Meeting having been read and confirmed, the Hon. Sec. presented the Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year 1908, which showed 106 members on the roll on January 1st, 1909, since which date three new members have joined, and one old and respected member (Capt. W. St. Geo. Ord) has died, making our total at present 108. The Hon. Sec. then remarked on the work of the past season, during which a very successful Smoking Concert and six well attended meetings were held, at which excellent displays and papers had been given. He regretted the small attendance this evening, considering ample personal notice to attend had been sent to all members in Great Britain. It was then moved by Mr. Kay, seconded by Mr. Levy, that the Report and Balance Sheet be received and adopted, subject to audit. This was carried, Messrs. P. P. Brown and G. E. Strong being appointed Auditors. On behalf of Dr. Marx and Mr. W. S. King, the Hon. Sec. then read the Reports of the Exchange Section and Library. It was then moved by Mr. Sidebotham, seconded by Mr. Levy and carried unanimously that the best thanks of the Union be accorded to the Officers and Auditors, for their services during the year. On the proposal of the Hon. Sec., seconded by Mr. G. E. Strong and carried unanimously, Mr. J. C. Sidebotham was re-elected President for the year. The Officers and Committee as per list at head of this report were then elected and it was decided that the new Committee will meet in September to make arrangements for the next season, monthly meetings being continued at Essex Hall, and it is hoped to open with a Smoking Concert in October. On the conclusion of the formal business, Mr. Sidebotham displayed a portion of his collection of Belgium stamps and Mr. A. B. Kay a fine selection of his collection of dangerous Forgeries, which were much appreciated. A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminating the evening.

The Annual Balance Sheet will be published after audit in next Report.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

May 14th, 1909.

A Postmaster passing through the parcels room observed that the newest hand only carried one parcel at a time, while his companion, an old man, was carrying his arms full. He called the young man to him and asked: "Jabez, why do you only carry one parcel at a time, while William carries all he can?"

Jabez (who stammers) replied: "Be-be-cause old Will'm be-be-too da-anged idle to-to-go twice."—*St. Martin's le Grand.*

## Well-known Philatelists.

NO. III.—MR. J. A. LEON, B.A.

WELL known to most of the leading philatelists of the day there is but little need to introduce the subject of the present sketch to our London readers. A member of the Herts and City of London Clubs, Mr. Leon has taken an active part in philately during the past few years, while we trust the fact that he has recently joined the Royal Society will encourage him to yet further research.

Like nearly all of our well-known philatelists he first commenced stamp collecting when yet a boy at school. Early in 1869 some kind friend presented him with a fairly good, for those days, collection of stamps; this collection was particularly strong in old German States, with the result that the youthful recipient had, even at that early date, an encouragement to develop those specialistic tastes which developed so strongly in the mature collector.

Needless to say, all the stamps in this old collection were stuck down, while the album itself was in a most dilapidated condition.

The stamps, soon transferred into a new album and added to frequently, remained in Mr. Leon's possession for many years. As an advanced specialist however Mr. Leon did not make his *debut* until quite recently, in fact, only a few years ago, when he was attracted to New Zealand stamps through reading some papers on this country from the pen of that well-known collector, Mr. W. Buckland Edwards. For some time Mr. Leon restricted his collection entirely to used specimens, but finding that used stamps—useful as they are—did not afford him quite enough room for original research he enlarged his collection by admitting blocks, pairs and singles of unused, with the result that in a year or so the used specimens became quite a secondary feature of the collection, while of late, we believe they have been relegated to an album by themselves, leaving the mint copies to excite envy in the breasts of all lovers of recent New Zealand stamps. Those of our readers who are members of the International Philatelic Union had an opportunity of seeing this superb collection of these stamps only a few months ago, as Mr. Leon was good enough to give a display

before that body of collectors as recently as November last.

Like all true philatelists, however, Mr. Leon does not confine his attention to the stamps of one country, which, by the by, is a thing no ardent collector does—unless indeed he is in the transient stage of not knowing whether to collect stamps, match boxes—or tea caddies. At different times the subject of this sketch has been an ardent collector of English, St. Vincent, and other countries—while his present pets—N.Z.'s to wit, have to share the premier honours with the stamps of Egypt and Greece.

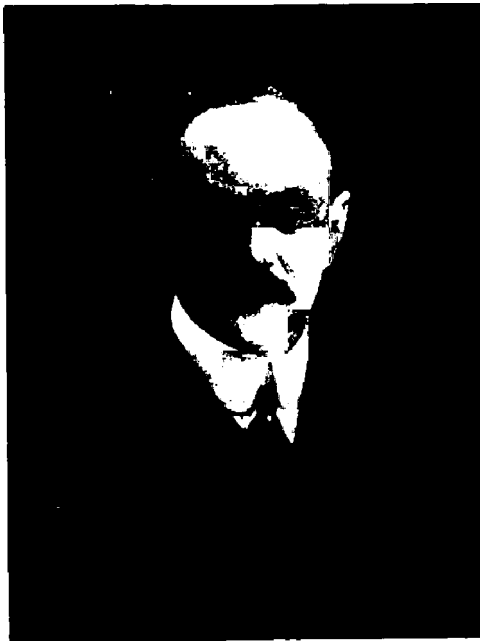
With regard to the collection of British it is interesting to note that, at various times, Mr. Leon has been fortunate enough to discover many of the rare varieties while, in some many thousands of unsorted penny reds, which he purchased from our publishers a year or two ago, he found a great many penny blacks, a number of black St. Vincent's, an "O.P.P.C." error, and a number of other very desirable stamps.

Mr. Leon has, we believe, parted with his general collection, and reserves his energies for the stamps of the countries already mentioned. As, however, he is the father of three very keen young collectors, it is not at all likely that his general interest in our hobby will be allowed to languish.

One of Mr. Leon's earliest recollections of collecting is when he ordered, in 1870 or 1871, a 6d. packet of stamps from Messrs. Stanley

Gibbons. That firm, then trading in Plymouth, sent with the packet an approval sheet of stamps containing some very desirable specimens, and the youthful recipient was much disgusted when he learnt that they had to be returned, and were not sent as a bonus to the purchaser. Mr. Leon was born in Sheffield in 1861 and has had a distinguished College career—leaving St. John's, Cambridge in 1885—with many honours—which were added to during his residence at Strasburg University. An analytical chemist by profession he devotes a good deal of his spare time to the study of the ancient game of chess, while at one time he possessed the finest library of books on the game in the United Kingdom.

Stamps, however, are at present his chief love, a state of affairs which we are sure our readers will join us in hoping will continue for many years.

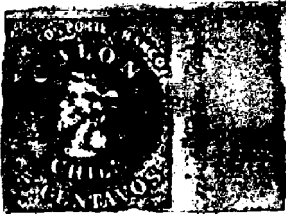


# Adhesive Postage Stamps of Chili.

By J. R. BURTON, F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from page 84.)

THE illustration below depicts the 5c. stamp mentioned last month. The marginal inscription is to be noted, also the postmark—the other important points which cannot be shown under these conditions are the shade which is that of the 1865 printings and the watermark, which is apparently the long-necked one of the same date.



The 20c. green was very well printed, and no mistakes appear to have been made in connection therewith, unless we believe in the specimen of 10c. on the paper watermarked 20, which was sold at auction for £7 a few years ago. This stamp may exist, and may be genuine, but until I have seen it myself and thoroughly examined it, my scepticism will be great.

No other copy has ever turned up and no other stamp of this series has yet been found with a similar error, but immediately after this specimen made its comet-like appearance in the philatelic sky, a number of forged errors said to emanate from Paris, began to be hawked about—5cs. on paper watermarked "1" and so forth.

In this connection I may mention that three years ago, chancing to drop in on one of our most respected dealers, he greeted me with the welcome news that he had a good Chilean for me. Out it came, the 10c. watermarked 20c., as plain as plain could be, measurements all correct and a few drops of benzine showed up nothing wrong; an excess of caution, however, caused us—for my dealer friend's *bonafides* were unquestionable—to give the specimen an extra soaking in benzine, and then as we watched the evaporation very carefully as it drew near the end, up through the 20 watermark popped the normal 10—there it was beneath the other plainly to be seen.

Probably this fake was made by thinning a 10c. stamp down to a mere skin and then taking the face off a 20c., joining the resultant pieces together with some insoluble glue or cement.

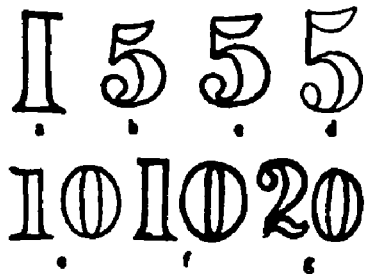
Last month's instalment of this article has brought me some interesting correspondence, the points from which will fall into their proper place if mentioned here.

Mr. F. D. Walters very kindly points out that the length of the country is about 2,800 miles, not 500 only as set out by some absurd oversight. The gold (peso) dollar is now supposed to be worth, not 2s. 1d. but 1s. 6d., and the paper dollar worth about 11d. will buy stamps. New issue buyers, please note!—would that I myself had noted earlier! Though as a matter of fact unless dealing direct with Chili it is more trouble than it is worth to try to take advantage of the fluctuations of the value in currency. Personally, having tried not only Chilean but also other S. American sources for the older issues, my experience is that they are scarcer there than here and command better prices. At this point may be mentioned two other articles on the stamps of Chili—one by Mr. A. H. Harris in Nos. 244 and 245 of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, and the other by Mr. C. A. Howes in Vol. XIX. No. 8 of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*. Neither of these papers embodies results of much original research on the earlier issues, but each contains useful information of the later issues.

Before leaving the Perkins Bacon stamps it will be well to say that the stamps met with on ribbed paper or on paper watermarked with part of the Chilean Arms are supposed to be proofs, no genuinely used specimens having yet been found.

The imperf. stamps are to be met with bisected, the 10c. stamp being not at all rare in this condition. The Government, despite feeble protests from time to time, found it necessary to sanction this procedure.

The watermarks are frequently found reversed and inverted and are here correctly illustrated, only the 1c. being reversed.



(a) Is one of the 1c. watermarks (reversed); (b) Is the first Perkins, Bacon 5c. used for their own first printing and all subsequent local printings until 1865; (c) Is the 5c. watermark used only by Perkins, Bacon in 1855; and (d) The 1865 "long-necked" watermark; (e) Is the first 10c. watermark used by Perkins, Bacon for their first issue and by the Chilian Government for all further local printings; (f) Is the 10c. watermark used only by the London printers in 1861; and (g) Is the watermark of the 20c.



At the end of 1866 the Government abandoned both their own Printing Department and their old contractors, Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., and obtained a supply of stamps from the American Bank Note Co., of New York. They kept on the main features of the old design, but transposed the words Chile and Colon, so that the name of the country appeared *above* the head of Columbus and in larger capitals, as was only fitting. The value in numerals was shown in the two upper corners, and the Chilian Star shone out in the lower angles. The stamps were printed on unwatermarked paper, perforated 12, and the sheets contained 10 rows of 10 stamps each, so that their value worked out in pesos—the old arrangement of 240 to the sheet being more suitable to the English coinage than the decimal system. Blocks of this issue are now getting quite scarce, and it has been really difficult to build up a sheet, but having at length succeeded with the 1c., I can now describe the margins of the sheets, across the middle row of perforations on each side of the sheet are the words reading up on the left and downwards on the right, "American Bank Note Co., New York," in quite small type, half running parallel with the stamp below the centre line and the other half with the one above, working upwards the next stamp has no marginal inscription, but the next two are faced by "Compania Americana de Billets de Banco, Nueva York." The next stamp is the corner one with no marginal inscription. The lower side of the left-hand margin is a replica of the upper. So we get an American (English) inscription in the centre and a Chilian (Spanish) one on each side of it. The right-hand margins repeat the same features, and so do those at top and bottom though it must be noted that the latter reads right way up in looking at the sheet and therefore the top of the lettering is

adjacent to the stamps, the reverse being the case on the other three sides. The bilingual inscriptions are something of a curiosity. The stamps are not supposed to have been issued until 1867, 1c. orange in May; 2c. black, a new value, in the same month; 5c. red in September; 10c. blue in September and 20c. green in July, but I have a specimen of the 5c. clearly dated November 4th, 1866. The postmark *may* have remained unaltered for a month or two but it doesn't *look* it. The stamps remained in use for ten years but showed no sign of wear on the plates and little variation in shade, a creditable achievement on the part of the printers. They were largely used for fiscal purposes and are quite scarce nicely postmarked. The American Bank Note Co. appear to have sent out a lot of obliterating dies similar to those in use at that period in the United States, which, with the exception of one or two showing large numerals between thick horizontal bars, arranged in oval pattern and one or two heavy but not inelegant Kaleidoscopic patterns produced results about as good as a cut cork would give, and as artistic as a babe's efforts with a blacking brush; to turn from a stamp "corked" like a nigger minstrel or spotted like a Dalmatian hound to one with Perkins, Bacon's old concentric circles or neat "cancelled" or "inutil" is a treat indeed, and a stamp with a proper postmark with town-name and date is scarcest of all, worth several times as much as its defaced brothers. Collectors must be warned that fiscally used copies of these stamps have been cleaned, gummed and sold as unused, but the paper is bleached in the process and the gum is thin and pallid, not at all of "that fine old body and rich sherry colour, like a fine old vintage of a lovely sun-kissed wine," as a poetical but bibulous enthusiast has described it. At last, in 1874,



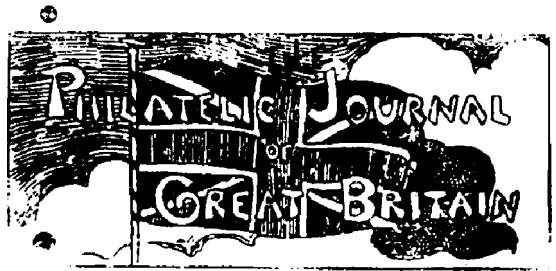
a radical departure was made in the type of stamp. Fancy the philatelic purity of a State whose stamps of 24 years can be only stretched out by "Gibbons" into 34 varieties! The American Bank Note Co. again secured the contract and produced a handsome and useable stamp, very nicely engraved, with the portrait of Columbus, reduced to a minimum and the design dominated by good fat figures of value. The stamps were arranged in sheets of 100, consisting of 10 rows of 10 stamps each, with marginal inscriptions arranged as follows:—Above the 3rd and 4th stamps in

top row and also above the 8th and 9th were the words "American Bank Note Co. New York." These were repeated in similar positions on each side margin and along the bottom of the sheet also, the Chilian inscription being abandoned.

The issue was rouletted 8½ and consisted of 1c. grey-black, 2c. orange, 5c. lake, 10c. blue and 20c. green, followed in 1878 with a new value, viz., 50c. lilac which differed from the others in that it had the word "Centavos" in a label *beneath* the numerals instead of running across them, a change which made for clearness and was eventually carried out in the whole set.

We now reach the period of the War with Peru, and I propose to treat of the War stamps here, though in "Gibbons" they are put under the heading of "Peru," a classification which is difficult to follow, inasmuch as most of the stamps were Chilian, the revenue from their sale accrued to Chili and of the districts in which they were used in any quantity most became Chilian territory, never being handed back to their erstwhile proprietors, Peru and Bolivia. With the mention of the last named country we touch a point hitherto, so far as my knowledge goes, un-noted by Philatelists, namely, that the War in the first place was really with Bolivia. Believing that the history connected with stamp collecting is one of its chief charms; a short *resumé* of the principal events of the war may be here ventured upon, especially as we are now touching a field in which for small outlay a painstaking person may enjoy a good hunt and possibly bag some big game. To us these South American wars contain a good deal of the humorous not to say comic opera element, but to many of the participants they were real and painful enough and whilst we cannot resist a laugh at some of the happenings, yet we shall see deeds worthy of British Tars and battles as sanguinary as any of those in South Africa. Amongst combatants who stuck to their country *nearly* to the last and as much of its cash thereafter as they could cram into a portmanteau, were to be found real patriots who would try to manœuvre a heap of scrap iron under the impression that it was a battleship, and soldiers who, having fired off all their ammunition at the place where they thought the enemy might be, would have hurled their boots at it, *if they had had any!*

(To be continued.)



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## Amsterdam Exhibition.

ALL the arrangements for the International Philatelic Exhibition to be held in the Bellevue Building, Leidschekade, Amsterdam, from June 3rd to 10th, have now been completed. Visitors from England are invited, and those of our readers who can spare time to visit Holland are sure to meet a number of English speaking collectors. The journey is not an expensive one, neither need it occupy much time, as there is an excellent service of trains and boats between London and the Dutch capital.

## Current Chatter.

By ANGUS MCTAVISH.

By Jove! the Editor of the *Australian Philatelist* knows a thing or two. In reviewing Part II. of the new S.G. Catalogue, he says: "Some prices are raised, some reduced, and some are omitted altogether." My oath! My Colonial oath! It only now remains for an Antipodean Sherlock to discover that some prices remain the same.

In the same number an unworthy New Zealand worm is hauled over the coals because he has dared to inform a London paper (not *this* miserable rag) that N.Z. "cut outs" can be used as adhesives, without immediately wiring to inform the Editor of the *A.P.* that they could be so used.

The miserable New Zealand nocturnal crawler is evidently responsible for his brother members of the N.Z. Philatelic Society, because we read:

"Have the members of the New Zealand Philatelic Society forgotten that our journal is their official organ, and is posted to them every week. It would appear so, from the fact that we have not been acquainted with the new departure above referred to."

Dear me, *how* awful. If such a creeping caterpillar, as McTavish, might venture to obtrude a miserable and unworthy suggestion, he thinks that instead of sending the official organ every *week*, it should be sent every *day*, especially as the "organ" is published monthly.

The venturesome and conversational slug called McTavish, unworthy blob that he is, also humbly prostrates himself and begs that the N.Z. Society may be allowed to exist.

Writing of existing, reminds me that when my turn comes to pass in the final cheque, I sincerely trust that some writers in the philatelic press won't refer to me (granted of course that I ever reach the pinnacle of worthiness) as "my dear friend," or employ any of the many unctuous terms that have lately been so lavishly bestowed on the memory of a well-known collector.

The knowledge that I might be referred to as "Tavy," or "Mac," or "my dear co-worker," by some budding pen wobbler, whom I had probably never met, would embitter my last moments. At any rate, I promise to haunt transgressors.

The following pretty little story is culled from the *Evening Standard*, of April 26th:

### "DISHONEST AUTOMATIC MACHINE.

"A temporary aberration on the part of one of the automatic machines for the supply of stamps at Mayence a few mornings ago cost the post office a large sum. The machine was surrounded by people, and there seemed to be an exceptional demand for ten-pfennig (one penny) stamps. After the machine had been refilled several times the officials became

curious, and made an investigation. It was found that for every coin inserted it gave out two stamps instead of one. The money was quickly counted, and when the accounts were balanced it was found that the leakage in the machine had cost about £200."

Having reckoned up that to defraud the Post Office of £200 the machine would have to give 96,000 stamps, I have decided to award this story a small ginger nut.

Just recently postmarks have certainly been boomed, especially in our friend, *G.S.W.*; perhaps that is why the publishers of that journal value No. 4 on page 54 of the new Part I. so highly—price last year 15/- now catalogued £150. P.S.—Please note that our publishers' 40/6 packets of rare stamps now contain stamps catalogued over £152!

I knew there would be trouble over that sale of Turkish remainders. It has come, poor old Abdul-the-naughty, has to live the simple life, and we are threatened with a new issue (of stamps). As the youthful Turks are likely to be hard up, I would suggest that, instead of resorting to the Bosphorus sack trick, or to the bowstringing method (both of which would be extremely hurtful to the ex-Sultan's feelings), they should hire him out to the dealer, or dealers who purchased the remainder of Turkish stamps. Fancy, what a draw it would be to advertise "Abdul's mixture, guaranteed 5/- a hundred," or something of that sort. Restaurant people sometimes keep a tame Indian chef on the premises, why shouldn't stamp dealers run to an odd—out of stock—not-wanted Sultan or two?

Talking of Abdul, reminds me that a writer in *Punch* says that the latest rumour about Abdul Hamid is to the effect that he wrote to Queen Wilhelmina of Holland, asking whether, in the event of her hopes not being fulfilled, she would care to adopt him. If I had known Abdul had been up to that dodge, I wouldn't have written to Her Majesty. Fancy if she had adopted both of us, as twins!

Dealers are, so says one collector, "necessary evils, but they come in useful to exchange and sell duplicates to." Quite right, Collector, dealers by rights should pay a heavy poll tax. If you want a little amusement, go and watch them buying in their own lots at auction. It's great fun.

I hear that the Annual chow time of the Herts was an immense success, but could it have been anything else under such capable management, I trow not. I am told, however, that several guests paid their hosts the compliment of turning up in boating flannels, or slumber suits, or something of that sort. Surely such an entertainment was worth the trouble of dressing for?

In the *Stamp Lover* for May, the following cheap sneer is to be found, "One of the subjects 'talked' out at the recent alleged British Congress was the provisosal of a Philatelic

Encyclopædia," not bad for the official organ of the J.P.S., but *what* is a provisal?—perhaps a new kind of potted milk for sucklings.

## Death of Mr. C. S. J. Crofton.

It is with sincere regret that we have to announce the sudden death of Mr. C. S. J. Crofton. Well known as a philatelic writer, his loss will be a great blow to philately. The following particulars are from the May 15th number of *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* :—

"Mr. Crofton was the only son of the late Major Crofton, R.A., and was in the Indian Civil Service. At the time of his death he was magistrate and collector of Ahmednagar and was only thirty-six years old.

"As a philatelist he is well known to many of my readers. He was a joint author, with Messrs. Stewart, Wilson, and Hausburg, of the monumental handbook on the Stamps of India, the portions dealing with Telegraph stamps being chiefly written by him."

## £25 Reward.

THE Berlin Police give notice of the theft of a collection containing between eleven and twelve thousand stamps, which belongs to a Berlin collector. It is mounted in a Schaubek Album. Europe is described as being complete, and of other countries the following are most strongly represented :—Argentine, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Brazil, United States, Hayti, Chili, Newfoundland, New Brunswick. The owner offers the above reward to any one giving information which will lead to the recovery of the collection. Communications should be addressed to the Chief of Police, Berlin.

## The 100 Rarest Stamps.

LATEST COMPILATION, BY A FRENCHMAN.

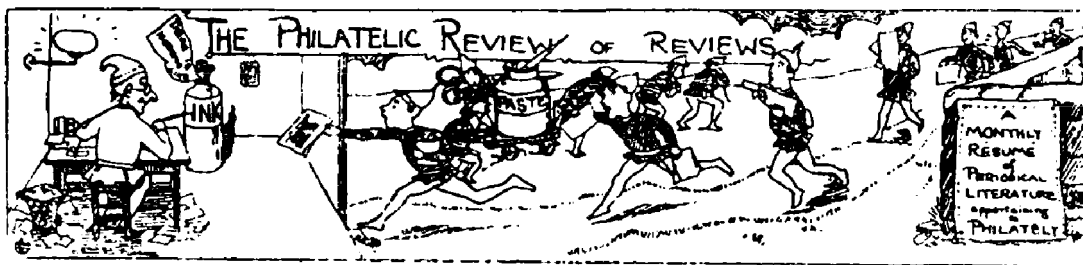
The February number of the *Timbre-Poste*, the new French monthly, contains a list, drawn up by M. Victor Flandrin, a well known writer on philately, of the hundred rarest stamps of the world. Similar lists have been drawn up before in this country, more than once, but nothing of the kind has been attempted of late years, and possibly readers of the *Ph. J. of G. B.* will be interested in reading the latest list. It will be seen that the same stamp is treated as two, according as to whether it is used or unused. The list starts, of course, with the 1c. 1856, British

Guiana, of which only one copy is known; this is followed by the 2c. Hawaii, first issue, of which no more than ten are known. Then come the two Mauritius "POST OFFICE" which are represented by twenty-four specimens known, and four or five whose existence is suspected.

- 1—British Guiana, 1856, 1c. black on red, used
- 2—Hawaii, 1851, 2c. blue, used
- 3—Mauritius, 1847, 2d. blue, unused or used
- 4—" " " 1d. red
- 5—British Guiana, 1850, 2c. "black on rose, unused
- 6—Tuscany, 1860, 3 lire, yellow, unused
- 7—Moldavia, 1858, 81 paras, black on blue, unused
- 8—Ceylon, 1857, 4d. rose, unused
- 9—Moldavia, 1858, 81 paras, black on blue, unused
- 10—Ceylon, 1857, 8d. brown, unused
- 11—Hawaii, 1851, 5c. blue, used
- 12—Newfoundland, 1857, 1/- orange, used
- 13—Tuscany, 1860, 3 lire, yellow, used
- 14—Hawaii, 1851, 13c. blue, used
- 15—Austria, 1851, Mercury, red, used
- 16—Canada, 1851, 12d. black, unused
- 17—Spain, 1854, 1 real, blue, unused
- 18—British Guiana, 1856, 4c. black on blue, used
- 19—Hawaii, 1852, 13c. blue, used
- 20—Canada, 1851, 12d. black, used
- 21—Reunion, 1852, 15c. black on azure, unused
- 22—Vaud, 1849, 4c. black and red, unused
- 23—Cape of Good Hope, 1861, 1d. blue, error, used
- 24—Reunion, 1852, 30c. black on azure, unused
- 25—Cape of Good Hope, 1861, 4d. red, error, used
- 26—British Guiana, 1850, 4c. black on yellow, used
- 27—Newfoundland, 1860, 1/- vermilion, unused
- 28—Reunion, 1852, 15c. black on azure, used
- 29—British Guiana, 1850, 8c. black on azure, used
- 30—Reunion, 1852, 30c. black on azure, used
- 31—Portugal, 1853, 100 reis, lilac, unused
- 32—Geneva, 1843, 5+5c. black on green, unused
- 33—Newfoundland, 1857, 1/- orange, used
- 34—Switzerland, 1850, 2½ rappen, black and red, unused
- 35—New Brunswick, 1851, 1/- violet, unused
- 36—Spain, 1851, 2 reales, red, unused
- 37—Austria, 1851, Mercury, red, unused
- 38—Brunswick, 1852, 1 sbgr, unused
- 39—Queensland, 1860, 2d. blue, unused
- 40—Ceylon, 1857, 9d. brown-lilac, unused
- 41—United States, 1873, \$5 green and black, unused
- 42—Cape of Good Hope, 1861, 1d. blue, wood-block, unused
- 43—Ceylon, 1857, 2/- blue, unused
- 44—Gt. Britain, 1878, £1 violet, unused
- 45—Mauritius, 1859, 2d. blue, unused
- 46—Natal, 1857, 9d. blue, used
- 47—Nova Scotia, 1851, 1/- violet, unused
- 48—Moldavia, 1858, 27 paras, black on rose, unused
- 49—Zurich, 1843, 4 rappen, black, vertical lines, unused
- 50—Newfoundland, 1850, 1/- vermilion, used
- 51—Uruguay, 1851, 180 cent red (error), unused

(To be continued).





MAY 20, 1909.

## Philately at Home.

The April number of the *Philatelic Record* contains several important contributions. Dr. Marx, in a short paper entitled "The Supposed Reprints of German Colonials," says, regarding German Colonials stamps:—

Their stamp issues are controlled from Berlin, and are, with very few exceptions, the genuine unspeculative article. In fact, Germany can be held up as a model in this respect to some other great Powers. The first issues, the surcharged Eagle type, were on sale only at the local post offices in the respective colonies, but as the German Government was aware that the majority of the stamps were purchased by stamp dealers and collectors, it very wisely decided to sell the following issues at one of the post offices in Berlin at face value.

So far, so good. When the new issues appeared, everybody, of course, hastened to lay in a stock of the old ones unused.

Dr. Marx goes on to explain that owing to a number of the scarce early Marshall Island stamps and others that came on the market, it was said that many of these stamps had been officially overprinted. After an extensive enquiry, it was decided to write to the Post Office Department with the result that the information was gained that no stamps of any issue of a German Colony had been printed subsequent to the appearance of the next issue. The following extract from Dr. Marx's article explains, however, why there are comparatively so many of these early stamps:—

It was ascertained at the same time that besides the stamps sent out to the Colonies and those deposited at Berne, a number of sets had been kept at Berlin and handed over to the Postal Museum for purposes of exchange. Now, whatever may be thought of this practice, however much we may regret it as philatelists, it cannot possibly affect the status of the stamps as originals.

A question of more importance is how many sets of stamps were printed "to oblige" the Postal Museum. As to this, we are now happily informed, after the wildest guesses, varying from between 12,000 and 50,000 sets, had gained currency. It appears that the number was uniformly 5,000 sets in the case of those Colonial stamps which have formed the subject of the

dispute, and though this number is somewhat inconvenient for holders of stamps supposed to exist only in hundreds, it is not sufficiently high to depress the price very much, except, of course, in the case of the supposed varieties.

We are not very clear as to what particular stamps are likely to be affected by these "Museum" remainders. In our opinion, however, it is a great pity that the German P.O. Officials should have allowed so many of the early stamps to go to the "Museum," from whence it appears they went, in "exchange," to a well-known German dealer's stock books!

Mr. E. D. Bacon contributes a few notes relating to the superb collection formed by the late M. Mirabaud. Special attention is paid to the Japanese stamps and a list given of the entire sheets; we also learn that these stamps have been disposed of to a collector in their entirety and not broken up, as were so many of M. Mirabaud's countries.

Mr. B. T. K. Smith is responsible for a paper entitled "The Postage Stamps of the Virgin Islands." This article, dealing as it mostly does with the meaning of the designs pictured on the early stamps, does not add to our philatelic knowledge of these stamps. Mr. Smith also lists the different consignments, and their dates, of stamps sent out from London. This list, taken from the *West Indies Handbook*, deals only with stamps delivered between the years 1866 and 1876.

Mr. Fulcher concludes his article entitled "Papers for Philatelic Students," dealing with the stamps of Turkey. A first long instalment, dealing with some of the Cantonal stamps, of Mr. Ernst Zumstein's monumental "Handbook of the Postage Stamps of Switzerland"; a brief review of the world's philatelic press, "Notes and News," other philatelic matter, and an eight page supplement, makes the April number of our contemporary one of the best, if not the best,

number of any paper devoted to the interests of philatelists that has yet left the philatelic press.

The April number of the *London Philatelist* does not contain very much to interest the general collector. The Earl of Crawford is responsible for some notes relating to a new essay for the 1d. stamp of Great Britain 1839-40. This essay—evidently of great rarity is of much interest as it appears to be a link between the first rejected essay for the 1d. stamp and the blurred state of the die which was engraved by Mr. Heath. This essay has small capital letters engraved in the centres of of the corner octagonal stars.

Mr. Castle contributes a short editorial dealing with the recent offer made by the Austrian Government to sell, both wholesale and retail, a big parcel of remainders. Mr. F. H. Melland concludes his paper entitled "Notes on the Issues of the Stamps of the British South Africa Co." The instalment deals with half-a-dozen or so official notices, mostly relating to the charges on parcels, postcards, etc., and does not provide reading of much value or interest.

The other pages of our contemporary are devoted to a report of the recently held Newcastle Exhibition, some Occasional Notes, an account of the "Alleged Stamp Forgeries" case, an obituary notice of the late Mr. Nankivell, a New Issue list, Societies Reports, and a *resumé* of recent auction prices.

The April and May numbers of the *Monthly Report* of the Herts Philatelic Society both contain some interesting articles. In the latter number we find two capital papers entitled respectively "Notes on the Perforations of the Stamps of Holland," and "Notes on the Postage Due Stamps of Holland," being a *resumé* of the papers read by Mr. A. J. Warren before the H.P.S. on March 16th. Mr. C. C. Tait, another Herts member, contributes a short article "What to Collect," wherein he advocates the general collecting of stamps, or at least a large group of countries with the proviso that it is wise to specialise, to a certain extent, in a smaller group. Mr. F. H. Melland contributes a few notes relating to uncatalogued varieties, mostly South African war issues. Mr. R. Frenzel continues his series of "Notes on Unpublished Varieties of the Postage Stamps of

Mexico until 1885." Mr. F. Reichenheim publishes a letter from M. A. Maury relating to the article on the "Susse" perforations that appeared in the *M.R.* for January last. It appears that the "Susse" machine, which was sold by the inventors to M. A. Maury is still in existence in an undamaged condition.

M. Maury's letter and Mr. Reichenheim's reply are of considerable interest.

We shall very much miss the *Monthly Report* during the summer months, but must console ourselves with the reflections that the first number of the third volume, which no doubt will appear early next October will be sure to contain a number of important and interesting articles.

All the copies of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* before us contain most excellent reading. In the copy dated April 24th, Major Evan's number, we find a *resumé* of the whole of the recent "Cayman Island scandal" from the Major's pen, a long instalment of "Notes on Great Britain" by the late Thomas Peacock, a further instalment of M. L. Hanciau's monumental work dealing with the Stamps of Denmark and Colonies, and a couple of pages of Major Evan's "Philatelic Notes and Queries." The supplement (eight pages) contains a long instalment of "The Postmarks of the British Isles from 1840" and forms a most interesting and exceedingly readable feature.

The copy dated May 1st contains a further instalment of Mr. Barnsdall's truly voluminous article dealing with the countries of the world. Guatemala is dealt with, mostly from an historical point of view. The following extract has more of a philatelic flavour, and is of general interest.

Guatemala has always been a favourite country with the young collector, and few stamps are better known or more popular than the "parrots" of this Republic.

Though tainted somewhat with unnecessary issues, Guatemala has not been so great a sinner in this respect as some of the other Central and South American States. Its postal authorities were not participators in the Seebeck scheme, though the 1886 issue was a precursor of the system.

Provisionals figure largely in the lists, and fiscals have been pressed into postal service; but seeing that nearly all the stamps have been the work of the American Bank Note Co. or Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, they are mainly attractive. Another reason of this popularity amongst general collectors is the philatelic simplicity and cheapness of the stamps.

Guatemala was the last of the five Central American States to have postage stamps. In the latter part of 1866 it was announced that this country had decided to issue postage stamps, and that orders had been given to M. Hulot, the manufacturer of the French stamps, to prepare essays. Towards the end of 1867

M. Hulot furnished his samples, but it was not until 1870 that the Government decided upon a definite issue. This long delay suggested to some fertile brain a bogus stamp of attractive design (showing a ship and rocky coast), which for some time had a vogue, but which now is seldom met with. The decree authorizing the first issue was dated December 27, 1871, and signed by President Vicente Cerna.

M. Ch. De Bont contributes a further instalment of his masterly article dealing with the Postage Stamps of Belgium. Mr. W. N. Wyeth is responsible for a few notes relating to Indian stamps used abroad. The following is the list given of Post-Offices outside of British India that use Indian stamps.

Name of Post Office.	Countries in which they are situated.
ADEN .. ..	Arabia
MUSCAT .. ..	"
BAGDAD .. ..	Turkish Arabia
BASRA or BUSSRAH	"
BAHREIN .. ..	On all islands on the Arabian coast
BENDAR ABAS ..	Persia
BUSHIRE .. ..	"
JASK .. ..	"
GUADUR .. ..	"
LINGA .. ..	"
MOHAMMERAH ..	"
PASUJ .. ..	Mekran coast of Baluchistan

Some "Foreign Notes," the usual excellent New Issue list, a long account of the recent Bow Street proceedings and a reprinted article from *St. Martin's le Grand* complete an excellent "contents bill."

In the May 8th number we find the principal contents consist of a continuation of Mr. Barnsdall's article dealing with the stamps of Guatemala, a further continuation of M. Ch. De Bont's paper dealing with the stamps of Belgium, and the first instalment of an article dealing with Chili stamps, contributed by Mr. M. C. Symes. This last article does not appear to contain much, if any information that is of an original nature, but it will undoubtedly be read with interest by many collectors, if only for the fact that the writer pleads eloquently on behalf of the charms the old Chilean stamps possess.

The April number of the *Philatelic Adviser* contains a second instalment of Mr. F. H. Oliver's paper dealing with "The Stamps of Heligoland." Mr. Oliver is an authority on these difficult stamps, and the following extract from his article should be of interest. The pages referred to apply to the sheets on which these stamps were mounted when shown before a recent J.P.S. meeting.

We commence with the issue of 1867-8, which consists of four stamps, the ½, 1, 2 and 6 schilling, all plain rouletted, the first-named value being in two types, the second type of which not appearing until 1868. The first type is with narrow chignon and curl, the second type with wide chignon and lock of hair. I have seen various explanations of the reason why the second printing of the ½ schilling was in another type, the one most generally put forward being that in the first type the medallion containing the head did not properly fit into the space intended for it; this explanation is incorrect, because if the two printings of the stamp had been in perfect register the medallion would have fitted to a nicety, as will be seen by examining the specimens I now show; therefore the real explanation still remains a mystery.

Both types of the ½ schilling have the frame and medallion in blue green. There are no reprints of Type I., and the reprints of Type II. are all in various shades of yellow green, which I show on page 2, the most dangerous of which is the first stamp, which in artificial light appears to be of a bluish green. Of Type II. only 10,000 specimens were printed, and as collectors did not then rush for new issues like they now do, we can safely reckon that the majority of these stamps have been destroyed. It is the rarest Heligoland stamp.

On page 3 we find the 1 schilling value, to distinguish which from the reprints there is an easy test. The originals have the narrow chignon and curl, and the "O" in Heligoland is narrow. The reprints have the wide chignon and lock of hair of Type II. of the ½ schilling, and the "O" in Heligoland is rounder. As these so-called reprints were not made from the original plates, but from the plates used for the issue of November 1, 1871, I consider them to be absolute forgeries, although manufactured by the same printers, and with the connivance of the authorities.

On page 4 we find the 2 schilling value, originals of which are always with the centre in yellow-green of varying shades, while the reprints are mostly in green or blue-green. There are several varieties of this stamp in which slight differences appear in the numerals, one of which may be seen on this page.

On page 5, however, I show a complete sheet of this stamp in which occurs a very prominent variety. It is, reading from the left, the first stamp on the sheet, and it not only has the upper left numeral "2" of a different shape to the normal, but the "SCH" of schilling is in considerably taller lettering than in any other stamp of the fifty of which the sheet is composed. You will also notice that the border line at the upper left corner is bent. My opinion is that this particular corner block suffered damage, possibly was battered by the compositor's mallet, or some such accident, and instead of taking a new electro from the original die, metal was run on to the damaged corner, and it was re-cut by hand, thus accounting for the differences.

On page 6 you will find various reprints of this value, including some specimens with perforations, in which condition they do not exist as originals.

On page 7 is the 6 schilling value, originals of which always have the frame in a yellowish green of varying depth, whereas reprints are generally green or blue green.

Some of the paper upon which reprints of the 2 schilling and 6 schilling are printed is practically the same as that used for the originals. Colour is the only test.

Mr. Oliver goes on to describe the perforated stamps, but, as we have already made such a lengthy extract we must refer our readers, who are interested in Heligoland stamps, to the April number of our contemporary for further details of Mr. Oliver's article.

A very good "New Issue" list, a prospectus of the forthcoming Amsterdam Exhibition, a lengthy report of the recent Bow Street proceedings against two stamp dealers and some Editorial notes complete the main features of our contemporary.

The April number of the *Philatelic World* contains a miscellaneous amount of philatelic matter, mostly of a "scrappy" but interesting nature.

Mr. Séfi contributes a very short instalment of his excellent paper dealing with the "silk thread issues of Switzerland."

The current chapter deals with three more flaws, apparently constant, that are to be found on these stamps.

Mr. A. H. Harris contributes a short paper entitled "Is Finality a Desideratum"; a very short instalment of Capt. Ohrt's Handbook of Reprints, dealing with the early Argentine Stamps, completes the list of what we may call the "star turns" of our contemporary. The other features, namely a list of the newly issued Rhodesian and Liberian stamps; a translated article dealing with the Departmental Stamps of the U.S.A.; a report of the alleged Forgery Case, and some interesting notes on current topics all more or less "fill ups."

Recent numbers of the *Postage Stamp* have all shown evidence of their new Editor's versatility. It is true we miss very much the late Mr. Nankivell's master touch, but *le Roi est mort, vive le Roi!* The number of our contemporary dated May 1st contains some very readable matter. Cornelius Wrinkle, or rather C. W.'s Ghost, discourses in an interesting manner on various subjects, notably the forthcoming side show of U.S.A. stamps at Earls Court. There is a second notice of the new, Part I., S.G. Catalogue, dealing with the countries British Columbia to Ceylon, this feature will be of value when completed as it will enable the specialist to see at a glance what alterations have taken place in the prices of his favourite stamps.

Mr. Poole peaceably pegs away at his Philatelic Dictionary. Mr. Melville contributes a capital short article dealing with the 1886-87 embossed issue of Gambia. This paper embodies information already published in the latest of Mr. Melville's little handbooks, and should draw the attention of the readers of the *Postage*

*Stamp* to the excellent handbook in question. The first instalment of a capital article contributed by Mr. F. E. Wilson, dealing with the Sunday Label Stamps of Belgium; a new issue list and a reprinted article from the Year Book of the American Philatelic Society, complete the principal contents of our go ahead weekly.

The May number of the *Stamp Lover* contains the final instalment of Mr. L. W. Crouch's capital article dealing with the Postage Stamps and Cards of Hayti, and the conclusion of Mr. Melville's article entitled "The Penny Post of 1680." The rest of the Journal is filled with J.P.S. notices, correspondence and other matter, much of which, with one noticeable exception, is not particularly interesting. The exception is a very well written letter contributed by Mr. A. H. Dingwall, in the course of which he points out the error of rabid new issue collecting, a pastime many immature collectors indulge in.

The following extracts from Mr. Dingwall's letter leave us in no doubt regarding the views held by that gentleman.

And first I would make a most earnest appeal to those collectors who follow, or rather anticipate, his advice by going in for new stamps so soon as ever they are issued. Sooner or later such a system must inevitably perish from congestion, for so long as foreign countries, and our own Colonies as well, can see a chance of exchanging 5/- worth of paper for £50 in British sovereigns, so long will the temptation to do so be irresistible, and the overburdened collector must in the long run, be overwhelmed by the magnitude of his self-imposed task.

And to my mind there is one fatal objection to Messrs. Care & Co.'s method, which is, that there can be no finality about it.

After bringing some forcible arguments to bear, Mr. Dingwall says:—

A few words more and I leave this subject, which is really a most important one to collectors, and first I would ask Mr. Care's followers why it is, if his scheme be so attractive (and is there anybody who would not like to make money?) that it has failed to win the adherence of any of the older class of philatelists, who are quietly absorbing all the really good old stamps, whilst eager juniors are awaiting the rise in the price lists published entirely for their satisfaction and patronage?

Collectors are odd people, to be sure; they cry out when they have bought Egyptian scarabs in Cairo, ancient silver shekels in Hebron, prehistoric lingams in Benares, etc., and then find the mark of an English manufacturer upon them, but they take their stamp "curios" made to order quite meekly, with only an occasional wail as to the flood of unwanted things they are asked to absorb, and personally, I am filled with astonishment when I see letters addressed to philatelic editors asking for help against the bombardment of useless surcharges and the attacks of innumerable central American issues, and such like tropical bacilli, when all the time the remedy is in their own hands.

## Philately on the Continent.

In the course of an article on the bisected provisionals of the Roman States the *Echo de la Timbrologie* tells us that, from the first, the use of a half, or of a third, or even of a quarter of a stamp was permitted in cases when the value to be thus made was not available. The office which made the most use of this privilege was that of Bologna, especially in July, 1859, a period when the difficulty of maintaining communications with Rome made it impossible to replenish stocks. To frank a letter from Bologna to Florence (postage 5 baj.) two sorts of combinations were used, for example, the halves of 7 and 3 baj. or the half of an 8 baj. and an entire 1 baj. The rarest of these provisionals are stated to be the halves of 7 baj., the thirds of 6 baj., the two-thirds of 3 baj., the quarters of 4 baj., and the halves of ½ baj.

"This last," added the writer, "to my knowledge was only used by a newspaper published at Rome, called 'The Album,' to which was accorded this special favour of reduced postage. I have only seen two of these fractions obliterated with a date stamp; all the others were obliterated by a pen, which, for a stamp of this sort is not a sufficient guarantee of authenticity. It happened that some offices made a charge on the newspapers which came to them thus franked with a half of a ½ baj. but were called to order by the authorities in Rome who reminded them of the special concession made to 'The Album.'"

*L'Echo* gives, in the same number, a list of some of the principal prices paid at the first sale of the Mirabaud collection. The following may prove of interest to our readers:—

FRANCE, 1849, 15c. green, mint .. ..	fr.	159.50
" " 15c. .. block of four .. ..		935.—
" " 20c. black, tête-bêche, in mint block of four .. ..		203.—
" " 40c. orange, variety figure "4" retouched, mint .. ..		935.—
" " 1fr. carmine, mint block of four .. ..		550.—
" " Reprint of 40c. orange, a strip of five of which two stamps showed the retouched "4" .. ..		335.—
" " 15c. green, with grill postmark in red .. ..		154.—
" " ditto, with grill postmark in blue, a little cut into .. ..		115.50
" " 1fr. bright vermilion, used on piece (catalogued f.300) .. ..		412.50
" " 1fr. carmine; tête-bêche .. ..		605.—
" " 1852, 10c. bistre, mint .. ..		132.—
" " 1853-60, 25c. blue. Sheet of 300 without gum .. ..		3,300.—
" " 40c. orange, half sheet of 150, without gum .. ..		3,146.—
" " 80c. carmine, half sheet of 150, without gum .. ..		3,322.—
" " 1853-60, 1fr. carmine, reprint, tête-bêche, in block of four .. ..		803.—
" " 1863-71, 5fr. grey-lilac, entire sheet of 75 .. ..		5,060.—
" " 1870, Bordeaux, 40c. blood-red, mint superb .. ..		181.50

FRANCE, 1870, ditto, 80c. used, with "88" at left .. ..		99.—
" " ditto, 20c., very bright ultramarine, used pair with slight tear .. ..		385.—
MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN ½s. rouletted, mint .. ..		360.80
PRUSSIA, 1856, 2s. blue, mint .. ..		385.—
WURTEMBERG, 1851, 3k. orange, mint .. ..		594.—
" " 9k. rose .. ..		287.50
" " 1873, 70kr., entire sheet of six .. ..		1001.—
NAPLES, ½t. blue, Trinacria, mint .. ..		1705.—
" " ½t. " Cross .. ..		726.—
" " ½t. " .. used pair .. ..		451.—
" " Prov. Govt., 50c. pale grey, pair used on entire .. ..		682.—
TUSCANY, 2 soldi, mint .. ..		990.—
" " 60 crazie .. ..		1023.—
" " 3 lire, unused .. ..		4950.—
" " 3 lire, used, slightly cut into at left .. ..		1155.—
ROUMANIA, 27p. used .. ..		1078.—
" " 54p. .. ..		338.50
" " 81p. unused .. ..		6380.—
" " 108p. used .. ..		1001.—
" " 1858, 5p. black on bluish pelure .. ..		1760.—

Very many of the prices noted above are considerably more than catalogue quotations and prove that stamps in very fine condition must prove a good investment.

The April number of *Der Philatelist* contains a most interesting chatty article by Dr. Moschkau, in which he reviews current philatelic events from Dan to Beersheba; among other things he breaks a lance for entires and cut squares.

The same number contains an article by Herr Hugo Hartmann on the best way of beginning a specialised collection of Montenegro. The author explains he has already rearranged his own collection of over 15,000 stamps six times, and seems to have arrived at a satisfactory system of classification. We translate the following from it as it applies to specialism generally. "A specialised collection run on intelligent lines requires good eyesight, a good memory, and a sense of form and colour, but it also awakens these qualities. *Avoid the accumulation of unnecessary ballast* [the italics are ours.—Ed., P.J.G.B.] as this interferes with a general survey of the collection, and thereby causes the interest in it to wane."

The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* continues Herr Kröger's interesting article on German Colonial cancellations.

We have been eagerly looking forward to hear our contemporary's views on the proposed standard catalogue, but it has so far maintained a tantalising silence on this question. Are Messrs. Senf going to take it lying down?

*Per contra* the *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* has a long article about it, and gives the views of numerous German philatelists, who express divers opinions; to our surprise Herr Kosack takes up the cudgels for Gebr. Senf, after so frequently wielding them against the firm.

The double number brings sundry readable articles, among which we should like specially to mention Rektor Ommerborn's delightful study of the 1859 issue of Hanover.

The March and April numbers of the *Nordisk Filatelisk Tidsskrift* contain the beginnings of an index of articles which appeared in philatelic periodicals during the year 1908. This index, which is arranged in alphabetical order of countries, is of distinct value, but it is a pity that the author, Mr. Nils Strandell, has not included the *Revista de la Sociedad Filatélica Argentina* among the journals indexed; this periodical frequently contains articles of the greatest merit, and it certainly deserves to be included in his list next year.

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The April number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* contains two or three very readable articles. One in particular, dealing with the "Standardisation of Colonial Stamps," is most interesting and instructive, shewing, as it does, the various affinities the De La Rue stamps of thirty years ago had. The concluding paragraph, which we reproduce, leads us to anticipate a further interesting article:

By the end of 1883, the only unstandardised De La Rue Colonies were Gambia, St. Vincent,

St. Helena, and Western Australia, for we are not prepared to admit that Labuan was a De La Rue colony at all. In a future article we may attempt to discuss the far more difficult subject of the standardisation of De La Rue's large-sized Colonial stamps.

A paper entitled "Major and Minor Varieties," an article on Poonch stamps, some notes dealing with the 1888 issue of British Guiana, are all of interest.

A *resumé* of the past year's work of the Philatelic Society of India takes the place of an editorial. We are told that the Society spent last year nearly 200 rupees more on the library and over a 1000 rupees on handbooks, which amounts, by the bye, in our opinion, are not at all exorbitant. The subscription list for Indian members remained the same, while there was a small increase in foreign subscriptions.

We also learn that Mr. Wetherell is again going to edit the *P.J. of I.*, news, which if it did not mean the losing of Mr. Crofton, would be very acceptable. We must seek consolation, if indeed any be needed, in the knowledge that our old friend "Tancred" will probably help Mr. Wetherell to fill the editorial chair.

## Income and Expenditure Account of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society's Exhibition.

HELD 18TH TO 20TH FEBRUARY.

INCOME.				EXPENDITURE.				
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
To Donations—							By Printing and Stationery ..	
Received ..	107	5	10				.. 103 4 8	
Due ..	0	2	6			" Stall Frames and Glass ..	.. 48 0 11	
				107	8	4	" Postages ..	.. 26 15 3
„ Advertisements in Handbook:—							" Band ..	.. 13 11 6
Received ..	£67	14	0				" Rent of Hall ..	.. 7 16 0
Due ..	8	15	0				" Police, Caretakers, Cleaners, etc.	.. 11 2 7
				76	9	0	" Competition Prizes ..	.. 4 4 0
„ Rent of Dealers' Stalls ..				55	8	6	" Carriage, Travelling Expenses and Sundries ..	.. 29 15 5
„ Sale of Handbooks and Sundry Receipts—							„ Balance, being excess of Income over Expenditure, handed over to Treasurer of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society—	
Received ..	£14	16	2				Cash ..	.. £0 14 2
Due ..	3	0	0				Debts ..	.. 11 17 6
				17	16	2		.. 12 11 8
				£257	2	0		£257 2 0

I have examined the accounts and vouchers, and I certify that the balance, £12 11s. 8d., is the excess of Income over Expenditure as shown by books.

P. S. BARTON, A.C.A., May, 1909.

The Exhibition Committee desire to thank all those who assisted so generously in making the Exhibition such a success.  
I. J. BERNSTEIN, *President*.



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## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

AN International Exhibition like that held at Amsterdam, where collections from all parts of the world come together for competition, serves to illustrate very forcibly the marked

**British and Continental Collecting.** differences in the ideals of collectors of different nationalities. The philatelic ideals of the Dutch them-

selves are not very high and their methods, in keeping with their national character are very simple and straightforward. We have always believed that the highest and most intelligent form of specializing in the stamps of any one country would be exemplified by the collectors of that country, and if this is actually the case with France, Germany, Great Britain and Italy, it certainly is not with Holland, unless there are some highly specialised collections in the Netherlands which were not sent to the Exhibition.

It must be confessed that, in the one department in which the Dutch might have been expected to excel, namely, in the stamps of Holland and Colonies, they were very far behind, and British philatelists may congratulate themselves that the two principal awards came to London. It is true that Baron Lehmann, the winner in the championship class, is a Dutchman by birth, but he lives in London,

and his stamps are written up and described in English. But it was not so much in the lack of rarities that the Dutch collections were so far behind. It was in the extremely simplified way in which the collections were formed. To take one example, we may mention that with one single exception there was no collection of Holland exhibited by a Dutchman, in which any attention was paid to the types of the 1867 issue. When it is remembered that most *general* collectors in England take notice of these varieties, the wide difference in the aims of Dutch and English collectors is apparent.

Holland is a country which is as easy to complete in a simplified form as any other that we can think of, but when due regard is paid to types, perforations and paper, it at once becomes a most interesting and, at the same time, a most difficult country to complete; in fact it is doubtful whether it is possible to reach finality. But curiously enough the Dutch collector does not appear to recognize these possibilities and pins his faith to varieties of postmark, in which branch his proclivities run wild. We are willing to admit that postmarks are of great interest, but in our opinion they are of secondary rather than of primary importance.

In one collection we noticed a series of

stamps with dated postmarks, one for every month over a period of several years. If all the stamps in this series had been of the same value the exhibit might have been of some interest as showing how the shade or the printing varied during the time it was in use, but the set was made up of different values and issues, thereby losing all point.

Our readers must not imagine from these remarks that the Exhibition was a poor one. It did, in fact, contain many splendid exhibits, and was a very great success from every point of view. Our purpose in setting forth these few impressions is to call attention to a fundamental difference of method which undoubtedly exists between English and continental

collectors of the medium class, a difference which is much less marked but is still evident even in specialised collections of the highest importance.

It was, of course, this different standpoint which was accountable for the dissatisfaction expressed by many continental exhibitors at the awards given at the last great London Exhibition. Until the methods of all specialists are the same it will be impossible for any but a strictly neutral jury—and no expert jury can be that—to give judgments that will satisfy all parties.

At Amsterdam, however, this question could not have cropped up, as the collections which obtained the principal awards were in a class by themselves.

## New Issues and Varieties.

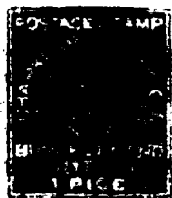
(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Canada.** A few months ago we chronicled the current 2c. King's Head stamp in an imperforate condition. These stamps were, it appears, from a sheet that accidentally wandered out of the printing office. To square matters, and to keep even with stamp collectors, we now learn that the 2c. value is to be issued in imperforate sheets, procurable by both collectors and non-collectors.

**Ceylon.** From various sources we learn that the current 75c., R1.50 and R2.25 stamps are likely to be withdrawn, to be replaced by 10c., 50c., R1, R2.50, R5 and R10 denominations.

**India. Charkari.** Last month we chronicled the new 1 pice stamp as being printed in chestnut. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.



now forward us specimens of this stamp printed in a pale blue-green.

*Adhesive.*  
1 pice blue-green.

**New South Wales.** In the April number of the *Australian Philatelist* we find the following paragraph:

"We have been shown by Mr. Crane a horizontal pair of 1d. stamps, current type, post-marked Grafton, September 3rd, '01, indicating that they were printed on unsurfaced paper, watermarked Crown and N.S.W., but the stamps, instead of having this watermark, show a scroll extending over both. This watermark is somewhat like the "Script" watermark on the Queensland 1d. and 2d. full face type. At the time these stamps were printed the paper had a scroll extending right across the top of it; this was usually cut away before the sheets were printed, but in the present instance the scroll must have been left on, and perhaps a corresponding portion at the bottom of the sheet cut away instead."

From the same source we list the following varieties:—

*Adhesives.* Current type, unsurfaced paper, wmk. Crown and N.S.W., perf. 11.  
1d. carmine.

Chalky paper, wmkd. Crown and N.S.W., perf. 11.  
2d. light blue.

Our publishers have shown us a hitherto unchronicled variety, namely, the 3d. with the second type of *Crown NSW* wmk., perf. 10 compound with  $12\frac{1}{2}$  ( $12\frac{1}{2} \times 10$  to be exact). The stamp (which is used) also presents the



marked peculiarity of having the watermark sideways.

Wmk. Crown NSW (type of 1881) sideways, perf. compound of 12½, 13 and 10.  
3d. yellow-green.

**Queensland.** The *London Philatelist* chronicles an unused strip of 3 of the 1d. vermilion of 1897-1907, perf. 12½-13 horizontally and 9½ vertically. One contemporary, which refuses to chronicle Jubilee issues, and holds an inquest on other stamps to find out if they be of a speculative nature, cheerfully chronicles the above hybrid!

In *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* we find that the 4d. stamp, Crown and A paper, is now printed in grey.

Adhesive. Wmk. Crown and A.  
4d. grey.

**Straits Settlements.** From *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* we learn that the 5c. orange stamp we chronicled last March, as likely to be issued, has now appeared in yellow.

Adhesive. King's Head multiple, ordinary pa, er.  
5c. yellow.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Bosnia.** In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* we find the following appalling list of newly discovered Bosnian perforations. We voiced a little editorial sarcasm concerning recent Bosnian varieties of perforation in this journal a couple of months ago. We wish we hadn't now, it wasn't worth it.

Adhesives. Jan. 1, 1900. Perf. compound of 12½ and 10½.  
1 (h.) grey-black.  
2 (h.) pearl-grey.  
5 (h.) yellow-green.  
6 (h.) bistre.  
25 (h.) blue.  
50 (h.) mauve.  
1k. carmine.  
2k. ultramarine.  
5k. deep blue-green.  
1906-7. Perf. 6½.  
1 (h.) black.  
2 (h.) violet.  
3 (h.) olive-yellow.  
5 (h.) deep green.  
6 (h.) orange-brown.  
10 (h.) carmine.  
20 (h.) deep brown.  
25 (h.) deep blue.  
30 (h.) green.  
35 (h.) blue-black.  
40 (h.) orange.  
45 (h.) orange-red.  
50 (h.) purple.  
1k. lake-red.  
2k. bronze-green.  
5k. grey-blue.

A number of Postage Due abortions are also chronicled, but we must draw the line somewhere.

**Chili.** Mr. F. D. Walters very kindly sends us the following translation, from a Chilean paper:—

### "NEW POSTAGE STAMPS.

"The Ministry of the Interior has called for tenders for the provision during five years of postal matter. The stamps will bear the portraits of Columbus, Valdivia, and of various Presidents of Chili. The stamps, from 1c. to 50c., will be of the same size as the present ones, and those of \$2 and \$5 will be of the same size as those of \$1, and will bear at foot, in small letters, the name of the person represented; they must be engraved on steel and perforated. The models of the entires will be as at present, the engraving to be at tenderer's option. Delivery of the accepted tender to commence within 180 days of the date of the corresponding decree, under deposit of 5% of the value for one year as guarantee. Tenders may be made of stamps commemorating the centenary of our political emancipation. Tenders will be opened on 26th July next."

**Dutch Indies.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles a 4c. ultramarine in the numeral type.

Adhesive. Perf. 12½.  
4c. ultramarine.

**France.** Our publishers have shewn us a mint block of twenty-five of the 1c., laureated head, 1863-70, in which twelve of the stamps are obviously from a different sheet, having been patched on in the place of twelve other stamps which, no doubt, had been damaged and cut out for their reception. The join is quite obvious when seen from the back, the stamps overlapping to the extent of about a quarter of an inch. On the face of the stamps, however, the join can only be seen under a glass, coming, as it does, exactly in the margin between the stamps, and perforated through the double thickness of the paper. Such an operation, which must have taken some little time to perform with such perfection, would hardly seem to have been worth the trouble, but we must remember that the printers had to account for every scrap of paper served out to them and were obliged to proceed with as little waste as possible.

We recently chronicled a similar curiosity in the case of the ½d. New Zealand on water-marked Cowan paper, perforated 11.

**Greece.** From the *Philatelic Adviser* we learn that a new issue of Grecian stamps is contemplated.

**Guatemala.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles three provisionals, namely the 75c., 50c. and 2p. of the last picture set surcharged 2c., 6c. and 12½c. Of course errors are already to hand, consisting of the word CENTAVOS instead of CENTAVOS.

Adhesives.  
2c. on 75c. black on lilac.  
6c. on 50c. blue and brown.  
12½c. on 2p. black and vermilion.

**Holland.** Our publishers have shown us a new provisional postage due stamp, made by surcharging the 6½c. with a big red 4.

These stamps were placed on sale June 5th.



Postage Due.  
4 in red on 6½c. blue.

**Italy. Crete.** The current 25c. and 30c. stamps of Italy have been overprinted "La Canea."



Adhesives.  
25c. blue.  
50c. violet.

We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a sight of the former value.

**Mexico.** We extract the following from the May number of the *Philatelic Adviser*. Our publishers have found in their stock a specimen of the 2 reales of 1861, black on pink, printed on both sides. The stamp is used, with a very light postmark, and bears the Gothic overprint of "Mexico."

Adhesive. 1861. Printed on both sides.  
2 reales, black on pink.

**Norway.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 2 kronen stamp, first issued on August 10th 1907, printed from the new die.

The following extract from our contemporary shows the differences.

"The new stamp is larger than its predecessor, measuring 21mm. in height, as against 20mm. The shading on the face of King Haakon is composed of tiny dots instead of heavy lines, and there is no lapel showing on the coat as there was formerly. There are many other minor points of difference between the two dies.

Adhesive. Type of 1907. New die.  
2k. rose carmine.

**Panama. Canal Zone.** We extract the following information from *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* :—

"Allen H. Blake, M.D., informs us that a friend in the Canal Zone writes that he has seen the new 2c. Panama stamp in the printing office being surcharged, and that it will be issued shortly. He also says he 'saw a sheet with inverted surcharges, but probably that will not get out.' We wish we could feel as confident of this as Dr. Blake's friend seems to be.

"The J. M. Bartels Co. is the first to show us the 2c. Panama stamp, surcharged 'Canal Zone,' reading down. The portrait is the same as that on the previous issue, Fernandez de Cordoba, but the head is larger and more effective. The colour of the frame is a pretty shade of vermilion-red, the design being an entirely new and attractive one. The figures of value appear in square frames at the sides. The oval containing the portrait being formed by 'Republica de Panama' around the top, and 'Dos Centesimos' around the bottom; 'Correos' is printed at the top, and 'de Balboa' at the bottom, both being in straight lines. The ornamental lines are simple, yet graceful. Each stamp has the imprint, 'American Bank Note Co., N.Y.'"

Adhesive.  
2c. vermilion-red and black.

Not a bad idea to print a few inverted—so original, too.

**Russian F.P.O.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following list of novelties :

Adhesives.

- (i.) Small design, Ship in colour.  
5 PARA on 1 kop. yellow.  
10 " 2 " green.  
20 " 4 " rose.  
1 PIASTRE on 10 kop. blue.

- (ii.) Small design, Ship and Dates, embossed in white.  
5 piastres on 50 kop. violet and green.  
7 " 70 " brown and yellow.

(iii.) Large design.

- 10 Piastres on 1 rub. brown and orange.  
35 " 3½ " light green.  
70 " 7 " ?

**Spain.** We have received the 20c. of the current issue, imperf.

Error.

- 20c. olive-black (type of 1900), imperf.

**United States.** Mr. Eugene Wilson very kindly sends us copies of the newly issued "Commemorative" stamp. Fortunately only one value has been issued.



Commemorative Issue.  
2c. red.

## Philatelic Gossip from North China.

BY LIEUT.-COLONEL NEWMAN, F.R.G.S., F.R.S.A.

It having been suggested to me by the Editor of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* that, as an old collector since 1865 and specialist in Far Eastern Stamps since 1899, a few notes from this part of the world might prove interesting to hundreds of his readers in out-of-the-way places, as showing what brother-collectors are doing in North China, I have much pleasure in sending the following:

\* \* \*

Speaking generally of Tientsin, Pekin, and other out-stations in N. China, I cannot say that there are many good collectors; as, with few exceptions, nearly all of them (about fifty) in this part of the world go in for general collecting (of from 3,500 to 12,000), and take anything and everything. The day has gone past for this, in my estimation, as it is far better to spend what time and money one can spare in one or two favourite countries, or a special group, than to waste them both over trying too much.

\* \* \*

As we are a pretty international lot here, including British, French, German, American, Dutch, Belgian, Spanish, Portuguese, Austrian, Turks, Greeks, and various Asiatic representatives, the collections I have seen naturally vary much, but many of them contain a few good stamps. Hardly one however is complete in any one country, except my own and those of Dr. Lalland, Mons. Barbier, Mr. Mittell, and Captain Ciossek; and as we all get about the same class of stamps here, and there are no dealers nearer than Hong Kong, Singapore and Ceylon, and most of the obsolete issues higher values have all been sent to or reached Europe and America, advanced collectors and specialists find it very difficult to exchange for what they want, and have to send home from time to time and purchase what is required from dealers, whose prices are sometimes very high.

\* \* \*

In Shanghai and Hong Kong it is different; at each of these places there are many very advanced collectors and several fine collections; but, as a rule, although one picks up a good stamp now and then here, exchanging, yet by far the best plan and the most successful in my case, is to purchase small and medium collections right out; take out what you specialise in, and then exchange or sell the balance for what you can get. Few even of the educated rich Chinese are collectors, and of those who have any stamps at all, most have purchased only in recent years, with a view of selling again at a large profit.

As showing the difficulty of getting even an issue of recent years, say the Japanese set of Chinese stamps made in October 1897, it is almost impossible to get a set of these unused, and the \$1, \$2, and \$5 even used are also very scarce. In fact since my stay out here of ten years, I have only been able to buy a couple of the \$5 used; and have seen one complete set, unused, sold at public auction for about £5, which was cheap as present prices go. Then again, type 2 of the German China issue of 1901, 5 marks, sharp corner to 5, surcharged "CHINA" horizontally, is not to be found in any collection here and has never been offered me, used or unused. I had to send to England for mine. There are also no stamps of the local issue of 1900 handstamped of German China to be got here, and only two of us collectors have any, Mr. Mittell and myself. The rare set of red surcharged French China Provisionals issued in Pekin in 1901, the 2/25, 4/25, 6/25 and 16/25, is only possessed by one collector, Mons. Martin, and I have not one, nor have I had a chance of getting one here all this time, either in exchange, by purchase, singly or in any collection, that I have obtained.

\* \* \*

The provisional issue of surcharged French China, "A PERCEVOIR," in a variety of type errors and colours from rubber handstamps, are more plentiful but often fetch high prices here; they were only in use some three months here and Pekin, September to December 1903; and made a small fortune for the Postmaster, who was discharged through this and other irregularities. I was lucky enough to purchase the collection of Commissary Officer Chollot, and got over forty varieties of these stamps, nearly all used on originals.

\* \* \*

Kiantchou stamps also contain some high-priced rarities, and it is almost impossible to get out here a complete set of the 1905 issue with higher values and no watermark; while the provisional and surcharged German China 1900 5 pf. on 10 pf. carmine, 6 types, has risen in value from \$2 to \$10, \$15. These stamps were only issued at Kiautschou, and used there, and belong to that country; while I see that in most of the present catalogues they are put under German China, which only includes Shanghai, Tientsin, Pekin, and other treaty ports, but not Kiautschou or Tsingtau, as it is called also.

\* \* \*

Stamps that are rising in value much here include the first set of postage due Chinese

stamps, surcharged in black on the 1895 issue. The  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent and 1 cent being now worth \$3 the pair. Why these low values were ever made puzzles all collectors, as the lowest postal rate here is the 1 cent for local use; and therefore if the letter was posted unstamped the charge was 2 cents, being double the amount of the proper postage. Another anomaly:—In the late issue of French-Chine, for use in all the treaty ports in China, the 5 francs=\$2, was surcharged 2 piastres, and is still current; although only a few sheets came over here. There are no piastres in use in the Far East, nothing but dollars and cents in China and this stamp should prove a promising investment; as the new lot will be surcharged 2 dollars. One sheet of the 2 cents on 5 cents of the same issue came out with the surcharge not properly centered, half of it being on the stamp, four stamps in each row in each pane (of four) and thus through all the others with half on the border at the end. I have one strip of these.

\* \* \*

Most of your readers will, I presume, know that the Russian stamps surcharged "КИТАИ" for use in the Far East are all watermarked with horizontal lines; but one small lot of the 1 rouble reached here (3 sheets) with vertical watermark; and these are now fetching \$10=£1. The 3 rbl. and 7.50 rbl. of the old issue, surcharged "КИТАИ," have also vertical watermarks, as also the newly issued 5 roubles and 10 roubles of the new pattern.

\* \* \*

Of the last issue of Chinese stamps with colour changed to fall in with those of the Postal Union Universal, only the 2 cents green and the 10 cents a faded blue are issued and in use. The stock of 4 cents red-brown is still so large that the new colour one is not yet in circulation. Have any of your readers noticed that some of the sheets of Chinese 10 cents green, recently current, are on distinct laid paper? I got a complete sheet of them; and although not rare they are an interesting variety. There is nothing known here of any Chinese commemorative sets, which some of the papers wrote about as being decided upon. For which mercy we are all thankful, as, up to the present, China has kept away from this sort of postal rubbish.

\* \* \*

Can you inform me why the home catalogues do not give any particulars or price the British Railway Administration stamp provisional, issued during the Boxer rebellion? I mean the  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent current Chinese surcharged in black or in green, "B.R.A., 5. Five Cents"; which was quite legitimately issued, and used for several months, for the postage on letters conveyed by the Imperial Railway to the northern towns and cities, whilst the I.C.P.O. service was disorganised. Both these stamps used are very rare here, fetching from \$10 to

\$20 each, all remainders being destroyed by Colonel Brown, R.A., when there was no longer any necessity for the stamp.

\* \* \*

At the German Post Offices here, of the new lozenge watermarked current surcharged issue, only the 1 cent and 1 dollar and 2½ dollars are in circulation; the old stock of unwatermarked of the other values being still sufficient for some months.

\* \* \*

The French collectors here, especially those who only specialize in France and her Colonies, heartily curse the head office and the branches in the South of China, which almost regularly every year bring out new surcharged issues for Canton, Hoi-hao, Mongtze, Yunnan, Kouang Tcheou Wan, Packhoi, Tchongking, &c., &c., &c., with numberless, and startling and useless varieties in black-red ink, inverted, diagonal and double surcharges, instead of having one issue for all the treaty ports of China, for which the Indo-Chine issues would do very well, without any surcharging. But no! this would not pay or provide means for speculators and dealers to make a bit; so they continue to pile up the changes until they almost defeat their purpose and put collectors off these countries.

\* \* \*

In conclusion, a few words as to our leading collectors and their collections. I myself have my Far Eastern Countries (not including India or Native States) mounted in Oriel albums (used or unused, but not both), thus giving more room for all varieties in shade, perforations, watermark, paper, &c., &c. I am practically complete in China, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Philippines, German China, French China, Siam, Chinese Treaty Ports, Macau, Russian China, Formosa; and am now completing Siam, Sarawak, Japan, Straits Settlements and Ceylon, a pretty big task. Mr. Mittell has a fine collection also, principally unused; and his Hong Kong's are worth seeing, His duplicates of this country, China, Macau, etc., unused, run into thousands of dollars. Dr. Lalland, of the French Expeditionary Force, is almost complete in France and her Colonies; and Capt. Ciossek has the finest collection over here of Germany, German States in Europe, and German Colonies; many of the former unused or on entires. Mons. Barbier has a splendid general collection with many countries complete; and the late British Postmaster here, Mr. Thomson, from the Indian Service, had a fine lot of Indian, Indian States, Cashmere, Afghanistan, with most of the rarities. Among all the other collectors, ladies and gentlemen, I noticed specially that American countries are the most neglected, as, after Europe, African, Asiatic and Australasians are much more taken up. Many collect used and unused, with Post Cards, Entires, Envelopes, &c., but the absence of damaged stamps is a good sign.

## Well-known Philatelists.

NO. 112.—CAPTAIN CLARKE.

IT is with great pleasure that we introduce Captain Clarke to our readers as, although not the owner of a highly "bloated" collection, he is a true philatelist in every sense of the word.

As a youngster he owned the usual boyish collection, while like most other public-school boys he parted with it during a temporary period of hard-upishness. For nearly twenty-eight years after the first collection, which, needless to say, was a general one, was sold, his philatelic enthusiasm was of a very dormant nature, but the seed was there, only awaiting a favourable opportunity to burst forth. The opportunity came when Captain Clarke, who was then with the Reserves, after a lengthy period of active service, was called to the front during the Boer war. In a letter written to our publishers he says "I then took a great interest in the different varieties of the overprints in the Army Officials and have a large specialised collection of the same. This group is most interesting and well worth the attention of collectors who want an interesting and by no means costly specialised collection. The varieties are constant and occur in most cases from the  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. vermilion Queen's head to the 6d. King's head while they are far more worthy of catalogue notice than many of the present Zanzibar, Br. East Africa and other varieties."

One of Captain Clarke's most interesting displays is an interesting group of stamps showing the transient stages of the Official errors on the  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. and 1d. stamps—not only has he traced the broken "L" back to the original unbroken state, but he has collected the many intermediate varieties which show the bar of the letter getting shorter and shorter until the last vestige of the lower limb disappears completely and we have the well-known "Army Official" error. Like all collectors who belong to the old school, the subject of this sketch does not totally confine his attention to any one group of stamps, he is attracted by any of the older issues that open up a path for individual research. Strong in British West Indians he is particularly fond of the good old issues of St. Vincent, of which country he can make a really fine exhibit. A member of the Royal Society, and



also of the Juniors, Captain Clarke is an ardent upholder of those philatelic tenets we so frequently advise our readers to adopt. He says "regarding my views concerning philately, I believe in choosing one's own group of countries, the individual study of the stamps chosen, and, above all, collecting what one thinks interesting, irrespective of what the catalogues and philatelic papers may advise. There are many most interesting varieties which are uncatalogued and many equally uninteresting ones listed, therefore I say go your own way." The above advice is the best that can possibly be given, and we hope that, should any of our readers be bound down to spaced albums and catalogue varieties, they will in future collect on broader and more interesting lines.

Born in June 1857, Captain Clarke is of distinguished ancestry, as the Clarkes of Welton Place, a very old Northamptonshire family, are well-known in the annals of history. Educated at Winchester College, at an early age he joined the Northamptonshire Militia, but hankering after a more active life he joined, a few years later, the 41st Welsh Regiment, with whom he served until he retired eleven or twelve years ago. After serving at Gibraltar, Malta, Egypt, Mauritius, &c., Captain Clarke retired from the service in 1897, meaning to settle down in Northamptonshire for good, but as we have already said, the call to arms during the dark days of 1900-1901 was responded to, and Captain Clarke was once again in charge

of men on active service. This short sketch would not be complete were no mention made of his hobbies other than stamps. Fishing occupies a good deal of his time, while it is truly said that few sportsmen can shoot or ride as straight as does the gallant subject of this interview.

## Death of Dr. Affonso Penna.

DR. AFFONSO PENNA, whose portrait is familiar to stamp collectors through the current set of Official Stamps of Brazil, died at Rio de Janeiro on June 14th. Dr. Penna was the sixth President of Brazil, counting from the dethronement of Emperor Dom Pedro II. It is said that the country has never been so well governed as during his term of office, which began on November 15th, 1906.



## June, 1909, Report.

### List of Officers and Committee, 1909-10.

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All Officers of the Union are ex-officio Members of the Committee.

### MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and Subscription, 5/-. should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members, not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

### NEW MEMBER.

C. R. Porter, Southsea.

### NOTICES.

The Hon. Sec. will be glad to hear from Members willing to assist with displays or papers during next Season, also to receive subscriptions due or any donations for the Forgery Collection which will be promptly acknowledged. Appended is the Annual Balance Sheet for the past year.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

June 10th, 1909.

### ANNUAL BALANCE SHEET.

JAN. - DEC., 1908.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand .. ..	..	1	15	1
.. Subscriptions and entrance fees	..	27	2	0
.. W. King, half sub. to Philatelic Literature Society .. ..	..	0	10	6
		£29	7	7

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.
By Official Organ .. ..	..	11	1	10
.. Rent, Essex Hall .. ..	..	2	10	0
.. Housekeeper .. ..	..	0	5	0
.. Printing and Stationery .. ..	..	1	16	0
.. Hon. Sec., postages .. ..	..	2	7	6
.. Clerical assistance, Hon. Sec. .. ..	..	5	5	0
.. Philatelic Literature Society .. ..	..	1	1	0
.. Smoking Concert .. ..	..	3	3	0
		£27	9	4
.. Balance to 1909 .. ..	..	1	18	3
		£29	7	7

Examined and compared with vouchers and receipts and found correct.

PHILIP P. BROWN } *Auditors.*  
GEORGE E. STRONG }

## New Leaves to Cut.

NEVIS.\*

By F. J. MELVILLE.

HARDLY have we digested No. 4 of the Melville Stamps Books before No. 5 of the little "white books" appears.

The present volume deals with the stamps of Nevis and as is only to be expected, deals with them in an instructive and interesting manner. Special attention is given to the early stamps, particularly regarding the methods by which each of the twelve varieties of each value can be plated.

Illustrated with reproductions of complete sheets of stamps (each sheet consisted of twelve stamps) together with diagrams, this latest of Mr. Melville's little brochures should help to make the stamps of Nevis even more popular than they already are.

One interesting page of illustrations depicts the marked similarity that exists between the Nevis stamps of 1861-78 and the stamps of Great Britain 1856-57, accounted for of course by the fact that the frame designs of the first four types of Nevis were adapted from the identical values then current in Great Britain.

Those of our readers who are attracted by the fascinating stamps of British West Indies, would do well to purchase the little book under review. It is, we believe, the first time Mr. Melville has written about British West Indian stamps, if so, he has certainly made a capital start.

\*Published by the Melville Stamp Books, 47, Strand, W.C. 6d. nett.

## Alleged Forged Stamps.

The Bow Street magistrate had again before him John Stewart Lowden, of Villiers Street, Strand, and Henry Harmer, of Westcliff-on-Sea, stamp dealers, charged with conspiring to obtain money by fraud and with conspiracy under the Post Office Act.

It was alleged that they had obtained in Paris a large number of forged British North Borneo stamps for the purpose of selling to collectors.

Detective-sergeant Curry produced the translations of letters in French sent by Herbert Mack & Co., with whom the accused were said to have been connected, to a printer in Paris, on whose premises a number of forged British North Borneo stamps were found.

Mr. Bodkin read extracts from some of the letters. In one, he said, the writers stated they were sending 30,000 sheets of paper, and in another they complained that the stamps they had received from Paris were badly perforated and that out of ten sheets they had received not one was perfect.

The Prisoners, who pleaded not guilty, were committed for trial on the same bail as before.

—*Evening Standard*, June 7, 1909.

## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

THE May 8th number of *Redfield's Stamp Weekly*, a paper which, by the bye, only turns up at McTavish-ville about twice a year, contains the following little known information regarding West Indian stamps.

"Of the first issue of Barbodas, little need be said, as it is in design an absolute duplicate of the Trinidad issue, save only in alteration of name."

Possibly this accounts for the remarkable dissimilarity that exists between the first issues of British South Africa and New Brunswok.

Last month I suggested that Abdul-the-naughty, being obsolete, should be imported into England and put on show at a stamp dealer's. To my surprise I now read in the daily papers that "the attempt to kidnap Abdul failed owing, etc."; dear me, it only shows how careful great writers have to be with their suggestions, doesn't it? I wonder who it was made the attempt? C. J. P. was cruising about the Mediterranean a month ago. I wonder if *he* took a sack with him?

Do you read our New Issue columns? The New Issue Editor has just bought half of a tweezer from the bit McTavish and, on the

weakness of it, is trying to turn the most up-to-date-in-the-world-new-issue-column into a second-hand depository for invalidated witticisms.

One of my correspondents, who has evidently been looking up old files of philatelic literature, writes to enquire the meaning of the letters S.S.S.S., also what the S. and B. Society did, or professed to do.

Dear, dear, when an inquisitive seeker after knowledge comes out of his mousery there is likely to be trouble. The S.S.S.S., I believe, stood for Society of Somnolent Somniferous Sleepers. (2) What the S. and B. Society *did* I don't know.

I see that one of the latest stamp researches has resulted in the discovery that certain Dutch stamps have a horn. Possibly now we shall be told that some collectors have the pip.

Talking of Hollanders reminds me that at the recently held Exhibition in Amsterdam, with its festive trimmings, the opening ceremony was followed by a dinner, "Kameraadschappelijke," at 15/- a time. I was not at *that* spread, but, judging from a later orgy, Kameraadschappelijke is a word that ought to be common to all languages, as the Netherlanders are past masters in the art of entertaining their visitors and being Kameraadschappeish.

Of course the McTavish went over to see the show and a real good time he had. As a direct result of my visit, the McTavish handbook on the Netherlands, No. 193 of the European series, will be shortly published by the McTavish Twaddle Company, of McTavishville, while, owing to my valuable research, the erroneous idea commonly held by Britishers that the air around Amsterdam is flat, will be corrected. It is certainly *not* flat, especially in the neighbourhood of the canals, where it becomes decidedly high.

Another curious thing about Amsterdam is that the atmosphere there has a sobering effect on umbrellas—at least, it had on mine. I have always found it an extremely difficult thing to break an umbrella to follow at heel, they always die or get umbrellaphobia before they are sufficiently tamed, but at Amsterdam my pet broolly followed me about like a debt collector. On Saturday night, after banquet, I put its devotion to the test by pretending to run away, but not a bit of it, it trotted after me every time!

Another new Yankee, and not a particularly handsome one either! What is to be done, think you, to stop this deluge? If it goes on much longer I shall have to give up collecting, and if I did that I guess it would cause a bit of a panic in the stamp world, don't you?

Have you ever considered, dear reader, the hard lot of the philatelic editors, who have to write some editorial notes every month? When

\*McTavish is getting quite uppish, and already shows signs of wanting to run the whole paper.—Ed.

it is remembered that the poor devils have only about five different topics to write about, namely: Exhibitions, Catalogues, Types of Collections, Catalogues, and Exhibitions, it is seen that their lot is not a happy one. Fancy having to hash up, for months on end, in the daily press, an editorial dealing with one subject, and yet that is what the stamp chaps have to do. Of course, they act on a very small stage, before a small public, but it must

get just as tiring as high kicking before a larger and probably more fastidious public.

I haven't noticed any new philatelic papers about lately; perhaps they hatch out better in the cold season. I do notice, however, that several of last year's chickens are not coming up to feed time as promptly as they might, some of them seem to think that being a week or so late doesn't matter. Perhaps, after all, it does not.

## Notes on the Bisected Provisionals of the Roman States.

BY PIO FABRI, F.R.P.S.I.

IN the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* for May, I read the article "Philately on the Continent," taken from the *Echo de la Timbrologie*, referring to the bisected provisionals of the Roman States. Some of the statements contained therein are in need of a little rectification.

Information about these stamps was given in my publication on the Roman States Postage Stamps, "*Les Timbres des Etats de l'Eglise, par Pio Fabri, Bruxelles, 1878.*" Much of that information must be modified in consequence of further enquiries which have permitted me to establish with more accuracy certain facts that I shall make known in my next publication on the stamps of the Roman States.

Concerning the stamps used bisected, or in fractions, I am unable to endorse the opinion of the writer of the above-mentioned article, that "the use of a half, or of a third, or even of a quarter of a stamp was permitted in cases when the value to be thus made was not available," because such was *never permitted*. On the contrary, some documents, which in due course I shall publish, demonstrate that the use of bisected stamps was looked upon as an abuse and, as such, censured by the Superintendent of Posts. Instructions were sent to suppress the practice, which, in spite of this, continued from time to time.

The bisected and fractions of stamps were used principally in Romagna during the early part of the Provisional Government period, especially from June 12th to August 31st, 1859, as may be seen by the monograph "*Les Timbres poste des Romagne, par Emilio Diena, Bruxelles, 1898.*"

The shortage of postage stamps in the Romagna post offices at that time, caused by the failure of new supplies reaching them from Rome while the country was going through such a political upheaval was very marked, and Signor Bianconcini, Inspector of

Posts at Bologna, was authorised by the Provisional Government to collect the postal charges in money when stamps were wanting. It seems however that postal clerks, of their own initiative, cut up the few stamps remaining in their offices. So it may be seen that here the practice was not officially recognized.

I agree with the writer when he states that, of the bisected stamps, the half of a  $\frac{1}{2}$  baj. used as a  $\frac{1}{4}$  baj. is the rarest. According to information which I communicated to the writer of the above article, the illustrated newspaper "*L'Album*" published at Rome, enjoyed this special favour of a reduced tariff  $\frac{1}{4}$  baj. Any notice which may have been sent to the various provincial post offices would not have received much attention as the newspaper was printed and forwarded from Rome.

It happened that some offices charged "*L'Album*" as unfranked, but, in consequence of complaints from the recipients, the postal clerks were called to order by the authorities in Rome informing them that the newspaper was regularly franked. The only two of these fractions obliterated with a date stamp that I have seen are in my possession and very probably are the same that I showed to the writer of the article. Those obliterated by pen though, of course, originals, do not present an equal interest.

It would perhaps interest your readers, and also the writer of the article, who, perhaps, are unaware of the fact, that the 50 baj. and the 1 scudo were issued on the 12th July, 1852. These two stamps were issued without any notice either to the various provincial postal officials or to the public, and, as a consequence, some very curious incidents occurred. The 50 baj. was used in 19 only of the 40 provincial offices, and the 1 scudo exclusively in the post office at Rome.

Of great interest also are the postal obliterations of the Roman States, which, I believe, no other country can rival in point of variety.



# Adhesive Postage Stamps of Chili.

By J. R. BURTON, F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from page 104.)

Last month's instalment of these notes concluded with a reference to the War between Chili and Peru and Bolivia, but before pursuing that subject it will be well to note that the literature on the subject of Chilian postage stamps has been further increased just recently by a series of articles in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* on "The Provisional Stamps of Peru during the Chilian Occupation," translated from the *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, by Norman Thornton, contained in Vol. IX., Numbers 12 to 19, and on "Chili," by Mr. Chas. M. C. Symes, in Numbers 19 to 21, of the same volume; furthermore, that elusive personality, Cornelius Wrinkle, in the *Postage Stamp*, has been bantering Mr. Symes for daring to introduce a little humour into his description of Christopher Columbus as he appears upon the issue of 1901-2. But surely Mr. Symes, writing in a journal which has done so much for junior collectors, may try to make the baby laugh; is philatelic pap for childhood only to be compounded by those in their second childhood?

Mr. Symes' article contains some useful details of the numbers printed of the various issues and transcripts from official documents but unfortunately one astonishing error.

We read on page 335 that "up till 1867 all stamps had been rouletted" and the error is repeated in describing the 1877 issue, "perforations did not come up to the expectations of the officials, for again the roulette is reverted to." Of course the "roulette" is only a variety of perforation, and the issues of Chili up to 1867 were imperforate. The stamps of the 1867 issue are also said to have been printed in sheets of 120, an old error corrected by the reconstructed sheet of 100 mentioned in our article last month.

In continuation of our own researches we come to the period of the war, the causes of which were somewhat similar to those of the recent war in South Africa. The seaboard district of Bolivia—a narrow strip of territory dividing Chili from Peru, the chief town in the province being Antofagasta—contained the valuable nitrate deposits. The superior business enterprise of the Chilians quickly led to the principal interest in the development of the industry coming into their hands.

Contrary to a treaty of 1866 the Bolivians endeavoured in 1878 to impose a tax on all nitrates. Bolivia persisting, Chili occupied Antofagasta, and on March 23rd, 1879, the first engagement took place.

Peru began to prepare for war and Chili

advised her that she was aware of a secret treaty between the two countries and that she was ready to fight them both. The country is desolate and cut up into small sections by branches of the great mountain range of the Andes running right down to the sea, communication therefore from North to South is difficult except by sea and the war soon became a struggle for supremacy upon the face of the waters. The Chilians began the war with two good ironclads and nine wooden vessels all fairly efficient. The Peruvians had one good ironclad, the "Huascar," and three other armoured vessels and six wooden ships not so well cared for as the Chilian ships. Peru, however, possessed in their Senior Naval Officer Captain, afterwards Admiral, Don Miguel Grau, a man of the highest capacity. Among the Commanders on the other side the good old Chilian (?) names of Williams, Simpson, Condell, O'Higgins, and Lynch, were to be noted. By April 5th a Chilian squadron was already off Iquique, but proved unable to cope with the manœuvres of Grau in the "Huascar" who kept quietly steaming up and down the coast, for months, destroying commerce and small war vessels, with a run home every now and then for a clean up and refit, his unchecked operations causing considerable discontent in Chili. The incompetent Peruvian Government, however, committed a fatal error—insisting on Grau putting out to sea in the early part of October when his vessel was in want of scraping and consequently slow, causing her, on the 8th, to be overhauled by the two best ships in the Chilian Navy. An hour after the action opened a shell burst in the "Huascar's" conning tower and blew the gallant admiral absolutely to shreds, next all the men in the turret were killed and after that the steering gear was smashed. Scarcely was a temporary tackle rigged than all the men working it were killed. Then Grau's successor in command and the whole of the second gang in the turret were killed but still the ship fought on until, with turret jammed, only one gun able to fire and no means of steering, an attempt was made to sink the ship and go down with colours flying, but the Chilians got on board in time to prevent this, and the captured vessel was repaired and used by them in the later stages of the war. Admiral Grau's portrait appears upon the 1901 1c. stamp of Peru, and also upon the 2c. of 1907. The greatest naval hero the Spanish race has produced since the days of our Queen Elizabeth

appears to have been a podgy personage with side whiskers (please Mr. Wrinkle may we mention these without your dragging in Mr. Frank Richardson) and the appearance usually associated with a prosperous Pork Butcher,



but his exploits, apart from the great effects of paralyzing the Chilians' conduct of the war and retarding their commerce, produced, in my opinion, two interesting Philatelic results, namely, a considerable use at this period—i.e., the end of 1879 and the beginning of 1880—in Chili of fiscal stamps for postal purposes, and the re-issue of a lot of old stock. It has been known to a few collectors for some time past that a few remainders of the 1867 issue were used up at this time, but I have found in addition one of the 1c. imperforate stamps of 1862 postmarked in the same way. These re-issued stamps can of course only be identified by their postmarks, which are usually of the type here illustrated. They are exceedingly rare and well worth hunting for.



My theory is that the new stamps eventually issued in 1881, were purposely delayed in transit to avoid capture by the "Huascar" or some other prowling Peruvian war vessel.

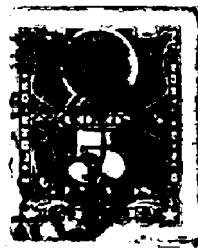
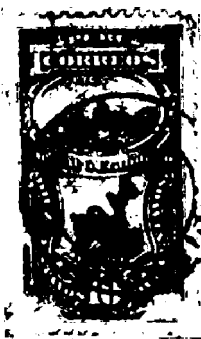
At this period Bolivia and Peru had at Arica 29,000 men. Chili farther to the south at Antofagasta had a force of better quality, numbering 16,000.

Having secured command of the sea the Chilians transported their forces northward and captured Pisagua, on November 2nd, 1879. About November 19th 3,000 Bolivians sent to reinforce General Buendia, as the historian euphemistically puts it, "became demoralized and turned back." General Buendia taking this for a subtle strategic movement and relying on their support attacked the Chilians; one of his columns being hurled back on to the main body was mistaken for a charge of the enemy and meet with a hot reception, this led to a free fight between the Bolivians and

Peruvians and the Chilians smoking cigarettes watched the bloody fray in comfort, the Bolivians having got more knocks and less glory than they bargained for, got very tired of the whole affair and marched off home. For the remainder of the war they occupied themselves with revolutions and counter revolutions and the Chilians ignoring them "went for" poor deserted Peru. The Bolivians only woke up at the close of the war to find their sole strip of coast filched from them, so that to this day their country remains bottled up and scarcely developed at all in the heart of S. America.

Strange looking labels and envelopes printed in blue, oblong octagons with Coat-of-Arms in centre, "10" in numerals at each side, "Correo" at top and "Antofagasta" at bottom in block capitals may be provisionals belonging to this confused period. I have seen them on wove laid paper and also on ribbed paper, postmarked and with a fine appearance of genuineness; in any case some stamps *must* have been used in this district during the time and what they were is one of the unsolved problems we are now amongst.

With weakened forces the Peruvians had to fall back and abandon the important town and district of Iquique, which has since become the chief northern city and great industrial centre of Chili. The town was occupied on November 22nd, 1879, yet Gibbons Catalogue which lists the Chilean stamps used in Peru under the heading of "Peru" numbers (78 to 866 in the 1909 catalogue) dates them only from July, 1882. But as stamps of some sort must have been used there in the interval, there is plenty of room for discoveries. I have already found the 1c. black of Chili postmarked 14 May 1882, but quite likely Peruvian stamps found in the post office were used for a time, and if so any found postmarked Iquique *after* Nov. 22nd, 1879, must belong to this period and would settle the question, in all probability they would have the usual Peruvian postmarks of



this period, two concentric circles with date in the centre and either the town name at the top between the lines of the two circles and "principal" (chief post office?) or "pral" for short at the bottom, or "correos" at top and

the town name at bottom. The latter postmark was changed by the Chilians to "Adn. de Correos."

Before the fall of Iquique, two other important places, Mollendo and Tarapaca were captured, so their postmarks are also to be looked for.

On November 29th, President Prado, of Peru, who had been at the front some time, decided to go to the back, and being a man of decision did so at once. He hurried back to Lima, the capital, collected all the cash he could and set out for the United States on December 29th "to buy arms." He never came back again and if the Peruvians ever received the munitions of war he went to purchase and will communicate with me to that effect, I shall be delighted to mention the matter next month. Following this the Peruvians did a little revolting, meantime the Chilians went on with the war in a business-like way, occupying the following places on the dates named.

Vitor, February 25th; Pacocha, February 25th; Ylo Ylo, between then and March 12th; Alte-del-Conde, March 15th; Catalina, March 19th; Moquegua, March 20th; Los Angeles, March 22nd; Yacango, March 22nd; Torata, March 23rd; Sinta, Sagayo, Cocumba, April 11th; Sama, April 18th; Ite, April 18th; Tacna, May 26th; and Arica, June 7th; many of these names are now quite familiar postmarked upon Chilian stamps. The capture of Tacna and Arica was due to the defeat of the allied army in the south, which was driven into the Andes with no hope of reinforcements or war stores ever reaching it. What few Bolivians were left here gave up the contest and returned to their ordinary peaceful pursuits such as conspiracies and pronunciamientos. But it is only fair to say that some of the battles were most sanguinary; at Tacna the Chilians lost 2,000 men and the Allies 3,000—if the reporters were good at simple addition—anyway, the fight was a good deal bloodier than any in the Boer War.

The Chilians were now inspired by the brilliant idea that the remains of the allies grand army might as well be left where they were far in the south with no means of covering the 700 miles tramp to Lima, the capital, and Callao, its seaport, except with their poor bare feet, so they drew off the bulk of their troops and on November 11th landed at San Lorenzo Island, off Callao, Meantime a flying division, under "Lynch," captured Sape on September 10th, and "Paita," the port of "Piura," the most northern province, on September 18th. If the statement in the article on "The Provisional stamps of Peru during the Chilian occupation," mentioned above, is correct, viz., that this port (Paita) was used by the Peruvians till January 1882 as their last route for communicating with the outside world—then this can only have been a temporary raid followed by com-

plete occupation on the later date. On Nov. 18th, 7000 Chilians landed at Pisco and marched to Chinchas on the road to the Capital. Isca, Tamba - de - Mora, Chalea, Curayaco, Lurin, Pachacamac were successively occupied and then on January 13th began the battle of Chorillos.—23,600 well-trained and armed Chilians against 30,000 Peruvians, ill-armed, badly clothed and scarcely shod at all; this poor rabble fought furiously but in vain; 4,000 fell, and 4,000 prisoners were taken; the Chilians themselves having 4000 casualties, and on January 15th 1881, the Capital surrendered.

The invaders never penetrated to the far side of the Andes, and guerilla warfare went on, but the real fighting was over. According to *L'Echo de Timbrologie*, the Chilians allowed the Peruvians to run the postal service at Callio and Lima from January, 17th, 1881, to November 30th, postmarks of that period, therefore, have a special interest; what went on postally in the other captured cities remains to be discovered. There it is almost virgin soil as far as philately is concerned, and its exploitation should prove a worthy and interesting piece of Philatelic work.

(To be continued.)

## Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

PHILATELIC INDEX.

Stockholm, 24th May, 1909.

DEAR SIR,

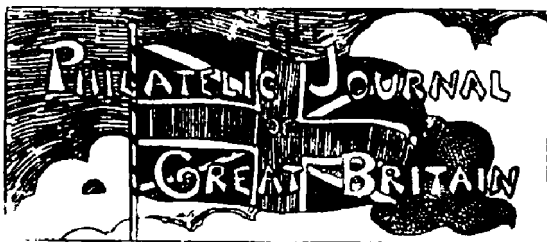
I beg to thank you for having mentioned my little German index in the May number of your paper, page 112. Your comment with reference to the *Revista de la Sociedad Filatélica Argentina* is quite correct; in this year's index, however, only the European literature has been considered, as you will please see from the title of the index, "*Verzeichnis über die europäische, periodische Fachliteratur im Jahre 1908*," and I have tried to make the list of European journals as complete as possible. Had my paper been able to enter into exchange relations with more oversea philatelic journals, these would also have come within the scope of my index for last year. As matters stood, and for the sake of consequence, not only the excellent Argentine paper you refer to, but also the Philatelic Journal of India, the Australian Philatelist, and all the U.S.A. papers had to be excluded. In the index for this year I shall try to have the most prominent ex-European periodicals entered.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

NILS STRANDELL,

Co-Editor of the *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidskrift*,  
Stockholm, Flemminggatan 8.



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**The Cayman Islands.**

THOSE of our readers who are interested in the stamps of the Cayman Islands will probably also be interested in the history of the "isolated rocks" from whence the stamps are issued.

The Handbook of the Cayman Islands just to hand, provides us with much interesting reading as we must admit to a strong partiality for hearing about out-of-the-way corners of our great Empire.

We learn, for instance, that there is an *ad valorem* duty of 5% imposed on everything

imported into the Islands, with an extra duty on wines, spirits and beer. The total amount of the import duties for the year 1907-1908 amounting to £1,466. The local scale of taxation is fairly easy, and only resulted in £533 being scooped into the Treasury. Amongst the items we see that all males between the ages 18 and 60 have to pay a Poll Tax of 6/- while mules and asses get let off at 9d. each. Spirit licenses cost £10 per annum but as only two were sold last year it is pretty apparent that the inhabitants are not very great spirit drinkers.

The chief exports from the islands consist of turtle, rope, cattle and horses, dried skins, logwood, cocoanuts, conch pearls, conch shells, turtle shell and hawk's bill. Surcharges must, we think, come under the heading of cocoanuts, as no separate heading is given for "stamps."

The information relating to the Post Office is of sufficient general interest to warrant us reprinting it in full.

There are Post Offices at Georgetown and Cayman Brac, but the bulk of the Postal business is done at Georgetown.

Postmaster: Georgetown, W. G. McCausland.  
 Cayman Brac, H. W. Ruddy.

The mails are despatched and received at irregular intervals by the fishing schooners to and from Jamaica and the Southern States of America; but regular steamship communication with Jamaica now permits of a regular monthly mail, inwards and outwards.

Previous to 1890, there were no postal facilities whatever; the inhabitants had their letters addressed to friends in Jamaica, and when opportunities offered, these friends sent them on to the Cayman Islands. Though some opposed the introduction of a postal service as a most unnecessary luxury, the majority of the people now grumble at the long intervals between arrival and despatch of the mail. Money orders and British and Jamaica postal orders are issued and cashed at the Georgetown office.

The following is the list given of the stamps that have been issued by the Cayman Islands Government:

- 1st issue. ½d. and 1d., Queen's Head.
- 2nd „ ½d., 1d., 2½d., 6d. and 1/-, King's Head.
- 3rd „ ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., 1/- and 5/-, King's Head.

Surcharges in 1907.

- ½d. on 1d.
- ½d. on 5d. (obviously intended for 5/-).
- 1d. on 5/-.
- 2½d. on 4d.

- 4th issue, 1908. ½d., 1d., 1d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1/-, 5/- and 10/-.

The ½d. stamp is principally for local postage only.

A ½d. post card is also issued, which by filling up ½d. more may be used for foreign postage also.

From the statistical list of the post office we learn that in the year 1904-5 stamps to the value of £280 were sold—1905-6 £260, while in the year 1907-8 the sales jumped up to £2,141!

We are also told that a mail leaves Georgetown every Tuesday for the East End and all places *en route*, returning from Bodden Town on Wednesday morning and collecting letters *en route* to Georgetown. Letters for the Georgetown district, if posted at the Georgetown Post Office before 12 midday are delivered the same day. On receipt of mails from abroad special messengers are sent to the Windward districts and West Bay.

From other pages of the Handbook we learn that there are two Government medical officers, one, the Commissioner, Mr. Hirst, being the author of the Handbook. We also learn that "marriages are usually contracted at a very early age, and, unfortunately, there is a good deal of inter-marrying." Evidently island life has its drawbacks. Norway and Sweden are represented by Consuls. Why, we should like to know?

From the history of the islands, we learn that "unlike other West Indian Islands, the majority of the people are white, or very nearly so." These mostly seem to have for ancestors either "stray pirates" or "wrecked sailors!"

The islands seem healthy as the death rate is only 13.3 per 1,000, while the birth rate is 30.8 per 1,000. The present population is estimated to be 6,000, but as no census has been taken for about twenty years this total must be taken with a grain of salt. Practically all tropical and sub-tropical vegetables and fruits grow with great luxuriance, while it is estimated that about 1,200 head of cattle and 200 horses are on the island. Pigs and poultry abound, but no sheep! There is also a wealth of other information regarding these islands, but we have, we fear, already trespassed too much on our readers' leniency.

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## The Amsterdam Philatelic Exhibition.

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

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THIS Exhibition was held to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the formation of the principal Dutch Philatelic Society, and attracted a good many visitors among English collectors and dealers as well as from other parts of the continent.

The exhibition was held in a very suitable building, most of the stamps being in a very good light, though unfortunately, on the day that I was there the weather was so bad that only a very inadequate supply of day-light reached the exhibits at the sides of the rooms.

The exhibition was declared open on June 3rd by Mr. C. Wafelbakker, the President of the Society, who spoke successively in Dutch, German, French and English. I may mention here that most of the members of the committee were proficient in these languages and

consequently foreigners were rarely at a loss for information; I venture to think that many more English people would have made the trip if they could have anticipated the courteous welcome with which all were received.

Among the English and other visitors whom I saw personally or heard had paid a visit, were:—Messrs. A. J. Warren, E. D. Bacon, C. J. Phillips, H. A. Slade, J. K. Boddy, F. J. Melville, D. Field, Hugo Griebert, Whitfield King and W. King, Junr., Fred Hagen (of Sydney), J. S. Higgins, Junr., J. H. Taylor, H. F. Johnson, J. Ward, and last, but not least, the Editor of the *P.J.G.B.* Then, of course, there were the members of the Jury:—Messrs. H. J. Duveen (England), A. Schoeller (France), Dr. Jur. Paul Kloss (Germany), Baron A. de Reuterskiold (Switzerland), F. Breitfuss (Russia), H. Ritter de la Renetière (Austria), H. A. Elias, G. Goossen, and H. P. Manus (Holland).

Of the Exhibits there were naturally a large number of collections of Holland and Colonies which were all exhibited in Division I. Here the principal award of the Exhibition was carried off by Baron R. A. L. Lehmann, a Dutchman who resides in London. This was an enormous collection, representing used and unused, essays, proofs, postcards, envelopes, etc., galore, of Holland and the Dutch Colonies, and required a whole room to itself.

In Class I., Section A., the gold medal was awarded to J. J. W. Buning for his collection of Holland and Colonies unused. This was only highly specialized in some directions and I was surprised to find that no attention was paid to the types of the 1867 issue. Some of the very rare perforations were missing and others were represented by used instead of unused specimens.

Mr. P. W. Waller, of Overveen, took the gold medal in Section B. of Class I., with his very fine collection of Holland and Colonies, used only, including singles, pairs, strips of three blocks of four, and used on entires. This collection gave evidence of considerable research, though I was unable to convince myself of the reality of a third type of the 50c. of 1867, which was shown with a photographic enlargement.

The well-known collection of Mr. A. J. Warren showing Holland and Colonies, used and unused, was shown in Section C. of Class I. and was awarded the gold medal. This collection proved a very great attraction as, in addition to its remarkable completeness many of the recently discovered retouches of the 1st and 2nd issues were shown, and the differences between the three plates of the 10c. of 1862 were clearly exemplified.

In the same class a silver-gilt medal was taken by Mr. D. C. Paraira, who also showed a nice collection of Holland and Colonies, principally used, together with a very fine lot of proofs and essays.

Other medals were awarded for Holland and

Colonies as follows:—Silver-gilt to G. Buijs, and Louis Weimar, Silver Medals to Messrs. A. F. W. Stroo and Mr. A. C. Voss, and Bronze medal to W. P. Costerus. Some of these collections were very small and very much simplified, to the exclusion of types and all but the most prominent perforation varieties and would no doubt have been passed over had not a medal of some sort been provided for almost every Exhibitor,

In Class II., Section B, a silver medal was offered for the best collection of postmarks on Dutch stamps and this was taken by Jhr. J. A. A. v. Schmid, the popular treasurer of the Society.

Division II. In this division many of the most renowned specialized collections of the world were on view, and it was by a long way the most interesting part of the Exhibition.

Class I. in this division was open to exhibitors who had already gained gold medals in former International Exhibitions. It is a pity that there was no competition here, as, of the six exhibits, four were *hors concours*, and the two medals awarded were for exhibits which were the only ones shewn for competition in their respective sections. This did not, however, detract in the least from the merit of the exhibits which were, in every way, worthy of the large gold medals bestowed; this will be easily believed when I say that one was taken by Mr. F. Reichenheim with his collection of France, and the other by Mr. J. L. R. Hausburg with Victoria. Both these collections have been considerably strengthened since they were shewn at the London Exhibition of 1906. Unfortunately when I reached Mr. Hausburg's Victorians the light had become so much worse that I could not fully appreciate the wonderful array of the first issue, but I noticed the reconstructed sheets of the 6d. orange, imperf., and the first perforated 6d. black, which have never been shewn before.

Among the exhibits not for competition were the Mauritius (with its 1d. and 2d. Post-Office), Transvaal and Tasmania, of Mr. H. J. Duveen, and the re-constructed and partly re-constructed sheets of N.S. Wales, Tasmania and Victoria, belonging to Mr. H. P. Manus, of Amsterdam. This last exhibit showed thirty plates either completely or partially re-constructed, including everything "plateable" in New South Wales, the 1d. and 4d. Tasmania, first issue, and the 2d. Queen on Throne, Victoria, engraved and lithographed; among them were many exceptionally fine specimens.

Class II. in this division was open to exhibitors who had obtained awards less than gold medals at previous International Exhibitions.

Curiously enough, Section A. of this Class, for a country of Europe other than Holland attracted no entries, neither did Section B. open to collections of Australian Countries. In Section B. a silver-gilt medal was awarded

to Lieut.-Col. F. H. Hancock for his collection of Kashmir. In Section C., a local exhibitor, in the person of M. Z. Booleman, took a gold medal for a nice collection of Transvaal which, however, suffered in the close proximity of Mr. Duveen's and Mr. Harvey Clark's superb lots of the same country. Manchester, a town whose collectors generally make a brave show at Philatelic Exhibitions, was only represented by one collection at Amsterdam, the Guatemalas of J. R. M. Albrecht; a very fine lot and well deserving of the silver medal which it obtained.

Class III. of this division was open to exhibits of collections which had not previously been rewarded at an Exhibition. In section A, for a country of Europe other than Holland, there was more competition than in any other section in the Exhibition. Here Mr. E. Zumstein naturally took the large gold medal with his superb lot of Swiss Cantonnals, largely made up from the collection of the late M. Mirabaud which he recently purchased. This collection alone would have been worth going a long way to see and proved one of the principal attractions.

Mr. Hugo Hartmann carried off a gold medal with a truly stupendous collection of Montenegro. When I mention that it contains upwards of 15,000 stamps it will be readily believed that it is very nearly complete. Of course this number is helped by numerous huge blocks, but as the interest centres to a great extent in perforations and small varieties of surcharges it is rather a wearisome show.

Of rather more interest and of almost equal proportions was the collection of Bosnia shown by Mr. Adolf Passer. The arrangement of the stamps was very fine, and the types and plate varieties were shown in profusion. This collection was enriched by about fifty entire sheets. A silver medal was taken by Mr. Frank E. Wilson, of Birmingham, with his fine collection of unused Belgians, which I had the pleasure of seeing earlier in the year at the Manchester Juniors' Exhibition. Another silver medal went to W. von Polansky, for a very nice lot of Russia and Finland, which contained superb used and unused specimens in singles, strips and blocks, and some scarce proofs, essays, etc. Messrs. H. F. W. Bicking and Jacques Veershym were awarded bronze medals for very poor collections of Luxemburg and Roumania, neither of which was at all up to Exhibition standard.

In Section B. Mr. Humphrey Bennett was the only competitor, and was duly awarded the silver medal for his well-known collection of Sarawak.

In Section C the principal award, a gold medal, went to Mr. Harvey Clark for a collection of Transvaal, which, in completeness and beauty of specimens, was quite up to the standard which one would expect from this

exhibitor. Space prevents my mentioning all the fine things contained in it, but the TRANSVERSAL error must not be passed over. A bronze medal went to M. Isaac Blanco for one of those remarkable collections of stamps which one is not inclined to take seriously, Rio de Oro being the subject in this case; with pairs and blocks used and unused, and a fine show of surcharges, M. Blanco's was a remarkably good exhibit. Another bronze medal was awarded to Mr. J. Duiven for a collection of Orange River Colony.

Section D only contained one collection of any class, this being a very pretty lot of Danish West Indies, shown by Mr. J. M. Bartels, the only American exhibitor. Most of the stamps were shown in mint blocks of four.

It would take up too much space and would not be very interesting reading if I were to give details of the Exhibits in the remaining divisions as I saw nothing of very great interest. The only English competitors who secured any further distinctions were Mr. A. J. Warren in Division III., Class I., Section B., bronze medal for Strait Settlements, Labuan and North Borneo, Mr. M. Albrecht, gold medal for his collection of Mulready envelopes with proofs and caricatures, and Miss Kitty Nelke of London, who, in the class for collectors under the age of 18, was awarded a silver-gilt medal for a general collection in three albums, which included, among other good things, Great Britain 1861, plate 2; 9d. hair lines, and 5/- and 10/- I.R. Official—very useful possessions for a young lady of the age of fifteen years.

In the general collection class the large gold medal went to Mr. E. Bayer of Prague, who showed 43 volumes of Kohl's Permanent Albums, which contained 22,000 specimens; the smaller gold medal went to Jhr. L. F. Teixeira de Mattos for a collection numbering 18,000 stamps mounted in 19 permanent albums.

Four English journals were entered in the Philatelic Literature Class, the *Philatelic Record* securing one of the principal awards, a silver-gilt medal, while the *Monthly Report of the Herts Philatelic Society*, the *Stamp Lover* and the *West End Philatelist* each received a bronze medal. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. were awarded medals for their Catalogue and Albums, and Mr. W. S. Lincoln, a medal for the Lincoln Stamp Album.

The number of medals given, totalling no fewer than 90 of various sorts, constituted a record, and there can be no doubt that the generosity was somewhat overdone. Among the stamp exhibits hardly anyone escaped without one.

During the time that the Exhibition was open, from the third to the tenth of June, a very good programme of entertainments was arranged, including two dinners, two dejeuners, visits to the Grand Theatre, the Rijksmuseum

and the Zoological Gardens, and a grand excursion to Marken Island. I was sorry that my short stay prevented me from attending more than one of these functions, but I went, with our Editor, to the banquet on Saturday night at which the list of awards was read out, and a very enjoyable evening it was. The dinner started at 7 o'clock, and by the time the after dinner orators had said all they had to say it was midnight.

It was with considerable regret that we left Amsterdam after spending a memorable two days there.

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## New Leaves to Cut.

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HOLLAND.\*

BY F. J. MELVILLE.

THE author of this little book was fortunate in being able to embody in his work the first published information about the retouches of the first and second issues of Holland, recently discovered by Mr. Wilkinson, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and elaborated by Mr. A. J. Warren, the well known specialist in Dutch stamps. The chapter on the first issue is very interesting, though the information given concerning the retouches, apart from the very excellent enlarged illustrations, is too meagre. However, we cannot cavil too much at this as the discovery is still in its infancy and the Melville Stamp Books can't wait.

Apart from the retouch varieties we are told that there were three plates of the 10c. of the first issue. The second of these can easily be distinguished by the presence of a white horn-like projection sticking out from the forehead. This must have been caused by a damage to the die from which the plate was made up. Specimens from this plate are known with postmarks from August, 1861 to July, 1862. After the latter date, specimens have been found in which the horn has been entirely or partially removed by retouching. Very shortly after this a third plate was brought into use showing a full and clear impression without trace of the horn or any repair of the horn.

Apart from the first two chapters there appears to be nothing new in the book and but a very incomplete *resumé* of what was already known. The chapter on the 1867 issue is particularly disappointing, what might be written about it would fill all the 77 pages, but Mr. Melville dismisses it in two or three. The check list at the end is useful but the condensation system employed leads inevitably to occasional errors of omission and commission.

\*Published by the Melville Stamp Books, 47, Strand, W.C. 6d. net.



JUNE 20, 1909.

## Philately at Home.

The May number of the *Philatelic Record*, a capital production, contains a further instalment of M. Ernst Zumstein's "Handbook of the Postage Stamps of Switzerland," and an article, or rather an instalment of a paper dealing with Heraldry in connection with stamps. This paper is of great interest. Mr. B. T. K. Smith continues his article dealing with the "Stamps of the Virgin Islands." By far the most interesting feature of the *Record* is, we consider, the first instalment of a paper contributed by Fleet-Surgeon G. T. Bishop, R.N., entitled "In the Far East." Mr. Bishop, evidently quite at home in many of the Far Eastern towns, chats interestingly about these places and their postal arrangements. Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Labuan, Johore, Yokohama and many other out of the way ports are dealt with.

The following extract will enable our readers to judge Mr. Bishop's style of writing.

Someone asked me about Corea and its stamps. I have scarcely anything to say of this little-known country, the land of the morning calm, and its various postal issues. I have been to many parts of Corea at widely varying dates. This country always seemed to be in a state of chaos. It was usually the scene of some other nation's battles, or there were political troubles going on of not much outside interest. I can remember a lot of stamps being offered for sale about 1894, but they did not appear to be issued from a post office. I have also a hazy idea that on one (only one) occasion, requiring a little refreshment stronger than milk, I entered a likely-looking house and found myself in a room actually papered with unused sheets of Corean stamps. The inhabitants of Chemulpo, at any rate, had no enhanced idea of the value of their stamps. As a matter of fact, Japanese stamps, surcharged or not, have done duty in Corea ever since that country had a postal system on her shores. The Corean stamps proper were only used, more or less, for local postage in the open ports, much in the same way that Shanghai "locals" were used in China at one time. In all probability we have seen the last of the issues for this kingdom. For the present, at any rate, Corea is like the cheap tray—Japanned all over.

Concerning Chinese locals, Mr. Bishop says:—

These smaller ports did great business with their postal systems, most of it being that of selling stamps and not that of carrying mails. At the same time it does not do to run away with the idea that the stamps were bogus. On the contrary, letters posted, say in Chefoo, at the Local Post Office, addressed to Amoy, were delivered at the latter port in good order. In fact, the various Chinese ports open to Europeans formed themselves into a small Postal Union.

Those of our readers who care for well written philatelic gossip from the far corners of the earth, will do well to read the current number of our premier contemporary.

The *London Philatelist* for May contains no single article of philatelic merit. A good Editorial, and an account of the Mirabaud auction from Mr. Castle's pen, save the journal from being of a very mediocre nature.

The Editorial, entitled "Collectors and Collectors," contains the following words of wisdom.

There linger perhaps yet a few sceptics in the outside world who profess to disbelieve in the permanency of Philately, and still regard the stamp collector as an innocuous form of lunatic! The hold that our hobby has secured in the public estimation is, however, by no means lessening, and despite the removal from our ranks of many of the veterans and leaders of the pursuit, their places are amply filled up by recruits of assured financial position and social rank. Enquiry in philatelic circles in almost any capital or large city of Europe or America will suffice to show that this class of rich and cultured men are more than ever turning to stamps as one of the most interesting and delightful forms of collecting.

In Mr. Castle's account of the Mirabaud Stamp Auction at Paris, we find some interesting reading. One little incident is well worth reproducing. To wit:—

He (M. Mirabaud) was a collector for some thirty years, and marked almost every stamp underneath from its source of origin and price paid. It may well be imagined, therefore, in an old collection, what curious facts these hinges revealed! I, myself, bought a strip of British Guiana, 1c., of 1853, for £26, which still had the hinges that I used to make myself in my earliest collecting days, and where M. Mirabaud had marked as coming from my first general collection at £2!



The other contents of our contemporary consist mostly of "Occasional Notes" Reviews, New Issues and Auction Prices.

In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for May 22nd, we find a further instalment of Mr. W. P. Barnsdall's article dealing with the postal issues of Guatemala, a very short dose of M. Ch. De Bont's excellent article on "Belgian Stamps," the conclusion of Mr. Ward's paper dealing with the "Stamps of the Ionian Islands," the conclusion of Mr. C. M. C. Symes' article relating to "Chili Stamps," and a number of other interesting short paragraphs and notes. In the copy dated May 20th, Major Evans' number, we find a long instalment of M. L. Hanciau's (or is it Tennyson's?) article dealing with "The Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies." This monumental work, admirable as it undoubtedly is, is, in our opinion, far too long, it has now been doled out in instalments for some years with the result that the reader must have completely forgotten all about the early chapters.

The present instalment is certainly far more readable than many we have perused as it deals mostly with the 15c. stamp of 1863, surcharged for use as a 20c. value.

Lieut. W. R. Gatt contributes another long chapter of his "History of the Post Office and the Stamps of Malta." He deals with the farthing stamp of January, 1901, the surcharged provisional of July, 1902, and the King's Head stamps.

We extract the following information relating to the surcharged value.

The stamps were issued on the 4th of July, 1902, and sold within a fortnight. The 1d. was the value for which there was the greatest demand; the 2½d. of which there was the greatest stock, was rendered practically useless by the change in postal rates, owing to the adoption of the Imperial Penny Postage System.

The surcharging was done locally at the Government Printing Office.

The sheets include the four principal shades of the 2½d. stamp, with their minor varieties. The majority of the stamps were those of the blue shade with brown gum, a stock that had been withdrawn from circulation some time back, owing to insufficiency of gum. The sheets in the bright ultramarine colour with white gum so surcharged were very few and specimens are scarce; the error in this and the blue shades is quite a rarity.

In each pane (the sheet having two panes of ten rows of six) an error occurred of some importance but of no great rarity, except in the rare shades, having the word "Penny" spelt "Pnney." This happened on the second stamp from the left of the second row from the bottom. The surcharge was printed separately on each pane.

Total number of stamps surcharged—720,000, of which 12,000 have the "Pnney" error.

A few minor varieties may be here noted. The third stamp from the right of the third row from the

top shows a broken "n" in the word "One." I have inspected three or four hundred sheets and found that this variety occurred on all of them. On some the surcharge is very heavily printed, and where the type has been unusually well inked, the letters are blurred, especially the "e" of "Penny." In this way, some stamps appear to be overprinted "Ponny," but, of course, we cannot assign any philatelic importance to such defects. It may also be found that in some of the sheets (very few though) the "P" of "Penny" on the second stamp from the left of the third row from the bottom is broken, and looks like an "F." This is evidently the effect of the ink not having been absorbed by the paper, owing to some surface matter.

In an earlier chapter of Lieut. Gatt's most interesting article, he stated, if we remember aright, that only one printing took place of the ½d. yellow stamp on C.A. paper. Since reading that statement (if indeed we *did* read it and our memory is not playing us false), we have seen a number of unused copies of the C.A. stamp which show a marked variety of shades, ranging from almost golden yellow, to an orange tinge. The shades are so marked that we think two or more printings must have taken place.

To resume "our muttons" however, we find that in the number of the *Weekly* now before us we have a lengthy budget of "Notes and Queries" from the Major's pen. The heading is somewhat of a misnomer, as practically all the "Notes" are of the nature of reviews of recently published books, but, nevertheless they are very interestingly written and, coming from so eminent a philatelic authority, are of permanent value.

In the June 5th *Weekly* we find another instalment of M. Ch. de Bont's article on "Belgium," the first instalment of an article entitled "A Type Collection," wherein Mr. B. W. H. Poole wisely advises his readers to "run" a type collection as the best solution of the problem of simplification. A number of other short papers, the usual excellent "New Issue" list and other features complete a good number of our contemporary.

The last three numbers of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* May 15th, 29th and June 12th, all contain a good deal of interesting matter. In each number there are instalments of the *S.C.F.* serials, namely "The Stamps of Uruguay," and "The Charges against Stamp Dealers" being respectively, a further translation of M. Sigismond Jean's book, and a full account of the Bow Street proceedings against Lowden and Harmer. In the June 12th number we also find a short

account of the Amsterdam Exhibition and the first instalment of an article dealing with "The Triangular Issues of the Cape of Good Hope," being a paper read before the Liverpool Philatelic Society, by Mr. R. O. Dagg. Early Capes are of such general interest that we extract the following—which, if it does not contain any new information, will nevertheless be appreciated by our readers.

ISSUE III.—EARLY 1861 "PROVISIONALS."

*Two values.* Early in the year 1861, the stock of one penny and fourpenny values had, it would appear, run inordinately low, and the authorities, confronted with a probable shortage before supplies could arrive from England decided for an issue locally of provisionals. The supply of the new stamps was entrusted to Messrs. Saul Solomon & Co., of 49 and 50, St. George's Street, Cape Town.

*Design.* A rough imitation of the regular issue but having straight white lines parallel with the sides of the stamps, separating the inscription from the central design.

*Paper.* Rather thin yellowish white laid.

*No watermark.* Imperforate.

*Two dies,* one for each value (1d. and 4d.), were separately engraved on steel, and from each of these 64 stereotype impressions were afterwards taken.

*Stereotyping.* In this process an impression is taken from the engraved die upon plaster of Paris or papier maché, metal is then poured into the impression and this naturally after cooling presents a facsimile of the original die. The transfer can be made either in the shape of thick metal block, as in casting type, or it can be made in the form of a thin metal surface. In the latter case it is attached to a wooden block, and it is then ready for printing.

In the case of the particular issue we are now considering, the impressions were cemented on to a wooden block to form the printing plate, hence the term "Woodblocks" commonly applied to these stamps. The 64 stereotypes of both values were each arranged in 4 horizontal rows of 16 stamps to the row, forming 8 squares, and in cementing these impressions on to the wooden blocks one of the fourpenny stereotypes was by inadvertance inserted on the one penny plate and *vice-versa*, thus occasioning the well-known colour errors—the 1d. blue and 4d. red. A sheet of prints measure  $10\frac{1}{2} \times 7$  inches, with a margin all round of three-quarters of an inch, the spaces between the stamp, pairs and rows varying, owing to uneven adjustment of the dies on the plates, from  $\frac{1}{16}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  of an inch, irregularly throughout. In the stamps themselves a slight variation in size may also be found.

The May number of the *West End Philatelist* contains a continuation of Mr. Poole's article dealing with the stamps of Bulgaria, a further short instalment of his article dealing with the stamps of Zululand, and a number of interesting notes.

From the article dealing with the stamps of Bulgaria we extract the following:—

The stamps were manufactured by the State Printing Works at St. Petersburg, and were printed on the same paper, and perforated in the same manner, as the Russian stamps then current. The paper was white laid, with the "laid" lines running horizontally, and it was watermarked with undulating lines running in the same direction. On some sheets there are letters between the undulating lines in one row, these evidently being the initials of the maker of the paper.

The stamps were printed in sheets of 100, arranged in four panes of 25 (five horizontal rows of five), placed two and two. A space of about 10mm. divides the panes both horizontally and vertically, and the margins of the sheet, which are usually about 25mm. wide, are quite plain.

The perforation gauges  $14\frac{1}{2} \times 15$ , and was applied to a whole sheet at a time by what is known as a harrow machine.

The stamps were printed at two operations, one for the design and one for the background. The background was in colour in each case, and on this the spaces where the lion, oval band, and numeral discs should print were uncoloured. The 5c. is known with this background inverted, and on this the lion does not, of course, fit the central space, for the head prints where the legs were intended to be. The error is rare, only two or three specimens being known.

The 5c. is found in orange and yellow, these evidently marking distinct printings but otherwise the colours of the stamps of this issue do not vary much in shade.

The stamps were well printed and gummed, and were produced by typography, but whether from plates consisting of 100 facsimiles, or 100 separate *clichés* clamped together, I cannot say positively at present. It is interesting to note that on some stamps a small black dot is shown above the lion's tongue, which does not appear on others.

The *Philatelic Adviser* for May contains the conclusion of Mr. Oliver's paper dealing with the stamps of Heligoland, a capital New Issue list and a miscellaneous assortment of odds and ends of philatelic writing. From the Heligoland article we extract the following table, which shows most of the tests for distinguishing the genuine stamps.

(A) THE ROULETTED ISSUE.

- 1.—The  $\frac{1}{2}$  schilling of 1867-8, both types, must be in blue-green.
- 2.—There are no reprints of Type I.
- 3.—The 1 schilling has narrow chignon and curl, and narrow "O."
- 4.—The centre of the 2 schilling, and the frame of the 6 schilling must be in a shade of yellow-green.
- 5.—There are no perforated originals of the 2 and 6 schilling.

(B) THE PERFORATED ISSUE.

- 6.—The perforated issue, consisting of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ , 1 and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  schilling, must be on very coarse, thick paper, showing the "web" as if it was a close quadrillé watermark. The  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1 and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  schilling must have medallion as Type I of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  schilling.
- 7.—The colours of the 1 and 2 pfennig of 1875 are carmine-lake and deep green.
- 8.—The colours of the 3 pfennig of 1876 are either *deep green, yellow and red, or green to yellow-green, yellow-brown and red.* The paper is a dull white to a very slight toned. Reprints are in different shades or combinations of shades to those given, and may also be found on *deep toned* paper and on very white paper.

The *Postage Stamp*, a welcome weekly visitor, usually contains one or more papers of value. In the copy dated May 24th we find an article contributed by Mr. W. Ward, entitled "Colonial Reminders." This should prove of permanent value, as it gives, with one or two inaccuracies, an almost complete list of Colonial possessions that have, at one

time or another, sold surplus stocks of stamps, together with the dates of issue of the "not wanted's."

In the copy dated June 12th we find the first instalment of what promises to be a capital article on the Stamps of Dominica, contributed by Mr. B. W. T. Poole.

The last two or three numbers of our excellent little contemporary, Messrs. C. Nissen & Co.'s *British Philatelist*, all contain a great deal to interest the collector of British stamps; they deal almost exclusively with the 2½d. and 3d. surface printed stamps. The following extract relating to the lower value should prove of interest.

#### THE TWO PENCE HALFPENNY.

This stamp was an outcome of the General Postal Union, founded in 1874, under which the rate of postage between Countries included in the first class was fixed at 2½d. per ½oz. It was issued on 1st July, 1875.

There were at first only 192 stamps on the plate, arranged in two vertically disposed panes of 96, in eight rows of twelve each. This applies to Plates 1 to 20.

For Plates 1 to 3 (and also to the extent of five sheets each for Plates 4 and 5), the paper used was that on which the One Penny Inland Revenue stamps were then being printed. It was a "safety" paper (*i.e.*, with a small amount of prussiate of potash mixed in the pulp as a preventive against cleaning), watermarked with 240 small Anchors (12-14mm. in height), disposed in one large pane of twenty rows of twelve each. Consequently, there were four rows of watermark—one at top, two between the panes, and one at foot—on which stamps did not fall, but they are covered by the marginal inscriptions. The paper is found not only white, but also with a decidedly bluish tinge; but specimens from any plate but the first are scarce in this latter variety.

The colour of the impression is a delicate lilac-rose, varying slightly in depth of shade. The total issue of this value on the Anchor paper was 90,010 sheets, or 17,281,920 stamps.

In this issue occurred a notable error, the last stamp in the eighth horizontal row on plate 2 being lettered "LH-FL," instead of "LH-HL." It is very scarce unused, and was discovered in America.

The June number of the *Stamp Lover* comes to us with a gorgeous cover, representing the Stars and Stripes of the United States Flag. The contents however are not so variegated as we find that the only article about stamps is contributed by Mr. L. W. Crouch. That gentleman deals exhaustively with the "Newspaper and Periodical Stamps of the United States." The rest of the contents of our gaudily covered exchange consists of an account of the recently held J.P.S.' "Celebration Dinner," an account of the Earls Court stamp show, some correspondence, "odds and ends" and advertisements.

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The May number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* is to hand and we see that Mr. E. W. Wetherell again occupies the Editorial chair, while in an editorial note he frankly outlines his future policy, for we read:—

Stamps, after all are a pastime, and the man who works all day is often too tired to bother much with technical matters.

Bearing this in mind, and having an idea that it may be possible to wrap up philatelic truths in a certain amount of lighter vein matter, etc.

We are glad to hear this, but hope that future instalments of the "lighter vein matter" will be, shall we say, less laboured than is the article entitled "The Philatelic Experiences of Demosthenes Bunn," which appears in the current number.

The Editor contributes a short article entitled "A Note on the 25 Centavos of the 1874 Issue of Mexico." This "note" is all too short, as it is we can only reproduce the following:—

The 1874 issue of Mexico was engraved and printed by the American Bank Note Co. of New York. The stamps were in use from 1874 to 1883, with two changes (a) the colour of the 10c. was changed from black to orange, (b) a new value 4c. was introduced.

The 25c. is the commonest value, and if variation exists in the stamps it is in the 25c. that we should expect to find it.

The stamps are *taille douce* engravings, and as a rule "taille douce" stamps do not show variation to any great extent.

In looking through some thousands of specimens I was struck by the fact that stamps of a very worn appearance might be found with the date 1874, and very clear copies dated 1883. This at once pointed to difference of plate. I therefore sorted the stamps according to date, and then examined them in detail.

1874, Plate 1. (or first group of plates).

*Secret mark?* All the specimens I possess show a blue dot—very well marked, in the second l of "Veinticinco." This may be a secret mark, or it may be a guide dot, it varies in position on each stamp, and is therefore not present on the original die.

This plate was in use alone for 1874, 1875, 1876 and 1877.

In 1878 a second plate came in (it is rare with this date, but common in 1879. I presume that it came into use late in 1878). Specimens from this plate may be distinguished at once, as there is a small semi-lunar blue curve added to each stamp separately. It is just under the bottom of the "2" (in N.W. corner) in the white frame below the tablet. This plate was in use in 1878, 1879, 1880 and 1881.

In 1881 a third plate made its appearance; it is very clearly distinguishable as there is no semi-lunar curve, no blue dot, but there is a series of guide lines which appear at the top and sides of the stamps, outside the design, and cutting each other at the extreme N.W. corner of the stamps.

Mr. Wetherell is a painstaking philatelist, one who likes to lead and not follow, so we look forward to future contributions from his pen. Six pages are devoted to a

paper entitled "A Dramatic Episode," being a reprinted article from an old paper, published late in 1839. The subject is a supposed interview between Her Majesty Queen Victoria and Lord Melbourne, they are discussing Rowland Hill's "Post Office Reform." A few pages of "Reviews" and "Topical Notes," and an obituary notice of the late Mr. Nankivell complete the contents of a most readable journal.

From the Topical Notes we extract the following gem, which, short as it is, is one of the best turned witticisms we have ever read.

Mr. Crofton also states that if anyone wishes to know what the zigzag perforations of Afghanistan are like, he should look at the edges of the *Sporting Times*.

*i.e.*

To recognize clearly an Afghanny Perf.  
In the lists of both Gibbons and Lincoln;  
Just lay out a penny and see for yourself,  
The zig-zaggy edge of the "*Pincoln*."  
"TANCRED."

The March number of the *Australian Philatelist* contains, as most numbers of our "down under" exchange usually do, a number of chatty paragraphs relating to Australian postal history. We extract the following:—

#### FEDERAL PROSPECTS.

Printing at Headquarters.

Possible and Probable Perforations.

The delightful uncertainty of the perforations of some stamps which have recently emanated from the Melbourne Printing Office is adding "vim" to collecting. It is an exceedingly difficult matter to speculate as to which is the regular perforation and which the variety. We are in for a lively time when Mr. Cooke, that past master in the art of making compound perforations, gets properly going in his new billet.

The daily Press announces that the Government is moving the stamp printing machinery now in use in Adelaide to Melbourne, and we presume that the perforating machines will go over as well. How will we stand then? So far as we are aware, the following gauges were until recently in use in Adelaide, viz.: 11½, 12 and 12½, single cutters, and 12×11½ triple cutter for the small stamps. In Melbourne there are at least three machines viz. 11 and 12 single and 12×12½ triple cutter. It would be a nice mathematical problem to ascertain how many varieties of perforation, single and compound, would be possible with these seven machines. Most likely some of them will be discarded, and it is quite probable that the South Australian types may disappear altogether, or at least the long stamps, and that those for use in South Australia henceforth will be similar to the current West Australian with the name of the State altered. We await with curious interest the development of affairs.

A short instalment of an article dealing with "Australian Punctured Official Stamps," some "Notes on the Stamps of British New Guinea and Papua," a review

of Part II. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue and other matter make up a capital number of our contemporary.

In the April number of the same journal we find a short article dealing with Samoa stamps, or rather whether they should be called British Samoa stamps or just plain Samoa stamps.

The writer, an American, claims that Samoa has no more right to the title British, than German, or American. Be this as it may, the following extracts from Mr. J. Dreyer's letter are well worth reproducing.

The first issue of Samoan stamps, known as the "Express" series (1877-1882), was a lithographed set issued by W. E. Agar, who opened a post office at Apia. "They constituted a private issue," as Mr. P. Malone correctly remarks. That post office was discontinued in 1882.

Several years ago, while at Lyons, France, I had an opportunity for perusing a large number of letters from residents in the Samoan group, written between the years 1840 and 1886. From numerous references made to the despatch of letters it appears that any available ship was then used for that purpose. Most of these letters had been sent to Europe by way of Sydney, New South Wales, some by way of French Oceania, and some by way of Panama. It is a well-known fact that during the period from 1882 to 1887 letters were prepaid by the stamps of Great Britain, Germany, or the United States, and even of France, according to the nationality of the vessel that carried the mail, or possibly according to what section of the group the letters originated in. It is also known that letters despatched by the Agar post, or, later on, by the Davis post, bore stamps of Samoa and stamps of one of the three treaty Powers, in the case of Great Britain, mostly New South Wales stamps, in order to ensure their delivery abroad, without the addressee having to pay extra postage. Samoa not being then a member of the Postal Union, the mail was handled by special contracts with the three Powers named.

In the summer of 1886 it was thought advisable to re-establish the Samoan Post Office. The Municipality of Apia had been formed, and the Condominium established which recognised Malietoa Laupepa as King of Samoa.

The Postmaster was invested with rather absolute powers. In August, 1891, an arrangement was entered into with the United States postal authorities, by the terms of which the Samoan stamps were recognised as valid for the payment of postage to the United States. Formerly the foreign mail clerk at San Francisco, the only exchange post office between Samoa and the United States, had to affix United States stamps to the amount of the domestic or foreign rate of postage.

New Zealand went a step further. Besides recognising the stamps issued by Mr. Davis for Samoa, the postal authorities of that great and prosperous Commonwealth sent out a circular inviting the members of the Postal Union to accept letters shipped from Samoa by way of Auckland or San Francisco, and found in the New Zealand mails for other countries, without charging extra postage on delivery, in fact, to treat them in all respects as if originating in New Zealand and franked with New Zealand stamps. That arrangement may have existed as early as 1886, but certainly after 1892.

In our copy of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, dated May 15th, we find that Mr. L. Harald Kjellstedt brings forward the excellent suggestion that the members of the American Philatelic Society should publish a specialised catalogue of U.S. postage issues.

The following extract shows what would be Mr. Kjellstedt's *modus operandi*.

As the Philatelic Society of Sweden is already doing for Swedish philately what I am suggesting that we should do for American philately, it may be of interest to learn something of the way they are doing it. The society's entire membership of 1,000 has been invited to co-operate in the work. In order to encourage such co-operation, six series of competitions have been arranged. Thus the first series covers the issues of 1855, 1858, 1862-67 and the local stamps. Nine prizes are awarded in this series to the members furnishing the most valuable material in the form of information or loan of stamps of interest. The competition within the first series closed March 15th. In the sixth series, which covers the entire, it will close Nov. 15th of the present year, and the catalogue will be out in two languages, Swedish and German, during the Spring of 1910. The total number of prizes awarded in the six series are valued at over \$500.00 and have been presented for the purpose by a few of the leading members. The catalogue committee which has the entire work in hand consists of 15 members, collectors and dealers. The features, heretofore neglected, which will receive particular attention in the new catalogue are:

- Interesting colour shades.
- Errors in perforating and scarce imperforates.
- Variations of thin or thick paper.
- Stamps with double impression or impression on the back.
- Stamps on which the impression has struck through.
- Stamps showing early cancellations from the first year of each issue.
- Cancellations on colour shades of interest.
- Unusual cancellations.
- Curiosities.
- Forgeries.

As these are features which will receive special attention, besides the features incorporated in former editions of the Swedish societies catalogue, and as every item will be priced, if possible, it can be seen that the specialist of the issues of Sweden will have his entire field thoroughly covered.

We sincerely trust that such a handbook will eventuate, as it would indeed be of great value to all collectors of U.S. stamps.

## Philately on the Continent.

The *Nederlandsche Philatelist* has changed its usual orange cover for the Dutch tricolour in its "feest-nummer," in honour of the Amsterdam Exhibition, with which it is naturally chiefly concerned. On account of the cosmopolitan character of the exhibition, there are articles in it in English, by Mr. Poole, on the Russian Issues of Crete of 1899, done with

the thoroughness we invariably associate with this philatelic writer, and one by Mr. Melville, on the Enjoyment of Philately, in his characteristic style; Germany is represented by Herr Hans Müller, who discourses on the future of stamp collecting. Of course there is the inevitable portrait of Queen Wilhelmina with the infant princess, which appears to have been taken from a stained glass window in one of the old Dutch churches.

The *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde*, of course, has its "feest-nummer" too, and a huge one it is, consisting of no fewer than 48 quarto pages, exclusive of advertisements. It opens with a poem in the form of an acrostic in heroic verse, quite a *tour de force*; it has the swing and rhythm of Goethe's *Hermann und Dorothea*. This number contains so large an amount of eminently readable matter, that it would be an invidious distinction to single out one or two particular articles for special notice.

The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* of May 15th has a most interesting article on the "Stamps of the Suez Canal Company" from the pen of Herr Joseph Kröger. In the course of this article he mentions Egyptian stamps bearing the cancellations "Canal de Suez—Chantier VI." and "Canal de Suez—Kil 83." He shows that these were not the private cancellation marks of the Company, but were used by Government Post Offices at various points on the banks of the Canal. If any of our readers should have Egyptian stamps with similar postmarks in their possession we shall feel greatly obliged if they will kindly submit them to us for inspection.

The most prominent article in the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung* is on "Photographic Methods in the Service of Philately," by Dr. Erich Stenger. This appears to be the first instalment of an exhaustive treatise, and we hope to discuss it in detail when the learned author has made a little more headway.

Herr Kosack appears to be engaged in burying the hatchet all round with his numerous philatelic antagonists; his front page contains a further instalment of mutual apologies. It would not surprise us if before very long we found Captain Ohrt installed in the editorial chair of our interesting contemporary.

The June number of the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* gives the place of honour to an anonymous article entitled "Studies in Russian Watermarks and other Observations." The author has had the advantage of studying these watermarks in complete sheets, and gives a most interesting account of them. We trust it will be the forerunner of something more copious on the same lines, as the study of this country has been very much neglected by philatelists.

*Le Timbre-Poste* for May opens with a long article on that much debated error of Réunion, the 52c. (instead of 25c.), on the 40c. Eagle type of the French Colonies. M. Victor Flandrin, the author of the article, reviews all the facts and theories known or put forward in connection with the stamp and, for himself, comes to the conclusion that the error is authentic, thus controverting the opinion of most other authorities. In support of his faith, M. Flandrin certainly quotes some very convincing arguments. It appears that at a meeting of the *Société française de Timbrologie* on the 7th June, 1888, a member presented to his colleagues a 52c. obliterated on a portion of an envelope. The discovery having been duly reported in the philatelic papers, it was regarded on all hands with suspicion. The donor of the stamp thereupon made enquiries of the Postmaster of Réunion and received the following reply:—

"I, the undersigned, treasurer of the Post, declare that, at the time of the transformation of the postage stamps, in 1885, some stamps received, in error, the surcharge  $\frac{52c.}{R}$  instead of  $\frac{25c.}{R}$ . As soon as this was noticed by the authorities the printer was ordered to correct his plates and the remaining sheets were issued without the errors.

"Before the postal officials discovered the errors, which, be it understood, were only on some of the sheets, a certain number had been sold over the counter. All the rest were destroyed and burned (sic).

"Saint Denis, 7 November, 1888.

A de la Serve.

For the Inspector of the Postal Service,

J. PRÉMARY."

This letter was published at the time in the *Bulletin de la Société française de Timbrologie* and the original is filed in the archives of the said Society.

All we can say is that the letter seems to "protest too much" as Shakespeare would have put it. We presume the editors of *Catalogue Official* had good reason for putting it under their ban.

In the same journal there is a valuable article on the Reprints of Sweden, signed "Ignotus."

## The 100 Rarest Stamps.

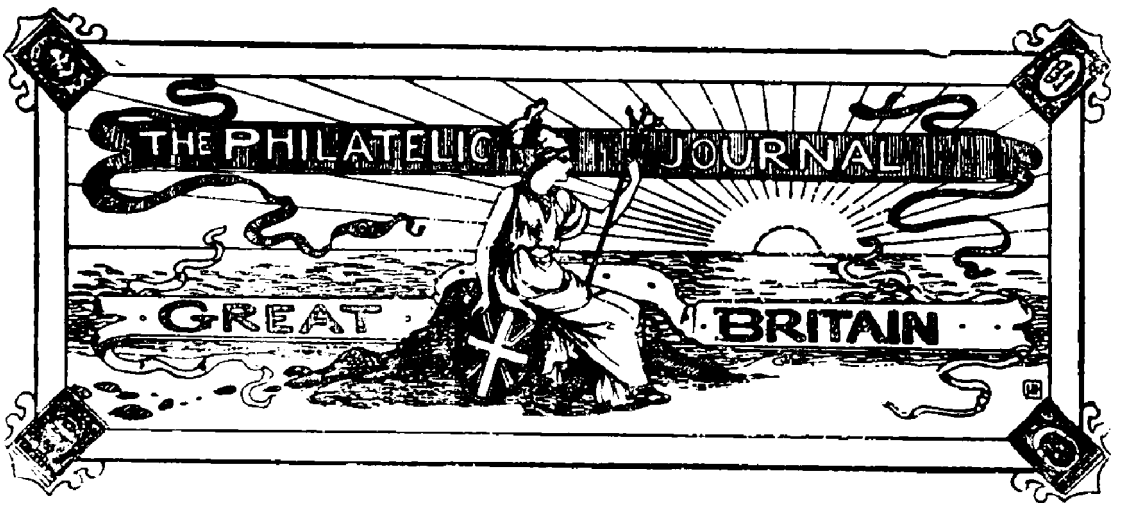
LATEST COMPILATION, BY A FRENCHMAN.

(Continued from page 106.)

- 52—Alsace-Lorraine, 1870, 5c., inverted wmk., unused  
53—Antioquia, 1868, 10c. lilac, unused

- 54—Zurich, 1843, 5 rap. black, horizontal lines, unused  
55—Austria, 1851, Mercury, rose, unused  
56—Cape of Good Hope, 1861, 1d. red, wood-block, unused  
57—Ceylon, 1857, 8d. brown, used  
58—Naples, 1860,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tornese, blue, Arms, unused  
59—Spain, 1851, 2 reales, red, used  
60—United States, 1873, \$5 green and black, used  
61—British Guiana, 1850, 4c. black on yellow, unused  
62—Peru, 1858,  $\frac{1}{2}$  peso, rose, unused  
63—Moldavia, 1858, 27 paras, black on rose, used  
64— " " 108 " " " " " " or unused  
65—Geneva, 1844, 5 + 5 cent, black on green, used  
66—France, 1873, 15c. bistre on rose (error) unused  
67—Ceylon, 1857, 4d. rose, used  
68—Nova Scotia, 1851, 1/- violet, used  
69—Turks Isles, 1873, 1/- prune, unused  
70—British Columbia, 1861, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. imperf. unused or used  
71—Natal, 1860, 3d. blue, perfd., used  
72—Spain, 1852, 2 reales, red, unused  
73— " 1854, Madrid, 3cts., bronze, unused  
74—South Australia, 1887, £20 lilac-rose, unused  
75—Bavaria, 1870 (telegraph), 23 florins 50, unused  
76—Buenos Aires, 1858, 4 pesos, red, unused  
77—Vancouver, 1865, 5c. rose, unused  
78—British Guiana, 1850, 4c. black on red, used  
79—Natal, 1860, 3d. blue, imperf., unused  
80—British Guiana, 1856, 8c. black on green, unused  
81—New Brunswick, 1851, 1/- violet, used  
82—Zurich, 4 rap. black, vertical lines, used  
83—Afghanistan, 1878, 1 rupee, violet  
84—West Australia, 1855, 6d. bronze, unused  
85—Ceylon, 1861, 8d. yel.-brown, unused  
86—Colombia, 1862, 2c. red, unused  
87—Antioquia, 1868, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. blue, unused  
88—United States, 1873, \$10 green and black, used or unused  
89—British Guiana, 1850, 12c. black on blue, used  
90—New South Wales, 1851, 8d. orange, unused  
91—Prussia, 1856, 2 slbgr. blue, unused  
92—Moldavia, 1858, 54 paras, blue on green, unused  
93—St. Vincent, 1870, 5/- carmine, used or unused  
94—Sierra Leone, 1861, 6d. violet, imperf., used or unused  
95—Zurich, 1843, 4 rap. black, horizontal lines, used  
96—Buenos Aires, 1858, 5 pesos, yellow, used  
97—Afghanistan, 1870, 1 rupee, violet, unused  
98—Labuan, 1880, 6c. on 16c. blue, unused  
99—Mauritius, 1859, 2d. blue, used  
100—Bergedorf, 1861,  $\frac{1}{2}$  sch. violet, unused

We could pass some criticism on the above list, and should like to know where such rarities as the 6kr. Wurtemberg imperf., no thread, unused, and such a trifle as the 2d. carmine Newfoundland, unused, have got to. But the list is interesting enough according to its lights, though we doubt if it is as good as the list published some years ago in most of the English papers.



The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, and the Sheffield Philatelic Society.

No. 223. VOL. XIX.

JULY 20, 1909.

[PRICE 2D.]

## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

ONE of the many advantages that a central London Philatelic Club could confer on its members would be an up-to-date register of names of visitors in our great metropolis. No matter **A Visitors' List.** in what part of the world the collector lives, possibly in some distant township located at the "back of beyond" in Australia; or some remote frontier camp in the Indian Hills, he always regards London as his philatelic Mecca.

Fortunately for London collectors and dealers, who, with a few exceptions are notoriously averse to travel, our friends realize their desire, in nearly every instance, with the result that every year London is the shrine for a number of well-known collectors.

Had the Manchester Congress been a little more enthusiastic and were "home" collectors a little more energetic it is within the bounds of possibility that the present season would have seen the establishment of a London Philatelic Club. Had such been the case Colonial visitors would, in nearly every instance, have made the Club their headquarters, with the result that their arrival in London would have been common knowledge to collectors and dealers alike. At the present time however our over sea visitors, beyond calling

to see several of the leading dealers, and perhaps presenting letters of introduction to a few collectors, are quite in the dark regarding the movements of brother philatelists.

If a visitors' list, with addresses, was published in one of the leading philatelic papers, it would, we feel sure, be of great service to collectors. The keen enthusiastic philatelist of Bhopal is, as a rule, only too pleased to correspond, or compare notes, with a brother collector, while in many cases the foundations of friendships would be laid that would be life-lasting. The only drawback to our scheme (which scheme, doubtless, is not original) would be the possibility of dealers worrying visitors with price lists and selections. This factor, after all, need not, we think, be seriously considered, as the advanced specialist is, as a rule, only too pleased to see varieties foreign to his collection. While it is only those dealers with a good stock who would consider it worth their while to write to the great Moguls.

At the present time we have a number of well-known stamp men at home, including the President of the Indian Society, the Secretary of a well-known Colonial Society, the leading dealer of Australia, and many others. We cannot but think that were some philatelic paper

to publish a list, it would be of real benefit to the "strangers within our gates."

Many papers, not philatelic, make a speciality of their lists of Colonial visitors. Surely, then, when all our stamp friends have the one hobby in common, such a list as we suggest would be of great value.

In the event of our idea meeting with any support from collectors abroad, and those at present visiting in England, we shall be very pleased to devote a column in these pages to their needs, a proceeding which would, we certainly think, benefit our over-sea friends.

## Notes on Australian Stamps.

BY THE EDITOR.

(Continued from page 51).

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The fourpenny plate, although not utilized to anything like the same extent as was the nine penny, was used for printing sheets of blue stamps from. These stamps, surcharged "3 PENCE," either in carmine or in black were extensively used, and, in a postmarked condition are comparatively common as they remained in use until replaced by the De la Rue surface printed threepenny label of 1890. The blue stamp is known without surcharge, but in that condition is a very great rarity. In the *Philatelic Record* for October, 1879, this stamp is chronicled as a new issue, while in Gibbons' catalogue I see it is listed with the 1870-1 stamps.

Before leaving the "first star" stamps, which constitute by far the most interesting of all the issues, I should like to warn my readers against so-called imperf. varieties. Practically every value is found imperf. but would all these varieties bear scrutiny from a specialist in South Australians? In the Tapling collection I see there are several of these abnormal



stamps, notably a fine copy of the "3 PENCE" in black on the 4d. sky blue. Of the old rouletted stamps numerous varieties are known, in some cases where the roulettes do not show vertically (in pairs), and again where there are double and even treble rows of roulettes.

There are numerous very desirable stamps on the "first star" paper, nearly all of which might be picked up for a few shillings by any collector who has a good eye for shades, notably the 2/-, perforated, pale rose-carmine, a stamp common enough with roulettes, but extremely rare perforated. Another really scarce stamp, and one that requires an expert's

verdict, is the 9d. grey-lilac perforated and rouletted. This stamp is not known perforated all round, so the probabilities point to the fact that a goodly supply of these stamps had been rouletted, a supply that practically lasted until the colour of the stamp was changed. A few sheets however were undoubtedly put through the perforating machine, probably early in 1872. There are two fine copies of this stamp in the British Museum collection, both of which are postmarked June, 1872.

All early South Australian stamps, especially those on the first watermarked paper, are known showing more or less distinct double impressions, these varieties are not of particular interest, except to the very advanced specialist; they were caused by the paper shifting very slightly during the process of printing and should have no market value. Owing to the careless way the sheets of paper were "fed" into the printing press, stamps showing creases are fairly common, these stamps certainly have no extra intrinsic value because of their imperfections.

### B.—SURFACE PRINTED STAMPS ON WIDE S.A. PAPER.

The two stamps now to be considered, namely, the small one penny and two pence values mark a new departure in South Australian postal economy. They were surface printed from plates made by Messrs. De la Rue, and, were it not for the fact that they include several desirable varieties of watermark and perforation, would be very uninteresting stamps. Although in the catalogue both values are listed together under the heading 1868-74, it is only the 2d. stamp that need be immediately considered as the plate for the 1d. stamp was not made until some years later. A special paper was used for these stamps, watermarked with a Crown and the letters S.A. During the first year the new 2d. stamps were in use every possible combination of roulette and perforation was employed, while stamps rouletted all round or perforated all round are very common.



There is no need for me to enumerate the perforation varieties, they are tabulated at length in Gibbons' catalogue. A year after the 2d. stamp had been in use, a temporary shortage of Crown and S.A. paper made the use of Star watermarked paper a necessity, consequently we find that a comparatively small printing of stamps was made on the paper used for the higher values. The majority of these stamps were rouletted, but varieties are known that have gone through the perforating machine. The 2d. stamp (Crown and S.A. paper) is also known imperforate, a used strip of three, imperf. all round, being in the Tapling collection.

The 1d. stamps, like the 2d. ones, were printed in the Colony from plates sent out from London by Messrs. De la Rue, and were placed on sale six or seven years after the 2d. labels. The design is, I think, more effective than that of the 2d., but both must be fairly popular as is evidenced by their being in use at the present time. The 1d. stamp, as it was issued some years later than the 2d. value, is not found rouletted, otherwise it underwent the same perforation tribulations as the 2d. label. Fortunately, or perhaps unfortunately, we are spared "Star" and "V and Crown" varieties.

Two or more kinds of paper were used for the wide S.A. stamps, while advanced specialists separate their treasures into two classes of types of wide "Crown and S.A." There is certainly a slight difference in some, noticeable in the shape of the Crown and the spacing of the letters S.A., but not sufficient to appeal to any but the most advanced of specialists. Regarding this third type of watermark it is interesting to note the remarks passed in the *Monthly Journal* for July, 1890, when it was suggested to separate the "Star" and "Crown and S.A." types into two divisions.

"The *Timbre Poste* has a paragraph illustrating two varieties of star watermark and two varieties of S.A. under Crown watermark. This, following Mr. Castle's paper on the measurement of the numerals found watermarked on the stamps of New South Wales, is rather alarming. If we are to chronicle and collect all the watermarks of Star, letters, and figures which differ slightly in size, a new field is before us of boundless extent.

Life will be surely too short."

### C. VARIETIES OF WATERMARK.

Under this heading I class the 2d. and 4d. on V and Crown paper and the 10d. on Crown and S.A., although, to be consistent I certainly should include the 2d. stamp on Star watermarked paper, as this stamp is at any rate as much an error as the 10d. S.A. The use of V and Crown paper for the 2d. and 4d. stamps was necessitated by a genuine

shortage of paper in the Adelaide printing office.

This demand was met by the simple method of borrowing from the neighbouring colony of Victoria a supply of Victorian paper,\* with the result that collectors now have at least one very desirable variety to hunt for, namely, the 4d.; the 2d. stamp having been much more largely used, is common.

These two stamps were issued late in 1870 or early during the following year. The 2d. value is still quite common, but, well centred is more nearly worth full catalogue than are many other early S. Australians. The 4d. value, in my experience, is a fairly hard stamp to procure, and, at auction and elsewhere, always realizes a good proportion of its catalogue price. This stamp is more frequently found with a departmental overprint, than not, with the result that many collectors take the overprinted variety.

By far the rarest of the errors of watermark is the 10d. stamp printed on Crown and S.A. paper. Only a few sheets could have been issued, probably not more than *three*, giving a total of 720 stamps. These sheets were sold to the public shortly after the 2d. De la Rue stamps came into use, and it is hard to say whether they were intentionally printed on "Crown and S.A." paper, or whether some sheets of that paper got mixed up with the "Star" paper, most probably the latter. This stamp is, I believe, only known perforated 11½, or 11½ and 12½. The fact that it is known gauging both 11½ and 12½ on the same side is, I think, conclusive proof that the varieties of the other values, known perf. 12½ all round, are merely irregular varieties of the 11½ machine, as the 10d. on Crown and S.A. paper was printed before it should have become necessary to repair the 11½ gauge machine.

THE resource of the German Post Office was recently put to the test in a very curious manner, says *L'Annonce Timbrologique*. On the 2nd of May a post card was posted at Hanau which bore, in place of the Address, a photograph of the man it was intended for. The card was written in Esperanto, but the word "Esperanto" was purposely omitted by the author of the card who evidently wished to measure the popularity of the international language of Dr. Zamenhof (for the photograph pasted on the card was of him).

The sender was not deceived in relying on the perspicacity of the post office for the address "Doctor Zamenhof, Varsovie," was written on the card and it was duly delivered on May 5th.

\*Curiously enough, the colony of Tasmania, reduced to the same need of borrowing, applied the same year to the Printers at Sydney for paper, with the result that the 1870 stamps of Tasmania are found with the 1863 watermarks of New South Wales.

# Adhesive Postage Stamps of Chili.

By J. R. BURTON, F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from page 125.)

CONTINUING the study of the stamps of the War Period we find the Chilians using in the captured cities certain Peruvian stamps surcharged with the Chilian Arms.



The recorded values are as follows:—

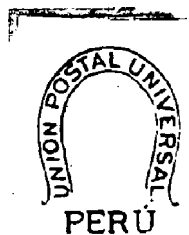
1c. orange,	blue overprint.	
2c. violet,	black	„
2c. lilac	„	„
2c. carmine	„	„
5c. blue	red	„
5c. ultramarine	„	„
10c. green	„	„
20c. carmine	blue	„
20c. „	black	„

Some of these are listed by some authorities with inverted and double overprints, and it is quite feasible that such errors were made in each variety. When we consider how fuddle-headed and shaky-handed the expert workmen of the greatest printing firms in the world become when confronted with the sacred duty of surcharging postage stamps, it seems perfectly miraculous that no great host of varieties has been discovered in connection with this issue. Here, indeed, must be more ground which would repay the hard-working philatelist a hundredfold. To begin with, the overprint was probably lithographed from a stone, the size of which has yet to be discovered, and, furthermore, the minute or other varieties thereon remain, as yet, unpublished.

It seems to me that I am rather in the position of the poor deceased "King's Jester" who said: "I love the working man! I love to see him work! I could sit for hours and watch him at it," inasmuch as in this series of articles, I am, to change the metaphor, like a wooden signpost on the Road to Fame, everlastingly pointing out the way to many Philatelic by-paths, without even getting a step further upon the road myself.

Chili being a member of the Postal Union, led the captured provinces within the fold, hence an additional surcharge "Union Postal Universal" within a horseshoe above the word "Peru"—unconsciously signifying that

that unhappy conquered country was under the Iron Heel of Aliens.



This additional surcharge is supposed to exist in black upon the 1c. green with Chilian Arms in red, on the 5c. (not 2c. blue in red as in *Gibbons Weekly* p. 207), blue in red, on the 50c. rose in blue and also in black and the 1 sol. blue in red; copies are known with the overprint inverted and double and these errors combined with the errors of the preceding issue constitute a nice complicated little group; for instance one may find both overprints inverted, or one normal and one inverted, one double and one inverted, and so on, and last of all the horseshoe overprint may be found without the Arms.

The Chilians, thrifty souls, used for this surcharging a large consignment of stamps found on a vessel which was captured by one of their warships. A second consignment is said to have been only saved from them by being landed in Ecuador and kept there till after the end of the war, which was not reached till the end of 1883. The Chilian troops evacuated the Northern provinces on October 23rd, but the rich Southern District remained in the hands of Chili.

So ended a prostrated struggle, full of incidents of all sorts, some humourous, some tragic and some which might have been either, as in the case of the American Patent Torpedo, which was warranted to work all sorts of wonders. Two samples were entrusted to Admiral Grau, who was all eagerness to test their efficiency. Drawing near to a port one evening that gallant officer espied a Chilian vessel at anchor, so he took the Huascar into range, slowed up and discharged the deadly missile. The whole ship's crew gathered at the side to watch with interest the little ripple marking its silent passage towards the unsuspecting enemy. Suddenly a warning cry ran out, "The darned thing's turned and coming back at us!" It was too true; and what was more, would be upon them before they could get back to posts and get a move on the iron-clad. The moment produced its hero, one of the officers bravely leapt overboard, swam to

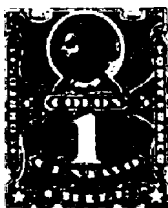
meet the new species of boomerang and deflected its course, so that it passed harmlessly away into the unknown. At the first opportunity Grau landed and buried the other in a churchyard. What a chance for the maker of epitaphs!

At the close of the war, we come upon another group of surcharges. I refer to the ovals containing merely the place name, such as YCA, PAITA, etc., in block capitals.



Gibbons lists these under date 1884 as local surcharges upon the stamps of Peru. As the evacuation was made in 1883 how came they then to appear upon Chilian stamps? And how is it that stamps bearing them are not as far as my knowledge goes often postmarked? I am inclined to think they were really a species of pre-cancellation like that in use in the United States at the present time, and as they are found at first upon Chilian stamps, either the Chilians must have initiated their use or must have left in the evacuated post offices some stocks of their stamps. In some of the captured cities the Chilians removed the word "principal" from the lower half of the postmark and substituted a rosette, later on removing the rosette and inserting "Chile." But in Tacna the old postmark with "principal" was kept in use for many years. To this period belong a number of unusual postmarks on Chilian stamps such as FRANCA and various town names in large size letterings frequently with the Peruvian termination 'ILLOS, and usually struck in violet or some other fancy coloured ink.

The turmoil of the war period being at an end we now return to the peaceful ways of ordinary issues. The new supply of stamps from the American Bank Note Co. in the same type as the 50c. of the preceding issue came to hand and began to be sold to the



public somewhere in the early part of 1881. The size of the sheets, marginal wording and rouletting remained the same as in the issue

of 1877, but the colours and values were altered to the following:—1c. green, 2c. pale carmine and 2c. bright carmine, 5c. dull rose, 5c. ultramarine (1883), 5c. dark ultramarine, 5c. royal blue (a rare and beautiful shade,) 10c. yellow (1885), 10c. orange, 15c. deep green (1892) 20c. slate-grey (1886), 25c. red-brown (1892), 30c. rose-carmine (1892), and 50c. deep violet. The shades enumerated in this list are all genuinely different and not changelings. There is a 50c. rather pale mauve always to be found on the earlier dated envelopes and never on those of a later date, which is not to be obtained by trying to fade one of the 50c. deep violet. There does exist a peculiar dull shade of mauve which, in my opinion, is a fade of the darker stamps, but it is very scarce and quite different in appearance to the 50c. mauve. In my collection there was a used copy and an unused pane. This issue was rounded off by the bi-coloured 1 peso, one of the handsomest stamps, in my humble opinion, ever designed, though, owing to its size, like the British Navy, it took a lot of licking. The last batch of this stamp has only just been used up, so it has had a long and useful life of 17 years.



This stamp has been known imperf. between as regards one horizontal row of perforations for some time past. I have discovered a vertical strip of three, imperf. between both rows, and therefore a novelty.

Mr. Symes thinks it worth while to collect specimens of this stamp showing the central portion (in black) in different positions relatively to the frame (in brown), but as in all bicoloured stamps, a separate plate has to be used for each portion printed in a different colour, a careful examination would show hundreds of such so-called varieties because in putting the sheets in the press for the second colour to be printed they rarely get perfect centreing. Copies showing the head much out of position are therefore in reality only badly centred copies and useful solely for proving to the tyro that bicoloured stamps have to be printed in two operations.

Mr. Symes is quite right in saying that this issue is hard to obtain in blocks. In fact blocks either used or unused of almost all Chilian stamps up to this date are exceedingly difficult to find.

In 1894, the 1c. and 2c. were issued in a re-engraved type, the small scrolls at each side

of the base of the large figure of value being removed.



In 1900, we come to a radical departure, Messrs. Waterlow & Sons secured the contract for the postage stamps, revenue stamps and telegraph stamps. The postage stamps showed



a large head of Columbus boldly drawn, but to my mind too clumsy in comparison with the frame. Another peculiarity is that the figures of value appear six times in the design, once in each corner and in addition twice in the left hand framing. The stamps were in sheets of one hundred, *i.e.*, ten rows of ten each. The marginal inscriptions I cannot give; possibly there were none, as none of the marginal strips I have seen contained any.

Of the 2,000,000 30c. carmine of the previous issue, shipped in 1892, 1,750,000 still remained on hand and in 1900 it was decided to surcharge the remainder with a large 5 and use them as 5 centavo stamps. The surcharge was lithographed but the stone was rather carelessly made, blotches and other faults being constant, causing the following most prominent varieties, to say nothing of it being possible to find them all inverted, also double, also double and inverted, though the more glaring errors are very scarce:—

- 10th stamp in top row very thick neck and ball.
- 10th " " 2nd " " " & smeared top.
- 10th " " 3rd " " " & very smeary.
- 10th " " 4th " " smeary inner edge of 5.
- 9th " " 7th " " very thick neck and irregular lower part.
- 10th " " 7th " " also rather thick.
- 9th " " 8th " " thick neck.
- 7th " " 10th " " forked head to upright stroke of 5.

The quantities originally sent and the values and colours of the Waterlow postage stamps were as follows:—1c. green, 2,000,000; 2c. lake, 4,000,000; 5c. blue, 5,000,000; 10c. lilac, 2,000,000; 20c. grey, 1,000,000; 30c. orange-red; 50c. red-brown.

It is to be feared that the English made

plates did not wear so well as the American, for in 1901 the background needed retouching. In their first state the stamps show a heavy shadow under the upper label and above the hat of the portrait, due to heavy lines, but in the retouched varieties, *viz.*, 1c. green (4,000,000), 2c. lake (4,000,000), 5c. blue (8,000,000), and 10c. violet (1,000,000) this shading is so modified as almost to appear done away with and an even background is presented.

Some writers have supposed that the 30c. belongs to the later type, but a close examination will cause it to be classed amongst the earlier varieties, only the colour—orange—as usual does not show up the details at all well. Two scarce varieties of this issue have been found, the first was discovered by Mr. H. W. Westcott, and consists of an apparent flaw, reaching from the "L" of CHILE to the fore part of Columbus cap on the 10c. lilac, possibly caused by some object getting stuck on the plate; and the second was a find of Mr. A. H. Harris amongst the 5c. blue re-engraved stamps, two or three heavy irregular lines of shading, running slantwise from the knob at the bottom of the upper label's centre to the forepart of Columbus's hat; they are so coarse as to be plainly visible to the naked eye and quite different to the regular appearance of the rest of the background. They may be either coarse work in the original retouching, or a second retouch. Three of the former and two of the latter varieties are all that a most diligent search has discovered; but on looking carefully at the background and also the shading of the cap and other parts of the 5c. blue, I notice a good many small differences, almost sufficient indeed to "plate" the stamps by.

Some of the Waterlow stamps may be found on a paper that seems yellowish in tone.

(To be continued).

## Alleged Stamp Fraud.

### ACQUITTAL OF THE ACCUSED.

AT the Central Criminal Court yesterday, before Judge Lumley Smith, John Stewart Lowden, 29, and Henry Revell Harmer, 39, stamp dealers, formerly trading together at Villiers Street, Strand, as the West End Stamp Company and Herbert Mack and Co., were indicted for conspiring to obtain money by false pretences from persons who should deal with them in buying stamps purporting to be stamps issued for postage and revenue purposes in British North Borneo. It was alleged that the defendants sold large quantities of forged stamps as genuine British North Borneo stamps.

Lowden, in giving evidence, said he understood the stamps in question were re-impressions, and not merely facsimiles. He had no idea any of them were forgeries.

The accused were acquitted.

—Daily Telegraph 30/6/09.

## Well-known Philatelists.

NO. 113.—CAPTAIN C. WAFELBAKKER.

IT is with very much pleasure that we introduce Captain C. Wafelbakker, the President of the Dutch Philatelic Society, to our readers.

It is mostly due to the energy, and business like methods of this gentleman, that the recently held Amsterdam Philatelic Exhibition proved the success it did. It was our pleasure to first make his acquaintance at the Exhibition itself, and we can personally testify to his courtesy towards those "foreigners" who were fortunate enough to appeal to him for assistance.

As Chairman of the Executive Committee and organiser of most of the festivities that accompanied the Exhibition, he was, during the days that the show was open, an exceedingly busy man, fulfilling his duties in a most praiseworthy manner.

Born in Amsterdam in December, 1862, he did not commence to collect stamps until he was nearly thirty years of age, or, to be exact, not until 1890, when frequently fagged out with arduous military studies, he desired a "hobby" which would enable him to recuperate his energies. Fortunately for Philately, he saw, at this period, a very fine collection of "entires," with the result that his enthusiasm was raised, and stamp collecting from that day to this has been his favourite indoor recreation.

Naturally enough, he exhibited a portion of his collection of entires at Amsterdam, with the result that he added another gold medal to his collection. On previous occasions he has exhibited at the Leeuwarden and Hoorn National Exhibitions.

Specializing in the entires of Holland and Colonies, United States, Belgium, Great Britain, and the whole of the British Colonies, he has, as one would naturally expect, a very fine collection, which contains considerably over 10,000 specimens.

Collecting both used and unused, Captain Wafelbakker makes it a *sine quâ non* that all his used cards should legibly bear, not only the date stamp of the posting town, but that they should be plainly postmarked with the date stamp in use at the town they were addressed to. One reason for this is that he has a righteous horror of "postmarked to order" stamps, or entires of any kind, and

rightly thinks, as do all good philatelists, that speculative issues and "postmarked to oblige" stamps and entires are an abomination. Although very partial to his collection of entires, he far from neglects adhesives, as, with his three eldest boys, all ardent—if but youthful—enthusiasts, he is forming a general collection of stamps.

A great many of his entires have been added to his collection through exchanging with other collectors—a method he is fond of, as it frequently leads to receiving interesting letters from out-of-the-way corners of the world. He tells us that he would like to correspond with one or two Englishmen; so any of our readers who have any scarce entires, in good condition, might possibly be able to make an exchange for cards not already in their own collections.

Letters should be addressed, Amsterdam, and we feel sure their receipt will be promptly acknowledged.

A true collector, and one who delights in original research, Captain Wafelbakker is truly cosmopolitan as regards his selection of catalogues; he simply buys them all and, being a clever linguist, is able to extract the best from each publication. It was, he tells us, a grief to him when Stanley Gibbons discontinued publishing their catalogue of entires, but he has consoled himself with Bright's A.B.C. catalogue of entires, a publication which he considers very good.

The majority of his stamps, entires and fiscals (we must not forget to mention that he has a nice collection of over 4000 bill stamps) are mounted on loose album leaves, a method which enables him to re-arrange, if necessary, any portion of his collection. As with catalogues, so it is with albums, for we find Kohl's, Senf's and Friedl's all largely used for housing his treasures.

Another of Captain Wafelbakker's hobbies is the study of mathematics and mechanics, which sciences he taught for some years.

For more than five years now the subject of this sketch has been President of the Dutch Philatelic Society, previously holding the offices of Secretary, and Director of Sales. We feel sure our readers will join us in hoping that it will be many years before our Dutch confreres nominate another President, also that her Majesty Queen Wilhelmina may long depend on so stalwart an officer to lead the men of the 2nd Regiment of Artillery.



## New Leaves to Cut.

### \*LES ÉMISSIONS DES TIMBRES GRECS.

THIS, the latest work in the series of books by M. Georges Brunel, has just appeared. We must admit a feeling of great disappointment in reading it, and must say that, so far as it refers to the stamps of the first type, it is a very long way behind Dorning Beckton, Morris and Glasewald. Though it is true that no two students of Greek stamps will agree on all points, yet there are certain general lines on which all specialists are agreed, or, at any rate, all who have written on the subject during the past few years. We find, however, that M. Brunel parts company with other authorities at the outset; for instance, he says that "there was a single engraving of the type, that a space was left at foot for the reception of the different values, which were added by the aid of small blocks which were slipped into the spaces left blank on the first galvano." We presume Mr. Brunel means by this (and he can mean nothing else) that from the intermediate dies thus formed a plate was made for each value, but he cautiously refrains from saying so in as many words. There can be no doubt that M. Brunel jumped to the very natural conclusion that these Greek stamps were prepared in a manner similar to that employed for the early French stamps, but the facts in this case are quite different. Mr. Beckton, in his work on the subject, called attention to the fact, which must be obvious to any one who takes the trouble to look, that on a block of any value the figures of value will be found to vary on each stamp, not only in size but in position, and that it would perhaps not be an impossible task to plate them.

As a guide to his classification of the different printings, a list of colours is given, and with each name some easily procurable stamp is mentioned by which the reader should easily find out what exact shade of colour the description refers to. This is an excellent idea, but unfortunately several of the type stamps are found in more than one shade. For instance:—

- |                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| 3. Yellow-brown   | 3pf. Germany 1889      |
| 5. Red-brown      | 5c. United States 1894 |
| 14. Golden-yellow | 10c. Italy 1863        |
| 26. Brown-lilac   | 1a. India 1882         |
| 29. Greenish-grey | 5c. Italy 1863         |

And so on.

But in spite of these drawbacks which, possibly, were unavoidable, the index will be found useful.

We cannot, however, say as much for the alleged classification according to "types."

To call different states of the plates "types" is obviously misleading and incorrect. To illustrate eight different states of the plate and call them types I., II., III. IV. and so on, and then to fit each one of the different printings into one or other of these "types" is an absurdly inadequate arrangement, because it is absolutely impossible to reproduce illustrations which should portray the curiosities of printing which successively mark the deterioration, the cleaning, and the relapse, of the plates.

The lists of the printings are very incomplete, especially in the case of the 1 lepton, of which there are many more distinct printings than are given. Nevertheless, M. Brunel remarks, in a sort of introduction to the Athens prints: "Let us say at once that it is very easy, with all this information, to classify the Greek stamps!" We must beg to differ from the author on this point again, for we should think there could be nothing more difficult. In order to make the classification perfectly simple, it would be necessary to describe *all* the printings, or else a collector having a printing which is not described would, as with the work under notice, find himself in difficulties at once.

Of the lesser known printings many are omitted, as we have already mentioned, but that no reference should be made to such an important stamp as the first Athens 20 lep. is quite incomprehensible.

It is pleasant after this general condemnation to refer to some particulars in which the book gives information which has not hitherto been given. With regard to the figures on the backs of the stamps it is pointed out that on the earlier Athens stamps they are more sharply defined and more clearly printed than in later printings. The description of the thin transparent paper of the stamps of 1876, which is of a very open texture, giving a granulated appearance when looked through in a good light, is another point which we have not hitherto seen referred to in print. Throughout the book there are many useful hints of a similar nature. But when we descend from generalities to particulars, the inaccuracies and omissions render the book useless to any but a tyro, and is well calculated to confuse him.

The list of errors are too complete, some of those which are mentioned being of very doubtful origin, while others which are well known and authentic are not mentioned. Further, most of the errors are assigned to the wrong periods.

M. Brunel has also missed his opportunities in respect of the issue of 1889-95, where nothing is said about the watermark in the sheet on the earlier printings, or of the yellowish-toned papers.

Our last complaint is in reference to the

\*Published by Charles Mendel, 118 bis Rue d'Assas, Paris. 96 pp.; 77 illustrations; paper covers: 1fr. 75. Price 2fr. post free from the Publishers of this Journal.

prices, which are given at the end of the book. Some of these, especially for the rarer kinds, are wildly grotesque. The 10 lep. with figures "01" on the face is valued at 100 fr. used and 300 fr. unused. As this stamp is worth £15 used and is not known unused, the absurdity of this, and other similar quotations, need not be insisted upon.

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## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS McTAVISH.

I RECENTLY read that the Cayman Island authorities impose a tax of 9d. per head on all horses, mules and asses who live in the Cayman Islands. I also read that the returns of the Cayman Island Post Office for the year 1905 shewed that £280 worth of stamps had been sold, while, two years later (1907) the sales amounted to £2,141! Pretty obvious that the Cayman people have found their local tax on asses worth extending, isn't it?

I read the other day, in the *Daily Telegraph*, that a dead gentleman, name unknown, had been discovered in S.W. France. It was stated, by scientists, that the gentleman in question died 400,000 years ago and that he belonged to the late interglacial epoch. I wonder whether they held a coroner's inquest; perhaps they did, and returned a verdict of murder against some person, or persons unknown. As 400,000 years is a little before my time I can't say for certain, but I, nevertheless, strongly believe that the late Mr. Unknown died of chagrin, because he had only been able to secure a pair, not a block, of the then recently issued 7½ talents provisional issued by Postmaster Achilles.

I see in one of the weekly stamp papers that Mr. Melville has quite a lot to say about the Amsterdam Exhibition. He objects to the rates the Committee charged exhibitors, also that no proper register was kept of English visitors by the Committee. He also accuses them of bad management and open neglect! Of course, all this trouble would have been saved had the Dutchmen asked Mr. Melville's permission to hold an exhibition, also if the band they sent to the railway station to welcome him had not been a minute late in playing the British national anthem.

Personally, I received every courtesy from Captain Wafelbakker and his Committee, as did also Mr. Pemberton, with whom I travelled. Unfortunately, we were only able to spend two days in Amsterdam, but, while there, we found nothing to grumble about and tore ourselves away with the greatest regret.

In a recently published American trade circular, I see it stated that a previous number of the same publication, which went to over twelve thousand correspondents, re-

sulted in "five hundred orders a day continuing for some time, while many hundreds of letters and requests for approval selections were necessarily neglected because it was impossible to keep up with regular orders." Why am I not an American dealer? In *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, June 5th, I read, in an English letter, contributed by Wm. Ward, that at Earl's Court "the whole of the Ducal Hall will be devoted to a most extravagant display of the finest collections of these stamps (U.S.A.) on this side."

In the same number of *Mekeel's* I see that a variety of the current 3c. George Washington stamp is chronicled as shewing "a little white tuft on his under lip." I don't wonder at it, do you? If George Washington could but read some of the American papers of the present time, he would grow a beard, to hide his blushes.

Why be satisfied with the "whole of the Ducal Hall?" Why not the Crystal and Alexandra Palaces, as well?

In the June 5th number of the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, the little Yankee paper that relies on English papers for its leading articles, says, tabulating the U.S.A. commemorative stamps, "Thus it will be seen that the department has been letting us down gradually and has got to a point where we can go no lower." This refers to the fact that the 1893 Commemoratives had a face value of \$16.34, while the latest "set" has a face value of 2c. only. Perhaps because the current 1c. U.S.A. stamp hasn't a portrait of G.W. on it, it doesn't count!

The *Postage Stamp* for June 26th informs its readers that members of the Brighton Branch of the Junior Philatelic Society were going to be invited to a "Country Gathering." We shall have the Brighton youngsters taking a leaf out of the Manchester book if their London chief calls them such awful names.

Often have I spent sleepless nights wondering, if ever I wrote to the President of a Stamp Society, how I should address him. I wavered between "His Excellency" and "His Serene Highness," until Mr. Sefi, of the *Philatelic World*, tells me, in adjacent columns, that such formality would be out of place. I read that the President of one well known society is just plain W. B. E———, B.Sc., while the President of another Society is styled Alexander J. S———, Esq. After all then it is not absolutely necessary to give a President a title.

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*Owing to pressure on our space,  
we regret that we have to hold  
over the New Issue chronicle until  
next month.*

# Notes on the First Stamps Used in Victoria.

By J. BORNEFELD.

THE statistics contained in these notes are extracted from articles written on the subject by Messrs. David H. Hill and W. R. Rundell, while I am also indebted to the latter gentleman for allowing me to inspect the docketts issued by the Postal Department of Victoria during the month of January, 1850, in which were described the daily sales of stamps. This article therefore contains nothing new as far as the bare figures are concerned, I have however, I think, as the following extracts and dates will show, proved fairly conclusively that Sydney View stamps were sold in Melbourne, not only before, but after, separate stamps were printed for the Colony of Victoria.

To commence with, it is known that Mr. Thomas Ham's contract for the engraving, printing and *gumming* of the first 1d., 2d. and 3d. stamps of Victoria was accepted on the 13th of December, 1849. The bond, binding Mr. Ham to this contract under a penalty of £500 was signed by him on the 28th of December, 1849. We also know that Mr. Daniel Reddin was appointed on behalf of the Government to superintend the printing of the stamps, while he was entrusted to take charge of the steel plate for we read, "On Saturday morning next, the 29th of December, the steel plate on which the stamps are engraved will be delivered to Mr. Reddin." This plate, therefore, seems to have been in the custody of the Government from the time it was submitted for approval by Mr. Ham. I therefore presume that Ham could not have commenced to transfer the dies to the lithographic stone *before* the morning of the 29th of December—which was a Saturday. The following day was a Sunday, so that the next working day (if not a holiday) was Monday the 31st.

Although it could be done now, it is very questionable if Ham could, in sixteen working hours, have in those days produced the lithographic stone and printed, with a small and very primitive handpress, a sufficient quantity of stamps to enable him to deliver them, on the morning of the 1st of January, 1850, for intended sale at the Chief Post Office in Melbourne. If he *was* so expedient, and did deliver on the first of the month a quantity, say five sheets of each value=fifteen sheets, how is it then that the Chief Postmaster was not in a position to send stamps out to the various post offices of the Port Phillip (Melbourne) district until the 15th of January? This is all the more noticeable, because the Postmaster's circular, sent out on the 27th of December, 1849, read: "Postage Stamps, of which a supply will be immediately forwarded

to you for sale, so that no impediment may exist to the system of prepayment, etc., etc."

The whole issue of stamps (*not* sale), to the 31st of January, 1850, was 10,097 of the 1d. labels; 19,998 of the 2d.; and 5,312 of the 3d.; amounting in all to 295 sheets, value £275 2s. 5d. If we now deduct from this total the actual sales at the Chief Post Office, from the 15th to 31st of Jan., and do *not* allow for a single second order for stamps from any of the country Post-offices it would appear that the Postmaster on or before the 15th of January was in possession of not more than 167 sheets with which to supply the various thirty-five country post-offices, magistrates, etc., with their first supply. This supposition is based on the promise of the Chief Postmaster, as already mentioned, "to immediately forward stamps when in a position to do so." Now Mr. Ham delivered, up to the 31st January, 1420 sheets, averaging 50 sheets per day. If he had delivered this average, then the Postmaster would have been, on the 4th of January, in possession of sufficient stamps to supply the country post-offices with their whole monthly supply. As I cannot believe that the delivery of stamps to these sub-offices was delayed for eleven days, I therefore have come to the conclusion that very few sheets were printed, and probably only samples delivered—in the first week of January. Certain it is however that the Superintendent, Mr. La Trobe, who naturally would receive the very first proofs, did send, on the 2nd January, specimens of the three stamps, together with the bond of Mr. Thomas Ham, to Sydney, for his Excellency's inspection.

Any Victorian stamps sold before the 8th January were, according to the Melbourne *Morning Herald* of that date, without gum, and the Chief Postmaster informed his Honour the Superintendent on the 4th January that "the sheets of stamps, completed the previous day, cannot be sufficiently dry until the following day to receive the requisite gum on their backs." The drying of the gum would also take at least twenty-four hours. We have no evidence that stamps *without* gum were sold. The Melbourne *Morning Herald* may have been supplied on, or before, the 7th January, with stamps without gum, in order to describe same. That paper says nothing about complaints having been made by the public and only states the facts, as follows:—

"These new postal conveniences can be now obtained (say 7th Jan.) at the Post Office. We have some of them and consider them much inferior to the English stamps, a circumstance of course not to be wondered at.



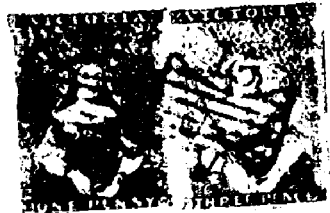
They are, however, infinitely superior to the Sydney 'specimen,' which were returned by the Colonial Secretary. The great object of their issue, however, appears to have been altogether lost sight of in their non-adhesiveness, so that parties before they can use the stamps must procure paste, wafers, gum or sealing wax, which will be at once clumsy and inconvenient."

As Mr. Ham's contract provides: "Gumming the back thereof and completing the same in every respect for the use of the Post Office," the conclusion is naturally then that the Superintendent received, on the 2nd January, some ungummed stamps for his approval; that he drew the Chief Postmaster's

1st and 2nd, and sold on the 3rd and 4th, Sydney View stamps?"

The *Argus* of the 31st December says, "No provision has yet been made for supplying the postage stamps. An order has, however, been sent to Sydney and it is expected that the public will not have to submit for any great length of time to the inconvenience which must ensue until the order is executed, as the *Argus* at that time only appeared once a week the Sydney stamps probably were received on or before 1st January, and the reporter may have been informed about this any time between 24th and 31st December, 1849. The only evidence we have that this order was executed and therefore such stamps probably

O. H. M.



The Acting Mayor  
 of the Office of Geelong  
 1850

PART OF ENTIRE ENVELOPE, KINDLY LENT BY MR. L. L. R. HAUENBURG. DATED "SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE, 10 JAN., 1850," THE EARLIEST DATE ON RECORD.

attention to the ungummed state, and received the above answer. Say, further, that the first sheets were then gummed on the 3rd January; in that case they would have that night and the next day to dry, which would bring us to the morning of the 5th January. Further, if the Superintendent complained as above, on the 3rd, it is to be presumed that the un-gummed sheets were not sold over the counter but later on were exchanged with Mr. Ham for gummed sheets, also that the Melbourne *Morning Herald* received un-gummed stamps for the purpose of being able to describe them to its readers (which was done to a certain extent). Now we come to the question: "Were the stamps which were on sale on the

used in the early days of January is that the Melbourne *Morning Herald* says, on the 8th January, 'They are however superior to the Sydney specimen which were returned by the Colonial Secretary.' Is it not likely that the *Herald* reporter got the Victorian stamps as above, and that he was informed 'we have now our own stamps and the Sydney Views which were sold till now are going back to Sydney?'"

But were they sent back?

It has been said that we have neither documentary evidence of having received same nor of their return.

The Board appointed in January, 1851, to investigate the muddle of book-keeping in

the G.P.O., reported, in *May* following, as follows:—

"The stamps have been counted, and, comparing them with such other data as is available, it appears that there is a discrepancy in the number of the different kinds, there being 2571 more of penny, 17,736 more threepenny, and 15,222 less of twopenny, leaving, however, on the whole a larger balance than it could appear there ought to be, by 10,485 stamps." There is also mention of a surplus in cash of £105 11s. 3d. "This is partly accounted for by the engraver having delivered a larger number than his contract by 5400 stamps." The cause of the remaining difference of 5,085 (surplus of stamps) cannot be ascertained.

It has been said if Melbourne received Sydney stamps, the officials in 1851 would have mentioned this to the Board.

I should imagine the officials (if they had the knowledge of having received Sydney stamps) were delighted with the above report which allowed them a cash surplus of £105 11s. 3d. constituting a surplus of stamps to the number of 5085.

Taking the figures of the committee's report the explanation should have been given as follows:

We find a surplus of 10,485 stamps, as follows:—

1d. shortage delivered by Ham	29160				
1d. surplus in hand	...	...	2571		
2d. shortage in hand	...	...	15222		
2d. surplus delivered by Ham			4560		
3d.	"	"	30000		
3d. " in hand	...	...	17736		
			44382	54867	
Difference 10,485 stamps.					
Above surplus by Ham					
"    "    "    "    "    "    "    "	debit 4560 2d.	£ 38	0	0	
"    "    "    "    "    "    "    "	"    "    "    "    "    "    "    "	£375	0	0	
		£413	0	0	
Deduct shortage by Ham 29160 1d.		£121	10	0	
"    "    "    "    "    "    "    "	5400 stamps	£291	10	0	
Surplus as above in hand—					
"    "    "    "    "    "    "    "	2571 1d.	£ 10	14	3	
"    "    "    "    "    "    "    "	17736 3d.	£221	14	0	
		£232	8	3	
Deduct shortage					
"    "    "    "    "    "    "    "	2d. 15222	£126	17	0	
		£105	11	3	£105 11 3
Cash Shortage	...	£185	18	9	

Therefore we report that there is a discrepancy of £185 18s. 9d. (not a surplus) and the Office had 5085 stamps, of which we cannot ascertain where they got them from.

Now were these 5085 stamps, Sydney Views? If Melbourne made the requisition as per *Argus*, 31st Dec., '49, then the Sydney Post

Office, through the Colonial Secretary, would naturally send complete sheets of 1d., 2d. and 3d. We know that the 1d. and 3d. Sydney Views were in 25 and the 2d. in 24 per sheet. It is peculiar that 8 and only 8 combinations of sheets make the above exact number of stamps, namely:—

2d.	1d. and 3d.	
15 × 24 = 360	189 × 25 = 4725	together = 5085
40 × 24 = 960	165 × 25 = 4125	" = 5085
65 × 24 = 1560	141 × 25 = 3525	" = 5085
90 × 24 = 2160	117 × 25 = 2925	" = 5085
115 × 24 = 2760	93 × 25 = 2325	" = 5085
140 × 24 = 3360	69 × 25 = 1725	" = 5085
165 × 24 = 3960	45 × 25 = 1125	" = 5085
190 × 24 = 4560	21 × 25 = 525	" = 5085

Presuming now that only 5085 stamps were sent from Sydney, distributed thus:

60 sheets 1d., £6 5s. 0d. 115 sheets 2d., £23. 33 sheets 3d., £10 4s. 3d.

Sales at Post Office, Melbourne, 3rd and 4th January, 1d., £5 5s. 3d.; 2d., £21 17s. 6d.; 3d., £8 12s. 10d.

Then by evening of the 4th, this supply was exhausted, and on the 5th, Victorian stamps were sold, but ungummed.

From the report of the Committee I gather, therefore, that the Post Office in Melbourne was short of cash—£185 18s. 9d.—in neither debiting themselves with the surplus of stamps delivered by Mr. Ham—5,400—nor with the 5,085 received from Sydney. But this lot from Sydney may not be the only lot received, because if we take the shortage of £185 18s. 9d. and distribute same over the 2d. and 3d. Sidney Views we have 300 sheets 1d. £31 5s. 0d. —300 2d. £60—303 3d. £94 13s. 9d.—total, £185 18s. 9d.; i.e. 300 sheets each were sent from Sydney and perhaps 3 sheets 3d. or 3 sheets 2d. and 1 sheet 3d., as samples. The report, according to Mr. Hill's extract, does not say if the stamps the Post Office had debited themselves with were Victorian stamps. And if more than one lot was received from Sydney the Officials would have no occasion to draw the Board's special attention to that fact showing in their books; which, to say the least, seem to have been in a frightful muddle.

Now let us look at the daily dockets found by Mr. Rundell.

#### SALE OF STAMPS OVER THE COUNTER AT G.P.O., PORT PHILLIP (MELBOURNE).

Jan., 1850.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Tu., 1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3—	3	2	2	12	17	2	3	15	7
4—	2	3	1	9	0	4	4	17	3
5—	1	3	9	4	3	10	1	16	2
7—	1	8	9	6	10	8	2	11	3
8—	0	11	10	4	10	2	0	7	3
9—	—	—	—	2	8	0	—	—	—
10—	3	11	4	9	6	10	6	18	9
11—	0	3	7	1	17	8	0	9	9
12—	1	15	0	1	10	0	—	—	—
14—	0	2	0	3	8	0	0	12	0
15—	jointly,	3 values							
16—	—	—	—	0	8	0	0	18	0

The dockets of receipt showed no sale of stamps.

17—	—	—	—
18—	1 18 0	4 12 8	1 4 0
19—	0 5 9	—	—
21—	0 11 11	7 1 2	0 11 3
22—	0 10 3	3 4 8	1 3 3
23—	0 9 9	1 6 2	0 12 6
24—	0 2 0	1 17 2	1 12 0
25—	0 10 1	2 19 8	0 3 0
26—	0 8 2	0 4 10	0 9 0
28—	0 2 0	0 8 6	1 11 6
29—	0 8 0	0 16 8	—
30—	0 2 0	1 2 2	1 2 3
31—	1 3 6	0 8 0	0 7 3

20 12 11	80 2 4	31 2 0	7 7 2
or up to 15 incl. (11 sale days)—			
£14 1 6	£55 12 8	£21 8 7	£7 7 2 = to £98 9 4
or from 16th-31st (14 sale days)—			
£6 11 5	£24 9 8	£9 14 0	= £40 15 1
£20 12 11	£80 2 4	£31 2 0	£7 7 2 above 139 4 5

In other words, Melbourne sold, the first 11 sale days, an average of £8 10s. a day, and the next 14 sale days an average of £2 18s. 3d. a day, or only one-third the amount.

How can we account for this otherwise than that any stamps the country offices, etc., received up to the 15th January were included in these sales, and no sooner the country got their regular supply (now certainly Victorian stamps) sent on that date the Melbourne receipts fell to one-third. Although, afterwards, the country offices got their stamps charged in their monthly account, they may at first have remitted the amount with application, as the report said: "The stamps were given into the custody of the Chief Postmaster by degrees, as they were struck off by the contractor; the bulk of them are deposited in the Chief Postmaster's room. Other stamps are in the charge of the accountant, for the purpose of issuing to the public, at the window, to the official department, and the country post-masters."

*The Sydney Morning Herald*, December 31st, 1849, says:—

"We would remind our readers that all letters posted after to-day will be liable to double postage, unless, in the case of inland letters, the twopenny, and of ship letters the threepenny rate is prepaid. All newspapers will be charged a penny postage. The prepayment of letters will, it is expected, become general. Postage stamps will also form a convenient means of remitting small sums of money from one district to another. At present a person wishing to send five or six shillings to a distant district has often considerable difficulty in doing so, but a sheet of postage stamps, which will be equal to cash in any part of the Colony (Port Phillip belonged till 1st July, 1850, still to the Colony of N.S.W.) can be sent with ease. It is quite common to see advertisements in English newspapers stating that articles of light weight will be forwarded upon the receipt of a certain number of postage stamps."

(To be continued).



## July, 1909, Report.

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### NOTICES.

The Committee will meet at Essex Hall in September to arrange Programme for next Season. Members willing to assist with Displays or Papers are invited to communicate with the Hon. Sec., who will also be glad to receive any proposals of new Members, Subscriptions still due, or any donations to the Society's Forgery Collection.

THOS. H. HINTON,  
 Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union,  
 26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.  
 July 13th, 1909.

## Reply of a Philatelist to the Query "Cui Bono."

From the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal*.

Think kindly, pray; do not despise,  
What may seem useless in your eyes  
Before you have consider'd well!  
See what these "paper medals" tell.  
The graver's tool, the artist's skill,  
A worthy purpose here fulfil;  
By value, portrait, symbol, date,  
The stamp can show the Realm or State:  
On this small square you look, and find  
The mirror of a nation's mind!

In every cultivated race  
These little messengers find place:  
These fragile links bind land to land,  
And aid the love of heart and hand;  
Through them the Treasury chests o'erflow,  
And nations countless thanks will owe  
That Englishman whose active brain  
Contriv'd this fairy flow of gain!  
As notes on music's varied page,  
Touch all the chords from youth to age,  
So in this book, in fancied chime,  
We range these silent notes of time;  
Suggesting to the thoughtful eye  
The fitful strains of history.

Here as in mimic gallery plac'd,  
Portraits of fair and great are trac'd;  
Kings, Emperors, and Chiefs of fame,  
Queens—with our own of honoured name—  
And pictur'd stories of each land.  
From frozen shore to sunny strand:  
St. Salvador with flaming crest,  
Or Nicaragua's vale of rest;  
From Costa Rica's tropic steeps,  
To where the Alpine gentian peeps;  
Peru can show her llanas fleet,  
Canadians their shrewd beaver greet.  
Australia's swan floats proudly by,  
Newfoundland's seats on iceberg's lie;  
"The Stars and Stripes" their history trace,  
From Britain's world encircling race;  
While Virgin Islands gladly boast,  
"Our Lady" still defends their coast,  
In happy proof that they are kin  
Each language sends its tribute in;  
And, token of fraternal land,  
The sign is passed from hand to hand:  
Babel's confusion here is still'd,  
Another tongue the world has fill'd;  
In pages, that with jealous caste  
All others shunn'd for ages past,  
Ancient traditions now forget,  
To join the world's new alphabet!

Thus, as each chequer'd page we turn,  
The course of dynasties we learn;  
While art and history combine  
To make you praise these stamps of mine.

C. T.

## Correspondence.

### McTAVISH ON THE CONTINONG.

[There is no excuse for our publishing the following letter, except, of course, that it contains a lot of stamp news; but the McTavish so seldom gets a holiday that we feel we must humour him a little.—Ed., P.J.G.B.]

TO THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

DEAR SIR,—As desired by you, I paid an official visit to Earl's Court Exhibition on July 2nd. The result was so depressing that I immediately booked a ticket for the rest of Europe. The only stamp men at Earl's Court were Messrs. W. E. Lincoln and Fearnley, both of whom were still frightfully excited over the small boy they had seen going round the exhibits on the Tuesday previous to my visit. Mr. Lincoln has a splendid stall and a really nice lot of bargains to offer, so collectors should take the McTavish tip, and scoop down on a snap or two; they are there.

Remembering your sage advice, O most travelled and talented of editors, I landed (after leaving Earl's Court, etc.) at Ostend, with the minimum of luggage, namely, some soap and a toothbrush. Eighty-three hotel 'buses and 166 hotel porters charged me simultaneously, with the result that although I asked for the Hotel Regina conveyance, the Hotel L'Empereur man collared the toothbrush, and the Imperial chaps got the soap. As the latter commodity was the more important, I followed it. I wish they could understand proper French in Belgium\*; even the 'bus man, with whom I chatted pleasantly *en route* to the hotel, thought I was speaking German. I musn't forget to tell you that at Ostend they tried to take a rise out of me. It was like this: Being a forgetful sort of chap, as all well-known collectors are, I left out half of my slumber suit when I packed up. In the afternoon, while waiting for the station 'bus (a couple of dozen other people were waiting to go to the races), the porter strolled into our midst, with my bag in one hand, and the business end of the handsomely striped McTavish slumber suit in the other. "Monsieur has forgotten to pack his py-jamas." He had. Brussels, where I spent a couple of days, is noted for its rain and the following hotel notice—at least, that is my experience:—"The rooms are mojored with on franc more a day and a person, for travellers that don't take their meals in the Hotel." I shouldn't have minded being "mojored" a bit, but to have "a person" as well was quite out of my course; so it was with me as with Mr. Jorrocks, "where I dines I sleeps."

I picked up one or two cheap stamps in Brussels, and, after a most affectionate farewell, left for Cologne by an afternoon train. The farewell was most pathetic. I managed,

\* It must be McTavish's Scotch accent that puzzles foreigners. We noticed it when he was talking Dutch at the Amsterdam Exhibition!—Ed.

however, to dodge the proprietor and *one* waiter, so I thought, but they both lined up at the railway station, before the train left! You know, my dear Editor, I have not a great fondness for the average German, so I was not surprised, before I had been in Germany half a minute, that they should serve me a dirty trick; it was this, they docked my precious holiday time by one solid hour.\* The customs people also tried to be nasty over my tooth-brush and soap, first one gorgeous Bismarck covered them with chalk, five minutes later, a still more gorgeously attired Bismarck wanted to do it all over again. I remonstrated with him gently in French, Belgian, Flemish, and Swiss, all to no effect. It was only when he was getting really nasty that I had to remind him that, unless he behaved, I would report him to his master's uncle. He saw the enormity of his offence then. Now that I have studied the German Army and Navy thoroughly, I must strongly advocate that if it is to be done, it should be done at once. I won't be responsible for more than a week or two if it is delayed, as the Germans have a lot of soldiers. I have already seen dozens. Please use your influence with Lord Roberts, Kitchener, and Johnson at once, dear Lamb, before it is too late, and Margate and Camberwell become German suburbs.

As we neared Cologne, I tried to open the carriage window, which appeared to be hermetically sealed, when I felt a heavy hand on my shoulder. Turning round rapidly, I found myself face to face with—

[Sorry to have to cut you off at this dramatic juncture, but the rest of this page is wanted for something of greater importance. We will see what we can do for you next month.—Ed.]

GUM PAPS.

Weeton, Leeds,  
July 9th, 1909.

To THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

DEAR SIR,—

The *Philatelic Journal* upholds the true interests of Philately by depreciating unnecessary issues. I think these interests would be further upheld by a strongly worded paragraph *re* the recent issues of Crete and the Congo, and the Papua and Rhodesia surcharges.

Crete is still a part of the Turkish Empire and *not* of the Grecian Kingdom, and the dependence of the Congo State on Belgium has *not* yet been acknowledged or allowed by Great Britain and the other Powers. If the Lagos stamps could be used up in S. Nigeria without surcharging, and the B.C.A. Protectorate stamps used without surcharging "Nyassaland Prot.," so also could the B.N.G. stamps have been used up without surcharging

\* German time is one hour ahead of Belgian.—Ed., *P.J.G.B.*

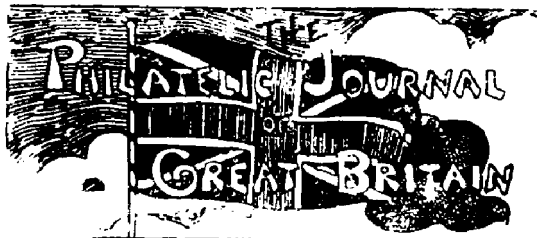
"Papua," and the B.S.A. without the "Rhodesia" overprint.

I hope and trust you will see your way to publishing some remarks on this subject, or perhaps this letter.

Yours faithfully,  
C. C. LAMBERT (B.A. Camb.)

[We agree with our correspondent in most of his remarks, but beyond registering our disapproval of the practices which he condemns, we fear that nothing can be done. While the demand for such things exist, there will be no lack of supply.]

—Ed. *P.J.G.B.*



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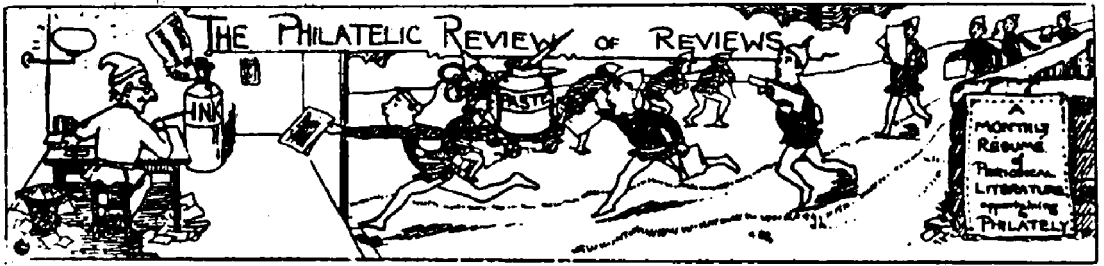
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JULY 20, 1909.

## Philately at Home.

The June number of the *Philatelic Record* contains as its principal features further instalments of M. Ernest Zumstein's article dealing with the "Postage Stamps of Switzerland," "A. V. de P.'s" interesting paper entitled "Some Notes on Philatelic Heraldry" and Mr. R. R. Thiele's paper entitled "Stray Notes on the Designers, Engravers and Printers of the World's Postage Stamps." All three articles are of great value.

In M. Zumstein's article we find some interesting information regarding the first of the Federal Administration issues, which we take the liberty of reproducing.

### ORTSPOST AND POSTE LOCALE.

The stamps with the inscription ORTSPOST were originally intended for German Switzerland, and those with POSTE LOCALE for French Switzerland. This distinction was not, however, strictly adhered to, and both stamps were sometimes distributed in the other part of the country than that they were supposed to serve. In the centre of a shield is seen on a red ground the white Helvetian cross; the shield is crowned by a post-horn, over which stands within a white label the inscription ORTSPOST or POSTE LOCALE; the value is at the bottom, 2½ at the left and Rp. at the right, on a white ground; outside the inner white ground the rest of the space is filled in with scroll ornament; impression in black on white paper, the shield in red. The whole of the stamps of this issue were lithographed by Durheim at Berne. Forty designs were first drawn upon the stone in five rows of eight, the transfers were taken from this original stone to make up a sheet of 160 stamps. In the arrangement of the 40 types of the "Ortspost," some variation occurred, presumably owing to the fact that the lithographer erased from the printing stone single designs which had failed to transfer properly and replaced them with other types from the original stone. The following varieties are met with:—

Types 3—2—3	instead of	1—2—3
11—10	"	9—10
27—26	"	25—26
35—34	"	33—34

Types 7—7	instead of	7—8
15—15	"	15—16
39—39	"	39—40

All types so found together are rare.

The "Ortspost" and "Poste Locale," as well as the "Rayons" I. and II., are found both with and without the border of fine black lines to the cross.

The printing of the "Poste Locale" was done both from the original stone and from the transfer-stone. Specimens of the former printing are recognisable from the superiority of the impression, especially in the border defining the white ground, which appears as two distinct lines, with cross-hatching between them, as well as by the lines of the ornamental border round the shield, and by the grey colour of the printing. In the case of stamps printed from the stone prepared from transfers, the border round the white ground appears as a single thick line, and the printing is not so distinct. Of this printing there exist, moreover, impressions from a very worn state of the plate.

5 April, 1850. Imperforate. 40 types.

#### ORTSPOST.

- 2½ Rp. black and red, with frame to cross.
- 2½ Rp. black and red, without frame to cross.

#### POSTE LOCALE.

- 2½ Rp. black and red, with frame to cross.
- 2½ Rp. black and red, without frame to cross.

The red in the shield is found in all shades.

A quarterly summary of New Issues, some Notes, etc., complete a good number of our contemporary.

The June number of the *London Philatelist* contains Mr. J. A. Tilleard's Annual Report read at the General Meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society. We learn that fifteen new members and two associates have been added to the membership roll, while five Fellows have resigned. The Society has also to record the loss, through death, of three well-known collectors. We also learn that the Society has the substantial sum of £350 as a bank balance. We make the following very short extract from Mr. Tilleard's report.

The tale told by the auction sales continues to be one of the increasing importance attached to "condition," and the gradual absorption of fine copies of the older issues. It is only occasionally that really choice examples are brought under the hammer in the present day, and when very fine copies are offered the prices realized are often in excess of catalogue values.

A short note referring to the recently auctioned Reid collection of stamps and a short paper, entitled "The London Stamp Auctions," both from the editor's pen, constitute the main "philatelic" contents of our contemporary. Stamp auctions evidently find favour in Mr. Castle's eyes, for we read:—

I can only repeat that I am, as I always have been, in favour of the auctions, that, in common with the vast majority of collectors and dealers, I recognize they have done untold good in giving stability to stamp collecting.

An account of the recently held "Amsterdam Exhibition," some "Occasional Notes," a list of the Society's Members, other "Royal" News, and the usual Philatelic Societies Reports complete the contents of the June *London Philatelist*.

In the June number of the *West End Philatelist*, Mr. Poole, the editor, contributes short instalments of his papers, dealing with the stamps of Zululand and Bulgaria. He is also responsible for a short paper, dealing with the 1 cent green stamp of the Federated Malay States. It appears that Mr. Poole has discovered that two dies were used to print this stamp. A perusal of the following extract will enable our readers to follow Mr. Poole's line of research:—

When fresh supplies of the 1c. in green were required, a new plate, similar to that for the 3c., was constructed, so that this value could also be printed all at once. This plate was likewise composed of 240 stamps and bore the plate number "1" in the margins. As this shows the same peculiarities as the 3c., it was evidently made from the same die with, of course, the necessary alteration in the corner numerals, and it forms a second and distinct variety of the 1c. green. The 1c. is the only value affected by this discovery, for the 3c. brown was never produced by the two-plate printing.

The chief differences between the two dies are as follows:—

#### DIE I.

The centre varies in its position in relation to the surrounding frame.

The top line of the central frame is thick, and often a little faint, as though the pressure of the plate was not quite even.

The serifs of the letters in the inscription "FEDERATED MALAY STATES" (especially in the first word, are prominent.

The inscriptions on all four sides varying in relation to the frame lines of the centrepiece, especially "POSTAGE & REVENUE," which always projects to the right or left.

The letters "C" in the corners are thin.

#### DIE II.

The centre always occupies the same position, and is equidistant from the frame on all sides.

The top line is thinner and never varies.

The serifs are hardly apparent.

The inscriptions and lines are always exactly the same length.

The letters "c" are much wider, and the figure "1" in each corner has larger serifs at the foot.

The May number of the *Philatelic World*, which turns up at the *P.J.G.B.'s* editorial den a month late, does not contain anything very startling in the way of original information. Mr. Eric F. Ridgeway contributes an interesting little article dealing with the stamps of Alsace

and Lorraine, concerning the postmarks used for cancelling these stamps he says:

The various cancellation marks form, perhaps, the most interesting section of a collection of these stamps. A complete collection forms in itself a most valuable record of the Franco-Prussian War. The first cancellations we meet with are the French date stamps, such as those of Nancy, Strassbourg, Colmar, Metz, &c.; these were appropriated by the Germans and used until replaced by their own cancellations. In the open towns the French had instructed the employees of the Postal and Telegraph Service to retreat and destroy their implements if it was possible to save them from the hands of the enemy. The Germans, however, on entering such towns immediately demanded that the post offices should be reopened, and so the old dating stamps were often brought into use again; thus one finds the ordinary French cancellations of Melun, Soissons, Amiens, &c.

In many towns the old cancelling stamps had been effectively destroyed, in which case the Germans ordered the municipalities to replace them. These new dating stamps generally differ entirely from the older ones, as, for instance, those of Epinal and Rouen, which are in thick lettering, in circles, and bear as date only 1871.

It is a noteworthy fact that all those towns which Germany most coveted were provided from the very start with dating stamps in the German language. These are generally in thin letters in a circle, with the date. The following are the most frequently met with:—Strassbourg, Metz, Weissenburg in Elsass, Markirck, Bahnhof, &c.

The scarcest of all these cancellations is Belfort, which can only have been in use for a few days.

There is also a further short instalment of Capt. P. Ohrt's translated Handbook, a first instalment of an article dealing with the "Stamps of Luxemburg," contributed by Mr. A. J. Séfi, also some chatty "Notes" relating to new publications, locals, and recent abortions of U.S.A. perfs. Altogether, although not containing very much original matter, our contemporary is certainly ahead of many of its compeers.

Our copy of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, dated June 19th, contains a full report of the Amsterdam Stamp Exhibition, an instalment of M. Ch. De Bont's excellent article dealing with the stamps of Belgium, and other varied matter of philatelic interest. The supplement, consisting of no fewer than sixteen pages deals with the "Postmarks of the British Isles from 1840."

The June 26th number, edited by Major Evans, contains a further instalment of M. L. Hanciau's article dealing with the stamps of Denmark and Colonies and the concluding chapters of Lieut. Gatt's excellent paper dealing with the "History of the Post Office and the Stamps of Malta."

The postmarks of Malta are extensively dealt with, while we extract the following paragraph relating to fiscal postals.

No Revenue stamps have ever been authorized to pay postage on correspondence, but a few, particularly ½d. and 1d. values, with both local and London overprints, may be found postally cancelled. These have not been postmarked by accommodating officials, as is the case in some of the British Colonies, but, having been erroneously used on letters, escaped the notice of the obliterator, whilst hard at work.

In M. L. Hancianu's article he deals with the first of the issues for the Danish West Indies and the following extract will we feel sure be appreciated by our readers.

The die was engraved on steel by A. Buntzen, and the stamps were printed (as were all the following issues) at the Royal Printing House at Copenhagen, on white paper, covered in this case with a yellowish burélé pattern, and having as watermark a Small Crown.

The sheets contained one hundred stamps, in ten rows of ten; they were watermarked in the margins "KGL. POST-FRMRK" along each of the four sides, and had a crown at each of the upper corners and a posthorn at each of the lower. They were at first delivered un gummed, and the earlier supplies were gummed in the colony before being put on sale.

- (a) Brown gum (supplied by F. Benzon at St. Croix).  
3 cents, deep carmine.  
1860. (b) Dark yellow gum (supplied by Rüse at St. Croix).  
3 cents, carmine, deep carmine.  
1867. (c) White gum (applied at Copenhagen).  
3 cents, carmine-rose (deep, pale).  
*Variety*, rouletted (unofficially).  
3 cents, carmine-rose.

#### ISSUE OF MAY, 1872.

Similar to the stamps of 1867, but perf. 12½.

3 cents, carmine (deep, bright).

*Variety*, on very thick white paper, perf. 12½.

3 cents, carmine.

One might suppose that the die of these stamps was the same as that used for the stamps of Denmark, 1853-64, but it is nothing of the sort. It was a fresh die, as examination will easily prove.

*Secret Marks.* As in the Danish stamps, there are secret marks here also. First of all, on the die, the initial "B" of the engraver, Buntzen, in the wreath of oak leaves, just opposite the space between the caduceus and the letter "M" of "FR.M." at right. Also, a figure "3", not always well formed, above the posthorn in the left lower corner, and a letter "C" always in the same position in the opposite corner. These figures were engraved on the plate; they vary, therefore, both in shape and in their position, which is not identically the same for all.

Major Evans devotes two-and-a-half pages to a lengthy review of Mr. H. J. Crocker's recently published book on *Hawaiian Numerals*, while Mr. Frank Phillips contributes a few Foreign Notes (dealing with British Colonials) and a New Issue list—thus completing a good number.

In the July 3rd *Weekly* Mr. Joseph B. Leavey, of Salvador fame, contributes the first instalment of a capital paper dealing with the stamps of Nicaragua.

Mr. Leavey writes in a humorous strain, as follows:—

Having recently inflicted upon the readers of *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* a lengthy article upon the stamps of Salvador, and having as yet escaped punishment for the act, I am emboldened to sing the praises of another fair division of the tropics, and ask that a little more friendly attention be paid in the future to the stamps of Nicaragua.

Nicaragua first gained postal notice about 1849, when Henry L. Goodwin, the owner of The Penny Post Co., of San Francisco, California, conceived the brilliant idea of bettering the time made by the United States mails from the Pacific to the Atlantic, and established a service from San Francisco to New York via Nicaragua—the mails being carried by packet from San Francisco to San Juan del Sur, on the Pacific coast of Nicaragua, thence by carrier over a macadamized road to La Virgin on Lake Nicaragua, and from there by boat down the lake and through the San Juan River to Greytown, or San Juan del Norte on the Atlantic coast, and from there to New York by packet again. All letters delivered by this service were handstamped in red, "Via Nicaragua ahead of the mails," in two lines.

Greytown, the only available port that Nicaragua possesses on the Atlantic coast, was at one time practically British territory, and a British post office existed there until 1882, at which time Nicaragua joined the Postal Union. The letter rate to England was one shilling per half-ounce.

The Republic of Nicaragua was the first of the Central American group to issue postage stamps. On September 9th, 1862, a decree was promulgated authorizing the manufacture and issue of postage labels of the values of 2 and 5 centavos. The American Bank Note Company of New York was commissioned to engrave and print these labels, and on December 2nd, 1862, they were first issued for postal use, but they were on sale only in the cities of Greytown, Grenada, and Leon, and were for domestic postage only. The stamps were so difficult to obtain for some time that proofs of the woodcut used for illustration by *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* were sold by the engraver, Mr. K. Whympfer, for one shilling each.

Mr. Poole pegs away at his article, entitled "A Type Collection," filling three pages with diagrams, purporting to show collectors how to arrange a "type" collection. "Yokel" is responsible for three pages, wherein he describes how he sorted and classified a large quantity of old English "penny reds."

After many vain attempts our friend, the *Weekly*, has at last secured the services of a *funny* humourist, one Antonio Buster, who discusses matters *philatelic* in a manner quite romantic! "Foreign Notes" and the usual up-to-date New Issue list complete yet another good number of our welcome *Weekly*.

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*The Reviews of several other Journals  
are unavoidably held over.*



## Philately on the Continent.

The surcharges of the Belgian Congo are once more the subject of an article in *Le Timbre-Poste* (10th June). The history of these stamps and the reason for the existence of five types is here told with much directness and some naivety. We are asked to believe that the five varieties were the outcome of an accidental sequence of events and, though we find it hard to believe, we give the account as we find it in the columns of our contemporary. When the change of name from *Etat Independant du Congo* to *Congo Belge* was decided upon, an order was at once sent to Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, London, for a set with this inscription altered; for present needs, however, the Colonial Minister ordered eighteen hand-stamps for the purpose of surcharging. Fourteen of these were packed to be sent to the Congo, and the other four, which were delivered a day later, were used for surcharging the stock at home. It was soon found that it would take far too long a time to surcharge the whole stock with these four handstamps and stereotypes were made from one of them by means of which by far the larger proportion of the stock was overprinted. Only a very few sheets of the Belgian hand-struck overprints were sold, the remainder being held back (or despatched to the Congo).

The two or three Belgium dealers who procured the surcharges argued (quite reasonably) that, the handstamps having been sent to the Congo, high prices could not be asked for the hand-stamped varieties, as they would soon arrive in quantities. But they made a great mistake. The handstamps which had served to make the Brussels surcharges had been put under lock and key by the Colonial Minister and those sent to the Congo were of a different type. The reason for this is explained as follows:—The engraver Dasebek, being very busy, did not make all the 18 handstamps himself, but only the sixteen which were delivered first, the other four (which served for the Belgium impressions) having been made for him by a *confrère*. Hence the difference in the type of the Belgium and the Congo impressions. The matter was further complicated by the fact of the four used in Brussels being all of slightly different type.

In the same number of *Le Timbre Poste* we find the first part of an article entitled "A New Specialism." The article is unsigned, and on reading it we find that it is a translation of an article by P. L. Pemberton, published under a similar heading, in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, 1908. No doubt the acknowledgments will follow in the next issue.

*Le Postillon* has, for several months, been publishing instalments of an article, entitled, "The Colour Question," which, we presume,

is from the pen of the versatile editor, M. Alfred Montader. This article is written on novel lines and by the aid of it one could make a colour chart at a small expense. The system employed is to give a list of all colour-names employed in the description of stamps and to indicate, after each, a stamp which, in its normal shade, is an example of the tint.

In a recent number we find the following list of red-violets:

- Red-violet: Grenada 6d. mauve, 1883.
- Pale red-violet: Portuguese Colonies, 10 reis, 1894.
- Magenta: Mauritius, 9d., 1858-59.
- Amaranth: Papal States, one of the shades of the 20c. of 1868.

"Solferino. — This tint is analagous to amaranth; magenta and solferino are two shades of violet manufactured from coal-tar.

"Purple.—This is a very ancient colour, rich and strong. The 5/- New South Wales, medallion type, perforated 12½, is a true example. The later printings with various perforations are red-lilac, mauve, magenta, etc."

Although the author of the above list mentions red-lilac in this last paragraph he does not include this name in his list of colours, which reminds us that an English authority on colours has told us that "red-lilac" is a totally erroneous name to be applied to any colour.

In the number for June 25th, we find a treatise on the colour green. We read:—

"Green is the third complementary colour theoretic result of the primary blues and yellows. As of these colours there are numerous shades, especially of yellow, the number of greens is almost infinite. The nature of green differs according to whether it is a combination of yellow with indigo, Prussian blue, cobalt, or others. The shades vary from black-green to pale yellow-green, through all intermediate tints. It is almost impossible to give names to all these shades and we must confine ourselves to classify them in a few categories and under a few designations. As a fact the greens on stamps fall into five well-defined series—the true greens, the yellow-greens, the blue-greens, the olive-greens, the grey greens."

Then we learn something that we did not know:—

"One observation applies to all shades of green, whatever they may be; all change with time. The yellow entering into the composition of the colour ends by dominating the blue which becomes feeble, denaturalises, and turns to grey. Consequently, at the end of a given time the stamps are no longer what they were at the time of their issue."

While not wishing to disbelieve the learned author of this treatise, we must admit that we always thought certain greens were amongst the fastest of colours, and we should imagine

that in the majority of cases the changes which he refers to, if they occur at all, are so infinitesimal as to amount to nothing. Our confrère, unfortunately for his contention, cites, as an example of this change, the Mauritius 4d. green of 1854, which, he says, is found in the two shades, blue-green and yellow-green. As a matter of fact, the colour of this stamp is very constant and we fear that the blue-green shade mentioned is the well known changeling of the unissued blue stamp, which has, unfortunately, been very widely distributed.

M. Pierre Mahé, in an entertaining and well written article in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, inveighs against the common error of referring to the wide "4" variety of the first issue of France as a retouch. Oddly enough the misdescription is almost entirely a failing peculiar to French writers and cataloguers, and M. Mahé pays a tribute to English philatelists, who, he admits, are much more careful in such details than his own countrymen. That the variety is not a retouch is evident from a consideration of the manner in which it arose. The plate of 300 stamps having been prepared, proofs were taken from it, when it was found that two of the clichés of the 20c. stamp had been accidentally included in the bottom row of the half-forme of 150 stamps. Instead of making a new plate, which would have been a costly and lengthy process, the erring figures "2" were erased and cavities made in their places. Into these cavities molten metal was poured, on which, when hardened, figures "4" were engraved. Owing to the carelessness of the engraver, these figures were wider than those of the rest of the plate.

Under the title, "A Kingdom Unknown to Philatelists," we find a delicious little morsel of news in the *Revue Française des Collectionneurs*, which we extract in full:—"Few people are aware that King Edward VII. has a brother in the person of the King of Bardsey Island, situated about three kilometres from the peninsula of Lloyn, County of Carnarvon. This little kingdom is absolutely independent and does not recognize the authority of the King of Great Britain. There are only seventy-seven inhabitants, including the King and Queen, whose ancestors have reigned in this little island from time immemorial. The language is a sort of patois which is quite unintelligible to the English. The King is also doctor, schoolmaster, and civil officer; he owes no obedience to the English laws. The inhabitants live sumptuously on barley-bread, milk and butter. The steep rocks which surround the island furnish an ample supply of lobsters, which they sell to strangers at absurdly low prices. They take no interest in the affairs of the outside world, and no newspaper penetrates into this island.

They have never heard of taxes and have no series of postage stamps which would serve to make them known to the entire world."

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The *Philatelic Journal of India* for June contains some notes on the 1884 Issue of Mexico, by Mr. E. W. Wetherell. "B.G.J." contributes a few notes dealing with the recent advances in catalogue value of the Indian Convention States. We extract his introductory remarks:—

The pricing of the stamps of the Indian Convention States in the new Gibbons' Catalogue has received much attention, and prices throughout show a steady trend upward. Subjoined below are instances where noticeable increases have occurred. In the entire list of this group there is only one glaring mistake in pricing, and that is the Jhind Service, 1 anna purple-brown (No. 517), at 1/- used. This is far too low, as only one or two sheets were ever overprinted in this deep shade. To find only one noticeable error in speaking volumes for the care with which the pricing of these stamps has been attended to. The minor catalogues, which all appeared before Gibbons 1909 Catalogue, are full up of all last year's absurd valuations, only more so, but everything that S.G. have raised are now "out of stock," although their so-called "pricing" is independent.

The following item, relating to the "Puttilla errors," is of interest:

The "Puttilla" misprints are again all catalogued, although their status is now proved to be that of *reprints*. This is done on the strength of a copy of the ordinary 2as. blue being known to exist with a supposed genuine misprint "from a printing not known in the records." Even if this is so, it must exist *alone* and it is illogical to include *all* the values of the 4th printing which were hitherto supposed to exist. Therefore Nos. 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 111 and 115 (!) are in any case superfluously catalogued.

Many of the regular features of our Indian contemporary are absent from the June number, accounted for, no doubt, by the fact that sickness has played havoc of late with the members of the Indian Society.

The May number of the *Australian Philatelist* contains an interesting biographical sketch of Mr. Fred Hagen, now in London, and the usual interesting matter relating mostly to modern Australian Stamps.

The following short paragraph is, in our opinion, well worthy of reproduction.

The letters S.A. on Victorian stamps do not stand for South Australia, but "Salvation Army." We might add further that the Melbourne Gas Company (also a private institution) use stamps punctured GAS. Both these puncturations have the letters the same size as the official O.S., and we do not wonder at the difficulty some foreign stamp collectors may experience in distinguishing between punctured official stamps and private issues. The whole thing is reaching the farcial stage.

Doubtless some collectors of punctured official stamps are treasuring their "South Australian" and "Victorian Errors."



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## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

ON glancing through a list of the names of stamp issuing countries we were struck by the fact that in ninety cases out of a hundred it is the thickly inhabited country whose stamps are the most popular.

**Populations and Popularity.** Naturally enough in the case of many of our own Colonies the population

basis of comparative value only, notably in the case of Australia where we find that the two States with the most inhabitants, namely, New South Wales and Victoria, are the favourites with collectors.

In like instances the stamps of Western Australia and Tasmania, the two most sparsely populated States of the Commonwealth are the least in demand. In Europe we find that practically speaking all the countries with a huge population are favourites.

Belgium, Holland, the two most densely populated European countries, can be quoted in favour of our argument.

There are, however, many exceptions to this rule—especially in the case of such out of the way places as the Cayman Islands and elsewhere, but we truly think that this state of affairs reflects only a passing madness.

There must be many theories in favour of the fact that it is the older and best

populated (sometimes the adjectives are only comparative) countries that are so popular with stamp collectors. The strongest reason we can think of, is that the more settled a country becomes, the more chance there is of local residents commencing to collect stamps, with the natural result that they create a demand for their own stamps—and bring them into favour with other collectors—through the medium of sale or exchange.

In the newer countries, for instance Western Australia, the residents have not time to devote to philately, consequently there is no local demand, while in London, the world's market, West Australian stamps are somewhat hard to dispose of.

If we were to take the stamps of Australia we should, we feel quite sure, find, that, basing our research on a basis of popularity, the stamps of New South Wales and Victoria were in the lead, followed respectively by South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia, and Tasmania.

On referring to a statistical return of the population of these States we find, that, if we transposed Queensland and South Australia, our lists would be identical.

There only being a limited number printed of nearly all the old issues of

stamps it naturally follows that every new specialist makes it harder for his brother collectors to obtain certain varieties. This being so, and remembering that the more settled a country becomes, the more likelihood there is of its inhabitants becoming philatelists, we think it well to advise our readers, who would fain be ahead of the general rush, to collect the

stamps of unpopular countries that have not earned a notoriety for stamp frauds, especially if the countries chosen have but a small population, with a possibility of this lack being rectified in the near future.

Many such countries occur to us, and collectors can choose from West Australia, Canada, Argentine, Uruguay, Queensland, Fiji, Newfoundland, and very many more.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Antigua.** 1d. stamps, entirely red, are about to be dispatched.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

**Australian Commonwealth.** We are indebted to the *Australian Philatelist* for the rumour "that it is quite likely there will be a new Commonwealth Postage Due stamp within the next three or four weeks. It has been decided that the present green stamps shall be superseded. The new series will be more Federal in character; every stamp will bear the word 'Australia.'"

**Barbados** has adopted the new colour scheme, and ½d., 1d. and 6d. stamps have been supplied, all on unsurfaced paper.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

**Bermuda.** A supply of 2½d. stamps, entirely in blue, is about to be sent out.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

**Dominica.** In applying the new colour scheme it has been thought advisable to reverse the colours in which the centre and border are printed, in order that the larger portion of the stamp may be in the doubly fugitive colour. New 2d., 3d. and 6d. stamps have been supplied, but the reversal of the colours is not very perceptible in the case of these values, as the appearance presented is practically that of a single colour stamp.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

**East Africa.** Rs. 2 stamps, printed on multiple watermarked paper, are about to be shipped.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

**Gambia** has decided to adopt the new colour scheme, but not to apply it to the 5d.

7½d., 10d., 1s. 6d. and 3s. values, which will be in the following colours:—

5d. same as the existing 2d. stamp.

7½d. .. .. 3d. ..

10d. .. .. 6d. ..

1s. 6d. .. .. 1s. ..

3/- bright yellow with bright green overprint.

Stamps of all values are on order.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

**India** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the current 6 annas stamp overprinted for official use.

Adhesive. King's Head.

Overprinted H. <sup>On</sup> S.  
M.

6a. bistre.

**Maldive Islands.** A correspondent has kindly shewn us used copies of the new 3c. and 5c. stamps, while we learn, from various sources that 2c. and 10c. stamps have also been issued. The design of all four stamps is identical.

Adhesives. Wmk. multiple Rosettes.

2c. orange-brown.

3c. deep myrtle.

5c. pale purple.

10c. carmine.

**Natal.** 3d., 4d. and 5d. Postage and Revenue stamps will in future follow the new colour scheme and be printed partly in doubly fugitive ink, and therefore on surfaced paper.

The only Natal stamps concerning the colour of which no change has been announced are the 1½d. and 2d. values.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

**New Hebrides.** The *Postage Stamp*, August 14th, chronicles the 1/- stamp on multiple paper.

Adhesive.

Fiji stamps overprinted New Hebrides Condominium

Crown C.A. multiple.

1/- green and carmine.

**New Zealand.** Mr. P. B. Phipson, a New Zealand correspondent to the *Australian Philatelist*, contributes to that paper the following information, which we take the liberty of reproducing:—

“As will be seen in the report of the last meeting of the New Zealand Philatelic Society, Mr. Bate (by the courtesy of the New Zealand Postal Department) exhibited the colour proofs of the new King's Head issue. As this will probably be the first announcement of any change in our stamps, I thought I had better forward you a few rough notes on same.

“There are six new stamps of the following values:—2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d. and 1/-; and of course these will eventually take the place of the present stamps of the corresponding values. Apparently there is to be no change in the ½d., 1d., 2½d., 8d., 9d., 2/-, and 5/-.

“The new stamps are printed from engraved steel plates, and are the work of Messrs. Royle, who it will be remembered were responsible for the two plates marked R1 and R2 used for printing some of the later ‘Universal’ pennies. The workmanship is everything that could be desired, but whether the design could be improved upon is, of course, a matter of opinion. Personally, I would like a little more of his Majesty and not so much of the ‘Dominion of New Zealand.’

“The design is practically the same for all values, the alteration in some of the values being merely in the background and position of the numerals denoting value. The most conspicuous portion is the inscription—New Zealand being in fairly bold type; in fact, somewhat after the style of certain stamps of the Republics of Central and South America. Beneath New Zealand is a crown, and below this appears the head and shoulders of King Edward in an oval frame, the head being somewhat below the centre of the stamp. His Majesty is in uniform, the head is turned slightly to the right, the pose being similar to that on the £1 and £2 Victoria. On one side of the stamp appears the word ‘Postage,’ and on the other ‘Revenue,’ while the bottom is reserved for the value (in words). This much of the design is common to all six values.

“The values appear in numerals as well as words, the numerals being (in some) in the bottom corners, in others higher up.

“So far I understand the authorities have not definitely decided upon the colours for the various values, and if, as I believe to be the case, the first printings are to be made in England, it will be some time before the new issue makes its first appearance. I might add the stamps are apparently the same size as the current ½d. and 1d. This is, no doubt, so that they can be perforated by the comb machines when printed locally.”

**North Borneo.** The *Postage Stamp* chronicles a set of new 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16,

18 and 24 cent stamps, representing apparently a regular collection of wild beasts.

**Northern Nigeria.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 2/6 stamp on multiple chalky paper.

*Adhesive.* King's Head, multiple C.A. watermark, chalk surfaced paper.  
2/6 green and blue.

**Queensland.** The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the 2d. stamp, current type, watermarked Q and Crown with the 12 perforation. This variety will therefore follow No. 226 in the catalogue.

*Adhesive.*  
Current type. Wmkl. Crown and Q. Perf. 12.  
2d. blue.

Our publishers have recently purchased a used copy of the 6d. green, current design, but with figures in two top corners omitted. This stamp is listed in Kohl's catalogue as being a proof. Our copy, however, was postally used and is dated August 1902. It was one of several, picked out of a big wholesale consignment of Queensland stamps, and we have little doubt but that one or more sheets of these stamps were used at the Brisbane Post Office.

**St. Lucia.** A supply of 3d. and 1s. stamps in the new colours has been dispatched.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

**St. Vincent.** The 2d. stamp will, when next required, be printed in accordance with the new colour scheme, entirely in grey.

The stop under the “d” representing “pence” which has been omitted in the case of the revised 1d. and 6d. stamps, will be inserted in all future printings.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

**Sierra Leone.** In *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* we find the following novelties chronicled. The *Colonial Office Journal* says that 1/- stamps in the new colours have also been supplied. Also 6d. stamps on surfaced paper.

*Adhesive.* King's Head.  
2d. grey.  
3d. brown on yellow.  
4d. black and red on yellow.  
5d. violet and olive.

**South Australia.** Mr. F. Hagen tells us that he has the 4d. blue stamp (perf. 11½) overprinted 3d. in black with the O.S. overprint on large (or first) Star wmkd. paper. This variety has hitherto been unchronicled.

**Transvaal.** The next issue of 6d. Postage and Revenue stamps will be in singly fugitive ink on unsurfaced paper, and that of £1 postage stamps in doubly fugitive ink on surfaced paper. Stamps of both sorts are in course of manufacture and the colours will not be materially changed. 2d. stamps are also on order, printed entirely in grey.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

**Trinidad.** In order to comply with the Postal Union requirements, new plates have been ordered for the  $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1d. and  $2\frac{1}{4}$ d. values, showing the duties in Arabic numerals. A supply of stamps from the new plates has been requisitioned, and also of 4d., 6d. and 1s. stamps in the new colours. The last named have been dispatched.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

**Turks Islands** are preparing to issue a set of stamps of a type similar to those of the Falkland Islands. The colours will follow the new colour scheme, except in the case of the following:—

4d. red on yellow paper.  
2s. red on green paper.  
3s. black on red paper.

The stamps will thus each be printed in one colour by the copper-plate process. The paper will therefore be un surfaced.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

**Victoria.** From *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* we extract the following rather remarkable paragraph.

"We are shown the current type 2d. wmk. V "Crown, postmarked with the old 'Butterfly' cancellation of 1850, which is presumably still in use "at least one office."

Surely this must emanate from some "way back" post office at the "back of beyond," where every twenty-five years or so a belated "sundowner" wanders in with an inclination to put "bluey" down and write to town for a remittance.

We know the Victorian townships of Happy-go-Lucky and Bacchus Marsh, but surely the "Butterfly postmark" must have come from Howlong in N.S.W.

**Western Australia.** The *Australian Philatelist* tells us that, with the next printing, the colour of the 2/- value will be changed to light blue. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the current 9d. stamp perforated 11.

*Adhesive.* Wmkd. Crown and A, perf. 11.  
9d. orange.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Argentine Republic.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 1c. and 50c. values as having been brought into line with the new "San Martin" series.

*Adhesives.*  
1c. brownish ochre.  
50c. black.

**Belgium.** *Congo State.* Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us four of the new series intended for permanent (?) use. The stamps are similar to the corresponding stamps

of the old issue, except that the name in the tablet of value has been altered to "Congo Belge."



*Adhesives.*

5c. green.  
10c. carmine.  
15c. ochre.  
50c. olive-green.

**Bulgaria.** We are indebted to Mr. W. T. Wilson for a sight of two new provisionals, formed by surcharging the 15 and 30 stot. of the 1902 issue. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. also send us the 15 stot. surcharged "10," and the 1 stot. of 1890 overprinted 1909.



*Adhesives.* Provisionals 1902 issue surcharged in blue.  
5 on 15 stot. greenish-black and lake.  
10 .. 15 .. .. ..

In vermilion.  
25 on 30 stot. black and brown.  
1889-90 issue overprinted 1909.  
1 st. lilac.

**China.** Lt.-Col. Norris Newman kindly sends us the following letter he has received from the Imperial Post Authorities at Peking.

"IMPERIAL POST OFFICE,  
"Peking, 2nd July, 1909.

"SIR,

"I am directed to reply to your Memorandum of the 29th June and in reply to state that the Imperial Administration has decided to commemorate the accession to the Throne of His Majesty the Emperor Hsuan T'ung by the issue of three stamps of the respective values of 2 cents, 3 cents and 7 cents. These stamps will be oblong instead of square and be printed in two colours: all three will have a yellow border, this being the Imperial colour in China, and the central picture, which will represent the "Temple of Heaven," the sacred edifice for Imperial sacrifices in Peking, will be green, blue, and purple, according to value. The issue will be strictly limited to

one million of the 3 and 7 cents and two millions of the 2 cents."

**German East Africa.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 30h. stamp on water-marked paper.

*Adhesive.* Watermarked Lozenges.  
30h. black and carmine.

**Italy.** Sig. Pio Fabri very kindly sends us specimens of the new 15c. stamps, typographed on white paper. The design remains the same as before, but the stamp has been reduced in size, while the background is in very light grey.

*Adhesive.*

Current type, but reduced in size and typographed instead of engraved.

15c. slate-grey.

**Liberia.** In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for July 3rd we find the following novelty chronicled, namely, the 10 cents of 1906 surcharged "Inland, 3 Cents," in two lines.

"We are informed that only about 10,000 of these provisionals were made, of which the greater part will be, or have been, used on letters. No more can be printed, as the stock of the old 10c. is practically exhausted, and the plates have been destroyed."

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us specimens.

*Adhesive.* 1906 Type Surcharged,  
3 cents on 10 cents black and marone.

**Monaco.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the appearance of the 10c. Postage Due in a new colour, namely brown, in place of rose. The new colour is the same as that of the corresponding stamp of France.

*Postage Due.* Colour changed.  
10c. brown.

**Nicaragua.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly inform us that they have, or have seen the following colour changes.

*Adhesive.* Type of 1905.  
1c. green.  
2c. red.  
3c. orange-brown.  
4c. purple.  
10c. claret.  
15c. grey-black.  
20c. olive brown.  
50c. dark green.  
1 peso, orange-yellow.  
2 " rose.

*Gibbons Weekly* also adds 5c. steel blue and 6c. sepia stamps to the above list. They also list them (with the exception of the 6c. value) as having been overprinted for the Province of Zelaya!

**Panama.** *Canal Zone.* *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles another value of the new set.

"The stamp still bears the portrait of Manuel J. Hurtado, but facing to the left, instead of to the right. The frame is entirely re-engraved and is greatly improved."

*Adhesive.*  
8c. purple and black.

**Spain.** *P.O.'s in Morocco.* In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for July 17th we learn that the four values already existing overprinted for use in Morocco, have had the rest of the set added. We now have, in addition to the ½c., 5c., 10c. and 25c. values, the following. We are also indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a sight of these stamps.

*Adhesives.* Overprinted for use in Morocco.

2c. brown.  
15c. violet.  
20c. olive-black.  
30c. bluish green.  
40c. rose.  
50c. greenish blue.  
1p. claret.  
4p. plum.  
10p. orange.

No wonder the Moors at Melilla attacked, with heavy losses, General Marina's army, when they heard the news. Perhaps King Alfonso wants some spare cash for his family expenses.

**Sweden.** Some kind friend in Sweden has kindly sent us a Swedish newspaper, wherein are represented designs for a new issue of stamps. In *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* we are told that the first design, showing three Crowns as a central device will be used for the 1, 2, and 4 öre stamps. The 5, 8, 10, 15, 25, 30, 35, 50 öre and 1 and 5 krona stamps will have a portrait of the King. There is also, we are informed, to be a new design for the official stamps.

**United States.** Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us a specimen of the recently issued commemorative stamp in an imperforate condition.

*Commemorative Adhesive.* Imperf.  
2c. carmine.

## New Zealand Comb Perforating Machines.

BY ARTHUR T. BATE.

MR. BURNS, the Government Stamp Printer, informs me that there are four comb perforating machines, all of which were obtained from Barrett & Co., of London.

The first of these machines arrived in June, 1906, and was used for perforating the 1d. "Universal." This was the machine gauging 14 x 14½. Two perforating "heads" were received with the machine for the ½d. and 1d. denominations. It was found, however that owing to difference in size of plates of 1d. (ordered from Royles and Waterlows—the R 1, R 2, W 1, and W 2), and perforation margins, difficulties occurring due to shrinkage of wet paper and for other reasons, it was

impossible to perforate the sheets satisfactorily on the machine, and it was laid aside (at any rate for the 1d. plates) until improvement could be obtained both in plates and paper. The rotary machine was therefore brought again into use for the 1d., and has been used continuously for this denomination until recently, when the surface printed 1d. was issued with comb perforations.

Mr. Burns, however, states that this comb machine assisted in perforating the sheets from the halfpenny plate.

In November, 1907, three more comb machines were received, the "heads" of which in overall measurement were slightly shorter than the "heads" used with the older machine. Spare "heads" were also received.

As is well known, the gauges were not the same, the first perforations of the ½d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1/- gauging 14 × 13, 13½. Apparently this also was not satisfactory, as the other "heads" gauging 14 × 15 were fitted to all four machines, and are now used exclusively.

The use of the comb machine for perforating the 4d. sheets was also discontinued, presumably on account of the size of the sheets, and this value has been relegated to the rotary machine.—*The Australian Philatelist.*

## Correspondence.

TO THE ASSISTANT EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*  
NOTES FROM "SOMEWHERE EAST  
OF SUEZ."

CLANSMAN ANGUS—GREETING.

So you would like a line or two from the scented (sometimes very much so) East. Don't you think it is a little dangerous with all these libel actions about? I might incautiously make a reference to Noah or Julius Cæsar, and one of their descendants might take objection, and then where would you be? Perhaps the safest way would be for you to circulate my letter to everyone whose name is mentioned in it, and receive permission in writing from them. Of course, the letter may be a year or two old by that time—but think how much safer it would be.

I like the underlined paragraph in your letter "Be sure and keep me informed of every particle of philatelic news in Asia." Certainly, Sir, certainly, shall I send a man or two up to Thibet, Bokhara and the Laccadive Islands, to heliograph the first news of a proposed new provisional? Anything to oblige. (N.B.—Bokhara is the name of a *country*, not of an individual, so you may print the word quite safely).

I hear that Wetherell is feeling somewhat like the man who explained that he was "a Cook and Cabin-boy and the Mate of the Nancy Brig, and a Bosun tight an a Midshipmite and the Crew of the Captain's Gig." As at present he appears to be Secretary of the Philatelic

Society of India and Editor of its journal, as well as doing other odd jobs therefor—there is rather a funny story told about him here. He wrote a newspaper article and mentioned the colour "brown," the printer unfortunately inserted a capital "B," so he promptly wrote off to every man called Brown in Asia, to apologise, and explain that the expression a "rather beastly brown" did not refer to him in particular.

Well, friend, you asked me to stick to philately in my "Notes," so far there doesn't seem to have been much, but like the man who wrote an essay on Christian Science and commenced with a note on margarine, perhaps its all for the best.

You see we don't suffer from Caymanitis out here, so I cannot write a page or two on postmistresses and other wild fowl.

Why don't you, your Editor, and the great P.L.P., come out on a voyage of discovery? Think of the lovely "immaculate mints" you could pick up at face value, really you could lay out quite half-a-crown at Port Said all ne with its French Post Office (where there were two issues in use at the same time when last I saw it), and think of the lovely sets of Suez Canal stamps (I don't believe you have *any* in stock) which obliging hawkers will let you have at a dollar a set.

I see in a recent number of your "esteemed journal" (as correspondents always call the paper that they believe will refuse to print their letters) a remark about my Clan. The writer says "temp. Robert Bruce," personally I shouldn't think of temping any such person; and what had R.B. ever done to your correspondent that he should want to temp him in particular? I am not sure that it isn't a serious crime to instigate others to temp, you might look up the law on the subject and let me know.

So you have been dining out with the Herts P.S.—much congenial companionship I doubt not; it will be many a long day ere I see any of them again. We can't have these reunions here, a couple of thousand miles in a puff-puff militates against them muchly.

Well, that column must be nearly filled now, so wishing you many happy returns of the day and a merry Christmas.

I am,  
Your affectionate kinsman,  
TONALD,

Assistant Editor *Philatelic Journal of India.*

MR. J. BORNEFELD, one of our best known philatelists, is desirous of purchasing, or exchanging, many of the early British line-engraved stamps. Read page iii. and see if you can assist him in any way.

A FURTHER instalment of Mr. Burton's valuable article on Chili, and other interesting matter, is unavoidably held over until next month.



## Well-known Philatelists.

NO. 114.—MR. A. J. WARREN.

LAST month we had much pleasure in introducing Captain Wafelbakker, the President of the Dutch Philatelic Society, to our readers. This month we have equal pleasure in publishing a photograph and short biographical sketch of Mr. A. J. Warren, one of the best known collectors to visit the Amsterdam Exhibition. A prominent member of the Herts Philatelic Society, Mr. Warren, although a fairly general collector, is known to fame as the owner, and collector, of one of the finest collections of Dutch and Dutch Colonial stamps that exist. Like practically all our well-known philatelists, he sowed the seeds of future greatness while a boy at school, by forming, in the late fifties, a small collection of stamps. This boyish collection was, on its owner going as a student to King College, handed over to a younger brother, possibly as being more suited to the tastes of a "kid" at school than a Collegiate scholar. Curiously enough, however, it was the resurrection many years later, of this relict of a bye-gone love that again, and for ever, attracted Mr. Warren's attention to our hobby. The book, which contained about 1,300 stamps, one-third of which were forgeries or colour prints, was found in an old play box, and, being recognized as an old friend, was reinstated in its original owner's esteem. This happened many years after Mr. Warren had gone to Java, but still in the days when Philately as a science, was still in its early infancy, for we read:—

"I set to work with a Stafford Smith album, in which, according to instructions, I fastened everything firmly down, with a neat strip of gum, near the top and bottom!"

At that time Mr. Warren handled the incoming post of a big business firm, and was thus able to add many stamps to his collection, and keep many for exchange purposes, especially as the majority of letters came from such philatelically desirable places as Hong Kong, Singapore, Ceylon, etc.

The following short extract from Mr. Warren's letter is of great interest, as it shows how earnest a collector its writer is:—

"In 1886/7, at Samarang, I came into contact with two good collectors (Dutchmen) and we

made early discoveries as to the perforations, a study of which threw me more particularly into a close study of the stamps of Holland, with the Colonies, Transvaal, and Luxemburg as annex. You will therefore not wonder that my General Collection has stagnated, and in case stops at 1900."

Writing about collecting in the Dutch East Indies, he says:—

"There are several fair collections in Java, but none to equal those belonging to the two above mentioned gentlemen. Both of these collections were formed by what I may call 'non-active' men. For the active man (all are busy men) there are only the occasional morning, or evening spare half-hours, when attention can be given to stamps. To these odd minutes of philatelic pastime I frequently added the whole of Sunday afternoon, especially as I did not indulge in the usual mid-day siesta, so I was able to add fairly considerably to my collection."

A great believer in the virtues of our hobby, Mr. Warren bewails the fact that the Java climate was, and is, not suitable for the study of mint stamps, as the heat and damp make unused stamps show a great inclination to stick to any and every object that gets in their way.

Shortly after Mr. Warren took up serious collecting he was fortunate enough to be able to hunt through a big accumulation of old letters, with the result that he was able to fill up many blanks that existed in his general collection, which had lain dormant so many years.

Regarding his views concerning the future of Philately, we make the following extract from his letter:—

"I do not think any one drawn into the attraction of Stamp Collecting can readily leave it (same with Golf!), and as I find plenty of youngsters to whom my duplicates are an unending source of pleasure, I don't think we need have any fear that the rising generation will not keep the 'hobby' going. I certainly think the formation of Junior Philatelic Societies and such changes as, for instance, the *Monthly Journal* into the *Stamp Weekly*, saved the subject from being too 'dry-as-dust' and even 'ultra scientific,' for the youngsters, as the deeper studies of the learned ones, and their greatly developed hankering after 'unused and mint' threatened to make it.

"In Holland and some other parts of the Continent they are not catering sufficiently for the youngsters, but I have no doubt they will



ere long see this, and rectify it. There is too great a tendency to preach that all ways of study are wrong, except the Editor's own, forgetting how much each man or boy differs from another. Personally, however, having had much to endure for years regarding 'perforations' and being told to study the 'stamp' itself, my revenge came in being the one to point out the new discoveries affecting the printing of the first issue of Holland. I say let each follow his own bent and let the wiser ones help them."

Bravo, Mr. Warren! We trust you will have very many disciples.

Next to Stamps, Golf—if it can be called a hobby—is his favourite pastime.

He humorously says:—

"Having been an active man all my life, I play as much as I can, and only wonder what those poor fellows of ancient days used to do before the game came south. A returned

Eastern is naturally a fiery lot and golf soothes him down, as nothing else could."

It is almost unnecessary to remind our readers that Mr. Warren carried off from Amsterdam a gold medal for his wonderful lot of Holland, while those of our readers who had the pleasure of hearing him reply, at the Official Banquet of the Dutch Society, on behalf of the English visitors, will equally remember his enthusiasm and humour. In closing this short sketch we can only add that he was born in Kentish Town in 1847, so that he can safely claim to be one of the pioneers of our hobby, as his first collection was, as we have already said commenced in the late fifties.

For very many years, Mr. Warren has, by encouraging the rising generation to collect, done an immense deal for our hobby, and we feel sure our readers will join us in hoping that yet many more hundreds of collectors will, in days to come, be able to claim the subject of this sketch as their philatelic god-father.

## Papers for Moderate Specialists.

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

No. XIII.—EGYPT.

THE first hint that any postage stamps were in contemplation by the Egyptian Government, was contained in a paragraph in a French newspaper in Jan., 1864, and quoted in the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, dated Feb. 1st, 1864. This reads as follows:—"Special postage stamps are about to be issued in Egypt for franking letters in the interior of the country. They are to be manufactured in England by a company which supplies such articles to many of the States of Europe."

There can be little doubt that the firm of printers referred to was that of Messrs. De la Rue, who had, a month or two previously secured the contract for printing the Italian stamps; though the other part of the statement, namely, that they supplied such articles to many of the States of Europe, would not point to Messrs. De la Rue or any other English firm.

However, as we shall see, the first issue of Egyptian stamps was not printed in England at all, and it was not until two years later, namely, on Jan. 1 1866, that the stamps of the first set were issued. It is not surprising, considering that the Director General of the Egyptian Post Office was an Italian, to find that the order for printing these stamps was placed in Italy. Whether or not Messrs. De la Rue submitted designs which were not accepted, is a moot point, certainly no essays of theirs are known to philatelists. It is probable, however, that proposals were invited from various printers, as at least one essay belonging

to the period is known, besides the accepted designs, which were the work of Messrs. Pellas Brothers, of Genoa. The essay referred to is ascribed to an Italian engraver named Negrone, and its design is so very similar in its general scheme to those of the accepted types as to lead irresistibly to one of two hypotheses, namely, I., that a rough sketch had been supplied to both engravers to work upon, and II., that, while rejecting M. Negrone's essay, the Egyptian authorities forwarded it to Messrs. Pellas Brothers as a guide. This essay is square, while the issued stamps are rectangular, but like them it looks equally well when turned upside down, except for the black overprint of Turkish inscriptions. It is of great rarity and I have not seen a copy, but it is described and illustrated by Moens, in his book on Egypt, together with a forgery of it (not a particularly good one) made by a M. Prévost.

Another essay frequently met with, which also belongs to this period, is oblong in shape, with a vulture with outstretched wings for central design. Above the vulture is a star, below a crescent, and on either side a sphinx. The upper and lower portions of the design are left blank for the insertion of name and value at a second printing. This essay is supposed to have been made entirely for collectors (who, at that date, were very fond of essays of all sorts), is very common, and is found printed in various colours on white paper.

Before the first issue was put on sale at the post offices a notice calling attention to the fact that the Post Office had become a Government monopoly was published by the Government. Before that date, 21st December, 1865, the inland postal service was conducted, under a concession from the Government, by a private person named Tito Chini, who had offices in most of the big towns. The abuses almost invariably connected with a private post, not to mention the inefficiency of the service, were suddenly put an end to by the Egyptian Government, who, two or three years before the termination of the period for which the concession was made, compensated M. Chini for the unexpired period, and took over the monopoly. It was not till many years later that conventions were entered into with foreign countries for conveying letters abroad, and consequently the first issues of Egypt were only available in the interior. Most of the European nations established their own post offices at Alexandria for the conveyance of letters to other countries, and people wishing to send letters abroad had a wide choice of post offices which could be patronized, but the postage, according to Moens, had to be paid for in the coinage of the country at whose office the letter was handed in. This fact helps us to understand why Alexandria became a money-changer's paradise, which it still is on account of its geographical position, though the postal difficulties have long since been satisfactorily overcome.

The official notice referred to also announced the issue of postage stamps and instructed the public in the use of them. Some of the clauses sound strange to us now. For instance: "*Clause 23.*—Letters and newspapers bearing genuine postage stamps, but having already served to frank other correspondence, will be considered unfranked. In these cases newspapers will not be delivered and the postage of letters will be charged to the addressee." Another direction would appear to have been superfluous, namely, that which says: "Postage Stamps must be stuck on letters by the senders before putting them into the box." This reads like a reflection on the intelligence of the Egyptian public.

The notice also explicitly states that halves of stamps could not be admitted in payment of postage, a provision which we know was occasionally disregarded.

*Clause 53* states that the distribution of correspondence takes place at the post offices. This reminds us that Egypt had not, at that time, a house to house delivery of letters, and that it was necessary to go to the post office, if one expected a letter, and collect it oneself.

A set of the seven postage stamps of different values to be issued on the 1st of January following was affixed to the proclamation. These comprised the 5, 10 and 20 paras, and 1, 2, 5 and 10 piastres. The designs are

different for each value, but all are overprinted with Turkish inscriptions in black. These, at sides and top, reading from left to right, signify "Egyptian Postage Stamp." The characters at the bottom represent the value, and the central character, which is upright when the central loop is upwards, is the name of the country—Egypt. This overprint is in black on all values and, like the stamp, was printed by lithography. I have seen a block of the 5 par. from the margin of the sheet, showing an inscription in Italian on the marginal paper. This inscription looks very much as though it had been printed at the same time as the overprints on the stamps.

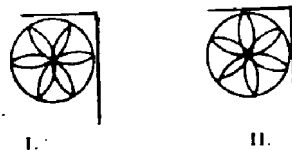


The original dies for the stamps were probably engraved on metal and transfers made as usual, one by one, and placed in position on the stone. Now, as, apparently, there is no difference between the upper and lower halves of the stamps, it did not appear to matter which way up the transfers were fixed; but, as a matter of fact, there are slight differences between the upper and lower halves which have not escaped the attentive eyes of philatelists, and we find some stamps placed one way up and some another on the same sheet. Consequently, when the stamps were completed by the addition of the overprint, some of the designs appear upside down when compared with others, though they cannot be properly termed "inverted," as one position is no more incorrect than the other.

Mr. Duerst, who was, I believe, the first to describe these varieties (*Philatelic Record*, 1896) calls them types I. and II. This is obviously incorrect as they are not varieties of type but of position. I prefer to call them varieties I. and II.

The following descriptions and the accompanying illustrations of the main differences between the two varieties in each value should be sufficient to enable the reader to distinguish them without much difficulty.

5 Paras.



Variety I.—The upper right-hand circle in the background, below, and to the left of, the

word "PARA," contains a six-leaved floret of which no leaf points directly to the last "A" of "PARA."

Variety II.—One leaf of the floret points to the "A."

10 Paras.



Variety I.—The key-pattern in the top label, beginning immediately to the right of the numerals "10" in the top left-hand corner, starts with a vertical section of the pattern.

Variety II.—The key-pattern begins with a horizontal section.

20 Paras.

Variety I.—In the arabesque pattern of the back-ground, some distance above the central word of the Turkish overprint, there is a small portion of the design which is shaped almost like a circle but broken at the top. The small pearl-like ornament in the extreme lower left-hand corner contains a curved line of shading situated at the top.

Variety II.—The ornament in the back-ground is crescent-shaped. The shading on the pearl in lower left-hand corner is situated at the left instead of at top.

1 Piastre.



Variety I.—In the upper part of the arabesque pattern in the central oval the two curled lines do not touch. The figure "1" in upper right corner is smaller, and has a smaller serif, than that in the lower left-hand corner.

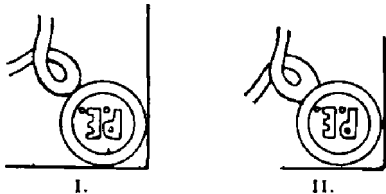
Variety II.—The two curled lines meet. The figure "1" in upper right corner is larger than that in lower left corner.

2 Piastres.

Variety I.—In the background, immediately above the central word of the Turkish overprint, the lines of the ornamentation are interlaced, so as to form two transverse loops, which are almost equal in size.

Variety II.—Of the two loops, that at the right is smaller and shallower than the other.

5 Piastres.



Variety I.—The lower loops of the scroll enclosing the central ornamentation are outlined in colour, and barely touch the circles containing the value at bottom.

Variety II.—The outlines of the loops are cut off by the outlines of the circles containing the value at bottom.

10 Piastres.



Variety I.—The "P" of "PE" in the top left corner is well shaped.

Variety II.—The "P" is badly shaped and appears to have the loop prolonged slightly downwards.

In the 10 par., 20 par. and 1 piastre, the two varieties are equally common, but variety II. is rather scarcer in the 2 and 10 pi. In the 5 paras, variety II. is very much scarcer than variety I., the proportion being about 1 to 4, while in the case of the 5 piastres I have seen ten of type I. to one of type II.

All values must, of course, be found *tête-bêche*, if that term can be used in connection with these stamps. Gibbons' catalogue gives the 10 piastres in this condition but does not list the other six values. As a matter of fact any pair is as likely to be *tête-bêche* as not, except in the case of the 5 paras and of the 5 piastres.

The stamps are watermarked with a pyramid surmounted by a star, but the 1 piastre is on much better and stouter paper than are the other values, and is without watermark.

The perforation is generally 12½, but is very often 12½ compound with 13 and, occasionally, though rarely 13 all round.

All values are found imperforate or perforated on two sides only, and are worth considerably more in this state. Collectors should not, however, be misled by the imperforate proofs, without watermark and un-gummed, which are so frequently met with. These are of very little value.

An interesting error in this issue is the 5 piastres with the overprint of the 10 piastres; it is of great rarity and yet is a variety which the enthusiastic collector might hope, some day to pick up as the ordinary one. The 10 piastres with the overprint of the 5 piastres, which was until recently believed in by all the best authorities, is now considered to have been recorded from a forgery and is discredited.

In 1867, owing to a shortage of 1 piastre stamps the use of halves of the 2 piastre was officially sanctioned, but only between the dates 16th and 31st of July of that year. This was the only value that was officially allowed to be used, but others are occasionally met

with and it is possible that they were allowed to do duty.

With the exception of the 2 piastres which can be found in tints ranging from yellow to a fairly deep orange-yellow, the deep shades being much the rarer, the stamps of this issue present very slight variations of shade.

A new issue having been decided upon, a lithographer of Alexandria, named Penasson, was called upon to submit designs, with the result that nine essays were prepared.

Copies of these essays are by no means rare, though a complete set of them might be difficult to get together. They mark a departure from the type of the first issue, all of them

bearing a representation of one of the pyramids or of the Sphinx, or both. I may remark here that according to the Mussalman law no portrait of the sovereign is permitted and consequently the imagination of the engraver was restricted to the depiction of objects emblematic of the country. The type actually chosen bears a representation of one of the pyramids, with the head of the Sphinx directly in front of it, within a transverse oval. On either side are representations of monuments, that on the left being an Ionic pillar, generally described, for what reason I do not know, as Pompey's Pillar.

(To be continued).

## Notes on the First Stamps Used in Victoria.

BY J. BORNEFELD.

(Continued from page 149.)

We can therefore presume that storekeepers, etc. in Port Philip might consider that prepayment meant the affixing of stamps, while small sums could be paid by postage stamps. Even at the present day in the colonies the storekeepers up country are at the same time the post office officials, and procure a supply from the G.P.O. by remitting the cash, or from the wholesale houses at Port Philip (Melbourne). These country post offices (mostly stores) were very few, some 30 odd in 1850. They were not supplied officially with stamps until the 15th January, 1850, from which date the sales in Melbourne fell down, as above proved, to one-third.

Looking again at the figures we find that up to the 15th January £55 12s. 8d. 2d. stamps, inland postage, equal to 6676, were sold against £31 2s. 3d. stamps, Ships (Sydney, etc.) postage, equal to 2488.

To understand the request for help in the way of stamps from Sydney, we must remember that Victoria's independence did not come in force till six months later, that the Postmaster-General of Port Philip was under the Superintendent of Port Philip, the latter under the Colonial Secretary in Sydney, who in turn was subject to the decision of the Governor of N.S.W. In the routine of authority it is probable that the request for a supply of stamps was made by the Superintendent of Port Philip to the Colonial Secretary at Sydney, who in turn not being debited with stamps demanded, did not debit the Superintendent of Port Philip and the latter would have sent such supply to the G.P.O., Port Philip, without debit. I made all kind of searches to get hold of correspondence about this matter through the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and by the courtesy of the Colonial Secretary in Sydney, even searched the copybooks of that time, but could not find any reference to the request (mentioned by the *Morning Herald*). Copying of letters at that time was made by hand, and

I made the startling discovery that a certain letter giving instructions to Melbourne G.P.O., containing four paragraphs, was closed off in the copybook in Sydney with paragraph 2!

This naturally allows the conclusion that when important matters of instruction were not correctly copied, a simple letter of advice enclosing the requested supply of stamps might not have been considered important enough to be chronicled in the copy book.

If the Board of Inquiry had had at all an idea that N.S.W. stamps were included in the stamps accounted for, they probably would have at once stopped the sale and use of them, but it was not till 20th June, 1851, two months after the Board report, that the order went forth:—"The issue of respective postage stamps of N.S.W. and Victoria should be confined to the colonies in which they were issued."

It has been mentioned that many of the Sydney Views bearing the fly postmark of Victoria may have been ship letters from N.S.W. and only cancelled at Port Philip. This may be the case with 3d. stamps (ship letters) but not with 1d. and 2d. Sydney Views unless they together constituted the 3d. postage.

It has been mentioned somewhere that a Mr. Graham, of Moulamein, requested Port Philip for a supply of stamps, which were sent to him on the 8th of January, 1850. Moulamein is 541 miles from Sydney and situated in New South Wales and the mails to that place take from three to four days per rail and coach via Balranald or Deniliquin at the present day and perhaps double to Sydney at that time. Mr. Graham therefore probably required N.S.W. stamps and the question arises was he acquainted with the fact that he could get these from Port Philip which was nearer to him than Sydney, or was Mr. Graham anxious to lay by a supply of first printing of Victoria from a philatelic point of view? and that at a time

when very few collected postage stamps, at least not in unused state!

All these doubts would, of course, be cleared up if originals with dates of 1st, 2nd or 3rd Jan., were found to contain Victorian stamps. The earliest date known so far, I believe, was in my possession (now Mr. Hausburg's), and beats previous records by at least seven days. This letter was posted on the 10th January, 1850, by his Honour at the Superintendent's Office, addressed to the Acting Mayor of Geelong; received post stamping of Geelong 11th January, and has 1d. orange-vermilion and 3d. bright blue band round Orb only in centre; both superb specimens, cancelled Butterfly 15. (An illustration of this envelope appeared in the *P.J.G.B.* last month).

As his Honour the Superintendent naturally would receive the very first sheets (sending specimens to Sydney on the 2nd Jan.) this cover ought to be unique. It establishes the fact that orange-vermilion was the first shade.

I agree with Mr. Rundell that the die of the 2d. stamp was altered at a very early date as I have been informed that such a finely executed design, if transferred to the litho stone, would cause, even at the present date, half of the sheets being smudged and soiled in printing. (Mr. Ham delivered over numbers of stamps). I believe it has never been stated before that the fine background has 20 sets of three lines each whereas the coarser or later background has only fourteen sets. That the fine background lines are rounded wavy lines and the coarse more angular wavy lines. I have seen a 2d. fine background on original 31st January. Mine is 8th February, but as it is also on original, posted by the Superintendent's office, I presume that the office had a fair supply, from the beginning, of 2d. stamps. I also have a rose-brick 1d. with border lines, posted April 2nd Warrnambool together with 3d. no lines, band extending over Orb. As up to the 1st April, only 23,581 1d. stamps, and 13,252 3d. stamps were delivered; the second 1d. stamp is therefore part of the printing of this small number and so is the second 3d. stamp part of such small printing.

*Re* the division of 1d., 2d. and 3d. stamps of the second and consecutive issues, with border lines and small or large space between each stamp, I do not agree. Certainly at one time or another the plates received border lines, but I am sure copies from worn lithographic plates omit to show these lines and will be mistaken for copies without lines. As to interval space between, I never have seen a strip of three, or more, where the space between did not vary greatly.

The 1d. die, I take it, had only one alteration; the adding of border lines. The 2d., 1st, entire alteration, as above, of background; 2nd, by border lines; 3rd, renewal of border to so-called coarse border, i.e. four states. The 3d., 1st, retouch of right-hand, which by

the addition of lines produces the appearance of band round orb extending over orb; 2nd, addition of border lines; 3rd, retouch of die, adding numerous shading dots over face, arm and hands. So that we have two variations of 1d., with and without border lines; four variations of 2d., fine background, coarse background without border lines, coarse background with border lines, coarse border; 3d., four varieties, ring of Orb only middle of Orb, ring extending over Orb, addition of border line, and retouch of die, adding numerous shading dots.\*

We probably will never know how many lithographic plates were used for each value, and on account of the variation of interval space above mentioned, it is nonsense to make such a division, even if on the one or other lithographic plate a variation exists. Probably the last 2,000,000 of 3d. stamps, printed by Campbell & Ferguson, between 2nd June, 1854, and February, 1855, are all of the retouched die, as I have a strip on original, December 7th, 1854, with face, arms and hands all over dots.

Will any of your readers who have pro or contra evidence of my above assertions kindly communicate with me?

## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

FOR many years I have wished for the power to see myself as others see me. The opportunity has been given me by a little, but good, paper called the *New Zealand Collectors' Exchange*. It says, in the April number, reviewing the *P.J.G.B.*:

"There is some delightful reading in the number before me. From the Editorial (first page) through the New Issues, Well-known Philatelists, Notes on South Australia, Current Chatter (apparently Angus McTavish is humorous) the 'funny' page, to the end and not a dull page in it."

Bravo *N.Z.C.E.*! You evidently mean well, anyway here is *Kia-ora* to you, and a lot of new subscribers.

Mr. Astley Clerk, of Jamaica, contributes a philatelic column to the *Jamaica Times*, and kindly sends me an exchange copy. In his July 3rd number he refers to the publishers of the *P.J.G.B.* as Messrs P. L. Plumberton & Co. Really, Mr. Clerk, you are quite correct, only its the customers that get the plums. Mr. Chili Burton must have been telling you about that pair of 5c. lithographs he picked out of one of P.L.P. & Co.'s approval books, priced at a few pence.

Mr. Clerk has been telling his readers all about Jamaica stamps. We extract the

\*See my article on "The First Issue of Victoria," in *Stanley Gibbons Monthly*, April, 1907.

following words of wisdom; the *P.J.G.B.*, however, seems as troublesome to Mr. Clerk as did King Charles' Head to Mr. Dick:—

Imperforate copies of 1st issue known probably *Specimens or Proofs*. (*P.J.G.B.*) XIV.—603 d. and 6d. 1871 Crown C.C.—are found with inverted w.m.

*Postal Fiscals*—were often Postmarked to order—and to oblige Philatelists!!

1889—1d. 4 plates used and known.

2d. only 1 plate—(known w.m.) inverted.

*Variety*:—24d. on 4d. Broken "Y" instead of Y in PENNY PJGB XIV. 61. Known W.M. displaced.

Official Letters now stamped with attained stamp PJGB X. IV. 61.

PJGB=(Philatelic Journal of Great Britain).

I had no idea Jamaican stamps were really so fascinating, and isn't it nice to see how the Jamaican people like to take their philatelic nourishment?

I have often wondered how many London dealers would toe the line if only Englishmen were needed. I don't think the publishers of the *British Philatelist* would be there, because I see they are advertising a fine lot of Jocmel postmarks. Perhaps this was done as a compliment to McTavish's countrymen.

The publishers of this paper receive a goodly number of Babu letters, but the majority are far too long to print, the following, however, is comparatively short.

"DEAR SIRs,

"I beg to inform you the great satisfaction that I have heard your names through a certain friend of mine, that you are the best merchant of useless stamps collector in the city of London. Therefore I am forward you to accessme to be kind enought to send me your price-list.

"I got many useless stamps. viz. Gold Coast, Togoland, southern Neagira. Every part of the world.

"And I want to be my friend of stamps collector of it. Please send me your useless stamps price list quick, price-list must followed, and some letter too. I hope you would not fail to send them to me. Sent it quick."

Needless to say the price-list was sent quick, in fact a special steamer was chartered to accessme it all the way.

In August, when all good collectors, whether they be man, woman, or suffragette, are out of town, it is very hard to rake up topics suitable for the McTavish page. I see, however, that one editor of a philatelic paper is advising those of his readers, who are in want of countries to specialize, to take up Turkey and Crete. Ye Gods, what a stock of these countries he must have! The McTavish advice is, when in doubt play trumps; in other words, buy old Europeans in A1 condition.

Are you going away in September or October? If so, and you want a competent guide, adviser, and friend, more or less conversant with all foreign languages, the McTavish is open for an engagement. Terms strictly moderate. Would act as bear leader if necessary. Each traveller pays his own and McTavish's first class expenses. The following list of places can be highly recommended:

NEW BRUNSWICK for sportsmen (deer, fish, bear, etc)

BRUSSELS AND PARIS for stamp excursions.

HOLLOWAY for those seeking rest and quiet. (P.S.—Mc.'s terms are 10 guineas a day extra for conducted tours to Holloway).

BARCELONA for those fond of studying the habits of newspaper correspondents, and nuts.

AUSTRALIA.—Especially adapted for those who prefer sea travelling. Return tickets, although at one time *extremely* difficult to procure, can now be easily obtained.

MAIDENHEAD, GORING AND OXFORD.—All well known resorts; easy of access; suitable for camping-out parties, etc.

GIBRALTAR.—Fine place for rocks.

CEYLON.—Fine place to raise a thirst. Trips could be arranged to include the Maldives.

AMSTERDAM.—Fine place for dams.

LONDON.—Where the McTavish will probably stay; fine place to buy stamps in; also noted for its St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey.

Etcetra. Etcet., etc., etc., c.



## August, 1909, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1909-10.

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All Officers of the Union are *ex-officio* Members of the Committee.

### MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and Subscription, 5/-, should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members, not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

The following is now proposed in accordance with above:—

Dr. T. J. Paton, Sowerby Bridge, Yorks.

Proposed by Dr. Marx; seconded by T. H. Hinton.

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP.

An application for Life Membership from Lieut-Col. Norris Newman will be referred to the Committee at their next meeting.

### LIBRARY.

The following donations to the Library are acknowledged with thanks:—

From E. W. Wetherell, Esq. (the author).  
"The Work of Messrs. Thos. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., as Manufacturers of Stamps."

From A. E. Milner, Esq. (the compiler),  
Illustrated Catalogue of British Post Paid Stamps, Part I.

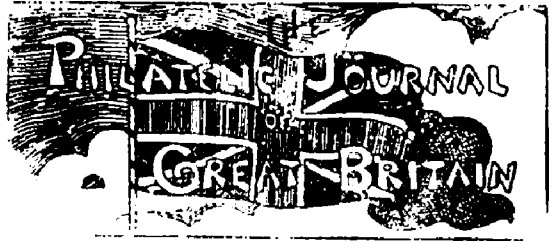
### NOTICES.

The Committee will meet at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, on Thursday, Sept. 9th, at 7 p.m., to arrange programme for next season and for other business. Members willing to assist with Displays or Papers, or take part in Smoking Concert, or offer any suggestions for the welfare of the Society, are invited to communicate with the Hon. Sec., who will lay the same before the Committee. He will also be glad to receive and acknowledge any subscriptions due, or donations to the Forgery Collection.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

August 12th, 1909.



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### Correspondence.

McTAVISH ON THE CONTINONG.

TO THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

DEAR SIR,—

Thanks for the dramatic and exceedingly ungrammatical finish you gave to my last month's letter. I shan't tell you what happened en route to Cologne, while, as a punishment for your unseemly levity I shall go back,



metaphorically (I have often wished to use this word) to Brussels and tell you about several things that happened to me there.

Brussels is a handy city for not getting lost in, this is due to the fact that Cook's the tourist people, have stuck a big landmark in the centre of the town—viewable from practically any part of the city. It is called the Hotel De Ville. I may be wrong about Cook—perhaps it was the other landmark—the Palais De Justice that he put there—anyway between the two buildings it is impossible to get lost. If St. Paul's, in London, had not been so built round it also would have served as a landmark but . . . . .

The Hotel De Ville is not, dear reader, the sort of place you fondly think it is, in fact it isn't licensed at all, even a glass of\* . . . . .

The Post Office isn't a bad sort of a place, in the central hall are dozens of stand up desks, where the out of work population writes its postcards. Outside, there are four whopping big machines for the sale of 5c., 10c. and 25c. stamps and postcards; each machine has on the outside a little square enclosing the kind of stamp procurable within. I didn't invest, nor did I see anyone else. I preferred to work off a little French on the postal clerks. They were safely ensconced behind windows and couldn't get at me.

There are at least a dozen shops in Brussels, at one, where they have a really good stock, they sell at half Yvert & Tellier. I spent a very pleasant morning buying at those prices. Of course one has to know what to buy, also, equally, what *not* to.

Now my dear editor (you won't get a capital E out of me) perhaps you won't cut me off this month, as you did last, or else I will take you back to Ostend. I arrived at Cologne about six p.m. and, not knowing the town, got into the biggest hotel bus. I was taken to the Dom Hotel about two seconds' drive away. The Hotel is opposite the Dom (Cathedral), many visitors, mostly Yanks, ask which is which. They charged me a mark for the drive; I'll walk next time. The Dom (hotel) is a dom fine place (as the Yorkshire McTavishes would put it), so is the Cathedral. They put me up with the angels on the fifth floor. Unfortunately both the Doms were chock full of Americans, and I guess I don't like the travelling—per Cook, variety of Yank—neither the he, nor the she kind. I like the American at home, and while in the States always \* . . . . .

I picked up one or two stamps in Cologne. I only found one shop, and they knew too much for the pair wee laddie. The Rhine starts at Cologne, doesn't rise there of course, I mean it starts to get pretty. The usual thing is to go from Cologne to Mayence by water, about twelve hours up stream. I over-

heard a big party of Americans planning to go by steamer, so I went by train.

At the station they played a joke on me. My train left at 1.5 mid-day. The hotel bus landed me at the station at 12.50. Negotiating the ticket and platform troubles safely, I waited at the train for my bag. At 12.58 it appeared with a fat hotel porter attached to it. At least, it was my porter with somebody else's bag. As I wanted to take the bag to Mayence and not the porter, I got cross. The trouble was simply that the hotel man had labelled my bag Frankfort and some other silly ass's Mayence. The five minutes before the train left were filled with strenuousness—first I wagged my head at four Field Marshals, then I chased the fat porter back to the luggage office—here fatty collapsed and handed me over to a station man—then back at the heels of the porter to the train, and aboard as she steamed out. Cologne Station is a combination of two Waterloos and a Liverpool Street, so you can guess how we sprinted. The hotel chap got a mark—he would want it I guess—but dear gentle reader, should you stay at the Dom Hotel, don't trust the fattest chap with the labelling of your luggage. He is an awfully nice person, but don't forget if you want to go to Berlin, that he will probably try to send your bath sponge off to Strassburg.

At Mayence I didn't buy any stamps, neither did I at Darmstadt, Carlsruhe, or Freiburg—mostly because I didn't see any stamps worth buying. I also didn't buy any stamps at Munich, Hanover, or Hamburg, principally because I didn't go to those places. The river scenery between Coblenz and Mayence is grand, and one could spend weeks rambling about the old world villages.

At Mayence I tried, on the suggestion of Mr. Continental Bradshaw, to obtain my Poste Restante letters at the Post Office in the Brand. Fortunately my hotel—the Karpfen (a very comfortable one)—was also on the Brand. This was fortunate, because I required a little stimulant after twice waiting at the post office for fifteen minutes while the solitary Brigadier-General there condescended to gaze at me through his unopened grille. The third time he demeaned himself to inform me that the Poste Restante department was in the new Post Office up by the Station, at least I recognized the word "Something-somethingstrasse," and imagined the rest. He was quite correct, but he needn't have been so confoundedly leisurely about it. Mr. Bradshaw evidently hasn't been told that there is a new Post Office. Fortunately Rhine wine is very cheap at the Karpfen Hotel. I should like to have this hotel and its cellars in Holborn. Germany has its good points.

The German post boxes are simply sweet—they are only little chaps—just big enough to hold a few dozen letters inside and the usual Imperial eagle outside. The collections are plentiful and the postman fixes a bag, the size of the box, to the bottom, turns the key which

\*Really, McTavish, space is space, even in August, and we must delete 300 odd lines here. — Ed., P.J.G.B.

lets down the bottom and there you are, certainly better than scooping out the letters by hand, isn't it?

Heading for Lucerne, I put in a couple of days at Bâle, of course *they* call it Basle, but then they are so silly; for instance, when I went to book my ticket for Lucerne the ticket chap gave me one for Luzern, and I had to take it. Bâle is in Germany, I know, of course, that geographers and map makers and people of that sort say it is in Switzerland, but probably they haven't been there. I have, and its German, very German. They certainly use Swiss stamps on their letters and don't kowtow to every other man because he is a Field-Marshal or a Corporal, but still Bâle is awfully German. I like the place though\* especially as it wasn't crammed with tourists, at least I didn't meet many.

The Town Hall, or Rathhaus, is a very quaint old building; so, too, is the old Gothic Münster, part of which dates back, so I was told, to somewhere about 1180 A.D. I should like to have brought both places back with me, but perhaps the Swiss would have missed them. At any rate there would, I feel sure, have been trouble in getting them through the customs. They seem very fond of little slot machines, for selling stamps in Switzerland. The authorities just stick one up on a wall, and I suppose occasionally they get a bite; personally, I didn't try any of them, nor did I see anybody else do so. It would have been an awful thing if I had put in a 5 centime piece and got nothing out. Besides, in Switzerland, they are so cosmopolitan regarding their coinage, and I didn't know whether the slot machines were usually fed on Swiss, Italian, French, German or Belgian money. I had all the above changes rung on me, besides having to load up with Luxemburg money when in the capital town of the Duchy of that ilk, so you see now, my dear editor, why I mistrusted slot machines. Writing of Luxemburg reminds me that when I was there—but perhaps † I had better reserve that story until—

### REMARKABLE BOOM IN THE STAMP TRADE.

TO THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

DEAR SIR,—

As requested, I duly paid a semi-official visit to Earl's Court to try and gain corroborative evidence regarding the statement you published last month, namely, that "a small boy had been seen going round the exhibits." In view of my investigations I refute your

suggestion that I was suffering from an optical illusion when I chronicled the said small boy's visit. I can bring forward *three* eye witnesses of the aforesaid small boy's visit.

Unfortunately the previously mentioned small boy is now no more. He is dead. I regret to have to announce the sad fact.

He bought a cheap packet from one of the stall holders; when he got it safely home he died. Joy killed him. It does sometimes. His collection is to be sold at auction next month.

Another visitor, however, has taken his place, a little girl, not too little of course; she is also young and pretty, not too young of course. I don't think she has invested in any sets yet, but I hear the stallholders suffer from palpitation every time she hovers near. Such a sweet little thing, with *such* a lovely little piggy-wiggly all tied up with pink ribbon. Why didn't I have a stall at Earl's Court.

Those of your readers who want a cheap holiday had better go to the Ducal Hall, they can get sunburnt in a couple of hours, enough to look as if they had been to Cliftonville for a fortnight. Mr. Fearnley tells me that Aden, Thursday Island and Tophet combined would be cool compared to the corrugated iron roofed building the stamp stallholders take their daily Turkish baths in. Occasionally I am told, some stranger drifts in from the outside world, not to buy stamps of course, but to have a look round that other portion of Earl's Court that the stamp people have sublet to the American Indians, cowboys and other exhibitors. When such an event takes place—provided the visitor is a member of the White Men's Club, the Ducal Hall dukes close up shop and conduct the stranger around the sights. Personally, I was told I should be shown some flappers. I have often wanted to see a flapper, flapping, but it was too hot the night I was there, they only flipped in a very half-hearted way. The best resort for flappers is the Western Gardens.

Another notable feature of the Exhibition (principally that small area not devoted to stamps) is the remarkable way in which they heat their drinking soda water. It tastes exactly as if it had been carefully friccasseed over a slow oven for a couple of hours. When they put the colouring matter into it it actually fizzes. I know now why the "boys" (and they are two of the best) drink "dry gingers." Fancy stalking, and surrounding a dozen "dry gingers" during the course of one evening. Is it not sad?

Yours truly,

ANGUS MCTAVISH.

P.S.—You are probably wondering\* at the heading of this letter, but I haven't yet told you the reason for it. *I bought a picture postcard from one of the dealers.*

\* I hope this won't get into the new edition of the standard guide to Switzerland.—MCTAV.

† Perhaps there will be no more continuation, at any rate we will wait until next month and see then if our readers can stand more of McTavish's wanderings.—ED. *P.J.G.B.*

\*We are also wondering what the rest of the letter is about, also why we publish it, but 90 in the shade is our excuse.—ED., *P.J.G.B.*



AUGUST 20, 1909.

### Philately at Home.

The July number of the *Philatelic Record*, our leading stamp paper, contains an article (illustrated) describing the National Telephone Co.'s stamps, a further long, and capital instalment of Mr. B. T. K. Smith's article dealing with the stamps of the Virgin Islands, and a long chapter of Mr. Ernest Zumstein's Handbook of the Postage Stamps of Switzerland.

This last article is of great value and interest, especially as the current instalment deals with those fascinating stamps known as the "silk thread issues."

The following extract is all too short:

As already mentioned, the stamps were provided with a silk thread, added to the under-surface of the paper in order to render the production of forgeries more difficult. The threads were placed at regular intervals in the space filled with the paper pulp in such a way that one thread ran through each row of stamps. Not only are threads found of different thicknesses, but also stamps may be met with having a double thread or with none at all. The cause of these irregularities is to be found in defects of manufacture, for if the distance between two threads was greater than the height of a stamp, one row of stamps would be found without any thread, while the next row would have two. The colour of the thread of the first Munich issue, officially designated as *blue-green*, is actually a *dark emerald green*. From 1855-57 the paper bore a thread of different colour for each value, but owing to the inconvenience and cost of this variation, the threads were, after a period of two years, made uniformly green (with the exception of the 1fr.), the only difference from the first issue being that the colour is a lighter and brighter green.

The change of the colours, in the years 1855-57, was due to a proposal of Dr. Custer, Director of the Mint, and took place as follows:—

July, 1855.	5r.	with yellow thread.
June, 1856.	10r.	.. red ..
July, 1855.	15r.	.. blue ..
May, 1857.	40r.	.. red-brn. ..

Dr. Custer found the yellow thread too pale and scarcely visible in artificial light, so that he proposed a second change. In view, however, of the large stock of paper with this thread, the Postal Administration would not sanction this; but after a time a practical solution was arrived at, whereby the stock with the yellow thread was employed for the least used value, the 1fr., while the 5r., probably at the beginning of 1857, received a clearly visible black thread. The 20r. was the only value which was

exempt from these changes and experiments, and continued with the green thread unaltered.

The many abnormalities of silk thread are probably, for the most part, to be referred to discoloration; for example, white and yellow threads were originally green. The fact that all types with dark green threads are also found with yellow threads, and that those with pale green threads (1850-60) in like manner exist with white threads, seems to prove this. The change in the colour of the threads is usually associated with one in that of the stamps, since it was not easily possible to reproduce the original colour exactly in a new printing. This is especially the case with the 5r., in which most changes of the silk thread took place, while there are also several colour changes from pale brown to dark brown.

In Mr. B. T. K. Smith's excellent instalment of his Virgin Islands article we find the following, which we are glad to give prominence to as we too disbelieve in the so called "toned" paper.

If we look at Gibbons' Catalogue we find that the list of Virgin Island stamps is swollen with varieties on "white" and on "toned" paper. In condemning such distinctions as factitious, I do not mean to say that we shall not find some specimens, for example, of the 6d., perf. 12, on white paper and also on paper of a distinctly yellowish cast: but, after examining many actual specimens and as much documentary evidence as I can find, I am forced to the conclusion that time, climate, and the after-treatment of both used and unused stamps, must be held to account for the differences in question.

Let us take one case, that of the 6d., perf. 15, which is catalogued at two prices, one for the "toned" and the other for the "white" paper variety, and ask ourselves if it is reasonably possible to believe that this stamp, of which a solitary consignment of 40 sheets was printed, was impressed on two kinds of paper. Specimens of the 4d. on *pale rose* as distinguished from *flesh coloured* paper are, in my opinion, probably due to immersion in water.

The July number of the *London Philatelist* contains a short article, contributed by Mr. E. D. Bacon, entitled "a Remarkable Find in New South Wales Essays." Mr. Bacon deals with some very interesting Sydney View essays. Mr. J. N. Marsden, an authority on Portuguese stamps is responsible for three pages dealing in a very "catalogue" manner with the last two issues of Portugal. Two pages of our contemporary are devoted to printing long reports of the Sydney

and Victorian philatelic societies, which space, as far as the majority of the *L.P.* readers are concerned must, we think, be wasted. More than two pages, as is usual, are devoted to "auction prices," we wonder how many readers peruse them?

Three numbers of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* are before us. The first, dated July 10th, contains little else but a long report of the recent Old Bailey trial. The July 24th copy however contains a wealth of interesting matter, notably the first instalment of Mr. Herbert Clark's paper, read before the Brighton Branch of the J.P.S., entitled "The Pony Express of America." The subject dealt with—although by no means novel—is of great interest to all those collectors to whom the "travel" side of our hobby appeals. Mr. Clark has compiled his paper in a most complete manner, and we regret that the following is so short:—

The cost of establishing and maintaining the Pony Express was enormous. Relays of horses were kept at each station, and riders employed at every third station. As the country produced nothing at that time, all provisions and supplies had to be hauled by waggon from the Missouri River, Utah or California.

The newspapers were its principal patrons. The California Press depended entirely upon the Pony Express for news, until the completion of the Overland Telegraph Line in 1861.

The letters were wrapped in oil silk for protection against wet, but that did not avail when swimming swollen streams. On one occasion the rider was shot and scalped, the horse escaping with the mails, and months afterwards they were found and the enclosed letters forwarded to their destinations.

The Express carrying the news of Abraham Lincoln's election went through from St. Joseph to Denver, 665 miles, in two days and twenty-one hours. The distance from St. Joseph to Sacramento was about 1900 miles and was covered in eight days.

The pony rider was usually a little bit of a man, brimfull of spirit and endurance. No matter what time of day or night his watch came on, or whether it was winter or summer, or a howling storm, or the trail was beset with hostile Indians, or over dizzy mountain heights, he must always be ready to leap into the saddle and be off like the wind. Both horse and rider went flying light, the rider carried no arms but a revolver, and nothing that was not absolutely necessary. He rode a splendid horse that was born for a racer, with a skeleton saddle, lightly shod or not at all. There were about eighty riders in the saddle all the time, night and day, stretching in a long, scattered, fleeting procession from Missouri to California, forty flying eastward and forty to the west, using some four hundred horses continually.

Those of our readers—who are interested in the "Pony Express" days would do well to read Mr. Clark's paper. It is true it contains no new information, but, as it deals with so fascinating a subject—we never the less owe a debt of thanks to its author.

The same number of the *S.C.F.* contains the first instalment of Mr. B. W. H.

Poole's article entitled "The Postage Stamps of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate." Mr. Poole in his characteristic manner deals fully with the historic and geographical history of the Solomons—taking us in fact as far back as 1513, when Spain was the dominant colonizing country. We suppose space was limited, otherwise we should have been told how King Solomon landed from the Ark, during the time of the historic deluge. Those of our subscribers, however, who are fond of reading about out-of-the-world places, will welcome, as we do, Mr. Poole's article. As a matter of fact the historic story of the Solomons is a hundred fold more interesting than the philatelic.

The August 7th copy of the *S.C.F.* contains the conclusion of Mr. Clark's paper, and a second long instalment of Mr. Poole's article.

We must candidly confess that we had no idea that the first issue of the Solomon Islands could be so fully and so interestingly written about.

We extract the following information regarding two varieties of perforation to be found on these stamps. It will we fancy be news to our readers.

The perforation is one of the most interesting points about these stamps, and it provides varieties which I do not think have yet been noticed—at any rate, I have seen no mention of them in any philatelic journal. The perforation was performed by two single-line machines, and while the product of both of these gauges the same—*i.e.*, 11—the holes by the two machines are very different. For convenience of reference I designate these two varieties as A and B, and their individual characteristics are as follows:—

Perf. A. Large holes, fairly clean cut.

Perf. B. Small holes, very rough.

Most of the values show a compound perf. of A and B, and, curiously enough, I have never found any of the stamps entirely perforated by the large hole machine. This large perforation is, with one exception, to which I shall refer shortly, always shown between the vertical rows of a sheet and never horizontally. There was a broken needle at one end of this machine, with the result that a "blind" hole or slight indentation of the paper is shewn, where it should have removed the usual circular piece of paper. In all the sheets of the ½d. and 1d. values I have seen this blind perf. occurs between the stamps on the lower row on the first six vertical rows of perforation counting from the left, but on the seventh row (the one at the extreme right-hand side of the sheet) it occurs near the top. This apparently shows that the machine would not take a whole sheet, and the sheets therefore had to be turned round to take the last row of perforations necessary for their completion.

The July number of the *West End Philatelist* contains further instalments of of Mr. Poole's articles dealing with the stamps of Bulgaria and Zululand. From the latter article we make the following short extract relating to the 1894-96 issue.

The lettering in "ZULULAND" does not appear to be exactly uniform on all the values. In the 1d. the "D" is distinctly narrow as compared with the other stamps of the set, while in the ½d. the whole type seems a trifle larger than usual.

The duty plates were so constructed that only one pane of sixty stamps could be printed at a time, so that each sheet had to go through the press twice before the value and name were inserted on all the stamps. This fact can be easily proved on comparing a few sheets or blocks torn from the middle of a sheet so as to include parts of both panes, for the value tablet and name on the left-hand pane will generally be found quite out of alignment with the corresponding portions of the stamps on the right-hand pane. Again the shades on both panes are sometimes quite distinct, and further there are tiny defects in some values which occupy precisely the same position on both panes.

These defects are usually small, but they are of importance, as helping to prove this point in connection with the manufacture of the stamps. For instance, on stamp No. 7 (first in second row), on each pane of the ½d. there is a distinct nick on the right side of the first upright stroke of the "S"; on stamp No. 21 (third in fourth row) of the 1d., the top of the "Z" is thinned and bent downwards. This latter is quite a distinct variety, and one easy to identify.

In most values shades may be found, especially as regards the colours of the values and name.

Mr. Poole's researches are nearly always of interest, while they invariably shew evidence of a great deal of painstaking study.

The July number of the *Stamp Lover* is a very good production, containing the first instalment of two very readable articles—while it is not padded out by the aid of several pages of "dry as-dust" extracts.

The two articles referred to, deal with the stamps of the Virgin Islands, contributed by Mr. H. H. Harland and Mr. D. B. Armstrong's "Stamps of the British Solomon Islands." In neither we find much, if any, trace of original research—but they are certainly of interest—especially Mr. Armstrong's, who, by-the-bye, has either a very imperfect knowledge of Australian nomenclature—or else has a very careless proof reader, for we see, in nearly a dozen instances the capital of New South Wales referred to as Sidney!!

The following extract, relating to the first issue of stamps is of interest.

1ST ISSUE, FEBRUARY 14TH, 1907.

Lithographed in Sydney, N.S.W., by Messrs. W. E. Smith & Co., on coarse white wove unwatermarked paper. Perf. 11, single line. Printed in sheets of 60, ten rows of six, with serial number in black in right-hand top corner of sheet, and marginal inscription reading up on the left, "Sixty Stamps at One Penny," "Two Pence," etc. Numbers printed appended in brackets.

- ½d. deep ultramarine (60,000).
- 1d. rose (60,000).
- 2d. dull blue (60,000).

- 2½d. orange-yellow (60,000).
- 5d. yellow-green (30,000).
- 6d. chocolate (30,000).
- 1/- violet (30,000).

*Shades.*

- ½d. bright ultramarine.
- 5d. emerald green.
- 6d. red-brown.
- 1/- pale violet.

A sheet of the 6d. denomination of this series has been seen having the horizontal line of perforation missing from between the third and fourth rows of stamps; the 2½d. is also known in this condition.

All the copies of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* before us contain a great deal of interesting reading matter. In the copy dated July 10th, we find further long instalments of M. M. L. Hanciau's and Ch. De Bont's articles dealing respectively with the stamps of Italy and Belgium. The latter article is also continued in *G.S.W.* for July 24th, and the following extract, relating to the very interesting first issue of parcel post stamps, will be appreciated.

The first issue of the parcel post stamps was surface-printed in colour on white wove paper. Belgian ink was used, the printers being Gomveloos Freres, of Brussels; all values were engraved by M. Ch. Wiener. Each sheet consists of 200 stamps, and the perforation gauges exactly 14.

Every printing that took place was formally authorized by a special committee consisting of three members, who were appointed for that purpose by the Administration of Posts.

The central part of the design of all the values consists of the Arms of Belgium, surmounted by a Crown, in an oval frame, flanked on both sides by a winged wheel, the whole being further enclosed in a long oblong frame, in each of the four corners of which are figures of value in white on a coloured ground. The outer frame is inscribed: "CHEMINS DE FER" at the top; "BELGIQUE" on either side; and the value in words at the bottom.

*Numbers Printed.*

- 10 centimes.
- One printing. 100,000. Red-brown and chocolate.
- 20 centimes.
- One printing. 500,200. Deep and pale blue.
- 50 centimes.
- 1st printing. 1,500,000. Rose-carm. and deep carm.
- 2nd .. 600,000. Bright carm. and pale rose.
- The latter printing was in aniline ink.
- 80 centimes.
- 1st printing. 1,000,000. Orange-yellow.
- 2nd .. 200,000. Bright orange.

*Varieties.*

1. All values are known imperforate.
2. 10 centimes are known imperf. horizontally.
3. 20 centimes with inscription "VINGTS" instead of "VINGT" centimes.
4. 20 and 50 centimes are known on a kind of parchment paper on the back of which the design is clearly visible.

*ESSAY.*

80 centimes, on card, printed in black; the inscription reads "QUATRE-VINGT" instead of "QUATRE-VINGTS."

ISSUE OF AUGUST 1ST, 1881.

Owing to arrangements having been entered into between the various states composing the International Postal Union to establish a service of parcels

post of a declared value (*i.e.* registered or insured), a 25 centimes stamp became necessary to prepay the additional charge. Such a stamp, exactly similar in design to those of the preceding issue, made its appearance on August 1st, 1881, following on a decision arrived at by the Administrative Committee on July 15th, 1881.

The usage of this stamp is explained in a circular dated August 8th, 1881.

#### Shades.

The following are known :—

Green, emerald green, pale green.

There was only one printing of this stamp, comprising 1,059,000 copies. They were the work of the new stamp-printing office at Malines.

It should be noted that from July 15th, 1881, only, the Belgian Government undertook the printing of the parcel post stamps. The printing office established to that end was quite separate from that used by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs.

#### Varieties.

The 25c. is known

- (i) wholly imperf.
- (ii) imperf. horizontally.

Both varieties are getting quite hard to find, and are worth 6/- or 7/- apiece unused.

#### ISSUE OF FEBRUARY 1ST, 1882.

The 1 franc stamp was issued specially for use on parcels weighing under three kilograms, on which no value had been declared, and which were sent abroad. The design was the same as before, and the stamp was prepared towards the end of 1881. There was a single printing consisting of 495,500 stamps.

In November, 1881, the size of the paper was altered, the sheets consisting of 100 stamps only.

#### Shades.

There are two well-marked shades, viz. :—  
Deep grey, pale grey.

#### Variety.

Copies are known imperforate,

The July 10th number also contains a short article dealing with the hoary headed Reunion imposter, namely the "52c." surcharge instead of "25c." on 40c.; a paper entitled "Specialism for the Medium Collector," wherein the author merely repeats a number of ancient platitudes, while several other contributions make up an excellent number of our contemporary.

In the July 17th *Weekly*, Mr. J. Leavey continues his paper dealing with the stamps of Salvador; Mr. B. W. H. Poole proceeds to unfold his ideas for a "Type Collection," while there is a sixteen page supplement dealing with the postmarks of the British Isles. It is in this number of *G.S.W.* we are told the welcome news that Major Evans is going to edit future numbers instead of only one number a month.

The July 24th number contains a further instalment of M. Hanciau's article dealing with Denmark and Colonies, also another chapter of M. De Bont's Belgian article. Messrs. C. J. Phillips, B. W.

H. Poole and H. S. Hodson also contribute, while Major Evans discusses learnedly on the stamps of Raj Nandgaon.

The July 31st copy of the *Weekly* contains a further long instalment of Mr. J. B. Leavey's Nicaragua article, a lengthy instalment of Mr. Poole's wonderful space filling article, also several more of less interesting "papers" contributed by Messrs. E. B. Power, Corner Spokes, J. W. H. Heslop, H. G. Jobson and "Yokel." There is also a supplement dealing with the "Postmarks of the British Isles." In the August 7th edition, M. L. Hanciau continues his Italian article—Mr. Dalwigk suggests the collecting of "errors" only, as one form of philately. Mr. Poole plods away at "Countries of the World, having joined the *Weekly's* staff in lieu of Mr. Barnsdell. He deals with the stamps of Gwalior. One or two youthful writers also help to make the number of our contemporary under review, a very readable production. Major Evans, the editor, does not contribute.

The June number of *The British Philatelist* little, but good as it always is, contains a most erudite and interesting account of the first of the surface printed stamps of Gt. Britain, to wit, the fourpenny value. Readers who are interested in the stamps of our own country cannot afford to miss these articles. The *B.P.* also contains a short article dealing with the Scinde Dawk stamps of India.

The *Postage Stamp*, a regular weekly visitor, nearly always contains some article of interest and value. In the July 10th and 17th numbers we find a readable article dealing with the stamps of Dominica contributed by Mr. B. W. H. Poole. In our copy dated July 24th we find the first instalment of a capital article dealing with the stamps of Abyssinia, from Mr. F. J. Melville's pen, this article is continued July 31st, Aug. 7th and Aug. 14th. In the August 7th number, we find a capital little paper entitled "My Favourite Country and Why," contributed by Mr. H. H. Harland, also a really interesting account of a short trip to Belgium and Luxemburg, under the *nom de plume* "O'Reginald Gum." Truly, Mr. Melville is a most energetic worker.

The June 26th number of the *Philatelic Adviser* evidently suffered from the heat

wave of *that* month, as its contents are decidedly of a very "thin" character. The editorial deals with that antediluvian subject, "Condition," which alone shows that Editor Oliver must have felt tired when he penned and scissored, the contents of the June *P.A.* The new issue list, however, is good, but is it not a little late to print an extract from the *Morning Post* of May 6th, giving an account of the Herts Philatelic Society's *last* dinner?

The July number, of the same publication, also suffers from the depressing effects of the British summer, its contents mostly consist of a long report of the recent Old Bailey stamp case.

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The July number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* contains the first instalment of Mr. E. W. Wetherell's article dealing with the "Stamps of Spain and Cuba, April 1855—February 1860." Most of the information given has already appeared under Mr. Wetherell's signature in English stamp papers. The following very short extract, relating to the original die used for these stamps is of interest.

The one original die for the stamps of this design was engraved by Varrela in 1854. Secondary dies (with value expressed) were prepared, and from these a vast number of clichés were manufactured. The secondary dies are of the following expressed values: 2 cuartos, 4 cuartos, 1 real and 2 reals for Spain; ½ real plata, 1 real plata and 2 reals plata for Cuba. (An eighth secondary die of the value of 12 cuartos was prepared early in 1860, but although a great many stamps of this value were printed they were never issued).

"Tancred" contributes a capital budget of "Topical Notes." The two following extracts, although certainly not philately, are, in our opinion, far more enjoyable than many an elaborate treatise *re* clichés or shiny gum.

A footnote to Bussahir in *Gibbons' Catalogue* is of rather doubtful meaning!

"Others that have been recently noted we have not included as we believe them to be reprints, wholly or partially."

I have not seen any *partial* reprints myself, and it is not quite clear whether it is the top which is original and the bottom reprinted or *vice versa*, or whether the originals are in the centre of the sheet with the reprints dotted around.

The second topicality relates to the proposed design for the recently issued

Alaskan Exhibition stamp. "Tancred" who is we believe, a close relation of T. McBlither, Esq., a contributor to this month's *P.J.G.B.*, breaks into verse

The design is appropriate, pretty and nice  
(A little bird whispered, "It's seals on ice").  
But possibly later, when time reveals,  
The picture will really be "ice on seals."

A capital budget of "Notes and News," a review of Gibbons' catalogue, a short article dealing with the subject, "Who was the originator of the Post Paid Envelope" and a "London Letter" complete the contents of our excellent exchange. The "London Letter," however, is rather strained and, like the verdant egg, belonging to the eternal curate, is bad in parts.

The June number of the *Australian Philatelist* is a capital production, containing as it does three excellent short articles dealing with Australasian stamps. The first of these, relating to current New Zealand perforations, we have taken the liberty of reproducing elsewhere in these pages. Mr. Faris, of Dunedin contributes some capital "Notes" relating to recent varieties of N.Z. stamps, while Mr. E. D. Van Weenen describes how he spent a morning at the Melbourne stamp printing offices. Mr. Van Weenen went over the works with Mr. Cook, the Government Stamp Printer, and he describes his impressions in a delightful manner. The following extract from Mr. Van Weenen's article will interest our readers:

At present all the stamps of Victoria, Tasmania, Western Australia and South Australia, also the 9d. New South Wales and Queensland are printed in Melbourne, and on the one class of paper and watermark, with the exception of South Australia, it being the intention to use up the stock of paper still on hand when Mr. Cook left Adelaide. Until a Federal stamp sees the light the Administration is not likely to alter existing designs in any of the States, nor a change of colour if it can be avoided. The recent alteration of the Queensland 4d. from yellow to slate was necessitated owing to the many complaints having reached the central office that the colour made the design often unintelligible.

During my visit a fresh supply of the 1d. Victorian postage was being printed, and I noticed what will account for the shades met with in these stamps. Whilst the supply of ink to the rollers is well kept up there is no difference in colour, but as soon as it is running out the colour becomes a little lighter in shade, and with the first of the fresh supply the shade is a little darker than the normal. But this only occurs when the attendant happens to let the supply of ink get too low, which is not often. All the colours are ground and made up on the premises, and are kept of uniform shades. On my mentioning that the centre colour of the Victorian Postage Dues is catalogued both rosine and carmine, I was told that one colour only has ever been used, and that the so-called carmine shade is due to the attendant not keeping the

rollers plentifully supplied. I am told, however, that shades will be avoided as much as possible with the new machinery to come.

As soon as printed the sheets are transferred to the gumming machine. The gum used, as I saw it in the vessels, looks like a dull white liquid, but it is pure wattle gum, and besides encouraging, as it does, a native industry, it never gives trouble, and always works smoothly. A long and broad canvas belt takes the gummed sheets from the machine to the drying room, which is heated by electric radiators. When dry they are cut into panes and handed over to have the edges of those that may have curled smoothed down, and from that operation they go into a press, whence they emerge after a time thoroughly flat. The next process is perforating. There are at present four machines in use: two tripple cutters gauging  $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ , one single cutter gauging 11, and one gauging  $12\frac{1}{2}$ ; only on rare occasions, when there is a rush of orders, have the single line cutters been used. But Mr. Cook is so averse to this, that he told me the 11 gauge perforator will not be used again for postage stamps, especially as additional triple cutters are to be put up. The needles in the perforator are sliding ones, and can be taken out to be sharpened. When much worn they make larger holes, and this will account for the slight variety of gauge sometimes met with. After the perforating is finished the sheets are then carefully gone over. I may mention that the work of smoothing the edges of sheets, perforating, etc., is all done by ladies. Occasionally it has been found that one or more spaces between the stamps—after the triple cutter has done its work—had been omitted. These are put aside and afterwards taken to the single  $12\frac{1}{2}$  machine, but it has happened that it was not available at the time, and to save delay the 11 gauge was used. This will account for the compound perforation in the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green Victoria.

The June number of our welcome half-yearly exchange, the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal*, contains some excellent reading. There is no one article of any importance, but this is made up for by a number of excellent "Reviews," Interesting Paragraphs, "Correspondence," etc. The one long paper, entitled, "News from the Motherland," is, in our opinion, inclined to savour too much of the personal pronoun I. As we have before stated, we should like to welcome our colonial exchange every month instead of only twice yearly.

## Philately on the Continent.

A NOTE in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for July 31st informs us that French Insurance Companies do not, as a rule, insure stamps against fire. There is absolute unanimity among the Insurance Offices in refusing to insure dealers' stocks, though there are exceptions to the rule in the case of some private collections, whose owners are men of known integrity. *L'Echo* invites the co-operation of any of its readers who may have approached the Insurance Companies, with a view to getting them to take a more reasonable view of the matter. As is well-known, several English Companies insure stamps, and we believe they have had no

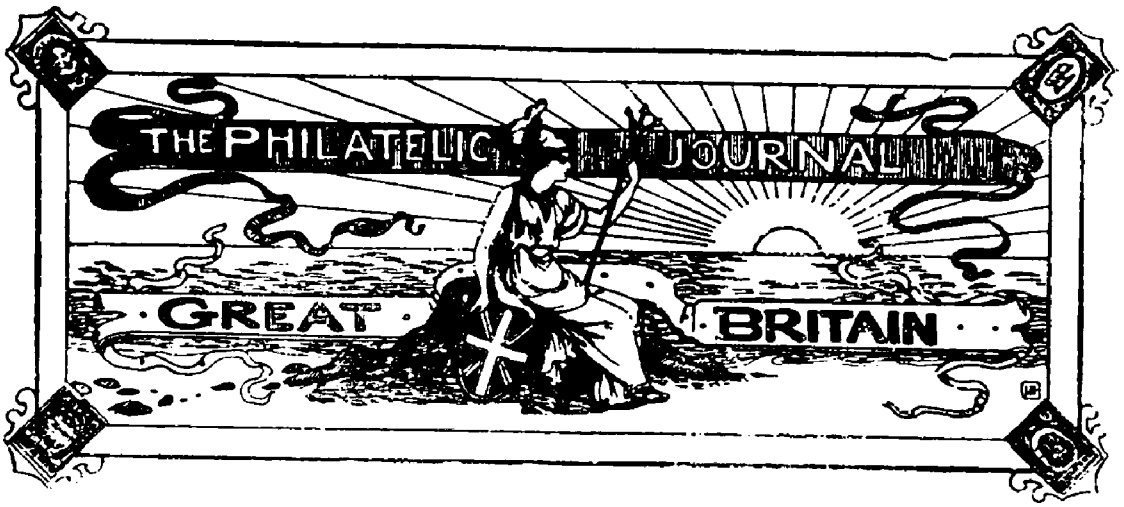
cause to regret it. We can hardly imagine what London dealers would do if they were unable to insure.

The August number of *Le Timbre-Poste* reverts to the subject of that unsavoury stamp, the 52c., error, of Reunion. It seems that *Gibbons Weekly*, in referring to the previous article on the subject which appeared in *Le Timbre-Poste* a month or so ago, expressed a very forcible opinion which did not at all support the conclusions which M. Victor Flandrin came to as to the authenticity of the stamp, and added that if he (M. Flandrin) had taken the trouble to turn up the years 1888-89 of the *Timbre-Poste*—the old *Timbre-Poste* which was edited by Moens—he would find the imposter fully exposed. M. Flandrin now replies that he had read the articles in question, but had taken no notice of them as he considered M. Moens unreliable; then, in order to shew that M. Moens was not to be trusted in this respect, he relates how he once found him out in a mistake on a very trivial matter. We are afraid that the way M. Flandrin labours this very poor point neither strengthens the position of the 52c. stamp, nor adds to our knowledge of it. He, however, cites an article written by Dr. Legrand, in which that able philatelist is said to have proved that the stamp is beyond suspicion. Another curious fact is that the *Catalogue Officiel* while declaring it to be bogus quotes the price for it at 250fr. Either the stamp is bad or it isn't and it seems absurd to decry it and to say it is worth 250fr. in the same breath.

In the same journal there is the first part of an article on "The Stamps of Chili," translated from Rafael A. Mercado, by Sigismund Jean. This is a very poor thing, apparently compiled, without acknowledgement, from the article by E. D. Bacon in the *London Philatelist*, 1902. We notice, however, that some of the figures giving the numbers printed are not the same as those given by Mr. E. D. Bacon and we are more inclined to accept the evidence of the latter as he had the information direct from the books of the printers, Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. We also notice that some surmises made by Mr. Bacon are here stated as facts, as for instance, that the supply of 155,520 5 centavos stamps locally printed in 1854, were all lithographed; concerning the lithos, Mr. Mercado laconically remarks, "155,520 were printed." Does this mean that Mr. Bacon's surmise has been happily and miraculously confirmed? In such a case some particulars of the new evidence would be interesting. We incline to the alternative explanation, viz.: that M. Mercado has only an imperfect knowledge of the English language.

ARE you interested in the fascinating stamps of Barbados? If so, it will repay you to read Mr. Lincoln's "ad." on page iv.





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## ✿ ✿ Editorial. ✿ ✿

IN the course of a very interesting article on the wide "4" variety of the first issue 40 centimes, orange, of France, contributed by M. Pierre Mahé to a recent number of *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, there are some very pertinent remarks about the loose manner in which certain terms are employed by some philatelic writers.

### Misused Philatelic Terms.

The writer points out that the stamp above mentioned is described variously in different catalogues as "retouched," "type II.," and "wide 4," the last-mentioned being the description adopted by English writers, and which, according to M. Mahé, is the only correct one. We quite agree with the argument that the word "retouch" is incorrect; the variety was caused by two clichés of the stamp of 20 centimes being accidentally included in the plate, which necessitated the spaces occupied by the figures "2" being hollowed out and filled up with metal, on which, when cooled, the figures "4" were engraved. Owing to the carelessness of the engraver, these figures were drawn rather wider than those on the rest of the plate. This process can not, by any stretch of the imagination, be termed retouching. A retouch is the strengthening or altering of something already existing on the plate, whereas this is a case

of substitution. Yet in many important works on French stamps, and in Senf's catalogue, this entirely wrong term is used in reference to this variety.

We are unable to go all the way with M. Mahé in his denunciation of the term "second type" as applied to this stamp. He lays it down that two figures which are formed of plain straight lines crossing one another at acute angles, even though they differ in size, length, and width, cannot be termed two types, but only two varieties. This rule might be endorsed by a compositor, but it is much too rigid for philatelists. Nevertheless, we consider that M. Mahé is correct in his conclusion that "type II." is a wrong description, for the reason that it is the stamp considered as a whole that is described in catalogues, and the fact that this differs from the normal in one small particular does not make the stamp itself a different type, but only a variety.

In describing surcharges it is the practice of most philatelic writers to refer to any variations from the normal as different types, without any regard to M. Mahé's definition. Continued usage of any word in a certain sense legitimises the meaning; philatelists may surely claim that they have extended the use of this, as well as of other words, for their own convenience.

The important matter is, for philatelists to be agreed among themselves as to the exact meaning of the terms they use.

On the other hand, while we stretch the original meaning of a word, we must be careful not to take it out of bounds. A philatelist's definition of "type variety" would certainly exclude a stamp which differs from the normal only on account of bad printing, excessive or insufficient inking, and wearing of, or damage to, the plate or stone from which it is printed. The early stamps of the Transvaal and Greece present all these peculiarities, but there are certainly no type-varieties.

Another misused word in philately is "surcharge." We do not complain of the fact that the term should never have been chosen by early philatelic scribes. It is used for describing such stamps as have had their original face value altered by the addition of a value (generally differing from the original one), which is printed, or written, across the design. Like "type," this word has had a new meaning given to

it by philatelists; but in this case the special meaning is even more remote from the original signification. We recollect that when, in a philatelic libel action a year or so ago, the philatelic sense of the word was explained to the Lord Chief Justice, it called forth a mild expression of wonder from that learned gentleman. However, the word is now firmly established, and though launched in error, is now so widely used that it will never be done away with.

Unfortunately, however, many writers confound the word with "overprint," which means the addition of an inscription as distinct from a value; as, for instance, the word "Rhodesia" on the current stamps of that Colony, "Govt. Parcels," "I.R. Official," &c., on the stamps of Great Britain. Though the best writers and cataloguers have long discriminated between these words, a very large number of writers are either unaware of the difference, or are very lax in their choice of expressions.

## Adhesive Postage Stamps of Chili.

By J. R. BURTON, F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from Page 142).

EACH month's instalment of these notes brings me a batch of interesting correspondence. Last month Mr. Stanjer submitted for inspection a copy of the 1 peso stamp on paper which, though not different in other respects, was decidedly thicker than the normal variety. This reminds me that I omitted to mention the fact that the 1866 issue, the first with perforations, can be found on extraordinary thick hard white paper, almost like cardboard. I found every value of the set on this paper, but all were pen cancelled. During the month the old ironclad "Huascar" cropped up in the papers. It appears that in 1878 she did a little revolting on account of her then crew, and was brought to reason by the British ship "Shah," under the command of Admiral de Horsey, who is, according to "M.A.P.," still living the life of an English country gentleman, near Cowes. Turning over an old file of the *Illustrated London News*, the other day, I came across a picture of the devoted vessel, sketched after the last memorable battle under the flag of Peru, showing all her honourable wounds.

In the June number of this journal, page 124, I mentioned that the beginning of the war synchronized with the first use of fiscal and telegraph stamps for postal purposes.

The telegraph stamps were the large labels prepared by the American Bank Note Company,



2c. yellow-brown, 10c. olive-green, and 20c. blue; the 1 peso I have never seen genuinely postally used. The design shows the Chilian Arms and the frisky little Huemul appears properly clothed, with a flourishing tail; if he had only been dressed up with a horn in addition he would have passed very well for a unicorn; the lone star on its shield and an alleged Condor, or Vulture of the Andes, completes the heraldic device, so instead of the far-famed Lion and Unicorn of Britain fighting for the Crown, or Cake according to Lewis

Carrol, we have the hirsute huemal and the bald headed bird fighting for the Star.

Twinkle, Wrinkle, oh my star,  
 Mercy! If from where you are,  
 High in the philatelic sky,  
 This feeble piffle you espy!

The obliteration, found most frequently on these stamps, of which the centre is composed of a large Star, is that ordinarily used for telegraphic cancellations. The perforation gauges 12. The paper was the ordinary unwatermarked one used by the company at this time and the sheets probably consisted of ten rows of ten stamps each. The fiscal stamps of the same period were also the work of the American Banknote



Company, of imposing size, and perforated 12. They show the Coat-of-Arms without the supporters, but with the crest of three feathers similar to that of the Prince of Wales. It will be noticed that the first outbreak of Fiscals, etc., used for postage occurred at the end of the seventies and I have been rather struck that the employment of such stamps for postage, judging by the specimens that have passed through my hands, seems much more frequent at the end of each decade than in the intervening years, when their use seems to be only sporadic. On several occasions changes in the type of ordinary stamps occurred at about the same periods, so I have been led to wonder whether the earlier contracts for postage stamps might have been made for 10 years, and if towards the end of each such period the ordinary stamps began to run short and at the same time the Government may have ordered a stock-taking and the using up as far as possible of all remainders, whether Postal, Telegraph, or Fiscal.



As explained last month, the Chilian authorities, in order to get rid of an overstock of the 30c. carmine of 1892, had them all surcharged

with a large 5. The 30c. value continued, no doubt owing to the change in the postal rates, to be a drug in the market, so next we find the orange stamp of Messrs. Waterlow's series suffering a like indignity. It was surcharged "Diez (ten) Centavos," in lettering designed so that the word Diez covered the label above the portrait and the word Centavos the lower label. In the effort to blot out the numerals 30 in each corner the end letters of the words were greatly exaggerated in size, which gives the design the appearance of suffering from swelled Z. There are two types of this surcharge which we will call *a* and *b* respectively. They are readily distinguished by the following simple test: If the top of the lettering of "entavo" runs round in a perfect sweep, the specimen is type "b," but if the tops of the letters T and V are out of alignment with the others, giving the TAV a dropped appearance as compared with the rest of the word, then we have a specimen of type "a" before us. In fact the letter T by itself is sufficient to separate the two types, in "b" its top tilts rakishly to keep alignment with its neighbours, and in "a" it is dourly keeping a level head. The two varieties are distributed over the complete sheet of 100 as follows:—

b	a	a	b	b	a	a	b	a	b
a	b	a	b	a	b	b	a	b	a
a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	b	a
b	a	a	b	b	a	a	b	b	a
a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	b	a
b	a	a	b	a	b	b	b	b	a
b	a	a	b	b	b	b	a	a	a
a	a	a	a	b	a	a	a	b	a
b	a	b	b	a	b	b	a	a	a

giving a total of 51 type "a" and 49 type "b."

This surcharge is to be met with inverted and also double, but is quite scarce in either state.

Mr. C. A. Howes states that any horizontal pair will contain the two types, the setting I have given is vouched for by Major Evans and would not produce such a result.

Returning to the previous surcharge, the large 5, it may be well to mention that in 1902 a number of forged inverted specimens were placed on the market; the figure, however, is too large, measuring 14 x 13mm. instead of 13½ x 12½.

Mr. Harris says this surcharge was made on account of a shortage of the ordinary 5c. and that before it was resorted to the 5c. fiscal was also used up, and in any case the 30 centavos stamps were dead stock. A perforated 5 is believed to have been contemplated, but the obvious difficulty of distinguishing it from the imperforated stamp of the full value of 30c., caused the idea to be abandoned.

Last month we did not give the number printed of the 30c. orange; it appears to have been 1,000,000; some authorities also state that only half a million each of the 20c. grey and

50c. red-brown were printed, rather astonishing, if true, as both these values were still in issue so recently as last year. It will be well to mention also that the Waterlow stamps were on unwatermarked paper and rouletted 12½. In 1896 the Government Postal Department got out figures for the preceding year which showed that whereas only \$776,490 worth of stamps had been sold, \$828,217 worth had passed through the post! In the next year \$788,091 were obtained but \$847,023 passed before the bewildered eyes of the officials. After their poor tired heads had given up the vain attempt to make the figures balance, they jumped to the conclusion that there must have been wholesale lots of forgeries on the market and this factor is alleged to have been the cause of expediting the change from the American Bank Note Co.'s stamps to those of Messrs. Waterlow. No good forgeries of the issues of 1877 to 1892 have ever been seen by collectors, therefore, in all probability, the scare was due to faulty arithmetic on the part of the officials.



On October 18th, 1901, a decree was promulgated authorising a new issue of stamps, and three days later the first 5c. appeared, the American Bank Note Co. had been successful in securing the new contract. The stamps were of handsome design and colours, printed on unwatermarked paper and perforated 12.

According to Mr. Howes, the dates of issue and quantities of these stamps were as follows:

- 1c. green, July 1902, 5,000,000
- 2c. carmine, Ap. 10, 1902, 6,000,000
- 5c. blue, Oct. 21, 1901, 10,000,000
- 10c. scarlet and black, Sept. 1902, 1,000,000
- 30c. violet and black, July 8, 1902
- 50c. orange and black, July 18, 1902

Although the design was by no means devoid of either artistic taste or commercial utility, the usual critics made themselves heard. Some objected to the shaven condition of Columbus, others desired a new hat, and the general public dubbed the issue "Tipo Napoleon," because they thought the portrait bore a striking resemblance to the great little Corsican. All this apparently drove the authorities to desperation, and they announced in the *Diano Oficial*, of July 16th, 1902, that the munificent prize of 300 pesos, about £15 sterling, would be accorded to the individual who should submit the best set of designs for

the next issue of postage stamps! The 5, 10 and 20c. were to show the bust of Columbus but the other values might have either portraits, monuments, public buildings or other suitable objects as their chief feature. Even these conditions were not finally adhered to, because, on December 15th, 1903, a notice appeared asking for tenders for the following set:—1c. green, Head of Diego Portales; 2c. rose, Head of Arthur Prat; 3c. sepia, Head of Lord Cochrane; 4c. dark brown, Head of Camilo Enriquez; 5c. blue, Statue of Bernardo O'Higgins; \* 10c. pearl grey, Head of Ramon Friere; 12c. pale rose, Manuel Blanco Encalada; 15c. scarlet, Francisco Antonio Pinto; 20c. purple, Joaquin Prieto; 25c. red-brown, Manuel Bulnes; 30c. dark green, Manuel Montt; 50c. light blue, José Joaquin Perez; 1p. golden yellow, picture of a Condor; 2p. bronze, Statue of José de San Martin. The 10c. and higher values were to have the centre in black. The stamps up to 50c. inclusive, were to be 25×28mm. and the 1 and 2 pesos 25×35mm.; they were to be printed from steel plates, engraved in *taille douce*, and to be perforated. It will be noticed that poor old Columbus was to have a rest at last. This announcement woke up the American Bank Note Co., who pointed out that one of the Chilean fundamental laws required that the head of "Colon" should appear on every postage stamp and they said they were ready to produce a new set on these lines. Another hardship on Chilean notabilities, they couldn't even qualify to adorn their countries postal issues by suffering assassination, as in any other State of America, the U.S.A. included. To our sluggish European blood the quick vitality of these Americans is ever astonishing; no sooner do they find a man has outrun his usefulness as a President, than they knife or pistol him, and put him on a postage stamp. Usually, alas, with far from decorative effects. A good-looking President would surely scarcely last a week, the populace, led by their artistic instincts, would like him so much that they would hurry him off to the hereafter and get him on the postage stamps as quickly as possible.

Meantime the stock of stamps in Chili was running out, and the Government resorted to the surcharging of the stock of Telegraph stamps, to supply the wants of the Postal Service, and next month we shall have quite an orgy amongst the fare provided by these proceedings.

(To be continued.)

THE I.P.U. Smoking Concert will be held early in December. It will be the philatelic entertainment of the year.

\* The Haggis McTavish was never even suggested for a place amongst this polyglot hotch-potch.—Ed.



## September, 1909, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1909-10.

*Hon. President:* HIS HONOUR JUDGE PHILBRICK, K.C.

*Hon. Vice-Presidents:*

W. DORNING BECKTON. H. L. HAYMAN. H. R. OLDFIELD.  
VERNON ROBERTS.

*President:* J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.

*Vice-Presidents:*

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*Hon. Sec. & Treasurer:* T. H. HINTON,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, London, S.W.

*Hon. Exchange Superintendent:* DR. E. F. MARX, M.A.,  
11, Woodgrange Avenue, Ealing Common, W.

*Hon. Counterfeit Detector:* W. HADLOW,  
12, Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.

*Hon. Librarian:* W. S. KING,  
65, Cadogan Street, Chelsea, S.W.

*Hon. Solicitors:* MESSRS. OLDFIELDS,  
13, Walbrook, E.C.

All Officers of the Union are *ex-officio* Members of the  
Committee.

### MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and Subscription, 5/., should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members, not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

The following is proposed in accordance with the above:—

William McHutchin, Deal.

Proposed by W. E. Wetherell and seconded by T. H. Hinton.

### NEW MEMBER.

Dr. T. J. Paton, Sowerby Bridge, Yorks.

### EXCHANGE PACKET SECTION.

The circulation of the Exchange Packets will be resumed in October, when Dr. Marx will be glad to hear from all members.

### NOTICES.

The Committee met at Essex Hall on the 9th inst, when, in addition to the usual monthly meetings on the second Thursdays in each month, it was decided to give a Smoking Concert on Monday, December 6th. Messrs. Pemberton, Lincoln and Lamb being appointed a Sub-Committee to carry out these arrangements. The opening meeting of the season will be held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, October 14th, at 7.30 p.m., when a display will be given by Mr. L. W. Fulcher, of "Japan, first two issues, with notes."

All members and any visitors cordially welcome. It is hoped to publish the full programme for the season in the next report.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

September 15th, 1909.

## King Edward VII. Land.

MR. MARTIN McDERMOTT, of New Zealand, very kindly sends us a copy of the *New Zealand Herald* for May 28th, containing a full report of Lieut. Shackleton's antarctic post office. We print this report in the hope that it will convince the collectors of King Edward VII. Land stamps of the absolute philatelic worthlessness of these "stamps."

The report is as follows:—

"Adelaide, May 11, 1909. Right Hon. Sir Joseph Ward, Postmaster-General of New Zealand. Sir,—In accordance with your instructions I have the honour to report regarding the post office opened by me in the Antarctic regions, and used by members of the British Antarctic expedition under my command. When the 'Nimrod' left New Zealand at the beginning of 1908 she carried with her, under your authority as Postmaster-General of New Zealand, a supply of specially surcharged postage stamps, a date stamp, and a seal, and I was authorised to sell the stamps and carry on the general duties of a postmaster, from an office to be established at the winter quarters. On reaching the Antarctic circle, in the Rose quadrant, north of King Edward VII. Land, I issued the first of the stamps, in order that members of the expedition might despatch letters back to New Zealand by the 'Koonya' (the steamer which had towed the 'Nimrod' down to the ice). The first mail was duly despatched by means of the 'Koonya.'

"On reaching the terminal waters of King Edward VII. Land, and while lying alongside the pack ice, about a mile from the land, I formally opened the post office as a branch of the New Zealand Post Office. I received letters for despatch at the first opportunity, and issued stamps for future correspondence.

The mail brought from New Zealand, and then opened, included about 800 letters, addressed to non-existent persons. There were many addresses, such as the following:—'King Albatross,' 'Mr. Brown Seal,' 'White Seal,' 'Mr. Skua Gull,' 'John Frost,' 'Miss Snow,' 'Seal, Bear, and Co., Limited,' 'King Penguin,' 'The Bird Sitting on Top of the South Pole,' and 'The White Manchurian Pony.' These letters were, no doubt, intended to be returned to the senders when the winter quarters had been established at Cape Royds. It having proved impossible to reach King Edward VII. Land owing to the condition of the ice, these letters were dealt with as far as possible. Many of them were addressed simply to 'Antarctica,' and not to King Edward VII. Land. The letters addressed to members of the Penguin family were all delivered, and the surprise of these interesting birds was evident. Their method of finally disposing of the correspondence I did not follow. The seals also received their letters. The letters addressed to 'Snowy Mountain,' 'Jack Frost,' 'Mr. Iceberg,' etc., were also delivered. The letters that could not be delivered were returned.

"The first mail opened in the Antarctic, brought from New Zealand by the 'Nimrod,' contained 1510 letters, and 550 letters were despatched from the King Edward VII. Land post office, the 'Nimrod' taking this mail when she returned after landing the shore party. All the letters passed were post-marked with the date stamp provided for the purpose by your Department. I opened a branch of the post office on the inland plateau in latitude 88.5 south, longitude 162 east, on January 7th, 1908. I considered this to be the sphere of King Edward VII. Land, which connects with the plateau. I propose to forward you photos, showing the position at which the post office was first opened, the winter quarters from which the bulk of the letters were despatched, and the branch office on the plateau. Under the peculiar circumstances of this work in my capacity as postmaster I found it necessary to widen the range of the post office from the portion of the Antarctic continent known as King Edward VII. Land to points between 450 miles and 800 miles distant. Some 2000 letters passed through my hands, and I sold the bulk of the stamps to members of the little community.

"I have further to report that all registered letters for which addresses could not be found were returned to the head office in Christchurch, New Zealand. The many communications addressed to me as postmaster were attended to as far as possible. I understand that the head office, Christchurch, received instructions not to forward to the Antarctic a large number of letters which bore obviously fictitious addresses. On my return to New Zealand I returned the date stamp and seal

to the head office, and also delivered over my records and receipts.

I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

E. H. SHACKLETON, Postmaster."

Postmaster Shackleton evidently kept *his* end of the "joak" up.

## New Leaves to Cut.

### SENF'S CATALOGUES FOR 1910.

IN view of the movement now on foot in Germany to popularize the new "Normal Catalogue" at the expense of Senf's, we looked forward with much interest to see if the new edition of the latter would exhibit any visible effects of this frankly advertised competition. We cannot say that we expected any pronouncement on the part of Messrs. Senf Brothers, as they have, in their *Illustriertes Briefmarken Zeitung* consistently ignored the agitation; we did expect, however, that the publishers would take particular pains with this edition, and in this we are not disappointed.

There is evidence, throughout the work, of careful revision of prices. We have not yet seen the "Normal Catalogue," so cannot, if we would, draw the usual invidious distinctions. But it seems that while the "Normal" is the fruit of a mighty collaboration of specialists in various branches, Senf's is, as far as the prices of the cheaper and medium stamps are concerned, a *compote* culled by a judicious *chef* from sources open to everybody.

To shake off this somewhat exhausting metaphor, we will explain at once that Senf's prices seem to be based on those published in other catalogues. This charge, which is no new one, is perhaps a recommendation when applied to a catalogue which aims at reflecting standard prices. The system is more likely to lead to a reliable result than any other that can be conceived; it seems to have been carried out in the volume now before us, in a more thorough manner than ever, for we do not find so many of those wild assessments of the scarcer stamps which have disfigured former editions. An innovation which will be appreciated by Senf's English patrons is the general index, which is now given in German, English and French.

One or two countries have been re-written, and the issues of the various nations for use in the Levant are now listed at the end of their respective countries instead of under a separate heading as before. Except for these alterations, and the inevitable increase in the number of pages, there is nothing new to be said about Senf's 1910 catalogue.

The price remains M. 3.50 for the Adhesives section and 1.50 for the Entires, but the latter part will not appear until November.

## Death of Mr. John F. Seybold.

It is with great regret we hear of the death of Mr. J. F. Seybold, of Syracuse, New York, which took place on August 13th last. Mr. Seybold was one of the best known collectors in the United States and had attained world-wide philatelic fame as the owner of an unique collection of rarities on original covers.

He was born in Syracuse, New York State, on July 22nd, 1858, so was comparatively a young man when he died at the age of 51.

We had the pleasure of interviewing Mr. Seybold some years ago in these columns, so we think it will interest our readers if we make extracts from our article relating to his superb collection of stamps.

"His first specimen—a 200 reis of Brazil of the 1866 issue—was obtained at the age of 14 and history relates that he somewhat reluctantly parted with several of his most cherished marbles in its acquisition. This stamp marks the inoculation of our friend with the philatelic microbe and shortly afterwards he became enthusiastic and he has been particularly active in the pursuit of the hobby ever since.

"During his youth he was employed in a department store and from his fellow-workers, who hailed from different parts of Germany, Canada, England, &c., he obtained many stamps he was delighted to add to his collection, and the duplicates he found very useful for 'swopping.'

"After a time he heard of the existence of dealers and, he tells us, so keen was he that he wrote to every one of whom he had heard, in his search for new varieties.

"He remembers with delight the first lot of approval sheets he received from the late Mr. Thomas Ridpath, of Liverpool, and altogether he procured many nice things through this dealer. Many were the bargains that could be obtained then such as Hawaiian numerals on pieces of the original covers."

Mr. Seybold never sold a stamp unless it was a duplicate, while even duplicates were often exchanged or given to beginners rather

than sold. He was always a general collector, taking all regular issues, also U.S.A. Revenues.

In 1905 Mr. Seybold's collection numbered more than 70,000 varieties, while in addition he had a duplicate collection consisting of scarce stamps on original covers. Indeed, it was for this collection that he was so widely known. Only uncommon stamps were included in this collection, and among other desirable items he had such things as the Brattleboro'; 12d. Canada; a strip of three 35gr. Oldenburg on one cover and a block of six on another; two large fillet Mauritius on one cover; pair of 4-4 Mecklenburg-Schwerin, rouletted; six 10c. U.S., 1847, on one cover; a pair of Basle; two 4c. Vauds on one cover; Victoria Too Late and Registered; and many other things too numerous to mention.

These, however, were not Mr. Seybold's only rarities. He had duplicates of many in his general collection, and a host of others he was not fortunate enough to obtain on entires. Taking both collections, Spain was quite complete, and included the rare 2 real orange of 1851 on original cover; there was a strong show of Switzerland, also complete; the United States lack only one or two things; and in British North America there were few varieties missing.

Mr. Seybold also was a keen collector of philatelic literature, while he also was the owner of fine collections of coins, paper money and autographs.

As one of the world's best known philatelists, it is with very great regret we have to record his demise, especially as we fear America has but few collectors worthy to follow in his footsteps.

We are informed by Mr. A. J. Séfi that in future his paper, the *Philatelic World*, will be published as a Quarterly. The first number of the *Quarterly Philatelic World* will be dated September 30th. We shall be sorry to lose such a capable little paper from our monthly contemporaries, and can only hope that the new Quarterly will be a punctual visitor for very many years to come.



## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

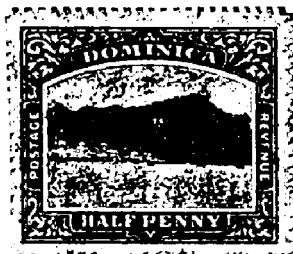
**Barbados.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following list of novelties.

*Adhesives.* Multiple wmk., ordinary paper.

- ½d. brown.
- ½d. dull green (darker shade).
- 1d. red (instead of pink).
- 6d. lilac and violet

**British Guiana.** Messrs. C. Nissen & Co. have shown us a number of early British Guiana stamps on entires, amongst which are several of the perf. 10 varieties, Gibbons 55 to 61 and 83 to 86, dated 1866. This date is earlier than that given in the catalogue.

**Dominica.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 6d. stamp in violet.



*Adhesive.* Pictorial. Multiple wmk., chalky paper.  
6d. violet.

**India.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles a 25r. Indian stamp, both with and without the "O.H.M.S." overprint.

*Adhesive.* King's Head.  
25r. brownish-orange and blue.

*Official Stamp.*

On  
Overprinted H. S.  
M.

25r. brownish-orange and blue.

**Leeward Islands.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us specimens of the new ½d. stamps.



*Adhesive.* King's Head.  
Multiple wmk., ordinary paper.  
½d. brown.

**Maldive Islands.** The *Philatelic Adviser* understands that 15c., 25c., 50c. and 1r. stamps are likely to be issued. Of course they are, it is such a beastly nuisance having no higher value than a 10c. to stick over the consignments of stamps sent away from the islands to dealers.

We wonder when provisionals will be needed.

**New South Wales.** We are indebted to the *Australian Philatelist* for the following information:—

"We have been shown the 9d., Commonwealth design, with mixed perfs. The stamps have apparently been perforated on the 12×12½ comb machine, but the latter perf. not being satisfactory, has been patched up, and two vertical lines have been reperforated on the 11 machine. These stamps are produced at the Melbourne Printing Office.

9d. brown and blue, watermarked Cr. and A., perf. 12×12½, also perf. 11 vertically."

**New Zealand.**—We are indebted to the *Australian Philatelist* for the following information:—

"Mr. Faris has sent us for inspection a corner block each of the ½d., 1d. and 6d. values, showing plate-numbers with a dot in the same colour as the stamp below the number. The ½d. is numbered plate 1, the 1d. plate 2, and the 6d. plate 6. What do these dots signify? All are perf. 14×15.

"The same gentleman has also acquainted us that he has seen a block of four of the 1½d. value, now out of use, imperf. all round."

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the ½d. and 6d. stamps, perf. 14×15, overprinted for use as Officials.

*Official Stamps.* Perf. 14×15.  
½d. green.  
6d. pink.

**North Borneo.** Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us, for these columns, a set of the newly issued stamps.

*Adhesives.* centres in black.  
1c. chocolate.  
2c. green.  
3c. rose lake.  
4c. scarlet.  
5c. brown-ochre.  
6c. pale olive-green.  
8c. lake.  
10c. pale blue.



12c. Prussian blue.  
16c. purple brown.  
24c. lilac-mauve.  
*Provisional.*  
20c. on 18c. green.

**Queensland.** Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the 1/- on Crown and A paper, but in a very bright shade of mauve.

**South Australia.** More than two years ago we chronicled, in common with most of the other stamp papers, the issuing of 2/6 stamps on Crown and A paper. The *Australian Philatelist* now tells us definitely that this variety was not issued until June, 1909!

**Straits Settlements.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 25c. in new colours.

*Adhesive.* King Head.  
Multiple wmk., chalky paper.  
25c. dull and bright purple.

**Tasmania.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the following novelty. They say:—

“We have found a copy of the 9d. of the 1905-8 issue with a very curious compound perforation. The specimen in question is the top right-hand corner stamp on the left-hand pane, and has a piece of the margin on its right-hand side; the right-hand side of the stamp is perf. 12½ and on all other sides and on the right-hand side of the margin the perforation gauges 11.”

There, now you know all about it.

**Trinidad.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 1/- stamp in black on green.

*Adhesive.* Multiple wmk., chalky paper.  
1/- black on green.

**Western Australia.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* informs us that the colour of the 5d. stamp has been changed from olive to light buff.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Argentine Republic.** Yet another value to list to the new series. We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a copy.



*Adhesive.*  
4c. green.

**Bulgaria.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have received specimens of yet

another provisional. This time it is the 15 stot. orange of the 1889 issue, surcharged “1909” and “10.”

This latest monstrosity seems a combination of the two types we chronicled last month.

**Holland.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us specimens of the new Postage Due stamp.

*Postage Due Stamp.*  
4c. ultramarine and black.

**Russia.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us specimens of the new 3k. stamps, uniform with the other low values already chronicled.

*Adhesive.*  
3 kop. carmine.

**Salvador.** The *Metropolitan Philatelist* informs us that the anchor control mark on the stamps of this country is now surcharged in red.

**United States.** The *Metropolitan Philatelist* for August 28th contains full particulars of a forthcoming “Commemorative,” the third issued this year!

“The following is the official notification:—

“A new two cent stamp will be issued by the post office to commemorate the Hudson-Fulton Celebration, which will be held in New York from Sept. 25th to Oct. 9th next. Postmaster-General Hitchcock to-day gave the order for the new issue. Fifty million of these stamps will be issued and it is hoped to have them on sale by Sept. 20th. The stamp is oblong, about 7/8 inches by 1 1/8 inches, with a border containing at the top the inscription, ‘Hudson-Fulton Centenary,’ with the dates ‘1609’ and ‘1909.’ Below this inscription in a curved line are the words, ‘U.S. Postage.’ At the bottom on each side is a prominent Arabic numeral 2, with the words ‘Two Cents’ in a panel between the figures.

“In the centre is engraved a picture showing the Palisades of the Hudson River in the background with the ‘Half-Moon’ sailing up the river and the ‘Clermont’ steaming in the opposite direction. In the foreground is an Indian in a canoe and in the distance, just discernable, is a canoe containing four other Indians, the canoes representing the first means of navigating the river. The stamp will be the same colour as the present two cent stamp.”

**Venezuela.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles a sheet of the 5c. of 1887, perforated 12 instead of 11. They also say they have the 25c. of the 1893 issue with the overprint invented.



# Papers for Moderate Specialists.

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

No. XIII.—EGYPT.

(Continued from page 167.)

That on the right may, or may not, be Cleopatra's Needle, at any rate it is very like the Monument now on the Thames Embankment. As the Monuments of this type are very plentiful in Egypt, and as Cleopatra's Needle had not, at that time, been singled out for special recognition by the British nation, it is most probable that this design, together with the Pillar attributed to Pompey, was merely a type of the monuments erected at the entrances to the tombs of the Egyptian sovereigns.

The set consisted of the same values as before. Specialists should endeavour to procure blocks of four, as each should contain the four types. This arises from the fact that instead of one original design having been drawn upon the stone, as is generally the case, four designs, which were intended to be identical, but which in reality present small points of difference, were drawn separately, two above two, and these were transferred as many times as required to complete the sheet. The same process was followed in the case of each value, and the specialist should certainly make a point of completing all the types.



The following descriptions of some of the main differences should enable collectors to separate them.

## 5 PAR., YELLOW.

- (a) The first A of PARA in the top left-hand corner and the second A in the right-hand corner are very thin.
- (b) The second A of PARA in the top right-hand corner is thin, but all the other A's are normal.
- (c) All A's normal. The end of the base of the bust, where the left shoulder is cut away, is more clearly drawn and more sharply outlined than in the other types.
- (d) The second A in the top left corner is very narrow

## 10 PAR., VIOLET.

- (a) The last Arabic character in lower label has four dots over it. The cross-bar of the first A of PARA in the top right-hand

corner is either very faint or absent. The loop of the P in the top left corner is more elongated than that on the right.

- (b) Four dots over the end character as in (a). Point of pyramid touches oval at top.
- (c) Three dots over end character. Second A of PARA at left extremely thin.
- (d) Four dots over end character. Point of pyramid does not touch oval above. All letters A normal.

## 20 PAR., GREEN.

- (a) The shaft of the Ionic pillar at left of the design is not well centred with regard to its base, being too much to the left. The left outline of the pyramid reaches the ground; in all the other types this line touches the oval. The dot over the first Arabic sign, in the bottom label, touches the line above it.
- (b) The figures "2" in either corner are thin and lean to the left. The three dots over the last character in the bottom label are further from the end of that character than in the other types.
- (c) The first A in right upper corner has what looks something like an accent over it, and the second A in the same word leans to the right.
- (d) There is a dot before the "2" in right hand bottom corner. The tail of the R in the top left corner is broken where it joins the body of the letter.

## I PIASTRE, RED.

- (a) Cleopatra's Needle is not in the centre of the frame enclosing it, but is too much to the left. The outline of the pyramid runs through the ground on the right and touches the oval. There are four dots over the end character in the label at foot.
- (b) Cleopatra's Needle is still too much to the left, but not so much so as in (a). There are four dots over the end character, and the topmost one touches the frame above it.
- (c) Cleopatra's Needle is very wide at the base and is much too near the left side of the frame containing it. There are three dots over the end sign of which the first is above the level of the others.
- (d) Cleopatra's Needle is evenly centred in its frame. There are three dots over the end character below.

## 2 PIASTRES, BLUE.

- (a) The base of the pyramid is 1 mm. from the oval at left. The top line of inscription on Cleopatra's Needle appears as a

solid line of colour extending right across. There are three dots over the end character in upper label, of which the first is well above the level of the others.

- (b) The left side of the base of the pyramid is  $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. away from the oval. The letter *r* in top left corner is more to the right than in the other types.
- (c) The base of the pyramid is equi-distant from the oval frame on either side and the point of the pyramid does not touch the frame above.
- (d) The figure "2" in right lower corner hangs over somewhat to the left. The point of Cleopatra's Needle is further from the top than in any of the other types.

#### 5 PIASTRES, BROWN.

- (a) There is a clear line of shading between the top of the pyramid and the oval. There are three dots over the last character of the Arabic inscription in the label at top, all of which are on the same level.
- (b) The top of the pyramid touches the top line of shading. The first of the three dots above is the highest.
- (c) Of the three dots the end one is the highest.
- (d) The three dots are level. The top of the pyramid touches the last line of shading. The end of the third Arabic character in the upper label is thick and not so much curved as in the other types.

Though I have said above that every block of four of any value should contain the four types, this is by no means a foregone conclusion. Though the designs were originally drawn in blocks of four and transferred to the stone in blocks, there is always a chance, during the process of transferring, of damaging one of the designs, in which case a spare transfer, which might be of any type, would be used to replace it. Instances of this nature have occurred before, notably in some of the early Sarawak stamps. This possibility should give zest to the hunt for pairs and blocks of this issue, and these are getting increasingly difficult to procure.

The perforation is peculiar, and gauges, uniformly,  $15 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ . The watermark is also peculiar, having been impressed into the paper instead of being made in it as is the usual way. All the values can be found in a wide range of shades, especially the violet, green and red ones. The gum used varies from white to brown, the ones to be sought for, and immediately annexed when found, being those with real brown gum.

The values, 5 paras and 1 piastre, exist imperforate, genuinely used copies having been seen. The 5 par. and 1 piastre are known imperf. vertically. The 10 par. and 1 and 2 piastres are known bisected and used for half their value.

By a firman of the Sultan, dated March 21st, 1866, the right of succession in the male line

was conferred on the Viceroy of Egypt. By another firman, dated June 8th, 1867, the Viceroy was invested with the title of Khedive. In spite of the revival of this ancient title, which is said to mean "Chief God," no new issue of stamps which should commemorate the fact was produced until nearly five years later, when Penasson, the printer of the preceding issue, was commissioned to prepare a new design duly emphasizing the acquisition of the new title. As in 1867, M. Penasson prepared several designs for the Director of the Posts to select from, all of which bear a strong family resemblance, the Pyramid and Sphinx being the central device in each. At about the same time the American Bank Note Co., of New York, submitted the three essays which, if they had been adopted, would have added considerably to the attractiveness of a collection of Egypt. These may be distinguished from all other Egyptian essays by the fact that they are engraved in *taille douce* instead of being lithographed, and they are, moreover, upright rectangles in shape, whereas all the others are transverse rectangles. They were not adopted, apparently, on account of expense.

The new issue was put on sale on January 1st, 1872. It is by no means an improvement on the previous one, either in design or execution, though the general scheme of the design is very similar. The inscription in the bottom label is in Italian, and, translated, means Egyptian Khedival Post.

The stamps were poorly lithographed by Penasson of Alexandria, and even in the earliest printings the impression was most indistinct, while, later on, it became almost indecipherable.



It is apparent, from a close examination of the stamps, that the design for the 1 piastre was drawn first and that the other values were made by taking transfers from the central portion of the original die of the 1 piastre, omitting the vertical sections at either side, and making fresh dies of these for each value and carefully fitting them in on a secondary die from which the plates were then made. The stamps as originally supplied by Penasson were on comparatively good stout paper and the colours were bright, the margins of the sheets were either plain or contained a double line in the colour of the stamp. About 1874, the Government took the printing into its own hands, with dire results. Many of the stamps turned out by the Government printers were mere blobs and the thin

paper, combined with the gum used, gave many printings a very oily appearance which did not improve the effect. The 1 piastre often presents a very striking example of this peculiarity. Stamps with margin attached can always be distinguished by the fact that in the Government printings there is a wide Arabesque ornamentation all round the sheets.

This ornamental surrounding and the presence of *tête-bêche* varieties in the sheets of the 10 par., 1 piastre, 2 piastres and 2½ piastres proves that fresh stones were constructed by the Government printers.

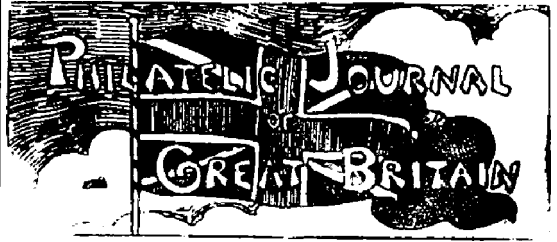
There were three separate settings of the 1 piastre, besides the original one made by Penasson in which there were no *tête-beche* varieties. In one of the new settings there was only one *tête-beche*, in another, which is described in the *Monthly Journal* for February, 1904, there were three, while in the third setting there were no fewer than twelve inverted stamps.

In this last all the stamps in the top row are upside down, as well as the fourth in the twelfth and the first in the fifteenth.

The 10 paras shows three *tête-beche* varieties in row four and five in row six. The sheets of the 2 and 2½ piastres each contain only one *tête-beche* variety. The 5 par. and 5 piastres are catalogued as existing in this condition, but their existence is not now believed in by the best authorities, at any rate no copies can be traced. Another fresh stone was made of the 5 paras, brown, in 1875, for which the secondary die was made with the labels at the sides inverted. To add to the confusion the transfers were placed on the stone anyhow, some with the pyramid the right way up and some the other way about. There are consequently numerous *tête-beche* varieties in this setting, though it is doubtful whether they can be fairly termed *tête-beche*, considering that no single stamp can be called the right way up whichever way it is looked at. The stamps of this setting are extremely common, indeed, until quite recently, entire sheets could be had wholesale, though I do not know now where to procure one.

This issue presents a little interest to those collectors who are fond of perforation varieties. The earliest perf. gauged 13½ and was probably from the same machine as that used for the horizontal rows in the 1867 issue. Later on, a new machine gauging 12½ was introduced, and this was used sometimes alone and sometimes in conjunction with the 13½ machine, producing the varieties 12½ × 13½ and 13½ × 12½. I believe most of the values can be found in both perforations, though some shades are scarce in certain combinations. These are matters which I have not thoroughly investigated, but I am sure that collectors who care to make a study of them will find their time fully repaid.

(To be continued.)



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### Publishers' Note.

WE have much pleasure in informing our readers that the City of London Philatelic Society has selected the *P.J.G.B.* as their official organ. We shall publish monthly a short report of their meetings, which will, we are informed be so written as to prove of interest to the general collector, whether he is a member of the C.L.P.S. or not. Elsewhere we publish some particulars of the Society, kindly forwarded us by Mr. J. R. Burton, F.R.P.S.L., its president. Next month we hope to print a very interesting account of the early days of the Society, written by the founder, Mr. Albert H. Harris.

## Cross-Criticisms on Greek Stamps.

OUR review of M. Brunel's recently published work on the stamps of Greece has called forth a lengthy letter from that gentleman himself, who controverts in energetic fashion the opinions which we expressed in our criticisms of his book. Although it is not our custom to print authors' complaints concerning reviews, save when we have made errors of fact, (which we do not admit in this instance) we think it best in this case to publish M. Brunel's letter, especially as he is obviously quite sincere in his protestations.

The letter, which we have translated, reads as follows:—

Le Raincy,  
11th August, 1909.

DEAR SIR,

Will you permit me to reply, point by point, to the criticisms which you offer, on the work that I have just published (*Les Emissions des Timbres Grecs*), in the July number of your esteemed journal.

It is possible that the reading of this work has caused you much disappointment, because you thought, no doubt, that I should repeat the errors that the "Authorities," as you call them, have made in their studies on the stamps of Greece. If I had done so, it would have been useless for me to attempt the work.

I should like to know what are the general lines on which all specialists are in accord?

I said that there was only one engraving of the original design (*modèle*) because, as a matter of fact, there was only a single engraving of the die, on steel, by the younger Barre, and it was from this die (which bore no indication of value) that the electros from which the plates were made, were transferred. The plates were made in the way I describe on p. 6 of my work, and not otherwise, whatever may be the opinion of Mr. Dorning Becketon on the subject. Any other proceeding was physically impossible. The little differences which may be noticed in the designation of the values were caused in the transferring of the galvanos, or by the wearing and the inking of the plates. I cannot see then that I have evaded this explanation as you seem to imply.

In the colour reference I have taken special pains to point out that I was only designating those stamps having few variations of tint or shade, and it was necessary to take only standard varieties. I know well that one cannot have absolute exactness in this matter, so I have simply sought to get as near to the truth as possible.

Re my classification in "types," you are in error. It is perfectly true that the types represent the states of the printing and the word is quite correctly applied. The design

of the stamp is called the model, and of this model there are several types, due to the defects and to the different methods of printing; then (*ergo*) there is the first model of the Greek stamps and eight different types of this model, showing the eight conditions in which it can be found. How can this classification lead to error since it is precisely by the states of the impressions that one is able to assign dates to the divers emissions? Far from being absurd and useless as you aver, it is a rational classification and very easy to follow (see page 69).

The lists of the printings are not incomplete; considering the absolute impossibility of assigning dates to all the printings of all the values printed at Athens, I have grouped the printings according to periods; this is better than to make mistakes, like the "authorities." I know well enough, for I am not the ignoramus that you present me to your readers, that *many shades* of each value exist besides those mentioned in my work, but I have found that those that I have indicated should suffice for the well-being of collectors, and I hold it in order not to excessively prolong the already lengthy nomenclature. I therefore repeat that it is very easy to classify Greek stamps by my method, a thing which was never possible before, in spite of the descriptions of all the "authorities." (I know them, for I have read them—since I cite them at the end of my work; this is indisputable proof of my loyalty in this regard).

You say that a description of all the printings is indispensable, but I have done nothing else between pages 7 and 48 but give the details by which each stamp may be known.

How do you make out that I have omitted the first Athens 20 lep.? If you will read page 18 you will see that I describe this stamp as well as the one without the figures at back.

My list of errors is complete and I do not know those *authenticated* ones which are not mentioned, unless you mean varieties of secondary importance, *minutiae* which I have purposely omitted so as not to make my work too heavy and dull.

I have omitted nothing on the subject of the issues of 1889-91. I maintain that these stamps have no watermark. It is true that the paper contained in one line the mark of the State paper, as watermark, and some stamps, naturally, have one letter of this watermark. (I have treated this question completely on page 77 of my volume—further proof that I have forgotten nothing).

As to the prices that you find absurd, that is a matter of opinion. I have given prices which have seemed to me reasonable, since I am not a dealer, and I have found that a quotation of 100 francs for a variety, altogether secondary, like the 10 lepta with figures "or" on the face, was a maximum. Besides, where do you get the quotation of £15? one might

as well say £100. There is no more reason for the one than for the other of these prices.

In conclusion, I maintain that the information which I have given in *Les Emissions des Timbres Grecs* is exact. It may be that the truth is unpalatable to some (it was ever thus) but I do not care a button.

Believe me, etc.,

GEORGES BRUNEL

(Editor of *Le Timbre Poste*).

Now, like M. Brunel, we will take the remarks one by one and answer or dissect them as the case may be. In reply to the question "what are the lines on which all specialists are in accord?" we will say that the principal point is, as we stated in July, that the figures of value were engraved separately for each stamp on the sheet. It is all very well for M. Brunel to say that the differences which may be noted were caused by unequal inking of the plates or during the process of making the electros from the matrix. This could not account for marked differences in the position of the figures in relation to the ends of the label containing the value and the word LEPT. Such differences in position are sometimes measureable and lead to the unpalatable conclusion that what should have been physically impossible was actually achieved.

With regard to the colour reference list M. Brunel's remarks in his letter are in agreement with our criticism, which, in turn, was a partial justification of his plan.

Concerning the classification in "types" our views on this matter, in so far as the use of that term is concerned, are fully explained in our Editorial this month, but as regards the value of the system, we repeat that the classification must lead to error on the part of inexperienced collectors who look for instruction from the book, and for the following reasons. According to M. Brunel there are eight different types, which, being translated, means eight different degrees of good and bad printing modified by the gradual wear of the plates. Well, we are inclined to ask, in M. Brunel's own style, why eight? Why not ten, twelve or even twenty? As a matter of fact the different printings would as well justify the arbitrary selection of twenty as the arbitrary selection of eight "types." We can imagine the state of mind into which any collector would be driven who should attempt to fit any average Athens print in with one of M. Brunel's illustrations. The futility of the system is made clear by the inclusion of a block of four of the 2 lep. which is described as showing the two types III. and IV. but in which all the stamps are identical and no more like the other illustrations numbered III. and IV. than they are like II. and V.

We have always maintained that it is impossible either to satisfactorily illustrate the different phases of the Greek stamps, or

to properly describe the shades, yet the latter task is not only easier than the first but is also more important. When M. Brunel says "it is precisely by the state of the impressions that one is able to assign dates to the divers emissions" he only states half the truth. We prefer to say that it is by the *tone of colour*, taken in conjunction with the state of the impression, that the dates of the different issues can be allocated, and we repeat that the state of the impression cannot be adequately illustrated, though it might be fairly well indicated by means of careful descriptions. We do not mean to infer that all illustrations would be useless, for certain extremes might be shown with advantage if well chosen, but to say that the stamps of the first type of Greece are divided into exactly eight states or appearances is altogether wrong, and M. Brunel's mere assertion that it is not is no argument.

Now as to the lists of printings of the different values which M. Brunel asserts are not incomplete. Considering that he goes on to say that "owing to the absolute impossibility of assigning dates to all the printings of all the values printed at Athens, I have grouped the values according to periods" we think we need not go far out of our way to prove the point; this remark, coupled with the statement that those printings he has mentioned should suffice for the *bonheur* (which we have translated as well-being) of collectors, is an admission that he might have extended the lists. In a work of the pretensions of the one under notice the *bonheur* of collectors is best served by a description of all the stamps which he is likely to come across. To show that his omissions are important, we will point out that no printings are given of the 1 lep between the cleaned plate of 1870 and the transparent paper series, which, by the way, he erroneously dates 1876, but which should be 1875. Of the 5 lep., there is no mention of any printing between 1869 and the cream paper series, with the exception of those on transparent paper, and of these he only gives three instead of four printings. Apparently he does not know the cleaned plate 5 lep. of 1870. We could multiply instances of this sort but it would serve no good purpose.

We gladly accept M. Brunel's word that he has read the authorities, but we did not know before that the printing of a list of works is proof that they have been digested.

With regard to the 20 lep. first Athens we must admit that we had not noticed that it is noted as a variety without figures at the back. We did not recognize it in this guise. The generally accepted theory that the first printing of this value in Athens was on paper without control is evidently not shared by M. Brunel. But certainly no mention is made of the first Athens 10 lep. without figures at the back, a stamp which, though exceedingly rare, is sufficiently well-known and authenticated.

Some of the most marked errors omitted are the following:—

20 lep. on tinted, "20" inverted.

" " "02" "

" " "0" "

In addition to the error of the 10 lep. with "01" on the face and nothing on the back, there is one with "01" on the face and on the back. M. Brunel mentions the former only, and says it occurred during the period 1871-74, whereas it was issued in 1866 on the stamp which he numbers 27a. Are the above mentioned errors omitted because they are *minutia*? What about the 80 lep. with a blotch of colour on the cheek, caused by bad printing, which he mentions as a variety on nearly every page?

We said that the list of errors was too complete. It is made so by the inclusion of such a phantom as a 40 lep. with "50" at the back. We hope, for the sake of M. Brunel's reputation as a philatelic writer, that his inclusion of such a bogey is due to a printer's error. We would rather not think that it was included to relieve the tedium and to prevent the work being too heavy and dull!

In reference to the issue of 1889-91, we will grant that the stamps are not watermarked in the ordinary sense, but as the paper on which these stamps were printed is quite different from that subsequently used, being yellowish in tone and of thicker substance, we think M. Brunel might have informed collectors that the set could be divided by this means. There is a great deal to be learned about this issue, and we were genuinely sorry that the author could not teach us anything about it.

Prices, we agree, are a matter of opinion to a certain extent, but if roofr. is a limit for any Greek error, we should like to have the offer of a few varieties from the other side of the Channel. We can justify our quotation of £15 for this error by offering thrice 100 francs for a good specimen of it.

## Current Chatter.

By ANGUS MCTAVISH.

I AM very surprised to find that I am still in London after my generous offer last month to go abroad with any seeker after knowledge, who cares for first class travelling. It has rather pained me to find that nobody has come forward. Yes, I am distinctly pained and grieved to notice such a comatose state existing amongst collectors.

Having nothing better to do, I made up, the other night, while Mrs. McTavish was holding forth on the iniquities of being late for dinner, a few platitudes which will henceforth cause me to rank with Socrates, Kipling, O. Khayyam and Miss Correlli. Here are a few samples:

1. One difference between a collector and

a dealer is that one undervalues and the other overvalues certain varieties. Fortunately, ideas sometimes differ, otherwise there would be fewer dealers.

(I don't think much of that myself, do you? Anyway, we will let another out of the bag.)

2. All sane collectors acknowledge that there are too many stamp papers in existence, yet they encourage them to hatch out before they are properly incubated. Perhaps it is due to the inborn desire to say "I told you so."

(That's better, isn't it. Sounds as if it had been copied from a decent author, doesn't it?)

3. Old stamp papers are not good sellers by the lb., mainly because they are not big enough to wrap up the week-end provisions in. This fact should not be pointed out to publishers.

(This one sounds personal, doesn't it? It isn't meant to be, besides, I always steer clear of personalities, they're dangerous.)

4. It is frequently easier to become a specialist than a general collector, especially when the other chap knows nothing about the country you specialize in.

(I like this one, its nice and short, and meant to be sarcastic.)

5. If all the *tête bêche* pairs that collectors of the last generation cut apart, could be joined, we should find that every sheet of 100 stamps contained 80 *tête bêches*.

(See if that isn't copied into other papers.)

6. If nearly all the writers of stamp articles who contribute to the philatelic press for the pleasure of seeing themselves in print were to concentrate their energies on studying a good stamp catalogue it would be hard for the amateur auction-buying collector-dealer to pick up bargains.

(I don't quite know what's meant by that, do you?)

7. A fat banking account, altho' very desirable is not absolutely necessary before a collector can become a good philatelist.

(That's quite original, altho' doubtless you won't believe it.)

8. Collectors are like hens, they all collect stamps, or eggs, but few have the patience to sit three weeks to hatch out new ideas.

(I like that, it has such a homely ring of the farmyard about it, hasn't it?)

Take the above eight little sparklets of wisdom to bed with you, or better still have them cut out and framed. It will probably also cheer you up to know that I actually get paid for writing them.

A young lady confided to me the other day that she always read "Current Chatter" but there was usually a lot in it she couldn't understand. How awfully sad, but I frequently don't understand it myself.

I see that in a recently published book, entitled "Leaves from a Madeira Garden," the author says: "Portugal needs a Lincoln to set her political house in order, a Bright to raise the moral level of her public life."

Quite right, here's to Lincoln and Bright, but I don't see why Phillips, Peckitt and Pemberton should be left out in the cold. Surely they could help a little.

The report, now going round London that Dr. F. A. Cook found a back number of the *P.J.G.B.* at the North Pole when he arrived, is slightly incorrect. The real truth of the matter is he took the paper there and it blew out of his sleeping bag on the 1st or 21st of April, I have forgotten the correct date.

All stamp dealers receive a number of odd letters at times, mostly from West Coast Niggers or Indian Babus, but it rarely falls to the lot of a stamp editor to have an application for a sample of his brain pills, yet that is actually what happened to one budding young author a few weeks ago. Evidently there is a specialist in Bulgarias somewhere up the Benin river.

In the September 11th number of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, I see that a writer cheerfully heads his article "British Possessions in Africa" and then pegs away peacefully and tells his readers all about the stamps of Johore. This somewhat alarming geographical transfer was, I suppose, due to an earthquake, which probably the Johore people, accustomed to such little vageries, didn't notice at the time. I wonder whether any lives were lost and whereabouts Johore now lives in Africa.

Rotten things earthquakes are, and they upset one so, don't they?

As long ago as June, 1908, I chronicled the fact that a used strip of three King Edward VII. Land stamps had been sold by Messrs. Plumridge & Co. for 32/-, or 10/8 per stamp. In October, I mentioned that the same auctioneers sold, during October, four used copies for 11/-, or 2/9 per stamp. These figures were amusing at the time, but the fun only began a week or two ago. For some reason or other a lot of dealers were then suddenly taken with the idea that they would like to benefit stamp collectors in general, so we find in the philatelic press the following offers, all for fine used copies: Messrs. C. Nissen & Co., 5/-; Messrs. Bridger & Kay, 7/6; Mr. J. H. Rhodes, 4/6; Mr. D. Field, as a monthly bargain, 10/-. I rather fancy I have seen other dealers advertising this stamp at 15/- and 5/6 respectively, but I can't find the "ads." There must be some scarce shades in this issue.

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### FOREWORD FOR THE SEASON 1909-10.

I believe Mr. Editor that Mr. A. H. Harris\* and Mr. W. B. Edwards, B.Sc., two of my predecessors in the work of the "City of London Philatelic Society," née "Enterprise," have sent you some account of its origin and progress up to date. These indeed in the Paleolithic and Neolithic days of the Society have left no stone unturned to minister to its advantages, and to them I will couple the names of Messrs. Constantinides and Westcott, to whom the Society is largely indebted for the strong position which it holds to-day; other workers there were in plenty, some alas no longer with us; others like Mr. Eastwood, Mr. Jackson and myself, belong to a more recent period of time, and feel a certain amount of diffidence in taking up offices which have been so admirably filled in the past.

The appointment of your very excellent paper as Official Organ to a certain extent marks a new departure, inasmuch as we have had to increase our subscription to 3/6.

At such a moment it is not in-appropriate to take stock of where we stand at the moment.

In the first place I venture to assert that no Philatelic Society in London has a better meeting room. The downstairs floor of Mills'

\* We hope to publish Mr. Harris' story of the founding of the C.L.P.S. in next month's *P.J.* of *O.B.*—ED.



Restaurant is entirely reserved for us at our convenience, and would easily contain four times the attendance which we usually have. The lighting is superb, so that stamps passed round for inspection can be thoroughly enjoyed by every member present, and the arrangements as to ventilation and heating are so good that we never get any complaints. Sometime before the commencement of our meetings, the Restaurant forms an admirable place where our members foregather to buy and sell or exchange stamps, and very frequently absorb some of the excellent refreshment which the proprietors supply at reasonable prices.

The situation of this meeting room in the end of Liverpool Street nearest to Broad Street Station, within a stone's throw of the G.E. Railway and the Metropolitan Railway, and within a couple of minutes' walk of Moorgate Street Stations, and the trains of the Midland Railway, G.N. Railway, City and South London and Finsbury Park Tube trains, and close to the starting place of innumerable motor and 'bus services to all parts of London and suburbs, is quite unique.

Another great advantage to our members is the fact that the Library is now standing in Mr. Brand's stamp shop upstairs in Broad Street Station. Mr. Brand is the Librarian, and therefore the books are available to members practically any hour of the day up till 9 o'clock at night. The Society has already quite an excellent library, the catalogue of which is to be seen in the Annual Report.

Exchange packets have been run on exceedingly business-like lines. The sales have continuously increased and members are placed on equality as far as seeing the packet first is concerned. The stamps are thoroughly insured and the accounts are attended to in a most careful and prompt manner.

Some of the members run amongst themselves a magazine circuit, which they find very helpful.

One of the most attractive features in the past has been the periodic holding of competitive displays, silver medals being awarded to the winners. This feature is again prominent in the forthcoming syllabus. The conditions of these displays are so arranged that the ordinary collector stands on an equality with the "Great Moguls."

The Society's forgery collection in the capable hands of Mr. A. H. L. Giles, is another useful asset. The forgeries are all mounted on the card-index system, with data regarding various differences between the genuine and spurious stamps. These cards are loaned to both country and London members, as required, for a few days at a time.

We can boast of a membership of 100, a number which we hope this year will be considerably increased. I think it will be generally conceded that the class of member

which has been attracted to our Society is a very useful one, consisting almost entirely of medium collectors and working specialists unfettered by the necessity of providing for the very junior element and not overawed by the frequent presence of the "Great Moguls."

The proposed work of the Society for the forthcoming session will be put before you at the same time as these few notes, and you will be able to judge of the interest of the items contained therein, but you will not be able to gauge the good fellowship and the zeal for true Philately which pervades all our meetings unless you come to one of them, and to all our members London, Provincial, and Foreign I would say, as emphatically as possible—come as often as you can manage and we think you will not go away disappointed.

To those who are not yet members I would extend a cordial invitation to come once and see what our Society is like; such a visit will probably end in your joining us, then we shall gain that number of members which I am sure our Society deserves, both because it has nobody's axe to grind, and because it is, *par excellence*, the Society for the medium and working collector.

J. READ BURTON.

#### SESSION 1909-1910.

- Oct. 13.—President's Opening Address.  
Display by all members of recent acquisitions and novelties.
- Nov. 10.—Paper and Display. "Pictorial Stamps of Tasmania," J. A. Leon, B.A.  
Competitive Display, any one, "West Indian Country or Colony."
- Dec. 8.—Paper and Display. "Jamaica,"  
W. B. Edwards, B.Sc.
- Jan. 12.—Display with Notes. "India,"  
J. E. Heginbottom, B.A.  
Competitive Display. 15 Stamps issued prior to 1860.
- Feb. 9.—Paper and Display. "St. Helena,"  
J. R. Burton, F.R.P.S.L.  
Display. "Australians," W. Phillips.
- Mar. 9.—Paper and Display. "Cyprus,"  
P. L. Pemberton.  
Competitive Display. 20 Stamps showing the greatest variety of perforation and other methods of stamp separation.
- April 13.—Display. "German States,"  
A. H. L. Giles, R.N.  
Paper. "Tragedy and Postage Stamps,"  
W. E. Lincoln.
- May 11.—Annual General Meeting.

#### GENERAL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 8TH, 1909.

A special General Meeting of the Society was held at the usual meeting place, Mills' Restaurant in Liverpool Street, chiefly for the purpose of making the arrangements as to the alteration of the subscription and appointment of a new official organ.

Mr. W. B. Edwards, B.Sc., occupied the chair and was supported by Messrs. Burton, Westcott, Jackson, and the other officials of the Society, and a fair muster of members. After various formal business had been transacted, the President stated the principal

objects for which the meeting had been called. Mr. A. J. Séfi then explained to the meeting that owing to the pressure of other business he found it necessary to convert the *Philatelic World* from a monthly to a quarterly paper, and that he recognised that this would militate against its usefulness as the Official Organ of the Society which met every month, and therefore required its notices of meetings to appear at least as frequently, and he was aware that when accepting the *Philatelic World* as the Official Organ in the place of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* some members had misgivings even as regards the expediency of changing from their fortnightly paper to one which only appeared once a month. Under the circumstances he proposed to withdraw his paper from the position of Official Organ and join forces with the Committee of the Society in proposing the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*.

Mr. Burton formally moved the two alterations in the rules for raising the subscription to 3/6 and the appointment of the new Official Organ, but paid a warm tribute to the *Philatelic World*, as a paper containing matter of real value to Philately, as opposed to the small talk and extraneous matter which filled so large a part of several of the postage stamp publications of the moment.

He pointed out that though the subscription was being raised, the supply of the *P.J. of G.B.* free to members was the equivalent of 2/6 per annum, leaving only the small matter of 1/- for all the other advantages of the Society.

The alterations in the Rules were carried unanimously, and the meeting broke up looking forward confidently to an excellent Session's work and pleasure.

Members please note the opening meeting takes place on the 13th October.

## Notes on Australian Stamps.

BY THE EDITOR.

(Continued from page 139).

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Under the heading "C. Varieties of Watermark," I should, I suppose list three stamps that made their appearance as late as 1902 on Crown and S.A. (wide) paper. I refer, of course, to the 9d., 1/- and 2/- values, but as this paper was intentionally used I prefer to list the stamps in chronological order at the end of the line engraved series on "broad Star" paper.

#### D.—THE SECOND TYPE OF STAR WATERMARK.

I have now to consider those numerous stamps printed on a new make of softer paper, which came into general use for the line-engraved stamps during the year 1876. The first stamps issued were special printings from the original ninepenny plate, printed in shades of *brown* and overprinted "8 PENCE" in black. These stamps, expressing a new face value, are only found with the second or "broad" type of Star watermark. Three shades are, I see, listed, namely burnt sienna, yellow-brown, and grey-brown, only one of which is at all scarce, viz., the grey-brown, in which dingy shade it is decidedly scarce used. Curiously enough it is no rarer than the other shades in an unused state. The stamps are distinctly handsome, and as they are quite common in good condition they make a brave show in a collection.

The other values found with the second type of watermark are identical with those of the last printings of the narrow star watermark already described. The new 8d. stamp however, replaced the 10d value.

The shades of the early "second Stars" vary but little from those of the late printings on large Star paper, especially when we remember that the paper, being slightly thinner and whiter, the colour is liable to shew up more distinctly. As before, we have the same combinations of perforation, namely, 10, 11½, 12½, and compounds. None of the stamps, with the exception of those perforated 12½ all round, are scarce in a used condition; although, of course, some shades are much harder to find than others. The 3d. in black (the *red* overprint, of course, was obsolete before the new watermarked paper came into use) on 4d. blue, is known with "double surcharge."

In 1880 the colour of the 4d. stamp was changed to a much brighter shade of mauve, quite different from the previous and duller colour, while later on the 6d. value followed suit and appeared in a peculiar shade of bright ultramarine, also decidedly different from any previous printings. Both these stamps can be found in the usual combinations of perforation then in use, and are, generally speaking, much too highly priced. These stamps remained in use until 1890 and 1887 respectively, while they were printed on paper that varies very considerably in thickness; in fact it is possible to obtain both varieties on paper that can only be described as thin cardboard. I have a strip of the 6d. value, in this condition, in my own collection.

A curious fact about the 10 perforation, in conjunction with the 11½ and 12½, is that on

the first Star paper the big perforation is nearly always at the sides, while on the same stamps on the "broad" Star paper the to machine was almost invariably used for perforating the horizontal rows. As many of these stamps are quite common it will be very easy for any of my readers so inclined to verify this statement. Why, however, such is the case I do not know, and should be very glad to have an explanation.

In 1897 the 9d., 1/- and 2/- stamps in the then current shades suddenly made their appearance with the "big hole" perforations, from the machine which had previously been used for the long surface-printed high value labels; to be followed three years later by a large number printed on *wide* Crown and S.A. paper. I have already mentioned these stamps at the commencement of this chapter, and can only add here that they were largely speculated in, both in Australia and England, so much so that I cannot but think that the desire to use up a stock of old paper was secondary to the desire to issue a limited supply of a philatelic variety, capable of being "cornered."

The wide S.A. 9d., 1/- and 2/- stamps were the last of the grand old line-engraved series, and we now have to hark back to the De la Rue stamps printed on close S.A. and Crown paper.

D.—THE SECOND TYPE OF CROWN AND S.A.

In 1877, the 1d. and 2d. values (then the only surface printed stamps) were printed on a thicker and denser paper, which also had a different type of Crown and S.A. impressed. The main difference is noticeable in the space between the letters S and A; in the type we are considering now they are much closer together than in the first or "wide" type.

Needless to say in these elementary notes I cannot refer to all the standard varieties of perforation, much less uncatalogued varieties; but I should like to resurrect an ancient "bogey," which at one time caused some consternation amongst collectors: I refer to the bogus surcharged 2d. stamp, of which the following accounts are extracted from the *Philatelic Record* of Oct., 1881, and Jan., 1882.

"Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us the current Two pence of this colony surcharged in black with the numeral '3' for use as a three penny value. Our specimen is postmarked 'Adelaide 25th August 1881.'"

*Philatelic Record*, Jan. 1882.

"Our cut represents the provisional stamp which we described in October last. If it is a genuine thing, which we see no reason to doubt, it must have been in use for a very short time, for we have seen none since receiving the specimen which we chronicled.

In the June number of the same journal this bogey was laid to rest.

Another variety of the 2d. stamp, however, took considerably more killing, indeed, I

doubt if is quite dead yet. I refer to the 2d. *dark brown*, a stamp said to have been issued in 1881. Personally, I believe this variety to be merely due to oxidation and not worthy of consideration.

In 1881, towards the end of the year, we find that, owing to a reduction of postal charges, a halfpenny stamp was needed. A makeshift was provided, and we find that the current penny stamp was overprinted "HALF PENNY" in two lines. This stamp was, I believe, first chronicled in the *Philatelic Record* for February, 1882.

This provisional was shortly followed by a regular issue of new ½d. stamps, printed from a De la Rue plate; the idea of having a small stamp, half the usual size, being copied from the neighbouring colony of Victoria.

The cheaper method of printing being applied to the 3d., 4d. and 6d. stamps, we find that between 1887 and 1890 these values appeared printed from De la Rue plates, leaving only the 9d., 1/- and 2/- line-engraved dies in use.

Early in 1887 it was thought necessary to issue stamps with a higher face value than 2/-, so thirteen plates were made and stamps to the face value of £20 issued! I do not intend to waste any space over these stamps, or indeed the later issues. The low values, ½d. to 6d., underwent many tribulations, both of shade and perforation, while the 4d. and 6d. values were respectively printed in *green* and *brown*, and surcharged 2½d. and 5d. each, with a big thick bar over the original value, to meet the sudden change of postal rates between Australia and Great Britain.

Two varieties of this surcharge are listed in the catalogue, namely, the 2½d. on 4d. with the "2" and the "½" close together and the 5d. without a stop after the D. I illustrate the



I.—VARIETY WITH "2" CLOSE TO BIG "½."

II. NORMAL TYPE.

former variety, as it is one which many collectors are apt to overlook. Although this variety is a very small one, it is as important as if the difference had been more marked. Only two of these varieties occurred on each sheet.

These provisionals were in use a considerable time and are quite common. They were replaced by the regular issue in 1894 and the lower value was printed in a violet-blue and the 5d. in purple.

(To be continued.)

## Philatelic Gossip from North China.

By LIEUT. COLONEL NEWMAN, F.R.G.S., F.R.S.A.

HAVING started a series of articles, notes and news on "Stamps and their Collection" in the Saturday issues of my paper,\* I have found already that they are much appreciated, and you would be surprised at the number of queries and notes I have already received from collectors here in North China; which I endeavour to answer and attend to in due course.

\* \* \*

In connection with the absurd prices quoted in most catalogues for the unused surcharged Chinese stamps POSTAGE DUE, I made enquiries at the head office of the I.C.P.O. in Peking, where I was recently on a visit and find that the remainders were not burnt; but the department has about 30,000 of them still in stock; of the 2, 4, 5 and 10 cents only—no  $\frac{1}{2}$  or 1 cent left—for sale at *face value*! and selling them in lots daily.

\* \* \*

Having been brought into personal connection with a Chinese editor, who is a keen collector of his own country and a few other countries in the Far East, I was surprised to find, among his Chinese stamps, two that I have never heard of or seen before. The first is a 1 cent of the present issue, which should be yellow, yellow-bistre or orange, used, in brownish black, like a dark  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent; and the other is a 2 cent red which is pure dark purple. Both have done duty for postage, and are lightly cancelled with the Tienstin postmark of some date in 1903; so I presume these must have come from a sheet of the wrong colour; but I know of no other copies of this rare colour error, do any of your readers? I tried to purchase either or both but the owner would not sell.†

\* \* \*

There has been a change in the colour of the last Chinese 2 cent green; which was originally printed in a dark shade, but is now dark yellow-green; nothing like, however, the halfpenny stamp colour of the U.P.U., with which our 2 cent is supposed to be in line.

\* \* \*

I have just learnt one reason why it is so difficult to get any of the old Chinese, Japanese or Hongkong stamps from native merchants because, it appears, they consider it unlucky to cut off the stamps and so destroy the envelopes. Letters and covers lie in store until a certain period has elapsed and they are then burnt in a heap. What a loss to collectors.

\* \* \*

It may be of interest to collectors of

\* The "China Critic."

† We think these must be chemical colour changelings.—Ed.

Revenue stamps to know that the Chinese Government has just issued some, of two denominations only, and I will endeavour to get you a couple and send them along for illustration.

## Machines for Registering Letters.

M. MILLERAND the French Minister of Public Works, who has the Department of Posts and Telegraphs under his charge, is attempting to remedy the extreme disorder in which this department has been left by instituting mechanical devices which will take work off the shoulders of the overburdened employees. Yesterday, by his instructions, a new machine was placed at the disposal of the public which registers letters automatically. The machine is placed outside a post office in one of the busiest parts of the city, and already it has done good service.

In the front of the machine are four openings, one for the nickel coin of 25 centimes (twopence-halfpenny is the French registration fee); the second to receive letters or small packets; the third to serve out the counterfoil, and the fourth to return bad or bent pieces. After putting the coin in the aperture the operator has to turn a handle; he may then insert the letter, and two seconds later, when the scales have steadied themselves, the counterfoil is delivered to the operator, bearing the same number as that stamped on the letter. The machine makes no provision for letters which do not already bear the necessary stamps for the usual inland postal service, but in front of it is the notice: "Unstamped letters will be delivered by ordinary post."

The inventor, a Hungarian named Fobor, proposes, however, to add a letter-weighing apparatus, through which all letters will have to be passed before being registered, and by means of this device the letter will be stamped according to weight.—*Evening Standard*.

## Ottoman Post Office.

As the result of the invitation of the Turkish Government, which asked the Belgian Government to lend them the services of a high official of the Brussels Post Office, M. Sterpin, Director-General of the Belgian Postal Administration, has just left Brussels for Constantinople.

His mission is to re-organise the whole Turkish postal service on the lines of the Belgian, and he will for some time superintend the service in Constantinople, Salonika and Adrianople.—*Daily Telegraph*.



SEPTEMBER 20, 1909.

## Philately at Home.

The August number of the *Philatelic Record* contains, as it always does now-a-days, some excellent articles.

The most interesting perhaps is the continuation of Fleet-Surgeon G. T. Bishop's reminiscences of his philatelic adventures in the Far East some few years ago.

The following extract, relating to a stamp auction Mr. Bishop attended at Tokio, is of great interest.

"Our entrance interrupted what was going on, 'My friend' introduced me to everyone in the room—about a dozen or 15 men, and then having previously taken off my shoes, I took my place in the ring formed on the floor. There was no auctioneer, but one man was a kind of President, or M.C. He it was who decided whose lot should be sold next, and also who was the buyer each time.

"Business being resumed, a seller took from the capacious pocket formed in the sleeve of his kimono, a 'lot,' and placed it in the centre of the ring we formed on the floor, and then anyone could examine the stamps who wished. The President distributed a pile of lacquered ash trays (so we should call them in this country), and on the concave side all present wrote in Indian ink with a brush, how much he was prepared to give. Then on the convex side we wrote our names. No one looked to see how much anyone else was offering, and to judge from the assembled faces, this dealing was serious business.

"The trays were all passed up to the President, who soon found and announced the name of the highest bidder and the amount offered by him for the lot. When the result became known, the buyer was, perhaps, congratulated upon having secured what he required by a narrow margin. On the other hand, when the highest bid was far above the next, the unlucky buyer was well chaffed, in a most friendly way, by the rest of the assembly. Everyone present bid for each lot, and sometimes the minuteness of a bid by someone who, very apparently, did not want that particular lot, caused the seller to come in for his share of chaffing."

"The lots consisted of Japanese stamps only. Sometimes single stamps, sometimes a little lot of about 10,000. The old hand-engraved issues were usually put up by the 100 unless they were the higher values, when they were sold singly or in dozens. I saw none being sold because they were rare syllabics or uncommon paper or unusual perforations. Stamps done up by the hundred were not undone or examined.

"Everyone present trusted to each other's honour without question. No one's bid was made public

except the buyer's, and the 'ash trays' were passed round and returned face downwards. All present were most interested, I could see, to know how much I bid, so sometimes I turned my tray up and there was once or twice quite five minutes' discussion over that little incident. An imitation—and a very good imitation too—of German beer was partaken by most of us in homœopathic doses out of small tea cups without handles, and before the finish, under its mild influence, things were going with a hum. My purchase consisted only of one lot, which was a few 45 sen 'bird' issues. Not being chaffed, I hope my price was not too high. As, however, they were very polite to me all the time, one never knows. I should have seen the whole sale out but there were no catalogues, and the cramped position of kneeling on the floor became irksome."

The *Record* also contains a lengthy instalment of M. Ernst Zumstein's excellent "Handbook of the Postage Stamps of Switzerland." He deals almost entirely with the issues of 1862 and 1867-68.

"A. V. De P." continues his article, entitled "Some Notes on Philatelic Heraldry."

Four very readable pages are devoted to "Obiter Philatelica," and we find there two letters reproduced from the columns of the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, contributed some 40 odd years ago, by Edward L. Pemberton and "Pendragon."

A few "Notes" complete an excellent number of our contemporary, which now holds the leading position of premier stamp paper.

The *London Philatelist* for August contains a capital "Editorial"; also some "Further Notes on the Stamps of the British South Africa Co." In the Editorial, Mr. Castle bases his remarks on a letter received from that staunch believer in envelopes and postcards, Mr. B. W. Warhurst. We extract the following, and should like to state that we are fully in accordance with the views expressed by Mr. Castle.

"The collecting of entires has been elbowed off the philatelic stage by the crowd of other issues, many of which are far less worthy of consideration. There

are obvious drawbacks to envelopes and postcards, it is hard to draw the line between stationery and stamps, they are bulky and difficult to arrange or transmit, but the fact remains that they are undoubted postal issues of equal importance with the adhesives. Moreover, no philatelic history of a country can be written without their inclusion. Those who are engaged upon the compilation of such works realize how much more difficult their task is rendered by the absence in this country, of due facilities for the study of entires. With each succeeding year this difficulty will be accentuated and we are constrained to urge that, before it is too late, some steps should be taken to encourage the collection of entires, either by individuals or by philatelic societies. In such case no one could more worthily lead the way than the Royal Philatelic Society. We throw out the suggestion that in the ensuing season a committee be formed to consider and report upon this question. In default of any presentation it would be advisable to purchase a collection, and in the present depressed state of the market for entires this should not be an expensive matter."

Four pages of our contemporary are devoted to reviewing recent publications, namely, Mr. H. J. Crocker's "Hawaiian Numerals," Mr. W. C. Bellow's "Campeche," Mr. Melville's "Holland" and "Nevis," M. Leon de Raaij's "Falsifications of Transvaal," and Messrs. Bartel's and Berthold's "Rare United States Envelopes." The usual "New Issues," "Correspondence," etc., complete a good number of the Royal Society's paper.

Our always welcome exchange, *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, comes to hand regularly every week. In the August 21st number we find a further instalment of M. L. Hanciau's treatise dealing with the Postal Issues of Denmark and Colonies. He deals exclusively with the later issues of the D.W.I. There is also the first instalment of an interesting article translated from a German paper dealing with the watermarks to be found on Russian stamps. This article is well illustrated and should be of interest to the specialist. Several other contributors help to make the August 21st *G. S. W.* a success. In the August 28th copy we find the completion of the article dealing with Russian watermarks, a further long instalment of Mr. J. B. Leavy's Nicaraguan article. "Stereo" is responsible for a masterly juggling with figures, by which he argues that there are too many Cape of Good Hope Woodblocks in existence compatible with the so called "official" numbers said to have been printed. "Antonio Buster" contributes a couple or more pages of "Talk of the Day" in which, amongst other items, he mentions that the "Cameo" stamps of Gambia could possibly be

plated; of course they can Antonio, many years ago we plated the low values of the C.C. issues. The id. being, if we remember aright, a very simple task. Antonio must, we think, be very fond of flaws and minor peculiarities, so much so that we fear he may catch a chill when St. Peter opens the door, because he will be so busy counting the feathers on his wings.

The September 4th copy contains an excellent article from Major Evans' pen, dealing with the recent North Borneo case. The Major briefly reviews the recent verdict, given in favour of the defendants, and then goes on to suggest ways and means by which speculative and unnecessary stamps can be put down. He says:—

"The story, of course, is by no means a new one; for years the more or less poor and patient philatelist has been exploited in various ways, commemorative, charitable, and other. He has grumbled, of course, but so long as he paid up no one paid any attention to his grumbings, and the exploitation goes on as merrily as ever. We all know that there is one way of stopping it, and one way only, and that is absolute refusal to buy the things produced solely or principally for sale to collectors. Each individual collector can stop the exploitation so far as he himself is concerned, by excluding things of this kind from his collection. If this were done generally, the issue of unnecessary labels would cease as a matter of course; if it were done to any considerable extent, such issues would gradually die out, as they would be found to be of little profit."

Unfortunately, however, the collector is generally too much influenced by the dealer, who lists these "catch penny" varieties, especially when albums are sold, with spaces provided for these abortions.

Major Evans goes on to state:—

"Dealers say, and rightly, that if collectors refused to buy stamps of a certain class they would cease to catalogue or stock them; collectors say that they find these things catalogued, and to make their collections complete they must have them. A merchant of any other kind stocks what he finds his customers will buy, but of course we know by experience that vast numbers of stamp collectors work by a catalogue and take it as their guide, making the catalogue responsible for the scope of their collections to a very much greater extent than it ought to be. This undoubtedly throws a responsibility upon the publishers of catalogues, which we believe they are willing to undertake to the best of their capabilities; but it is not for the dealer to dictate to the collector exactly what he is to accept and what he is to reject, although many collectors are glad to have their hobby made easy for them in this way, the philatelist would certainly resent anything of the kind. It seems to us, therefore, that the matter is plainly one for joint action. It ought to be possible for collectors and dealers to agree as to the exclusion from the catalogues of certain classes of stamps, and to the relegation of certain others to a supplementary list of doubtful interest. Where the jury is unable to agree, the defendants must, of course, have the benefit

of the doubt; and we would not be too ready to draw a hard and fast line except in the very worst of cases."

In this number of the *Weekly* we also find a further instalment of M. L. Hanciau's "Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies."

Mr. B. W. H. Poole continues his "Countries of the World." Hamburg has been reached and we extract the following interesting item.

Bremen was the first of the three Free and Hanseatic towns to issue stamps, but on January 1st, 1859, each of the other two, Hamburg and Lübeck, issued a series of stamps. Those of Hamburg had a somewhat restricted use, being only used on local letters for the city and its suburbs, and for franking correspondence to the bordering States and to Holland, and they were also available on "ship letters" for Great Britain. This seeming reluctance to issue postage stamps, considering the commercial importance of the port, was probably due to the fact that Thurn and Taxis, Prussia, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, Hanover and Mecklenburg all had offices in the city, and it was through these that the general continental letters were forwarded.

Mr. E. Tamsen contributes a capital South African letter, while other writers help to make *G. S. W.* the excellent paper it is.

The August number of the *Philatelic Adviser* was a late visitor this month. It contains however a good deal of interesting matter. Editor Oliver has some rather pertinent remarks in his Editorial, he says, *apropos* the American Philatelic Society.

We wonder that such an influential society as the A.P.S. does not publish an official journal of its own in a monthly form, and thus free itself from any suspicion of being controlled by interested parties. Possibly there would be wheels within wheels even then. We very much doubt if there are many philatelic societies in existence which are not more or less worked in the interests of certain of their members, or of the firms outside with which such members are connected. This is especially the case when the society is a small and local one, and its members are in the habit of attending its meetings; in societies like the A.P.S., with a large number of correspondence members, it is more difficult, but doubtless there are ways and means.

This is, surely, rather a nasty one for one or two of our home Societies.

Mr. B. W. H. Poole, our most omniverous contributor to the philatelic press, is responsible for the first instalment of what promises to be a capital article dealing with the stamps of the British South Africa Co. We are told that the printers of the first issue stamps, Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Ltd., not only supplied the stamps, but also supplied all the various other impedimenta required for a well-stocked post-office, such as cancelling stamps, sealing wax, mail bags, etc. In

fact, they seem to have supplied everything except the actual post-office buildings and employes, and doubtless they would have supplied these as well had they been ordered!

Mr. Poole says, the "stamps were printed in sheets of sixty, arranged in six horizontal rows of ten each." This statement is contradictory to that made by Mr. F. H. Melland, in his article on these stamps, contributed to the *London Philatelist* last October. Mr. Melland stated that some, at least, of the values were printed in sheets of 240.

As Mr. Poole has seen specimen sheets of all values, up to the 10/-, in sheets of sixty, and has been informed by the printers that the other values were so printed, we may take it that 60, and not 240, is the correct number.

The following extract will, we are sure, interest our readers.

The original die consisted of the whole of the design, with the exception that the tablet at the base was blank. From this a separate subsidiary die was produced, for each of the values, on which the blank tablet was engraved with the value required. These subsidiary dies were then applied sixty times to form a complete printing plate. On the "secondary" dies for the small stamps (1d. to 10s. inclusive) a tiny dot was attached to the right-hand side so that as each impression was struck on the plate it made a small mark to facilitate the correct placing of the following impression. These dots were so adjusted that as each impression was added to the plate they were covered by the shading on the tuft of the tail of the left-hand supporter. Occasionally, owing perhaps to a little extra pressure being applied, these dots show quite conspicuously on some stamps, and this fact has caused many collectors to treat them as "secret marks." These guide-dots may generally be seen on the right-hand margins of the sheets.

A page of "Topicalities," some reprinted matter, and an excellent new issue list completes a very good number of our contemporary.

Our friend, the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, for August 21st, contains a further instalment of Mr. Poole's "Solomon Islands" article. As is only to be expected, we are treated to a long list of coloured and uncoloured dots and dashes. There is also a lengthy and well illustrated instalment of M. S. Jean's translated "Postage Stamps of Uruguay." This feature is now nearing an end, as the 1900 to 1904 issues are dealt with.

In the September 4th *Fortnightly* we find a copy of the "Gumpap Petition" sent to the Universal Postal Union at Berne. Mr. Poole continues his "Solomon Islands" article, giving, as before, a

lengthy list of flaws, blobs and blotches. A short chapter of M. S. Jean's "Postage Stamps of Uruguay," and a good deal of reprinted matter completes a very readable number of our one and only *Fortnightly*.

The August number of the *Stamp Lover* is largely devoted to reviews of philatelic publications, and correspondence. In the former department Mr. Melville treats us to a two-and-a-half page review of Mr. Bellows' recently published book, entitled, "Campeche: Some Notes on the Most Remarkable Postage Stamps ever Issued." We have not had the pleasure of reading this book, a pleasure all the more anticipated after reading Mr. Melville's capital review. Mr. Crocker's book, "Hawaiian Numerals," and other works are also reviewed.

The "Correspondence" columns are readable, especially Mr. Dingwall's letter, dealing mostly with early Belgian varieties worth hunting for.

Mr. D. B. Armstrong completes, in a short instalment, his paper entitled, "Stamps of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate." He again refers to the capital of New South Wales as Sidney. Why not Freddy, Bertie, Cuthbert or Augustus?

The September number of the *Stamp Lover*, besides containing a good deal of matter relating to the J.P.S., has a long instalment of Mr. H. H. Harland's article, entitled the "Virgin Islands and their Postage Stamps"; also the first instalment of a paper contributed by Mr. L. W. Crouch, dealing with U.S.A. Fiscal stamps. An interesting letter from a correspondent, dealing with the stamps of Denmark; and other contributions make the September number of the *Stamp Lover* a success.

The August 28th edition of the *Postage Stamp* is, we are told, the hundredth number of that little weekly. The principal article deals with the Centennial Issue of New South Wales.

Our September 4th copy of the same publication contains a very varied list of contents, mostly of interest to the general collector. Mr. L. J. Worthington contributes an account of a recent trip to Hong Kong. "Anon" champions early Queensland stamps. In the course of a very interesting little article, he says:—

With regard to the truncated Star there can be no question at all of difficulty as it almost invariably is

heavily impressed and looks more as though it had been embossed than worked into the paper during its manufacture. The right and left rays of the truncated Star are always exactly horizontal, whereas the large and medium stars are shaped with oblique lines.

On some of the Crown and Q stamps which are more easily accessible, there is a good deal yet to be done by the specialist, who will probably find in time that practically all the perf. 13 and perf. 12, of 1868 to 1879 exist with the watermark inverted and with the watermark reversed. In this connection it should be noted that when one is examining the stamp from the back on a dark ground the tail of the "Q" is always to the left in the normal, not to the right as in Gibbons' illustrations, which have evidently been intended to represent the watermark as seen through face of the stamp.

With regard to the truncated Star series the catalogue has yet to be amplified in the matter of compound perfs. As yet only the 1d. and 2d. are given and the 2d. is by no means so rare as the catalogue quotation might suggest, at least this is my opinion.

The August number of our bright little contemporary, the *West End Philatelist*, contains another instalment of its Editor's article dealing with the stamps of Zululand, also another chapter of his paper dealing with the stamps of Bulgaria.

Mr. Poole mostly deals, in his characteristic way, with the 1 and 2 st. values of the 1886 issue, while we find, as could only be expected when so painstaking a searcher holds an inquest, that these two values show innumerable flaws and defects of design.

The July and August numbers of our little contemporary, the *British Philatelist*, both contain further instalments dealing with "The Surface-Printed Stamps of Great Britain." In the July number, the 4d. stamp is dealt with—from 1865 to 1884—(also the first issue of the 6d.) while in last month's paper the second and later issues of the 6d. stamp are fully described. The following synopsis of this value will interest our readers, especially so, when many collectors are contented to specialize in the stamps of one value.

#### SYNOPSIS:

FIRST ISSUE.—21st October, 1856. 6d. dull lilac, on a medium "safety" paper; and also on ordinary white paper; no check letters. Plate 1, not numbered on stamps. Variety: Imperforate.

SECOND ISSUE.—1st December, 1862. 6d. dull lilac, on Heraldic Emblems paper; small white check letters. Plates 3 and 4, no numbers, but special marks on latter.

THIRD ISSUE.—1st April, 1865. 6d. dull lilac, on Heraldic Emblems paper; large white check letters. Plates 5 and 6. Variety: On stout paper, plate 5.

FOURTH ISSUE.—June, 1867. 6d. dull lilac, bright lilac (July, 1868), on Spray of Rose paper; large white check letters. Plate 6.



- FIFTH ISSUE.**—March, 1869. 6d. lilac, deep lilac, purple-lilac, on Spray of Rose paper; large white check letters. Plates 8, 9 and (to a very limited extent) 10—9 and 10 in purple-lilac only. Varieties: Plates 8 and 9, imperforate.
- SIXTH ISSUE.**—1st April, 1872. 6d. bright chestnut-brown, on Spray of Rose paper; large white check letters. Plates 11 and (to a very limited extent) 12.
- SEVENTH ISSUE.**—May, 1872. 6d. buff, on Spray of Rose paper; large white check letters. Plates 11 and 12. Variety: (early in) 1873, 6d. buff, on Spray of Rose paper; large coloured check letters—see Issue IX., Plate 13 (to a very limited extent).
- EIGHTH ISSUE.**—April, 1873. 6d. greenish-grey, on Spray of Rose paper; large white check letters. Plate 12.
- NINTH ISSUE.**—March, 1874. 6d. greenish-grey, on Spray of Rose paper; large coloured check letters. Plates 13 to 17, and (to a very limited extent, not yet known) 18. Varieties: Imperforate. Plates 13 and 16.
- TENTH ISSUE.**—1st January, 1881. 6d. greenish-grey, on Imperial Crown paper; large coloured check letters. Plates 17 and 18.
- ELEVENTH ISSUE.**—1st January, 1883. 6d. purple, overprinted "6d." in deep pink on Imperial Crown paper; large coloured check letters. Plate 18.
- (a) Narrow space between "d" and dots of overprint.
- (b) Wide space between "d" and dots of overprint.
- Varieties: One dot under "d."  
No dot under "d" (I.O.—O.I.).

## Philately on the Continent.

The *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* of August 28th assigns the place of honour to a review of the two new German catalogues, *Senf* and the *Standard* ("Normal"). The first-named is treated in a rather colourless manner, whereas the latter receives a fair modicum of praise, together with sundry raps on the knuckles.

A second article is devoted to a criticism of the prices of Portugal in the *Standard Catalogue*. The fault finding with some of the rarer stamps may be justified, but when the writer says that a stamp priced at 60pf. ought only to be priced at 45pf. and that another for which 35pf. is fixed should only be 25pf., we cannot repress a rather loud smile.

There is also an account of the highly unpleasant experiences of Herr Hartmann during a philatelic visit to Montenegro. This gentleman was shown some of the old plates, and in his presence a few impressions were taken and handed over to him by an obliging official. He at once posted them home, and had visions of a delightful haul on his return. After he had despatched them, the officials discovered that they had acted *ultra vires*, and he was peremptorily ordered to return the stamps. Being unable to comply with the order, he was arrested and for 72 hours was kept in durance vile. After his release he was kept under police supervision, and was only released from this through the intervention of the German *chargé d'Affaires*. Needless to say, he at once shook the dust of this hospitable country off his feet.

The *Illustrirtes Briefmarken Journal* brings nothing of note; it is apparently suffering from the philatelic silly season. From it we cull the following:—

"A picture postcard was addressed to 'St. Peter in Heaven,' and posted at Markkirch in Alsace. Some local official added the remark, 'Addressee unknown in Markkirch,' and 'Try the Zeppelin Aerial Navigation Company, in Friedrichshafen; for favour of transmission per next journey.'"

The *Der Philatelist* for August contains an article on the Habilitado Stamps of Paraguay. The author, Señor Aurelio Donndorff, of Buenos Aires, gives a list of these stamps, which he considers as having been officially—although unnecessarily—issued. This he supplements at the end of the article by the information that he has just had sight of a letter from the Postmaster of Paraguay, declaring all the Habilitado stamps enumerated by him to be unauthentic! He therefore takes exception to their being catalogued.

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The *Australian Philatelist* for July contains a most interesting paper, dealing with the 12½ and the 13 perforations of the line-engraved New Zealand stamps. The research embodied in this article, is mostly the work of Mr. W. D. Ulph, a well-known collector in New Zealand, who, evidently basing his studies on Mr. Hausburg's discoveries, has compiled a most readable list of notes.

The Editor of the *A.P.*, with Messrs. Hagen's stock of New Zealand behind him, has also contributed to the controversy. We extract the following:—

Our esteemed correspondent, Mr. W. D. Ulph, of New Zealand, has directed our attention to the manner in which Messrs. Gibbons in their catalogue describe the perms. of the 1864 issue on N.Z. paper, and the 1863-66 issue on large Star paper, viz., perf. 12½ or 13. The figures look innocent enough, but the "or" makes a vast difference between them.

It may not be generally known that while perf. 12½ was the regular Government perforation, perf. 13 was not "official," but was authorised by the Postmaster at Dunedin, and was in use for about one year and nine months before perf. 12½ came into existence.

Mr. Ulph thinks that the difference between this unofficial perf. 13 and the Government machine perf. 12½ is a much more important variety for cataloguing separately than many that are catalogued. He instances the fact that the New South Wales diadem stamps, 1860 issue, are separated into two classes of perforation having similar degrees of difference as the New Zealand and asks the question, "Why are the New Zealand stamps not treated on similar lines? There seems to have been some uncertainty regarding this Dunedin perforation 13 until quite recently, for the expression 12½ or 13 only appears for the first time in last year's catalogue.

There seems to have been a considerable variety of papers and perforations in use between December, 1863, and March, 1865, for Mr. Ulph has the 2d. in the following:—

Thick unwatermarked paper, perf. 13, dated from August 24th, 1863, to February 22nd, 1864.

Star watermarked paper, perf. 13, dated December 7th to 16th, 1863.

Star watermarked paper, perf. 12½, dated March, 1865.

N.Z. watermarked paper, perf. 12½, dated December or October? 1864.

N.Z. watermarked paper, perf. 13.

The last stamp is not dated. As, however, Gibbons chronicles the issue on NZ watermarked paper as 1864, Mr. Ulph reckons that his stamp was issued some time in that year. The main point is that he has it both 12½ and 13, and the same remark applies to the 2d. stamps on star watermarked paper. We have since gone through our firm's stock, and have found both the 1d. orange and the 1d. carmine-*vermilion* on star paper, perf. 13. The former is postmarked somewhat peculiarly, and the obliteration does not afford any information; the latter is an unused but damaged copy. We also found one copy of a 2d. on N.Z. paper, postmarked Christchurch, N.Z. —64. Several 2d. values on star paper, all post-marked Otago, a number of 6d., and one 1/- on the same paper.

Mr. Ulph writes that he has never seen perf. 13 with other than Otago or Dunedin postmark, and in his opinion any that were marked otherwise would most likely be just because people travelled from Otago and took a few stamps with them.

As to the N.Z. watermark, perf. and imperf., the following suggests itself:—1d. carmine-*vermilion* (S.G. 66 and 70), apparently not a great many were printed on this paper, and as the perforated are much scarcer than the imperf. it might be reckoned that they were only issued imperf. officially, and that any perforated stamps found would be perf. 13 from Dunedin.

2d. blue imperf. are rarest. As certainly two other papers were in use in December, 1863, and early in 1864, possibly the 2d. on N.Z. paper were not printed very early in 1864, and as the Government machine was perforating 12½ in the latter part of 1864 it does not leave very long for the use of the imperf. stamps. The fact that these stamps are to be found pretty plentiful perf. 12½, and they are known to exist perf. 13, the tendency would be to make the imperf. rarer still.

6d. red-brown.—This value is probably on the same level as the 2d. Mr. Ulph does not know of its existence perf. 13, but has a perf. 12½ dated September, 1864.

1/- green.—Mr. Ulph thinks that as these stamps are pretty close together on the plate, possibly, at first, the Government jibbed at perforating them, or being busy with the lower denominations then more generally in use, they may have been overlooked. He asks the question, did the Government perforate this value at all? His only perforated copy is perf. 13, and if these stamps were only issued with the unofficial perforation it would account for the comparative rarity of them.

Commenting on the above notes, the Editor of the *A.P.* says: "The perf. 13 varieties are worth as many pounds as the perf. 12½'s are worth shillings."

We too, at any rate as far as the majority of the perf. 13 varieties are concerned, think likewise.

Our Australian contemporary also contains a short note relating to the perforating machines at present used for

perforating Victorian Stamps. Several pages are also devoted to Societies Reports, Reviews, New Issues, etc.

The August *Philatelic Journal of India* is one of the best numbers of that journal we have had the pleasure of reviewing.

In the Editorial note Mr. Wetherell says, referring to the recent displays of the Royal Philatelic Society:—

"The real student is far more interested in the stamps themselves—the original engravings, the proofs, the retouches, flaws, etc.—than in those affairs which are really outside the stamps themselves—the perforations, watermarks, gum and paper; all of which are, of course, of very great importance in many cases, throwing as they do so much light on the history of the stamps. But there is no doubt that it is the stamp—how it was printed and the form of the plate or stone from which it was printed, and the alterations thereof, which are becoming every year more important than the outside affairs. Not one single paper was read at the meetings of the premier society during the last session which did not relate to the stamp itself; not one paper was essentially concerned with perforations or watermarks; they dealt with essays, proofs and plateable stamps, and this is in every way as it should be.

We have for a long time ignored all perforation varieties which did not mean something (such as the difference between the 12½ and 14 De la Rue, the 14 and 16 of Perkins Bacon, and other important differences which reflected the history of the stamps), and if, in many cases, the catalogues lumped them together where there was no indication of 'period,' it would, in our humble opinion, be for the good of Philately."

The trouble, however, is that collectors are drawn to our hobby by different attractions. For one, watermarks have an irresistible fascination; another, design; and another, texture of paper; and so on *ad lib.*

Mr. E. W. Wetherell contributes a further long and interesting instalment of his article, entitled the "Stamps of Spain and Cuba, April, 1855, to February, 1860."

Several pages are devoted to "Notes and News," "Topical Notes," and a review of two or three London stamp papers. There is also a "London Letter," which shows a faint sparkle of humour, and some other good matter.

Several Canadian stamp papers have made their appearance during the last year or so but only one seems to have had any staying power. We refer to the *Hobbyist*, a little Winnipeg publication, which seems to be going strong. Like most of its U.S.A. rivals the *Hobbyist* contents itself with publishing a number of short "newsy notes" and advertisements. Why is it that American and Canadian collectors seem to dislike serious philatelic articles?



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## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

**WHAT** is a Reprint? This seems a simple question, and one which, at first sight, looks as though it might be answered off-hand by any stamp collector.

Recent events have proved, however, not only that it is most difficult to give a correct definition of a reprint, but that it is important that an authoritative pronouncement should be made.

The subject was one of those discussed at the Philatelic Congress held last year at Gössnitz, when the following definition was formulated and approved by the delegated wisdom of German philatelists:

“By *Neudrucke* (reprints) is meant impressions of stamps which have become obsolete, made from the same dies as the originals.”

“Impressions made for particular reasons, at a later date than the normal issues, of stamps still current or not demonetized, should be called *Sondersausgabe* (special issues).”

Now the essence of a definition is that it should be comprehensive enough to embrace all genuine claimants to a title and yet precise enough to exclude all pretenders; this Gössnitz effort is neither. The first paragraph should expressly state that the impressions must be made *after* the stamps have been withdrawn from use; this meaning is clearly inferred, but no true definition leaves anything to inference. The second paragraph points

to such an issue as the United States 1869 series without grill, which was reprinted and issued in the ordinary way, but from the wording it might embrace all other kinds of reprints and does not exclude forgeries. Surely every forgery and every reprint is an impression made for a particular reason?

Another German definition, which we take from the “Normal Catalogue,” is very much more to the point and, indeed, appears to admit of very little criticism. It is as follows:—

“Reprints are all prints of a stamp in any colour which have been produced from genuine dies either by an authority (Official Reprints) or by a private individual (Private Reprints), after a new design which is exclusively used for the printing of stamps has been accepted for postal use, and the old one definitively discarded.

“It is not necessary for the original stamp to have been demonetized, for some reprints, e.g., France, Marshall Islands, Prussia, U.S.A., etc., were available for postage until the demonetization of the originals, and therefore occur with genuine cancellations.

“By *Nachdrucke* (after-prints) are understood alleged reprints for the printing of which altered (counterfeited) dies have been utilized.”

The first paragraph of the above would be more explicit if it read “produced from

genuine *unaltered* dies," the insertion of the word "unaltered" is necessary in view of what is contained in the third paragraph.

The second paragraph contains one error. As was recently pointed out by the Editor of *Le Postillon*, it is a popular delusion to suppose that French reprints are allowed to be used for postal purposes; it is only by the inadvertence or the ignorance of the employés that they sometimes pass through the post.

The last paragraph in the above definition errs in not expressly stating that they must be the *original* dies which are altered. As it stands, *Nachdruck* might be synonymous with a forgery made by a private individual.

It will be noticed that, in both the definitions we have cited, the word "dies" has been used instead of "plates." This has been done designedly, as some reprints have been made which were not from the original printing plates (these having been destroyed) but from plates or stones which were made, expressly for the purpose of the reprints, from the original dies. Instances of this process are supplied by the first issue of Samoa, the 1867-68 issue of Roman States, Heligoland, and many others. Such reprints, even when made from dies which have not been altered, ought to be differentiated in some way from true reprints, which are from the identical plates which produced the originals.

There are many instances of "after-prints" (*Nachdrucke*) differing in the degree of alteration to which the original die has been subjected, in some cases very trivial alterations have been made while in others the tinkering has been very material. In the case of the Antioquia stamps of 1868

the original engraved dies had been defaced by diagonal lines cut into them. Efforts were made to remedy this defect, but with very moderate success, and traces of the disfigurement can always be seen on the reprints, which were printed from new stones constructed from the more or less renovated dies.

There is another kind of label which often masquerades as a reprint, we refer to the official imitations which have been resorted to by several Governments when neither the plate nor the original die has been available. The best known examples of this are the official imitations of Alsace-Lorraine and the first issue of Sirmoor. These latter were designed from an illustration in a dealer's catalogue and showed the indentations of the perforations all round. Such imitations are excluded by the terms of the definition which we have quoted above.

We will close our remarks with the best definition of a true reprint which we have yet come across. This was written many years ago by Major Evans in *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* and reads as follows:

"Impressions from the original plates, blocks, or stones, from which stamps were printed, taken after the issue of the stamps had ceased; impressions, that is printed not for use as stamps, but as specimens or curiosities, for sale to collectors or otherwise. A reprint, strictly speaking, should be from the identical plate, etc., from which the stamps were printed; but in the case of lithographed stamps, the original matrix of which was an engraved die, fresh stones have in some cases been constructed from that die, and such philatelic value as the reprints might have possessed has thereby been destroyed."

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## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

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### BRITISH EMPIRE.

Great Britain. The *Philatelic Adviser* chronicles a variety of the current halfpenny stamp with double print. From the illus-

tration given it appears that the last three stamps of a right-hand bottom pane were doubly printed.

Antigua. In August we chronicled the probable dispatch of 1d. stamps printed in red.

We now learn from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that these stamps have been put on sale.



Adhesives. Multiple wmk.  
1d. rose-red.

**Australian Commonwealth.** We are indebted to the *Australian Philatelist* for the following information :

"A new design of Postage Due stamp has appeared, or rather the Victorian Postage Due has been Federalised by taking out the word 'Victoria' at the bottom and inserting the word 'Australia.' We have to thank Mr. Orchard for early specimens of the 1d. and 2d. denominations. The 1d. was put on sale at Hobart on the 13th July, and the 2d. on the 28th. We also purchased the 1d. value at our head office here on 20th July, and the 2d. on the 28th. The stamps are on Crown and A paper, and perforated 12½. Each sheet bears the letters J.B.C. in a circle, and C.A. also in a circle. The former are the initials of Mr. J. B. Cooke, the Federal Government Printer, and the latter stand for 'Australian Commonwealth.'

"There is a curious 'flaw' on the sixth row of stamps, vertically from the left. A white line begins at the right-hand side of the figure '1' on the bottom stamp, and runs up to the top, where it is seen on the left-hand side. It gradually bears to the left as it runs up the sheet, and it is only visible on the octagon in carmine ink."

*Postage Dues.*

- 1d. yellow-green and carmine, wmk. Cr. and A, perf. 12½.  
2d. yellow-green and carmine, wmk. Cr. and A, perf. 12½.

**Bermuda.** We learn from the October number of the *Colonial Office Journal* that the 2½d. stamps in blue have been despatched.



Adhesive. Arms type.  
2½d. blue.

**Cook Islands.** The *Australian Philatelist* says: "We have received the 1d. carmine, Queen Makea Takau type, watermarked single N.Z. and star, perf. 14.

*Adhesive.*

- 1d. carmine, single N.Z. and star, perf. 14.

As new issue chronicles we had quite forgotten the existence of this group of Islands.

**Gambia.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following long list of novelties.

*Adhesives. King's Head.*

- Wmk. Crown CA multiple, ordinary paper.  
2d. grey.  
3d. purple on yellow.  
4d. black and red on yellow.  
5d. orange and mauve.  
6d. purple.  
7½d. brown and blue.  
10d. olive-green and rose.  
1/- black on green.  
1/6 violet and green.  
2/- purple on blue.  
2/6 black and red on blue.  
3/- bright yellow and bright green.

**Gold Coast.** We have received copies of the new 1/- stamps.

*Adhesive.*

- King's Head. Multiple C.A., chalky paper.  
1/- black on green.

**India.** *China Expeditionary Force.* Mr. W. T. Wilson has very kindly sent us a specimen of the India ¼ anna, Postage and Revenue type, overprinted C.E.F.

- Adhesive. Postage and Revenue. For use in China.*  
¼ anna, green.

**Mauritius.** A supply of the new 1, 5, 8, 12, 25 and 50 cents, and R.1, Rs.2.50 and Rs.5 stamps, referred to in our issue of October last, has been despatched, and in addition a supply of Rs.10 stamps printed from the old Universal King's Head Keyplate in the colours appropriated to the 10s. value in the new colour scheme.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 25c., old type of Arms, on multiple, chalky paper.

- Adhesive. Multiple wmk., chalky paper.*  
25 cents, green and carmine on green.

**Montserrat.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following batch of colour changes :



*Adhesives.*

- Wmk. Crown CA multiple, ordinary paper.  
2d. grey.  
Wmk. Crown CA multiple, chalk-surface paper.  
3d. lilac on yellow.  
6d. purple.  
1/- black on green.  
2/- lilac on blue.  
2/6 black and red on blue.  
5/- red and green on yellow.

Natal. 2d. stamps will in future be printed in all grey, and no more 1½d. stamps will be supplied.—*Colonial Office Journal*.

**New South Wales.** The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles used copies of the 2d. stamp, watermarked Crown and A, perf. 11. We suppose this must of course be the single lined variety of Crown and A.

**New Zealand.** We extract the following very interesting budget of Dominion notes from the August number of the *Australian Philatelist*. We leave those of our readers, who are N.Z. specialists, to winnow the chaff from the grain.

"Mr. Bate informs us that he has acquired a block of eight of the ½d. pictorial comb perforation 14×15, the top row of four stamps being imperf. vertically, the block being imperf. between the two horizontal rows. He has also secured the 2d. pictorial perf. 14 horizontally and imperf. vertically.

"We have received the following:—3d., reduced size, perf. 14×15, plate number 7, with dot in colour, with dots at the sides of stamps, and dots, on some stamps only, below the shield containing the value; 6d., perf. 14×15, plate 5, with dot in colour, also dots at sides of stamps.

"There seems to be some uncertainty about the 2½d. and 5d. stamps being perf. 14×14½. We have not yet seen them. Mr. Faris has sent us for inspection a pair of 3/- duty stamps (which are available for postage). These gauge 14½-14½×14. They are quite clean cut and totally different to the previous perforations; the horizontal line of perforations is a little irregular. It is noted that the 2½d., 5d., 9d., 2/- and 5/- stamps are all the same size as the duty stamps, and the question has been raised, notwithstanding what Mr. Bate said last month, that, is it not likely, a comb perforating machine has been provided for these larger stamps. The pair of 3/- stamps before us look like as if the three sides were perforated at one operation. We hope later on to be able to enlighten our readers still further.

"Mr. Faris has also sent us the 2d. value printed in a very warm red-violet, and the ½d. in a light yellow-brown with blue centre on white paper. The same gentleman has also sent us a used copy of the 2d. in the new shade overprinted official."

**North Borneo.** In addition to the twelve stamps listed last month we learn, on the authority of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, that the 18c. stamp exists without surcharge.

*Adhesive.*

18c. green and black.

**St. Kitts Nevis.** The *Colonial Office Journal* says that 6d. stamps on multiple watermarked, chalky paper, have been sent out.



*Adhesive.* Multiple wmk., chalky paper.  
6d. grey-black and violet.

**St. Vincent.** With reference to the note in our last issue with regard to the colour of the 2d. stamps it of course followed that the 3d. stamp when required will be printed in the colour allocated to that value in the new colour scheme, which is not sufficiently dissimilar to that in which the 2d. stamp is at present printed. A supply of the 3d. stamps has now been made; also of 1d. and 6d. stamps with the stops under the "d" of 1d. and 6d.—*Colonial Office Journal*.

**Southern Nigeria.** Some months ago we chronicled several suggested colour changes. We now learn that the following novelties have been issued:

*Adhesives.* King's Head. Multiple CA., ordinary paper.  
2d. greyish-slate.  
Chalky paper.  
3/- purple on yellow.  
4d. black and red on yellow.  
6d. purple.  
2/6 black and red on blue.  
10/- green and red on green.

**Tasmania.** The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the current ½d. stamp perf. 12½×11. This stamp can now keep company with the 9d. value chronicled last May.

*Adhesive.* Wmkd. Crown and A, perf. 12½ three sides by 11.  
½d. sage green.

Mr. Leon has shown us a pair of 2d. mauve, Crown CA wmk., perf. 11 all round, but faultily perforated between the two stamps. This faulty line of perforation has been patched over with a narrow strip of paper and re-perforated, this time by the 12½ machine.

**Transvaal.** The *Philatelic Adviser* chronicles the current 2/6 stamp on multiple paper.

*Adhesive.* King's Head, multiple wmk.  
2/6 mauve and black.

The *Colonial Office Journal* says 2d. stamps in all purple will shortly be despatched; 6d. stamps on ordinary and £1 on specially surfaced paper have been supplied. In the two latter cases the existing colours have been retained.

**Trinidad.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the following novellies :—

*Adhesives.* Chalky paper.  
4d. black and red on yellow.  
6d. dull and bright purple.

**Turks Islands.** We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. a complete set of new line-engraved King's Head stamps.



*Adhesives.* Multiple wmk., ordinary paper  
½d. green.  
1d. red.  
2d. grey.  
2½d. blue.  
3d. lilac on yellow.  
4d. red on yellow.  
6d. purple.  
1/- black on green.  
2/- brown on blue.  
3/- black on red.

**Victoria.** The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the current ½d. stamp in a very deep shade.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11.  
½d. deep green.

**Western Australia.** A correspondent to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* says he has the current ½d. stamp perforated 11.

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Crown CA. perf. 11.  
½d. brown.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Argentine Republic.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles yet another of the new "San Martin" stamps.



*Adhesive.* Wmk. Sun. Perf. 13, 13½.  
6c. olive-bistre.

**Bolivia.** *Mekel's Weekly* chronicles the first of a new set issued to commemorate the Centenary of the Revolution of Independence.

*Commemorative.*  
2c. orange and black.

**Brazil.** *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News* informs us that this country has just issued a wonderful "Pan American" stamp, with portraits of six of the most noted personages identified with the liberation of America from European control. The value is 200 reis, and one of the gentlemen said to be represented is our old friend (*vide* Mr. Burton's article), O'Higgins. We are also seriously informed that it is intended to be placed upon letters for America, the postage to this country (U.S.A.) having recently been reduced from 200 reis to 300 reis. Such a reduction is surely worthy of a six-headed abortion.

**Bulgaria.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us yet three more provisional stamps, namely, the 5st. green of 1889-90, overprinted "1909," and the 30st. brown and the 50st. blue-green of the same issue, overprinted "1909" and surcharged with a new value.



*Adhesives.*  
Stamps of 1889-90. Overprinted 1909.  
5st. green.  
"5" on 30st. brown.  
"10" on 50st. green.

**China.** Lieut.-Col. Norris Newman, of Tientsin, has very kindly sent us an envelope franked with two complete sets of the new commemorative stamps. He tells us that they were put on sale at Shanghai Sept. 12th, Tientsin Sept. 15th.

Two millions of the 2 cents and one million each of the 3 and 7 cents have been printed, while Tientsin received 80,000 of the 2 cents and half that quantity of the other two values. At Shanghai, 100,000 of the 2c. and 50,000 each of the 3 and 7c. were put on sale! Tientsin sold out in 17 hours, Shanghai in 12!!



*Commemorative.*  
2 cents, green and yellow.  
3 .. blue ..  
7 .. purple ..

**Ecuador.** The *Metropolitan Philatelist* chronicles an entirely new set of stamps to commemorate the National Exhibition of 1909.

Adhesives	Perf.	12.
1	centavo,	green.
2	"	blue.
3	"	orange.
5	"	claret.
10	"	brown.
20	"	grey.
50	"	scarlet.
1	sucre,	slate.
5	"	purple.

We are also indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., for a sight of these stamps.

**Hungary.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, on the authority of a German exchange, chronicles the three following stamps on the new watermarked paper.

Adhesives.
12f. violet.
50f. carmine.
2kr. blue.

**Italy.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles a pair of the current 10c. stamps, imperforate.

**Paraguay.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us four stamps overprinted 1909 as illustrated below.



Adhesives. Overprinted 1909.  
1c. greenish-slate.  
5c. green.  
10c. red.  
20c. orange.

**Persia.** The *Philatelic Adviser* chronicles some of the current stamps for this country overprinted "IMPRIMES" for use as newspaper stamps.

**Portugal.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 50 reis green, of the 1870-80 issue, perforated 11. This stamp should come between Nos. 68b and 68c in the catalogue.

Adhesive. 1870-80. Straight label. Perf. 11.  
50 reis, green.

**Roumania.** — A correspondent to the *Philatelic Adviser* states that he has a strip of five of the 50 bani orange, of the 1900-02 issue, perforated  $9 \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ . Where do these abortions come from?

**Siam.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., kindly send us five values of the 1906 and 1908 issues, overprinted with approximately equivalent values in the new currency, which by the by, so *Gibbons Weekly* informs us, equals 100 satangs, instead of 64 atts to the tical.



Adhesives. Surcharged with new currency.

2	sat. on	1a. green and yellow.
3	"	3a. grey and violet.
6	"	4a. rose and carmine.
12	"	8a. olive-bistre and black.
14	"	9a. pale blue and blue.

Our Ipswich friends also send us a copy of the Bangkok official notice.

## MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS.

### POSTAL SECTION.

On account of the introduction of the Satang coins and the subsequent demonetization of the Att coins it has become necessary to make up new Postal Tariffs, showing all charges in Satangs. In consequence of this measure the postage stamps had also to be altered and will in future show their values also in Satangs only.

The royal sanction for these changes having been obtained, the public is hereby notified that the new Postal Tariffs will come into force on the 15th August, 1909, and that from the same date stamps of the following denominations will be issued: 2, 3, 6, 12 and 14 Satangs.

For particulars about the Tariff apply to the Post-offices.

(Signed) NARES,

Minister of Public Works.

Bangkok, 1st August, 1909.

**Turkey.**—A new series of stamps, in a slightly modified design, is now making its appearance. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the first value to appear.

Adhesive. 1909.  
20 paras, rose-carmine.

**United States.**—We have received copies of the new Hudson-Fulton Commemoratives. Mr. E. Wilson, of Bardstown, U.S.A., being the first to send us copies.

Commemorative.  
2c. carmine.

**Uruguay.** Mr. A. H. Davis, of Montevideo, very kindly sends us specimens of the two recently issued commemoratives, and also the two new provisionals.

Commemoratives.  
2c. brown and black.  
5c. carmine and black.





*Provisionals.*  
Stamps of 1900-1, surcharged.  
8c. on 10c. lilac (red).  
23c. on 25c. brown (black).



We are told that 800,000 of the 8c. and 100,000 of the 23c. were issued.

### Our Indian Letter.

TO HERR ANGUS McTAVISH—ye Continental traveller, late of Luxemburg, Lucerne, and other watering places—greeting.

Very sorry to hear that you had got into such serious trouble over that defunct French person (of 400,000 B.C.) I presume they have not yet found the "relict of the above"—if they do, be on your guard. However, I was grieved to hear of his death. It is a sad world, and we can only hope that it won't occur again.

I have neglected you for some weeks, having been on a tour round Calicut, Mahé (Etablissements de l'Inde), Cannanore, Telli-cherry, and the Malabar Coast generally. Cannanore is usually rather wet (15 inches in one day sort of thing), but in consequence of a friend of McTavish having honoured the place with a visit, it rained not at all comparatively, for I don't think we had more than four inches any day.

For a few brief moments I looked out across the Arabian Sea to where I guessed London would be (it subsequently turned out that it was somewhere about the neighbourhood of Mecca towards which my gaze was directed).

They don't trouble much about stamps in Malabar—original gum would not remain so for long. The moist heat is very curious, as the actual temperature was lower than in Bangalore, but in five minutes one's collar assumed a condition resembling a cross between a duster and a bootlace. The Malabari knows this, so doesn't wear a collar or much else.

The S.I. Railway passes the junction for Cochin, but although a new provisional appeared recently in that State, it was decided to get it by post and not by a personal visit.

Has the Atlantic City Convention idea taken on in England at all. Why don't you all go to Margate and take the Cliftonville for a fortnight and convent hard; it would be much more soul-filing and soulful than making mud pies and sand castles, or paddling about, as is the wont of many. I will not charge you anything extra for this suggestion, but if next year the Junior, the Herts and the I.P.U. all go away together do send me a photo.

The new high value Indian stamps are really more of the nature of telegraph stamps, although, of course, available for postage, but it is impossible to imagine a parcel, however highly insured (as there is a limit), being heavy and valuable enough to require them, unless the Maharaja of some State sends a pair of elephants by post, as a present to the Nawab of another State, and then that ungrateful brute, the post peon, would complain that he was overworked.

Re the shortage of officers in the P.S.I. at present. Your kind suggestion to be appointed Patron, Honorary Vice-Chairman, Vice-Treasurer and Honorary Counterfeit Detector is much appreciated. There are still two other offices vacant, Chucker-out and Matron, would you be willing to stand for these as well?

Remember me to all old stamp friends, and if you see Mr. Kay give him my best salaams and ask him if he has a black penny English.

With love to the McTavishlets,

TONALD.

### U.S.A. Customs.

OUR publishers inform us that a client of theirs, living in Chicago, U.S.A., has written them that two little books of stamps which were sent him from England by registered letter post, and which contained stamps on approval, have been "held up" by the Chicago Postal Officials. The following short extract from his letter speaks for itself.

"The two small books in question were admitted duty free to the United States but I was not allowed to have possession of them unless I personally appeared at the post office and spend an hour (so I was informed by the official there) in filling out blanks and waiting about until certain formalities had been complied with. I was also informed that by the payment of \$2.00 I could have an agent do this, but that my secretary could not perform these duties. As I was willing neither to spend the \$2.00 nor to waste the amount of time needed for the purpose, I had the articles returned to the consignor.

We have read of late, without very much loss of temper, of the many inconveniences visitors and returning Americans have had to submit to at the hands of the U.S.A. customs people. When however it comes to trespassing on the sanctity of the stamp album we think it full time that the U.S.A. nation revised its customs tariff.



## October, 1909, Report.

List of Officers and Committee, 1909-10.

*Hon. President:* HIS HONOUR JUDGE PHILBRICK, K.C.

*Hon. Vice-Presidents:*

W. DORNING BECKTON. H. L. HAYMAN. H. R. OLDFIELD.  
VERNON ROBERTS.

*President:* J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.

*Vice-Presidents:*

W. SCHWABACHER. L. W. FULCHER. W. SCHWARTZ.

*Committee:*

P. P. BROWN. MAJOR LAFFAN, R.E. P. L. PEMBERTON.  
J. E. JOSLYN. F. F. LAMB. E. W. WETHERELL.  
A. B. KAY. W. E. LINCOLN.

*Hon. Sec. & Treasurer:* T. H. HINTON,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, London, S.W.

*Hon. Exchange Superintendent:* DR. E. F. MARX, M.A.,  
11, Woodgrange Avenue, Ealing Common, W.

*Hon. Counterfeit Detector:* W. HADLOW,  
12, Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.

*Hon. Librarian:* W. S. KING,  
65, Cadogan Street, Chelsea, S.W.

*Hon. Solicitors:* MESSRS. OLDFIELDS,  
13, Wallbrook, E.C.

All Officers of the Union are ex-officio Members of the  
Committee.

### MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and Subscription, 5/-, should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members, not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

The following is proposed in accordance with the above:—F. Hagen, Sydney, N.S.W.; proposed by F. F. Lamb; seconded by P. L. Pemberton.

### NEW MEMBER.

W. McHutchin, Deal.

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP.

The Committee have unanimously elected the following life members:—Lt.-Col. J. G. Adamson, J.P., D.L., (has been an ordinary

member for many years); Lt.-Col. C. L. Norris-Newman, R.R.G.S., F.R.S.A.

### NOTICES.

The Opening Meeting of the Season took place at Essex Hall on Thursday, Oct. 14th. Present: J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair). L. W. Fulcher, W. Schwabacker, A. B. Kay, P. P. Brown, P. L. Pemberton, F. F. Lamb, G. E. Strong, W. E. Lincoln, and the Hon. Sec. W. Fulcher gave a display with notes of his fine specialised collection of the first two issues of Japanese stamps, which afforded much interest to all present. The exhaustive manner in which this collection has been written up and illustrated by very carefully executed diagrams was much admired, and on the motion of Mr. Pemberton, seconded by Mr. Lincoln, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded.

Subjoined is the programme for the remainder of the season, and it only needs a good attendance of members and visitors to make it a pleasant and successful one. Please note that all the meetings will commence at 7.30 p.m., the Committee meeting previously at 7 p.m. Members who have not already forwarded their subscriptions are requested to do so to

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

October 15th, 1909.

### PROGRAMME.—SEASON 1909-10.

1909

Thursday, Nov. 11th, 7.30 p.m.—  
Display, with Notes, "The Early Issues  
of Victoria." L. L. R. Hausburg.

Monday, Nov. 29th, 7.30 p.m.—  
Smoking Concert, at The Horseshoe  
Restaurant, Tottenham Court Road,  
W.C.

Thursday, Dec. 9th, 7.30 p.m.—  
Display, "Peru." J. C. Sidebotham.  
" " " " J. E. Joselyn.  
" " " " " Hong Kong." T. H. Hinton.

1910

Thursday, Jan. 13th, 7.30 p.m.—  
Paper on a Subject of Philatelic Interest.  
P. L. Pemberton.

Thursday, Feb. 10th, 7.30 p.m.—  
Display, with Notes, "St. Vincent."  
E. Heginbottom.

Thursday, March 10th, 7.30 p.m.—  
Display, "Western Australia."  
R. B. Yardley.

Thursday, April 14th, 7.30 p.m.—  
Display, "Venezuela." T. W. Hall.

Thursday, May 12th, 7.30 p.m.—  
Annual General Meeting and Displays  
of 12 stamps, with Notes by Members  
present.

## Well-known Philatelists.

No. 115.—BARON LEHMANN.

THE principal exhibit at the recently held Amsterdam Philatelic Exhibition was undoubtedly the superb collection of all things pertaining to Dutch postal history shown by Baron Lehmann. We had, in common with some of our readers, the pleasure of carefully examining this wonderful exhibit, which consisted of immense quantities of unused and used stamps, essays, proofs and postal stationery of the Netherlands and Colonies.

An entire hall was devoted to the Baron's display. Unfortunately, Baron Lehmann, although he has very kindly answered our questions relating to his philatelic career, can not spare us a photograph of himself with which to illustrate these notes. We regret this very much but, as the Baron is adamant we feel sure our readers will enjoy a short sketch of his life, even if not adorned by a likeness of our subject. A Dutchman by birth, having been born in Amsterdam nearly forty years ago, Baron Lehmann commenced collecting, as nearly all our well-known philatelists do, at an early age, in fact he was still at school when the collecting fever attacked him. From the very first, however, he was strongly attracted by the many and manifold charms of the stamps of his own country, with the result that he laid the foundations, while still a youngster, of his now celebrated collection of Holland and colonies.

Although known to Exhibition fame for his Dutch, the Baron does not confine his attention to these stamps alone, he possesses very fine specialized collections of Greece, Crete and Luxemburg. His selection of these countries is perhaps easily accounted for, the first two because he is, we believe, in charge of the Greek Consulate in Amsterdam, while it almost naturally follows that a specialist in Dutch stamps would take those of Luxemburg

as the stamps of the two countries have so much in common.

With regard to the magnificent collection of Dutch stamps it is perhaps almost unnecessary to say that it has won for its owner many first prizes, in fact, whenever it has been exhibited, it has been awarded either a "special" or a "first" in London, Berlin, Amsterdam, The Hague and elsewhere. Regarding the future of our hobby Baron Lehmann is very optimistic, he thinks it will be a very great science in years to come, much greater than it is at present, provided of course that its devotees do not spend their time in merely accumulating and by so doing neglect the *study* of their possessions. We think an extract from a letter recently received from the Baron will interest our readers as it shows that although a keen philatelist he does not neglect athletics and other more practical work.

He says: "I am very much interested in all sports, such as tennis, yachting, golf, walking, etc., etc.

"For more serious work, I have made a special study of tuberculosis, and also have very much interest in the Red Cross Society, the organisation of which cannot but call forth the admiration of everyone; the manner in which this great Society is able to cope with all the great calamities and disasters, which have happened within the past three years, is admirable, and therefore I think that each individual should do all within his power to further this great work. I am an honorary member of the Red Cross."

During the past few years the Baron's collection of Dutch stamps and stationery has grown so immense that he has been quite unable to devote sufficient time to its arrangement, with the result that Mr. Naret Koning, a well known authority, has had almost complete charge of it. Baron Lehmann, however, superintends the arrangement, with the result that he is to be congratulated on being the owner and collector of the finest collection of Dutch stamps in existence.

## Adhesive Postage Stamps of Chili.

By J. R. BURTON, F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from Page 182).

THE usual batch of interesting letters has come to hand this month. It is quite astonishing how many philatelists are interested in the stamp issues of this very worthy country. Mr. Fred B. Walters has been the most illuminating of the correspondents. With the generosity of the true philatelist he has sent for inspection a whole sheet of the "Diez Centavos" surcharge, which tallies in every particular with the setting I gave last month,

therefore except in the very unlikely event of a second setting Mr. Howes is wrong and Major Evans is justified; we are still left to speculate why the two types exist at all and why they were transferred in such irregular order to the stone. The seventh stamp in the fourth row has only a very small dot to its C.

This complete sheet further confirms my supposition that the Waterlow series had no marginal inscriptions, excepting consecutive sheet numbers in the top right-hand corner.

It may be of interest to note that the engraver of Columbus' head on this issue was the late Mr. Bourne, of Harlesden and Croydon who was responsible for many other beautiful pieces of work, including, I believe, the Falkland Islands' Queen's Head and the pictorial issues of New Zealand.

Before turning to the surcharged issues of 1904 we may take note of the imposing fiscal stamps also prepared by Messrs. Waterlow



and Sons. "Gibbons" is wrong in describing this issue as perforated 12; it has the usual Waterlow perforation of 14, with small irregular holes; the paper was unwatermarked. The 1 peso of the set was larger than the others and was a very handsome label. Only the 1c. vermilion and 5c. blue appear to have been used for postage and the 5c. is quite a scarce stamp in properly post-marked condition.

We now come to the consideration of that most abused stamp issue of Chili—the surcharged Telegraph stamps of 1904. It would seem that the Postal and Telegraph Administration was unusually active at this time, not only was it endeavouring to bring out a far more elaborate stamp issue than the Republic had ever before boasted, as witness the projected series which we discussed last month, but being faced with a shortage of stamps, rather than order a fresh supply of the "Tipo Napoleon" though why that convenient and good looking little type did not give satisfaction, passes comprehension, from the American Bank Note Co., with whom possibly relations were a little strained, great quantities of the Telegraph stamps were called in and surcharged for postal use. It is said the American Company protested against this course also, stating that they held the contract for the sole supply of postage stamps, and that by thus obtaining stamps by other means the Chilean Government were breaking their agreement. In any case, 17,250,000 stamps were surcharged and put into circulation. To understand the various types which cropped up it is first necessary to review the various issues of telegraph labels which did duty after the large sized stamps printed by the American Bank Note Co. had been used up.

In the early nineties Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., of London, must have made a determined effort to get business in South

America, as we find them not only supplying the Bolivian Republic with its postage stamps, but also ousting the American Bank Note Company from the manufacture of the Chilean Telegraph issues. The stamps they turned out in the latter connection were in design exactly like those of their predecessors, except that they were more suitable for a tropical climate, inasmuch as being of normal stamp size there was not so much moisture demanded in their use.



They were printed from engraved plates upon unwatermarked paper, perforated 14, and consisted of the following values:

2c. brown	20c. blue
5c. red	1 peso, brown
10c. yellow-green	

As the design followed that of the previous set, the huemul as distorted by the heraldic artists appeared with mane and tail; strange how heraldry, quaintly surviving from an immemorial past, deems itself privileged not to improve upon nature, indeed, that would be an act of progress, but to make a "most fearsome wild fowl" of any poor harmless beast that may fall within its clutches, resting satisfied only when it has imparted a ferocious antediluvian aspect to its victim. Coats of Arms appear frequently upon the world's postage stamps; how few of us realise that 7000 years ago the ancient armies of Chaldea, of Sumir and Akkad marched to victory beneath eagle crested standards and that the eagles of the Hittites—single or double-headed—are blazoned on half the shields of Europe to this day.

But "revenons à nos moutons" or rather to our venison, for the snorting, tail brandishing, stamping, savage-maned Huemul, is in reality but a shy, and almost extinct little deer-like animal that might be safely trusted to gambol amongst the juniors.

The sheets of this issue had an inscription at the centre of the bottom margin only: "Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Grabadores, Londres, at first glance looking like a boast of their mercantile prowess "Grabbed the orders, London" but in reality Chilean for "Engravers."

The 1 peso stamps hung fire, for no less than 750,000 of them were amongst the Telegraph stamps surcharged ten years later.

But Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. were soon to meet their Waterlow—for in 1900 that other well known London firm in addition to the contracts for postage and fiscal, secured that for the Telegraph stamps also.

A radical change of design was resolved on, Columbus and the Huemul and the Condor were made to walk the plank, and in their stead upon stamps of Chili for the first time appeared the Henri-Quatre-like face of that renowned conqueror Pedro de Valdivia, with mustachios nearly worthy of a German Emperor and a "Napoleon" of imperial proportions, he gazes sternly over his brazen bosom at the enquiring Philatelist of to-day.

The stamps were on unwatermarked paper, with the irregular small hole perforation 14. The sheets were without marginal inscriptions.



There were only three values—5c. red, 10c. green, 20c. grey-blue. In 1901, however, the American Bank Note Company came back again triumphant with Huemul, Condor and all, capturing in their victorious course poor Pedro and dragging him at the tail of their procession on the 20 centavo stamp. That



is to say the issue consisted of 2c. brown, 5c. red and 10c. olive-green of the Arms type, and 20c. deep blue, Pedro Valdivia. The paper was unwatermarked; each sheet contained 100 stamps and had for marginal inscriptions at centre of top, bottom and each side, "American Bank Note Company, New York." This issue may be readily distinguished from either of the two preceding by the perforation which is 12, but the favourite identification method used by collectors is the condition of the Huemul, who appears to have been barbarously treated during his retirement, reappearing after eight years minus mane and tail. To distinguish the 20c. from its predecessor, the philatelist must rivet his attention principally upon the details of the armour, though the more brilliant colour of the stamp forms a ready method of noting it at a glance.

The Postal Authorities are said to have used up these stamps as follows:—

The hairy Huemul 1 peso brown of Bradbury, Wilkinson to the number of 750,000 were surcharged 3 Centavos 3, the numerals covering the old figures of value.



The 5c. red Pedro of 1900 was used up for 12c. with similar surcharge, supposedly to the extent of 1,150,000 stamps.

All these telegraph stamps were in addition surcharged "Correos" in a frame at the top, and in the case of three values which were required to be used at their original rate, namely, the 2c. brown, 5c. red and 10c. sage-green of the 1902 issue with Huemul tailless no surcharge was required over the lower portion of the stamps, though poor Pedro of the same set was reduced from the proud position of 20c. to the lowest value, namely, 1 centavo, and therefore bore the lower surcharge also. The numbers are said to have been 3,250,000 2c.; 5,000,000 5c.; 2,350,000 10c.; and 4,750,000 1c. on 20c. blue.

The above are the particulars of the set as it doubtless appeared to the Postal Authorities, but with such a mixed lot of stuff to work on and such large numbers to handle mistakes were bound to occur and did indeed crop up. These errors and varieties have caused a lot of Philatelic Billingsgate, though my own opinion is that they were perfectly *bonâ-fide*.



In the first place we have an error made by putting the surcharge on the wrong stamp, the 3c. on 5c. Valdivia red instead of on the 1 peso brown. Then we have inverted surcharges 2c. brown, 5c. red and 10c. olive-green, 1c. on 20c. blue and 12c. on 5c. red Valdivia, the 3c. on 1 peso doubly surcharged, and to crown all, some of the Bradbury, Wilkinson stamps with tailed Huemul crept in amongst the others and soon appeared on the market, namely the 2c. 5c. and 10c.; the final variety to chronicle is a stamp with no star to the left of centavo, number 6 in the sixth row of the 12c. on 5c. red Valdivia. The whole set, errors and all, comprises only seventeen varieties, but just listen to what Mr. Howes said about them in *Mekel's Stamp Weekly*:—"The so-called errors I am credibly informed, were never issued, but a few sheets at the most were surreptitiously passed through the

presses by interested parties when the others were being printed, and were retained for private sale at high figures. This deprives them of any Philatelic value!"

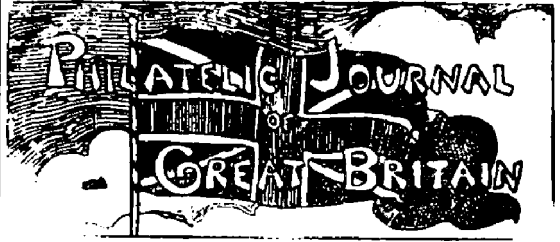
Now I don't think Mr. Howes was justified in making such a strong statement without giving his authorities.

To begin with, he himself states that "Telegraph stamps were abolished by a decree dated October 10th, 1903." No doubt the remainders were all called in. Considering what large quantities of the 1 peso brown of 1894 and the 5c. red of 1900 were found to be on hand, it is highly probable that a few sheets of the other Arms stamps of 1894 were found in some of the up-country Telegraph Offices, and it is most unlikely that the Officials through whose hands they passed would notice the small differences of type, or even if they did discover them would attach any importance to them, or above all be allowed to remove them from the carefully counted and vouched for stock for private purposes. There may have been philatelists behind the counters in the post offices when the stamps were put on sale; there are certain to have been such persons on the other side of those counters, eagerly on the look out for errors and varieties, and very naturally they will have bought up all such as they could lay their hands on.

The "high figures" exist only in Mr. Howes imagination. Most of the scarcer errors can be bought for less than a sovereign and the rarest 12c. on 5c. red inverted, *properly post-marked* for 75/-. Very minor varieties of this series may be mentioned. Messrs. Gibbons had a collection a short time ago with a sheet or two therein which had been placed so carelessly in the press that the surcharge ran almost diagonally across the stamps, naturally therefore missing altogether the stamps in some of the corners so giving rise to pairs which might be described as one with surcharge and one without. I have also noticed a circular black dot on left ruff of Pedro in the 1c. on 20c. blue stamps but cannot say if this occurs on the stone and is therefore constant or is merely due to the shaky hand of the printer's devil dropping an occasional blot here and there, for alas, satan finds some mischief still for printers' hands to do!

Having thus fully discussed Chili's worst philatelic lapse, let us turn to quite a different picture. Who would have guessed that whilst the jog-trot postal issues of this little community had been passing peacefully from Roulette to ordinary Perforation, from American Bank Note Company to Waterlow's, with but one surcharge on the debit side of its account in the Philatelic Heaven, that a bloody Revolution and Civil War had swept the country from one end to the other at an expense of 10,000 lives and Ten Million Pounds.

(To be continued.)



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## British Honduras Stamps Destroyed.

A BELIZE correspondent informs us that, on Sunday morning, May 30th, a fire occurred in that city and among the buildings destroyed was the post office. Nothing was saved from the latter and the remainders of past issues of stamps were destroyed. Even the postmarking stamps were lost, and letters were being mailed postmarked "New River Service," the postmarking stamp being borrowed from one of the northern towns.—*Jamaica Times.*

## The City of London Philatelic Society.

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### Official Organ:

THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

### Head Quarters for Meetings:

MILLS' RESTAURANT,

14, Broad Street Place, Liverpool Street, E.C.

(Adjoining Finsbury Circus).

THE opening meeting of the Session was held at Mills' Restaurant, in Liverpool Street, an Wednesday, October 13th, the new President, Mr. J. R. Burton, occupying the chair for the first time. Various formal business was duly carried through. The resignation of Mr. A. H. L. Giles, of the post of Counterfeit Detector was received with regret, Mr. H. V. Brand being appointed in his stead, the Forgery Collection by this new arrangement becoming available daily for Members' inspection along with the Library. Six new members were elected and one resignation was received. Mr. Eastwood produced his Treasurer's Balance Sheet showing balance in hand £12 12s. 4½d., an improvement of over £5 on a year's working.

The President gave an address covering a wide area of philatelic matter interspersed with humour. He suggested more sub-committees on such lines as philatelic union, publicity, sociability, suppression of unnecessary issues, philatelic study for publication purposes, or the advancement of the Society itself, believing that more work would have a vivifying influence.

A review of the present splendid position of philately concluded with the remark that even providence appeared to be on its side seeing that the Cayman Islands had recently been visited by a hurricane. Simplified collecting came in for commendation as encouraging to

the beginner, preventing watertight-compartment-philately in which one specialist took little interest in the work of another, and leaving minor varieties free and cheap to the real working specialist.

Collecting à la Catalogue was condemned. The first type of New Zealand being taken as an example, expanded to 105 varieties value over £300, an impossible task for 999 collectors out of a 1000, whereas simplified ruthlessly ten stamps only were needed at a cost of a little over 30/-, or simplified so as to show each variety of perf., watermark, colour, and paper and principal shades—14 stamps at about £24.

The display by members of recent acquisitions and novelties included all the principal New Issues of the summer months, a remarkable assemblage of the Labuan and Brunei surcharges showing all the rarities (by Mr. Higlett), and the following interesting pieces mostly from Mr. Jackson's collection:—

New Zealand first type unused, perf. 10 on top and bottom and one side, and 12½ on the left.

Half 2d., C.C. Gold Coast, used as 1d. on original, postmarked "Dec. 20th, 1883, Inland."

Two and a half 2d. C.C. ditto used as 5d., postmarked "B 27."

A number of the last issue of Queen's Head Grt. Britain postmarked "Ascension," and a fine pair of 1d. red Antigua used in St. Kitts (entire), postmarked "A 12" and date "June 17 1890."

It was unanimously resolved to support the Philatelic Congress now being promoted under the auspices of the Herts Society, and the Smoking Concert of the I.P.U. on Nov. 29th.

Will members kindly note that on Jan. 12th Mr. Heginbottom will kindly send his collection of "Hong Kong" as well as "India," and that the next meeting takes place on Nov. 10th, 7.15 p.m., when there will be a Paper and Display, "Pictorial Stamps of Tasmania, by Mr. J. A. Leon, B.A., and a Competitive Display (for Medal), "Any One West Indian Country or Colony."

Hon. Secretary: MR. D. H. JACKSON, 80, Hanley Road, Stroud Green, N.

Mr. W. HADLOW, of Adam Street, Strand, one of our oldest philatelic auctioneers, has disposed of that portion of his business to Messrs. Plumridge & Co., of 63/4, Chancery Lane. This step has been taken in consideration of the increasing demands made on his time by his ordinary business as a stamp dealer. Messrs. Plumridge & Co. announce that the Monday sales which Mr. Hadlow made so popular will be continued by them, in addition to their ordinary fixtures.

## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS MCTAVISH.

I SEE that in last month's *P.F.G.B.* my worthy publishers were able to offer their clients a very scarce Bermudian stamp. It was advertised as being perforated  $14 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$  and 14, also watermarked CC. and CA. At the price asked, namely 8d., there should have been a crowd after it.

A reader of the *P.F.G.B.* last month must have struck the McTavish column, because a dear old seeker after hidden knowledge has written to me to know if I can tell him if King Edward VII. Land and Prince Edward Island are closely related. I'm sure I don't know, unless the Island is the result of a morganatic marriage.

The Editor of the *Hobbyist* suggests that auctioneers are able to advertise their auctions as being the best medium for disposing of stamps, because the prices realized are more than dealers would give. When they are tired of that kind of "ad." they can advertise that collectors should buy stamps at their auctions because stamps can be purchased cheaper there than elsewhere.

Sort of heads I win, tails you lose, business.

Anyway the collectors and auctioneers score at the expense of the dealer who seems to be odd man out. One of these days I will ring up Mr. Telfer, who will doubtless tell me all about it.

The above-mentioned Canadian paper is also responsible for the following capital yarn.

"Through the mistake of the engraver of Liberian stamps, we are saved the annoyance of another unnecessary issue. Government finances being still low, order was given to retouch the 1906 issue, and whether it was accident or design, the historical elephant was adorned with lizards legs while the lizard was doomed to everlasting immovability by having legs of the former animal."

How's that for the land of the maple leaf? The idea was a good one, but why only monkey with the elephant and the lizard?

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* waxes quite funny at times. I see in the Sept. 18th number the following:—"Signor Fiecchi must learn to know his *Fortnightly* a little better, and then he will understand that this journal steals no man's thunder, but honourably acknowledges every line it may see fit to reproduce from other journals."

Bravo, *Fortnightly*.

I shall have to get some medals struck.

"O organ of gods and men! thy clansman hear;  
Refuse, or grant; for what has Jove to fear?  
Or oh! declare, of all the powers above,  
Is wretched Fiecchi least the care of Jove?  
I said, and, sighing much, the god replies,  
Who rolls the thunder o'er the rainy skies."

"What then has't thou to do; if we reprint  
Of others works, without due thanks, or stint  
It rests with us. It is our august will  
To 'with acknowledgments from' our columns fill."

With apologies to the late Mr. Homer, Sig. Fiecchi, and our every-other-week contemporary.

In the same number of the *S.C.F.* I see that the popular Sydney dealer now in our midst has evidently given the *S.C.F. carte blanche* as to the spelling of his name. Personally, I prefer the old fashioned way.

Some kind friend has sent the following paragraph, culled from one of our London papers, dated Oct. 3rd, of the present year of grace:—

"RARE GENEVA SHILLING STAMP.

"A fine copy of the rare Geneva shilling mauve stamp of 1875, with the error 'Shlling,' was sold for £5 10s. at Glendining's on Wednesday."

I hope this discovery won't necessitate the re-writing of M. E. Zumstein's splendid Swiss handbook.

Once upon a time there lived a good little boy, who was qualifying to become a dentist. The good little boy was very fond of foreign travel—Gambia, Basutoland, Papua, Cliftonville, Borneo, Iceland and many other out-of-the-way places being visited. Once he went to an island somewhere near Australia, where the Chief Priest was very good to him, until he wanted to commence business as a dentist, and extract. The C.P. wouldn't countenance that, so there was trouble, and the small boy didn't like it.

Thus endeth the October fable.

I see that in a recent number of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, the Bechuanaland Protectorate is described as one of the "least familiar of all the remote and obscure possessions of the British Crown." I thought *everybody* knew that Bechuanaland was an island near the Hong Kong peninsula.

## Bright's New Catalogue.

WE have been favoured with some advance sheets of the new edition of Bright's ABC Catalogue (eighth edition) which is shortly to appear. As we shall review the book after publication, according to custom, we will defer our criticisms until then, contenting ourselves, for the present, with the remark that prices show an all-round increase, especially in the case of medium and common stamps of old issues. Nobody who knows how difficult it is to get fine copies of early stamps will be at all surprised at this and will only wonder why the advances, which, in most cases seem to be about 15%, are not greater.



## The Second Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, London, 1910.

Held under the auspices of the Herts Philatelic Society, from April 27th to April 29th, 1910, at Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W.

*Patron*—The President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.)

*Vice-Patrons* — His Majesty's Postmaster-General (The Right Honourable Sydney Buxton, M.P.); The Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (The Right Honourable The Earl of Crawford, K.T.); The Hon. Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (M. P. Castle, Esq., J.P.); and J. Henniker Heaton, Esq., M.P.

*Executive Committee*—The President of the Herts Philatelic Society (Franz Reichenheim, Esq.); The Vice-President of the Herts Philatelic Society (H. L. Hayman, Esq.); C. R. Sutherland, Esq.; Baron Anthony de Worms; and the Hon. Secretary of the Herts Philatelic Society (H. A. Slade Esq.), Hon. Secretary of the Congress, Nine Fields, St. Albans, Herts.

### PROGRAMME.

Wednesday, April 27th, 1910: 4 p.m., Opening Meeting: Public Meeting. (1) Address by Major E. B. Evans, R.A.; (2) Paper on "The Manufacture of Stamps," with demonstrations by J. Dunbar Heath, Esq. (Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co.); 8 p.m., Reception of Delegates by invitation of the Vice-President of the Herts Philatelic Society (H. L. Hayman, Esq.), at his residence, "Highfield," Chislett Road, West Hampstead, N.W.

Thursday, April 28th, 1910: 11 a.m., Visit of the Delegates to the Tapling Collection at the British Museum, under the guidance of E. D. Bacon, Esq.; 3 p.m., Conference of Delegates; 7 for 7.30 p.m., Banquet given by the Herts Philatelic Society at the Café Monico, Piccadilly Circus, W.

Friday, April 29th, 1909: 11 a.m., by invitation of the Right Hon. The Earl of Crawford, K.T., Visit of the Delegates to inspect his Collections at his residence, 2, Cavendish Square, W.; 3 p.m., Conference of Delegates; 8 p.m., Closing Meeting: Public Meeting. (1) Paper by the Hon. Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (M. P. Castle, Esq., J.P.); (2) Paper to be arranged later; Closing Address.

Admission to the Public Meetings will be by tickets only, to be had on application to the Hon. Secretary of the Congress (Mr. H. A. Slade, "Nine Fields," St. Albans, Herts), or to the Chairman of the Executive

Committee (Mr. Franz Reichenheim, 29, Holland Villas Road, Kensington, London, W.) Each application must be accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope.

## British Honduras Obsolete Postage Stamps.

THE Crown Agents for the Colonies have been requested by the Government of British Honduras to dispose of the following Victorian Postage Stamps, which comprise the whole stock remaining in the hands of the Government and of which no further supplies can be printed, the Queen's Head Keyplate having been destroyed. All the stamps are in sheets of 240 stamps, except the 25 cents stamps which are surcharged "Revenue" and cut into sheets of 60 stamps. Concerning these, the following report has been received from the Colonial Government. "The 25 cents stamps overprinted "Revenue" were not considered locally as solely Revenue Stamps but were used for both Postal and Revenue purposes."

Specimens of the stamps can be seen at the Crown Agents' Office, between the hours of 10 and 4, and 10 and 1 on Saturdays.

No offers for less than £50 worth of stamps will be considered. Alternative offers may be submitted, i.e., for all or some of the stamps. Preference will be given to offers for some stamps of each value.

Tenderers must take all responsibility in connection with the description and condition of the stamps sold.

Offers, which must not be less than face value, must be sent in addressed as below, not later than the 30th November, on which date all offers received will be considered.

Value.	Number of Stamps.
6 cents .. ..	57,240
10 .. ..	81,600
12 .. ..	3,600
25 .. ..	43,200
50 .. ..	31,680
\$1 .. ..	8,880
\$2 .. ..	3,960
\$5 .. ..	10,320

The value of the dollar may be taken to be 4s. 2d.

Office of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W.

September, 1909.



## New Leaves to Cut.

### TONGA.\*

BY F. J. MELVILLE.

NUMBER SEVEN of the Melville Stamp Books deals with the stamps of Tonga. Like its predecessors it is tastefully printed, well illustrated, and is well worth the modest 6d. asked for it.

Dealing with the stamps of Tonga Mr. Melville has had an opportunity of treating his many readers to some original information, unfortunately however this opportunity has been neglected for we find that, beyond suggesting paths of original research, the author of Tonga has contented himself with drawing largely on hitherto known sources of information. Mr. Basset Hull's series of articles, published some years ago, form the groundwork of all present day research, with the result that, if little new information is revealed those writers who deal with the Islands of Oceania have authenticated details at their command.

Mr. Melville's little book should appeal to collectors in general, because it is of philatelic interest and to collectors of Tongan stamps in particular, because it contains, in handy form, a *resumé* of all hitherto published information regarding these stamps.

Out of the eleven chapters, eight deal with the stamps themselves and we find, with some exceptions, that catalogue order has been rigidly adhered to.

In Chapter VII., the type provisionals of 1896 meet with but scanty treatment, as Mr. Melville dismisses them in fourteen lines, at the same time referring his readers to the check list, wherein we find nearly thirty varieties listed! The official stamps are also summarily dismissed, as we find only a few words concerning them.

In reading this, the latest of Mr. Melville's little handbooks, we cannot but feel that we should probably have enjoyed it far more had it been illustrated by the aid of blocks of stamps from its *author's* collection; also, had the written descriptions of the stamps seemed more sympathetic and less like those one would expect and get from the pen of a non-collecting journalist.

### ZULULAND.†

BY B. W. H. POOLE.

NUMBER three of the "W.E.P." philatelic handbooks, which deals with the stamps of Zululand, is yet another proof of Mr. Poole's ability to write interestingly about the stamps of out-of-the-way countries. Twenty-five pages

are devoted to a description of Zululand and its postal history, for which the very moderate sum of sixpence is asked. Of all the chapters, perhaps that dealing with the Postal Fiscals is the most interesting. Among other things we learn that the 3/- value, a catalogued variety, does not exist; if this is so we must delete No. 53 from our catalogue.

Dealing with the Provisional ½d. stamps of 1888, made by overprinting the then current ½d. stamp of Natal with the word Zululand, we find that Mr. Poole says:

There are two main varieties, one with period after "ZULULAND," and the other without the stop. The type without stop is generally treated as though it were merely a variety of the type with stop, but, as a matter of fact, it represents quite a distinct issue, every stamp in this particular printing being minus the stop.

We do not quite understand whether Mr. Poole means by the above paragraph that there were only two printings—one with, and one without stop—if he does he is in error, because we have seen many pairs and strips in which the stamps with and without period after ZULULAND are *se tenant*.

Although containing no information likely to be of value to *specialists* in the stamps of Zululand, if indeed there be any collectors who limit their energies to so small a country, the latest of Mr. Poole's brochures is of general interest, and as such is worthy of a place in the niche usually reserved for the "lesser guides" to philately.

### THE NORMAL CATALOGUE.

WE have received from the publisher (Mr. Paul Kohl, of Chemnitz) a copy of this new catalogue (M. 2. 50). It has been compiled under the collaboration of many of the leading Philatelic Societies of Germany and Austria in the hope that it will supplant Senf's catalogue as the standard in the Fatherland.

In most respects it is an excellent production; the paper and type used are good, and the blocks, though small, are, in most cases, clear. The arrangement of the lists is similar to that of other Continental catalogues, the standard varieties being in ordinary type and the shades and minor varieties in smaller characters. Varieties of perforation are mentioned, but only the most prominent ones are listed.

The German section is naturally the most interesting and here we find that the convenient plan of grouping all the German States together instead of inserting them among the other countries in alphabetical order, has been adopted. Further, this section is put at the beginning of the book as befits a patriotic production. The prices, for Germans, where they differ from Senf's, are generally considerably higher than in that catalogue, especially for early unused stamps.

Presumably the specialists who have compiled the different countries have had a hand in the pricing and this would account for

\*Published by the Melville Stamp Books, 47, Strand, W.C. 6d. net.

†Published by D. Field, The Royal Arcade, W. Price 6d.

some being unnecessarily high. Specialists generally have swollen ideas concerning the value of their own pet-possession. We cannot find in the preface any indication as to whether the stamps are to be bought anywhere at the prices quoted and we presume that these are to be regarded as estimates. We fancy that in Germany, as elsewhere, collectors will prefer to use a catalogue produced by a firm who can supply the goods.

For the style of general collector who flourishes on the Continent, the catalogue will, no doubt, prove a useful work of reference but for collectors of British Colonials, the lists are neither better nor worse than those of other Continental catalogues save where such simple countries as Cayman Isles or Ionian Isles are concerned.

YVERT & TELLIER, 1910.

THE principal alteration in the *brown* catalogue is a re-written and greatly amplified list of France and Colonies. In former editions, patrons of Messrs. Champion & Co. who wished to learn much about the stamps of France were referred in a note to the "Catalogue Spécial de France et Colonies," a work published at f.3.50. Now as much information as possible is crammed into the ordinary catalogue and we are sure that the change will be greatly appreciated.

Following the upward trend of the stamp market which has been such a marked feature of the past season, the publishers have raised the prices of a great number of medium priced stamps.

We notice there is still a tendency to place too much reliance on Gibbons in pricing British Colonials. Grenada 10/- multiple at 80fr. presumably because Gibbons erroneously priced it at 80/-, is one instance of this; this price should be about 30fr. Other instances of a similar nature might be quoted, but no good would be served by it. This little grumble apart, we may safely recommend Yvert and Tellier's catalogue as a very reliable guide to the prices of most ordinary varieties—much more so than Gibbons. For a general collector we believe there is no better catalogue published.

By economising space whenever possible the number of pages, in spite of the extension of the lists of France and Colonies and the ordinary yearly growth, has been actually reduced by two.

The price is, as before, 4 fr.

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## The J.P.U. Smoking Concert.

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ON behalf of the sub-committee appointed to arrange the annual Smoking Concert we are able to announce that already a very fine

programme has been drawn up. Those of our readers who attended last year's performance will be delighted to hear that such popular favourites as Mesdames Haidee Hamilton, Ada Wheeler, and Messrs. Fred Rome, Sidney Gandy, Charles Cheshir, Thos. F. Noakes, W. Miles, F. Ashton etc. have all been engaged. Mr. W. E. Lincoln has also kindly consented to give one of his inimitable recitations—an attraction alone sufficient to draw all stamp collectors who have previously listened to his wonderful renderings.

We are also pleased to announce that two or three Philatelic Societies have signified their intention of supporting the I.P.U. people by attending *en masse*.

Tickets and programmes will shortly be ready and we are told that an early application for the former will be advisable. As no efforts will be spared to make the 1909 concert the social philatelic event of the year, we can confidently recommend our readers to apply at an early date for their tickets.

Tickets can be obtained for the nominal sum of 1/-, from the Hon. Sec. of the I.P.U., or the Members of the Committee.

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## The City of London Philatelic Society.

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NOTES ON ITS FOUNDATION AND CONDUCT  
DOWN TO MAY, 1905.

BY ALBERT H. HARRIS,  
FOUNDER AND FIRST SECRETARY.

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IT must have been in the summer of 1903—I have only memory to guide me—that I telephoned my friend, Mr. E. A. Klaber, concerning the formation of a Stamp Club for the beginner and medium collector—the beginner not in years, but in collecting—who was practically unable, and certainly disinclined, to join existing Societies which did not cater for him.

After we had had several lengthy discussions as to the best way of carrying out our intention, I approached Mr. G. H. Simons and Mr. G. Gueschlin, who both fell in with the idea immediately, and gave active support. Mr. Simons introduced a friend of his, Mr. D. C. Tewson, and Mr. Tewson, in turn, introduced Mr. H. P. Harper.

The first meeting took place in an A.B.C. Dépôt in Cheapside, and after some discussion the title "Enterprise Stamp Club," was proposed by Mr. Klaber, was adopted in preference to "The Confidential Stamp Club," suggested by Mr. Gueschlin. A set of rules drafted by Mr. Klaber and myself was adopted.

Mr. Klaber was elected Treasurer and the writer Secretary.

An Exchange Packet was soon started and I think we all agreed to buy every stamp offered, not already in our collections, provided, of course, the price was reasonable. This out of sheer enthusiasm, for it must be understood we in no way resembled a "society of gilded youth!" Our packets were, of course, small at first, and although we pressed every available duplicate into service high-priced stamps were rare. Against this, we were all *general* collectors, and having the will, we soon found a way to purchase.

Our second meeting, I think, was held at the office of Mr. Tewson in Finsbury Square, and we were much indebted to Mr. Tewson for the use of this room on many later occasions. Our numbers had now grown, by personal introduction, to about a dozen, and included Mr. F. W. Lake, our first President, and that indefatigable worker in the Society's interests Mr. A. C. Constantinides.

We met monthly, our programme consisting of a display of his collection by each member in turn, and I say without hesitation these little meetings of eight or ten collectors in Finsbury Square were the most enjoyable I have ever known. The enthusiasm betrayed by the rapid conversation, the eagerness with which we examined each others' possessions, the zest with which the philatelic topics of the day were debated, and indeed the general sociability—to all these things I look back with mingled pleasure and regret. Pleasure at their recollection, regret that success should have inevitably driven them from us by sheer force of numbers.

The title was now changed to "The Enterprise Philatelic Society," and reports were regularly appearing in the philatelic press. About this time Mr. J. E. Heginbottom, B.A., became interested in the Society's work, and lent invaluable aid in the preparation of our early programmes. A Library also had been formed (entirely by the generous donations of members), and the nucleus of a forgery collection. The latter it was my idea to mount upon a "Cistafle" so that members could borrow single specimens for comparison, but this idea was improved upon when discussed in committee, and instead each stamp was mounted on a slip of paper with full particulars written beneath. This plan has been continued down to date, I believe, and I have not heard of any other society offering similar facilities.

The success of the Society during 1904 was phenomenal, considering that we had no exhibition, or other prominent means of drawing attention to our work, and I well remember my own surprise at the first meeting of the season 1904-5.

We had taken a room at the Devonshire House Hotel, in Bishopsgate Street, for the

season, and on entering a minute or two late it occurred to me, momentarily, that I had mistaken the number on the door. Nearly every face was new to me. I went round the circle enquiring members' names, and shaking hands, and in a few minutes we were all "pals." This was the first occasion on which I met my now old friend Mr. W. B. Edwards, who was unanimously elected to occupy the presidential chair a few months later.

By the end of 1904 we had over forty members and all sections were working admirably. No committee could have been more completely in accord, or more enthusiastically devoted to the Society's interests. Truly we heard of "old women" who said we were a "mushroom" Society, but there were no "old women" on our Committee, and so we prospered.

An attempt was next made to cope with that ever-prominent question "The Philatelic Index." After some persuasion, members of the Committee were induced to fall in with a scheme formulated by the writer, and four or five volumes were indexed. But one volume each seemed more than enough for most of us, and in spite of tabulated precautions ideas were found to vary, and the scheme fell through.

A magazine circuit was also started as an offshoot of the Library, and contained all the leading philatelic journals. This also helped to build up our Library files as in return for the benefits of the Circuit, members were asked to devote the magazines contributed, to the Society.

Precaution was always taken to see that our reports were published by every journal that would print them, both in this country and abroad. We were especially indebted in this respect to our Official Organ, the *S.C.F.*, and, among journals abroad, to the *Philatelic Journal of India*, *American Journal of Philately* and *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, who gave us several favourable notices. I had the pleasure of personally thanking the Manager of "Mekeel's," Mr. Willard O. Wylie, on his visit to England a few years ago. To this extended publicity I attribute a large measure of our success, both at this time and in later years.

Our membership had now risen, if my memory is correct, to about sixty. But a club of this size spread over the British Isles, and stretching to France, Germany, Cape Colony, United States, and the Antipodes, is very different from a club of four members, gathered in an A.B.C. shop. I found the work more than I could cope with, and so, regretfully, resigned in February, 1905.

The reins were then taken up by Mr. A. C. Constantinides, who guided the fortunes of the Society with conspicuous success. In the following May, Mr. W. B. Edwards was elected to the Presidency, and here my duty as a chronicler ends.



OCTOBER 20, 1909.

## Philately at Home.

In the September number of the *London Philatelist*, Mr. M. P. Castle contributes some "Notes on the Lithographed Stamps of Trinidad," being a resumé of his paper read before the "Royal" last December. Mr. Castle refers to the excellent research made by Mr. Bacon concerning these stamps, and the following extract, which deals mostly with the latter gentleman's discoveries, will be read with interest.

I should premise by mentioning that Mr. Bacon was largely indebted for his information to Mr. James Graham Taylor who was a resident of Trinidad and who formed a very fine collection of the stamps of that island. These stamps were lithographed by a Frenchman, by name Charles Pétit, who drifted to Trinidad after various wanderings, and during his two years' residence there produced these stamps. He left the island in September, 1853, and died on his journey to New York. The stones from which the stamps were printed were at that time (and are possibly still) existing in the Colonial Secretary's office in Trinidad, viz., a small one measuring about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches, with one design upon it, and a larger one measuring  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches, with fifty-four designs arranged in six horizontal rows of nine. I may mention here that this sheet of stamps as printed measures approximately 7 by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches, so there would be marginal space of about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch horizontally and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches vertically from the design to the edge of the stone—thus allowing ample space for the unprinted margin of each sheet. The design on the small stone is engraved, while those on the large one are slightly raised, clearly indicating that the latter was a lithographic transfer from the former. There were evidences that impressions in blue had been taken from the matrix die, but Mr. Bacon did not believe that any issued stamps had been so printed. It was stated, I believe by Mr. Graham Taylor, that the larger stone "is very much blurred over with red colouring, thus proving the red stamp was the last printed." Mr. Bacon, after consultation with a professional lithographer, concluded that no second transfer was ever made, presumably owing to the death of Mr. Pétit, and that the deterioration of the impressions was due to the subsequent imperfect cleaning of the stone and the coagulations of ink that were allowed to remain.

We cannot spare space to extract any of Mr. Castle's deductions, gained by an extensive study of the stamps, but our readers who are interested in the lithographs of Trinidad will find, on referring

to the September *L.P.*, plenty to interest them.

In the Editorial, Mr. Castle again suggests that a Society should be formed to protect collectors against the ever-increasing flood of philatelic rubbish, while elsewhere in the *L.P.* we find that on April 7th next Mr. Castle will read a paper before the R.P.S., entitled "Paper on the Advisability of Forming a Universal Philatelic Union of Philatelic Societies, to discourage unnecessary or speculative issues."

A number of interesting "Occasional Notes"; a short article, illustrated with blocks of both genuine stamps, and reprints, entitled the "Reprints of the Russian Levant Stamps, 1865-67," which originally appeared in one of our German contemporaries; and the usual regular features, make the September *L.P.* a capital exchange.

The September *Philatelic Record* contains a further lengthy instalment of M. Ernst Zumstein's "Handbook of the Postage Stamps of Switzerland"; the conclusion of "A. V. de P's" article entitled "Stray Notes on Philatelic Heraldry," and another long instalment of Mr. R. R. Thiele's fascinating paper entitled "Some Notes on the Designers, Engravers and Printers of the World's Postage Stamps." Mr. Thiele deals with the stamps of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Brunswick and Schleswig-Holstein. The following extract will, we feel sure, interest our readers.

The first issue of Brunswick was produced in something of a hurry which will serve to explain its rather primitive appearance. The duchy joined the German-Austrian Postal Union on December 5th, 1851, and the stamps were to be issued on January 1st, 1852, when the accession to the Postal Union would become effective. As the time was so short the dies for the new stamps were engraved on wood by an engraver to the Court named Carl Petersen, at Brunswick (or let us rather say: Braunschweig).

Copper matrices were produced from these dies, presumably by an electrolytic process, and from these matrices again the casts for making the printing forme were taken, 120 being clamped together. I imagine that the design for these stamps was due to Petersen; at least a number of essays are known whose designs are modifications of this type and which are attributed to Petersen, but I do not know whether they antedate the adopted type or not. The short time available for the production of the stamps makes it somewhat improbable that much time was given to trial dies; it is more probable that they were prepared later on with a view to a modification of the primitive adopted type. It has been stated that these stamps were printed by Petersen also, but an official statement gives the name of the printer as Johann Heinrich Meyer, formerly Gebrueder Meyer (Meyer Brothers). From the same statement, by the way, we gather the information that the 5,000 sheets of paper for the first issue cost the Government 20 thaler, while printing the 5,000 sheets of 120 each cost 120 thaler, and gumming them cost 115 thaler.

The September number of the *West End Philatelist* contains the final instalment of Mr. Poole's article dealing with the stamps of Zululand, a long and interesting chapter of his Bulgarian article and the first instalment of what promises to be a most readable paper dealing with the stamps of the Gold Coast. Truly our little contemporary puts to the blush many of its far more imposing-looking contemporaries.

*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for September 18th contains yet another instalment of M. L. Hanciau's article. This week he deals with the Postage Due stamps and postal stationery of the Danish West Indies. Mr. C. J. Phillips contributes some capital notes dealing with Argentine Republic stamps. Mr. B. W. H. Poole continues his "Countries of the World." He deals with the stamps of Hamburg. A short new issue list and several other contributions of a general nature make up a good number of our leading weekly contemporary.

In the copy dated September 25th we find an excellent article entitled "Notes on the Stamps of Tonga," contributed by Mr. C. J. Phillips. These "notes" are most voluminous and embody a good deal of original research. We are told that the two stamps of 23rd November, 1891, overprinted with Stars, hitherto only known perf.  $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ , also exist perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$  all round, also that the surcharged stamps of 1895, described as being perforated  $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ , should be listed as follows:—

- |                     |                                 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1d. perf. 12.       |                                 |
| $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. „ | 12, also perf. $12 \times 11$ . |
| $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. „ | 12.                             |
| $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. „ | $12 \times 11$ .                |

Possibly, as Mr. Phillips suggests, the 1d. and  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. values may yet be found perf.  $12 \times 11$  and the  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. perf. 12. We are told that No. 39 in the catalogue will, in future, be deleted, as its authenticity is doubted.

The lithographed set of 1895, listed in the catalogue as gauging  $12 \times 11\frac{1}{4}$ , has been re-written.

We now find the set listed as follows:

- |                           |
|---------------------------|
| Perf. 12.                 |
| 1d. grey-green.           |
| $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. rose.   |
| 5d. pale blue.            |
| $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. yellow. |
| $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. orange. |

Variety.	Period after Postage.
$2\frac{1}{2}$ d. rose.	

- |                        |
|------------------------|
| Perf. $12 \times 11$ . |
| 5d. pale blue.         |

We have, we think, made extracts numerous enough to prove to our readers that important discoveries have been made. No doubt the 1910 catalogue list of varieties will be considerably lengthened.

The remaining articles in the Sept. 25th *Weekly* are very much outclassed by Mr. Phillips' contribution.

In the Oct. 2nd *G.S.W.* we find a long instalment of Mr. J. B. Leavy's Nicaraguan article and an equally long chapter of M. Ch. De Bont's "Postage Stamps of Belgium." In the latter article the later parcel post stamps are dealt with.

Mr. Poole writes most interestingly about Hanover and its stamps. The following short extract is a capital *multum in parvo*:—

The philatelic history of Hanover commences in 1850—the year before the death of King Ernest (Duke of Cumberland)—when a single stamp bearing the face value of one gutengroschen was issued. In 1851 Hanover joined the German-Austrian Postal Union, and a series of stamps was issued on July 21st of that year for defraying the rates of postage within the Union. In 1856 coloured papers were dispensed with and the stamps were instead overprinted with a coloured network. In 1859 the stamps with values expressed in fractions of a thaler were superseded by a new series bearing the portrait of King George V. and with values denoted in groschen. Until 1864 all the stamps were imperforate, but in that year five values were issued rouletted sixteen (*percés en arc*), and in 1866, on the annexation of Hanover by Prussia, the whole of the stamps, with the exception of a few sheets, were burned.

The currency was the thaler, divided, at first, into twenty-four gutengroschen of twelve pfennig each, and, after 1858, into thirty groschen of ten pfennig each.

An excellent budget of "Foreign

Notes," contributed by Mr. Frank Phillips, and some other matter, make the October 2nd number of our contemporary a most interesting addition to our philatelic files.

In the October 9th copy of our Strand contemporary we find a continuation of M. L. Hancianu's "Postal Issues of Italy and Colonies," a further instalment of Mr. Poole's wonderful space filler, and another chapter of Mr. D. B. Armstrong's "Twentieth Century Colonials." Messrs. C. J. and Frank Phillips are responsible for interesting budgets of "Topical" and "Foreign Notes," some very readable "Correspondence," a couple of pages of Buster's "Talk of the Day" and a new issue column make up a capital number of *G.S.W.*

The September 18th number of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* contains a varied and interesting itinerary of contents.

Mr. Poole contributes an instalment of his "Stamps of the Solomon Islands"; Mr. F. G. Warwick is responsible for the first instalment of his paper, entitled "The Collecting of English," read before the Bath Philatelic Society, on March 17th; reprinted matter; some interesting "Notes"; a further chapter of M. Sigismond Jean's "Postage Stamps of Uruguay," and some odds and ends complete a good number of our Chancery Lane exchange.

In the October 2nd *Fortnightly*, Mr. Poole concludes his Solomon Island article. Mr. Warwick completes his paper, and there is a further instalment of M. Jean's "Uruguay." We also find a number of interesting paragraphs and notes of general interest.

The September number of the *British Philatelist* deals with the 8d., 9d. and 10d. surface printed stamps of Great Britain. Regarding the perforation of the 8d. value we are told that—

"The perforation of this value was somewhat out of the common as regards the treatment of the space running between the vertical pairs of panes: in some cases, there was a single line of holes down the centre; in others, two lines, one close to the edge of each pane; and occasionally, there was no perforation at all—the method adopted for other values was the one first mentioned. In connection with this, it may be mentioned that copies of the Eightpence, perforated down the centre of the stamp, are not particularly uncommon."

In this number of our little contemporary we also find a note entitled "On Original" wherein the author adds his

quota to the agitation for paying more attention to the importance of stamps on original covers.

The October number of the *Stamp Lover* reflects great credit on the Society of which it is the official organ. Mr. Melville, the editor, does not appear to have contributed, but this shortage has been amply rectified by other members of the J.P.S. Mr. Somerset Rivers is the translator of a long article, entitled "Perfection and Preservation," from a German paper. Throughout the course of this article, the author, although quite aware of the charms of superb copies, holds a brief for slightly damaged stamps. He advocates, in a masterly way, the inclusion of inferior copies, provided that immaculate specimens are practically unprocurable. Mr. Rivers is also responsible for the conclusion of an admirable review of M. Maury's "History of the Stamps of France."

Mr. L. W. Crouch contributes a lengthy instalment of his article dealing with the Fiscal stamps of the U.S.A. He illustrates many varieties.

Mr. Ralph Wedmore, the Hon. General Secretary of the J.P.S., under the heading "The Story of the J.P.S." records the founding and history of the Society from its inauguration in 1899, to date. He quite modestly states that the "Junior Philatelic Society is now the most important Philatelic Society in England," and backs this assertion by saying, "This is no occasion for mock modesty." What a lot these go-ahead Juniors can teach us.

Several pages of our contemporary are devoted to J.P.S. reports, while last, but by no means least, we find a short well illustrated article, contributed by Mr. A.R. Hebblethwaite, dealing with the stamps of Sudan. This article, although very elementary, is very readable, if for no other reason than that its author candidly admits that there are many unsolved problems regarding these stamps. We muchly appreciate this lack of self assertiveness.

We extract the following information concerning the Army Official stamps:—

In January, 1905, the 1 mil on multiple paper was overprinted with the words "Army Official"; "Army" on the left reading upwards, and "Official" on the right reading downwards.

The surcharge was applied locally to blocks of 30 stamps (5 rows of 6), and there are several varieties. In the normal type the words measure—

Army, 9½mm.  
Official, almost 16mm.

Two stamps in each block of 30, the last stamp on the first and second rows, that is Nos. 6 and 12, have a smaller type of surcharge.

The words in this case measure—

Army, 8½mm.  
Official, 13½mm.

On No. 6 the "O" of "Official" is slightly below the level of the rest of the word.

No. 29 of each block of 30 has a curious error. Instead of the first "l" in "Official" there is a note of exclamation. If my information is correct, this error should be scarcer than the small surcharge, but it is priced lower in the catalogue.

By mistake about 4 sheets with the single watermark received this surcharge. These are scarce, especially the errors.

The stamps with multiple watermark exist with inverted surcharge, and are also known with it sideways.

In December, 1905, the "Army Official" surcharge was changed to "Army Service" in two horizontal lines.

Three values were issued on paper with the single watermark, viz. :—

- 2 pias blue and black.
- 5 pias green and brown.
- 10 pias mauve and black.

Between the years 1905-8 the following were issued on the multiple paper :—

- 1 mil carmine and brown.
- 2 mils brown and green.
- 3 mils green and mauve.
- 5 mils black and carmine.
- 1 pias brown and blue. Plates 1 and 2.
- 2 pias (1908) blue and black.
- 5 pias (1908) green and blue.

The two lines of the overprint are 12 mm. apart, but the 1 mil is known with the words 14 mm. apart, and it has been suggested that these were issued first but found inconvenient as one line of the overprint would cover part of the inscription on the stamp.

The following varieties have been chronicled from time to time, but I have no information as to the position on the sheet or the number printed :—

- (a) With single watermark.
  - (1) 10 piastres. No "S" to "Service."
- (b) With multiple watermark.
  - (1) 1 mil, surcharge inverted.
  - (2) 1 and 5 mils, surcharge double.
  - (3) 5 mils, surcharge double, one inverted.
  - (4) 2 mils, without overprint, "se tenant" with normal stamp.

The September number of the *Philatelic Adviser* contains a further instalment of Mr. B. W. H. Poole's paper dealing with the Stamps of the British South Africa Co., a capital budget of Editorial Notes and the usual comprehensive list of New Issues. Mr. Oliver is not a friend of "Commemoratives" and the following short extract voices his outspoken opinion.

The difficulty is how to stop such issues from being foisted upon philatelists. Years ago, when we were domiciled at Bournemouth, we were members of the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps, familiarly known as the S.S.S.S. (this is not a Sirmoor official error), and for a considerable time we refused to buy or sell any stamps that were condemned by that

Society. All went well for a time, but gradually we found that customers were going elsewhere, at first for these condemned issues, but later for other stamps.

This perhaps we could have borne if the persons from whom they had purchased these stamps were not members of this Society with a long name and a laudable object, but to our astonishment we gradually became aware that the very firms who, being members of this Society, were selling those goods to our customers which we had declined to supply, were the same firms who were prominent in this Society established for the suppression of such stamps.

We do not intend to undergo the same experience again, and though we shall advise our customers not to purchase these issues in the interests of their hobby, at the same time we shall supply them with the stamps if they desire them.

Bravo, friend Oliver, we guess, however, obstinate collectors will still rush for "coms," and regret at leisure. We also like the independent way the *P.A.* treats this year's Uruguayan commemoratives in the New Issue columns.

The first number of the Quarterly edition of the *Philatelic World* is duly to hand and we must congratulate Editor Séfi on the general excellent tone of his paper. The most notable feature consists of a series of notes relating to the recently held "Mirabaud" sale of stamps in Paris. These notes are illustrated by the aid of no fewer than six full-page plates of stamps, each plate averaging 25 specimens. When we inform our readers that every stamp is a rarity in superb condition and that their market value, so frequently an unknown quantity, is duly tabulated it will readily be seen that such a list will remain of permanent value for some time to come.

Mr. A. H. Harris contributes a long and interesting paper dealing with the British Colonial New Issues of 1908. Mr. A. J. Séfi continues his article dealing with the stamps of Luxemburg. The same gentleman also has some very much-to-the-point remarks concerning Commemorative and generally unnecessary issues.

The October 2nd number of the *Postage Stamp* commences a new volume. We find the first instalment of an excellent and original article, entitled "The World's Stamp Errors," wherein the author, who prefers to hide his identity behind the *nom de plume* of Miss Fitte, most interestingly describes the various rare and common errors to be found amongst our stamps. This article, contributed as it is by a capable writer and philatelist, should prove of great interest to the readers of the *P.S.* Further instalments are to be found in the Oct. 9th and 16th editions.



## Philately on the Continent.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for September 15th contains a translation of the petition recently sent to the Universal Postal Union, as a result of the resolution passed by the Manchester Congress, asking that steps should be taken to prevent the issue of unnecessary stamps. The comments of our contemporary are brief and pessimistic: "Our English friends are the victims of a cruel delusion if they believe that the petition will have the least effect. No one approves the text of the application nor wishes that it should be considered and granted more than we do, but it is so far from the cup to the lip that we abandon all hope; the tool which will prevent Nicaragua, Paraguay and Guadeloupe from issuing speculative surcharges is not yet forged."

To those who are interested in the postal history of pre-philatelic days, an article entitled, "Postal Notes, or Collection of Interesting Historical Notes on the Post, Ancient and Modern," will be much appreciated. The article, which appears in *L'Echo* for Sept. 15th, deals with the origin of the post in Portugal. We are told that the first post was established in Lisbon on Nov. 6th, 1520, at the time when Portugal, as a result of the discoveries of Vasco de Gama, was at the height of its prosperity. The first international postal treaty contracted by Portugal was one with England in 1703. By virtue of this treaty, a service of packet-boats was established between Lisbon and Falmouth for the exchange of correspondence.

The July—August number of *Le Journal des Philatélistes* publishes a list of the Carlist issues of Spain apropos of the death of Don Carlos which took place on July 18th last, at the age of 61. By this we are reminded that, before the regular organization of the posts in the northern provinces of which Don Carlos had made himself master, the Carlists made use of ordinary French stamps overprinted with a device, in blue, representing a *fleur de lis* in a five-rayed Star.

The stamps thus used were:—

1862-71. 5c.

1870-73. 1, 2, 5, 15, 20, 25, 40 and 80c.

These stamps are, it need hardly be added, of great rarity.

*Le Postillon*, for September 10th, contains news which is of great moment to philatelists all over the world, though more particularly to those of France. This is the account of the conviction and sentence of a French stamp dealer, named de Thonin, for selling forged stamps. It seems that in France, as elsewhere, the lot of the stamp forger and faker is becoming less easy and free from care than formerly. This sentence of three months' imprisonment and a fine of five hundred francs for selling forged stamps will

be not only be a salutary warning to other evil doers, but a distinct encouragement to those reputable dealers and Societies who are incessantly working to put a stop to philatelic malpractices.

The same number of *Le Postillon* contains a review of the *Catalogue Général* (which is a simplified edition of the *Catalogue Officiel*). We have not had the pleasure of inspecting the book but it would seem that the Editor of *Le Postillon* thinks that the Editor of the *Catalogue général* has produced a very fine work. As both editors answer to the name of Alfred Montader and see, literally, with the same eyes, we can appreciate the pleasing directness of the following eulogy. "*Le Catalogue général* is the most complete catalogue in a single volume published in the French language,—has the most exact prices, (settled as they are by those who are at the head of the business in France), is the truest and most reliable, for from it have been eliminated *three or four hundred* stamps which are catalogued elsewhere, sometimes in entire series, and which have never existed. Anything which is not found in the *Catalogue général* and which is anterior to 1909 does not exist." Evidently the *Catalogue général* has said the last word on many much discussed points,—we should like to see the list of those three or four hundred stamps which "do not exist." This well of truth can be brought into an English home at the cost of 3fr. 70c., which includes postage.

While we smile at what we may vulgarly call the "cock-sureness" of M. Montader we will willingly pay a tribute (as we have already done more than once) to his ability as a writer and his acumen as a philatelist. The article on the colour question still sheds its fortnightly instalments, we have now reached the browns, on which there is a most interesting chapter. The reviews of the press and the notes which take up so much space in *Le Postillon* are always interesting, filled, as they are, with the pungent commentary and easy wit of the Editor.

The place of honour in the *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung*, of Sept. 30, is accorded to M. L. Hanciau. He discourses on the stamps of the Spanish West Indies, and in the number before us confines his attention to the stamps of San Domingo. We must plead guilty to ignorance of the fact that the Spanish speaking portion of the second largest of the Greater Antilles had been a Spanish possession in philatelic times. But it appears that from 1861 to 1865 this portion of the island was occupied by Spain, and that the stamps of the 1857 issue of Cuba and Porto Rico were utilised from 1861 to 1864. These can only be distinguished by the postmark. In January 1864, the stamps were surcharged with a circular date stamp containing the words "Ejército de operaciones Isla de Sto. Domingo"; the following surcharges also occur:

"Admon. prial de correo de las cubas isla de Santo Domingo," oval in shape with date in centre, and a smaller similarly shaped overprint, "Ejercito expedicionario." M. Hancian has only seen the  $\frac{1}{2}$  and 1 real values with this surcharge.

The natives did not take kindly to Spanish rule, and after numerous "regrettable incidents," the Spanish troops were withdrawn in 1865.

The September number of *Der Philatelist* has an article by Herr Hugo Hartmann, on Montenegrin Pris—, we should say perforations. He specially deals with the issue of 1874-81, perf. 12, and points out that there are two distinct varieties of this perforation, a regular and an irregular one, the latter being the rarer. The difference arises from the former having been perforated in Vienna and the latter in Cettinge.

The majority of German philatelic journals contain little else than elaborate reports of the Karlsbad Congress.

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The August number of the *Australian Philatelist* is, we feel sure, by far the best number of that publication we have had the pleasure of reviewing. Mr. Hagen, of Sydney, now in London contributes an interesting account of his adventures in Europe. At Amsterdam he apparently met a real live Baron to every square yard, while in England he was surprised to find such wonderful collections, so much so, that he says: "In Australia we really do not know what collecting is. We are only on the fringe of it."

In a short article entitled "The Triple Triangle on the N.S.W. 1d. Laureates Mr. Smyth points out that there is an uncatalogued variety in this issue, which is of more importance than the varieties catalogued, namely, the error "Wale," and the stamps with or without leaves to the right of "South." The stamp in question, number six on the sheet, contains an additional triangle to the right of "South" "the additional one having the points of two diagonal lines, which meet turned towards the right. There are really only two lines on this triangle. (The writer is Irish.—Ed.) They have been engraved more deeply than the others, and consequently appear more distinct. They can be seen readily without the aid of a glass. The other two triangles have their points turned to the left, one being inside the other, and shaded. The third triangle is a superfluous one, and was undoubtedly done in error.

"It is a matter of surprise to us that this variety is not listed in Messrs. Gibbons' catalogue. It is as great a rarity as numbers 0 and 15, twice as rare as numbers 7 and 21; and its value should be reckoned accordingly. Indeed, in our opinion, it should be worth more, as there can be none of that fear which attaches to the other 'errors' that something may have been carefully erased."

We quite agree that this variety is as important as several now catalogued, and just as marked. If, however, every variety on the plate of stamps was catalogued we should have to increase our expenditure an hundredfold.

From the Sept. 4th number of *Mekeel's Weekly* we learn that at the recently held Atlantic City Convention the following "business" was transacted. We have only extracted those items likely to be of general interest to our readers.

### BUSINESS OF THE CONVENTION.

PRICED CATALOGUE.—It was expected that this would be one of the time-killing features of the Convention, but it was disposed of without debate, due to the form in which it was presented. The Committee on Resolutions recommended the reference of the entire proposition to a special Committee, and this was adopted unanimously. The Committee consists of Messrs. Mudge, Luff, Putney, Toppan, Carpenter, Bartels, Nevin, Deats and Worthington.

LIBRARY APPROPRIATION.—Fifty dollars was placed at the disposal of the Library Committee to bind volumes now on hand and if finances warrant, Board of Directors are given authority to make the amount not to exceed one hundred dollars additional.

PUBLICATION OF NAMES.—The names of suspended members shall not be published in the official journal, but the names and addresses of expelled members shall be given full publicity.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL.—*Mekeel's Weekly* was chosen official journal by a vote of 675 to 243 for its opponent.

NEXT CONVENTION.—Only one nomination was presented from the Committee on Next Convention Seat, the city of Detroit, Mich., and as no further nomination was made from the floor of the Convention a vote by proxies was not required. Detroit, Mich., was unanimously selected.

QUARTERLY.—This will be issued just as soon as proper arrangements can be made for its publication.

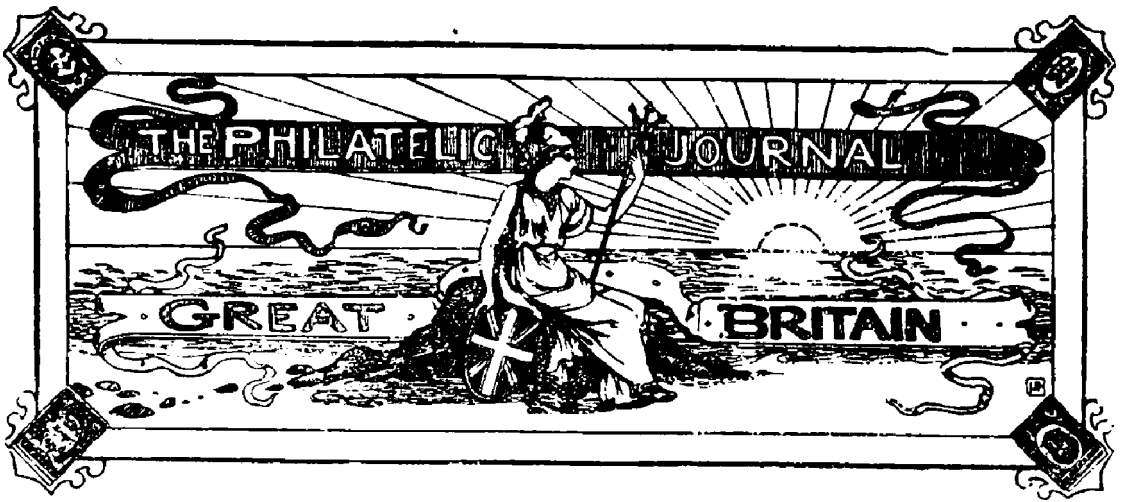
FINANCIAL CONDITION.—The report of the Treasurer, H. G. Smith, showed the treasury to be in good condition outside of the general fund. The latter is overdrawn \$480.24, the amount in the treasury being \$4,368.40.

PETITION TO P.O. DEPT.—The Secretary was instructed to write the Postmaster-General requesting that the current one and two cent stamps be issued with Arabic numerals, so as to conform with the laws of the Universal Postal Union.

### REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE.

There must have been over one hundred in attendance at the Convention. An attempt was made to secure a perfected register of attendance but without doubt many left the Convention without complying with the several requests made for registration.

May the *A.P.S.* flourish and have long life. We are also glad that *Mekeel's* retains the position of official organ.



The Official Organ of the International Philatelic Union, the City of London Philatelic Society, and the Sheffield Philatelic Society.

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[PRICE 2D.]

## ♦ ♦ Editorial. ♦ ♦

SO many collectors now-a-days induce their young friends to go in for a form of moderate specialism, instead of advising them to form a general collection that we think it would be well to sound a note of warning against this practice. Generally speaking, we strongly advocate specialising, provided that the

would-be specialist has a general knowledge of the tenets of philately on which to work. This is the one saving-clause of specialism, without which we find, as we much regret that we do, a number of youthful collectors who style themselves specialists at a philatelic age when they ought to be sorting out the contents of a ten shilling packet. We can hardly think of a more pitiful sight than that of a so-called specialist who knows absolutely nothing about the science of philately and yet who poses as "one in authority." Surely such a one is neither "fish, flesh, fowl nor good red herring." One of the chief reasons why these philatelic (?) babes take to specialising is that now-a-days it is admittedly more easy to be a specialist of sorts, than a general collector, especially when specialism means collecting the stamps of one or more countries without having a ground work of general knowledge to base research upon.

In these days of cheap printing and reference libraries we find far too many incomplete handbooks published, and too

many equally incomplete articles contributed to the philatelic press, with the result that vacillating collectors madly rush in, with the idea of emulating the author, who is supposedly an authority, and so becoming specialists.

We do not wish to suggest that individuality should be stifled, or that the writers of brochures and articles cannot, and do not, frequently teach us facts of which we were previously unaware. The most elementary handbook (and there are plenty about), can generally be of service to the genuine specialist, even if it only suggests to him some hitherto unknown avenue of research. What we regret to see, however, is a school of collectors styling themselves authorities who base their claim to this high sounding title merely because they collect the stamps of one or two countries, a state of affairs frequently resulting from having read Smith's or Robinson's latest "handbook" in which is given, for the modest sum of twopence, a full account of one great country's postal emissions!

The genuine philatelic handbook is the work of many years and when published remains, perhaps for all time, the standard work on the subject. It also serves for youthful scribes as a veritable storehouse from which to draw inspiration. Such handbooks, and we fortunately have a goodly few, are the milestones of our

hobby and are worthy of being treasured as our classics. It is the written-in-a-couple-of-hours book however that frequently does harm, inasmuch as it causes

budding philatelists to assume the responsibilities of calling themselves specialists long before they have cut their wisdom teeth.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Great Britain.** We have duly received the new 4d. orange stamp, which is practically the same in design as the now obsolete brown and green stamp.

*Adhesive.*  
4d. orange-red.

**Australian Commonwealth.** The *Australian Philatelist* informs us that the complete set of the new Postage Dues, with the exception of the 20/- value, has been issued. We listed the 1d. and 2d. values last month.

Postage Dues.	Wmk.	Crown and A.	Perf.
3d.	yellow-green	and carmine.	12½.
4d.	"	"	"
6d.	"	"	"
1/-	"	"	"
2/-	"	"	"
5/-	"	"	"
10/-	"	"	"

**New South Wales.** We extract the following from the *Australian Philatelist* :—

"We have seen the current 2d. value, perf. 11½ × 11, on the single-line machines. This is a very unusual occurrence.

"We have also seen the current 4d. value in a very pale shade of red-brown."

*Adhesives.* Wmk. Cr. and A.  
2d. ultramarine, p. 11½ × 11.  
4d. pale red-brown, p. 12 × 11½.

**St. Lucia.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have the 1/- stamp on green paper.

*Adhesive.* King's Head.  
1/- black on green.

**South Australia.** We extract the following from the September number of the *Australian Philatelist* :—

"The 9d. has come along perf. 12½, small holes, so unlike any previous issues that we are forced to the conclusion that they have been perforated (if not printed also) in the Melbourne office. The colour and paper are identical with the previous issues, but the perforations are exactly like those on the new Commonwealth Dues. Both correspond with a pull of the new single-line perforation

machine perf. 12½, lately introduced into the Melbourne Printing Office."

*Adhesive.* Wmk. Cr. and A.  
9d. lake, perf. 12½, small holes.

Mr. F. Hagen has also shown us the 8d. stamp, current type on Crown and A paper.

*Adhesive.* Perf. 12½. Wmk. Crown and A.  
8d. ultramarine.

**Southern Nigeria.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 5/- and £1 stamps, conforming to the new colour scheme.

*Adhesives.*  
King's Heads. Multiple wmk., chalky paper.  
5/- green and red on yellow.  
£1 purple and black on red

**Sudan.** We extract the following interesting information from the Nov. 13th copy of *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* :—

"A client has been kind enough to bring to our notice the 1 mil. overprinted 'Army Service' with a space of 14mm. between the two lines of the overprint instead of the normal 12mm. He informs us that the 14mm. spacing occurs only in the first printing of the 1 mil., which took place in 1905. Our client has also shown us the varieties of the normal overprint, which are detailed below."

1906. Type 2 overprinted as Type 33, in black, but with 14mm. between two lines of overprint, instead of 12mm. Wmk. multiple Star and Crescent. Perf. 14.  
1m. brown and carmine.

1906. As above, but 12mm. between lines of overprint. Varieties. (i.) Overprint inverted.  
1m. brown and carmine.  
5m. carmine and black.

(ii.) Overprint double, one inverted.  
5m. carmine and black.

**Transvaal.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly tell us they have received a supply of the following novelty :—

*Adhesive.* King's Head. Multiple wmk.  
5/- purple and black on yellow.

**Trinidad.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. tell us they have received the following novelty :—

*Adhesive.* Multiple wmk., chalky paper.  
5/- purple and mauve.

**Victoria.** The following extract from the

*Australian Philatelist* will be of interest to collectors of Victorian stamps.

“Mr. Minty has acquainted us that he has in his possession the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Victoria current, perf.  $11 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ . Hitherto this combination has only been seen  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ , but as two single cutters are employed it is quite easy for such a variation to occur. It may, however, be much scarcer than the  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ .”

**Zanzibar.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us three more values of the current “cents” issue.

*Adhesives.*  
1c. slate.  
10c. brown.  
75c. slate.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**China.** Mr. R. J. White has kindly shewn us a strip of three of the 4c. chestnut, of the 1898-1907 issue, on watermarked paper, imperf. vertically; also a block of eight of the 30c. rose-red, on unwatermarked paper, imperf. horizontally.

**Honduras.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles, on the authority of a Continental exchange, the following novelties:—

*Adhesives.*  
Old issues surcharged Permutase.  
1898. 2c. rose.  
“ 6c. purple.  
“ 20c. orange.  
1903. 10c. brown.

**Paraguay.** To the two values chronicled last month we have to add the following, on the authority of Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.



*Adhesives.* Overprinted 1909.  
1c. red.  
5c. yellow.  
10c. brown.  
20c. lilac.  
30c. olive.  
30c. slate-blue.

**Persia.** Last month, on the authority of *The Philatelic Adviser*, we chronicled some of the current stamps overprinted “IMPRIMES” for use as newspaper stamps. Our worthy exchange now informs us that the current stamps are also being overprinted “Colis Postaux” for use on parcels. Why not?

**Philippine Islands.** *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following change of colour:—

*Adhesive.* Arms design.  
\$1 violet.

**Servia.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, on the authority of a Continental exchange, chronicles the following novelties:—

*Postage Dues.* On laid paper. Perf.  $11\frac{1}{2}$ .  
5p. red-violet.  
10p. blue.  
20p. brown.

**Siam.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us yet another provisional stamp, namely, the 6 atts of 1903, overprinted 6 Satang.



*Adhesive.*  
6s. on 6a. red.

The *Postage Stamp* also chronicles the 2a. of the 1906-8 issue surcharged 2 satang.

2 satang on 2a. green.

**Turkey.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us more of the newly issued stamps. We illustrate both the new and the old type, to enable our readers to immediately see the difference.



OLD TYPE.



NEW TYPE.

*Adhesives.*  
5 paras brown-ochre.  
10 “ green.  
1 pias. blue.  
2 “ black.

**United States.** Several correspondents have kindly sent us imperforate copies of the recently issued Hudson Fulton commemorative stamp.

*Commemorative.*  
Hudson-Fulton Celebration.  
2c. carmine, imperf.

# Papers for Moderate Specialists.

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

No. XIII.—EGYPT.

(Continued from page 190.)

PROVISIONAL stamps of 5 paras and 10 paras were issued in January, 1879. These were made by surcharging the stamps of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  piastres with a large numeral denoting the value, in the centre; on the left appears the word PARAS, reading upwards; while a Turkish inscription, occupying a corresponding position, is at the right. The surcharges are apparently lithographed, and are only found on the deep violet stamps of the Government printings, perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$  or  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ . The sheets which received the surcharges were those containing *tête-bêche* varieties. In addition to this, both



values exist (and are not very rare) with inverted surcharges; these were caused by whole sheets being put in the press upside down. It is curious to reflect that a *tête-bêche* pair from a sheet with inverted surcharge would be indistinguishable from a similar pair from an ordinary sheet, unless the stamps bear some flaw by which they might be identified.

Early in the same year, 1879, Messrs. De La Rue, of London, having been successful in securing a contract, supplied a new set of stamps, consisting of the same denominations as before, with the exception of the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  piastres, a value which was dispensed with.

These stamps were surface-printed after the manner of most of the other stamps which Messrs. De La Rue were supplying to the British Colonies; the perforation was 14. The central design for all values was the same, though it was drawn separately for each value, and represented the Sphinx and Pyramid within a transverse oval, but a different shaped frame and spandrels was used for each of the different values. The colours were brown for the 5 paras, mauve for the 10 paras, ultramarine for the 20 paras, rose for the 1 piastre, orange



for the 2 piastres and light emerald green for the 5 piastres. The paper used for this issue was, as to weight and texture, precisely like that used for British Colonials at the same date, but was, of course, watermarked with crescent and star instead of *Crown CC*. If the paper of this issue is compared with that of later issues, it will be seen that there is the same difference in finish as there is between the *CC* and *CA* papers. A nice range of shades can be made of the stamps of this issue, though I know of none which is of outstanding rarity; the rose 10 paras is not common, but can still be procured in mint blocks.

The 5 piastre stamp was very little wanted, and in order to use up the stock, which was rather a large one, they were overprinted 20 paras. The surcharge consisted of the numerals "20" in large figures with the word PARAS on the left reading upwards and the Turkish equivalent of *Paras* occupying a similar position at the right. Two short thick parallel bars before and after the word on either side were intended to obliterate the original value, but when the surcharge was not well-centred this purpose was not effected. The stamp is by no means scarce with inverted surcharge.

The following official Decree was published in French and Arabic at Alexandria at the end of 1884:—

"The *Direction Générale* has the honour to inform the public that the Administration has just issued new postage stamps of 10 and 20 paras, and of 1 and 5 piastres, of the following colours:—

10 paras, green.  
20 ,, rose.  
1 piastre, blue.  
5 ,, grey.

"This new issue will come into circulation on the 15th of next December.

"The stamps of similar values now in circulation may be employed singly, or in conjunction with the new ones, for the payment of postage until the 1st of Dec., 1885. After that date they will be obsolete, and no longer accepted in the Egyptian post-offices.

"The stamps of 5 paras and 2 piastres will be the same as those actually in use.

"*Alexandria*, 20th November, 1884."

These stamps were duly issued, and as they were in the same design as those of the preceding issue, and only differed from them in colour, they call for no special comment. It will, however, be noticed that the 10 par., 20

par. and 1 piastre, which are the equivalents of our ½d., 1d. and 2½d., were among the earliest stamps to assume the colours which are now supposed to be universally imposed by the Postal Union for those values. The appropriation of green by the 10 paras was the cause of the alteration of the 5 piastres to slate.

No further changes were made until 1888, when the three stamps with values expressed in *paras* were replaced by new stamps on which the values were shewn in *millièmes*. To these was added a new value, 3 mil., in Jan., 1892. This was printed at first in dark marone, but was changed on Feb. 1st., 1893, to orange, the 2 pi. being altered at the same time to an orange of a browner shade in order to prevent confusion. Though the *millième* values are apparently in designs exactly similar to those of the stamps which they replaced, an examination of the details will shew that an entirely new die, including the central design, was made for each value. A new value, the 10 piastres, was issued in 1889. This stamp can be found in two marked shades of mauve, the later printings being very much brighter than the earlier ones.

The next change was marked by the appearance of the stamps on the chalk-surfaced paper, a change which affected the 5 mils in 1902 and which has since extended to all the values of the set. The series was strengthened, in 1906, by the addition of a new value of 4 mils, printed in a bright vermilion.

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS.

Though Penasson, the printer of the second and third issue of postage stamps, had been superseded in that department, he was called upon in 1884 to produce some stamps for use in collecting the amounts due on insufficiently prepaid letters. The design, which was the same for all the five values, was severely plain



and simple but very suitable for its purpose, the amounts which they claimed being the principal feature. All values were lithographed in dull red on paper bearing the impressed watermark (a crescent and star) which was used on the 1867 issue. The perforation was 10½. In 1886 the stamps began to appear printed in a new shade,—rose red.

It was evidently considered an extravagance to use watermarked paper for stamps which it would have paid no one to counterfeit, and

so the new printings in rose-red were on poor unwatermarked paper.

All values of both the watermarked and unwatermarked sets are known imperforate or partially perforated, but these are only proofs and were never issued. The 2 piastres, wmkd. imperf. vertically, is an exception, as it is known postally used. Among the proofs may be found unwatermarked stamps in the dull red shade of the watermarked issue. The lithography was not very satisfactory, for the unwatermarked 2 piastres is known with the IF and part of the R of *TARIF* missing; this I have seen both perforated and imperf., but both were obviously proofs. I have not heard of a used copy; the error was probably corrected.

In 1888 the set appeared with a different colour for each value; the 5 and 10 *paras* stamps giving place, at the same time, to stamps of 2 and 5 *mils*. Imperf. proofs of these stamps also are known, and on the proofs of the 1 piastre blue I have seen the following varieties:—(a) "*PIASTRE*" and (b) "*IASTRE*," in which, besides the letter "*P*," the upper part of the "*1*" is missing.

The 5 piastres of this issue is a very scarce stamp, and has received the unwelcome attentions of the forgers, who find their task easier by the fact that the stamp is lithographed on unwatermarked paper. The forgeries are dangerous, but I have not yet seen one which exactly imitates the shade of grey in which the genuine stamp appears.



A new perforating machine was used for this issue, gauging 11½.

The stamps just described were very short-lived, as in the following year they were displaced by a set of four values printed by Messrs. De La Rue. These values comprised the 2 mil., 1 pias. and 2 pias., as before, and a new value, 4 mil., the 5 mil. and 5 piastres being dropped. Like the ordinary postage stamps, these Postage Dues were watermarked crescent and star and perforated 14. A provisional 3 millièmes was created in 1898, by surcharging the 2 pias. orange. Beneath the new value, which is printed diagonally across the stamp, is its equivalent in Turkish. There is a variety in which the last character in the native inscription, which stands for the numeral "3," is so defective that another surcharge of the numeral has been printed above it. The surcharge is also known upside down, and is very scarce thus.

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

A stamp for official correspondence was

issued in 1892. The work of Messrs. De La Rue, it is very similar to the 5 piastres postage stamp, but with the corner spaces and side labels filled with ornamentation instead of indications of the value, and the central representation of sphinx and pyramid giving place to a curved inscription "Service de l'état," and the same words repeated in Turkish, on a white ground. The watermark is the same as on the ordinary stamp, and the perforation is 14. Just before its withdrawal it appeared on chalk-surfaced paper. Presumably this stamp, which had no value expressed, did duty on any sized official packet. The Government was evidently alive to the possibility of making a little profit on the issue, as, shortly after its appearance, a notice was inserted in the Egyptian papers stating that obliterated specimens of the stamp were offered to the public at 1 piastre each.

The set of postage stamps, overprinted O. H. H. S. in block letters and in Turkish, appeared in 1907. These seem to be very extensively used, but as the overprint is the work of Messrs. De La Rue there are no varieties to chronicle. When first issued these stamps were not sold unused to the public, and for some little time there was the usual difficulty in getting them and the usual leakage at high prices, but apparently they can now be easily obtained as they are quite plentiful in mint condition.

I cannot finish this article without a reference to the large round labels bearing the names of Egyptian towns which used to be at once the wonder and the joy of every school-boy, but which are not now so plentiful. These were not postage stamps in any way. Moens said of them, in his book on Egyptian stamps published in 1880: "They are an economic substitute for sealing wax, but do not in any way frank the letters to which they are attached, merely indicating the particular office from which they had been sent." In spite of this scathing remark he proceeded to describe all the known varieties with the care and accuracy which characterized all his work; I think they numbered several hundred. If anyone is interested in them he should endeavour to procure Moens' book (not an easy matter) where he will find all there is to be found. I do not, however, recommend the labels to my readers.

## Current Chatter.

By ANGUS MCTAVISH.

IN a recent number of an American exchange I read that "With the advent of cooler weather the amateur stamp collector has taken up his work again, and in the windows of nearly every stationery store and little notion emporium in the city are once more displayed neat packets of stamps."

"Little notion emporiums" tickles me, and yet they say our American cousins haven't time to be poetical.

Mr. Astley Clerk, who contributes fortnightly a most interesting column of philatelic news to the *Jamaica Times*, gives me a most kind invitation to visit Jamaica. He says he is sure I should enjoy the visit, and the trip out. I am sure I should. By a strange oversight he forgot to cable over to reserve a berth for me on one of the West Indian boats.

There must be quite a number of people in England who would be pleased to gladden the hearts of our West Indian friends by encouraging the McTavish to bide a wee in the land of pineapples. Only a single ticket need be booked, for I am sure the Jamaicans would be only too pleased to pay my fare back to England.

Donations will be suitably acknowledged in these columns; in fact I have already received the sum of two pence from Mr. Lincoln, Jr., towards my passage ticket, outfit, etc. The surplus of this amount I am to spend on hiring a Cayman Island-bound schooner, and buying up a supply of Cayman Island stamps to replenish the Holles Street vaults. If another kind friend were to send another twopence, I might see my way clear to call in at Papua and the Maldives on my way back.

Funnily enough, I also received last month another invitation to leave old England. An old Queensland chum wrote to tell me that he knew of a lot of gum trees that looked as if they wanted to get cut up for firewood. He also insinuated that he thought a little hard graft would do me good. If he only knew how hard the poor old Tavish worked he wouldn't make such unkind remarks. Why it is not two months ago since I made up my mind to remount my simplified collection of Wadhwan, think of the mental strain necessary before I can get the stamp mount ready.

In the Oct. 30th *Fortnightly* there are a few jingle verses in praise of the *S.C.F.* as an advertising medium. There is also the following: "The regular advertiser in the *Fortnightly* doesn't get much leisure for writing poetry." If that is the case, I think it should be compulsory that every dealer should advertise in our every-other-Saturday seidlitz powder—paper, I mean. What with writing out advertisements and cheques, I guess there wouldn't be time to worry patient collectors with approval selections.

A writer in a recent number of *G.S.W.* classes stamp collectors under three headings: (1) the money maker, whose only object in collecting is a monetary one; (2) the individual whose pride lies in stating how many "thousands" he or she has in their (sic.) collection; and (3) the person who *studies* the collection, and tries to gain from the stamps as much knowledge as is possible. The same author tells his readers to hurry up and get into the third



division, for "that is where the *pleasure and profit* of Philately are to be found."

I guess when I start out to collect stamps, not write about them, I will give Nos. 1 and 2 a miss in baulk.

Looking through this month's stamp papers I came across the following *page* advertisement. Lack of space compels me to omit the stuffing, but here is the essence:—

**Approval Sheet Department.**—Many thousands of varieties of Postage Stamps now appear in this section. No Rubbish, such as German Locals, Japanese Telegraphs, etc.

**Complete Set of 5 Handsome Chung King Stamps, Free,** to all Collectors purchasing Packet No. 1052.

Personally, I would rather have a good old honest Japanese Telegraph, wouldn't you?

Rumour hath it that Messrs. Gibbons & Co. are not going to issue a 1910 edition of their catalogue. Mr. Oliver, of Bright & Son, is, I hear, dreadfully cut up at the news. He offers to supply each of S.G. & Co.'s customers with a copy of his A.B.C. Catalogue, at published price, to help him tide over until 1911. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., also, are willing to fill the void with a copy of their 1910 catalogue, also at published price. I haven't heard from Champion, Senf, Kohl & Co.; doubtless they are too upset to write, but I have no doubt they, too, will take compassion on poor catalogueless collectors, also at the published price. Brother dealers are always so ready to assist one another.

I have just heard that Mr. Peckitt has purchased a big collection. Have you heard likewise?

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### Head Quarters for Meetings:

MILLS' RESTAURANT,

14, Broad Street Place, Liverpool Street, E.C.

(Adjoining Finsbury Circus).

The monthly meeting was held on Nov. 11th at Mills Restaurant in Liverpool Street, the President, Mr. J. R. Burton, being in the chair.

The routine business was transacted and thereafter an interesting discussion took place on the manner in which the Customs arrangements of some of our Colonies and foreign countries hamper philately. It was resolved that the Society should take the matter up with the various countries in question and also suggest it as a subject for debate at the forthcoming Philatelic Congress to which Messrs. Burton, Edwards and Leon were appointed delegates. Most of the new issues of the past month were passed round for inspection and amongst curiosities shown were a copy of the halfpenny green, Cape of Good Hope, watermarked Anchor, with an error on the plate causing it to read "halfpenny," and a pair of Leeward Islands' shillings, the left hand stamp of which had a considerably dropped "R" in the name. A special postmark of the Valencia Stamp Exhibition was also exhibited, strange to say, with the remarkable error of date "Nov. 6th 1900."

Mr. Leon gave an exceedingly interesting display of the pictorial issues of Tasmania with notes, and a most exhaustive explanation of the numerous varieties of perforation which owing to the size of the stamps had to be made with old single line machines which gauged 11 and 12½ at Melbourne and 12 at Hobart. From his investigations it appears that most frequently the outer lines of perforations were omitted. When such omissions were discovered the machines were used indiscriminately for remedying the defect. Some issues even got over to Hobart with perforations missing, this giving a chance for the 12-gauge to appear. Owing to this haphazard method of supplying missing perforations, it is not unusual for each stamp in a corner block of four to have a different set of perforations. The combinations though very clearly set out by Mr. Leon appear to be almost endless. A new plate of the penny stamp was re-engraved locally, but all the other local prints were from electros made from the London plates of Messrs. De la Rue & Co.

Mr. Leon practically confined himself to exhibiting unused specimens, but there must be a large field of varieties left open to the collector of moderate means amongst the used stamps of this series.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Leon, and then the competition of the evening took place.

The countries displayed were all to be West Indian. Though there were not a great number of exhibits, each one was of very high

quality and interest, the medal being secured on vote by Mr. Wiehen, for a very fine display of St. Lucia.

The next meeting is on December 8th, when one of the Hon. Presidents, Mr. W. B. Edwards, B.Sc., will give a paper and display on Jamaica, a big attendance is hoped for.

The Secretary desires to point out to members that it is absolutely necessary for them

to sign and return at the earliest possible moment the form of agreement of rules circulated with the Annual Report.

The Secretary will also be glad to hear from philatelists who would like to become members of the Society; it is particularly desired to increase the membership of working, medium, general collectors and specialists in the neighbourhood of London.

## Adhesive Postage Stamps of Chili.

By J. R. BURTON, F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from Page 216).

The Civil War came about in the following manner:—

In the Eighties the Liberals had come into power, and manipulating the Presidential Polls towards the end of the decade, placed their second President, Balmaceda, at the head of the State. He was filled with a burning desire for reform—re-arming of the Army and Navy, Universal Schools, the curbing of the Roman Catholic Church were cardinal points in his policy, and in the spirit of Punch's parent who said to the miserable child, "I've brought yer out ter enjoy yerself and yer bally well got tu," he insisted on the nation digesting reforms which it was not robust enough to stomach.

Poor Balmaceda's feast of reason proved but a barmecide banquet for himself. His hot-headed insistence on reform and determination to gain his ends by fair means or foul, created a powerful opposition party, which, after he had committed several acts in contravention of the Constitution, felt itself strong enough to raise the standard of revolt and on January 7th, 1891, with the aid of the Navy, inclusive of our old friend the ex-Peruvian Huascar, under the command of Admiral Montt commenced hostilities. The Navy went north and after a severe struggle seized for the Insurgents the City of Iquique, and the great tax-paying nitrate-producing surrounding territories; with the cash thus secured the Revolutionaries procured arms from Europe and raised an army of 10,000 men. Meantime Balmaceda in the south though holding the capital and Valparaiso was hampered by want of funds. If only he had been able to command the services of an eminent post-mistress from the West Indies, the few trifling millions he required surely would have been easily raised. A nice little batch of surcharges, "Balmaceda normal and inverted," "The Chilean Arms" with double stars and treble exes, &c., &c., would have brought the necessary cash into his depleted treasury, and the face of Chili might have been altered without the aid of earthquakes. But it was

not to be! The insurgents held the sea, brought their 10,000 men south, defeated the President's 14,000 at Placilla, on the 18th December, 1890, and occupied the capital. Balmaceda, hiding in the American Legation, committed suicide on the expiration of his term of office in September, a sad monument to his own misguided zeal. His last days of power had been marked by acts of cruelty, such as the shooting down of young students, but his policy survived and was eventually adopted by his successful opponents and by them carried out in a constitutional and business-like manner.

Personally, I regret that so interesting and important a struggle has gone uncommemorated on the stamps; a head of Balmaceda would be more interesting to me than a score of dotted "I's" in other countries or a list of repaired teeth in the perforating machines of Australia. Just fancy! Over eight months civil war and no surcharges! What a wasted opportunity! Where else shall we find such philatelic virtue this side of the millenium.

Mr. Fred. D. Walters has very kindly drawn our attention to the fact, that in the September instalment of this series, in describing the large 5 surcharge, we inadvertently transposed the sizes of the genuine and the forged.

And now at last we become fairly up-to-date in the interesting stamps of this country by reaching the present issue. The American Bank Note Co., put on their mettle by the whirling events of 1904, in 1905 produced for the Republic a new series of stamps portraying in pleasing variety no less than three different Columbuses, and thus endeavouring to please everybody; those who wished for a variety of portraits; those who insisted that the laws required Columbus only upon the stamps; and those who were critical of the discovering hero's personal appearance. We have Columbus in statuesque profile, Columbus three-quarter face in the old cocked hat, looking a little like a boy scout, and Columbus three-quarter face, as a member of the hatless brigade compensating what he loses in hat by the luxuriousness of his locks.

Little criticism has been meted out to this handsome series, and as long as Columbus looks so well there is no need for the Chilians to rush any of their other national heroes into the portrait gallery. Consider how greatly the Argentine series would have been improved if only there had been strength of mind enough in their Postmasters-General to keep some of their presidents' faces off the stamps. The stamps are printed on white unwatermarked paper and perforated 12. The marginal inscriptions we hope to describe in our next instalment.



The 1c. green, 2c. carmine, 3c. brown and 5c. blue are printed in single colours and though the portrait is put in the south-east corner of the stamp, the design is not unpleasing. It is not overloaded with details and "Chile : Correos" numeral, value and Star all stand out boldly and simply. The rest of the series is bi-coloured and consists of 10c., 12c., 15c., 20c., 30c. and 50c. with vignette of Columbus, again in the corner, as if he had been a naughty boy, and the frames in the following colours—10c. grey, 12c. lake, 15c. purple, 20c. orange-brown, 30c. blue-green and 50c. blue. The 15c. was originally intended to be printed in an unusual shade of carmine-red, indeed the "specimen" copies were sent out in this colour.



The 1 Peso which completes the set is a worthy successor to our old brown and black friend, being practically of the same imposing dimensions and bi-coloured in the unusual combination of grey-black and brown, though originally struck off in a sort of pale sage-green colour and sent out as specimens in that guise. There was until just recently quite a long list of stamps from different issues coming over on letters from Chile. The 1 peso, brown and black; the 20c. grey and 50c. brown, Waterlow; the 50c. violet

and black, "typo Napoleon," being mixed with the low values of the new set, showing a praiseworthy intention on the part of the authorities to use up all their remainders in a proper postal manner in preference to going into the stamp trade like some of our own Colonies, alas, and driving a profitable bargain with some eminent stamp dealer.

Having finished reviewing the ordinary adhesive stamps we may turn for a brief moment to the Unpaid and other labels used in connection with the Postal Service. First of all there are the Acknowledgment of Receipt Stamps.



They were printed on unwatermarked paper, without marginal inscriptions, in sheets of sixty and perforated 12. First issued in 1894 in chocolate colour, the type was modified in 1878 by the substitution of the words "Avis de paiement" for the letters AR in the bottom label and the colour was changed to black, apparently printed in long strips of two stamps deep. A more important set of issues were the Multada stamps. These were a device originally of the postmaster of Valparaiso and were made by a handstamp very like a postmarking contrivance. In the first place no doubt this stamp was used directly upon insufficiently franked letters. Probably the Chilians were quite equal to declaring to the collecting postman that this was only an additional postmark and some of the postmen possibly were apt to be forgetful when handing in the cash received for these unchecked handstamps; so instead of impressing the dies upon the letters the enterprising Postmaster stamped them upon sheets of yellow paper, which were gummed and perforated like postage stamps. The values were mixed upon each sheet and as every complete sheet seen so far has differed in its setting from the others, it seems very likely that they were hand-stamped from time to time, according to the necessities of the moment.

Gibbons give a type supposed to have been used in 1888, according to their catalogue, containing the spelling "Mulada," which I have not seen, but it is worth noting that the irregularities and freaks in frames and letters of all the 1895 issue on yellow paper (perf. 13) are constant.



These defects can be noted in the above illustrations and by their constancy go to prove the correctness of the supposition that these labels were merely handstamped.

*(To be continued.)*



## November, 1909, Report.

### List of Officers and Committee, 1909-10.

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All Officers of the Union are ex-officio Members of the Committee.

## MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee, 2/6, and Subscription, 5/., should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members, not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas.)

## NEW MEMBER.

F. Hagen, Sydney, N.S.W.

## NOTICES.

The Second Meeting of the Season was held at Essex Hall on Thursday 11th, when there were present: J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), W. Schwabacher, L. W. Fulcher, W. Schwarte, L. L. R. Hausburg, J. E. Joselin, F. F. Lamb, W. Hadlow, P. L. Pemberton, A. B. Kay, Oswald Marsh, A. Levy, G. E. Strong, W. E. Lincoln, the Hon. Sec., and Messrs. J. R. Burton, J. A. Leon, M. Z. Kuttner (visitors). Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg gave a display of a portion of his matchless collection of the stamps of Victoria, comprising the early issues from 1850 to 1862, a wealth of reconstructed plates, pairs, strips and blocks used and unused and including many unique rarities. The display was accompanied by valuable and interesting notes on his researches and discoveries in connection with these stamps and enlarged photographs, etc. Mr. L. W. Fulcher, in proposing a vote of thanks, truly remarked that this display represented the ne-plus ultra of collecting. Mr. Joselin, in seconding and the President in supporting, voiced the satisfaction of all present, and a unanimous and hearty vote of thanks was accorded.

The smoking concert takes place on Monday 29th, at the Horse Shoe Restaurant, Tottenham Court Road, at 8 p.m. The Sub-Committee have provided an excellent entertainment. Members are advised to secure tickets early, bring their friends and enjoy a pleasant evening.

The next monthly meeting will be held at Essex Hall on Thursday, Dec. 9, at 7.30 p.m., when displays will be given by the President, Mr. Joselin, and the Hon. Sec. There is still plenty of room in our forgery collection for further donations. Send them along, please.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

November 15th, 1909.

## New Leaves to Cut.

### SCOTT'S 1910 CATALOGUE.\*

We have duly received, direct from the publishers, a copy of their 1910 Catalogue.

With the exception that a good many of the medium rarities have been priced a little higher, we find but few alterations have been made since the last edition of the Scott Catalogue.

For U.S.A., Canadian, and West Indian stamps generally, Scott's Catalogue should prove a more reliable basis, for market prices, than any published in England. In U.S.A. we find that very many of the prices quoted are much higher than those given in Gibbons.

As an instance of the absurdity of the English firm's pricing, we can quote the 6c. re-engraved of 1882 priced by S.G. & Co. at 2d. Considering that every American dealer who comes to Europe holds a commission to buy this stamp, it is surely about time it was correctly priced.

U.S.A. stamps are more correctly priced by Scott than S.G. & Co., especially as regards recently issued high values. The following list is instructive:—

		GIBBONS.		SCOTT.
		s.	d.	\$ c
1893. Columbus issue.				
\$1	used..	7	6	2.75
\$2	.. ..	6	0	2.25
\$3	.. ..	15	0	4.00
\$4	.. ..	16	0	5.00
\$5	.. ..	16	0	6.50
1894-95. No wmk.				
\$1	.. ..	4	0	1.25
\$2	.. ..	7	6	3.00
\$5	.. ..	15	0	5.00
1895. Wmkd.				
\$1	.. ..	1	0	0.50
\$2	.. ..	6	0	2.00
\$5	.. ..	7	0	2.25
1898. Omaha.				
\$1	.. ..	4	0	1.50
\$2	.. ..	8	0	3.50
1902-3.				
\$1	.. ..	0	9	0.40
\$2	.. ..	5	0	1.75
\$5	.. ..	7	6	4.00

Unfortunately, Scott's list of U.S.A. stamps is not illustrated, as is the rest of the catalogue, but we find a full list of U.S.A. Revenues, which partly compensates us for this omission.

As we have before pointed out the U.S.A. catalogue has many admirable features; it combines the simplicity of a Whitfield King with the thoroughness of a Gibbons, and by so doing is equally suitable for an advanced collector or a beginner. The explanation of this dual utility is that all sub-varieties are listed in smaller type.

The following illustrates the system:—

QUEENSLAND, 1879-80.

No. 57. 1d. scarlet.

a. 1d. brownish-orange.

- b. Queensland.
- c. Imperf.
- d. Imperf. horizontally.

In some countries the list of varieties is not so inflated as in Gibbons. In South Australia, for instance, we find the 10, 11½, 12½ and compound perforations are listed as one set. Curiously enough, however, the list of Queensland is more elaborated than in S.G.'s.

In many other countries we find many specialist's varieties listed, not given in English catalogues.

Generally speaking, we have nothing but praise for Messrs. Scott's Catalogue, while we certainly think no philatelist's library would be complete without it.

### WHITFIELD KING'S 1910 CATALOGUE\*

The 1910 edition of this publication does not show many alterations. In the preface we are told that

"There are comparatively few changes in prices, and these are chiefly confined to advances in stamps which have become obsolete since the last edition of this Catalogue was published, and some reductions in cases where we have been able to buy in a cheaper market than formerly."

Furthermore we are told by Messrs. Whitfield King, who in their preface seem to have a kindly remembrance for overworked reviewers, that

"The total number of stamps issued to date as included in this Catalogue is 22,926, of which 6,835 are apportioned to the British Empire, and 16,091 to the rest of the world. Europe has issued 4,834, Asia 4,423, Africa 5,154, America 5,034, the West Indies 1,856, and Oceania 1,625."

The good features of the Whitfield King Catalogue are so well known that it is almost unnecessary for us to enumerate them. Principally the virtue of the Ipswich publications rests in the fact that it is par excellence the catalogue for the beginner, or the more advanced *general* collector, for such it is all that could be desired. The specialist, however, can have no use for so simplified a book for, with one or two exceptions, varieties, such as specialists love, are ignored. The exceptions, however, are wonderfully weird.

Under India for instance we find a full sized illustration of a block of six of the double printed ¼ anna of the 1882-88 issue. True this variety is not given a catalogue number, but why mention it at all? Under Canada we find five values of the 1859-64 set listed *imperf. forate*. Surely such stamps, if indeed they are not postmarked proofs, should not find a home in a simplified catalogue.

As stated in the preface many recently issued stamps have been increased in price since they have become obsolete.

Under Argentine we find the 12c. brown of the current type catalogued 1/6 whereas in the 1910 Scott this stamp is only listed 2½d.

As regards the 1d. Queensland, *yellow*, Crown and A, the publishers of the Whitfield King & Co. Catalogue have no intention of being left

\*Published by the Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Ltd., New York, U.S.A. Price, 50 cents, paper bound: 65 cents, cloth.

\*Published by Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich. Price 2/-.

out in the cold, for they price it at 8d. both unused and used.

Prices are, however, generally speaking, moderate, and we can safely say we should have no hesitation in recommending this catalogue to beginners as the best one published. It has, we believe, a much larger circulation amongst young and general collectors, than any other price list, a position it will undoubtedly worthily maintain.

The price of this year's edition has been raised from 1/6 to 2/-, a fact we somewhat deplore, as the extra 6d. will be sure to influence a good many youthful collectors. For the additional expenditure, we get, however, a better binding.

### More Cross Criticisms.

WE have received the following letter from Mr. G. Brunel, the author of the book on Greek Stamps, which we reviewed in July, and which was the subject of another article in September:—

"DEAR SIR,

"Will you allow me to make a short reply to your remarks which followed the insertion of my letter in your number for September?"

"(1) I maintain my assertion on the subject of the making of the plates. It is *physically* impossible to engrave on a galvano-plastic surface, the layer of copper is so thin that it will not bear the application of a graver's tool.

"(2) If I have described 8 types (8 states of printing) for the Greek stamps, it is because there are 8 and not 10, 12 or 20. I handled 10,000 stamps before writing my work, and all, without any exception, could be attributed to one of the 8 types. If you could submit to me a stamp which could not be attributed to one of these 8 states of printing, I should be curious to contemplate such a phenomenon. The block of four stamps which you cite is badly printed and does not disprove the truth of my assertion.

"(3) Assuredly when one cannot, with documentary evidence, assign correct dates to the printings, it is better to group them in periods; it is more logical and more correct, and I congratulate myself on having done it. I will pass over the question of the omissions which you are pleased to remark upon. That would lead to too long a discussion; I could mention many things which your authorities have neglected.

"(4) When an author has the honesty to add a bibliography at the end of his work, it is because he has a general knowledge of those works. I have always pursued this course, and I have published 25 works on science and history; this to shew your readers that I am not a young man of letters (alas! no).

"(5) The 80 lep. with blotch on the cheek is

correctly cited. *There was no entire sheet which had this mark*, but only certain stamps on the sheet; the blotch was caused by a blur on the galvano-plastic surface of the plate; it is found on all issues of Athens.

"(6) As for the 'phantom,' this is a printer's error which passed unperceived. It should have read '20' instead of '50.' (Typographical errors occur in England as well as in France).

"Finally you appear to convey the impression to your readers that I assign the types to the stamps without describing them. Do you not find, on the contrary, that each stamp is described minutely—colour, state, gum, control, paper, etc.? How then can you say that my classification will lead to confusion in the minds of philatelists? I seek in vain.

"Yours faithfully,

"GEORGES BRUNEL."

Only prefacing our remarks with the explanation that the italics in the above translation are *not* ours, we will make no general remarks but will proceed to answer M. Brunel's very positive assertions.

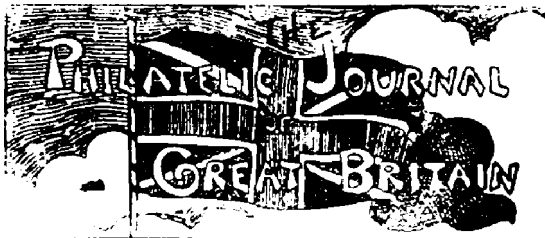
(1) Whatever else may be physically impossible it is certain that the differences in the spacing of the figures of value in relation to the word LEPT on the Greek stamps, prove that the whole sheet was not made up from a single die bearing the value.

(2) We have nothing to add to what we have already said about the "types." We have no doubt of M. Brunel's ability to fit any stamp we may send him in with one of his 8 "types"; no one would contradict him. Would he take 100 stamps, separate them into 8 types, and, after mixing them all up, again sort them into types and arrive at the same arrangement as before? We doubt it.

(3) It is possible, by means of sufficient numbers of dated copies, to assign dates to the various printings. We did not complain that M. Brunel's dates were wrong, only that he missed out several important printings, and this he admits.

(5) We do not doubt that the blotch on the cheek in the 80 lep. occurs in certain positions on the sheet owing to there being a blurr on the surfaces of some of the *clichés*, and we think that this is a fact worth noting. But our statement that this was caused by bad printing is borne out by the fact that it does not occur in the carefully-printed Paris prints.

(6) We are sorry if we have misled our readers. We certainly did not mention the fact that M. Brunel gives very careful descriptions of the printings which he includes in his list; but as each variety is inexorably assigned to some incomprehensible type, the effect of what would otherwise have been a useful, if incomplete, work is sadly marred.



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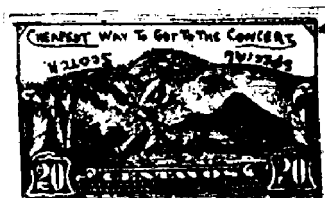
**Publishers' Note.**

NEXT month's *P. J. G. B.* will be a grand double Xmas number, containing several interesting and important articles, and we can confidently recommend all stamp collectors and dealers to invest in a copy. Our advertisement rates will not be increased, so those dealers who do not advertise with us, should send us copy not later than December 9th.

**J. P. U. Smoker.**

A LARGE muster is expected at the Horse-shoe Restaurant, on Monday, the 29th, on the occasion of the Fifth Annual Smoking Concert of the International Philatelic Union.

The programme is already printed and is of such a novel nature that it is sure to be treasured by all who procure it, as a curious philatelic memento. The list of "turns" is printed on a reply postcard—the issues of Liberia, Honduras, Salvador, Shanghai, and other countries have been pressed into this special service. The reply card is enclosed within a cover which is ornamented with illustrations of various well-known stamps with inscriptions ingeniously altered to suit the occasion. One of these, the 20c. Special Delivery of the Philippine Islands, is illustrated herewith.



The admission tickets are also of a novel character, being printed on old postcards of India, 1 anna on 1½ anna, blue. A certain number of tickets remain unsold at the time of writing and collectors or dealers who would like to be present, whether they are members of the I.P.U. or not, may obtain them from the Hon. Sec., Mr. T. H. Hinton, 26, Cromford Road, East Putney, on payment of 1/- each.

Attention is particularly drawn to the hour of commencement, which is fixed for 8 o'clock sharp. It is hoped that the Concert will be over by 11 o'clock, which will give suburbanites an opportunity of getting home at a reasonable hour.

**The Philatelic Congress.**

PROPOSED PRESENTATION TO MR. BERNSTEIN.

IN furtherance of a suggestion put forward by a correspondent of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, a small Committee of Philatelists has been formed to make arrangements for a suitable presentation to Mr. J. J. Bernstein as a recognition of his work in connection with the inauguration of the Annual Congress of British Philatelists. The members of the Committee are: Major Evans (Chairman), Mr. J. Read Burton, Mr. P. L. Pemberton, and Mr. Percy C. Bishop.

Philatelists interested in the subject are invited to put themselves into communication with Major Evans, who has consented to act as Treasurer of the Committee, at Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, S.E.

## The City of London Philatelic Society.

NOTES CONTINUED.

By W. B. EDWARDS, B.Sc.  
(President 1906-07 to 1908-09).

My friend, Mr. A. H. Harris, in last month's notes, credited me with the Presidency for 1905-06, whereas I was Vice-President for this year, and did not attain to the full honour until a year later. I have recently resigned without offering myself for re-election, since I believe that the interests of the Society are best served by such a change; and our new President, Mr. J. Read Burton, is certainly the right man in the right place.

The membership of the Society, which numbered 60 at the beginning of the 1905-6 season, is now something over 100, and although this may seem slow progress, it is my opinion that the percentage of really earnest philatelists is at least as high as in any other Society; it is quality, not quantity, that tells. Several of our members have made a name in the philatelic world by their researches on the stamps of their particular countries, and the literature of the day frequently bears witness to the value of these researches.

Referring to our past reports, I notice that our good friend, Mr. J. E. Heginbottom, has on many occasions lent us portions of his well-known collections for display, and is sending us his Indian stamps this season. Non-members have frequently rendered us assistance, Mr. F. J. Melville giving us a paper on China, Mr. W. Schwabacher a display of United States Fiscals, Mr. R. Frentzel a display of his well known Mexican stamps, and Mr. W. E. Lincoln one of his typical papers, "Philatelic Monuments to War." The latter is again coming before us this season with a paper entitled "Tragedy and Postage Stamps."

In like manner, several of our members have rendered assistance to other Societies by reading papers or giving displays, the Royal Philatelic Society included. This exchange is, in my opinion, a very good thing for all concerned, and might well be developed in other directions for the benefit of philately in general.

Mr. H. W. Westcott and myself have both given papers upon our philatelic education, with the usual emphasis upon the good bargains made, and the customary discreet silence *re* the bad ones. Further histories would be appreciated, since so many of our members have emerged from the chrysalis state, and have learnt to use their wings! I cannot make particular reference to members' displays with notes or papers, but Mr. A. H. Giles deserves mention for his exhibits of

the stamps of the less known or so-called "unpopular" countries.

Competitive Displays were introduced during the 1906-07 season, and have proved a great success, so that they are likely to continue as a permanent feature of our programmes; some are arranged to give as far as possible equal chances of success to all members, others are designed to bring out the best collections of a more limited number. All can surely contribute to our "Fifteen stamps issued prior to 1860," since Condition is considered of primary importance, not Rarity.

Discussions have, unfortunately, been given up for some time past, but might well be revived with our larger membership. Diffidence more than want of knowledge has stood in the way of success in this direction, but it seems to be true that a subject must be prepared by a proposer and opposer, who must be supported by those who have given the matter due thought beforehand. Informal discussions seem likely to be always failures. Ten-minute papers have also been temporarily suspended; these were intended for members who had not sufficient opportunity to go as far as others into the intricacies of stamp collecting, but who could occupy the attention of the meeting for a shorter time. The reason for suspension is not obvious, since every collector worthy of the name can impart some knowledge to the most advanced; but on the other hand, our time is now well occupied with the papers and displays of specialized collections. A Manuscript Magazine was started on my own proposal, which must have been engendered in a moment of aberration, since most of the work fell upon me, or my colleagues, Messrs. A. C. Constantinides and A. H. Harris; and I am thankful that the large number of philatelic periodicals renders such work unnecessary. The Magazine ran through several numbers, and may one day prove to be a valuable property!

My readers must by this time think that I am writing a record of the Society's failures, but we learn as we get older, and experiments are not to be barred because they may not succeed, or else there would be no progress at all. We stand at present in an enviable position, with an excellent Committee, a well-appointed Club Room, good reference Library, and a good balance in the hands of the Treasurer. Our meetings are not only well attended, but the members take care to make them enjoyable, and visitors may at all times be sure of a hearty welcome. The usual stamp exchanging is not perhaps such a feature in our Society as in some others, but this is not altogether to be deplored; we make up for it by our Exchange Club, which is in good hands.

I do not know if these notes appeal to non-members who may feel inclined to lend a helping hand, or to show us how things should



be done, but if so, they are cordially invited to write to our Secretary, Mr. D. H. Jackson, 80, Hanley Road, Stroud Green; who in one of his few spare moments will willingly reply thereto.

## Report of Post Office Work for the Past Year.

2,907,400,000 LETTERS.

THE fifty-fifth annual report of the Postmaster-General, dealing with the year ending March 31st last, has now been issued.

It is estimated that the number of postal packets delivered in the United Kingdom during the year was 5,035,920,000, or an average of 112.7 per person. Letters numbered 2,907,400,000, an average of 65.1; postcards, 860,000,000, 19.3; halfpenny packets, 953,200,000, 21.3; newspapers, 202,300,000, 4.5; parcels, 113,020,000, 2.5.

The number of letters registered was 19,222,475, and parcels 1,053,506. The undelivered packets, including packets entirely unaddressed and articles found loose, dealt with are estimated to have reached a total of 30,509,000.

The undelivered registered letters and letters containing articles of value numbered 393,468, approximately the same as in 1907-8, and they contained £15,065 in cash and banknotes and £606,325 in bills, cheques, money orders, postal orders and postage stamps.

The total weight of letters and postcards despatched from the United Kingdom to places abroad continues to increase, according to the report, the rate of growth in 1908 being 11.43 per cent., as compared with 9.67 per cent. in 1907.—*Evening Standard.*

## Berne Stamp Exhibition.

WE have received from M. F. Furi, of Berne, particulars of a forthcoming International Exhibition to be held in that city next year.

The following is a list of the gentlemen serving as a committee:

"The Organisation Committee of the International Philatelic Exhibition to be held at Berne in the autumn of 1910, in the halls of the new Casino, is composed of the following gentlemen:

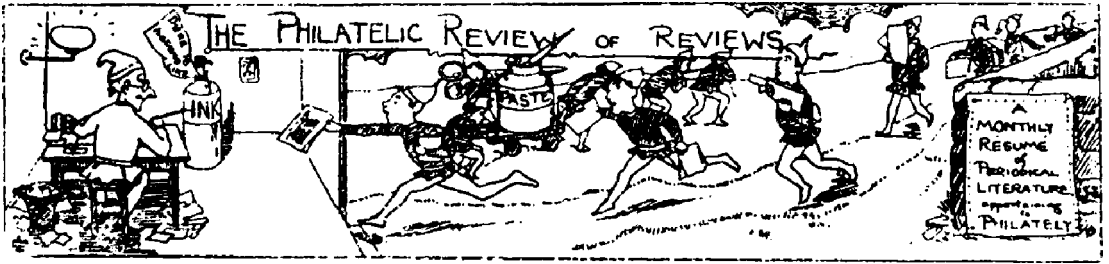
- A. de Reuterskiöld, Lausanne, President.
- J. Schieb, Berne, Vice-President.
- F. Furi, Berne, Secretary of the Exhibition.
- E. Zumstein, Berne, Treasurer.
- F. Arnold, Berne, Secretary of the Organisation Committee.

"All correspondence, etc., must be addressed to the Secretary, Neuengasse 39 (Von Werdt-Passage) Berne."

## Mr. Dingwall on France.

From *The Stamp Lover.*

"THE subject of to-day's letter is France, if we follow the order of the price-list, but what can I say about France which has not been said much better elsewhere? And if we turn to prices I must confess that I see little to correct or with which to find fault. I have never quite been able to understand how it comes about that the unpaid issues of this country are so cheap. Take the first 10c. black type for instance, which is priced at 4d., it appears to have been in use from 1859 to 1862. I have copies on entires dated up to the end of this latter year, but though four years is a long period for a stamp in a big country like France, one must recollect that few letters comparatively can have been unpaid, and one would be inclined to place the proportion at something like one specimen to every 500 which bore stamps. I think, in all probability, the stamps were used for some sort of local official correspondence, and would be glad if any of your correspondents can throw fresh light on the matter. I cannot find out that the stamps were ever used as the Swiss unpaids are to this day, for all sorts of parcels, whether in the country or abroad. When I was in Ceylon, parcels from Switzerland frequently arrived with one or more 5frs. upon them, which quite accounts for their comparative numbers and low price. The 60c. blue of 1878 is the one which is most difficult to find really fine, and its price, 1s. 3d., certainly recommends it as a good investment, and all the more so as it is the only value which I do not think I have ever been offered in any quantity from the Continent, nor have I ever been able to discover any dealer with a stock for disposal. If I have begun at the wrong end of this country you must put it down to sheer modesty and for fear of 'rushing in where angels, &c.' The postmarks of this fine country are very interesting and offer a fine variety, and, no doubt, many of your readers know the curious one of OR in a circle which I have found on the 10c. of 1849, and on the imperforate Empires, but never later. Then a great number of the stamps are to be picked up with the Anchor obliteration in black, and much more rarely in blue, and a red cancellation is to be found on nearly all issues excepting the first, when it is found only on the 20 and 25c., at least so far as my experience goes. In the 1853-60 issue of the Empire the dotted red cancellation is found on nearly all values, but it is decidedly rare on the 5c. green and the 10c. bistre and all its other shades. Other stamps bear the little P.D. in a rectangle, and some on this side are to be found with the red London cancellation showing that the letter was registered. I should like to pursue this subject further, but fear space will not permit, and must turn to prices before my limit is reached."



NOVEMBER 20, 1909.

## Philately at Home.

The October *Philatelic Record* contains a further long instalment of M. Ernst Zumstein's capital "Handbook of the Postage stamps of Switzerland; as this is a most interesting and valuable contribution we will levy tribute. The current chapter deals with the issues of 1882, onwards and the following extract relating to the perforating, etc., will be read with interest:—

After the abolition of printing in relief the gumming of the stamps before printing was no longer necessary, and accordingly from 1882 it was done first by hand and from the year 1906 by a special gumming machine, which simplified the procedure considerably, and in making it easier rendered possible a much more even layer of gum. The gum itself consisted of a mixture of six parts pure gum and one part dextrin. The application of pure gum, without the admixture of dextrin is not desirable, as it renders the paper more brittle and imparts to it a greater tendency to curl up. After gumming followed the perforating. The cross in double oval was then applied as a control mark as before.

In the issues of 1882 onwards the perforation plays so great a role in the comparative values of the different stamps that it is necessary to devote some words to it. The perforating machines in use at the Federal mint for the perforation of Swiss stamps allowed of the perforation of 100 to 300 stamps, or one to three sheets at one operation. The sheets to be perforated were fixed in a special frame, which was placed between two sheets of brass, the upper of which contained the necessary pins for the perforation of 100 stamps, arranged so as to pass accurately into corresponding holes in the lower plate. By means of a lever the machine was closed up and the pins of the upper plate were pressed through the sheets into the corresponding holes in the lower plate and the perforation thus effected.

The Federal mint in Berne contains four perforating machines driven by power. For the perforation of the stamps there were three different kinds of perforating plates. The existence of these three kinds is due to the fact that the dimensions of the paper in different printings is liable to variation from the normal size, narrower or broader, and this variation has to be met by alteration in the perforating. As causes of these changes of dimension we may look to the expansion of the paper in consequence of unequal moistening for the copper-plate printing as well as irregularity in quality, nature, and thickness, which would occasion differences in the perforation of one half to a whole tooth per stamp. To these causes may often be

attributed bad centring; especially bad is the centring of the stamps of all values issued to the public in the year 1898. In this year stamps are found with white borders of from 3 to 4mm.

Another notable contribution to the *Record* is a short article written by "B. W. W." that doughty champion of entires, entitled, "British Entires." This paper, which deals mostly with the one penny embossed envelopes, is to be continued. Reviews, regular features, etc., make the October *P.R.* a capital exchange.

In the *London Philatelist* for October we find the conclusion of Mr. M. P. Castle's excellent paper entitled "Notes on the Lithographed Stamps of Trinidad, 1852 to 1860." Mr. Castle has studied, very minutely, these stamps and the following table, relating to the "blue" lithographs may be taken as correctly representing the approximate numbers issued:—

1st Printing	..	5,000 blue.
2nd	"	2,250 blue, on card.
3rd	"	10,000 greenish blue.
4th	"	4,000 bright blue.
5th	"	15,750 slate.
6th	"	12,500 blue.
		<u>49,500</u>

Mr. Castle warns collectors against forgeries of these stamps. He says:—

I am glad to say that I have not seen many imitations of this issue, but they do exist, and I show three specimens, one purchased by me at auction and the others from a dealer. It will be seen that they are dangerous imitations and I think that I should not have been able to condemn them unless I had the "types" of the plate to compare with.

The other contents of the *L.P.* are not of great note, consisting as they do so largely of matter that has already appeared in other journals. Mr. Courtenay Smith, of Sydney, contributes a letter in which he ridicules the idea of collecting "Postage Dues." Personally, we also should like to see "Postage Dues" relegated to oblivion, simply because there

are more *interesting*—to our mind—things philatelic to collect.

Mr. Courtenay Smith however states, "The collecting of Postage Due labels is not Philately." Why not? Surely as much "philately" can be garnered from a sheet of "dues" as from a sheet of postage stamps—both are printed, perforated, gummed, watermarked, etc., in precisely the same manner. If philately means a study of these things, why leave Postage Dues out in the cold? Personally as we have already stated, we dislike "Dues," also practically all recent issues of the last twenty years, not because they are not worthy of study (if indeed any stamps are!) but because we find we know so little about the earlier issues that we have no time for the later.

Mr. Smith illustrates his article with a full sized reproduction of a portion of an envelope showing two 1d. Victorian stamps, current type, and two 2d. Postage Dues, cancelled by means of a blue pencil. Such a philatelic rarity is surely worthy of being reproduced, on art paper, as a presentation plate to be given away with the Xmas number of our learned contemporary.

Another reason why we dislike "Postage Dues" is that you are always supposed to reverently approach them with a capital P and a ditto D, to follow suit.

In the October 16th number of *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* Mr. Henry J. Crocker, the well-known American collector of Hawaiian stamps contributes a very interesting article entitled "The So-called Reprints or Re-issues of Hawaii, 5c. and 13c., 1853 Type," wherein he states that he believes that these stamps were not re-printed or re-issued. From Major Evan's comments that gentleman seems to think differently. Mr. B. W. H. Poole continues his "Countries of the World" and deals with the stamps of Hanover. Some topical notes—not particularly interesting—and an instalment of Mr. Dalwigk's article "An 'error' Collection" together with a New Issue list, completes the contents.

In the October 23rd edition M. L. Hanciau continues his monumental article dealing with "The Postal Issues of Denmark and Colonies"; in his instalment he deals with the first issue of Iceland. Mr. Poole perseveres away at his "Type Collection" article, "Its

Advantages and How to Form One" (personally we should think that the main advantage would be the emoluments which the writer receives for his labours). Mr. E. L. Goodwin writes about the recent Austrian Portrait Gallery series, and incidentally tells us all about European history from 1685 onwards. Mr. D. B. Armstrong treats us to another chapter of his "Twentieth Century Colonials"; he deals with the stamps of the British Central Africa Protectorate (Nyasaland). Mr. C. J. Phillips contributes a couple of pages of Topical Notes, we learn that the lucky writer is now en route for Brazil, Uruguay, Argentine Republic, etc. We are also told that there will not be a 1910 edition of the catalogue published. The 1911 edition will, however,—so we are told—be ready late in 1910. A page and a half of Antonio Buster's Talk of the Day—parts of which are very amusing—and the usual capital New Issue list complete an average number of our contemporary.

In the Oct. 30th copy of our exchange, we find a further instalment of Mr. J. B. Leavy's "Stamps of Nicaragua," and the concluding chapter of M. Ch. De Bont's splendid treatise dealing with the Postage Stamps of Belgium, other contents consist of a readable article dealing with the "Llandoverly Stamps of Jamaica," Mr. R. E. R. Dalwigk's "Bypaths of Philately," "Foreign Notes," by Frank Phillips, Correspondence, etc.

The November 6th copy contains a further instalment of M. L. Hanciau's "Postal Issues of Italy and Colonies." Mr. A. J. Palethorpe is responsible for a long paper dealing with "Notes on some Adhesive Materials used in the Manufacture of Postage Stamps," to our unlearned mind the title seems a suitable one. Mr. C. J. Phillips treats us to a capital paper, entitled "Mexico, 1872, 6 centavos green, Notes on the Four Plates and the Retouches." Mr. Phillips illustrates his notes with a plate containing fourteen enlarged illustrations, while he modestly credits Mr. Hugo Griebert with the honour of having made the discoveries—while he—Mr. Phillips, only acts as chronicler.

The following extracts show how interesting is Mr. Griebert's discovery:—

As collectors are aware, the bulk of the stamps of the 1872 issue are printed on paper with an intricate

pattern of *blue* wavy lines on the back, and in most cases this *blue* pattern does not quite cover the sheets of stamps, but leaves a white space all round.

On the face of each stamp we generally find:—At the right-hand side two numbers, about 14 to 17 mm. apart and printed thus "29 72", "30 73", and so on. The first number on this issue is the number of the town to which the stamps were sent to be used, the second number is the last two figures of the date of issue (72=1872); in addition to these numbers we find the name of the town, in type varying very much in size and shape, generally without any frame, but some of the names, such as 

OAXACA
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 are usually enclosed in a rectangle.

A consideration of all these points helped Mr. Griebert to put together two full sheets of 100 stamps each, printed in ten rows of ten.

The next thing to do was to study the individual stamps more carefully, with a view to finding out on what system the lithographic transfers had been laid on the stone for printing, and a little examination enables us to see that there are ten distinct types of these stamps, which are mixed up in a most extraordinary manner in building up the transfer sheet.

Before I go any further I should explain that I am using the terms Plates I., II., III. and IV. merely as numbers by which to refer to the different plates, and that I am not able to prove, at present, that they were used in this order; though I think I am probably right about the order of Plates I. and II., at least, as I will show later on.

The following points will be found sufficient to identify the ten varieties of type:—

Commencing, as usual, from the left—

- Type 1. A coloured dash on the outer frame-line at right, above the letter "v," and "v" and "o" in "CENTAVOS" connected at top.
- " 2. A break in the left frame-line just below the tablet containing "SEIS."
- " 3. A break in the right frame-line over the letter "N," and another over the middle curl of the lower scroll at the right.
- " 4. A white space in the pearly oval below the letter "C" of "CORREOS," and another below the "O" in "CENTAVOS."
- " 5. A dot of colour at the right of the upper curl of the lower scroll at right.
- " 6. A small dash on the frame-line below "MEXICO," between the letters "IC."
- " 7. A double stop or dash after "MEXICO."
- " 8. A dent in the right frame-line, above the "T" in "CENTAVOS," and a small dash on the top of the "E" in "SEIS."
- " 9. The shirt front is unshaded.
- " 10. A white space in the pearly oval above the "M" of "MEXICO."

Other contributions of more or less general interest, a page of "New Issues," and a couple of pages of "Antonio Buster" complete a capital number of the Weekly.

The October number of the *Philatelic Adviser* contains a further instalment of Mr. B. W. H. Poole's "Stamps of the British South Africa Company." The following extract—relating to the Perkin's Bacon stamps of 1896 will interest our readers, especially as it will give them new varieties to hunt for.

There were four head-plates in all, numbered 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively, and these may be divided into two groups, comprising (a) plates 1 and 2, (b) plates 3

and 4. There are many differences in the design in the stamps of these two groups showing that either a new die was made for plates 3 and 4, or, more probably, the original die was retouched. There is one very simple test by means of which the stamps of either group may be instantly identified—in those from plates 1 and 2 there is a minute coloured dot behind the tuft of the tail of the right-hand springbok, while in the stamps from plates 3 and 4 this dot is omitted. But this, though the simplest test, does not form the only difference, as the following list will prove:

#### TYPE I.—PLATES 1 AND 2.

1. The lines forming the lion's nose and eyes are thin and the shading on the body is light.
2. The fine lines in the indentations at the top of the shield are quite regular.
3. The bar on which the lion is standing does not touch the shield.
4. The whole of the engraving on the shield is clear and distinct.
5. The shading on the head of the left-hand supporter consists of ten short lines.
6. The thin line below "FREEDOM" does not show on the shading lines.
7. The line under "COMMERCE" is thin and indistinct.

#### TYPE II.—PLATES 3 AND 4.

1. The lines are thicker and the shading is heavier.
2. These lines vary in thickness and are often broken.
3. The bar on which the lion is standing always touches the shield at the right.
4. The engraving on the shield is not so clear.
5. The animal's head is shaded with lines and dots.
6. The whole of the line is shown very plainly.
7. This line is thick and quite plain.

There are many other differences and, speaking generally, it will be found that the shading in Type II. is heavier than is the case with stamps in Type I.

Some values exist in both types, others in only one, those I have seen being as follows:—

Type I.—1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 8d., 1s., 3s., 4s.

Type II.—½d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 2s., 6d., 5s., 10s.

A capital New Issue list—a page of "Notes and Extracts"—and some short Editorial Notes form the principal contents of our contemporary.

The November number of the *Herts Monthly Report*—the second to be published this season—contains, among other matter, the first instalment of a most interesting and instructive article from the pen of that well-known specialist Mr. A. J. Warren, dealing with the early stamps of Holland. Mr. Warren is a *philatelist*, and from the study of a big number of both unused and used Dutch stamps has been able to make some interesting discoveries. He deals with the imperf. 5c., and illustrates his descriptions with a number of enlarged illustrations. Amongst other discoveries he mentions three varieties of the 5c. where it is evident that the engraver's tool has slipped, curiously enough, below the upper outer frame in each instance. Lack of space prevents our making an extract from Mr. Warren's article, but we feel sure no collector interested in Dutch stamps can afford to

miss this article in its entirety. The *M.R.* also contains a long instalment of Mr. Frentzel's notes on Mexican Stamps.

The November *Stamp Lover* contains several interesting articles, one being a paper on the "Stamps of the Principality of Trinidad," by Mr. J. Arnott-Hamilton. We are told how one, J. A. Harden-Hickey, a Frenchman, tried to found a republic on the small island of Trinidad, off the Brazilian coast.

Mr. L. W. Crouch contributes a lengthy instalment of his article dealing with the Fiscal Stamps of the United States. Mr. H. H. Harland concludes his paper dealing with the "Virgin Islands and their Postage Stamps." Mr. Harland's concluding remarks, relating to postmarks, are of interest:—

Before closing this article, I again call the attention of those interested in postal obliterations to the very interesting additions that could be added to their collections from the issues for the Federated Leeward Islands, showing the various island postmarks. Although the most interesting would be those used during the years 1890 to 1899, when only the Federated issues were available, all the Leeward Island issues following have also been in use concurrent with the special issues described, from the last-mentioned period down to the present time. As before written, the field is open, prices are quite moderate, and I will adhere to my opinion that they will well repay for the search, as they are certain to add additional interest to the collections.

Some very readable "Correspondence" a short paper entitled "The Deterrent Catalogue," contributed by Mr. F. H. Melland; a short essay entitled "New Stamps or Old," under the signature, J. Ireland, and other matters make the November *Stamp Lover* an interesting exchange. Mr. Ireland, who seems to hold a brief for new issues makes the following remarkable statement.

There is little doubt that lists in the catalogue will be cut down considerably in the future. Certain shades, as they run out of stock, are left unpriced for a year or two and then dropped out. Postal fiscals are being gradually treated in the same way. The punctured Tunis stamps are now left out of Part II., and doubtless a few unnecessaries will go overboard with each new edition of the catalogue. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons distinctly state that theirs is a catalogue of what they have for sale. It stands to reason, therefore, that if they are unable to price, through being out of stock, some particular variety for two or three years, that they will simply leave it out of their list. There is, then, one stamp less in the catalogue, but it cannot be said that that stamp has ceased to exist. And yet that is what most collectors appear to think!

The philatelic knowledge displayed in the latter half of the above extract is stupendous.

Recent numbers of the *Postage Stamp* have all contained further instalments of "Miss Fitte's" capital article, entitled

"The World's Stamp Errors." This feature makes our weekly contemporary of interest.

The October 16th *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* is a grand "New Season Number," and we find a good deal of capital philatelic reading within. Under the heading "At Home and Abroad," "Philatel," a very old friend of our readers, has some extremely trenchant remarks, but thinly veiled, regarding touting for dealers' advertisements. Mr. B. W. H. Poole commences what promises to be one of his admirable articles, he tackles the postage stamps of British Honduras. Mr. I. J. Bernstein is responsible for a page wherein we find the greater part of his presidential address given before the Manchester Juniors, on October 7th. A further instalment of M. Sigismond Jean's "Postage Stamps of Uruguay," and a host of other articles both original and reprinted (bang goes our chance of a *S.C.F.* medal) makes the "New Season" *Fortnightly* a splendid publication with almost as much reading matter as any half dozen of its competitors (we think the design on the *S.C.F.* silver medals very pretty). The October 30th number of the *S.C.F.* contains a further instalment of Mr. Poole's "British Honduras" and the conclusion of M. Sigismond Jean's "Postage Stamps of Uruguay."

The October number of the *West End Philatelist* contains a further instalment of Mr. Poole's "Postage Stamps of the Gold Coast" and a lengthy chapter of his article dealing with the stamps of Bulgaria. In the former we are told that British Stamps were used in the Gold Coast. Has Mr. Poole ever seen an entire from the Gold Coast franked with British stamps, not being of course a ship letter? We think it is now generally admitted that English stamps were never issued there.

The October number of the *British Philatelist* deals with the 10d. and 1/- values of the surface printed stamps of Great Britain. Many collectors have heard of the "circle K" variety to be found on the second issue of 1/- stamps, but as few know how it was caused we think the following explanation from our contemporary will be of interest.

"When the stamps bore letters in the corners, they were struck from a die, which was pierced in the four

corners so as to allow of the introduction of letter-plugs, which were changed as required. There is no doubt that, in striking the lead for the stamp in question, the 'K' plug was not driven quite home into the die; consequently, when the plate came to be made, there was a slight circular indentation in it. This would be overcome by the printer putting extra 'overlays' where this indentation occurred, so that the circle would not be observable in any of the sheets printed, until the 'overlays' began to give way. Our printer would, as soon as he observed the defect, rectify it by putting fresh 'overlays.'"

## Philately in the Colonies and Elsewhere.

The September number of *The Australian Philatelist* contains a rather humorous editorial note dealing with the value of Esperanto as a correspondence medium for collectors. We are informed that "a high educational authority in Queensland claims that after two hours' study he was able to read fluently." We guess the Bananaland gentleman, if he is a stamp collector, also has Australia and the rest of the world complete in his album.

The publishers of our "down under" exchange will be pleased to receive letters in "Esperanto" provided that a subscription to their journal is enclosed and that the remittance is negotiable!

There is also a suggestion that all the Australian Philatelic Societies should "federate." Mr. Smyth says:—

"Surely, if the six States can arrange a satisfactory basis of federation, the various philatelic societies can easily arrange a common working ground and a uniformity of procedure which will be beneficial to all."

We think the idea a good one, while our Mr. McTavish tells us he would like to be with the Perth boys when they paid their annual conference visit to either Sydney or Brisbane.

Under "Federal Prospects" we learn that "preparations" will be begun at once for the introduction of a uniform series of stamps within twelve months."

Under the heading "A History of Early Australasian Philatelic Societies" Mr. Smyth interestingly tells us of the early doings of Australasian club men. We learn that a philatelic society was advertised in New Zealand in May, 1881, but beyond that point it does not seem to have advanced. On Sept. 10th, 1885, the Philatelic Society of Sydney was inaugurated, monthly meetings were held for some time, but eventually were abandoned.

On June 10th, 1887, the Philatelic Society of Australia was founded, but it appears to have "unfounded" itself very shortly afterwards. The Philatelic Society of Victoria made its bow to an apparently unappreciative public during October of the same year, like its Sydney friend it soon became defunct, to be resurrected however a few years later. The oldest established of the Australasian societies seems to be the Philatelic Society of New Zealand which was born on the 5th September, 1888, and which is still like Charlie's Aunt. The same year saw the founding of the P. S. of South Australia. On July 21st, 1890, the Sydney Philatelic Club came into being, while sixteen months later the Dunedin (N.Z.) Society was formed.

The October number of the *Australian Philatelist* contains an article dealing with the 12½ and 13 perforations of the line-engraved stamps of New Zealand. The author, Mr. P. B. Phipson, throughout the course of his paper totally ignores that Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg was responsible for the separate listing of the 12½ and the 13 perforations, a fact evidently unknown to Mr. Phipson for he says:—

"The fact that stamps were perforated by Messrs. Fergusson & Mitchell, of Dunedin, for nearly two years before the New Zealand Government possessed a machine of its own has, thanks (I believe) to the researches of Mr. A. T. Bate, long been known to collectors, but at the time the announcement was made, perforations were not considered of such importance as now, and this probably explains why such an interesting fact was practically lost sight of until Mr. Hausburg recently drew attention to it."

From a perusal of Mr. Phipson's article it seems to us that he has wilfully refrained from giving credit, where credit is due, as his paper throughout bears strong evidence that Mr. Hausburg's published studies of the Dunedin perforations have been very largely drawn upon.

Regarding the 6d. *red-brown* Mr. Phipson says:—

"Although this stamp is included in Mr. Hausburg's list, we have never seen perf. 13. If it exists it must be extremely rare, as a number of copies were examined."

We should suggest that Mr. Phipson either examines yet a few more red-browns or withdraws the implied suggestion that the perf. 13 variety is a myth.

That the perforations of the Star 12½ and 13 stamps have been minutely examined by Mr. Phipson there seems to be no doubt, as the following extract will prove.

As an enthusiastic collector of the early issues of

this colony, I have often thought it a matter for regret that more attention has not been paid to the varieties of perforation of those stamps issued before 1871.

Some time ago Mr. T. Acocks and myself were examining a number of copies of the 2d. blue for re-touches of Plate II., and were then surprised to find how much the perforation varied. I thereupon decided to go further into the matter, and found that they could be separated into four well-defined types, viz. :—

- D, perforated by Messrs. Fergusson & Mitchell, of Dunedin, very small holes (13).
- G1, perforated by N.Z. Government (large regular holes, 12½-12¾).
- G2, perforated by N.Z. Government (small, somewhat square holes, 12½-13 bare).
- G3, perforated by N.Z. Government (large irregular holes, 12½-12¾).

The above types are arranged in their chronological order. As yet owing to the difficulty in obtaining dated copies, I cannot definitely state the exact date on which any one type superseded the preceding one, but roughly the dates for the various types are :—

- D, December, 1862, to the latter part of 1864;
- G1, latter part of 1864 to end of 1866; G2, during 1867, 8, 9; and G3, from 1869 onwards. But, of course, this is only approximate.

Personally we should suggest that New Zealand specialists confine their attention to studying the products of two machines only and *not* four.

The October number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* contains, we are glad to note, a little more philatelic matter and less of the "lighter vein." Mr. E. W. Wetherell continues his paper entitled "The Stamps of Spain and Cuba, April, 1855, to February, 1860." Mr. J. Godinho contributes an interesting paper entitled "Philately and Swadeshi," wherein he points out what a lot of speculation in unused stamps takes place amongst the minor postal officials of the Convention States.

Messrs. W. T. Wilson and E. Wetherell contribute the first instalment of a capital article dealing with the 1868-72 issues of Mexico. Some of the information given in the *Philatelic Adviser* nearly a year ago has been reprinted by its author, while plenty of fresh details have been added.

Reviews, and other features are all excellent, making the October number of our Indian contemporary a most excellent publication.

In the copy of *Mekeel's Weekly* dated October 2nd we find a long and interesting article entitled "The Postal Emissions of Crete" contributed by Mr. Wm. Ward. We also learn that stamp collecting in the States is in a very flourishing condition, where the school boy is concerned, especially in Chicago where we are told

"fully 25 per cent. of the schoolboys in Chicago carry with them to school, a small book of 'traders,'

as they term their duplicate stamps, and 'swop' them for specimens they have not."

Several of the newer American journals bear evidence of the boom that stamp collecting enjoys at present in the States.

The September number of *The Stamp Journal* in its yellow cover is quite an imposing looking journal but, as usual with American publications it is extremely difficult to single out any one article for special notice.

The *Collectors' Journal*, a double number dated June-July, also has a varied "contents bill," in this case however other hobbyists, besides stamp collectors, are catered for. We find short articles dealing with "old firearms" "mineralogy," "geology," etc.; while even "snails" come in for a page of readable gossip.

We have received No. 2 of *The Attleboro' Philatelist*, an eight page little journal published by a dealer of Attleboro', Mass, U.S.A. It seems no worse than the majority of the lesser American stamp publications.

The October number of *The Hobbyist* is duly to hand and contains the usual number of well assorted scrappy notes. We, however, appreciate our little Canadian exchange and hope it will be able to take advantage of the present boom in collecting, and enlarge its pages and attract philatelic writers who are capable of presenting us with some original philatelic research.

## Philately on the Continent.

*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* has unearthed a Report made by M. Barthe, controller of the manufacture of postage stamps in France, under date 7th February, 1865. A passage in this report, after asserting that the impressions from the plate of the 4 centimes were very unsatisfactory, goes on to say that the die was about to be retouched in order to correct the faults.

After examining large quantities of dated copies of the 4 centimes stamp (laureated type), our contemporary is able to state that there is evidence to show that a new plate from a die retouched by M. Albert Barre was brought into use in 1865. The printing of stamps issued before 1865 is hazy, the outline of the back of the head is confused with the back-ground. After 1865 the stamps are clearer, the head stands out better and, a characteristic sign, the hair at the back of the

head is sharply defined and is not confused with the background. In addition, the ribbon which falls at the back of the neck is much more clear in the re-drawn type and the shading on the cheek is much better defined.

Possibly a closer examination will reveal some actual difference in the design by which the stamps from the two plates may be discriminated; but in any case the discovery is sure to excite a great deal of interest among specialists in French stamps.

M. L. Hanciau continues his studies on the stamps of the Spanish West Indies in the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung*, of October 15th. If we were surprised to find San Domingo dealt with last month, we are not less startled this time at finding Mexico as the second item in his bill of fare, and once again we must plead ignorance of the fact that Spanish stamps were ever used in that whilom colony.

Towards the end of 1861, an expeditionary force, consisting of French, British and Spanish troops was sent to Mexico, under the commandship of Marshal Prim, to demand compensation from the Mexican Government, in respect of various outrages towards subjects of the three powers. The force landed early in 1862, and encamped at Drizaba, near Vera Cruz. On the 15th of February a conference took place between the representatives of the Mexican Government and the plenipotentiaries of the three powers, the upshot of which was that the British and Spanish Governments came to terms with Mexico, and their troops were soon afterwards withdrawn, leaving the French alone in the field.

M. Hanciau publishes a lengthy correspondence on the subject of the postal arrangements for the Spanish troops; for our purposes it suffices to say that the  $\frac{1}{2}$  and 1 real stamps of the Spanish West Indian issue of 1857 were utilized, bearing the circular overprint, "Division Expedicionaria a Mejico," with the single word "Correo" in the centre of the circle. This is not a mere postmark, because the stamps were also cancelled by a special obliterator provided for the use of the field post office. Very few of these stamps can have been used by the troops, because their use appears to have been quite optional.

A new comer in philately is "Noticias Filatelicas," which is published in Santiago de Chile, and of which the first two numbers lie before us. The first number contains a couple of chatty articles, of which the first recommends the collection of stamps to the rich, and in the second a lady collector advocates the collection of stamps by the fair sex in general. (N.B.—Suffragettes please note). We wish our latest contemporary a long and prosperous career.

In the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* of November 6th, Herr Kröger begins an article

on the suspected surcharges of Paraguay, in the course of which he condemns a large number of bogus overprints of the "Habilitado en 20 Centavos," recognising as the only genuine variety S.G. 184. We are very pleased to note that none of these condemned varieties are listed by Gibbons.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* dated October 15th, contains an article on the stamps of Greece, signed E. Huelle, which, for the most part, is taken up by a description of what is described as M. Brunel's "discovery" of eight "types" of the 1861-86 issues. Unfortunately the 1910 edition of the Yvert & Tellier Champion Catalogue has adopted these "types" as a basis for a re-written list of the early stamps of Greece, and this article in the *Echo* is intended to give the patrons of the catalogue a more extended description of the "types" than was found possible in the pages of that work itself. M. Brunel has been taken at his own valuation in France, but we fear that the new arrangement will only add to the mystification of those who attempt to follow it.

The principal article in *L'Echo* for Oct. 31st is from the pen of M. R. Mezzadri, on the stamps of Romagna. This is a most interesting contribution. In it we are reminded that the Italian Government has never made any reprints of any of its old stamps, but that it has erred very seriously, in a philatelic sense, in its treatment of remainders of the stocks of stamps of the provisional Governments of the Neapolitan Provinces of Modena, of Parma, and of Romagna, and also in not taking any care of the *matrices* and plates which were used in these and other States.

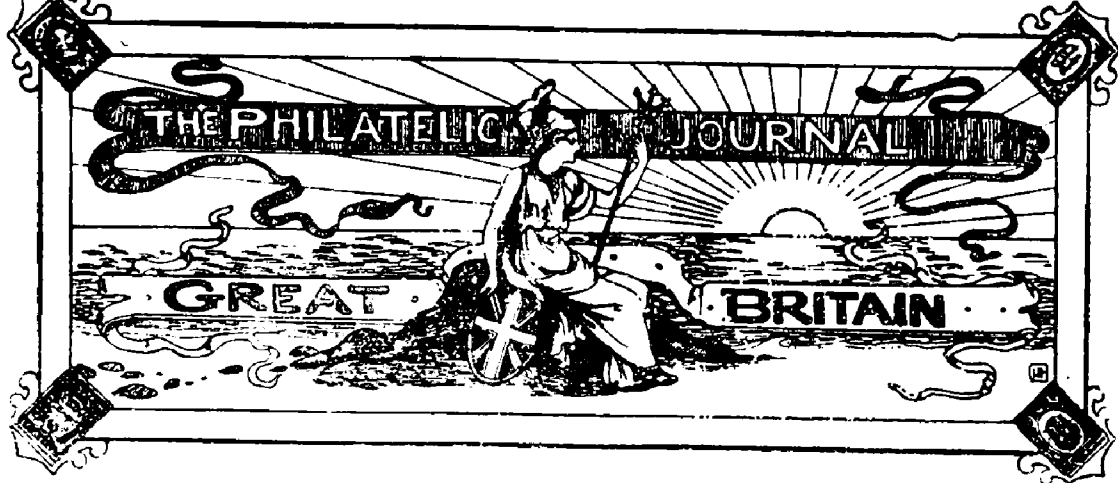
As is well known, both remainders and blocks fell to the lot of any postal officials who happened to get hold of them and the latter have been made use of for making private reprints. The following computation of the quantities printed of the original stamps of Romagna is taken from Dr. Diena's work:

$\frac{1}{2}$ baj.	78,000	4 baj.	90,000
1 "	125,000	5 "	46,800
2 "	93,000	6 "	15,000
3 "	60,000	8 "	21,000
		20 baj.	6,000

Of these, M. Mezzardi tells us practically all of the 6 baj. and most of the 20 baj. must have remained unsold when the stamps were withdrawn. The 6 baj. is the rarest one used, indeed, until late years it was omitted from many catalogues in the absence of any proof that it was ever issued. Its rarity is explained by the fact that there was no postal rate, either domestic or foreign, with which this value corresponded.

M. Mezzardi unfortunately does not give his readers any tips for distinguishing between genuine and forged obliterations, but he gives them one valuable piece of advice—get them on original envelopes!





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[PRICE 2D.]

## \* \* Editorial. \* \*

OUR editorial note last month in reference to what, for want of a better title, we may call immature specialism, has created no little controversy. Amongst those collectors who have kindly voiced their opinions is one whose knowledge of philately is so extensive that we can but treat his **Random Reflections.** remarks with consideration.

The trend of this gentleman's discourse is that collectors and students of current, and recent perforation and surcharge varieties, are but doing in their humble way, what the "great moguls" of the past, and the present, are doing, and have done for similar varieties of the older stamps. Our reply to this forcible argument is that, in our opinion such students are devoting time and money to an unworthy object, a proceeding which cannot but in the course of time considerably help to prostitute the science of philately. The more the extraneous varieties of recent stamps are unduly thrust into prominence, the more will be created a yet bigger demand for such abnormalities, a demand that the unfailing supply of double-perforated freaks, inverted surcharges, and so forth, will pander to.

Although we cannot agree with those specialists who are so entirely bigotted that they would totally ignore every kind of research in the field of modern issues we would like to remind our readers that, although there is room for both schools

the older offers far more scope for intelligent and interesting discovery. If it could be said of many of the present day vagaries that they were totally free from any taint of speculation, as can be said of the old issues, we should not feel so bitterly inclined against the modern deluge. Unfortunately, however, they are not, in very many instances, free from the private speculators' wire pulling, with the result that we object to the idea that big profits should be made out of general collectors, or new issue specialists, who unthinkingly line the pockets of some astute P.O. employer, or his medium the dealer.

We have also heard the argument expressed that by collecting and studying current abnormalities the present day collector is making the way clear for the next generation. We sincerely hope that, in, say, twenty years time such varieties will not be considered worthy of album space.

The plea that new issues cost less to purchase than old does not hold good as a justification for specializing in certain varieties of new issues. There are hundreds of old stamps, only catalogued a few pence each, which will amply repay any study that may be devoted to them, while the quest after them will be doubly as interesting as simply buying new issue varieties that find their natural outlet through the medium of a dealer's approval book.

Cayman Islands, Tasmania and New Zealand are but three offenders of recent days, the first named with unnecessary surcharges and the other two with equally unnecessary perforation vagaries. Surely no thoughtful collector would essay the

task of completing the issued perforation varieties of the last mentioned country unless he had a banking account which, were it used to purchase old Europeans, would be large enough to *complete* one or more countries.

## Notes on Australian Stamps.

BY THE EDITOR.

(Continued from page 197).

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

As my series of notes relating to South Australian stamps can, I am afraid, be but of little interest to the general collector, I propose to bring them to an end this month by contributing a chapter dealing with the "long" type of stamps now in use in South Australia. These stamps, although they do not interest me, undoubtedly offer plenty of scope for research, not only as regards the plates they were printed from, but also in regard to their perforation.

As I have candidly to admit that they are of too "new" a nature to interest me as a collector, I think perhaps it would be well were I to confine my attention this month to making extracts from well informed sources regarding their history. For this purpose I could not do better than refer to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, which paper is of great value to any collector desirous of obtaining information relating to the issues of the past ten years.

The first of the "long" stamps to be issued was the 9d. lake in the same type as illustrated below, which duly appeared in October,



1902, to be followed by the 3d., 4d., 6d., 8d., 10d., 1/-, 2/6 and 5/- stamps before the end of the year. The two high values, the 10/- and £1, were not issued until some months later.

These stamps were printed in sheets of 60—6 rows of 10 on half sheets of the ordinary paper watermarked with 240 "SA and Crowns" (4 panes of 60) and well perforated 11½. The old plate used for the "Postage & Revenue" stamps of 1887-95 was used to print these stamps, with the two words erased. A duty plate for each value, consisting of the word "Postage" for the blank space at the top and the value at the bottom was also made, with the result that the stamps were printed at two operations, leading to, as we frequently find, the word "Postage" or the value being printed out of alignment. For all the values, with the exception I believe of the four highest, more than one duty plate for the word "Postage" and the value was used, with the result that we find variations in the length of the words. This variation sometimes differs to the extent of at least 1mm. The eightpenny value however shows a much greater variation, with the result that two varieties are catalogued.



On this value is found the very rare error "EIGHT" instead of "EIGHT"; it occurred once on every sheet, being the last stamp but one on the second row. This "error" was noticed before many sheets had been sold, with the result that it is estimated that not more than 50 copies were sold to the public.

The following letter, contributed to the *Australian Journal of Philately* and which I reproduce from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* of Oct. 8th, 1904, throws a little light on the subject:—

Postmaster-General's Department,  
Melbourne,

SIRS,

2nd August, 1904.

With reference to your communication of the 28th June last, respecting an error in the lettering of one stamp in every sheet of eight-penny stamps issued by this department in South Australia recently, etc.. I have the honour, by direction, to inform you that enquiry has been made into the matter, and the following is a copy of a report submitted by the Deputy Postmaster-General, Adelaide, in regard thereto:—

"That the error 'eight' for 'eight' was made by the workmen of Messrs. Sands & McDougall, who prepared the stereotypes for this office.

"As soon as the error was discovered we discontinued selling any of the stamps on which the incorrect word was printed.

"The mistake was quite accidental, and is much regretted. The stamps withdrawn from sale are in a sealed envelope and will, as usual in such cases, be burnt in the presence of two responsible officers."

As already stated all these values were perforated by the machine which gave a gauge of 11½. Towards the end of 1903, a new machine however was brought into use for these stamps, which gauged a true 12. We have therefore the full set (3d. to £1) perforated 11½; four values 3d., 4d., 6d. and 9d., perforated 12 (a new plate came into use or the higher values would have come out with the 12 gauge) and five values (possibly others exist) which give a gauge of 11½ by 12½.

In 1904, due partly perhaps to the fact that so many stamps with badly centred inscriptions were being printed, it was decided to print the long stamps from a new plate which had the word "POSTAGE" engraved on it. This was done with the result that the current stamps of the "large Postage" set as they are called, appeared.



By this method of printing the "duty plate," which previously had the word "Postage" and the value inscribed on it, had to be altered as the "Postage" would now be superfluous.

All the values of the old set have already appeared in the thick Postage type, either on Crown and S.A. or Crown and A paper.

These "long" stamps of South Australia should prove an interesting study to collectors of new issues as many varieties, caused through careless printing, exist. For instance many of the values are to be found so carelessly printed that only half of the lettering which should be in the value tablet is there, the rest is either above or right off the stamp! These varieties, however, were nearly always noticed before the stamps were sold to the public with the result that the majority were used for franking official correspondence and were perforated with the initials "o.s." or "S.A."

Why these long labels have had such a long life I do not know as, writing from personal experience, I found they were not generally popular in South Australia, especially the 3d. value, which, in conjunction with the 2d. stamp is used largely for registered letters.

As my "notes" relating to South Australian stamps have been of such a desultory nature it would not perhaps be out of place were I to devote a few lines to those stamps overprinted for Departmental use. Such stamps form a study by themselves and are generally ignored by the general collector. In some instances, however, certain varieties are commoner with the overprint than without, or at least appear to be, as there is not the same demand for the former varieties.

The list of these stamps published in the *South Australian Handbook* is hopelessly out of date, so too, although to a much lesser degree, is the excellent list published in the *Monthly Journal* for Dec., 1897. These stamps are not, I believe, listed in any of the present day catalogues, but they are worthy of it, and, as there is a small school of earnest collectors at work on them at present, I hope soon to see a reliable list published.

In fine condition many of these overprints are extremely rare, while the *Handbook* prices are in nearly every instance very much antiquated.

In concluding these notes on South Australian stamps I must, I am afraid, admit that I have not completed a very successful task. In palliation of my rashness in attempting to contribute my quota to the information that already exists concerning these stamps, I can only plead a great love for them. No writer, if indeed I have any right to lay claim to that title, could appreciate more fully the irresistible charms that the old line-engraved stamps have, a charm which has perhaps exercised a baneful effect on me, inasmuch as it has led me to undertake a task, which I have but meagrely accomplished.

## A Servant of the Public.

BY JOHN N. RAPHAEL.

By permission of the Editor of the *Evening Standard*.

"THE Minister of the Posts, Telegraphs, and Telephones requests Mister the Receiver to do everything within his power to expedite the business of the public in the office under his control." A circular with these lines in it had been reproduced in all my morning papers. It is my fate to read a good many morning papers, and the constant repetition of the Postmaster's recommendation impressed itself on me so forcibly before lunch-time that I took courage. For some days past I have had a registered letter on my table. Stay though—this is not strictly accurate. I mean that for some days past I have had a letter on my table which is waiting to be registered. Registration in France has always been a very serious business, and being a busy man I have hesitated about taking that letter to the post office. The summer holidays are not long over. And I am not at all certain what my doctor would say if after a month of fresh air I were to risk my valuable health by shutting myself up in a Paris post office for an indefinite period.

For the French official, whether he be a postman or a post office clerk, does not treat the registered letter with the simple, practical brutality with which it is treated on the British side of the Channel. In England a registered letter is merely delivered. We do such things with more refinement here. Some weeks ago, while I was still away, the postman brought me a registered letter to my address in Paris. Had this happened in London, the hall porter would have received it, signed the book for it, and sent it on to me. Or possibly he would have given my country address to the postman, and I should have signed for it myself when it arrived. We don't do things like that in Paris. When the postman was told that I should not be back for a month, he carried the letter away with him and returned with it in two days. As I live on the fourth floor he climbed up to my flat, rang the bell twice, and went away again. I know this, because the fact is duly recorded upon the back of the envelope. There are fourteen other records of the same journey on the same envelope. Eventually I returned to Paris, but I was not in when the postman called. My wife was, saw the postman, and offered to take in the letter. She also offered, in view of his fifteen journeys up and down the stairs, to compensate that postman with the sum of fivepence. This, of course, was suspicious in itself. The postman quoted folio so-and-so and paragraph so-and-ever-so-much-so of the

regulations. He then told my wife that the letter was addressed to me, and that he had no proof that she *was* my wife. She thought this a little uncalled for, and produced our "Livret de Famille," which corresponds to what the respectable married Englishwoman calls her "lines." This document contains her signature and mine. The postman was much interested, and unbent to the extent of accepting the fivepence. But, of course, he would not leave the letter. That, he said, must remain in his keeping until I should sign for it myself. I signed for it next day—by appointment. The postman came with it at 8.15 a.m. I was in my bath at the time, and as I was beginning to want that registered letter more than anything else on earth, the postman dirtied my nice cork floor for me, and I signed for it in *balneo meo*—I wonder whether that really is "in my bath" in Latin. I should not have got my letter at all unless the postman had seen me write my name in his little book. It was nothing but a tailor's bill after all. I pretend to myself that it *may* have been registered by mistake. But it is, of course, just possible that my tailor was afraid of it's getting lost in the post. Bills have a way of not arriving. I merely tell you this story to show you that registered letters are treated with loving care in France.

As I have said, my notice had been attracted by the Ministerial circular, and I thought that I would strike while the iron was hot, and take my letter to be registered before Mr. the Receiver forgot that he had been asked to expedite the business of the public. There were only sixteen people in the line in front of me at the post office counter. I do not count, of course, the friends of the sixteen or the casual acquaintances they made while they were waiting. I noticed that by one of those peculiarities which the novelist calls, I believe, the long arm of coincidence, there was nobody at all at any of the other counters. The clerks there were conquering *ennui* with little peaches, early walnuts, and polite conversation. One of them was paring his nails with a penknife. But I could see in a moment that he was not a man of fashion. He wore lustreen sleeve protectors, and I don't believe that any man of fashion would do that. After I had been in the office ten minutes or so (I was fifteen in the line now, and beginning to feel hopeful of getting my letter registered before luncheon), a lady came up with a telegram. The lustreen gentleman's speciality was telegrams. A card-board placard hung above his head and said

so. I should never have believed him capable of the activity which he displayed in turning that placard over. In its changed position it bore the legend "Guichet fermé." And he of the lustreen sleeve-protectors, having escaped interruption, continued his private labours undisturbed. The gentleman behind our counter was no specialist. He was a general practitioner. I suppose it was because of his general griminess that he reminded me of a little village shop I used to know where fly-papers were on sale near the door as you came in, and you could buy elderly buns, buttons, and cheap toys, and could subscribe to the twenty-three volumes which were called a circulating library. I shall always remember the fly papers, because they cost me in their time a small fortune in coppers. I shall believe until I die that the papers were a trap for trade as well as flies. Anyhow on windy days you could never escape them as you went out, and the shopkeeper used to make you pay for them because you had crumpled them. That man ought to have become a merchant prince, but I don't believe he did. Pardon this digression and revenons à notre post office.

The man who stood first in our line now was a foreigner. From Chicago, I fancy—but an American undoubtedly. He spoke no French, and he had come to cash a post office order. "Let me have this in notes and gold," he said, in English. The general practitioner looked up at him, and very nearly smiled. Business had been dull that day, and nobody had yet been seriously angry. But he saw that his chance was coming. "Let me have this in notes and gold," said the citizen from "God's own country," turning his cigar over to the far corner of his mouth. I have always envied our American cousins that trick. "On ne fume pas," said the G.P. (the general practitioner), jerking his thumb at a notice to that effect. It does not really matter what the American said. But he threw his cigar away. We were all amused, for though smoking is forbidden in Paris post offices, people invariably smoke there if they want to. "Notes and gold," said the American. The G.P. turned the P.O.O. over and over, and looked at it as though he wondered what it was. Then he took down a large portfolio and turned over a lot of papers. He found the one he wanted, compared it with the P.O.O., and remarked, "De Reek Jones." "Not on your birthday," said the man from Chicago—I'm sure it must have been Chicago—"John Derrick is my name, and I want one hundred and thirteen dollars. And I want it quick, too, savvy! Quick! Comme voo deet ong frongsy—er—veet! Confound you!"

He didn't confound him in the least. "De Reek Jones," he said once more, and added in a sing-song tone, "Carte d'electeur, passeport, ou deux enveloppes adressées en votre nom." Then the gentleman from the other side explained matters. He covered the counter with

papers proving him to be John Derrick, and he stated his honest opinion in good, straightforward, twangy English of the General Practitioner, the European post office systems, and the French Republic. As he was not a French elector, had no passport, and had not (as a simple-minded thief would have done had he stolen the post office order) provided himself with two envelopes in the name of John Derrick. I suppose that he eventually went without his money.

I left before he got it. One of these days I'll get up very early, and will try to register my letter before the rush comes. But it was very kind of Mr. the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs and Telephones to send his circular. I hope one of these days, when they have time, that the officials will distribute it—and even act upon it.

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## Shady !!

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THERE is, we believe, a new colour chart being issued by the Royal Horticultural Society in which colours will be recognised by the number of their page and shade, thus: page 5 shade 4. Philatelists might find this volume a welcome addition to their library, but the colour description of some stamps will always be a matter of contention amongst some of us when buying and selling "scarce" shades. However, this reference book should help us greatly to get over some difficulties, though the new method of substituting figures for words sounds curious to an old stager. Take for instance the 50c. Holland, S.G. 196. One might poetically (!) describe it thus:—

### OLD STYLE.

The frame is golden-bronze in hue,  
The Queen's lips, rosy-red,  
The colour of her eyes, true blue,  
Are not so in this head.  
Her flesh-pink neck is bared between  
The white boa near her breast;  
Her cheeks, straight lined  
Are pale-carmined,  
And—well—you know the rest.

### NEW STYLE.

The frame is page 8, 42,  
The Queen's lips, plate 6, 3,  
On page 18 her eyes, shade 2  
Should match, as you will see.  
The 4, 3 (4½d.) boa has come undone,  
Her neck 2, 3 is bare;  
The checks on page  
9, 5 you'll gauge,  
But we can't plait (plate) her hair.

"NUANCE."

(With apologies to *London Opinion*.)

# The Stamps of Persia.

BY THE EDITOR.

Of all the countries of the world it would be hard to find a more neglected country, philatelically speaking, than is the oldest Kingdom on earth—namely Persia. The main reason for this is not far to seek when we remember the deluge of so-called postal emissions which have showered themselves on us from the land of antiquity.

Apart, however, from these speculative issues, some of which how-be-it their nature, are of interest, we find that the philatelic history of Persia forms a theme which should be of great interest and charm to the student, while those collectors who delight to delve into the very beginning of things, even to thousands of years before postage stamps were, will find Persia a fascinating country. For instance, we are told that in Persia exist at the present moment the wells that were built on the great trade route that traverses the land of the Shahs, a route that was hoary with age, centuries before the city of Babylon came into being.

Another great route, we are told, was that followed by Alexander when he marched through Persepolis and Susa on his return from India! Meditate over these facts ye collectors of Caymans and pictorial New Zealands and reflect that even in the time of Nebuchadnezzar Persian Posts existed.



From a modern point of view, and after all that is what usually appeals to collectors, we find the postal history of Persia, as we stamp collectors know it, commenced as recently as the late sixties when a postal commission was sent to Paris to make enquiries relating to a supply of stamps being sent out to Teheran.

The result of this visit was that M. Barre, the well-known engraver of the then current laureated stamps of France (1863-70), was commissioned to execute designs for a series of Persian stamps. In going to M. Barre the Persian envoys did well, for scarcely could they have gone to an engraver with a greater reputation for delicacy of touch and workmanship. Thus we find that France, the artistic nation, had the launching of Persia's first postage stamps.

The stamps themselves were of the well-known "lion" type, and were printed from four copper plates which were sent to Teheran. This issue—like many of a later date, met with but scant courtesy at the hands of the Persian postal authorities—all sorts of abuses (as we know them) crept in, with the result that the majority of collectors ignore these early stamps as they are unable to differentiate between the good and the bad. In these brief notes it is not my intention to write in a philatelic strain regarding the stamps of Persia mainly for the reason that, in common with most collectors, I must profess a complete ignorance regarding them. I can, however, I trust, point out to collectors the almost unique position that Persian stamps hold.

For several years the stamps from M. Barre's plates did postal duty in Teheran and several other Persian towns where there was a small, usually *very* small, demand for adhesives. These stamps, according to a note in Gibbons' Catalogue, are only found in a pen cancelled condition, as postal obliterators were not used.

In charge of the Teheran Post Office at this time was a M. Riederer, an Austrian, who, doubtless of a patriotic nature, urged the claims of Vienna as a town likely to supply Persia's postal needs. Before, however, the Austrian capital was requisitioned for a supply of stamps, the four plates on hand were handed over by M. Riederer to a Mr. McLachlan, a printer in Teheran, with orders to retouch the original dies and add the value in Arabic beneath the body of the lion.

This was done and according to our catalogue, we find, a number of unnecessary stamps already began to crop up. In justification of these irregular varieties it is well to remind our readers that a good deal of what we call printer's waste, was included with the consignments of stamps sent out, with the natural result that the postal officials with the indolence and cupidity of the true Oriental, made use of any scrap of coloured paper that fell in their hands.

The printing of these stamps, as with the re-issue of 1878, must have been, at times, a farcical operation, not only were odd pieces of paper used, but even the printing ink ran short on more than one occasion, with the result that it might not be an impossible task to plate the stamps by thumb marks!

Truly the postal officials of those days took no heed for the morrow—doubtless they were obsessed with the fatalism of the East, a

fatalism which caused the Rubâiyât to be written—

"To-morrow?—Why, to-morrow I may be  
Myself with yesterday's sev'n thousand years."

In 1876—or even earlier—for I believe many of the dates in Gibbons' catalogue need considerably revising, we find that the first issue of stamps from Vienna was sent out to Persia. As is to be expected, we find these stamps were printed on paper similar to that used for many of the stamps for other countries then being printed and perforated in Vienna. The perforations of these stamps also correspond, especially in the case of Montenegro. Possibly a collector of the first type of Montenegro does not realize that the much despised Persian stamps were printed and perforated side by side with his beloved stamps, and consequently should be philatelically as interesting.



Later on the first portrait type of Persian stamps went through other perforating machines at Vienna. Specialists of Austrian perforations please note.

The Vienna contract for printing and perforating held good for nearly twenty years, with the result that we find several of the well known perforations of Austria, Bosnia, Hungary, etc., represented. In 1889, according to the inevitable catalogue, we find that a single issue of stamps was ordered in Paris,



the design being most inartistic. These stamps were perforated 11, and also 13½, by whom, and where, I do not know, but doubtless by one of the many private firms in Paris.

In 1894, Persian stamps underwent, from a philatelic point of view, drastic changes. The contract for printing them was placed with Enschedé & Sons, of Haarlem, Holland. As is to be expected, we find a very marked similarity between these new stamps and the then current stamps of Holland (1891-96)

which were turned out by the same people. The small stamps of the new Persian set were perforated 12½, as were the low value Dutch, while the higher values, like the gulden values of Holland, were put through the 11½×11 machine.

In 1898, we find that M. Eugène Mouchon, of Paris, was commissioned to engrave a new set of stamps, which he did; Messrs. Enschedé still retaining, as they do at present, the printing contract. M. Mouchon's work is also well represented by the current stamps of France and Holland,

Since 1894, we find the current perforations of Holland on Persian stamps.



Unfortunately during the past twelve years or so the Persian postal authorities, great and little, have inundated us with a deluge of surcharges, many of which are undoubtedly of a purely unnecessary and speculative character.

In 1902 we find that the city of Meshed issued provisionals, while overprints and surcharges came in a never ceasing flow from Teheran. Ignoring these issues we are quite sure that were a few keen collectors to specialise the earlier stamps they would find much to interest them; they would, however, have to devote more time than is usually given to half-a-dozen countries before they could make much headway, but we think they would be fully repaid.

There are specialists of Austrian, Dutch and French stamps in plenty, but Persian stamps, which show many of the same characteristics, are neglected. Truly, our goddess ever shows her fickleness. Not only should collectors of the well-known Vienna and Dutch perforations be interested in Persian stamps, but also those collectors who are collectors of the work of the well-known engravers, M.M. Barre and Mouchon. Given so many obvious advantages surely the stamps of Persia are neglected? Think, you reader—are the *pros* or the *cons* the heavier?

Read Mr. Peckitt's advertisement  
on page ix.; it will interest you.

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### Head Quarters for Meetings:

MILLS' RESTAURANT,

14, Broad Street Place, Liverpool Street, E.C.

(Adjoining Finsbury Circus).

The monthly meeting was held on Dec. 8th at Mills' Restaurant in Liverpool Street, the President, Mr. J. R. Burton, being in the chair, and the usual good attendance of this year being maintained. The ordinary business was quickly carried through, including the election of several new members, and then one of the Hon. Presidents, Mr. W. B. Edwards, B.Sc., gave a most interesting and complete display of Jamaica, accompanied by notes. Points of interest were that the dark blue penny, watermarked Pineapple, is both scarce and uncatalogued; that the early colours and paper are very similar to those of the stamps of India and Hong Kong of the same period, and the paper varies from practically pelure to very thick, the latter being quite rare. Of the split provisionals, the 1d. CC is scarcer than that with the Pine watermark. The two settings of the 2½d. surcharge were shown replated in the two horizontal rows of six and the one vertical row, often the latter being so much better done as to be practically free from the serious errors which marred the first setting in which there was a marked difference between each of the surcharges making twelve distinct types. Mr. Edwards thinks that the "seriet" errors only appear once amongst the chalky paper series and then on the halfpenny. The error is always on the second stamp in the fourth row from the top left hand of the sheet. A

very hearty vote of thanks was accorded unanimously to Mr. Edwards for a paper fully up to his usual high philatelic level.

Amongst the curiosities, &c., shown round by members were a pair of 80c. Bordeaux French used with Turkish stamps on entire in Smyrna; a Russian Levant envelope that picked up nine postal marks on its journey to Marseilles, and the 10 kr. blue old type Emperor's head Austria printed twice on the back as well as once normally on the face, the 1/- New South Wales large stamp watermarked 8 and all recent new issues, &c.

It was unanimously agreed to support the testimonial to Mr. Bernstein, and thereafter sprang up one of those informal discussions, which, it seems, are becoming quite an interesting feature of this Society's meetings—on this occasion upon Mr. Ewen's new Subscription Scheme. At the close, a hearty invitation was forwarded to Mr. Ewen to come in person to the next meeting of the Society and further explain the matter.

### THE NEXT MEETING

will take place at Mills' Restaurant, Liverpool Street, E.C., on January 12th, when Mr. Heginbottom's collections of Hong Kong and India will be displayed, and there will be a Competitive Display, open to all members, of any fifteen stamps issued prior to 1860.

New London members, who will attend the meetings, are earnestly desired. Will candidates kindly apply to the Secretary, as above, for free copies of the Annual Report.

## Correspondence.

### NEW ISSUES AND COMMEMORATIVES.

TO THE EDITOR, *P.J. of G.B.*

BRIGHTON.

DEAR SIR,—

I notice in your Review of Reviews you are good enough to make a short extract from an essay of mine in the *Stamp Lover*. In the course of your remarks you infer that I hold a brief for New Issues.

I should like, therefore, to take this opportunity of stating that I think the perpetual flood of new issues a nuisance, not because I am prejudiced against them, but because I am a general collector and wish to get my collection as complete as possible and therefore if I wish to keep up to date I must buy the things. But I believe it to be a short-sighted policy to put off buying them because it is thought there is plenty of time to do so. The same with Commemoratives if they are going to be included in the postal lists of the catalogue and therefore (although not necessarily) included in collections. It is foolish, to



say the least, to put off buying them until the price has gone up. The reason I object to new issues is because they limit one's power to buy the older issues. There is no denying the fact that when a collector has the current issue of a country complete he is far more likely to buy the obsolete stamps if they are not beyond his pocket. Unfortunately there are few countries of which this may be said,

Yours faithfully,  
J. IRELAND.

We do not at all agree with the views held by Mr. Ireland. In the first place we cannot understand how any collector—who candidly admits that the perpetual flood of new issues is a nuisance—can find it necessary to buy these labels, especially when he knows that were it not for buyers the supply would practically cease (we refer, of course, to unnecessary surcharges and commemoratives). Secondly the plea that such rubbish is likely to be catalogued and should therefore be purchased, is a very weak one. Surely Mr. Ireland has courage enough to collect—or not to collect—stamps irrespective of whether Messrs. So and So list them in their price list. Thirdly, the plea that new issues limit "one's power to buy the older issues" is, in our opinion, absurd. Our correspondent says he is a general collector. That being the case, why not spend the money now spent on new issues on the older stamps, which are procurable for the same expenditure.

This we feel sure would not be an impossibility, as there are many old stamps catalogued at a few pence each, which, we feel sure are lacking in our correspondent's collection.

Space prevents our bringing further arguments to bear; while we must reluctantly come to the conclusion that our worthy correspondent's chief aim in his philatelic life is—to fill blank spaces!

—ED. P. J. G. B.

TO THE EDITOR, P. J. of G. B.

December 3rd, 1909.

DEAR SIR,

PETITION TO THE POSTAL UNION.

Enclosed I send you copy of letter received from the Postmaster General, re Petition to the Postal Union. I thought you might like it for your paper.

Yours faithfully,

I. J. BERNSTEIN.

General Post Office, London.  
30th November, 1909.

SIR,

The Postmaster General has had before him your letter of the 10th of this month, in which you ask him, on behalf of the Congress of Philatelic Societies of Great Britain, to bring

to the notice of the Universal Postal Union a petition having for its object the prevention of the issues of Commemorative and other postage stamps which, in the opinion of the Congress, are not necessary for the public service.

The Postmaster General desires me to say that as he reserves to himself the absolute right to decide whether any particular issue of postage stamps in this country is necessary for the public service, he could not well be a party to an international arrangement which would tend to limit his powers in this respect.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) A. F. KING.

I. J. BERNSTEIN, Esq.

## New Leaves to Cut.

### BRIGHT & SON'S A.B.C. CATALOGUE.\*

THE eighth edition of this popular catalogue bears evidence that its compiler, Mr. F. H. Oliver, has made up his mind that each year's edition of the A.B.C. will more nearly approach the ideal standard guide that all, but the most advanced of specialists, are looking for. Throughout the book we find that many of the medium and rarer stamps show an upward trend as regards prices, a not altogether deplorable state of affairs as many of the figures in last year's Catalogue were too low, a fact as well known to the publishers of the A.B.C. Catalogue as to collectors and dealers who had to handle similar stamps. In the preface we are told that the lists of Salvador and Nicaragua have been carefully re-written, many varieties which are now known to be purely speculative having been deleted. Holland we find has been re-listed, while several of the early stamps have advanced considerably in price, for instance, even the commonest shade of the imperf. 5c. shows 100% advance, while the 10c. is now priced 3d. against last year's 1d.; the ridiculous price for the steel-blue, namely 7d. (S.G. & Co. 20/-) has been deleted. The perforated stamps of Holland also have considerably appreciated in value. British Colonial stamps show in nearly every instance a marked rise in values, especially the earlier issues, New Zealand especially are now listed high, in fact number 1 on the list, the London printed 1d. shows a rise of 30/-. South Australians, as far as we can make out have not been repriced, but the list given is just as incomplete and confusing as ever, in fact we cannot imagine any list of stamps being more confusing than Messrs. Bright's South Australian.

The good features of the A.B.C. Catalogue

\*Published by Bright and Son, 164, Strand, W.C., 2/6 nett. 2/10 post free.

are, however, so numerous that it would not be fair to enlarge on the few failings.

The countries are listed in alphabetical order which is, in our opinion, the best plan, while chalky surfaced colonial stamps are separately quoted. The list of British stamps used abroad has been enlarged and now includes many plate numbers and other varieties that are listed for the first time.

The general collector, who is interested in minor varieties and who does not wish to confine himself to practically a type collection, will find the new A.B.C. Catalogue a valuable acquisition, while we feel sure that the handy volume containing the whole world will appeal to many collectors who object to having to buy their catalogue in parts.

The price of the 8th edition has been increased to 2/6 at which figure it is still a very good investment for any collector.

#### FIELD'S SIMPLIFIED CATALOGUE.\*

We have duly received the second edition of Mr. Field's useful little catalogue of British Colonial stamps and congratulate him on its attractive appearance.

As is explained by the title, Mr. Field practically only lists type stamps; for instance, in South Australia we find the line engraved stamps boiled down to twenty-five varieties! As is usual in so-called simplified lists we find several, in our opinion, glaring inconsistencies, to wit the imperf stamps of West Australia are also listed *rouletted*, while the Perkins Bacon and the De la Rue Cape of Good Hope printings are also separately listed. Surely a beginner would find it easier to distinguish between a 12½ and a 14 perforation than between the two printings of the 4d. triangular Cape. We also cannot explain to our readers why early West Australian stamps should be listed *rouletted* if the same courtesy is not extended to South Australians!

The have-a-stamp-on-every-page collector will doubtless appreciate the Royal Arcade "Simplified Catalogue," it is well printed and illustrated, and like all catalogues, whether they be good or bad, is of value for reference.

#### BRITISH NEW GUINEA AND PAPUA.†

By FRED. J. MELVILLE.

Number eight of the Melville Stamp Books deals with the stamps of British New Guinea and Papua, and contains, like its predecessors, a good deal of readable matter. As a matter of fact we feel pretty confident that this, the latest of Mr. Melville's brochures, will appeal to an even wider circle of readers than did the preceding books of this series.

The stamps of Papua are so exceedingly

popular with a large number of collectors that a "handbook" relating to this popular country will be welcomed. Mr. Melville does not attempt to list all the minor varieties of these stamps; he, however, devotes one of the chapters to an excellent "check list" where we find (including the postmark varieties of Queensland) nearly 200 varieties of Papuan stamps! The most interesting chapter deals with "Queensland Stamps used in New Guinea."

We learn that the earliest known dated copy of a Queensland stamp used in B.N.G. is 1st July, 1891. Several rare varieties of postmarks are illustrated.

The appendix of Mr. Melville's book deals with the postmarks of British New Guinea and Papua, and here again we find several scarce and interesting varieties illustrated.

Those of our readers who are collectors of the picturesque labels of Papua will find Mr. Melville's book of general interest, and to them, and indeed to all new issue collectors we can confidently recommend it as a most interesting production.

#### THE STAMPS AND POSTMARKS OF URUGUAY.\*

This little book, which has been translated from the French, is a useful little guide to the interesting stamps of Uruguay. We have already (Nov. 1908) reviewed it in these columns, so cannot find much that is original to say about the translated edition. The illustrations are not as good as they might have been, as many, even of the common types, have been reproduced from heavily cancelled stamps. The specialist, however, or the general collector, who does not wish for too intricate a guide, will find this latest addition to the literature of philatelic South America, a most useful and cheap addition to his library.

#### THE STAMP COLLECTORS' ANNUAL.†

We have been favoured, by the publishers, with an advance copy of the seventh edition of their extremely hardy little annual. Messrs. Bishop and Nissen have spared no trouble to make this year's annual as successful as former editions, with the result that we can again confidently advise our readers to invest in a copy.

The regular features of the book, such as "The Philatelic Literary Index," "The Review of the Year's Auction Sales," "The Story of the Year," and "The Directory of Philatelic Societies and Exchange Clubs," are again presented, and there are special contributions on "Forgeries of British Stamps," "The Com-

\*Published by D. Field, Royal Arcade, New Bond St., W. Price 1/-.

†Published by the Melville Stamp Books, 47, Strand, W.C. 6d. net.

\*Published at the Offices of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 63-64 Chancery Lane, W.C. Price 6d. nett.

†Published by C. Nissen & Co., 7, Southampton Row, W.C. Price 1/-.

pound Envelopes of Great Britain," "The First Stamps of Liberia," "Recent Issues of Venezuela," "The Stamps of the Crimea," etc., etc.

All these features are good, especially the "Index." The list of auction prices, however, might have either been omitted, or considerably lengthened; as it now stands it is of very little use.

## The Bisected Pence Stamps of Nova Scotia.

BY THE EDITOR.

THE "split" provisionals of North America are now so seldom met with that I think it would not be out of place were I to remind my readers of the great interest that attaches to these postal curiosities. In the case of Nova Scotia their use was practically a necessity, as there was no stamp or combination of stamps that could possibly be used to make up several of the then current postal rates. This also applied to the neighbouring Province of New Brunswick, with the result that the two Provinces have another philatelic bond in common besides the marked similarity of their stamps.

In these days when every stamp-issuing country has a separate value for each of its possible, and sometimes impossible, postal rates, it is very refreshing to contemplate the rather anomalous position held by Nova Scotia in the fifties. At that time the postal rate between Nova Scotia and Great Britain, was 7½d. per half-ounce, so letter writers had either to frank their letters insufficiently or else contribute an unnecessary ¼d. to the Post Office, as the only values, then on sale, were of the denominations of 1d., 3d., 6d. and 1/-. The state of affairs which this led to lasted for seven years, from 1854 to 1860, and almost constitutes a record for a duly accredited instance of bisected stamps being allowed to frank letters.

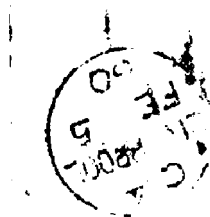
In 1894, Mr. Donald A. King, the well-known authority on all matters pertaining to Canadian postal history, contributed a most erudite article dealing with the stamps of Nova Scotia to the *Monthly Journal*. In common with many collectors I have to turn to his writings for inspiration. The following extract from the Halifax Post Office report for 1854 explains how the use of bisected stamps was authorised.

To remedy to some extent the serious inconvenience said to be experienced by merchants and others, in consequence of there being no seven and one-half penny currency postage stamp, by which parties who feel desirous could thus prepay their letters to England, and not wishing to put the Province to any further expense in having another *die* prepared, I considered it expedient to allow *half* stamps to be

used with those now in use, to obviate the want of accommodation complained of, and a circular was accordingly forwarded to my deputies, and a notice issued to the public to the effect that letters could be prepaid to England by stamps by parties using a sixpence, or two threepenny stamps together, with *half* a threepenny stamp. The threepenny stamp to be cut diagonally and the half to be equivalent to 1½d. The threepenny stamp alone to be used for that purpose.

When it is remembered that half ounce letters passing between Nova Scotia and England must have been very numerous during the seven years these "split" stamps were allowed, it is astonishing how rarely one finds covers that have been genuinely used.

I illustrate rather an interesting piece which shows a fine copy of the sixpenny deep green used with half of a threepenny, posted at Halifax, Jan. 26th, 1860, and date stamped on arrival at Liverpool, Feb. 5th, 1860.



*Allen*

Although the above reproduced official notice only authorizes the use of halved threepenny stamps it is pretty certain that the two higher values were also allowed to be halved, or even quartered, with the result that the following list, which I have compiled from various sources, is I think a fairly comprehensive one. I have not listed shades, nor do I differentiate between stamps cut diagonally, horizontally, or vertically. As a matter of fact nearly all these "splits" were cut diagonally, divided in any other fashion they are extremely rare.

- \* 1½d. Quarter of 6d. stamp.
- 3d. Half of 6d. stamp.
- \* 13d. Quarter of 1/- stamp.
- 1½d. Made up with one, and a half 3d.
- 16d. Half of 1/- stamp.
- 7½d. Two 3d. stamps and half of a 3d. one.

- 7½d. A 6d. stamp and half of a threepenny one.  
 7½d. Half a 1/- stamp and half of a 3d. one.  
 7½d. A 6d. stamp and quarter of a 6d. one.  
 19d. A 6d. stamp and half of a 6d. stamp.  
 11/10½ Made up with three 6d. stamps and one and a half of a 3d.

The two stamps starred with an asterisk are included in my list on the authority of Collin & Calman, while those marked with a dagger are listed in back numbers of the *Monthly Journal*. The remaining combinations I have in my own collection or can personally vouch for.

In many instances I believe the Postmasters of country townships actually sold the halves of stamps to their customers, but as a general rule I believe it was the public who did the scissoring necessary before a letter could be correctly franked to England. That the permitted use of these "split" stamps led to some defrauding of the Post Office coffers there can be little doubt, as it is scarcely conceivable that some wide awake letter writers would not perceive the hidden potentialities of a used stamp that had only been obliterated on one side! This class of fraud, however, does not trouble the collector; as long as the "half" stamp undoubtedly helped to frank the letter it covered, he would not trouble greatly over the fact that, as a whole, it had already done duty elsewhere. The frauds that collectors of these "split" stamps have to guard against are of a more recent date, they generally take the form of a genuinely used cover—preferably one that has done local duty—to which is added the half of another stamp, years after the pence issue was demonetised.

These faked envelopes are fortunately not very numerous, although they are plentiful enough to disgust many would-be specialists of North American "splits." The difficulty of obtaining genuine covers is not easily overcome, while it is not always an easy matter to match the cancelling stamp which has been used to obliterate the genuine stamp. On "pieces of original" however it is easier to fake up halved stamps to look as if they had been genuinely used, as in many such instances the need for a date stamp, and cancellation that matches, is dispensed with.

As is well known the split provisionals of Nova Scotia, in common with the other well known bisected stamps of British North America, find no home in Gibbons' catalogue, an omission all the more accentuated by the inclusion of *split Postage Due stamps* of Belgium! In these few short notes I have no intention of trying to justify their right to catalogue rank, such an honour is perhaps not an unmitigated blessing. If, however, any of my readers hunger for fresh conquests, let them seek for fine examples of Nova Scotian splits on dated entires. If they search diligently they may find a few, but at any rate they will be too busily occupied to spend much time worrying about the "catalogue" status of their finds.



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## Publishers' Note.

WE have much pleasure in bringing to our readers' notice a novelty, consisting of a loose leaf pocket collecting album which they will find advertised on Page vii.

This album has been built on lines suggested by our publishers, and can be purchased from them or their agents only, as they have the sole rights of production.

We have fully experimented with these books and can confidently recommend them to our readers as being particularly well finished, and a marvel of utility.

# Adhesive Postage Stamps of Chili.

By J. R. BURTON, F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from Page 238).

The experiment of the Valparaiso Postmaster being considered a success the Government decided to adopt the system and produced a set of stamps including 1c., 2c., 4c., 6c., 8c., 10c., 20c., 40c., 50c., 60c. 80c. and 1 peso lithographed in rose on yellow paper in sheets of 100, perforated 12. The design, evidently inspired by the postal issue of 1877 was made by a M. Felix Leblanc in the employ of the printer Signor H. C. Gillet. The paper was unwatermarked and there were no marginal inscriptions. The stamps were first issued on January 1st, 1895.

Each value appeared on every sheet, the setting being as follows:—

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	40	40	40	40	40
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
50	50	50	60	60	60	80	80	1p	1p

In 1896 a second printing became necessary. The paper was changed to lemon colour and the 1 peso was altered to 100c. Of the new setting, as under, only 1000 sheets were printed. The perforations was changed to 13.

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
20	20	20	20	20	40	50	60	80	100

There was a third and final setting containing no value above 20c.

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20



It will thus be observed that the 100c. is an exceedingly rare stamp and the complete strip of 40c., 50c., 60c., 80c. and 100c. from the bottom of the second setting must be quite in the first class of rarities. All these stamps are scarce postmarked but are more frequently met with obliterated with the word "Multada" in size big enough to cross two stamps, enclosed in a parallelogram, sometimes with corners nearly rectangular but at other times quite rounded. On January 8th, 1898, the same printer produced a set of new design, the principal feature of which was a large numeral, consisting of 1c., 2c., 4c., 10c. and 20c. printed in rose on white unwatermarked paper, perforated 13. Of these 170,000



1c., 260,000 2c., 210,000 4c., 200,000 10c., and 20,000 20c. were actually used, but the remainders of this issue were called in in 1898, also all that were left of the previous type; the practice of handstamping was reverted to by order of the then Postmaster-General, Carlos Lira, and the 1895 stamps included, were all sold wholesale to stamp dealers, and probably philatelists were glad on the whole that they were not destroyed, as even now there are not enough to go round. There were only 20,000 of the 1895 type amongst the lot.

I promised last month to refer in greater detail to the marginal inscriptions of the current issue, when I took up my pen again. The four lower values, viz., 1c., 2c., 3c. and 5c. appear to be printed in sheets of 200, possibly divided down the centre before issue to the

post offices as I have not seen a complete sheet, each pane would therefore consist of 10×10 stamps. Above the two stamps in the centre of each pane, *i.e.*, Nos. 5 and 6 or 15 and 16 on the top row are the words "American Bank Note Company, New York" in very small type and above that in large lettering "1 Centavos, No....." (or other value as the case may be); then the consecutive sheet number printed in red ink follows in the same line but above the seventh and seventeenth stamps. The centre of the sheet and division of the panes in the 1c., 2c. and 5c., is marked by two converging lines but strange to say the 3c. seems without this pointer. Probably the centre of each side and bottom margin is also inscribed "American Bank Note Company, New York." The bi-coloured stamps were printed in sheets of 100—10 rows of 10 each. They are inscribed "American Bank Note Company, New York" at the centre of the sheet both top and bottom and in all likelihood at the sides also in the same way as the lower values, but the earlier printings are marked above this and to the left of the centre in large type in two lines "for 15, 20, 30 and 50 centavos, Republica de Chile." Afterwards, when it was decided to have the 10c. and 12c. also from the same plates the numerals 10-12 were added to the front of this inscription. The centres of the sheets are marked at the top with one horizontal line just crossing the central line of perforation and at the bottom with two, the top one shorter than the lower. To the right of this, in the top margin, is printed in the same colour as the frame, and therefore at the same time, the actual face value of the particular sheet, say "50 centavos No.," and then follows the consecutive sheet number in red. The other inscription belongs to the keyplate and is printed in the colour of the vignettes, *viz.* black. Mr. Stanjer says: "it was the 20c. which was sent out as specimen in a carmine shade. As my own copy is no longer available I cannot say more on the point.

The Navy, which had given Chili her new northern provinces, rid her of a tyrant, and produced for her one of her most popular Presidents, almost obliterated all these good deeds by making the flesh of the philatelic world positively creep with horror by issuing in 1907 for official correspondence of the Ministry of Marine, a very fishy set of labels. A foul anchor straddles the middle of the stamp, "Correspondencia Oficial" is crowded in at the top and "Chile Ministerio de Marina" at the bottom. To crown all, the stamps are numbered consecutively on the right-hand, in tram ticket style and overprinted "Carta Oficio or Paquete." According to Gibbons' catalogue, the first printing had a single lined frame and the tram ticket numbers were printed in violet, a pale blue stamp being overprinted "Carta" in yellow, a red one "Oficial" in pale blue, a

violet one "Paquete" in red. Only 200 of each of these are supposed to have been printed. Later on a second frame in black (mourning let us hope) was added, and the tram number was printed in the same colour, this time the "Paquete" stamp to the number of 1000 was overprinted in green on a brown stamp and 300 of a green stamp turned up with a large letter C in red on it. To crown all 100 single framed stamps in brown on blue with violet numerals and large letters E.P. in violet appeared. The carta boasted 2,900 copies and the Oficio 1000.

This issue appears to have been for internal use and probably the excessive mortality caused by it made the Government give it up. For "external" use (whether to be rubbed in or used as a blister is not stated) some of the current postage stamps were overprinted in red with a small anchor, the head of which was over-arched halo-wise with the word "Oficial." The stamps so treated were the 1c. green, present issue; 3c. on 1p. brown, hairy huenuf; 5c., 10c., 15c., 20c. and 50c., present issue; and the old 1 peso brown and black, of the 1892 set. The catalogue tells us that the present 2c. and 5c. have been reported overprinted in red with the words "Marina Oficial." No doubt these Marina issues were a genuine issue but undoubtedly they are scarce and a nuisance to philatelists.

A large label which I think was a postage stamp was issued by the Oficina de Correos de Valparaiso, with that title and the word Chile in a circle surrounding a slice of the heavens in which the Chilian star shines resplendant over the clouds on which a winged wheel is gambolling and a series of official seals inscribed "Cierro Oficial" have followed one another for years. These are large oblongs, the earliest one in black with "Santiago" and "Chile" on either side of a little tablet of hieroglyphics, capped by the word "Buzon," in sheets of 24 with no marginal inscriptions, and the others emanating from Valparaiso. A carmine one I possessed had "Cierro Oficial" across the centre and was postmarked "24 Dec. '87." I have seen this in sheets 3×3 and also 6×2. Valparaiso has also issued a similar shaped stamp with the portrait of a prematurely bald gentleman in the middle, the Chilian coat of arms on the right and presumably those of Valparaiso on the left, I had this stamp in black and yellow on white paper, in deep green on pale green, in brown on orange, and in blue on green, the sheets were of 6 rows of ten without marginal inscriptions.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Messrs. T. W. Hall, Walters, Stanjer and other specialists for their unfailing courtesy and assistance, and to say that I am sure the publishers will be glad to receive information of anything I have not described in order that this record of a country's stamps—often difficult to elucidate owing to scarcity of

material—may be as complete as possible; and I would crave the indulgence of my readers for the somewhat inconsequent and unpolished nature of these notes because they have been written under many difficulties not the least of which have been a series of family bereavements quite exceptional in severity; and I hope in spite of all that I may have encouraged some to take up the work at various points where I have been compelled to leave it, and that this very worthy little country from a philatelic point of view may always be sure of plenty of adherents.

## Current Chatter.

BY ANGUS McTAVISH.

ANOTHER year fast speeding to join those that have gone. I hope all my readers feel wiser for the past twelve months experience. They ought to, if they have read McTavish regularly. Being of a modest nature, as is evinced by the above, and in fact by all my writings, I am not quite sure whether it would be the thing, don't you know, that I should suggest a McTavish presentation. There are so many suggestions abroad for the benefitting of other people, that I think somebody should come forward, form a committee, and get up a nice little presentation for the wee McTavish. What do you think? Surely after McTavish for two whole years he deserves something nice.

Contributions to other such-like objects, are, I hear, coming in well. Mr. P., of the Strand, is to be awarded a set of Condominiums for having so heroically conferred a favour on the public by buying the A. collection. Mr. B., of Manchester, is to be awarded a set of British Officials for having so successfully chin wagged. Mr. T. (of P. & Co.), is to be awarded a bound set of Auction Catalogues as a slight token of regard for the excellent tea, something stronger, and biscuits he dispenses every other week end, at the Saleries, Chancery Lane, and so on and so forth.

A week or so ago, BEFORE the I.P.U. Smoking Concert took place, I was at Messrs. Pemberton's office when I walked a well dressed stranger who desired to see Mr. P.

Asked his business, he said he was just from the West Indies and had for sale (visions on our part of a genuinely used Cayman Island stamp) an *alligator*, would Mr. P. care to buy it for his garden as he did not wish to take it back to the W.I.!

I was surprised that Mr. P. did not purchase; a nice young alligator would be just the thing to amuse the little P's on a winter's evening. Asked as to its size the W. I. visitor said it was about five feet long! I suppose he

thought stamp dealers handled all kinds of curios. Some of them do, but not so our High Holborn friends. Fancy sending Miss C. a nearly full-grown and hungry alligator on approval over the week end!

Writing of the Cayman Islands remind me that Messrs. Plumridge and Co.—who have evidently received information that *another* man has gone to live there, now style the islands the "Caymen"! Why not? Singular, man; plural, men; not mans, as Augustus Toot, the well-known specialist of these stamps (aged 4), will have it.

I notice that a well-known Strand dealer is advertising Xmas Presents in the *S.C.F.* One item reads: "Great Britain, 1840, 1d. black on 2d. blue (no lines), pair 4/6." The non-philatelic reader might infer all sorts of things.

I read that at a recent meeting of the Junior Philatelic Society, it was suggested that "young beginners should attach themselves to older members residing in or near their home districts, for the benefit of learning from the older members' experience."

What a ripping idea. I can picture Mr. Sidebotham, for instance, sitting over his study fire with a couple of rosy cheeked long clothes babes, who were desirous of arguing the desirability of collecting chalky papers; while the picture of Mr. Johnson trying to coax a brace of chubby infants back into their pram would, I feel sure, be worth going miles to see.

I knew there would be trouble after the Smoking Concert. Several of the visitors didn't arrive home to breakfast the next morning, and now I see the following advertisement in the agony column of the *Daily Telegraph*—

LOST, in the neighbourhood of Buckingham Palace, a SPOTTED PUP, answers to the name of "Lazarus."—Anyone returning same to ——— will be suitably REWARDED, as it is a great family pet.

Can anybody tell me if Lazarus has been found yet?

The I.P.U. Smoker was an unqualified success—a hundred members and visitors present, all of whom thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Beat that if you can Messieurs the other Societies!

Unfortunately the weather (decidedly damp) kept at home at least a score of would-have-comes. One brave soul started out and got soaked through; another got wet at the smoker, and at least a dozen or so got very wet on their way home!

The latest kind of condition crank I have run across is a collector who specialises in U.S.A. stamps. So particular is he to condition that he won't take a grilled stamp, however immaculate it may be in every respect, unless the *grille* is well centred! Fact.

I have often wondered why stamp men, especially after they have been to a meeting, are so fond of getting their tube tickets out of the little slot machines stuck up near the booking office. The only explanation I have so far heard came from a Strand man, who told me that when he was *very* late in going home he liked to exercise his keyhole finding

capacities on the ticket machines. If he got one penny ticket for every threepence he spent, he considered there was still time to have another.\* If it cost him more than sixpence, he either went home at once, or gave the machine in charge for insobriety.

\*Another what?—Ed.

## Illustrated Interviews.

### PROFESSOR NARET KONING.

IN our interview with Baron Lehmann, in the October number, we mentioned the fact that his unique collection of Dutch stamps was under the care and management of Mr. Naret Koning, his philatelic secretary. Thinking that our readers would be interested in hearing about the latter gentleman's philatelic career, we approached him with this idea in view; as a result, we are able to print the following interview:—

"Mr. Koning has," so he tells us, "been a collector since 1865, when he commenced with a fairly big collection of duplicates given to him by his father. In 1885 he joined the Dutch Philatelic Society, when, amongst other things, he learned that philately, as practised

by leading collectors, was a most expensive hobby, so expensive indeed that he turned his attentions to dealing, and, as a lover of stamps, to collect specimens for more wealthy collector's collections.

"After a few years as manager, Mr. Koning formed the idea of starting in business for himself on somewhat novel lines; so we find a Limited Company, the 'Handelsvereniging Philatelia,' formed with a capital of 100,000 florins. The shares were only placed in Holland and magnificent offices opened. Unfortunately, however, the costs of the Company were too heavy, with the result that the Company went into liquidation in 1901."

The following extract, from Mr. Naret Koning's letter, explains how it was he came to arrange Baron Lehmann's collection:—





"Baron Lehmann asked me to be his philatelic secretary; being free, I accepted.

"As I had arranged a great number of collections in Holland, especially that of Mr. H. P. Manus, who is the greatest special collector I ever saw, Baron Lehmann said to me: 'You have the knowledge, I have the capital, let us arrange such a Dutch collection as there never was before,' and so I made the Lehmann Collection, which is now the best and the biggest of Holland and the Colonies, in the world.

"I have written a book about the stamps of Holland in English, which is already entered at Stationer's Hall, but I wait for an official publication and the assistance of the Dutch Government. I have not yet published the book but it is ready for printing. I am always learning more details and information therefore I am not anxious to publish the book too early. The Government of Holland has up till now refused all co-operation, and all that I have written is of my own experience."

Mr. Koning now confines his attention, as far as his own personal collection goes, to collecting forgeries. He has, he says, already over 80,000 specimens.

Asked to give some of his reminiscences as a dealer, he writes that twice he has sold both the Post Office stamps of Mauritius, at different times he has had the honour of meeting the Kings of Italy and Spain and the Shah of Persia, while for two days he was the guest of Bismarck at Schonhausen.

Regarding philately Mr. Koning believes that general collecting is an impossibility, so much so that he would like to see the U.P.U. issue a general stamp for the whole world and so kill all the daily surcharges and commemoratives.

Holding the brevet of Professor in the science of Heraldry, Mr. Koning has many opportunities of fostering stamp collecting, as he frequently persuades some of his students to take up the hobby. As a collector of forgeries, the following, relating to the London Expert Committee, is of value. He says:

"The best judges of stamps, as to whether they are genuine or not, are the gentlemen who form the Committee of the Royal London Philatelic Society."

Those of our readers who visited the Amsterdam Exhibition will remember the untiring vitality and energy displayed by the subject of this interview and will join us in wishing him every success.

The illustration which accompanies this article shows a small corner of the recently held Amsterdam Exhibition. Mr. Koning is seated in the foreground.

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*If you consider this number of the "P.J.G.B." a good one, send us your subscription for 1910.*

## Post Offices in Remote Parts of Australia.

THE following extract from a report of "The Postal Commission Investigations in Western Australia," which was recently published in a Perth (W.A.) paper, will doubtless interest many of our readers; it will enable them to realize that sometimes post offices do not fatten on that portion of the public that collects postage stamps.

Mr. De Largie: As it is the State has to bear the cost of these non-paying services. For instance on the penny postage in Victoria\* there is considerable loss, which is borne by Victoria alone and does not cost this or any other State a farthing. On the other hand many of the services in the North-West are non-paying, and the loss has to be borne by the Western Australian revenue.

Mr. De Largie read a list of stations in outlying centres in the cases of which the revenue was infinitesimal compared with the expenditure. The stations were:—Hamelin Pool, revenue £35, expenditure £1,297; Israelite Bay, £49, £712; Turkey Creek, £96, £481; Walebing, £87, £267; Wallal, £15, £445; Winning Pool, £31, £474; Widgiemooltha, £94, £313; La Grange Bay, £51, £477; Eucla, £157, £3,137; and Eyre, £19, £623. For the ten offices the revenue was £639, and the expenditure £8,117. Mr. De Largie asked if these expenditures included salaries.

Mr. Hardman said the amount must cover all expenditure, and include portions of costs of mail services and special steamers. Dealing with the separate stations, he said that Hamelin Pool was a most important repeating station, almost entirely isolated, with no population round it, and the revenue was derivable almost entirely from the staff. There were five officers there.

The witness said the station has to participate in the cost of a special steamer service to the North-West, and it also had a distinct service from Carnarvon, the cost of which would be about £150 to Hamelin Pool. Israelite Bay was a similar station in the south-east, and it might also participate in the £3,000 which the Department had to pay for a special boat. Turkey Creek was another repeating station, and the £481 seemed to include portion of the over-land mail service to Hall's Creek.

The picture of Hamelin Pool with a resident staff of five officers, and a revenue coming in of £35 against an expenditure of £1,297, is rather pathetic. We suppose that sometimes, after many weeks of waiting for a customer for a halfpenny stamp to turn up, the staff gets on the loose and, as a mark of great dissipation, post letters to themselves, and each other!

Truly the ways of the Post Office, in "off the beaten track" parts of the globe, are wonderful.

In the earlier days of the Colony (West Australia), many years before Coolgardie and other auriferous towns were dreamed of, we ourselves remember many of the curious ways of the bush mailman, and possibly, when copy is scarce, an unlikely possibility for very many months, we will bore our readers with a few reminiscences.

\*In Western Australia the minimum postage on letters is 2d., except when they pass through only one post office.—Ed.

## New Issues and Varieties.

(We shall be glad to receive any new issues or new varieties from our readers for description in this column. Letters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, c/o MESSRS. P. L. PEMBERTON & Co., 68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**Great Britain.** *Levant.* *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the current 1½d., 3d., 6d., 1/- and the obsolete 4d. stamps of this country overprinted as follows:—

*Adhesives.*

- "30 PARAS" in black on 1½d. purple and green.
- "1 PIASTRE—10 PARAS" in two lines in black, on 3d. brown on yellow.
- "1 PIASTRE, 30 PARAS" on 4d. brown and green.
- "2 PIASTRES, 20 PARAS" on 6d. purple.
- "5 PIASTRES" on 1/- green and carmine.

**Bermuda.** *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 4d. value uniform with the other stamps of the "Arms" type.

*Adhesive.* Multiple CA, ordinary paper. 4d. blue and chocolate.

**Federated Malay States.** *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the following novelty.

*Adhesive.* Multiple wmk., chalky paper. 4c. rose and black.

**Gambia.** We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for kindly sending us the following information:—

"We enclose a copy of an official notice which we received from this Colony, notifying that all the stamps in the old colours have been burnt. It is interesting to note that the name of the Colony does not appear anywhere on this notice, it is also difficult to understand why the ½d., 1d. and 2½d. stamps should be destroyed since they are in the Postal Union colours, those last supplied differ in the case of the ½d. and 2½d. only very slightly in shade whilst the change in the colour of the 1d. stamp from carmine to red is comparatively insignificant."

#### PUBLIC NOTICE.

The following statement is published for general information:—

We, the undersigned Members of the Board appointed to destroy the entire stock of Postage Stamps in the Treasury and General Post Office of this Colony, which stamps were on sale up to and including the 30th September last, and which have since been superseded by a new issue in accordance with the British Colonial Colour Scheme, hereby certify that the aforesaid stock of stamps was this day burnt in our presence.

### POSTAGE STAMPS DESTROYED.

Denomination.	Total number of stamps destroyed.
½d. ... ..	38,372
1d. ... ..	21,873
2d. ... ..	14,839
2½d. ... ..	9,853
3d. ... ..	13,234
4d. ... ..	3,753
5d. ... ..	6,643
6d. ... ..	2,787
7½d. ... ..	7,838
10d. ... ..	8,400
1/- ... ..	11,773
1/6 ... ..	8,456
2/- ... ..	6,896
2/6 ... ..	4,344
3/- ... ..	4,241

SAM J. FORSTER, Member Legislative Council.  
W. BAUERLE, Auditor.

T. B. BRACKEN, Ag. Supt. of Police.

J. C. FRANKLIN, Medical Officer.

1st October, 1909.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us a specimen of the 1d. stamp in a new shade.

*Adhesive.* King's Head, multiple wmk. 1d. rose-red (instead of carmine).

**New Zealand.** Mr. Martin McDermott very kindly sends us the below cutting from the *New Zealand Herald* of Oct. 27th.

#### NEW ISSUE OF STAMPS.

WELLINGTON, Tuesday.

A new issue of postage and revenue stamps will be ready for sale on the afternoon preceding the King's Birthday. The range of value is from ½d. to 1s., and excepting the 1d. stamp each will bear the portrait of the King. The necessity for the new issue is shown by the substitution of "the Dominion of New Zealand" for "New Zealand." With the exception of the 4d. stamp, which is now of an orange colour, all the stamps within the values named are of the old colours, so that the public may not be confused. The new portrait of the King is considered to be the finest that has yet been produced, and in the case of most of the stamps has been printed from steel engravings by the Recess process of printing. The plates were manufactured in London, and the whole of the printing executed in the Government Printing Office. The workmanship generally is very fine, the gumming, perforation and general appearance

being highly satisfactory. The 2½d., 9d., 2s. and 5s. values remain as before in design.

**St. Lucia.** We are informed that 3d. stamps, printed in new colours, as mentioned in our August number have now been issued.

*Adhesive.* King's Head. Multiple CA., chalky paper.  
3d. purple on yellow.

**Southern Nigeria.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us specimens of the new all-one-colour 2½d. stamps.

*Adhesive.* King's Head. Multiple wmk.  
2½d. blue.

**Tasmania.** Mr. Leon has shown us two specimens of a minor variety of the ½d. Tasmania, pictorial, from the local plate, in which the "1" in "½d." at the left has a coloured line on it, appearing like a line of shading. The line is evidently due to a flaw on the plate. The stamps showing this peculiarity are also distinguished by a break in the coloured line over the word TASMANIA, between the letters "MA."

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

**Argentine Republic.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us yet two more of the permanent "San Martin" type.

*Adhesives.*  
4c. violet.  
20c. blue.

**Bulgaria.** The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* informs us that an entirely new series of stamps is in preparation and will probably be issued next March.

**China.** *Gibbon's Stamp Weekly* chronicles the 4c. stamp in a new colour, while Messrs. Bright & Son inform us that they have received the 10c. in cobalt instead of bright blue.

*Adhesives.* No wmk., P. 14 to 16.  
4c. scarlet.  
10c. cobalt.

**Colombian Republic.** The *Metropolitan Philatelist* says the current series of stamps have been surcharged "Correos Departamentals" in three lines, evidently for official use.

**Cuba.** The *Philatelic Adviser* for November tells us that a new issue of stamps will appear in January next, and will bear the portraits of patriotic Cubans who fought during the numerous revolutions against the Spanish Government. The stamps will be printed in two colours. We understand that this is not a temporary, but a permanent issue.

The following is a list of the values and gives the description of the gentlemen portrayed thereon.

1c. green and black (Battolomé Maso).  
2c. red and dark green (Maximo Gomez).  
3c. violet and turquoise blue (Julio Sanguily).  
5c. blue and brown (Ignacio Agramonte).  
8c. olive and lilac (Calixto Garcia).  
10c. orange and blue (Mayia Rodriguez).  
50c. lilac and black (Antonio Maceo).  
100c. black and orange (Carlos Roloff).

*Express Letter Stamp.*

10c. sepia and green (Juan Brono Zayas).

Senor Tankred Weatherall and Don Anguish McVishtav seem to have been left out in the cold.

**France.** *Tchongking.* Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that the French Indo-China stamps of the 1907 issue have been surcharged in red.

*Adhesives.*  
2f. green and black.  
10f. violet ..

**Greece.** Mr. Oliver, of Messrs. Bright & Son, kindly tells us that a correspondent of his, in Crete, informs him that a new issue is being prepared by a firm of lithographers at Corfu.

**Japan.** The *Philatelic Adviser* chronicles the current 4 sen stamp in a new shade.

*Adhesive.*  
4 sen pale rose.

**Salvador.** Several of our contemporaries chronicle stamps from this country on wmk. paper. The watermark consists, according to one paper of "multiple circles," while in another it is called a "row of dots!"

*Adhesives. On watermarked paper.*  
1c. green.  
2c. rose.  
5c. blue.

**Spain.** Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. kindly send us the first of the new series to appear. The below illustration speaks for itself:



*Adhesive. New type.*  
15c. violet.

**Turkey.** *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles yet another value of the new set.

*Adhesives.*  
2 pias black.



## Pot-Pourri.

BY P. L. PEMBERTON.

THE collector who only knows one catalogue is apt to think that it contains all there is to be listed and that anything not given in his own favourite guide is to be regarded with suspicion. This frame of mind is a marked feature of the users of Gibbons' Catalogue. Excellent as that work is it should not, as so frequently happens, constitute the entire reference library of a collector.

When we find that in the lists of many countries all the varieties of perforation, even to the minutest, are catalogued in Gibbons with absolute precision, we are lead to believe that all other countries have received the same careful consideration and that where no varieties of perforation are listed it is because there are none—this conclusion would be entirely erroneous. Many of my readers will say—"long may these perforations remain uncatalogued; there are already too many small varieties given as it is!" Collectors who agree with my imaginary interpolater will not appreciate the remainder of this article, as it will deal with some of the numerous instances in which other catalogues are more elaborate than Gibbons.

### QUEENSLAND.

I will first of all take the new edition of Bright's Catalogue and turn to Queensland. This is an interesting and exceptional case, as it is not often that the possible improvements affect a British Colony, most of the cases referring to the stamps of foreign countries. Here we find that Bright's catalogue separates the 1862-67 issue into the two distinct sets. The issue is that on thick paper without watermark, which reveals two varieties of perforation, viz.—one gauging 13 all round, the holes being very rough, and the other  $12\frac{1}{2}$  (clean-cut holes) at top and bottom, and the rough 13 at sides. These two sets do not need a gauge to assist in their identification, the differences being very apparent. Generally speaking the  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 13$  stamps are a good deal scarcer than the other (and some shades, notably the one penny Indian red, are *only* found perf. 13) but there is one exception, namely, the 3d., which is considerably commoner in the compound.

### HOLLAND.

Bright's list of this country is another which no specialist should ignore. The first thing that strikes me here is the mention of a variety of the 1 cent black of 1869 in which the inscription 1 CENT is described as being in double-lined lettering. I cannot speak with any personal knowledge of this variety but presume, from the fact that Mr. Oliver has included it, that it is constant and that it is

not catalogued on the strength of a single specimen.

In the case of the 1872-90 issue, Bright's Catalogue is curiously unequal. While the small perforations, varying from 13 to 14 and compound, are lumped together and only separated into the two classes, rough and clean-cut, the later perforations are much more elaborately treated than in any other catalogue. As all collectors of Holland are aware, the  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$  perforation, with its variety  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ , is sometimes found with small jagged holes and sometimes with larger clean-cut holes, which leave sharp, pointed teeth. The later perforation,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  all round, also shows the two varieties, and Messrs. Bright's Catalogue separates the three sets into these natural divisions. Those stamps having the small rough holes are considerably scarcer than the others, as the prices are sufficient to show. The difficulty of being consistent in compiling a catalogue is aggravated by an excusable desire to make the lists as concise as possible, and I can appreciate the reasons which prompted the publishers of this Catalogue to leave out those differences when it came to the postage dues. These, with their ordinary perforation varieties, and their four types, form, in any case, a most formidable array, but a specialist will remember that the large and the small holes exist in them also.

Space forbids my referring to any other of the numerous interesting things to be learnt from "Bright's" as my space will be fully taken up by the mention of some important facts to be gleaned from the principal catalogues on the Continent.

"Kohl's Grosser" Catalogue is certainly the most comprehensive catalogue in the world for whereas in its treatment of the stamps of the British Empire it is only a copy of Gibbons (and is almost as complete as its model), in its list of European stamps and many other countries it is very much more copious and discriminating.

One of the first countries in the book is the

### ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

The study of the perforations and watermarks comes as a revelation, an unpalatable one, it may be, to those general collectors who think it their duty to take note of these things, but opening up a glorious prospect of adventure to those specialists bold enough to attempt the work of collecting the varieties.

In the 1892-95 issue three types of watermark are illustrated in place of the two which are already well known, but the new type is described as being only a variety of the small Sun watermark, and is found on the same sheet. In size there is little to choose between it and the large Sun, but its rays are considerably thinner. Five main varieties of perforation are given for this issue, viz.,  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , 12,  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ ,  $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ , and  $12 \times 11$ . Of these the commonest is  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , the 12 perf. is considerably

scarcer and the compounds, judging from the fact that not one of them is priced, are very rare. Apparently only one stamp exists in the  $12 \times 11$  perforation, and that is the 5c. water-marked small Sun. As the 11 gauge does not recur on any stamp of the Argentine, I should like to have chapter and verse for this variety. The arrangement of the stamps of this issue is further complicated by the habits of the small Sun watermark, which is found in an upright position on some values, sideways on others, and either upright, sideways or diagonally on the 5c. Finally, the  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 5, 12c. and 1 peso are mentioned as existing without watermark.

The 1899 issue of the same country is found in three distinct perforations— $11\frac{1}{2}$ , 12 and  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ . The first of these is the one generally found and the only one in which all values occur; the 12 perforation is only found on the values up to 50 centavos and is very much scarcer; the  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$  is only catalogued on the 1, 2, 5, and 10c. and of these the 1c., at 1/- used, is the only one which is priced.

Working backwards, it will be noticed that two sets of the 1889-90 issue can be found, one, the commoner, being perforated  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , and the other, considerably scarcer, perf.  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ . The 10c., 40c., and 60c. are apparently not known with this latter gauge. The  $\frac{1}{2}$  on 12c. blue also shows both varieties of perforation, and in this case the order of rarity is reversed, the compound being much the commoner.

I notice in the same catalogue some perforation varieties in the 1863 issue of

#### BELGIUM

which astonish me considerably. I have never made a special study of this country so perhaps some of my readers may be able to enlighten me. Kohl gives, in addition to the three well known varieties  $12\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $14\frac{1}{2}$ , and  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 13$ , a fourth, namely,  $14\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ , 13. I have never heard of this combination before (and I have measured many hundreds in my time) yet judging by the prices quoted for all values it ought not to be very rare. There can be no doubt that Kohl is wrong in this instance.

The next thing that takes my attention is the 1864-68 issue of

#### DENMARK.

Gibbons gives the perforation as  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , 13. Kohl gives three divisions, 13 (the common one),  $12\frac{1}{2}$  (which is very scarce) and  $13 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ . That these varieties are worth looking for is shown by the prices quoted for the 2 sk. (3/6 used), 3 sk. (4/6 used), and 4 sk. (2/- used), all perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$ . The two highest values are not quoted. In the compound only the 2, 3 and 8 sk. are given but they are left unpriced.

Collectors interested in Danish West Indies will be interested to hear that there are two types of the figure "5" on the 5c. of 1876. In the earlier issue on thin paper the numeral is thinner and less well shaped than in the later issues on thick paper.

#### BULGARIA

presents another field for research, in the 1889-98 issue. Here we have stamps on ordinary paper perforated  $13\frac{1}{2}$  or  $10\frac{1}{2}$  or 11,  $11\frac{1}{2}$ ; the 5, 15 and 25 st. are found in each variety, while all values occur in the first. Then there are the 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 15 and 25 st. on what is described as "cellulose" paper, perforated 13, and the 5 and 10 st. on the same paper but perforated  $11\frac{1}{2}$ . Cellulose paper is the thin, brittle paper with which all collectors of Bulgaria are familiar. In addition to this there is the ordinary *thin* paper, which is only found on the 10 st., perf.  $11\frac{1}{2}$ . To wind up with there is the ordinary paper, perf. 13, which is peculiar to the 5, 10 and 15 st. Not one of these numerous varieties is quoted at more than 1s. 9d. either used or unused, but I should imagine the collector would have some difficulty in getting them all together.

(To be continued.)

### The I.P.U. Smoking Concert.

THE I.P.U. Smoker, which was held at the Horseshoe Restaurant, on Monday, November the 29th, was an immense and unqualified success.

There were nearly one hundred members and visitors present, all of whom were unanimous in their method of expressing their enjoyment. The "tunes," all of which were of a very high order, were vociferously encored, a fact easily understood when we mention such names as Mesdames Haidee Hamilton, Ada Wheeler, Messrs. Fred Rome, Fido Ashton, Thos. Noakes, and W. Myles. Mr. W. E. Lincoln, the Prince of Reciters, gave some excellent examples of his wonderful powers, a fact alone which would ensure the mantle of success falling on any concert.

Mr. J. C. Sidebotham, the genial President of the I.P.U., occupied the chair and was ably seconded by Mr. T. H. Hinton and others.

The programme, which the sub-committee evolved, was much appreciated and is already being much sought after by those unfortunate philatelists who were unable to attend the concert. Reference to this artistic programme has already been made by several stamp papers, notably the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* and *The Postage Stamp*, to the editors of which papers the concert committee tender their best thanks. Thanks are also due to Mr. Kay for so kindly donating the extremely handsome reply paid post cards which were utilized as insets for the programme.

The success of the evening was almost entirely due to the efforts of Mr. W. E. Lincoln, who combined the rôles of performer and stage manager with complete success. A word of thanks is also due to Mr. Hinton and the other members of the sub-committee.



## December, 1909, Report.

### List of Officers and Committee, 1909-10.

*Hon. President:* HIS HONOUR JUDGE PHILBRICK, K.C.

*Hon. Vice-Presidents:*

W. DORNING BECKTON. H. L. HAYMAN. H. R. OLDFIELD  
VERNON ROBERTS.

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J. E. JOSELIN. F. F. LAMB. E. W. WETHERELL.  
A. B. KAY. W. E. LINCOLN.

*Hon. Sec. & Treasurer:* T. H. HINTON,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, London, S.W.

*Hon. Exchange Superintendent:* DR. E. F. MARX, M.A.,  
11, Woodgrange Avenue, Ealing Common, W.

*Hon. Counterfeit Detector:* W. HADLOW,  
12, Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.

*Hon. Librarian:* W. S. KING,  
65, Cadogan Street, Chelsea, S.W.

*Hon. Solicitors:* MESSRS. OLDFIELDS,  
13, Walbrook, E.C.

All Officers of the Union are ex-officio Members of the Committee.

## MEMBERSHIP.

Candidates for admission must be over 18 years of age, and supply at least two satisfactory references. They will then be proposed for election, and if no objection be lodged within fourteen days, be duly elected. The Entrance Fee 2/6, and Subscription, 5/-, should accompany the application, and will be refunded in the event of the non-election of the applicant. (The Committee are empowered to elect Life Members, not exceeding ten in number, at a fee of Two Guineas).

The following are now proposed in accordance with the above:—Miss H. M. Brameld, Brockenhurst, Hants; proposed by P. L. Pemberton; seconded by F. F. Lamb. H. A. Tanner, Buenos Aires; proposed by P. L. Pemberton; seconded by A. B. Kay. Herbert F. Johnson, Fleet Street, London, E.C.; proposed by P. L. Pemberton; seconded by T. H. Hinton. D. Field, Royal Arcade, Bond Street, W.; proposed by P. L. Pemberton; seconded by T. H. Hinton. Edwin Healey, Streatham Hill, S.W.; proposed by T. H. Hinton; seconded by P. L. Pemberton.

## NOTICES.

The third meeting of the Season was held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, 9th inst. Present—J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), L. W. Fulcher, A. B. Kay, Guy Semple, A. H. L. Giles, P. L. Pemberton, F. F. Lamb, W. E. Lincoln, W. S. King, and the Hon. Sec. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed and correspondence read including a note from Mr. Joselin regretting his inability to attend. The Hon. Sec. presented a brief report of the highly successful smoking concert (of which a full account appears in another column), and moved that the best thanks of the Society be accorded to the Sub-Committee for their services, which was seconded by Mr. Fulcher and carried unanimously. The President then gave a display of his collection of Peru, including a very complete selection of rarities and fine copies. The Hon. Sec. followed with a fairly complete collection of Hong Kong, including a good selection of used blocks of four. A hearty vote of thanks for the displays and to the chairman concluded a pleasant evening.

The next meeting will take place at Essex Hall on Thursday, Jan. 13th, 1910, at 7.30 p.m. when Mr. P. L. Pemberton will read a paper on a subject of Philatelic interest. At this meeting three delegates will be elected to represent the Society at the Philatelic Congress to be held in April next and subjects to be proposed for discussion will be considered. All members who can possibly do so are therefore requested to attend, and as usual, any visitors will be heartily welcomed.

The Hon. Sec. is pleased to report further donations to the forgery collection from Messrs. A. B. Kay and A. H. L. Giles and that it has also been increased by an exchange of duplicates. Further donations will be gladly accepted and duly acknowledged.

In concluding the last report of this year, the Hon. Sec. wishes all members the Compliments of the Season, and asks their continued support of the Officers and Committee in their efforts to promote the welfare of the Society, by introducing new members, attending meetings and making use of the exchange section, and other departments.

THOS. H. HINTON,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Int. Phil. Union,  
26, Cromford Road, East Putney, S.W.

December 13th, 1909.





DECEMBER 20, 1909.

### Philately at Home.

The November number of the *Philatelic Record* contains, as its principal contents, a further chapter of M. Ernst Zumstein's "Handbook of the Postage Stamps of Switzerland," and the first instalment of an article entitled "The Development of the Philatelic Catalogue in England," a paper read before the Manchester Philatelic Society by Mr. F. J. Peplow.

B.W.W. also continues his paper entitled "British Entires."

The following extract, from M. Zumstein's article, relating to the Swiss Jubilee stamps of 1900 is of interest.

The hasty preparation of the first printings left its traces not only in the actual printing but also in the perforation. Some days before the commencement of the Congress the printer delivered the first parcels. The perforation in the offices of the mint should have quickly followed, but it appeared that the contractor for the printing plates had wrongly estimated the size of the plates so that there was not one of the Ries machines suitable for that size. Luckily an old discarded Ries machine was discovered, by help of which the perforating could be performed in case of need. The sheets, however, had to be passed through twice, once for the horizontal rows and again for the vertical rows. The perforation extended right across the margin of the sheets and is especially recognisable where it crosses the corners of the stamps. For later deliveries of the stamps from the printer there was time to manufacture a special Ries machine with which the whole sheet could be perforated at once. This was used also for the re-engraved stamps.

The stamps were in use from 2nd July to 31st December, 1900, in which time the following quantities, in round numbers, were issued:—

5 cts.	..	..	..	21,000,000
10 cts.	..	..	..	17,000,000
25 cts.	..	..	..	6,000,000

The so-called re-engraved stamps are included in these figures. The quantities of the latter are in round figures:—

5 cts.	..	..	..	5,400,000
10 cts.	..	..	..	1,900,000
25 cts.	..	..	..	4,200

and of the last value, when no longer available, 350 were destroyed. In all, ordinary and re-engraved together, there were destroyed about:—

5 cts.	..	..	..	200,000
10 cts.	..	..	..	300,000
25 cts.	..	..	..	250,000

The Postal authorities still possess some remainders of the ordinary and re-engraved types, which are reserved for the archives and are definitely lost for the purpose of the private collector. At this point it must be remarked that the expression "re-engraved" for the latest editions is incorrect and does not correspond to fact. All, including the plates last in use, originate from the same original die and the same plates in relief, but the later galvanos are considerably harder, sharper, and more deeply cut, while there was sufficient time for more careful printing.

The only contribution of any value in the November number of the *London Philatelist* is Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg's article dealing with the "Six Pence Stamps, 1854-1861, of Victoria," being the paper read before the Royal Society last May. Mr. Hausburg has successfully plated this value and the following extract will prove of interest.

For a good many years I have been making attempts to classify the types, but the differences are so minute, at least they appear so at first, that for a long time the task seemed hopeless. A short time ago, after examining a large number of stamps, it seemed to me that there were two distinct types. In the one which I shall call the "L" type, as the left-hand half of the pane of fifty contains only this variety, you will see that there is a sort of apostrophe after the "A" of "VICTORIA," and that the long pointed ornament to the right of the word "STA" consists of three vertical white lines. In the case of the other, which I shall call the "R" type, as most of the right-hand half of the pane are of this type—to be exact there are twenty-two out of twenty-five—this long pointed ornament consists of only two vertical white lines. There is usually another clearly marked difference; in the case of the "R" types some of the curved lines in the scroll-work under the "P" of "PENCE" take the form of something like a horizontal note of interrogation, while in the "L" types there are two slanting coloured lines in the same place.

It is difficult to assign a reason for these peculiarities. It is possible that all the engravings were the work of one man, and that for some reason or other there was an interval between the time he finished the first part of his task, and began the second part; or it is possible that they were the work of two men. The latter is perhaps the more probable, as the peculiarities are so very marked.

At any rate, they are of the greatest assistance in plating; and in the majority of cases if one of these peculiarities is hidden by the postmark another is fairly certain to be visible.

As has already been mentioned the left-hand half of the pane of fifty contains only the "L" types, while the right-hand half contains twenty-two of the "R" type and three of the "L" type; these are the seventh, ninth, and tenth from the left of the top row.

The November number of the *West End Philatelist* contains another instalment of Mr. Poole's "Postage Stamps of the Gold Coast" and a further chapter of the same author's "Bulgaria," as its principal contents. Both articles are excellent, and, although there is a monotonous sameness about Mr. Poole's work, we seldom take up his paper without increasing our own store of philatelic knowledge.

The following extract, showing the *raison d'être* of the Shipka Pass commemorative stamps, will interest those of our readers who are historically inclined.

The battle of the Shipka pass was perhaps the most striking incident of the war that troubled the Balkans from 1876 to 1878. The facts that led up to this fight are as follows: Early in 1877, Bulgaria was a veritable charnel-house—79 villages had been burnt, 15,000 people massacred, and 80,000 were homeless and destitute. Russia, who wished to pose as protectors of the Christians, took sides with the Bulgarians against Turkey, and at first met with astonishing success. The Turks had only 186,000 men in Bulgaria, and 100,000 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but they were under the command of that very able general, Osman Pasha. The Grand Duke Nicholas commanded 750,000 men, reinforced by 60,000 Roumanians. The fate of the two armies was to be decided at Plevna. The town was besieged by the Russians, and, to relieve it, it was necessary for the Turkish troops to force their way through the Shipka Pass. Their progress was stopped, however, by a gallant little band, which defended the ravine heroically. It was made up of a single Russian regiment and five battalions of Bulgarian volunteers. For five days (Aug. 21 to 26) they beat off all attacks, though every effort was made to oust them from their stronghold. The Turks piled the trenches with their corpses, in order to climb to the assault, but the defenders overwhelmed them by throwing down fragments of rock, as depicted on the stamps. The Turks could not get through. On August 31, Osman Pasha abandoned Plevna, and, on November 10, he laid down his arms. Hostilities were suspended at the request of Turkey, and negotiations resulted in the Treaty of Stefano (March 1878), which was the original basis of the political dividing up of the Turkish Empire, revised later on by the Treaty of Berlin.

The following extract, relating to the stamps themselves, will be appreciated by those of our readers who collect Bulgarians.

The stamps are lithographed, and it is said that they were manufactured at Budapest. They were printed in sheets of 100 (10 horizontal rows of 10), on medium wove paper entirely without watermark. They were perforated by single line machines, gauging exactly 11½. Evidently two machines were employed, one making slightly smaller holes than the other.

The lithographic stone, in each case, was made up of impressions from two transfers, and these instead of being applied in pairs were arranged haphazardly. There are small differences by means of which the two types can be identified.

*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* for Nov. 20th contains a further instalment of Mr. L. Hanciau's "Postal Issues of Denmark

and Colonies." He deals mostly with the issues of 1876, 1882-92, and the "prir" surcharges. Regarding the latter, we find they were necessary because the mail packet "Hjalmar," which had on board a supply of postage stamps, was 16 days late at her port of destination.

The 10 and 3 aurar stamps having run short, it was necessary to supply their places. The 5 aurar, of which there was a large stock at the post office, was employed for this purpose—in pairs to make up the 10 aurar, and by means of a surcharge for the 3 aurar, a value intended principally for the franking of newspapers within the Island.

The 5 aurar therefore made its appearance with a surcharge reducing its value to 3 aurar, an issue which was perfectly justifiable, as appears from a letter of Mr. Magnus Stephenson, the Governor of Iceland, which was published in the *Monthly Journal* for February, 1899.

A notable contribution is Mr. C. L. Harte-Lovelace's "Notes on the Postage Stamps of China" being a continuation of his paper published some months ago. Regarding the 1894 set of stamps he says:

The 1894 issue was lithographed instead of typographed, and consequently flaws have not the same interest as they have in the two preceding issues, since they cannot be used to distinguish different settings. The sheets were large in size, and contained twelve panes of twenty stamps arranged in five rows of four. The paper is thin and watermarked as before. The perforation is 11½ as in the preceding issue, but is generally very rough. As the machine was a single-line cutter, stamps imperforate between, or even imperforate horizontally or vertically at both sides, can often be found.

I know of no set of stamps whose designs will so richly repay investigation, full as they are of that symbolism which is a feature of Sinitic civilization.

For instance, in the design of the 1 candarin stamp alone are found the "five bats," the "yin and yang," the tree poeny, the fungus "ling chih hua," and the charm "shou." Each of these has some legend or meaning behind it known to any Chinaman, and thus conveyed to him whether he can read the characters or not. The stamps were printed in Japan, but in 1897 one printing (or more) was made in Shanghai, for the purpose of being surcharged. The latter printing is of extreme rarity unsurcharged; probably the few specimens that exist are those that have accidentally escaped surcharge. It can be distinguished by the shades alone.

Mr. Dalwigg and others also contribute to this number.

In the *Weekly* dated November 27th, Mr. J. B. Leavy continues his Nicaragua article. The following extract is made which, as doubtless many of our readers do not know the exact status of the stamps overprinted respectively for Zelaya and Cabo, will be found of interest.

Nicaragua currency is not accepted as legal tender on the east coast of Nicaragua, except at Gray-Town. The former Mosquito Reservation has been divided into the Departments of Zelaya and Cabo Gracias à Dios. In these sections coined silver of Peru, Chili, Honduras, or Mexico, is demanded by the authorities



for all customs, revenues, etc. The merchants of these provinces had been in the habit of sending to Nicaragua, the capital, in the interior, for their stamps, purchasing the same at the currency rate, which was about half that of the silver standard, thus securing postage for half what it cost the other inhabitants of Nicaragua.

On May 15th, 1904, a decree was issued ordering that all postage and fiscal stamps in circulation in the Department of Zelaya should bear the overprint of a large capital "B," and those in use in Cabo Gracias à Dios a large capital "C"; these letters were hand-stamped in black ink. A few days later the stamps for the Department of Zelaya appeared with the same large capital "B," and with "Dpto Zelaya" in small type below, and beneath that a curved bow-shaped dash, all printed in black, while the stamps for Cabo Gracias à Dios appeared with the word "Cabo," in large italics, printed in violet. None but the over-printed stamps were accepted in the two provinces, and as they were sold only on a silver basis, the merchants were deprived of their nice little postal advantage.

There are also articles dealing with the stamps of Gt. Britain and East Africa and Uganda Protectorates, which with a number of "Notes," etc., make up a good number of our exchange.

In the Dec. 4th number we find a continuation of Mr. L. Hanciau's "Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies," and "Some Notes on the Stamps of Servia," contributed by Mr. Norman Thornton. The following extract will we think be news to many of our readers.

Probably not more than a few specialists in this country have a clear idea as to the precise nature and purpose of the first stamps of Servia, and the general collector, if he possess any of them, may have wondered why no used copies have come under his notice. The explanation of this is that these stamps were not postmarked even when used, and were not supplied for use by the public, but served as a combined tax and delivery charge on foreign newspapers coming into the country; they were affixed to the newspapers at the first post office after crossing the frontier, that is to say at Belgrade for Austrian papers, and at Alexinatza and Kladowa for those from Turkey and Roumania. The charge was 3 paras for each ounce and 1 para for each additional half-ounce. Subscribers to foreign papers were required to deposit with the postal authorities a sufficient sum to cover these charges. In any case the use of these stamps was very limited as the number of Turkish and Roumanian papers was almost negligible, and of the Austrian papers, most were destined for Belgrade, and these were delivered by the Austrian Post Office which was established there until 1868. The stamps were printed at the State Printing Works at Belgrade from leaden clichés which gave a very poor result and occasioned many minor differences, by which the stamps may readily be plated. The sheets contain twelve stamps in three rows of four which are divided vertically by thin continuous lines of colour and horizontally by short lines the width of the stamp. The inscription at the top, "K. C. POTSCHTA," signifies "Post of the Servian Principality."

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for Nov. 27th contains an interesting paper entitled "History as Taught by Postage Stamps," being the paper read before the Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society on

Nov. 1st, by Mr. R. S. Archer, Jun. Mr. B. W. H. Poole contributes a further instalment of his British Honduras article. Dealing with the locally surcharged 2c. on 1d. of 1888, he says:—

The 2c. on 1d., the commonest of the locally surcharged stamps, was surcharged in blocks of 36 (six horizontal rows of six) and as a pane consisted of 60 stamps the top six rows were first of all surcharged and then the four lower rows. A piece of paper was evidently placed over the two lower rows of type to prevent them printing on the bottom margin for "blind" impressions of the surcharge can often be traced.

The type used was not of the best nor was the workmanship of the highest class. Smudged and imperfect letters are common, but the only minor varieties that are "permanent" are the following:—

- No. 2.—The "N" of "CENTS" is badly broken right across its centre.
- No. 10.—There is no serif at the top of the left-hand stroke of the "N" of "CENTS."
- No. 20.—The second upright stroke of the "N" of "CENTS" is broken in the centre.
- No. 23.—The "C" of "CENTS" is broken at the top so that the letter appears as a series of dots for the space of about 1mm.
- No. 25.—There is a small break in the centre of the second upright stroke of the "N" of "CENTS."
- No. 27.—The "2" is broken at the top and also in the centre.

Some of the letters seem to vary slightly in size, the "s" and "n" on some stamps being apparently a little narrower than on others; but these are, at best, elusive varieties. Dropped letters also occur, but I have found nothing to prove that any of these are "constant."

The position of the "2" in relation to the word "CENTS" varies as follows:—

- (1) The extreme left of the base of the numeral is exactly in line with the first upright stroke of the "N."
- (2) The left end of the base of the numeral is above the space between the letters "EN."
- (3) The left end of the base of the numeral is slightly to the right of the first stroke of the "N."

These varieties are arranged as follows in the setting:—

2	1	1	2	2	1
1	3	1	2	2	2
2	1	2	2	2	2
1	2	2	3	1	2
2	2	2	2	2	2
2	1	1	2	2	1

Evidently the same type was used for all the values, but it was reset—probably for each. Thus I find in the 20c. on 6d. the variety which occurs on the second stamp in the case of the 2c. now appears on stamp No. 26.

In the same number of our contemporary we also find other capital articles, both original and reprinted.

The December 11th, or Xmas number of the *Fortnightly* contains some very interesting articles, notes, and advertisements

—Mr. Franz Reichenheim is the "Philatelist of To-Day." "Philatel" fills his page with a budget of well written notes and comments. "Senax" is responsible for a capital column entitled "The Stamp Market." The only long original article is contributed by Mr. B. W. H. Poole, being a further instalment of his article dealing with the stamps of British Honduras.

The December number of the *Herts Monthly Report* contains a good deal of readable matter. Mr. A. J. Warren contributes the most important article, namely, a further instalment of his paper dealing with the early stamps of Holland.

The following extract relating to the "horn" variety of the imperf. 10 cents is very interesting.

In the making of this second plate a disaster occurred, and a flaw appeared on the forehead of the King. This must have happened to the matrix from which the plate was constructed or to the transfer roller as all the stamps on the sheet show the same flaw. I could hardly believe it at first when Mr. Wilkinson sent me a strip of three all the same. I had one unused and some single used copies but thought nothing much of it. I was, however, fortunate in finding here and in Holland strips of three and four all with this flaw, and finally an unused block of ten, two rows of five, on all of which was to be seen how the flaw had been more or less successfully worked away!

My envelopes showing the "flaw" bear date from 17th August 1861 (I have nothing as yet of May-July), to 11th July 1862. Then follow those with "flaw repaired" in December, 1862, and January, 1863.

Since my display to the Society I secured envelopes showing that by the 5th March, 1863, a third plate had been made, as on that date and subsequently, to June, 1864, the stamps show no "flaw" or "repair" or "retouch" to corner or sideline.

I mention the latter particularly as the stamps with "flaw" and "repair" show in several cases that the side-line on the left has been "retouched"; surely a quite unnecessary proceeding on a new plate, making it all the more remarkable that such a distinct blemish as the little "horn" on the forehead should have been left untouched for a whole year!

The November number of the *Philatelic Adviser* contains, as its star turn, a further instalment of Mr. B. W. H. Poole's excellent article dealing with the stamps of the British South African Company. The current chapter deals with the Buluwayo Provisionals, the Cape stamps overprinted British South Africa Company and the first Waterlows. Regarding the overprinted stamps, Mr. Poole says:—

The stamps were surcharged in panes of 60, and it appears that enough type was set to cover a row of six stamps and from this ten stereotypes were taken. There are slight defects in each stamp in the row, so there are six types repeated ten times in each pane. These are:—

1.—There is a thinning or minute break in the first upright stroke of the "H" of "SOUTH" near its centre.

- 2.—The right-hand stroke of the "A" of "COMPANY" is broken just above the cross bar.
- 3.—This is without any apparent defects.
- 4.—The right leg of the "R" of "BRITISH" is broken near its base.
- 5.—There is a short leg to the second "A" of "AFRICA."
- 6.—The right leg of the "H" of "BRITISH" is broken near its base.

Notwithstanding various other accidental breaks and dots it is generally a matter of little difficulty to identify the types. Type 5 is the most striking variety, and this was described in the *Philatelic Record* as long ago as July, 1896. Type 2 usually has a defective serif at the left of the "T" of "SOUTH."

These Cape Colony stamps were in sheets of 240 arranged in four panes of 60 side by side, so each sheet had to go through the printing press four times. The plate number 2 is shown four times in the margin of sheets of the 4d.—above the second and eleventh stamps in the top row and below the corresponding stamps in the bottom row. In the 4d. the plate number is "3" and both values have a jubilee line around each pane. I cannot say anything about the plate numbers of the other values as I have seen no marginal strips.

The 4d. value is known with the word "COMPANY" omitted. These stamps are from the bottom row of a pane and, as the surcharging forme consisted of stereotypes so that the type could not have dropped out, it is probable these errors are the result of defective inking.

The December (Xmas No.) of the *Stamp Lover* is a splendidly "gotten" up publication. Mr. R. Wedmore contributes a capital article dealing with the "Bordeaux Issue of France." He writes most interestingly and illustrates his paper with enlarged reproductions of the stamps. Under the heading "Correspondence" we find a most enjoyable letter dealing with the stamps and postmarks of Baden, contributed by Mr. Dingwall.

Mr. D. B. Armstrong is responsible for the first instalment of an excellent article entitled "Foreign Postmarks." He deals with the stamps of many countries and we feel sure that there are but few specialists who would not be interested in his paper. We make a couple of short extracts, and can confidently recommend our readers to read Mr. Armstrong's paper in its entirety.

#### ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Previous to the issue in 1870 of special postage stamps for use in the Central American Republic of Paraguay, stamps of the 1867 series of the Argentine Republic of the denominations of 5, 10, and 15 centavos were in use in Paraguay, and were cancelled with a special postmark, consisting of the letter "H" enclosed in a device of diagonal lines. This was the initial of Hermaita, director of the Argentine military forces in Paraguay at that time.

#### AUSTRIAN ITALY.

The special issues of Lombardo-Venetia were current also in the Austrian Foreign Post Offices in European and Asiatic Turkey, Egypt, Cyprus, Crete, etc., until June 1st, 1867, when they were replaced by a separate series specially designed for use in these offices. The obliterations of the following towns are

to be found on these stamps:—In the Danubian Provinces—Bakan, Berlat, Botuschany, Bucharest, Fokschany, Galatz, Giurgevo, Ibralia, Jassy, Piatra, Peoesti, and Roman; in European Turkey—Adrianople, Antivari, Burgas, Cavalle, Constantinople, Czernavoda, Dardanelles, Durazzo, Gallipoli, Janina, Kustendji, Lagos, Philippopolis, Prevesa, Rustchuck, Salonika, Seres, Sofia, Solina, Tulcha, Valona, Varna, and Volo; in Crete—Candia, Canea, and Retimo; in Egypt—Alexandria; in Asiatic Turkey—Alexandretta, Beyrout, Caiffa, Chios, Ineboli, Jaffa, Jerusalem, Latakia, Mersina, Mytylene, Rhodes, Samsun, Sinope, Smyrna, Tenedos, Trebizond, and Tripoli; in Cyprus—Larnaca.

Besides the above mentioned articles, there are others of interest, so our readers may infer that the December edition of the Juniors' official organ is a very excellent production.

## Philately on the Continent.

The *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung* concludes its article on the reprints of Russian Levant stamps, and by means of enlarged illustrations renders the differences between the originals and the reprints very clear. There were two reprints of these stamps and in connection with the second reprint the following will not be without interest. A certain M. Essayan bought up the remainders of the second reprint in 1897 and offered them to Messrs. Yaremджи and Tchakidji, in Constantinople. This firm was willing to buy them, provided that they were authenticated as genuine reprints. M. Petropoulo, the head of the Russian post office in Constantinople, declared them to be genuine prints from the original plates, and on the strength of this declaration M. Yaremджи bought the stamps. He then offered them to Herr Kosack, of Berlin, who agreed to purchase them on condition that their authenticity would be officially certified. On this being asked of M. Petropoulo, he declared his inability to give it, but said that it could only be obtained from the General Post Office Direction, in Odessa. On application being made there, M. Yaremджи was informed that a certificate to this effect could only be granted on payment of 3000 francs, as the value of the stamps would thereby be greatly enhanced!! Needless to say, this official attempt at blackmail proved abortive.

Mr. Nils Strandell has been treating Montenegro very seriously in the *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidskrift*. He began an elaborate article on its stamps in the September number, and, like Charlie's Aunt, it is still running. In the current number there is an attempt to plate the first four issues, and he gives some elaborate diagrams (after Reinheimer) to show how this may be done. Mr. Strandell has dived deeply into his subject, and seems to have read everything that has been written. He frequently refers to other writers' work, *inter alia* Mr. C. J.

Phillips's in the *Monthly Journal*. An important contribution to philately.

By the way, why is our contemporary written partly in Swedish and partly in Danish?

The *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* of Nov. 12th contains an interesting article by Dr. Lewith, on the first issue of Austria. He is the happy possessor of some thousands of letters of this period, and has subjected the stamps to a minute examination with regard to the differences in the printing as well as the varieties of paper, which varies in thickness from 0.05mm. to 0.14mm. He has tabulated these thicknesses with gradations of 0.01mm. and in addition to this divides the paper into three qualities, rough, smooth unsurfaced and smooth surfaced papers. He traces the stamps throughout the whole period of their being in use (1850-1858), and the whole article bears witness to the great pains he has bestowed on his investigations. Another valuable contribution to the philately of Austria.

M. Pierre Mahé has a chatty article on the 1 franc, vermilion, of France, so-called "Vervelle," in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*. The first portion of the article is devoted to an exceedingly laboured but entertaining tirade against the practise of using this nickname. M. Mahé says that instead of calling the stamps by the name of the man who bought the remainders from the effects of the printer, it would be more sensible to call them after the printer himself—M. Hulot, or even after the name of the workman who mixed the ink which gave the peculiar tint to the stamps, or, lastly, after the workman who prepared the plate and the *mise en train* for the printing. We fail to see why M. Mahé should thus seek to abolish a term which is now so well known. Lots of things, both in and out of philately, are misnamed, but when the title is well established and conveys a direct meaning, as in this instance, it matters little what was its origin.

In the course of the article we are told that the author has had the opportunity of examining a large number of the 1 franc vermilion at one time, and was thereby able to form an exact conception of the numerous shades of these stamps, running from pale vermilion (Vervelle) or very bright vermilion to dull, or brownish, vermilion. Among these M. Mahé vouches for the existence of used and unused copies in the exact shade of the remainders which were put on the market by M. Vervelle. The unused copies could be distinguished from the Vervelle stamps by the presence of the original gum (a factor which is missing from the remainders).

The same number of *L'Echo* contains the first instalment of what promises to be an important article, entitled "The History of the Postage Stamps of Belgium." This opening chapter deals with the events which immediately

preceded the adoption by Belgium of adhesive stamps. As in most countries this reform was talked about for years before it was actually introduced. One of the first steps was to send M. L. Bronne, an important Belgian postal official, to England, to study the system employed here. The result of his report was the preparation of an envelope, of specially prepared paper, impressed with a large rectangular stamp. This has the Arms of Belgium in the centre, surmounted by the Royal Crown. The shield is surrounded by a scroll bearing the inscription, "L'union fait la force." Curved above the Crown are the words, "Admin. des Postes" and, in a corresponding position below the Arms, appears the value, "vingt centimes" which, it was proposed, should be the uniform rate for inland letters. This essay (for it never passed the essay stage) was made in 1841, and it was not until 1849 that the recommendations of M. Browne were adopted, though, then, instead of the stamped envelope it was the adhesive stamp that was employed.

*Le Timbre-Poste* for November appears on a very superior, highly glazed, paper, most suitable for giving effect to the illustrations. The principal article is by the Editor, M. Georges Brunel, entitled "Le Classement des Timbres Grecs," which is a *rechauffé* of his own work on the same subject. Our readers have probably already heard enough about this subject for the present and we will therefore refrain from making any extracts. The article begins with the admission that the work, *Les Emissions des Timbres Grecs*, has been severely criticised on all sides. In Germany, the author was told that Glasewald had already said the last word on the subject. He has endured a tempest of reproach in England from a *confrère* with whom he is engaged in a *polémique acerbe*.

We fancy that we are the *confrère* referred to but we deny the acerbity; we are sorry if M. Brunel suspects that quality in any of our criticisms. As for Glasewald having said the last word on the subject, we are sure that Mr. Glasewald himself would be the last to sustain such a claim, yet though his work is now old and out of date, we certainly prefer his classification to that of M. Brunel. The last word on this subject has not yet been said by anyone, and we doubt if it ever will be.

M. Montader threatens a contentious article in *Le Postillon* entitled "Stamps which do not Exist." This will not be devoted to the consideration of stamps which once had their place on the earth, and have since disappeared like the *Diplodocus* and the Dodo, but to stamps which are entirely bogus and to others which, we are told, are given in all the catalogues—Gibbons, Yvert et Tellier, Senf, Scott, Kohl, etc., and also in the *Catalogue Officiel* and the *Catalogue Général*!!! "It is not a question," says M. Montader, "of unissued stamps, nor even of essays; it is a question of stamps, veritable stamps, sold by dealers, unused or

used, and for prices which are not exactly trivial." The list of the stamps which do not exist, but which are included in the principal catalogues will, we are told, include not a few instances of French and English Colonies and of Europe; we are further informed that the list of these, with the entirely bogus stamps included, will number about eight hundred varieties! We shall await the publication of this list with much interest, for though we know there are many suspects in the catalogues we can hardly see how, even if all those whose *bona fides* have ever been questioned are included, the list can be swelled to such terrifying proportions.

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## The Second Philatelic Congress OF Great Britain, London, 1910.

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### ADDITION TO PROGRAMME.

Friday, April 29th, 1910, at 8 p.m., Closing Meeting (Public Meeting).

1. Paper by the Hon. Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (M. P. Castle, Esq., M.P.)

2. Closing Address by J. Henniker Heaton, Esq., M.P.

Up to the time of going to press the following Philatelic Societies have informed the Committee of the names of the Delegates appointed by them to attend the Congress:—

The Royal Philatelic Society, London—Messrs. E. D. Bacon, M. P. Castle, L. W. Fulcher and J. A. Tilleard.

Chums Society of Stamp Collectors—Messrs. Ernest H. Robinson, L. S. Goldsmith and Percy C. Bishop.

Croydon Philatelic Society—Messrs. Albert Ashby and H. H. Harland.

Portland Philatelic Society — Mr. W. Haworth.

South Wales and Monmouthshire Philatelic Society—Mr. Walter Scott and Colonel G. E. Petty.

Swadlincote Philatelic Society — Messrs. W. Oakley and W. Hilton.

The Philatelic Students' Fellowship — Messrs. B. B. Kirby and S. R. Turner.

The Committee hope that all other Philatelic Societies of Great Britain, many of which have already declared their willingness to attend the Congress, will lose no time in appointing Delegates. The Committee would also be glad to hear of any subject which it is proposed should be brought before the Congress.

FRANZ REICHENHEIM,

*Chairman of the Executive Committee.*

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AND

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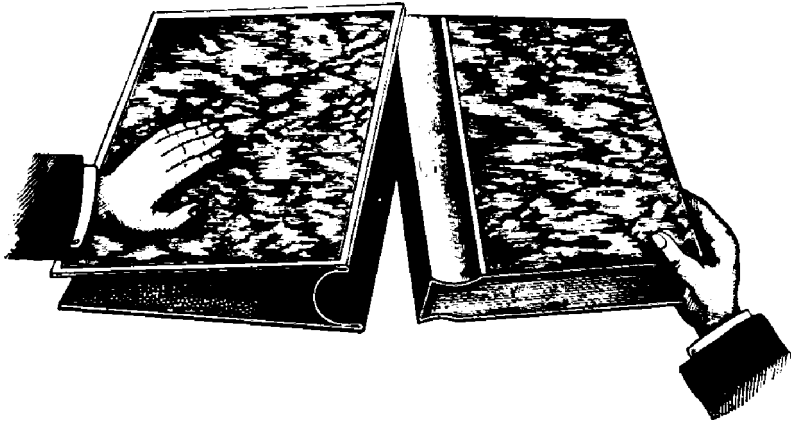
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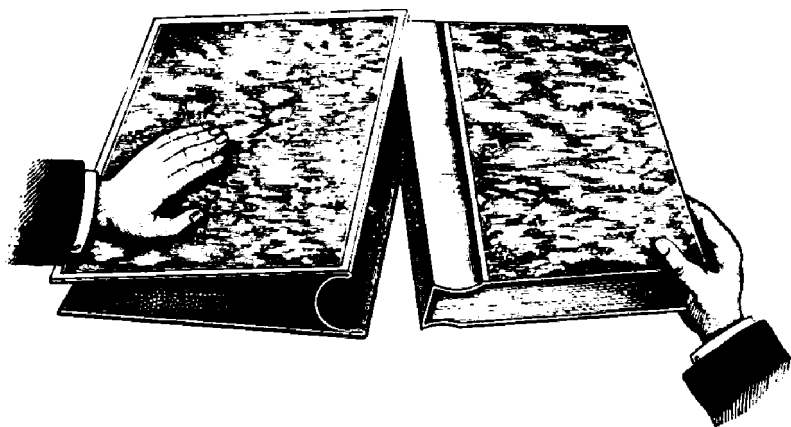
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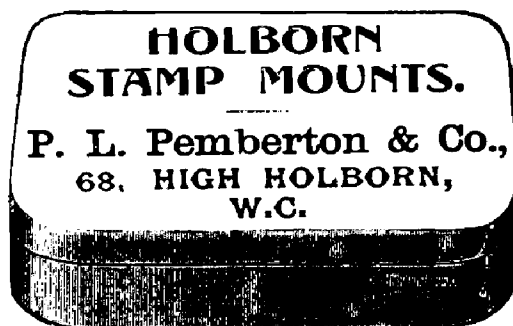
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3	„ „ on piece of original..	8/0
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4	„ „ on piece of original, with 1 anna B.E.A. on India .. ..	7/6
4½	„ purple .. ..	25/0
5	„ black on grey-blue, mint .. ..	75/0
5	„ „ fine on piece of original .. ..	65/0
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8	„ bright blue, mint .. ..	12/0
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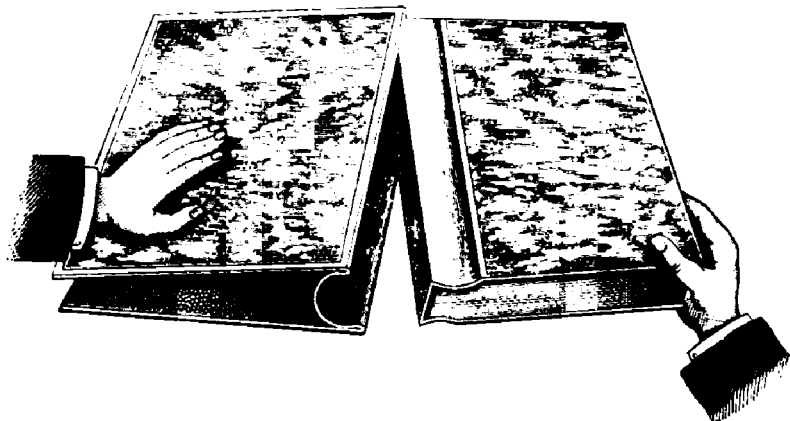
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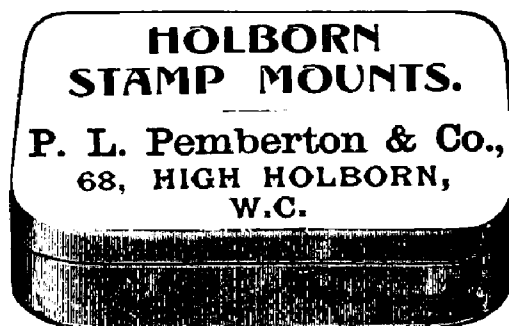
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" do., in mint pairs	£17 0 0
CEYLON, 8d. brown, star, clean-cut perf., very fine	95 0
" 2r. 50c., the scarce perf., 12½ all round	£6 10 0
*FIJI, 6d. rose. perf. 10 and 12½, mint	£5 0 0
*GREAT BRITAIN, £5 orange, mint	£6 0 0
" " £1, Maltese Cross, superb pair	£7 10 0
" " 1d. imperf., corner block of 4, showing control number 152, very rare	65 0
NEWFOUNDLAND, 2d. carmine, very fine	£7 10 0
" 6d. carmine, very fine	£8 0 0
NEW SOUTH WALES, Sydney Views, Plate 2 on laid, 1d. superb pair	£9 9 0
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NEVIS, 1/- blue-green, engraved, mint	75 0
" 6d. grey, litho., mint	£5 10 0
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$\frac{1}{2}$ " " fine, on piece of original	10/0
1 " deep green " " .. ..	37/6
1 " " mint pair .. ..	£6/10/0
2 " vermilion, used .. ..	35/0
2 " " block of four .. ..	£8
$2\frac{1}{2}$ " black on yellow, mint .. ..	27/6
$2\frac{1}{2}$ " " on piece of original ..	25/0
$2\frac{1}{2}$ " " used .. ..	17/6
3 " black on dull red, mint .. ..	8/0
3 " " on piece of original ..	8/0
4 " brown, mint .. ..	6/0
4 " " on piece of original, with 1 anna B.E.A. on India .. ..	7/6
$4\frac{1}{2}$ " purple .. ..	25/0
5 " black on grey-blue, mint .. ..	75/0
5 " " fine on piece of original ..	65/0
$7\frac{1}{2}$ " black, mint .. ..	20/0
8 " bright blue, mint .. ..	12/0
8 " " fine, on piece of original	15/0
1 rupee carmine, mint .. ..	10/0
1 " " fine, on original .. ..	12/6
1 " " on piece .. ..	10/0

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" " 10c. blue, pf. 14, mint block of 4, well-centred	3	7	6
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" " do., in mint pairs	17	0	0
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* GREAT BRITAIN, £5 orange, mint	6	0	0
" " " £1, Maltese Cross, superb pair	7	10	0
" " " 1d. imperf., corner block of 4, showing control No. 152, very rare	3	5	0
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" " 6d. carmine, very fine	8	0	0
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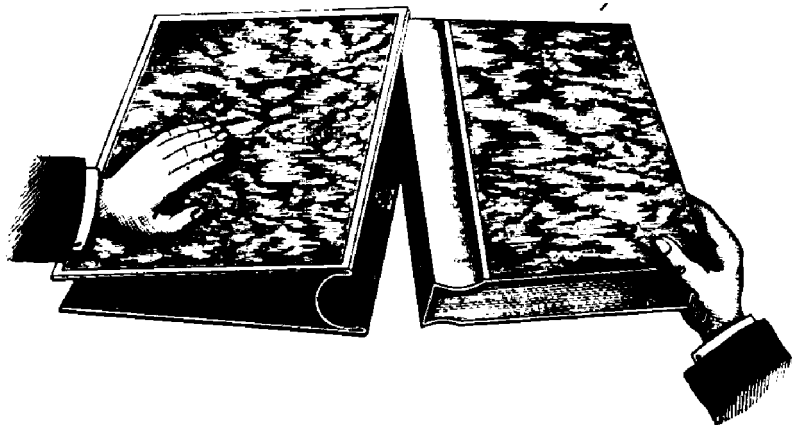
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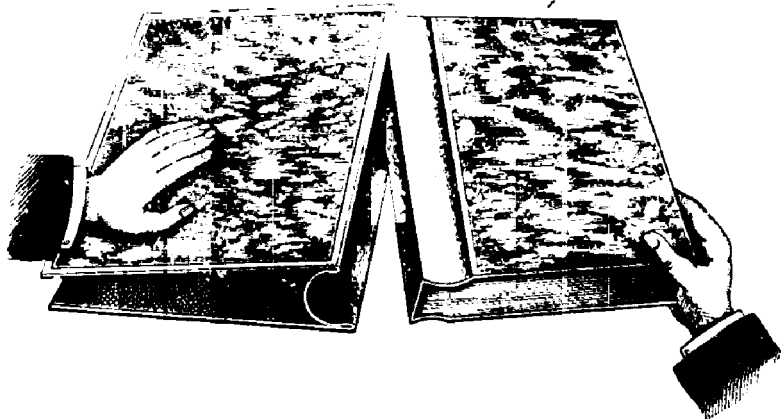
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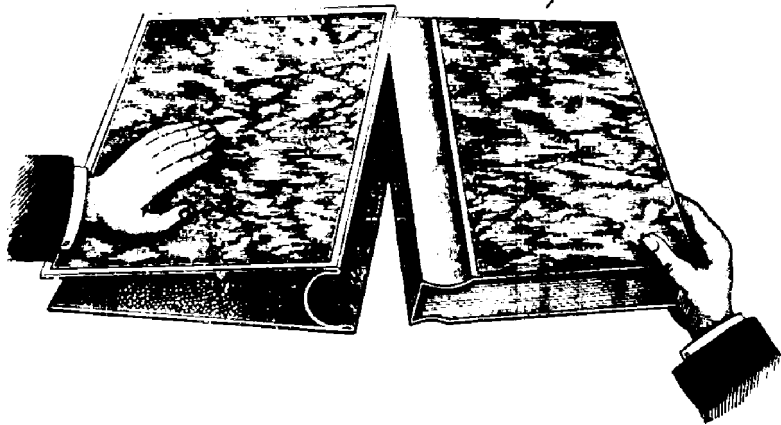
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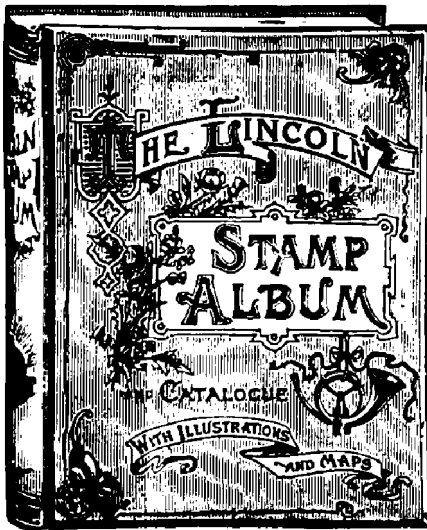
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..	2c., printed in green	... 10/6
1899	2c. on 3c., with variety stop after "Three"	... 4/6
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..	4c. on 6c. " " " " " "	... 8/0
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" " 8as. blue	" 38..	8/0	" " 5	.. .. 4/0
" " 1r.	" 39..	6/0	" " 10	.. .. 8/0
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" " 5as. bistre	" 88..	6/0	Inhambane Jubilee, 1895, 5 reis black	.. 3/10
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" " 2½as. on 1a.	" 90..	8/0	Malay State, Postage, used, \$1	.. .. 1/8
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Brazil, 1906, Service, 10 to 10,000r.	.. ..	6/5	*Perak, 1890, 6c. violet	.. 1/10
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1 ..	plum .. ..	..	0 9
1½ ..	sepia .. ..	..	1 6
2 ..	ultramarine .. ..	..	1 3
2½ ..	green .. ..	..	1 6
3 ..	brn.-orange .. ..	..	4 0
4 ..	olive-green .. ..	..	3 0
6 ..	pale-brown .. ..	..	3 0
8 ..	magenta .. ..	..	7 6
12 ..	purple on red .. ..	..	6 0
1 rupee slate	.. ..	..	12 6
1 ..	green and carmine, used .. ..	..	7 6
2 ..	carmine and yell.-brown .. ..	..	25 0
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1899	2c. on 3c., with variety stop after "Three"	4/6
"	2c. on 12c., strip of five types	2/0
"	4c. on 6c.	8/0
"	4c. on 8c.	6/3
"	2c. on 12c. laid paper	6/6
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"	1/- pale orange	6/0

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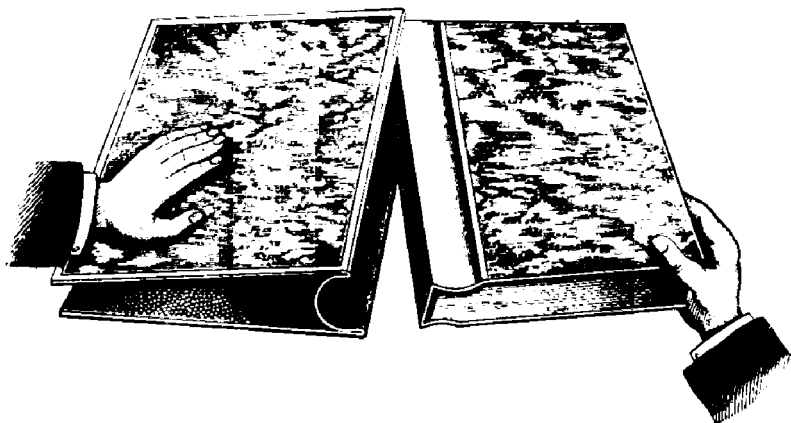
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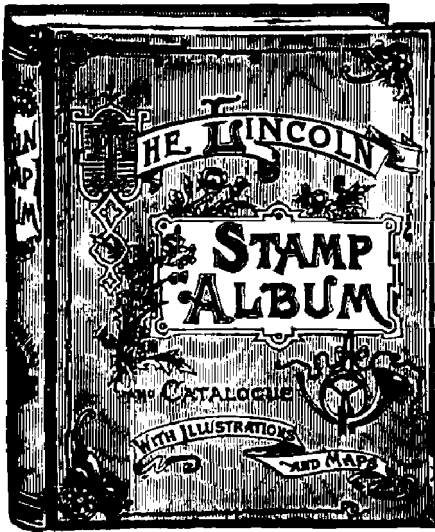
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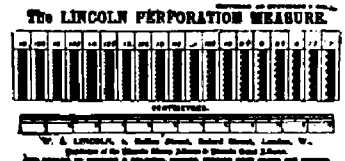
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(4 ,, ), red	—	15 0	1 Shilling, black	15 0	3 6	2/6 slate & orange	7 0	7 6	7 6	7 6	7 6
<b>On White Paper.</b>			<b>1871-74.</b>			<b>1897. Diamond Jubilee.</b>			<b>Watermark, Crown C.C.</b>		
(½ Penny), green	40 0	7 6	Watermark, Large Star.			½ Penny, slate & red	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 2
(1 ,, ), blue	12 6	2 6	½ Penny, dark grn	7 6	6 0	½ ,, green	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 2
<b>1862-71. No Watermark.</b>			1 ,, dark blue	6 0	1 0	2½ ,, blue	0 6	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4
<b>Pin Perforated.</b>			6 ,, verm.	70 0	6 6	5 ,, bronze	3 6	3 6	3 6	3 6	3 6
(½ Penny), green	—	17 6	1 Shilling, black	50 0	4 0	6 ,, vi. & red	5 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	5 0
(1 ,, ), blue	—	10 0	<b>1875. Watermark, Crown C.C.</b>			8 ,, or. & blue	3 6	3 6	3 6	3 6	3 6
<b>Clean Cut Perforations</b>			<b>Perforated 12½.</b>			10 ,, grn. & red	5 6	5 6	5 6	5 6	5 6
<b>14 to 16.</b>			½ Penny, light grn	7 6	1 6	2/6 slate & orange	15 0	10 6	10 6	10 6	10 6
(½ Penny), green	8 0	4 0	¼ ,, red	21 0	6 0	<b>1898. Same on Blued Paper.</b>					
(1 ,, ), blue	—	7 6	6 ,, orange	£6	10 6	½ Penny, slate & red	8 6	—	—	—	—
<b>Rough Perforations 11 to 16.</b>			1 Shilling, violet	50 0	6 0	2½ ,, blue	8 6	—	—	—	—
(½ Penny), green	4 0	2 0	<b>Perforated 14.</b>			<b>1903. Queen Victoria in Neptune's Car.</b>					
(1 ,, ), blue	4 0	0 6	½ Penny, light grn	2 0	0 6	<b>Watermark, Crown C.A.</b>					
(4 ,, ), red	40 0	8 6	1 ,, light blue	4 6	0 3	<b>2s. 6d. lil. &amp; grn.</b>			<b>5 0 5 0</b>		
<b>Watermark, Large Star.</b>			3 ,, lilac	8 6	7 6	<b>1904. Crown C.A. Multiple.</b>					
<b>Rough Perforations 11 to 16.</b>			4 ,, red	15 0	3 6	½ Penny, slate & red	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
(½ Penny), green	4 0	2 0	6 ,, orange	6 0	2 0	½ ,, green	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
(1 ,, ), blue	4 0	0 6	6 ,, yellow	10 6	2 0	1 ,, rose	0 2	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
(4 ,, ), red	40 0	8 6	1 Shilling, violet	12 6	3 6	2½ ,, blue	0 4	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 2
<b>Watermark, Large Star.</b>			1 ,, purple	—	4 6	6 ,, vi. & red	0 8	—	—	—	—
<b>Rough Perforations 11 to 16.</b>			<b>1873. Britannia.</b>			8 ,, or. & blue	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0
(½ Penny), green	5 0	4 0	5 Shillings, rose	80 0	30 0	2/6 lilac & green	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0
(1 ,, ), blue	£6	8 6	<b>1883. Queen Victoria.</b>			<b>1905. Dated 1605-1905.</b>					
(4 ,, ), red	—	25 0	½ Penny, green	0 3	0 1	1 Penny, blk. & blue	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 2
<b>Clean Cut Perforations</b>			1 ,, rose	0 6	0 1	<b>1906. Nelson Centenary.</b>					
<b>14 to 16.</b>			2½ ,, blue	3 6	0 3	<b>Watermark, Crown C.C.</b>					
(½ Penny), green	50 0	5 0	3 ,, mauve	1 0	3 6	½ Penny, grey & blk.	0 5	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 2
<b>Watermark, Small Star.</b>			4 ,, grey	14 0	1 0	½ ,, grn. & blk.	0 3	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 2
(½ Penny), green	60 0	6 6	4 ,, brown	0 6	0 2	1 ,, red & blk.	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3
(1 ,, ), blue	40 0	1 0	6 ,, ,,	6 0	6 0	2 ,, yel. & blk.	0 6	0 6	0 6	0 6	0 6
(4 ,, ), red	50 0	15 0	1 Shilling, orange	4 0	3 6	2½ ,, blue & blk.	0 8	0 8	0 8	0 8	0 8
<b>VALUE INDICATED.</b>			5 ,, yellow	16 6	18 0	6 ,, blue & blk.	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0
<b>1859. Not Perforated.</b>			<b>Surcharged "Halfpenny."</b>			<b>1907. Crown C.A. Multiple.</b>					
<b>No Watermark.</b>			½d. on 4d. brown	0 4	0 4	½ Penny, grey & blk.	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
6 Pence, rose	—	12 6	<b>1892-99. Queen Victoria in Neptune's Car.</b>			2 ,, yel. & blk.	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4
1 Shilling, black	40 0	8 0	<b>Watermark, Crown C.A.</b>			2½ ,, blue & blk.	0 6	0 6	0 6	0 6	0 6
<b>1861. Rough Perforations</b>			½ Penny, slate & red	0 1	0 1	<b>1907. Surcharged</b>					
<b>14 to 16.</b>			½ ,, green	0 1	0 1	<b>"Kingston Relief Fund,"</b>					
6 Pence, carm.	60 0	3 0	1 ,, rose	0 3	0 1	<b>on 1892-99 issue.</b>					
6 ,, verm.	30 0	4 0	2 ,, blk. & or.	0 6	0 6	<b>1d. on 2d. blk. &amp; or.</b>			<b>0 3</b>		
1 Shilling, black	8 0	3 6	2½ ,, blue	0 6	0 2						
			5 ,, bronze	0 7	0 7						
			6 ,, vi. & red	1 0	1 0						

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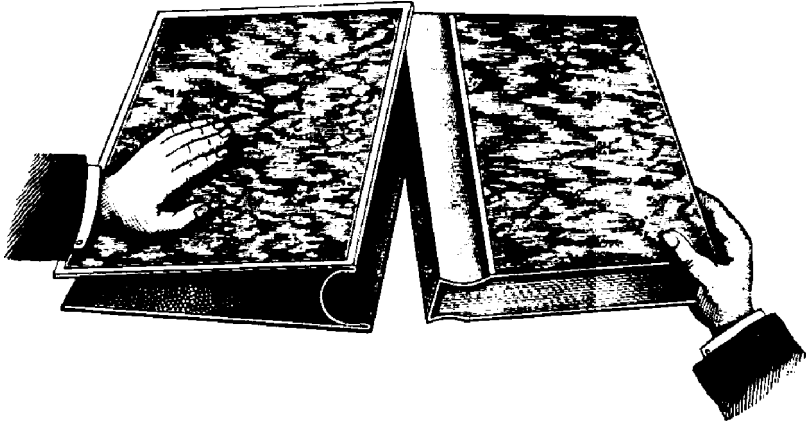
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1d. "	..	..	0 3	Overprinted O.P.S.O.			
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*2d. bistre	..	..	0 4	1909, 4d. yellow, Crown & A.	..	..	0 2
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*6d. mauve, P. 14, CA.	..	..	0 8	<b>STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1892-99.</b>			
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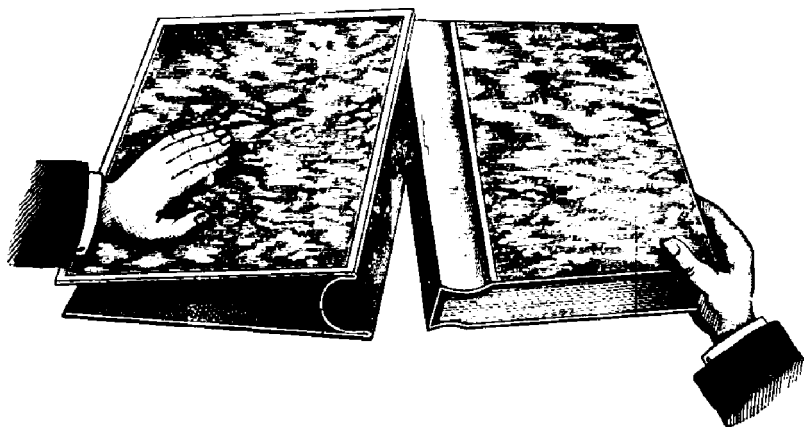
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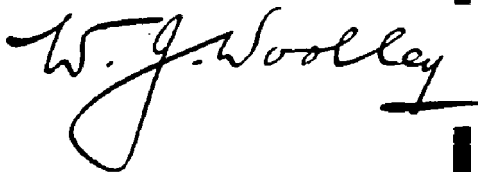
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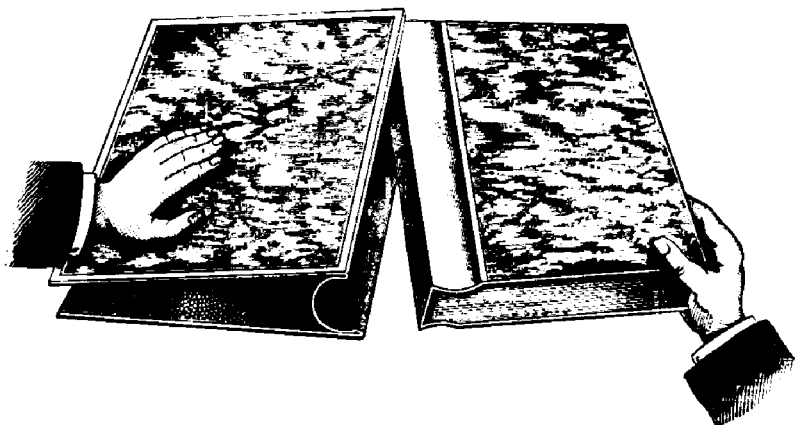
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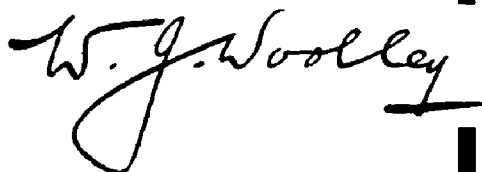
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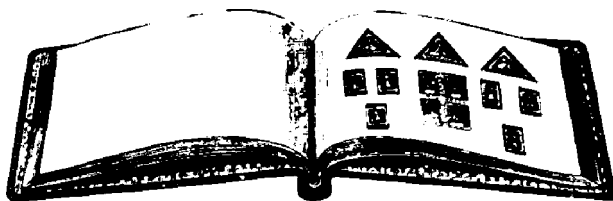
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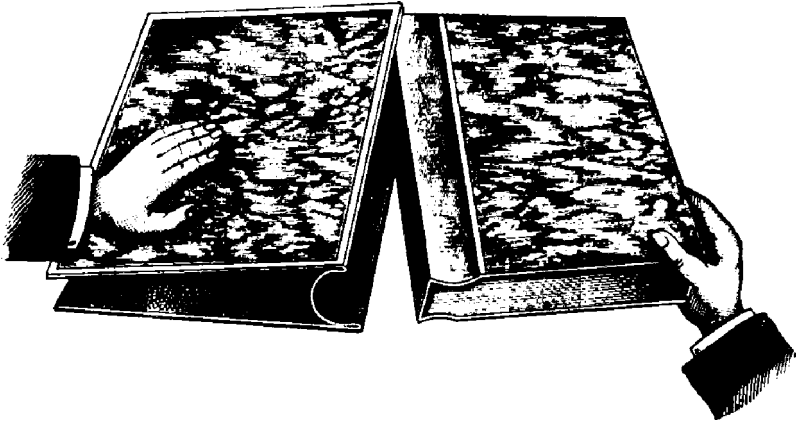
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