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# NEW ISSUES

OF

# FOREIGN STAMPS.



JUNE, 1877.



*By H. Seimich*

ILLUSTRATED.

LONDON:

"THE BAZAAR" OFFICE, 32, WELLINGTON-STREET,  
STRAND, W.C.

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*Advertisements.*



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*The Christian Globe* says:—"Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. have a large assortment of stamps, and are enabled to supply the wants of collectors to any reasonable extent. This firm sell none but genuine stamps."

*The West of England Observer* says:—"Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. may be recommended as honest dealers in foreign stamps. Their stock is an immense one, whilst the prices are very low. We have examined their advertised packets, and found them to contain genuine selections."



**WHITFIELD, KING, AND CO.,**  
FOREIGN STAMP IMPORTERS,  
**IPSWICH.**



ESTABLISHED 1869.

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**Alwar.**—This little East Indian dependency, situated in the Aravelli mountains, with a population of about 900,000, has lately issued a stamp of the annexed type, for postal duty.



The legend is Hindostanec. It is printed in colour on white unwatermarked paper and companion, same design,

perforated. There is a paper, and perforation.

3 pies, blue.  
1 anna, brown.

**Angola.**—The current series has had the following values added, viz.:

40 reis, blue,  
200 „ orange,  
300 „ brown.

**Antioquia.**—The adjoining block is a facsimile of a new type of the 5 centavos, which has lately cropped up. It will be remarked that it differs from the last in the following points, viz., on either side of “*correos*” this has a small cross instead of dots; the head is on a plain instead of a crossed linear ground; the figures of value are on white; the circle is composed of two lines instead of being shaded; the horizontal strokes which form



the background are 44 in number instead of 55.

The value in letters is in shorter and thicker characters; and, lastly, the words “ANTIOQUIA” above, and “LIBERTAD” on the headband, read ANTIOQUIA and LIBERTAD respectively.

5 centavos dark green.

The one centavo labels which were originally impressed on bright green glazed paper, have since been printed on yellowish-green ordinary paper, and still more recently on plain white paper.

1 centavo black on yellowish green.  
1 centavo black on white.

**Argentine Republic.**—Post cards of the value of four centavos will come into use on the 1st January. Should this first issue prove as shortlived as the early Montevidians, collectors will have another scramble.

The five centavos labels have lately come to hand *percé en lignes*.

5 centavos vermilion.

The American Bank Note Company have prepared a new set of stamps for this Republic, of which more anon.

Meanwhile, to exhaust the old stock, several surcharges were issued, which had to do provisional duty. One is the five centavos surcharged in an uncommonly conspicuous manner.

Indeed, had we not (through the courtesy of Miss Werderman) a copy before us, we should have thought our informant had, for convenience sake, drawn the figure larger than it actually is. The great demand there has been for the one centavo and four centavos labels (of which quantities of used specimens have lately got about) is attributable to the alteration in the tariff. There are also the five and ten centavos surcharged *two*



Advertisements

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of a large number of Postals and also of various other kinds of stamps, including the most recent issues of Great Britain, the Colonies, and the United States. The book is a complete and up-to-date guide to the collector, and is also a valuable reference work for the general public. It contains full descriptions of the stamps, and is illustrated with numerous fine reproductions of the most interesting and beautiful designs. The price is very low, and the book is available in both paper and cloth covers. It is a must for every collector, and is also a fine gift for the philatelist.

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The legend is Hindostanee. It is printed in colour on white un-watermarked paper and perforated. There is a companion, same design, paper, and perforation.

3 pies, blue.  
1 anna, brown.

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40 reis, blue,  
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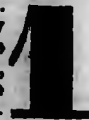
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Indeed, had we not (through the courtesy of Miss Werderman) a copy before us, we should have thought our informant had, for convenience sake, drawn the figure larger than it actually is. The great demand there has been for the one centavo and four centavos labels (of which quantities of used specimens have lately got about) is attributable to the alteration in the tariff. There are also the five and ten centavos surcharged two



and eight respectively, and as will be seen by the subjoined cuts, in no less a voyant manner than the one. We should advise collectors



to procure specimens of

these stamps as soon as they can, for as they will in all probability soon be superseded by a new issue, genuine surcharges will be scarce.

1 centavo, black on vermillion.  
2 " " "  
8 " " " green.

We have now before us a specimen of the eight centavos belonging to the new series, we cannot say the new type, for, although the value eight is new, the design is that of the five centavos with four figures 8 in the place of the four 5, and the word "ocho" instead of "cinco."

We have as yet only this one stamp, so cannot say what the designs of the other values may be; but we append the list as sent to us by our correspondent, before, as he said, the stamps were issued, although the eight in our possession formed part of the prepayment of his letter, from which we should imagine that value, and that one only, was just issued as the mail was going out.

Like some of the last five centavos we have received, our eight is *perforé en lignes*, so that we may expect the new issue to be thus perforated. The colour is not a very pleasing one, and one that rarely turns out *clean*, else we should fear the execution of the new set would probably be less *soigner* than that of the present; the new comers are to be:

2 centavos, green,  
8 " mulberry,  
16 " green,  
24 " blue,  
25 " lake.

**Austria.**—The biglot post cards for the provinces are gradually making their appearance in the new type. The Bohemian has under the words "CORRESPONDENZ-KARTE," "KORRESPONDENCNÉ LISTEK," the Polish "KARTA KORRESPONDENCYJNÆ." Each has the abbreviated name of the province it is issued for, like the last, in brackets, thus: (Böhm.) and (Pozn.) respectively, only, instead of these being printed horizontally, they appear ver-

tically, reading upwards from the right hand lower corner.

The Italian one has under the words "CORRESPONDENZ-KARTE" "CARTA DI CORRISPONDENZA." At the beginning of the first dotted line  $\left. \begin{matrix} \text{An} \\ \text{Al} \end{matrix} \right\}$  in the centre, under the second dotted line  $\left. \begin{matrix} \text{in} \\ \text{a} \end{matrix} \right\}$ , and after the full line to right at bottom (Ital.), reading upwards.

The Ruthenian has (under the usual German wording) "КАРТА КОРЕСПОНДЕНЦІЙНАЯ," "до," "ст," and in the corner (Ruth).

The Slovenian has "DOPISNICA," "Na," and v(na), and in the corner (Slov.)

We will avail ourselves of this opportunity to point out that although *invariably* these cards are *erroneously* called Slavonic, the text is Slovenian, a Slavonic dialect spoken in Krain, Kärnthen, Steiermark, and Istrien. Slavonic is the general name for Bohemian, Croatian, Servian, Slovenian, and Ruthenian. Slavonic is not in itself a dialect, but merely a name for the inhabitants of the Slavonic provinces, where Croatian, as well as Servian, is spoken. Slovenian, as already observed, is spoken in Krain, Kärnthen, Steiermark, in the county of Görz, and in Istrien, a total population of about 1,500,000.

Of the Bohemian cards mentioned, there exists an uncommon error, or second type, *without* the word "An," in all probability the variety is due to an accident in setting the type, and most likely existed only on one card in the sheet, because we have seen packets of 50, as sold by the post office, containing several copies, whilst other packets had *not one*. A similar error crops up in the Polish, *i.e.*, the current brown card without the word "An." From this fact we are rather inclined to think that the same plates are used for printing all the current Austrian cards, the only alteration being the addition of the Bohemian, Polish, &c., wording to the original German text, which change could be easily effected; the same as for different values of stamps from one die, by having movable type. This, if it is so, would account for the same appearing in two and perhaps more cards, as the omission of the "An" might not be noticed until the whole set had been printed.

The newspaper wrapper has undergone a change in the omission of the lines above and below the stamp, the only impression on the wrapper now being the stamp.

2 kreuzers yellow, W.

**Azores.**—The 5 reis (black) and 20 reis (brown) labels are now surcharged in blue, and in red instead of red and black respectively.

5 reis, black and blue.  
20 reis, brown and red.



**Bavaria.**—On the 1st March a pneumatic postal organisation was opened in Munich, for which a series of labels, envelope and card, were designed. The post is called "Königlich bairische Rohr-Post" (royal Bavarian tube-post). For further particulars and illustrations we must await the actual issue of the stamps.

Here, too, we have an error to chronicle, viz., the omission of the final "N" of BAYERN on some of the new money order cards.

40 pfennig yellow.—M.O.C.

Similar to the official German envelope hereafter described, Bavaria has issued one for the forwarding of the letters written by members of the Royal Family.

**Belgium.**—The newspaper wrappers of the values of one and five centimes are actually in existence, but have not yet been issued to the public, and contrary to our expectation are not even officially announced for any fixed date.

The cards have lately been bereft of the frame, but otherwise remain unaltered, this (as yet) only applies to the single inland value.

5 centimes, mauve on buff, P.C.

Similar to the French. Advertising envelopes are now sold by private companies at a per-centage under facial value, the advertisements paying for the difference, expense of printing, and profit on the undertaking. The same idea was partly carried out in this country in 1874, when almost on the same day three separate companies issued "three-farthing advertisement envelopes," "free letter sheets," and farthing postal advertising letter sheets" respectively. Had these companies known that a firm in Wine Office-court had tried the same thing thirty-three years before, they would probably have more carefully considered the question before embarking in the business. The Belgian envelopes in circulation are the large size Government embossed envelopes.

10 centimes, green on white, E.

Since the commencement of the year, official (i.e. SERVICE) post cards have been issued, the use of which, however, is so restricted that collectors in the Belgian metropolis have only quite recently found out their existence.

As yet we have heard of three varieties: first, Board of Works and Admiralty. Above, *Ministère des Travaux Publics, Administration des chemins de fer, Postes Télégraphes et Marins* in one line; then *Carte correspondance de service*; under which are the arms, same die as the ordinary cards, to left a circle with the words, *timbre de départ* (stamp of issuing office); to right, another circle with the words, *timbre d'arrivées* (stamp of receiving office); and four lines for the address, the first of which is headed with M.—

Lastly, the following notice:

"Les cartes correspondance de service ne sont valables que dans les limites et aux conditions

*fixées par le Reg.-général des franchises et contre-seigns"* (the official post cards are subject to the restrictions and conditions set forth by the controller of franks and countersigns).

In the lower lefthand corner, under two parallel lines, running alantingly across the corner, are the words *contre-seign*, in the opposite lower corner *Série A, No. 4, Bon No. 124, 1876*.

Secondly, Treasury. Above, *Ministère des Finances, Administration de la Trésorerie et de la dette publique*. Then, *Carte Correspondance, &c.*, as in last, and the Royal arms (with flags on either side). The lower lefthand corner has under the words *contre-seign, L'Agent du Trésor à . . .* (the Treasury agent at . . .)

Thirdly, War-office. Above, in circle, *Ministère de la Guerre, Cabinet, Carte Correspondance, &c.*, and arms (the Belgian lion on a shield surmounted by a crown and sceptres on either side).

Fourthly, Board of Works reply card. Front; Above, *Ministère des travaux publics* to right. No. *de l'Indicateur*, to left the arms (lion, and crown), with the legend "*L'Union fait la force*," in a double lined circle, above which is *Chemin de fer de l'Etat*, below *Belgique, Carte correspondance, &c.*

Back: The same as the front, with the addition of the words "*Réponse*" in brackets under *Carte correspondance de service*.

The cards for the Board of Works single and reply, and those for the War Office, are type set, black impression on white. Those for the Treasury are lithographed, black on slightly azure.

**Nepal.**—The adjoining curious engraving represents one of a set of two stamps said to be lately issued for this, whether state or colony we know not, as we have been differently informed; some say it is a small British possession; others that it is, properly speaking, an independent state, under British protection.

The labels are very primitive. The hieroglyphics inclosed within the octagonal frame, which are Hindostanee, are struck in plain relief; the rest of the design, including the would-be Roman characters, are impressed in colour on white unwatermarked imperforated paper.

The legend in the octagon frame is H. H. (Her Highness) NAWAB SHAH JAHANEE GAM (Jahane Khan). Below in parenthesis, to left a crescent and one line signifying *anna* and  $\frac{1}{2}$  respectively, to right *anna paow*, quarter *anna*; this is the black label. The red has the crescent and two lines, i.e.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  *anna* to left, and *adho anna*, half *anna*, to right.



In the centre are three lines :  
1289.

Djahani Shah.  
Nawab.

which must be read backwards, thus: Nawab Shah Djahani 1289 (1871-1872).

There are two types distinguishable by the ornaments in the four corners outside the octagon frame.

Of Type I. there are the following varieties :  
a ½ anna, double lines in corner ornaments.  
b ½ anna, JAHANE instead of JAHANBE.  
c ½ anna, like a  
d ½ anna, NWAB instead of NAWAB.  
e ½ anna, CAM instead of GAM.

Type II. we have not noticed any varieties. All have the word JAHANEE with EE instead of BE.

The two values are :—

½ anna, black ; | ½ anna, brick red.

**Bolivia.**—The post office authorities having some time ago discovered that counterfeit stamps

the 100 reis stamp heretofore perforated, *perçés en lignes*. Like the 100 reis label, we have now the 200r. *perçés en lignes*. The two values are :

100 reis, green ;  
200 " black.

**British Guiana.**—Our engraving illustrates the type of the new set for this colony consisting of five values printed in colour on white paper, water-marked C. C. and crown, and perforated 15 :

1 cent, black ;  
4 cents, blue ;  
6 " brown ;  
8 " carmine ;  
48 " reddish brown.

The 8 cents label of the 1860 set also exists, perforated 15 :  
8 cents, rose.



**Cabul.**—Besides labels with ornaments in the corners, and ornamented outside circle, we have



were in circulation, the use of labels for prepayment was for a time abolished, and letters, &c., that were paid for in coin (i.e., prepaid) were struck with the word FRANCA, which was then cancelled by another stamp impressing the word *Cancelado*. Of late, however, envelopes which bear a blue impression of the annexed design (originally addressed to



of the dispatching town.

(No value blue E.

**Brazil.**—The last mails bring us specimens of

to notice a set of four smaller sized, plain circular stamps, printed on horizontally-laid unperfected white paper, imperforated, viz. :

2 annas, black.  
4 " "  
8 " "  
1 rupee, "

**Canada.**—We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. for the first specimen of the newly issued two cents post card, which, like its sister (the one cent), is a masterpiece of engraving, like every stamp that emanates from the stellers of the "British American Bank Note Company."

Canada is the first colony to have issued a special card for the mother country. It was on the *tapis* three years ago to issue two cents Canadian cards for the United States, but the idea was abandoned when the American tariff was altered.

2 cents, sage green on pale buff, P.C.



The one cent cards actually in circulation no longer bear the words "Montreal and Ottawa" after "British American Bank Note Co." at foot, otherwise the type is unaltered.

1 cent, blue on cream. P.C.

Envelopes embossed with a three cent stamp have been issued, and have a companion in the one cent.

1 cent, blue, on P. E.  
3 cents, red, " " E.



**Cape de Verd Islands.**—This Portuguese colony has just been presented with a set of labels of its own. As will be noticed by our illustration, the type is the same as that in use for the ST. THOMAS and PRINCE ISLANDS. The set is printed on white paper, perforated 13, and consists of nine values, viz.

5 reis, black,  
10 " orange,  
20 " pale bistre,  
25 " carmine,  
40 " blue,  
50 " green,  
100 " violet,  
200 " orange,  
300 " brown.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—Messrs. Whitfield King, and Co. write us: "Our agent at Port Elisabeth informs us that stamps of the value of £1 each are in contemplation, if not in actual preparation. Although this is a very high value for a postage stamp, we believe them to be wanted; we have in our possession forty of the current five shilling stamps on one parcel, representing a postage of £10."

This colony seems for ever running short of the penny labels. Thus we have now the shilling stamp surcharged in capitals ONE PENNY, and the original value cancelled by a bar.

1 penny, black on green.

The attriteness of the fourpenny die having necessitated a *retouch*, it has been altered to the type of the halfpenny, penny, and five shilling, which will afford collectors of minutiae, another variety of Cape diamond (type).

4 pence, blue.

**Ceylon.**—A new fourpenny envelope has recently been issued for this colony.

**Cuba.**—A slight change has taken place on the

face of these stamps, which now bear the word CUBA (and date 1877), instead of ULTRAMAR; otherwise they are unaltered, either in impression or perforation.



We subjoin an engraving of the highest value of the new set, the type of which, as will be seen hereafter, is meant to be made familiar to the Spanish Colonies in general.

12½ cent. de peseta, violet,  
25 " " " pale sage green,  
50 " " " black,  
1 peseta, pale bistre.

**Curacao.**—This island has now added post cards to its set of stamps, and they are probably intended to do duty on and between the other five islands, which, with it, compose the Dutch West Indian possessions. The design is a compound one, thus: the frame is identically that of the cards for the Dutch East Indies, the words "Briefkaart," "Aan," and "te," and the four dotted lines for the address, are taken from the international card of the mother country, whilst, lastly, the stamp (which completes the impression) is from the dye of the adhesive current on the island, the value of which is the highest we have yet seen impressed on post cards, viz., 15 cents., or an equivalent of 3d. sterling. As yet only single cards have made their appearance:

15 cents, reddish brown on buff, P.C.

The Dutch colonies, having lately joined the postal union, have been provided with new cards for international service.

No value, green on buff, P.C.

12½ cents., bright orange on buff, P.C

**Danish West Indies.**—Two new values have lately been issued.

Paper perforation, &c., same as the rest of this set, i.e., 1874 issue. The values now added were no doubt much wanted, for, to make up 9 or 12 cents, it took three labels, and two to make either 5 or 10.

5 cents, grey.

10 " brown.

**Dutch Guiana or Surinam.**—At the same time as her sister colony, our South American friend had the honour of an issue of post cards conferred upon her. These differ from the Curacao cards only in the stamp and colour:

15 cents, grey on buff, P.C.



Like Curaçao, this possession has now special cards for the international postage.

12½ cents, yellow on buff, P.C.  
(no value), carmine " "

**Dutch East Indies.**—It will be remembered that the earliest "reply paid" cards were folded from left to right, and subsequently from right to left, and now the latest issue is again folded from left to right. Fortunately (for the chronological order of issues), the first are distinguishable from the third issue by the type, for whilst the inscription at back of first issue measures 117 mm., that of the third is like the second issue, only 111 mm. long.

5 + 5 cents., violet on buff P.C.

Of the single there are two varieties, the first of which is probably an error, if not both, viz.:

- a Native inscription inverted;
- b No inscription on back; both are 12½ cents., grey on buff, P.C.

**East India.**—Our illustrations depict the three values lately issued by this empire. The engraver has saved us the task of describing the designs, so we have only to add that they are printed in colour on white paper, watermarked head of elephant as of yore, and perforated, 14.



6 annas, bistre;  
12 " reddish-brown;  
9 pies, violet.

We also give a facsimile of the surcharge "Bengal Secretariat" impressed on the "Service" stamps used in this department. These stamps were first issued about two years since, and used copies of the 1 anna and 4 annas are to be met with in the albums of advanced collectors, also 8 annas (so we have been told, although we never saw one used); but what we chronicle to-day is the 2 annas, which we believe has only been a few months in use. This double surcharge is not, as some suppose, a hand-stamped impression of



"Bengal Secretariat" on the Service stamps, but is (like the "Service") a surcharge set up for the entire sheet, each label being struck with the words "Bengal Secretariat" in a plain rectangular frame the size of the design of the stamp. The execution of this second surcharge is very inferior to the first—i.e., "Service," which is invariably dark and plain; whereas this is pale (sometimes so much so that it is only partly visible) and irregular. But as they are uncommon we must take them as they come; the set, therefore, now consists of—

1 anna, black and brown;  
2 annas, " yellow;  
4 " " green;  
8 " " rose.

A variety hitherto unchronicled amongst the numerous "service" stamps is that of the half anna, surcharged in RED "service one anna," probably a provisional before the On H.M.S. series came out; for it is hardly presumable that they should have returned to the last type.

1 anna, red on blue.

**Finland.**—Alterations, or corrections in the orthography of the instructions on the Finnish postcards, form by no means unimportant additions to the somewhat lengthy list of varieties.

Most of our readers will have heard of (if not seen) the three types of the first issue—viz.:

- I. The word "address" in paragraph 1 spelt with double "d," and the word "förpliktd" in paragraph 2 spelt with "k."
- II. The word "adress" spelt with one "d," and "förpliktd" with "k."
- III. The word "adress" spelt with one "d," and "forpliktd" with "g."

In the second issue the first word at top is (like in the first issue) spelt "Korrespondanskort," with an "a," and the second word (immediately under it) "Kirjewaitokortti," with a "w"; whereas, in the third issue (not the provisional which came between the second and third, and of which also an orthographical variety in the surcharge exists) the spelling of the two words is, the first with an "e" substituted for the "a," and second, a "v" for the "w."

We now come to the present issue, and here we have to chronicle the substitution of an "e" for each of the finals "k" and "a" of the first and second words in the last line but one of the 10 penni and 16 penni.

The alteration in the case of the 10 penni cards has given rise to several minor varieties due to the "set up," such as—

- Täll<sup>e</sup> puolell<sup>e</sup> (finals above the line).
- Täll<sub>e</sub> puolell<sub>e</sub> (finals below the line), and
- Täll<sup>e</sup> puolell<sup>e</sup> (finals distanced from the rest of the words).

In the 16 penni cards we only notice the "e"

having taken exactly the same position the "a" occupied before it.

10 penni, violet P.C.

16 " yellowish-brown P.C.

The local adhesives for the capital (Helsingfors), hitherto "*percé en serpentín*," are now perforated 12½.

10 penni, green and red.

The cards have been subjected to another change, one more striking than the last, as it is in the colour as well as in the composition; the typographical distinction is that whereas the obsolete cards had the fourth word in the last line but one spelt *ainoastansa*, the present issue have it *ainoastam*.

10 penni, blue on buff, P.C.

We are informed by Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co., that a one mark label is now issued, same type as the lower values, on same paper, with like perforation.

1 mark, violet.

**France.**—The new set has received further instalments of two values, one of which, the 75 centimes, is a newly created one altogether, and brings the total number of different values issued since 1849, including the unpaid letter-stamps, to fifteen, being one more than we can boast of (in adhesives) in this country.

The 1f. is now current, same design as the rest, the figure in the tablet having an f behind it, to distinguish it from the 1c. (to come) thus **1f**.

Perforation, &c., same as the rest of the series. The 4 centimes label (new series) will probably enjoy but a very ephemeral existence. On account of the ill-chosen colours of the lower values it is said these will be mostly if not all changed.

Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. have favoured us with a sight of the current 10 centimes stamp, printed in intense purple, but a few shades remove from black.

4 centimes, green,

10 " dark purple,

20 " pale mulberry,

75 " carmine,

1 franc, brownish green.

The following is the official list of colours and tints of paper the labels will by degrees (as the present stock is exhausted) be issued in. The reform is due to the numerous applications made by the commercial public in general, who complained of the sameness of colour for several values. The ten centimes was the first of the new set; the only other that has as yet followed is the one centime. When complete the series will consist of—

|             | Ink.            | Tint.         |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1 centime,  | black,          | bluish        |
| 2 centimes, | brown (vandyke) | pale chamois. |
| 4 "         | marone,         | bluish grey.  |
| 5 "         | emerald green,  | squamarina.   |

|              | Ink.        | Tint.         |
|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| 10 "         | black,      | violet.       |
| 15 centimes, | yellow,     | daffodil.     |
| 20 "         | blue,       | turquoise.    |
| 25 "         | black,      | crimson lake. |
| 30 "         | bistre,     | pale bistre.  |
| 35 "         | violet,     | orange.       |
| 40 "         | madder,     | yellowish.    |
| 75 "         | carmine,    | pink.         |
| 1 franc,     | bronze,     | yellowish.    |
| 5 francs,    | dark lilac, | pale lilac.   |

Like in Germany, Switzerland, &c., companies and private individuals can use their own post cards in this country; thus we have lately seen a card similar in wording and general appearance to the officially issued cards, with a fancy border, and bearing the instructions on the right-hand side printed *downwards* instead of upwards, i.e., reading from top right-hand corner towards bottom right-hand corner—behind, i.e., on the reverse, is the name and address of a stamp collector.

It is often done abroad by *dealers* as a kind of advertisement, but we do not remember having seen cards issued by *collectors* before. Mr. Campbell's card is, to say the least of it, neater than the official one.

No value, black on white P.C.

**French Colonies.**—The 2 centimes stamps of 1872 are in use now in the French possessions; the 10 centimes labels (head of Liberty) of the mother country are also in circulation here, like the rest, their only distinction is their being *imperforated*.

Specimens have been seen of the 15 centimes, large figure of value, imperforated.

|             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 2 centimes, | brown,          |
| 10 "        | bistre on rose, |
| 15 "        | pale bistre.    |

It has, perhaps, struck many a collector as strange that as the Colonies use the same stamps as the Republic proper (which are manufactured in Paris), they are not likewise perforated? The reason is, we believe, that to prevent the sheets from adhering to each other in the warmer climates they are sent out *ungummed*, and as they cannot well be gummed after they are perforated, they are sold imperforated to save the expense of putting up machinery abroad.

The post cards for international service from the different colonies are now issued. They differ from those of the mother country in the net of the frame and the notice under the words **CARTE POSTALE**, which is, "*Pris pour la France, l'Algérie, les colonies Françaises et les pays étrangers avec lesquels l'échange des cartes postales est autorisé: 20 centimes.*" Outside the frame, in lower left corner, *Marine*, 1877, followed by the series numerals.

**German Empire.**—A new series is being

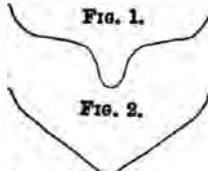
issued, which however only differs from the obsolete in the omission of the final "e" in the word pfennig, the value being expressed in the singular.

We have as yet only seen one variety, viz., the 10 pfennig envelope, on thick blue wove paper, knife B (Fig. 2).

Of the obsolete series we have the following varieties:

SMALL SIZE, 84 × 148mm.

1. Thin white wove paper knife A (Fig. 1).
2. Thin white wove paper knife B (Fig. 2).
3. Thin white laid paper knife B.
4. Thick blue wove paper knife B.



LARGE SIZE, 115 × 143 and 150mm.

5. Thin white wove paper knife A.
6. " " " " " B.
7. Thick blue " " " " B.

To Germany is due the introduction of a new series of stamps, that is to say, stamps for a new use. England can boast with pride of the first label, Austria the first post card, France of the first and only balloon letter sheets and post cards; but we have now before us something to beat even the latter, for fast as the wind may blow of its natural or own cause, it cannot compete with the pneumatic system of forwarding letters from district offices to the head office of the same city, i.e., short distances, a system which in our metropolis has been in work for some time.

This pneumatic system the Germans (who pride themselves on the richness of their language, and who would think it an insult to it to use a foreign word for anything of commercial importance) call pipe or tube-post, and as it is for general instead of, as in our case, only for special use, they have thought proper to have separate envelopes and cards therefor: the former of the

value of 30 pfennig, stamp as annexed, the latter 25 pfennig (same design).

The envelope, which is of very thin rose-tinted wove paper, is 125 × 81mm., knife B. (Fig. 2); above:

ROHRPOST-BRIEF.

to right stamp; to left, lower down, *An* followed by three dotted lines, back perfectly plain, without rosette.

The card is of medium thickness, unglazed, and rather darker colour, giving it the appearance of

salmon coloured blotting paper; size of the ordinary cards (142 × 91mm.), and like these has above DEUTSCHE REICHSPOST.

and under that

ROHRPOST-KARTE.

To right, the stamp embossed; to the left, as on the envelope, *An* and three dotted lines for the address.

30 pfennig, dark blue on rose, E.

25 " chocolate " P.C.

N.B.—We must apologise for a mistake our engraver has made, probably from habit, in giving the spelling of pfennig with a final "e."

We have lately been shown a rare official envelope in use in this country exclusively for carrying the autograph letters of the Empress.

Official stamps and envelopes are always more or less rare, but this, from the limited number required, must needs be exceptionally so, wherefore it will, no doubt, interest our readers to have a detailed description.

To begin with, the size is 205 × 135 mm.; paper white wove, knife square sides and fancy flap, paper not gummed, impression black and red.

About 14mm. from top in centre, "Post Briefumschlag" (postal envelope) in black, immediately under which is "Eingeschrieben" (registered) in red, then "An" (to) in black, under which again "die Postanstalt" (the post-office) in red, followed slightly to right of centre by "Zu" (at) in black. Across the left hand upper corner running from left to right, the words "Sehr eilig" (very urgent) in black and underlined.

Rather below the middle of the envelope is a horizontal pearly line 155mm. in length, over which, to left, is "Sofort zu öffnen" (to be opened immediately) in red; at the same height to right is a thick line which is intended to be under the name of the town to be written.

Under the pearly line come the following instructions: "Die Postanstalt hat das in diesem Briefumschlag enthaltene Allerh. Handschreiben Ihrer Majestät der Kaiserin und Königin sofort durch einen Eilboten bestellen zu lassen. Tag und Stunde der Ankunft, so wie der Uebergabe an den Eilboten und der Rückgabe des Auslieferungsscheines aber auf diesem Briefumschlag zu vermerken." (The post office must immediately forward the most revered writing of Her Imp. and Hl. Majesty the Empress and Queen contained in this envelope by special messenger. The date and hour of arrival, as well as the time of delivery to the messenger and return of delivery note, must, however, be written on this envelope); under which is a plain line, likewise 155 mm. long; and lastly

under that "Angekommen in" (arrived in) "den" (the) "ten" (th) . . . 187. "Stde" (hour) "min." (minute) "Tagesszeit" (time of day a.m. or p.m.), "Uebergaben dem Eilboten" (delivered to . . . messenger), "Auslieferungsschein von dem Eilboten zurückgebracht" (delivery note returned by messenger at . . .).

The current fifty pfennig label is about to change colour, we believe, to a kind of sage green.

The reply paid cards will be henceforth only used for service communications, and that only as long as the stock lasts, as the issue is to be entirely withdrawn from the public.

Germany was the first to issue reply paid cards, and, we believe, is the first to recall them. Probably the demand for them is, or rather was, not nearly so great as was expected; for if it had proved a boon generally, not only would the Germans still continue their issue, but also many other countries would have followed the example. In a commercial point of view they were, no doubt, almost superfluous, for the communications "inclosed stamp for reply," as we should say, can be but very few comparatively. On the other hand, the Berlin pneumatic post offices have just issued them, but only on trial, to see whether there will be any demand for them in this branch. For fear they do not take here either, and therefore be withdrawn before a large quantity be prepared, it would be advisable for collectors to procure copies as early as possible. We have not seen them ourselves, but our correspondent informs us they are exactly (i.e., the reply half) like the single ones described by us on page 10.

25 + 25 Pfennig, chocolate on rose, P.C.

**Great Britain.**—We have a new value to enlist in the rank and file of the adhesive force. The chief duties allotted to the recruit are the Indian and Australian service, *viâ* Brindisi. Both design and printing are more than creditable, and were we not already so spoilt by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. we should certainly laud their last production, but we naturally look for good things from them. As the stamp itself is within the reach of all, we will not go into the details of describing it any more than to chronicle its existence; as printed in colour on white surfaced paper, water marked, garter, and perforated 14:

8 pence, orange.

We annex an illustration of a quasi non-official envelope stamp which we have seen impressed on pea-green envelopes, as also the complete set of these

fancy stamps, viz., threepence, fourpence, sixpence, one shilling, one shilling and threepence, &c.



In the autumn of last year the above was engraved for twopence halfpenny envelopes, which, like all embossed envelopes (except the one penny), are only made to order, and are not kept in stock even at the General Post-office. As it is likely to remain *unseen* by many of our readers, we have illustrated it.

Although not (at the time of writing this) in active circulation yet, most post offices have already a supply of a new fourpenny, the current being of the same colour as the eightpenny, had to give in to the latter and change; its paper, watermark, perforation, and even sequence numerals, are the same as the still current.

2½ pence, violet brown, E.

4 " pale sage green.

**Greece.**—The 20, 40 and 60 lep. of the "unpaid letter" stamps now in circulation in an imperforated state; this is said not to be due to any accident, but merely to the fact that these stamps are now printed in Athens, and if they have not set up a perforating machine before the stock of the other values of the Paris printing is exhausted, we shall have the entire set imperforated.

20 lepton, green,

40 lepta "

60 "

**Grenada.**—Lately some of the fiscals of this colony have been made to do postal duty; whether this is from a want of penny postage stamps generally, or only from the supply having run out before new stores arrived, time will prove. Only let our readers (those who care for surcharges and makeshifts) bear in mind that genuine surcharges and provisionals in general are rarer than other labels from the fact of their ephemeric existence. Those who do not care to collect them must still take an interest in them, as in many cases their appearance casts pleasant shadows of coming events (in the shape of new issues) before them.

1 penny, yellow.



**Griqualand.**—Thanks to Messrs. Whitfield King, and Co., we have had an early sight of at least one of the values now used for this African colony; whether more than one is in circulation we cannot say, but from the value we should think it highly probable. The stamp in question is the five shilling Cape of Good Hope, surcharged with a G, of which in a batch of labels we notice four varieties.

If, as we presume, these labels retain their value and serve as five shilling stamps, it is more than probable that other (lower) values either exist or will be forthcoming; for generally countries begin



by issuing the lower values, whether this be a set of their own, or, as in this case and recently for Montserrat, merely a surcharge on the stamps of a neighbouring colony.

‡ 5 shillings, red on yellow.

Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co., from the quantities they have had of these labels, rate their scariness as follows :

Type I. (small G), commonest.

Type II. (large G), less common.

Type III. (large broken G), rare.

Type IV. (long G), rarest, there being only three or four on an entire sheet.

**Guatemala.**—A correspondent informs us that a series of official stamps was issued last October, but he omits to say whether they are for general official use, or for one department. The following are the values out :

‡ peseta, black,  
1 " green,  
2 pesetas, blue,  
4 " red,  
1 peso, violet.

**Heligoland.**—To meet a want, long and much felt (by philatelists), the Post-office authorities of our Lilliputian colony have issued reply-paid cards, the first adorned with the head of our Most Gracious Majesty.

They are (like the single biglot cards, printed on the first and third pages, and folded like the German ones, which they naturally (being struck in Berlin) much resemble; the frame is identical with that of the 2 + 2 kreuzer German Empire, on the first page above) "HELIGOLAND POST-OFFICE.", under which in English and German, "POST CARD. POST KARTH," under which again to left, "To (An)"; then come two dotted lines, running nearly from side to side, "in" in front of a third dotted line 60 mm. in length, and ending to right at the same distance from frame as the two long ones. This is followed by a fourth and last dotted line, 87 mm. long, ending at the same distance from the right side of the frame as the rest. In the lower left hand corner, left free from "dots," is in black type :

"The reverse card is for the answer.

Die angebotene Karte ist für die Antwort bestimmt."

The third page differs from the first in having "ANSWER. ANTWORT," in brackets under "Post-Card. Post Karte," and the note in lower left-hand corner being omitted. The impression

is black, the stamp only being in colour, and embossed like on the single cards. Size folded 145×91 mm. 3 farthings, 5 pfennig, black and green on pale salmon tinted medium card. P.C.

Official envelopes have been issued for this island, with the words "On Her Majesty's Service."

**Holland.**—The "international," i.e. foreign post card, has been subjected to a partial change, for whilst the letterpress and stamp remain blue, as of old, the frame is printed in brown, which gives it a rather uncommon appearance, and though it may not add to its good looks, it does not mar them. The type is unaltered (Type III., International).

5 cents., blue and greyish brown on buff, P.C.

This card is really a provisional, and not a new issue. The reason is, the post office, finding there was no demand for the grey cards without value, determined on utilising them for impressed cards, it so happened that the stock of 5 cents. was first exhausted, so they were employed for these.

The 2½ cents. card in actual use is now printed in lilac instead of violet, and the card itself is of a slightly deeper buff.

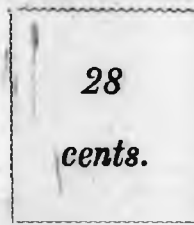
2½ cents., lilac on dark buff, P.C.

We annex an illustration of the highest value of the new series of newspaper stamps. The perforation is 12½. The figures of value in this set are not likely to be confounded, which is, in our opinion, their only recommendation, for, although the design is well executed, it might have been better chosen.

The set is composed of one value less than the obsolete one, the 1½ cent. being discontinued. The values are now :

‡ cent, rose,  
1 " green,  
2 cents, yellow,  
2½ " violet.

**Hong Kong.**—A new value may be expected shortly for this colony, as we have before us a make-shift in the shape of a surcharge. The only labels we have yet seen it on are the 30 cent lilac. The surcharge which we copy is in black. For the specimen before us we are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. 28 cents., black on lilac.



**Italy.**—Here a change of colour is announced for one of a set that has had a long life. We

have not heard yet what the new colour will be, the label to be affected by the change is the twenty centesimi.

Advertising letter sheets and envelopes are now in circulation, emanating from private companies in Rome, Naples and Milan.

As there are no embossed envelopes in Italy, these companies have been obliged to follow the example of the French, and affix labels (in the right hand upper corner of the envelopes) by means of a cement possessing extraordinary adhesive power, and to render the ungumming of them still more difficult, they are stamped with a kind of gouge or knife when on the envelope, so as to cut the labels in several pieces; all this is done to prevent their being bought on the envelope (at a reduced rate) and used either on others or else sold at facial value.

20 centesimi, blue on different shades. E.

**Japan.** — Yet another set has been issued for this empire. We have before us three values, the first of which is altogether a new one. The chief feature of this issue is that, unlike the former ones, for which a separate die was engraved for each label throughout the sheet, those now before us under description are all from one die; thus, for instance the



sheet of 5 rin, which is composed of 80 labels (in 8 horizontal rows), is an eighty-fold transfer of one type. We annex an engraving of the 2 sen stamp, which, like the other two values, is impressed in colour on ordinary white unwater-marked paper and perforated 11:

- 5 rin, grey,
- 1 sen, black,
- 2 ,, bistre.

Three new values were subsequently added to the above series, but one of them is already obsolete as regards colour, having been changed from green to brown. Paper and perforation like the rest:

- 4 sen, bluish-green.
- 5 ,, green (obsolete).
- 5 ,, brown.

To keep company with the labels new cards have been printed, which likewise bear in English the words "Japanese post." There are two values, one (5 rin) for circulation within the same town, and the other (1 sen) for general inland use, like our Town and Country post used to be. They are printed on thin white cardboard.

- 5 rin = ½ sen, orange P.C.
- 1 sen, light blue P.C.

As will be seen by the engraving alongside, the cards are in harmony of design with the adhesives, and although they have still a something of the chrysanthemum about them, the "Japanese post" and the sternness of the border give them a more civilised appearance.



**Johore (otherwise Jor).**—This territory is very imperfectly known as regards its interior. It is said to be about 10,000 square miles, is situated in the southern part of the Malay peninsula.

It is for the Maharajah of this territory that the adjoining stamp has been issued; it is struck in plain relief on white envelopes. The specimen from which our engraving is copied is obliterated with the words "Johore Saromilla," written in ink.



**Luxemburg.**—The 12½ centimes adhesive is now doing official duty in this duchy, surcharged like the other values with the word "official" printed diagonally across in black. The labels are perforated 13:

12½ centimes rose and black.

Through the courtesy of an official we have been favoured with a copy of each of the international cards just issued.

They are like the inland as regards size and position of type, but what might strictly speaking be called an error in the 5 centimes (inland) has been corrected in these, viz., the German spelling of the word "correspondenz," the third syllable begins with a long *z* instead of beginning with a final *s*. The dies for the stamps are also naturally of different values, but else the cards are identical (as regards type), and like the 5 centimes, are printed in sheets of nine, which accounts for there being nine varieties or types of each value, which are as follows:

- Type I. Final "e" of "adresse" below the line.
- .. II. "N" of N.B. below the line.
- .. III. Final "t" of "bestimmt" apart.
- .. IV. Double dot after "adresse."

- Type V. Final "t" of "bestimmt" under *es*.  
 ,, VI. *esti* and first "m" of "bestimmt" below the line.  
 ,, VII. "I" of "Diese" direct under "e."  
 ,, VIII. "D" of Diese almost in a line with "C" above.  
 ,, IX. Final "t" of "bestimmt" under *es*.

There are two sets of very rare essays of these cards, originally one sheet of each (nine copies in each set). The one is like the current 5 centimes, only with three instead of four dotted lines for addressing, and with the instructions more towards the centre of the card; the other set has the border of the obsolete issue round it.

New cards have been issued to do duty between the duchy and Germany, as the short notice of

"Pour l'Allemagne,"  
 "Für Deutschland,"

in the lower right hand corner indicates. With the exception of this addition the type is exactly that of the two other international cards described above.

The size, like that of the others, is 89 x 123 mm., the card is of a medium substance, and well glazed.

6 centimes, violet lake on white, P.C.

From a set of essays our official has kindly sent us, we are inclined to think that another type of the five centimes card will shortly make its appearance.

The essays in question bear, besides the notice, or N.B. on the current cards, the words

Pour l'Interieur.  
 Für's Inland.

exactly in the same position as the notice on the six centimes described above.

The essays are printed in lilac on white and orange card, and azure paper.

**Madeira.**—An error surcharge exists on the two-and-half reis labels, which we believe to be the first committed for this colony (similar is found in the second issue for Azores on the twenty-five reis stamps), viz., **MADEIRA** (inverted.)

2½ reis, black on bistre.

**Mauritius.**—Another provisional! Before the new labels are ready for this value another surcharge "halfpenny" has made its appearance. This time it is the tenpenny stamp that has to do the inferior duty; perhaps this value, too, may be tired out before the real ones turn up, and the burden have to be borne by the one shilling,

HALF  
 PENNY.

½ penny, brownish violet.

Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. have sent us the last issued surcharge for this colony, viz., the tenpenny label with **HALFPENNY** in one line over a bar that just cancels, the "TENPENCE."

This makes the third halfpenny issued for the island, and probably the last *surcharged*.

**Montevideo.**—Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co. have kindly obliged us with the loan of specimens of three new stamps, now current in



this republic. The new set consists as yet of 15, 10, 20, and 50 centesimos. The most noteworthy feature in the design of these labels is the total absence of the word MONTEVIDEO, and the resuscitation of the legend "REPUBLICA ORIENTAL URUGUAY," and "REPUBLICA ORIENTAL DEL URUGUAY," respectively.

We learn from Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co.

that another value has been issued, a one peso label, which, as we have not yet seen it, we cannot describe, but should say it was a fourth design; for on Types 1 and 3, though the numerals are movable, the words "centesimo" and "centesimos" respectively, would stand in the way.



From the design of the one centesimo, one would almost suppose they contemplated issuing a half centesimo, else surely that (unit) value should sooner have had a design like the five that would not change into anything else.

- 1 centesimo, reddish brown (Type I.).
- 5 centesimos, green (Type II.).
- 10 " vermilion (Type III.).
- 20 " yellowish bistre (Type III.).
- 50 " black (Type III.).
- 1 peso, blue (P).

We were lately shown what will no doubt remain a rare error in the current Montevidean cards, viz., the reply-paid card with "CONTESTACION PAGA" on both sides, instead of one bearing the word "CORRESPONDENCIA."

(No value) reply card, grey.—P.C.

It may, perhaps, not be out of place to mention here that there are seven distinct shades of the second issue cards which have made their appearance in the following order:

- No. 1, very dark grey,
- No. 2, pale greenish grey,

- No. 3, salmon buff,
- No. 4, ivory,
- No. 5, pale yellow brown,
- No. 6, " drab.
- No. 7, " grey (cement colour).

In complement of the set of three values which we mentioned above, we have, same paper and likewise "*percé en lignes*."

**Montserrat.**—Another of the Antilles now claims introduction to our collections. As will be seen by our illustration, the new comer is presented under the auspices of our old friend Antigua.



The population being very small we may, perhaps, have to wait some time before this island will be represented by a design of its own, meanwhile the

Antiguan labels surcharged Montserrat (in black) answer our purpose as well as that of the inhabitants.

- 1 penny, black and red,
- 6 pence, " " green.

**Mozambique.**—This Portuguese possession, too, has, after several years talk of it, just had a set of stamps prepared for it, in type, &c., similar to Angola, St. Thomas, and Cape de Verd Islands. The values are—

- 5 reis, black,
- 10 " yellow,
- 20 " bistre,
- 25 " carmine,
- 40 " blue,
- 50 " green,
- 100 " violet,
- 200 " orange,
- 300 " brown.

**Natal.**—We have to chronicle a variety for this colony which will, in all probability, prove a rare one; it is the yellow one penny (type 1880) fiscal surcharged in black POSTAGE. As far as we can hear, only three copies have as yet come to England, and a very high (even for an artistic value) price has been set on them. Few collectors being amateurs of fiscal stamps, it may be *apropos* to mention that the stamp is coloured impression on white paper watermarked C. C. and crown, and perforated 14:

- 1 penny, chrome yellow.

The green shilling label has lately been seen with the surcharge POSTAGE in capitals right across.

- 1 shilling black and green.

**Newfoundland.**—The five cents stamp, after changing from bistre to black, has again appeared in colour, and *percé en lignes* instead of perforated. 5 cents. blue.

**New South Wales.**—Similar in type, though not in size, this colony recently issued another post card, the daintiness of which must needs greatly elevate it in our estimation.

The second type differs from the first in the following points: the jointed (Oxford) frame is now 72 instead of 60 mm. high (length as before 116 mm.), this change is effected by making the centre joint 19 instead of 7 mm. long; the stamp is 3 instead of 1 mm. from the top line of frame, the notice "THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE," is in bolder characters, and 5 instead of 2 mm. below the arms, and lastly the word "To" is 4½ instead of 2½ mm. below the notice. As regards the card, it is a fine, glazed, thin, white cartridge paper, whereas the first was a common board, of which there were two shades i.e. a very slight blue and a grey shade. The printing, too, is neater both in clearness and colour, the latter being more delicate.

- 1 penny, pale crimson lake on white, P. C.

**New Zealand.**—Post cards have been issued of the value of ¼d. and 1d.

The design and general "get up" of the penny card is no better than might have been expected from that quarter of the globe; with but few exceptions (comparatively) the Australian productions are conspicuous amongst our colonial stamps for their unsightliness. The new comer is not one of the exceptions. Inclosed within a frame composed of two straight lines,



3½mm. apart, with an undulating line (the points of which are surmounted by trefoils) between measuring outside 111×65½mm. are, beginning near the left hand upper corner, first the word POST, then the arms of England (P) (The lion and unicorn who are standing in a semi-rampant position on a kind of curtain pole, leave us in doubt) followed by the word CARD. In the right hand corner is the impression of the one penny adhesive. Under the arms, NEW ZEALAND, and lastly running nearly the whole length of the card the words, THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE. The card itself (about the substance of our thin card, which it also resembles in colour), is 138×77mm.

- 1 penny lake on buff, P. C.

Before this card becomes obsolete, which, to judge from the first issues of its sister colonies, is not far hence, let us mention, for the benefit of those who go into varieties of type, that there are already two that have come under our

notice, viz.: in some the stamp is only 1 mm. distant from the inside line of frame, whilst in others it is  $\frac{1}{2}$  off, this is not (we are inclined to think) due to the stamp being perhaps impressed separately from the rest of the card, but probably from the transfer made for the plate, for we have only seen (looking through many specimens) these two varieties, and not, as would most probably be the case, were they printed separately, intermediate, and even greater varieties.

**Norway.**—The whole set of labels in the new currency is now in circulation. Paper, watermark, perforation, and design, same as last, the only difference being that the values are expressed in öre instead of skilling. The set is comprised of eight labels, viz.:

- 1 öre, grey bistre,
- 8 " orange,
- 5 " ultramarine,
- 10 " carmine,
- 12 " yellowish green,
- 20 " russet,
- 25 " violet,
- 50 " brown lake.

Stamped envelopes have also been issued in the new currency, viz.:

5 öre, blue, E.

The three skilling card, too, has been superseded by a ten öre one, which, like the labels, has only changed in the currency.

10 öre, carmine on buff, P.C.

The 2 skilling cards are being utilised as provisionals, being surcharged in black with 0.05.

We have noticed that both the watermarked and unwatermarked cards are being thus used up. Of the watermarked ones we have seen two out of the four varieties that were discernible as such, for in the white cards the watermarks are even more difficult to trace than in the buff.

2 skilling, 5 öre, blue and black, on white P.C.

**Persia.**—We annex an illustration of a new series. From their general appearance, paper, perforation, &c., we should say they emanated from the ateliers of the Imperial Austrian Printing Works of Vienna. The engraver has rendered a minute description superfluous, and it is only necessary to chronicle the number of values and their respective colours, which are to the best of our belief;

- 1 shahi, black on lilac,
- 2 shahis, " " green,
- 5 " " " pink,
- 10 " " " blue.

So as not to be behind her neighbours in postal civilisation, Persia has recently issued embossed envelopes. These are 154 × 85 mm. knife B (see fig. 2, page 10), with the rosette of the current Austrian envelopes in plain relief; the paper is unwater-marked, and embossed colour on colour.

5 shahi, black and rose on white, E.



**Peru.**—We have lately seen half a 20 centavos (Llamas) label, cut diagonally, which had done duty as a 10 centavos stamp, like the URUGUAY 10 centesimos, known to collectors for years as "half and half."

Subjoined is a facsimile of the new type 10 centavos label, which takes the place of the same value of the 1868 issue, which was out of use from 1868 to 1874, and finally done away with last year.

The new one has the American gridiron goffer, is printed on white paper, and perforated 12.

10 centavos, dark green.



**Philippine Islands.**—To the three values already known of the 1874 series, another has been lately added, thus so far completing the set, which is now

- 12 cent de peseta, lilac,
- 25 " " " blue,
- 62 " " " carmine,
- 1 p. 25 " " " bistre.

To the Alphonso set the value, 25 cent. de peseta, has been added; like the rest in paper and perforation.

**Porto Rico.**—At last this island has secured a set of stamps to itself, and high time too.

As shown by the annexed engraving, the design is but "a chip of the old block;" although Spain likes to change her own stamps as often as even collectors could desire, yet she does not like great variety for her colonies. However, it is a step in the right quarter to have so far ceded as to put Porto Rico on a par with her sister Cuba. Curiously enough the set, which is one more, in number, is





ower in value. Coloured impression on white unwatermarked paper, perforated 14.

|    |                 |                  |
|----|-----------------|------------------|
| 5  | cent de peseta, | brown,           |
| 10 | "               | " pink,          |
| 15 | "               | " greenish blue, |
| 25 | "               | " ultramarine,   |
| 50 | "               | " pale bistre.   |

**Punjab.**—These stamps have lately been printed on very thick azure laid paper.

|               |        |               |
|---------------|--------|---------------|
| $\frac{1}{2}$ | anna,  | dark blue,    |
| 1             | "      | light mauve,  |
| 2             | annas, | orange brown, |
| 4             | "      | green.        |

The eight annas thick paper, at first a dark violet, is now printed in a new shade. Most stamps struck in violet are subject to a slight change at each printing.

8 annas dark slate.

**Queensland.**—The one shilling label has followed suit with the one penny, twopenny, threepenny, fourpenny, and sixpenny stamps, and is now watermarked Q and crown. The five shilling value is still printed on unwatermarked paper.

1 shilling, violet.

**Reunion**—This French colony, so poorly represented, and then only in the *charts* of collections, has lately issued post cards, as it were, out of compassion for the multitude, that even the poorest collector may have something with which to fill the oft-sighed-over inanity.

The design is neat, and that is all that can be said. The cards are issued in two values, one with the well-known 5 centimes adhesive eagle type of the French colonies, the other with the imperforated 10 centimes, bistre on rose, of the early days of the present French Republic.

(no value), black on white, P.C.

**Roumania**—The stamps which up to within a few months were printed in Paris are now manufactured in Bucharest, which has caused a slight change in the appearance of the 5 bani labels, which are now impressed on ordinary white (instead of tinted) paper; the colour, too, is of a slightly more olive hue. Perforation unaltered.

5 bani, olive green.

The postal tariffs have been altered, and notably that for letters within the postal union, which has been fixed at 30 bani. It is not unlikely we may soon have to add this value to the current set.

The current cards, with large D, show the following alterations in the orthography of the instructions, vis:

Paragraph 1, first line, "*vîndă particularilor*" instead of "*venă Particularilor*."

Paragraph 4, "*plătesce*" instead of "*plătește*." The first line for address is in these the same length as in the small D series, and also nearly in a line with the bottom of the arms.

5 bani, blue on buff, P.O

Besides the type described above, we find the following varieties of post cards, which are either still in circulation, or only just obsolete, vis:

1. Large D, paragraph 1, with *vîndă*.

a. In the line above the instructions the

DE of DE POSTA is thus set, 

b. The fourth word of paragraph 4, which ought to be spelt *nîmică*, is here deprived of its final, and reads *nimic*. There being only an ordinary space between this and the next word (*aducătorului*), there can be no doubt about the letter having been left out.

c. This is but slightly different to the first one described. That one has cross lines to the lozenge under

CARTA DE POSTA thus:



and the  $\&$  of decăt in paragraph 2, and that of căt in paragraph 3, have short accents, whereas in this one the lozenge is a plain double lined one,



and both the  $\&$  above mentioned have circumflex accents.

d. Here (like in b) *nîmică* is spelt without the  $\ddot{u}$ , and the same letter is left out in the word *potă*, in paragraph 5.

e. This variety differs from all the *vîndă* series in the word *posibil* (paragraph 3) being spelt with one *s*, which is probably not a mistake, as in the previous issues both *posibil* and *scrisorile* (paragraph 5) are frequently so spelt, which lead us to suppose that either or both spellings are correct.

Another feature in this type is that the words *se potă* nearly touch each other, whilst in the others there is space enough for three letters between.

2. Small D (paragraph 1) with *vîndă*.

a. Cross lines to lozenge, *nimic*.

b. " " " *nîmică*.

c. No " " "

Besides which, this last is distinguishable from the other two small D varieties by the position the letter V of *vidu* occupies. A line drawn perpendicularly through V across the three following lines in this type cuts three letters, whereas in *a* and *b* it only runs over one letter, either the *e* or the *s* of *este* in the third line.

**Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—**



Collectors have before now been imposed upon by fictitious issues of this kind; but we are able to say that the annexed value is really authentic and in use.

The labels are printed on wove unwatermarked paper perforated 13.

10 cents., lake.

**Russia.**—The red and blue Levant, 10 kop., labels are actually surcharged "8" in black, in accordance with the reduced tariff. These provisionals will probably soon be followed by a new design.

8 kopecks, black, red, and blue.

The five kopeck envelopes, both small and large sizes, have slightly changed in colour, and are now 5 kopecks, reddish violet.—E.

**St. Thomas and Prince Islands.**—Two higher values have been added to the current set, same design, perforation, &c. These are:

200 reis, orange,  
300 ,, brown.

**Saint Thomas La Guaira Curaçao.**—The stamps of this company have been reprinted on whiter paper, and in brighter colours. The perforation, too, has been altered from 13 to 15.

1 real, blueish green,  
2 reals, red.

**St. Vincent.**—The sixpenny stamps actually in use are of a paler hue, still watermarked with a star.

6 pence, pale yellowish green.

**San Domingo.**—The one real (current type) is of late impressed in black on thin paper.

1 real, black on rose.

**Servia.**—We are informed that the cards now current are printed in blue; as we have not yet seen a specimen we cannot say whether they have also altered in type, or whether they belong to type II., for it must be remembered that there are two types of the 1873 issue, *i.e.*, type I., single and reply paid; and type II., single and reply paid, making in all six cards. The new corner is said to be

10 para, blue on deep rose P.C.

**South Australia.**—Another provisional colonial stamp, which owes its existence to the recent changes in the postal tariff, *vis.*, the current tenpenny surcharged 8d.

8 pence, black and orange.

Following the example set by New South Wales, New Zealand, and Victoria, this colony has just issued cards likewise of the value of one penny.

1 penny, dark lilac on buff, P.C.

**Surinam.**—See "Dutch Guiana."

**Straits Settlements.**—Similar to the Hong Kong provisional; the 30 cents. labels of this colony are now surcharged with "23 cents."

23 cents., black and claret.

**Sweden.**—The ten öre cards have lately changed colour, and are now impressed in mauve instead of lilac, the embossed stamp remaining the same.

10 öre carmine and mauve on white. P.C.

Two interject values were issued last December, one for the "Service," the other for the "Unpaid" set, and each in the respective types of these series.

4 öre grey (Service),  
4 ,, ,, (Unpaid).

**Switzerland.**—Following the fashion led by the single inland card, we have now to note the international has unframed itself: which makes the third type this card has been issued in.

10 centimes, lake on white, P.C.

A new money order card has also been issued.

The inscriptions on either side of the stamp are inclosed in a frame, and on the back of the card are, to left, the tariff and instructions in German, French, and Italian, German now being first.

30 centimes, ultramarine, M.O.C.

The *Compagnie des chemins de fers de la Suisse occidentale* have lately issued private post cards.

**Tasmania.**—We have now same design as the rest of the set, with value fourpence for this colony. The labels are watermarked **TAS.** paper and perforation like the rest of the series.

4 pence, yellow brown.

**Transvaal Republic.**—The current one, three, and sixpenny stamps are issued unperforated, and whilst the one and sixpenny stamps are on thicker, the threepenny is on thinner paper. These are the last of the Republican issue.

1 penny, bright vermilion,  
3 pence, violet,  
6 ,, dark blue.

**Trinidad.**—The fourpenny and one shilling labels are now used as "Too late" stamps, bearing these words surcharged in red.

4 pence, red and grey,  
1 shilling, ,, yellow.

**Turkey.**—Two labels are now in use for the

inland service, without the value in French, and surcharged "CHEÏE" (local) in a circle of pearls. These stamps are also used by the local post of Constantinople. Coloured impression on white unwatermarked paper, perforated 13.

10 paras, violet,  
1 piaster, yellow.

A new set, of which we give an illustration, has been issued for the Ottoman Empire. Within the crescent are the words "Osmanie Devlet postasi," i.e., Ottoman imperial post, on the crescent the value in letters expressed in full. The set perforated comprises the following values, viz.:

- 10 paras, black and reddish lilac,
  - 20 ,, brownish violet and green,
  - 50 ,, blue and yellow,
  - 2 piastres, black and yellow,
  - 5 ,, red and blue,
  - 25 ,, carmine and rose.
- The Ottoman Empire has joined the list of post-



It from "ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES I. OTTOMANES" in German text; then another rather shorter, but similar bar, and "CARTE CORRESPONDANCE," the capitals "C. C." and the final "e" of which are profusely embellished with flourishes, to the right (rather more than half way down the card); following the word "correspondance," is an impression of the 20 paras stamp type of the current set (see above); then again under the words "carte correspondance" is a plainer bar, and lastly five dotted lines, the first of which being intended for the date is divided by the word "le," and finishes with 187... almost on a line with the bottom of the stamp. The second line is headed by the letter "M." Not quite so stout as the non-official, these cards are 126 x 92 mm. in size, and printed (stamp included) in one colour.

20 paras, brownish violet on white, P.C.

**Turk's Island.**—The 6 pence has come over with a star watermark, like the 1 penny:  
6 pence, grey.

**United States of Colombia.**—The philatelic world is indebted to this Republic for a new series of nine values of franking stamps and a



card-issuing countries. The new cover (a copy of which was kindly sent to us by Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co.), is in general appearance very much like the non-official card, without value, issued last year by the office of "La Turquie."

Inclosed within a treble lined frame, with inside corner ornaments, is in the centre above, first, a native inscription, "OTTOMAN IMPERIAL POST," followed by an ornamental bar, which separates

certificate label. This latter is similar to the obsolete. Above is inscribed: "Estados Unidos de Colombia," under which is "Correos Nacional" and the tricoloured flag; and below, "Certification." . . . ; "Centenido," . . . ; and the value: "Vale cincuenta centavos" for filling in the date: "Salio . . . de . . . en . . . de . . . de . . . 18 . . ." Size 13 by 6½ centm., printed in colour on white paper. The franking labels are of three

types, viz., the 5 centavos, eagle; the 10 and 20 centavos, head of Liberty; and the 50 centavos and 1, 5, and 10 pesos, the arms of the Republic. The series, with the exception of the 5 and 10 pesos (which are printed in black on coloured glazed paper), are all coloured impression on white unwatermarked paper and imperforated. Besides the above there are the two "A" and "B" (registration) labels: 5 centavos, violet; 10 centavos, brown; 20 centavos, blue; 50 centavos, green; 1 peso, red; 5 pesos, black on green; 10 pesos, black on red; "A" (5 centavos), black on white; "B" (5 centavos), black on white; certificate, 50 centavos, blue, red, yellow.

An intermediate value is to be added to this set, namely, a twenty-five centavos.

An as yet unchronicled "Cubierta," of which we give a drawing, has recently cropped up. As will be seen by the cancelling, the label in question was used in 1873, which proves that there cannot be a great demand for them, else surely the news of the issue would have found its way to us before it was three years old; indeed it may be four years old, because, although our engraver has put the date of 1873 at bottom outside the frame, we are by no means sure it is correct, for the label is torn, and only part of the last figure to be seen. The impression is black on coloured paper.

½ peso, yellow.

**Venezuela.**—The "Escuela" labels are now sometimes used for prepayment of postage, and a correspondent informs us he has seen a yellow "UN CENTAVO" stamp obliterated with a post mark.



The "UN REAL" with the small surcharge "Estampilla de correos" is out in half both lengthways and diagonally to do duty as "MEDIO REAL."

1 centavo, yellow,  
½ real, vermilion.

**Victoria.**—The current ninepenny stamp lately came over surcharged 8d. on both sides, and "EIGHTPENCE" at foot. What has become of the old eightpenny—could they all have been used up? The provisional is "struck blue."



8 pence, brown or buff. The tenpenny stamps are said to be withdrawn.

The surcharged ninepenny stamp has had its day, having been put on the

"obsolete" shelf by the true eightpenny, which is of the well-known laureated type, watermarked V and crown, and perforated 13.

We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield, King, and Co., for the stamp from which we had the annexed engraving taken. In colour it reminds us strongly of the 1864 (type 1854) two shilling label.

1 shilling, blue on sea blue.

8 pence, blue and brown.



The cards for this colony have undergone another change both in size and design. The former is rather smaller, the latter rather more elaborate.

Like New South Wales the second is a decided improvement on the first.

The change in this is even more striking, as the stamp is so changed.

Although it is not flattering, and may, to some of the older collectors, be a reminder of "silver locks among the gold," yet, as a rule, we think the portraits of our Most Gracious Majesty best liked are those of recent years, and, therefore, more like her now.

There are not many stamp collectors old enough to appreciate the youthful portraits met with on our stamps and coins as good likenesses of what they remember Queen Victoria to have been. The current Victoria card bears really a likeness of the lady whose name adorns it. We regret our engraver has not been so happy in his production as his colleague in making the design for the card itself.



**Wurtemberg.**—We have lately seen copies of the 1 kreuzer post card with border bearing the impression of the 3 pfennig die in left hand upper corner and the 1 kreuzer impression obliterated by the surcharge "Druck-sache" (printed matter) in German type. The fortunate owner informed us that but 100 or thereabouts of these cards have been thus dealt with, and that they would be looked upon as the rarest production the Suiabian postal authorities had vouchsafed us.

3 pfennig pale green +, 1 kreuzer green. P.C. Similar to the above we have one belonging to the last kreuzer issue, i.e., black and green on grey mottled card.

3 pfennig + 1 kreuzer, black and green, P.C. New reply paid cards have been issued to correspond with the single buff ones, type and wording similar to the last, only that instead of

the word "RÜCKANTWORT" (for answer) it is now only "ANTWORT."

5+5 pfennig, lilac on buff. P.C.

Likewise for printed matter, but in pfennig currency only, and with the word DRUCKSACHEN under the arms in the place of POST KARTEN we have seen two cards, the one issued to supersede the provisional surcharge kreuzer cards above alluded to, but which, too, is now obsolete, and the other (same type) belonging to the current set. Both are 140mm. by 93mm. in size.

8 pfennig, black and sea green on grey, P.C.

8 " " " " " " buff, P.C.

Two new cards have also made their appearance.

One is the reply paid type as last on buff.

5+5 pfennig mauve on buff, P.C.

The other a provisional for official (*i.e.*, service) duty. This is the obsolete 1 Kreuzer green card, bearing in the lower left hand corner the words "POST-DIENST-SACHEN" (postal official business), and the stamp cancelled with an impression of the official (*hand*) stamp of the head office, the arms of Wurtemberg, &c., like the official envelopes, in black. The back bears a notice about the money order regulations.

We illustrate here one of the hand stamps used for the official cards alluded to.

There is another stamp with which some of the cards were struck, rather larger and quite round, but, like this one, it bears only the arms and legend, and is, likewise, impressed in black.

Official green on mottled grey, P.C.

The twenty pfennig stamps, which, it will be remembered, were the first to be issued in the present currency (in 1875), have lately somewhat changed colour.

20 pfennig, pale blue.

One kreuzer envelope embossed with a five pfennig stamp in the lower right hand corner, is, like the card with double impression, deemed a great rarity; the paper is horizontally laid, flap embossed with arms, &c., in pearly circle.

1 kreuzer + 5 pfennig green and mauve on blue laid paper E.



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