

..... The

Stamp Collectors' Annual,

1910.

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[SEVENTH YEAR OF ISSUE.]

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS' ANNUAL
1910.



A YEAR-BOOK OF PHILATELY,
EDITED BY
PERCY C. BISHOP and CHAS. NISSEN.



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P R E F A C E.

WE can point to no startling novelty or important innovation in this, the seventh issue of the **STAMP COLLECTORS' ANNUAL.**

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 Compound Envelopes of Great Britain," "The First Stamps of Liberia," "Recent Issues of Venezuela," "The Stamps of the Crimea," etc., etc., all of which, we hope, will help the little volume to make an appeal to philatelists no less strong than that of previous editions.

To every reader we cordially wish "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year," and with regard to future **ANNUALS** we would add that suggestions as to improvements and additions are always warmly welcome and will be acted upon whenever practicable.

PERCY C. BISHOP.
CHARLES NISSEN.

7 SOUTHAMPTON ROW,
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Serious Collectors are invited to write for a List of these Books, which can be returned to us with marks against those which are required. The following have recently been re-made up :

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- No. 85.—SOUTH AUSTRALIA.** Contains a great number of superb copies of the early issues.

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TELEPHONE 6647 CENTRAL.

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The Forgeries of the Shilling Stamp of Great Britain.

A FURTHER DISCOVERY.



FURTHER and most interesting discovery has just been made by Mr. Charles Nissen, who, it will be remembered, was the first to detect the amazing fraud which had been so successfully perpetrated upon the British Post Office as long ago as 1872.

The story of the forging of the 1/- green British is well known to all, but it may be recalled that it was not until May, 1898, that the counterfeit was detected. In that month, Mr. Nissen, while looking through a lot of used One Shilling Stamps removed from telegraph forms sent out for destruction, noticed



FORGED 3/6/72.



FORGED 17/6/72.

peculiarities on some of the copies, and, on a closer inspection, came to the conclusion that someone had originated and successfully carried through a wholesale forgery.

The lot of forms from which all the known copies were removed were dated the 23rd July, 1872, and cancelled at the Stock Exchange Post Office; but it is too much to assume that the forgery was in use for one day only—probably the loss to the Post Office ran into a very large amount, as the forged stamps were printed in sheets evidently of some size, judging from the varieties of corner-lettering.

The chief differences between the forged and the genuine are, apart from watermark:—The corner-blocks blurred instead of sharp and clear, and too close to the oval; the plate-number (5) broken or blurred; and, on some copies, the reticulations on the left hand side are broken.

Several of the known copies bear impossible corner-letters in the left upper and right lower angles, *i.e.*, one coming after the 12th letter, L, in the alphabet, and denoting the last stamp in a row of twelve.

Enlarged illustrations are given of genuine and forged stamps, and to these are now added illustrations of counterfeits since discovered bearing earlier postmarks.



FORGED 28,6/72.



FORGED 23/7/72.

History has repeated itself in this matter, for it was while looking through another parcel of stamps taken off Stock Exchange telegraph forms recently purchased, that Mr. Nissen came across a number of the forged One Shilling, all of which bear one of three dates—the 3rd June, the 17th June, or the 28th June. The only known date hitherto (as our readers no doubt remember), was the 23rd July, on which day at least several hundreds were used.

The fraud must have assumed very large proportions, as we notice, among those recently discovered, five similarly dated copies all bearing the same corner-letters; that means £60 worth, if an entire sheet, as is probable, contained the usual 240.

Our illustrations shew all four dates now known, and we may add that the comparatively few copies before us are evidence of three distinct printings—pale, medium, and dark.

We are working out a theory as to the manufacture of these forgeries, including many unpublished details, and will give our views in an early number of our publisher's monthly journal, *The British Philatelist*.



GENUINE.

The Story of the Year.

By PERCY C. BISHOP.

ANOTHER useful and interesting year for philately has run its course since I last addressed the readers of the STAMP COLLECTORS' ANNUAL—a year of which the outstanding features are the first Congress of British Philatelists, a half-a-dozen Philatelic Exhibitions of varying merit, and a large output of philatelic literature—also of varying merit.

Politics and Philately.

The year under review (by which I mean the period October, 1908, to September, 1909—the ANNUAL'S year) has been overshadowed throughout almost its entire course by political clouds, both at home and in foreign countries. It began with the seizure of Bosnia and Herzegovina by Austria, and the self-assumption of the title of "King" by Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria; and it ends amid dull, confused mutterings in Belgium, where, it is predicted, the not-very-beneficent reign of Leopold II. will shortly be ended, either by the abdication of that extraordinary monarch or by some less constitutional course. "Between whiles" we have had a *coup d'etat* in Turkey, much unrest in Greece and Crete, a rather disastrous military adventure in Morocco on the part of the Spaniards, and in Spain itself a state of rebellion so threatening that for a time we seemed to be brought within measurable distance of a second Spanish Republic. These political excursions and alarms, these moves and counter-moves on the chessboard of governance, have had their effect upon philately. We have seen a marked recrudescence of interest in the stamps of the Balkan States; even the gummed hieroglyphics of Turkey have experienced something in the nature of a boom. There has been a little nibbling at the courier stamps of Morocco; Greece and Crete have unquestionably attracted increased attention as a result of political complications in the Near East.

The Next Countries to Boom.

Philately is unique in this respect: it is the one collecting hobby to be directly affected by the political situation. Nor, I think, is this at all difficult to understand. In a hobby like stamp collecting there is always, and in the nature of things must be always, a certain number of collectors, who, in the Micawberian phrase, if not in the Micawberian sense, are "waiting for something to turn up"—waiting for something to happen which will give them their cue as to what they shall next take up as a "special line." I do not say that they are consciously and deliberately scanning the political news in quest of a country to specialise, but, insensibly, they are affected in their philatelic leanings by the sudden prominence or notoriety achieved by this or that country. Every now and then a "boom" is predicted in the stamps of certain countries, but our philatelic prophets are not uniformly successful, probably for the reason that they do not always base their forecasts upon sound political data. Mr. Charles J. Phillips, I believe, promised us some time ago that the Republics of South and Central America would be among the next countries to "boom" in the philatelic sense of the word. Much more recently, Mr. F. E. Wilson is reported to have ventured the opinion that the stamps of Belgium will enjoy, before long, a much larger measure of popularity than at present. I have every respect for the knowledge and sagacity of Mr. Charles J. Phillips, as the head of what is probably the world's largest philatelic business, but of the two prophecies I should be inclined to back that of Mr. Wilson, because shrewd observers of the political outlook are predicting an early change in the Belgian monarchy, and almost invariably in the history of our hobby a national crisis, such as is now foreshadowed for the land of King Leopold, has meant a certain appreciation in the stamps of the country concerned. As regards the oft-predicted rise in South and Central American philatelic values,

The Hope of Pan-Americanism.

one may readily be forgiven a doubt as to whether this will *ever* "materialise," although it is possibly a consummation to be wished. Argentina, Brazil, and Chili have always had their admirers; Uruguay is widely recognised as one of the "good" countries; but, otherwise, what is there in South, much less Central America to encourage a hope of advancing values? The history of this department of philately for a whole generation of stamp

collecting has been a study in stagnation. Yet there is one political possibility, which, if it did but approach realisation, would at once revivify the Seebeck market. I refer to the Pan-American dream which has animated American statesmen for generations past, the dream which inspired the "Monroe Doctrine"—the dream that at some future time the whole of the great Western Hemisphere shall be subject to the sway of the Stars and Stripes. It seems now a vainer hope than ever, for a prosperous Canada on the one side and an orderly and contented Mexico on the other offer solid obstacles to American expansion; but, if by any turn of the political wheel the thing should be brought within the bounds of probability, what a change we should see in the philatelic status of Ecuador, Colombia, Bolivia—aye, even of Paraguay and Nicaragua! There would be the prospect of a sounder postal administration to tempt the timid timbrophile into the Tom Tiddler's ground of the Latin Republics, and the purchases of American collectors alone would at once raise the prices of the older issues by the operation of the natural law of supply and demand.

Our Greater Tolerance.

Pessimistic as I am on the subject of the South and Central American Republics, I yet feel that these "neglected countries," as one so often hears them called, have a far greater chance to-day than they possessed, say, ten years ago. For philatelists are vastly more tolerant to-day than in those years of revulsion when the name of Seebeckism had become anathema maranatha, and the leading lights of commercial philately had committed themselves to a policy described as "pruning the philatelic tree." Our "entires" were then relegated to a separate volume of the catalogue, never re-issued; our "locals" were hustled away into another little compartment, and shut up for good. It was freely predicted that "officials" and "postal dues" would be the branches next attacked by the pruning knife, but these still survive, and in the meantime, as I say, a greater tolerance has manifested itself amongst us. So much so that some of us have taken down that poor thin little catalogue of "locals" from its high and dusty shelf, and are manifesting a certain amount of interest in the subject of Norwegian "by posts," Russian "rurals," and what not, while others, greatly daring, are suggesting that philatelists should again regard stamped envelopes, post cards,

and wrappers as things collectible! It is, in fact, a day of catholicity in collecting, and it is perhaps natural, if regrettable, that even Seebeckism should seem a less heinous sin than in former years. A new issue by, say, Ecuador, to commemorate

**Another
S.S.S.S.!**

some third-rate political brawl, mis-styled a revolution, is accepted as a necessary eccentricity, and we do not seem to mind if a new dockyard or a town hall is partly

paid for by means of a special issue of stamps. There is danger, however, in this spirit of greater tolerance, for it is calculated to encourage a recurrence of the state of affairs which, fifteen years ago, the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps was formed to combat. For this reason, one must welcome the attention now being paid to the evil of speculative issues by Mr. Castle, Major Evans, and other philatelic "publicists," if I may for once use that atrocious word. Current articles and utterances on this subject seem to be largely directed towards a revival of the S.S.S.S. crusade by the formation of a society having similar ends in view, and it is noteworthy that Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, is "down" for a paper on the subject at one of the forthcoming meetings of the R.P.S. Mr. Castle's proposal is defined as "a Universal Union of Philatelic Societies to discourage unnecessary or speculative issues"—in other words, an international S.S.S.S. Why it should be expected that a "suppression" crusade, which hopelessly failed in the "nineties," should be converted into a success by being made international in character, I utterly fail to see; but the continued discussion of the subject is most welcome. The danger is as real a danger now as in 1895, and one is glad to see Mr. Castle again in the forefront of the crusade.

**The First
Congress.**

This brings me—by what I fear many readers will regard as a very rambling and circuitous route—to the event of supreme importance in the year's philatelic story.

I refer, of course, to the first Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, held at Manchester on February 18th, 19th, and 20th, in connection with the Manchester Postage Stamp Exhibition. Although many people in many places had suggested an annual forgathering of the philatelists of Great Britain, it was left to the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society to make the first move.

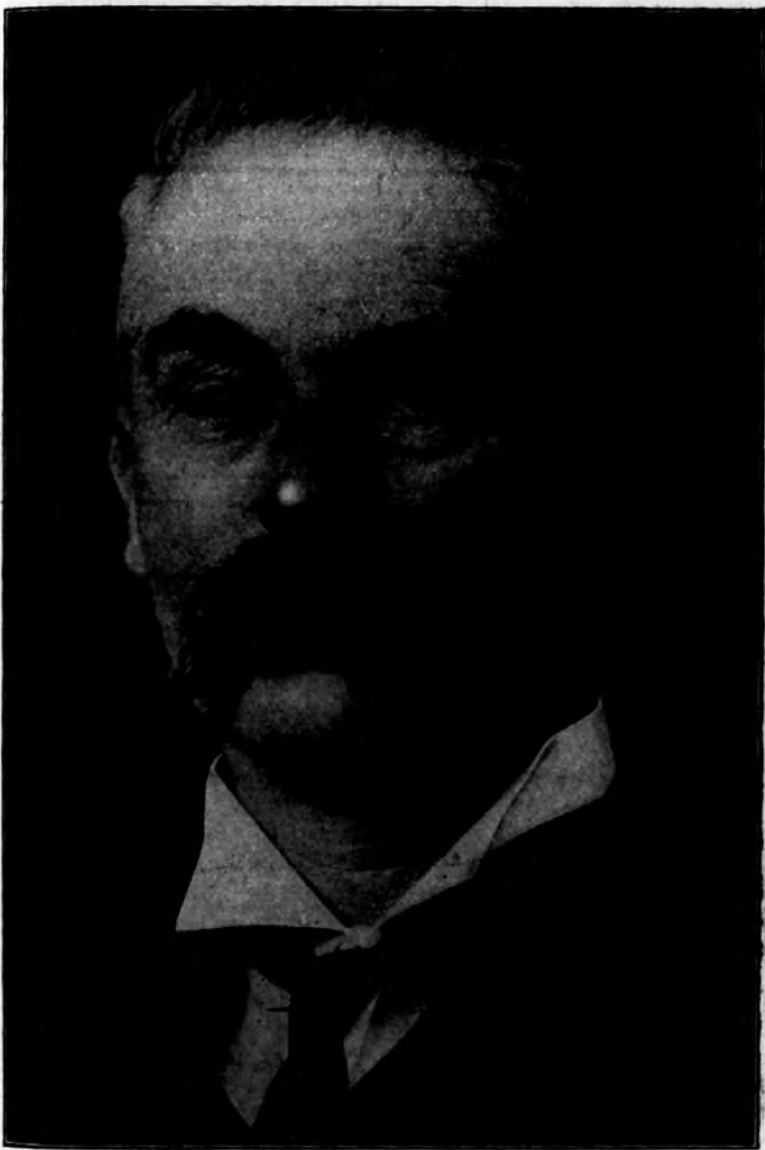
How the Congress came into being is now a matter of history. Originally, it was looked upon as an interesting, but to some extent an experimental, "side show" of the Manchester Postage Stamp Exhibition, but as the time drew on towards the opening date we witnessed a modern version of "the tail that wagged the dog," for the Congress grew steadily in importance in the eyes of the philatelic public, and there were, undoubtedly, many people who deemed the "side show" an event of greater importance than the parent enterprise. As we all know, the Manchester Postage Stamp Exhibition was marvellously successful—in fact, it set up a new world's record for philatelic shows; but, historically speaking, the inauguration of the first annual Philatelic Congress of Great Britain was an event of vastly greater importance, and I think the occasion will long live in the memory among the red-letter days of philately.

No National Society.

The principal subjects debated during the three days of the Congress were the proposition as to a National Philatelic Society, the compilation of a collectors' catalogue, the suppression or prevention of unnecessary and speculative issues, the disposal of the collections of deceased philatelists, and the question of the compilation of a philatelic cyclopædia.

My own plea for the institution of a National Philatelic Society for the United Kingdom received short shrift, the arguments or assertions advanced against it being that we already possess a national society known as the Royal Philatelic Society, that we do not want a national Society, that the thing would be unworkable if we had it, and that the Annual Philatelic Congress, as providing an annual gathering of philatelists, would answer all requirements. The last-mentioned reason for not entertaining the idea of a national society was perhaps the soundest point in a somewhat unconvincing debate. That annual gathering was, of course, a part of my original proposition, as readers of the *ANNUAL* and the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* will remember, and in view of the successful inauguration of the Congress, I was well content to let the question of the national society drop, at the same time believing—as I still believe—that some day the national society must come.

The rather mournful but highly-important subject of the



THE LATE MR. E. J. NANKIVELL.

collections of deceased philatelists led to the adoption of an important recommendation to philatelic societies, which already has been productive of good results.

No Collectors' Catalogue. The question of a collectors' catalogue, introduced by Mr. Fulcher, was the subject of a highly-interesting debate. Practically every speaker on the subject blessed the scheme, but when it came to a question of workability the "noes" had it almost to a man. Although barren of result this discussion was, perhaps, the most interesting and illuminating in the whole course of the Congress's sittings.

In a paper by Mr. A. J. Palethorpe, read on the final day, the question of the compilation and publication of an Encyclopædia of Philately was broached. Towards this subject, also, a *non possumus* attitude was adopted.

I have purposely left to the last the debate which was thought to be fraught with the most important possibilities for the future of philately—namely, the subject of speculative and unnecessary issues of postage stamps. As all who have read the full report of the Philatelic Congress are aware, it was my privilege to make the suggestion that, "suppression" having failed, we should now attempt to secure "prevention," by appealing to the Universal Postal Union to bring pressure to bear on the contributing countries to abstain from further issues of unnecessary "provisionals," or of stamps belonging to the "commemorative" class.

Petitioning the Postal Union. A resolution to this effect, seconded by Mr. Bernstein, and carried *nem con.*, was followed by the appointment of a committee of four members (Messrs. Beckton, Castle, Bernstein, and Bishop) to draft a petition to be sent to the headquarters of the Universal Postal Union at Berne, Switzerland. In due course, the document was prepared in the following terms:—

Manchester, 20th August, 1909.

THE DIRECTOR,

THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION, BERNE.

DEAR SIR,—At a Congress of all the Philatelic Societies of Great Britain, held in Manchester, on the 18th 19th and 20th February, 1909, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—

"That this Congress is of opinion that a petition should be prepared and presented to the Universal Postal Union, soliciting their help in the prevention of further issues of Commemorative and other stamps which are unnecessary for the public service."

We, the Committee appointed to draw up this petition, beg respectfully to remind you that at your Congress held in 1897, at Washington, it was decided that stamps issued for a special object peculiar to the country of issue, such as stamps called Commemorative stamps available for a limited time only, should no longer be valid for international postage.

In addition to these, large numbers of stamps are constantly being issued, which, whilst not restricted as to period of currency, nevertheless are unnecessary for the public service and are apparently only produced for the purpose of sale to stamp collectors of the young and inexperienced class. Serious philatelists deplore the appearance of so many such issues, because they tend to lower the reputation of the postal authorities of such countries whose business it is to cater for the wants of the letter-writing public, and not the stamp collector.

In the category of stamps which we submit ought to be discouraged, and whose status you are respectfully asked to consider, are many provisional (surcharged) issues. These, in isolated cases, may be necessary, but the great majority could be easily avoided, and we respectfully submit that their issue could be discouraged and restricted by some ruling or recommendation of the Universal Postal Union.

We regret that some of our own colonies are serious offenders in this respect, and the attention of our Colonial Secretary has already been drawn to this matter. We feel that the clearly expressed opinion of the Universal Postal Union, whose work in the cause of civilisation has been of such extraordinary value, and whose recommendations command universal respect and attention, would have a strong effect in preventing the future issue of these unnecessary and purely speculative postage stamps.

In conclusion, we would respectfully point out that this petition expresses the views, not only of the British Philatelic Societies assembled in Congress and of the leading members of the stamp trade in this country, but of the Societies and dealers in all parts of the world.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) L. J. BERNSTEIN,

President, Manchester Junior Philatelic Society.

(Signed) W. DORNING BECKTON,

President, Manchester Philatelic Society.

(Signed) M. P. CASTLE,

Hon. Vice-President Royal Philatelic Society.

(Signed) PERCY C. BISHOP,

Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

The Postmaster- General declines.

This was duly forwarded to the Director of the Universal Postal Union, Berne, Switzerland, but returned by that functionary on the ground that no petitions or memorials could be received save through official channels.

In plain English, it would be necessary for us to secure the recognition and help of His Majesty's Postmaster-General before our prayer could even be looked at. In due course, the document was forwarded to the Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, M.P., at St. Martin's le Grand, with the request that he would consent to its being transmitted to the

desired quarter. It was pretty generally hoped—in view of the friendly feeling Mr. Buxton had already evinced towards philatelists—that the request would be granted. Consequently, the blow was all the keener when the following very direct negative was sent from the G.P.O. to Mr. 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,

I. J. BERNSTEIN, Esq.

(Signed) A. F. KING.

This letter, though a very serious check to the campaign in favour of the *prevention* of unnecessary issues, does not necessarily spell final defeat. It may be that some turn of the political wheel may bring to St. Martin's le Grand a Postmaster-General who may be able to appreciate the gravity of the problem as philatelists see it.

The Philatelic Societies have had an excellent year, and, as I write, we are in the thick of another season which promises to be equally prolific in good work. If there is room for criticism at all, it is to be found in the fact that many of the smaller societies are apparently unable to present any greater attraction at their meetings than mere displays unaccompanied by anything in the shape of explanatory notes. Of course, displays are of very great interest and utility, but the scientific paper, accompanied by an explanatory display, is, in my judgment, the ideal programme. A large step in the right direction is being taken by the Junior Societies, which introduce essay competitions among their members, for I think the junior essayist of to-day is likely to blossom forth as the scientific philatelic lecturer of to-morrow.

The Bolton Society must be welcomed as the latest addition to the list of British stamp collecting organisations. The

Swadlincote Stamp Society, emerging, if one may dare to say so, from its swaddling clothes, has taken the more grown-up name of Swadlincote *Philatelic* Society. As a cordial hater of the words "philately" and "philatelic," I regret the change, but wish the young and vigorous society all possible success under the sway of its new President, Mr. Fred. W. Edwards. The Portland Philatelic Society has changed its name to the "Weymouth and Portland" Philatelic Society. The Social Philatelic Society is, I regret to notice, defunct.

Many Handbooks.

In literary work the year has been a prolific one, for the philatelist has been invited to purchase rather more in the way of handbooks than he can properly "read, learn, and inwardly digest, in the time he is able to devote to his hobby. Mr. Melville has issued several of his sixpenny philatelic handbooks since last I wrote; Mr. Poole has given us "Falkland Islands," and "Zululand," and just as we go to press with this ANNUAL, the second of the S.C.F. Philatelic Handbooks, "Uruguay," by Sigismond Jean, makes its appearance. Mr. Nissen has a work on Pre-Victorian Franks and Postmarks in the press, and among the more pretentious works of the year one must not omit to mention Mr. H. J. Croker's superbly-produced monograph on "Hawaii."

The Saddest Note.

We have, unhappily, lost many good philatelists by death. Sir William Avery, Bart., Mr. John F. Seybold, Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, Mr. Rud. Krasemann—these are the most notable of those who have closed their beloved albums for ever.

Unquestionably the man most cruelly missed in British philatelic circles was the late Edward J. Nankivell, journalist, phonographer, and philatelist. His name, it is safe to say, was more widely known throughout the world than that of any other contemporary philatelist. By his great knowledge, his strong character, and his facile pen, he impressed his personality indelibly on the records of his chosen hobby. Whether in writing his popular philatelic chats for boys in *The Captain Magazine*, or his more scientific, though not less readable, essays in the *Postage Stamp*, his personality was magnetic and irresistible, and his sudden death at his desk while actually at work in his favorite avocation was the worst blow that philatelists were called upon to sustain during the past twelve months.

The Mystery of the Early Liberian Stamps.

By J. T. GREER.



HERE has been a truly wonderful diversity of view regarding the method of manufacture of the early Liberian stamps—the issues of 1860-1880.

For many years it was stated, and generally believed, that the printings of 1860 and 1864 were line-engraved. M. Pierre Mahé and M. Arthur Maury were among those who said so. M. Moens at one time held the same view. Later, it has been said that the stamps of these



A FORGERY OF AN EARLY LIBERIAN.

issues were typographed, and they are so described in several catalogues. Dr. Legrand, on the other hand, held that all the stamps of the "Liberty" type of Liberia were printed by means of lithographic transfers from line-engraved dies.

The last-named theory is probably, if not certainly, the true one. The unusual fineness and clearness of the lithographic work offer some excuse for believing the stamps to be engraved, but it is very odd indeed that different authorities should adjudge them to be respectively engraved, typographed, and lithographed! I do not think that just such another case can ever have occurred in the study of one country's stamps.

As long ago as 1869, Dr. Legrand published his conclusions as to the various transfers from the original line-engraved dies

to the lithographed stone, and in a recent contribution to the *Philatelic Record* Mr. B. T. K. Smith offered the following list of five transfers, the first three being as classified by Dr. Legrand:—

TRANSFER I.: *Stamps without framing lines.*

TRANSFER II.: *Stamps with special framing lines for each stamp*, so that every specimen is separated from its neighbours by two lines on each side. The blank space between the stamps is also greater—about 5 mm.

TRANSFER III.: *Stamps with framing lines*; but while the vertical lines are distinct for each stamp the horizontal lines are single, or at least, so close together that they run into one another when the stamps are slightly less spaced. The distinguishing feature of this transfer is the reduced distance between the stamps (about $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm.), with this consequence—that the perforation cuts into the framing lines or the edge of the design, while in Transfer II. the perforation generally falls on the space between the framing lines.

TRANSFER IV.: *Stamps with framing lines.* During the preparation of his article, Dr. Legrand received the latest printing, which he described as differing from the first “in being printed on much thinner paper and by a difference in the colours.”

TRANSFER V.: *Stamps with framing lines* (Issue of 1880).

The three values which, for nearly twenty years, were sufficient to meet the postal requirements of the Republic of Liberia—viz., 6 cents, 12 cents, and 24 cents—would figure in each of these variations, and in the case of Mr. Smith’s “Transfer V.” there would be the addition of the new 1 and 2 cent stamps issued in 1880.

I suggest that it would be an excellent thing to have the Liberian stamps of the “Liberty” type catalogued somewhat on this basis. In the following compilation appears all that I know, or have been able to discover from published writings, regarding the 1860-1880 issues:—

Issue of 1860: Dr. Legrand’s “Transfer I.”; printed on thick yellowish wove paper, the stamps being placed 2 millimetres apart; perforated *nearly* 12.

6 cents, red.

12 cents, dark blue, *very dark blue*, lilac.

24 cents, dark green, *olive-green*.

I have italicised the varieties of colour. It was the late Dr. Viner who drew attention to an olive-green printing of the 24 cents, while the 12 cents in lilac was vouched for by Pemberton in 1868.

The imperforate stamps of this issue cannot, I think, have been regularly issued for postal purposes, for there appears to be no authenticated instance of a used specimen being known.

Issue of January, 1864 to 1867: Dr. Legrand's "Transfers II. and III.," with framing lines; printed on paper varying from a medium thickness to thin, the stamps being about 5 to 6 mm. apart for Transfer II., and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. for Transfer III.; perforated 11 to 12—also imperforate.

6 cents, pale red.

12 cents, pale blue.

24 cents, green.

Issue of 1869: Mr. B. T. K. Smith's "Transfer IV.," without framing lines; printed on thin white paper, perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$ —also imperforate.

6 cents, red, pale red.

12 cents, blue.

24 cents, yellow-green.

It is stated to be an easy matter to distinguish these stamps from the original 1860 printings by the thinner paper and the differing colours, but possibly the only reliable test is the paper.

Issue of October, 1880: Mr. Smith's "Transfer V.," paper varying from medium to thick; perforated $10\frac{1}{2}$.

1 cent, pale blue, bright blue.

2 cents, rose, bright rose, deep rose.

6 cents, violet.

12 cents, yellow.

24 cents, carmine.

I submit that this is a more workmanlike classification than is to be found in the catalogues.

POSTSCRIPT.—Since writing the foregoing short paper for the STAMP COLLECTORS' ANNUAL I have taken occasion to turn up "Liberia" in the Rev. R. B. Earée's work, "Album Weeds, or How to Detect Forged Stamps," third edition.

There I find a very curious state of things.

The only forgeries described by Mr. Earée are of "the issue of 1867," by which are meant the stamps having an additional framing line dividing the specimens. Now, these stamps are universally admitted to be products of lithography, and are so classified in every British or foreign catalogue I have ever seen; yet the author of "Album Weeds" speaks of them as "engraved"!

Nor is this all. The forgeries are invariably spoken of as "lithographed" or "nicely lithographed," as the case may be, until we come to the "eighth forgery" (page 551) of the 6 cents red, which Mr. Earée describes as "nicely engraved in *taille douce*"! Here, if there has been no mistake, is a very odd state of affairs--an engraved forgery of a lithographed stamp! The same statement is repeated by Mr. Earée at page 556, where his "sixth forgery" of the 12 cents is also stated to be a *taille douce* engraving, and again at page 559, where there is an account of the "fourth forgery" of the 24 cents value, which is another engraved counterfeit.



Some Philatelic Book Values.

PRICES REALISED AT AUCTION.



ORDINARILY the literary "lots" at philatelic auction sales do not make remarkably good prices, because the average collector of the literature of the hobby is not attracted to an auction where a few odd lots of books are introduced at the fag end of a catalogue. When, however, a special literary auction is announced, as has been the case more than once during the past twelve months, there is a good attendance of enthusiasts, and the resultant realizations are most satisfactory for items having any pretension to rarity.

A few noteworthy prices made at sales held by Messrs. Glendining & Co. may be cited, as showing the current market values for certain old and rare publications, including several which may be described as the "classics" of philatelic literature:—

Catalogue of Postage Stamps, American and Foreign, and U.S. Revenue Stamps (Sever & Francis, Cambridge, 1863), in very good condition, ...	... ..	... ..	... ..	£2 2 0
The Postage Stamp Collector's Handbook (C. M. Seltz, Boston, 1868), paper cover, in fine condition, ...	... ..	... ..	... ..	1 14 0
Pemberton's Philatelic Catalogue, No. 1, January, 1874, extra edition, in nearly new condition and rare, ...	... ..	... ..	... ..	0 8 0
Postage Stamp Forgeries or The Collector's Vade Mecum (J. M. Stourton, London, 1865), paper cover, and in very good condition, ...	... ..	... ..	... ..	3 5 0
Forged Stamps and How to Detect them (Thornton Lewes and Edward Pemberton, Edinburgh, 1863), paper cover, and in very good condition, ...	... ..	... ..	... ..	1 10 0
How to Detect Forged Stamps (Thomas Dalston, Gateshead, 1865), paper cover, and in good condition, ...	... ..	... ..	... ..	2 18 0
The Stamp Collector's Manual (A. C. Kline, Philadelphia, 1862), paper cover, in good condition, ...	... ..	... ..	... ..	4 7 6
Les Timbres Poste (J. B. Moens, 1864), bound in half calf, new condition, ...	... ..	... ..	... ..	0 18 0
Les Timbres Poste Suisses (Mirabaud & De Reuterskiold), original covers, and in new condition, ...	... ..	... ..	... ..	2 2 0
Dai Nippon Teikoku, Yubin Kisse Yenakurhi (History of Postal Stamps of Imperial Japan, 1896), in new condition, with adhesive post cards, &c., ...	... ..	... ..	... ..	8 0 0

La Gazette des Timbres, Guide Illustré du Collectionneur de Timbres Postes Telegraphes et Fiscaux Juliet, 1872, Juin, 1873 (Pierre Mahé, Paris), bound in half calf, in fine condition, ...	1	2	0
Historie de la Poste aux Lettres et du Timbre Post (par Arthur de Rothschild, Paris, 1879), well bound in half red morocco, in new condition, ...	1	19	0
The London and Westminster Review, No. LXXV., March, 1840, containing an article on the collection of Postage Stamps by Rowland Hill, with the rare plates, original cover and fine ...	2	6	0
The Philatelic Journal (E. L. Pemberton), Vol. I., 1872, bound in half leather, in nearly new condition, ...	0	5	0
The Transvaal Collector's Quarterly (E. J. Nankivell), Nos. 1 and 2, two copies of each part, ...	0	13	0
Concise Description of the Collection of Essays of Martin Schroeder, Leipzig, bound, and in nearly new condition, ...	0	10	0
Catalogues of Stamp Auctions from 1888 to 1896, 8 vols., well bound in half calf, and mostly priced, ...	2	2	0
Manuel du Collectionneur de Timbres Poste (J. B. Moens, Bruxelles, 1862), in paper cover, in fine condition, ...	2	8	0
Manuel du Collectionneur de Timbres Poste (J. B. Moens, Deuxième édition, Bruxelles, 1862,) in paper cover, in very good condition, ...	2	17	6
Postage Stamps Illustrated (1840-64) (J. B. Moens, translated by Dr. Viner, London, 1864), bound in red morocco, gilt edges, in new condition, ...	0	18	0
On the Falsification of Postage Stamps (J. B. Moens, Brussels, translated by E. Doble, printed by W. Tregaskis, Falmouth, 1862), paper cover, in nearly new condition, ...	1	4	0
Les Timbres Poste, Catalogue Methodique et descriptif de tous les Timbres Poste connus. Première partie (Ve. Berger Levrault et Fils, Paris, 1867), bound in red leather, in new condition, ...	1	10	0
Katalog Briefmarken, 1840-1864 (Zschiesche & Koder, Leipzig), in paper cover, in very good condition, ...	1	0	0
Nouveau guide Manuel du Collectionneur de Timbres Poste, 1840-65, 3e édition (Pierre Mahé, Paris), in paper cover, in good condition, ...	1	9	0
Les Timbres Poste Catalogue tous les Timbres Poste connus, Première Partie (Ve. Berger Levrault et Fils, Paris, 1867), bound in leather, in good condition, and with two photos of the author, ...	1	3	0
1866, Catalogue de L'Amateur de Timbres Poste (E. Nicolas, Paris, 1865), in paper cover, in good condition, ...	2	2	0

As against such prices as these for scarce publications, there are very moderate realizations for current or recent philatelic periodicals, bound or unbound.

The Philatelic Literary Index for 1909.

COMPILED BY PERCY C BISHOP.

The Abbreviations used for the Titles of Journals are as follows:—

A.P.,	-	-	Australian Philatelist.
A.S.M.C.,	-	-	Alfred Smith's Monthly Circular.
B.P.,	-	-	British Philatelist.
E.W.S.N.,	-	-	Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.
G.S.W.,	-	-	Gibbon's Stamp Weekly.
H.,	-	-	Hobbyist (Canada).
L.P.,	-	-	London Philatelist.
M.P.,	-	-	Metropolitan Philatelist.
M.W.S.N.,	-	-	Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News.
P.A.,	-	-	Philatelic Adviser.
P.J.G.B.,	-	-	Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.
P.J.I.,	-	-	Philatelic Journal of India.
P.R.,	-	-	Philatelic Record.
P.S.,	-	-	Postage Stamp.
P. West,	-	-	Philatelic West.
P. World,	-	-	Philatelic World.
S.C.,	-	-	Stamp Collector.
S.C.F.,	-	-	Stamp Collector's Fortnightly.
S.J.,	-	-	Stamp Journal.
S.L.,	-	-	Stamp Lover.
W.E.P.,	-	-	West End Philatelist.

NOTE BY THE COMPILER.

The plan followed in the great majority of instances is to quote the volume and page, the volume being given in Roman and the page in ordinary numerals. Thus "L.P. XVIII, 127" would mean page 127 of the eighteenth volume of the "London Philatelist." To this rule it is necessary to make certain exceptions, as follows:—"Alfred Smith's Monthly Circular": no volume number being used for this journal, we simply quote the number of the issue. "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News": this paper is not divided into volumes, but as the pagination is continuous it is sufficient to quote the page numbers alone. "Philatelic West": this journal adopts the unique practice of having no page numbers at all; in this case, therefore, we quote both the volume number and the number of the issue.

This year the "Index" covers the period of twelve months, October, 1908, to September, 1909, inclusive. To keep the compilation within reasonable bounds it has been necessary to eschew much of the purely ephemeral or academic matter hitherto included, and the "Index" as now presented, is practically limited to the year's purely philatelic essays—papers devoted to the actual study of the world's postage stamps.

My special aim has been so to arrange the "Index" as to make it useful to the reader desiring a rapid reference to articles dealing with the stamps of particular countries. With this end in view I have not kept strictly to the titles given to articles by their authors, but have indexed them under the countries to whose stamps they refer. Mr. Wetherell, for instance, gave one of his excellent articles on Cuban stamps the extraordinary headline, "Philately in its Shirtsleeves." It seems to me that no student of the stamps of Cuba would search for articles on the subject under "Shirtsleeves," so I have indexed the paper under "Cuba."

Abnormal Plate Varieties, Surface Printed Issues of Great Britain (Earl of Crawford), L. P., XVIII, 65.

Abyssinia, The Stamps of (Fred. J. Melville), P.S., IV., 195, 207, 219, 233.

Adhesive Stamp, The Invention of the, S.L., I., 158, 281.

Afghanistan, The Stamps of, by W.P.B., G.S.W., VIII., 230.

Afghanistan, The Stamps of (E. W. Wetherell reviewing Masson and Gordon Jones), P.A., I., 216.

Aguinaldo Issues, The. M.W.S.N., XXIII., 26.

Alsace and Lorraine, Stamps of (Eric F. Ridgeway), P. World, I., 107.

Anglo-American Penny Postage: The J.P.S. Souvenir Envelope, S.L., I., 157.

Antigua (Edward J. Nankivell), P.S., III., 150.

Architecture on Postage Stamps, by Norman Thornton, G.S.W., VIII., 249.

Australia: Faded Stamps, A.P., XV., 27.

Australian Punctured Officials, A.P., XV., 16, 66, 81.

Australian Stamps, Notes on (F. F. Lamb), P.J.G.B., XIX., 8, 30, 49, 138.

Australia: The "Crown A" Watermarks (J. E. Heginbottom), S.C.F., XIV., 151.

Australia: The Correct Crown, A.P., XV., 61.

Arabic and Persian Numerals, P. World, I., 71.

Bahamas, The Cataloguing of, P.J.I., XIII., 38.

Barbados, The Stamps of (C. A. Stephenson), S.C., XIII., 22.

Belgian Congo, The Philatelic History of (Edward J. Nankivell), P.S., III., 197.

Belgium, My Favourite Country, by F. E. Wilson, P.S., IV., 46.

Belgium: Notes on the Sunday Label Stamps, by F. E. Wilson, P.S., IV., 57, 114.

- Belgium, The Postage Stamps of (Ch. de Bont), G.S.W., IX., 5, 21, 43, 52, 86, 101, 117, 204, 238, 254, 314, 331, 346, 381, 394, 407; X., 33, 84, 167, 268, 297.
- Belgium, The Stamps and Values of (A. H. Dingwall), S.L., II., 45.
- Bermuda: The Postmaster's Stamp of 1848, P.S., III., 41.
- Bhopal, Notes on, by E. B. Evans, G.S.W., VIII., 345.
- Brazil, A Portrait Gallery of, S.C., XII., 149.
- British Central Africa and its Mail Services (*Reprinted*), P.J.G.B., XVIII., 221, 236.
- British Guiana: The Issue of 1888, P.J.I., XIII., 106.
- British Honduras, by Edward J. Nankivell, P.S., III., 3, 15.
- British Isles: Postmarks from 1840: *Special Supplement to G.S.W., issued periodically with numbers of Vol. IX.*
- British Guiana: Minor Varieties of the Provisional Issue of 1888 (Alexander J. Séfi), P. World, I., 53.
- British Levant, The Postage Stamps of, by B. W. H. Poole, W.E.P., V., 178.
- British New Guinea, Notes on, E.W.S.N., 1657.
- British New Guinea and Papua, Notes on, by E. D. E. Van Weenen, A.P., XV., 82.
- British New Guinea (Papua), The Postmarks of, S.C.F., XIV., 211.
- British North Borneo (B. W. H. Poole), G.S.W., VIII., 357.
- British "Paid" Stamps, S.C., XII., 170; XIII., 14, 50, 137.
- British Samoa or Plain Samoa? (J. Dreyer), A.P., XV., 94.
- British Solomon Islands Protectorate, The Postage Stamps of the (B. W. H. Poole), S.C.F., XV., 87, 93, 102, 110; (D.B. Armstrong), S.L., II., 26, 42.
- British South Africa Company, The Stamps of (B. W. H. Poole), P.A., II., 103, 116.
- British South Africa Company, Notes on the Stamps of the (Frank H. Melland), L.P., XVII., 235, 260, 282; XVIII., 12, 71, 99, 189.
- British Stamps Used Abroad (I. J. Bernstein and Charles Nissen), G.S.W., VIII., 215, 234, 298, 331; IX., 42, 109.
- British Stamps Used Abroad, B.P., I., 28, 44, 51, 67, 77, 101; II., 37.
- Bulgaria, The First Issue of (W. G. Inkpin), S.C.F., XIV., 156.
- Bulgaria, Stamps of (B. W. H. Poole), W.E.P., VI., 12, 27, 42, 59, 73, 90, 102.
- Bulgaria (Edward J. Nankivell), P.S., III., 27, 39.
- Campeche, A Study in (W. C. Bellows), M.W.S.N., XXII., 425.
- Campeche: "The Most Remarkable Stamp ever Issued" (*Review*), P.S., IV., 147.
- Canada: The "Christmas" Stamp (W. Ward), S.C.F., XIV., 210.
- Canada: The Jubilee Issue of 1908 (*Translated*), G.S.W., IX., 39.
- Canada: The 3d. Beaver Stamp (Alexander Séfi), P. World, I., 31.
- Cape of Good Hope (Edward J. Nankivell), P.S., III., 76, 87, 99.
- Cape of Good Hope: Notes on the Perkins Bacon Issues, by M. P. Castle, L.P., XVII., 239.
- Cape of Good Hope, A Review of the Early Issues of, H., I., 99.
- Cape of Good Hope Triangulars: The "Perkins Bacon" and "De la Rue" Prints, S.C.F., XIV., 149.
- Cape of Good Hope Triangular Issues (R. O. Dagg), S.C.F., XV., 65, 73.
- Cape of Good Hope "Woodblocks," G.S.W., X., 205.
- Cape of Good Hope: The "Woodblock Error," P.S., III., 101.

- Cashmere : A Great Rarity, P. World, I., 35.
- Catalogue of the Future, The, L.P., XVIII., 61.
- Catalogue for Collectors, A (A. H. Dingwall), S.L., I., 281.
- Catalogue for Collectors, A, P.R., XXXI., 21.
- Cards and Covers, Notes on (B.W.W.), S.C.F., XIV., 166, 183, 218, 234; XV., 11, 27, 38, 56, 76.
- Cayman Islands, The, P.J.G.B., XIX., 126.
- Cayman Islands Case, The (E. B. Evans), G.S.W., IX., 282.
- Cayman Islands Forgeries, E.W.S.N., 1821.
- Cayman Islands, Notes on, E.W.S.N., 1705.
- Cayman Islands, Notes on (Harry E. Huber), M.W.S.N., XXII., 491; (Various writers), 429; XXIII., 3.
- Cayman Islands : The Official Enquiry, E.W.S.N., 1729.
- Cayman Islands Scandal, The, P.S., III., 222, 235.
- Cayman Islands Stamps and their Values, S.C.F., XIV., 143, 156.
- Cayman Islands, Stamps of (Edward J. Nankivell), P.S., III, 111.
- Cayman Islands, Notes on (Cyril J. Phillips), S.C.F., XV., 54.
- Cayman Islands : The Report of the Colonial Post Offices Commission, G.S.W., IX., 88.
- Cayman Islands, Varieties of, E.W.S.N., 1673.
- Cayman Islands, Varieties of, M.W.S.N., XXII., 405.
- Ceylon Stamps, The Assumed Depreciation of, L.P., XVII., 233.
- Ceylon : The 10d. Perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 14$, P.J.I., XIII., 75.
- Ceylon : The Perforations of the 10d. Star Watermark (Baron Percy de Worms), L.P., XVII., 280.
- Central America, The Stamps of, M.P., XXVII., 52.
- Chili, The Adhesive Stamps of (J. R. Burton), P.J.G.B., XIX., 81, 102, 123, 140.
- Chili (Chas. M. C. Symes), G.S.W., IX., 335, 351.
- Chili, The Stamps of, P.J.G.B., XVIII., 216.
- Chili, Varieties and Sheets of, by Charles J. Phillips, G.S.W., VIII., 213.
- China, Notes on the Stamps of (C. L. Harte-Lovelace), G.S.W., VIII., 398; IX., 256.
- Chinese Stamps, Notes on, by B. T. K. Smith, A.S.M.C., Nos. 409, 410, 411.
- Classified Catalogue, A : Is it desirable? (J. Ireland), P.S., IV., 178.
- Collection of Forgeries, A (Percy C. Bishop), S.C.F., XIV., 187, 205, 221, 229.
- Collections, The Arrangement of, W.E.P., VI., 70, 87.
- Collecting in Strips and Blocks (R. E. R. Dalwigh), S.L., I., 123.
- Colombia, The Ten Centavos of the 1883 Issue (E. D. Bacon), P.R., XXXI., 9.
- Colombia : The 10c., 1883 (E. D. Bacon), P.R., XXXI., 23.
- Colonial New Issues of 1908, by Albert H. Harris, P. World, II., 7.
- Colonial Plates, Current Numbers of, P.J.I., XIII., 3.
- Colonial Plates, The Current Numbers of, P.J.I., XII., 331.
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- Colonial Stamps, The Standardisation of, P.J.I., XIII., 101.
- Comb Perforations of New Zealand (A. T. Bate), A.P., XV., 123.
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- Common Sense and Stamp Collecting, by H. F. Kalse, H., I., 69, 211.
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- Confederate States of America, The Postage Stamps of, by L. W. Crouch, S.L., I., 150.
- Congo, Belgian (Edward J. Nankivell), P.S., III., 197.
- Cook Islands (J. Ireland), P.S., IV., 271.
- Crete, Notes on the Postage Stamps of (W. Macdonald Mackay), S.C.F., XIV., 245, 265; XV., 10.
- Crete Up-to-Date, W.E.P., V., 137.
- "Crown A" Watermark (J. E. Heginbottom), S.C.F., XIV., 151.
- Cuba and Spain, The Stamps of (E. W. Wetherell), P.J.I., XIII, 161, 182.
- Cuba: The $\frac{1}{2}$ real Plata, 1857-60 (E. W. Wetherell), P.A., I., 215.
- Customs Duty Stamps, E.W.S.N., 1693.
- Damaged Stamps Exchanged at Post Offices, P.J.G.B., XVIII., 248; XIX., 13.
- Dangerous Forgeries, P. World, I., 70, 89.
- Denmark and the Danish Colonies, The Postal Issues of (L. Hancion), G.S.W., VIII., 273, 405; IX., 129, 279, 423; X., 77, 173.
- Denmark, The Stamps and Values of (A. H. Dingwall), S.L., II., 65.
- Designers, Engravers, and Printers of the World's Postage Stamps (R. R. Thiele), P.R., XXXI., 25, 52, 117, 160.
- Designs of Postage Stamps: Some Similarities (Norman Thornton), G.S.W., VIII., 361.
- Dickinson, John, Inventor of the Dickinson Paper, S.L., I., 115.
- Dickinson Paper, B.P., I., 73.
- Dictionary of Philately (B. W. H. Poole), P.S., III., 7, 19, 32, 44, 55, 67, 79, 91, 102, 115, 127, 140, 153, 164, 177, 189, 201, 212, 226, 237, 249, 259, 272, 284, 297, 309; IV., 7, 18, 33, 53, 94; III., 159, 213, 225.
- Dominica, The Stamps of (B. W. H. Poole), P.S., IV., 124, 149, 171, 183.
- Early Postal Stationery (Major E. B. Evans), S.L., I., 113.
- Ecuador: A Note on the Arms Type (E. W. Wetherell), P.A., II., 3, 17.
- Egypt, Notes on the Stamps of, P.S., III., 186.
- Egypt, The Stamps of (P. L. Pemberton), P.J.G.B., XIX., 164.
- Embossed Stamps of Great Britain, The (Earl of Crawford), L.P., XVII., 257.
- Encyclopædia of Philately, The Proposed (A. J. Palethorpe), P.S., III., 295.
- Encyclopædia of Philatelic Literature, The Proposed (A. J. Palethorpe), G.S.W., IX., 337.
- Entires, The Collecting of, L.P., XVIII., 187.
- Entires, Notes on (B.W.W.), S.C.F., XIV., 166, 183, 218, 234; XV., 11, 27, 38, 56, 76.
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The Postage Stamps of the Crimea.

BY CHARLES NISSEN.



ON the following page is reproduced, by the courtesy of the *Illustrated London News*, a sketch which appeared in that world-famous weekly newspaper over forty-three years ago. It depicts "The British Army Post Office at Constantinople" during the strenuous days of the Crimean War.

In the same issue of the paper, namely, January 18th, 1856, appeared the following letter from the special artist of the *Illustrated London News* :—

"I send you a sketch of the interior of the British Army Post Office at Constantinople, an establishment of no mean importance in the vast military operations now going on in the East, conferring, as it does, such advantages both on the Army and Navy, and, in the midst of strife and bloodshed, keeping up home ties, and carrying us back in thought to our peaceful firesides.

"The staff employed consists of a postmaster and three assistant postmasters, eight clerks, who have been selected from the General Post Office in London, and two natives of Constantinople, who act chiefly as interpreters—for, though it was established as a British Army Post, many letters pass through it to and from the soldiers in the Turkish contingent, etc. Two of the postmasters and three of the clerks are employed in the Post Office in the Crimea, assisted by two intelligent non-commissioned officers.

"The scene on the arrival and departure of the mails is one of the greatest activity. The boat from Marseilles brings from twenty to twenty-five bags, each as much as one of our strong-backed hamals (or porters) can stagger under, and the number of letters is said to exceed 12,000, and that of the papers 8000. This vast number is sorted into regiments, brigades, and divisions, and dispatched to the Crimea and Scutari in the short space of two hours. The courtesy and attention shewn by the officials in this establishment to the public presents a vast contrast to the brusquerie of the other post-offices in this city."



THE BRITISH ARMY POST-OFFICE, CONSTANTINOPLE.—(SEE FORTY-NINTH PAGE.)

The picture has no small interest for philatelists, especially for the large and increasing number who collect British stamps used abroad. Observe the different mail bags hanging up in various parts of the office—bags for London, for Balaklava, Malta, Smyrna, etc.

A short history of the British postal arrangements in the Crimea in those fateful years, 1854 to 1856, may fitly accompany this interesting drawing.

It was in March, 1854, that war was declared. Immediately large bodies of troops were drafted to the East, and on the 14th of September of that year some 25,000 British, with their French and Turkish allies, sailed from Varna and landed some thirty miles from Sebastopol.

Now there was not only the necessity of providing postal communication for the forces at the front to trouble the Post Office. It also felt the effects of the war most severely, for it became necessary to release a number of steamships from the mail service in order that they might be used for transports and troopships. However, by favour of the French Government, letters were conveyed through France in the charge of a special body of messengers, and carried by French packet to Constantinople twice weekly, at the same rate as was charged upon the correspondence of the French troops, viz., 3d. per quarter-ounce for letters and 2d. for newspapers.

From Constantinople, the arrangements for transmission to the front necessarily had to be left to the Commander of the Forces; firstly, owing to the necessity of finding ways and means, and secondly, owing to the uncertainty of the points to which mails would have to be carried.

In addition to these services, letters were carried by all men-of-war, troopships, and other Government vessels, as occasion offered, at a charge of 1d. each. Consequently, the postal arrangements were more efficient than might have been expected, and certainly they were better than those of the notorious Commissariat Department.

It is stated in the Postmaster-General's report for 1856 one and a half million letters were received from the Army and Navy from April, 1854, to 31st December, 1855; but of these the larger number were sent either before we had landed in the Crimea or from the soldiers and the seamen of the Black Sea and Mediterranean Fleets. Also a large number of letters were cancelled on arrival in England, and most of these bear the London district mark.

Two obliterations were used for the Crimea letters—one consisting of a crown with a star at each side, in the small horizontal oval, and the later type of two cyphers separated by a star, also enclosed in the same shape oval. The earlier one is undoubtedly the scarcer of the two.

The authors of "Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles" mention that although perforations had been officially employed on all stamps since January, 1854, later on in that year some sheets were issued imperforate, but it was not known where they had been used.

Some, if not all, of these imperforate sheets found their way to the Crimea, because the 1d. red, imperforate, is known with this obliteration.

Peace was declared in April, 1856, but the Crimea was not finally evacuated by the Allies till 12th July, 1857; consequently, we may assume that British stamps were used there from about November, 1854, till 12th July, 1857.

The varieties known are :—

Crown and stars.

- 1d. red, imperf.
- 1d. S.C., 16. Die I.
- 1d. S.C., 16. Die II.

Cyphers and star.

- 1d. red, imperf.
- 1d. S.C., 16. Die I.
- 1d. S.C., 14. Die I.
- 1d. S.C., 16. Die II.
- 1d. S.C., 14. Die II.
- 1d. L.C., 14.
- 2d. S.C., 14.
- 2d. L.C., 16.
- 2d. L.C., 14.
- 6d. octagonal.
- 1s. octagonal.
- 4d. Large Garter.

Interest in the subject as a whole is heightened by the fact that the stamps used in the Crimea were the first to be sold by British post offices abroad.

The "Compound" Envelopes of Great Britain.

BY CHARLES NISSEN.

WHEN, in 1855, the use of "Dickinson" paper for stamped envelopes was abandoned, it was determined to allow the public to supply their own paper to be stamped; and the Commissioners of Inland Revenue were, by 18 and 19 Vic., c. 78, s. 4, empowered to stamp paper sent in by the public for the purpose of being stamped "for covers or envelopes of letters," with stamps denoting the required rates of postage, on payment of the amount thereof, together with a fee where the total of the duty did not exceed £10—the actual regulations and the fees to be made and fixed by the Lords of the Treasury.

Accordingly, the Board of Inland Revenue issued a Notice, under date of 8th October, 1855, that the public could send in paper for covers or envelopes to be impressed with stamps denoting the required rates of postage; and the following fees were stated:—

If the duty did not exceed £10, a fee of 1s., in addition to the duty; and a further fee of 1s. for each size of paper sent in beyond one.

If the amount was over £10, but under £20, no fee, but only one size of paper.

If above £20 and under £30, no fee, but two sizes.

£30 and below £40, no fee and three sizes.

£40 and over, no fee and not more than four sizes of paper.

The paper was to be sent in flat, with a specimen marked to shew the position of the impressed stamp; coloured paper, or paper of excessive thinness would not be received; and "spoils" would be replaced by official envelopes.

When the above-mentioned Act was passed, adhesive stamps of the facial values of one, two, four, and six pence, and one shilling were current, and embossing dies of similar values, except the Four Pence, were in existence.

The Commissioners, therefore, ordered a die of this value to be prepared, and it and the existing dies were fitted with moveable plugs to indicate the date of impression.

Since 1855, embossing dies of additional values have been



$\frac{1}{2}$ d, VERMILION, AFTERWARDS GREEN.



1d, PINK.



$1\frac{1}{2}$ d. BROWN, ALSO YELLOW.



2d, BLUE, ALSO CLARET.



$2\frac{1}{2}$ d, MARONE. AFTERWARDS BLUE.

made:—Three Halfpence, Two Pence, Two Pence Halfpenny, Three Pence and Ten Pence, all of which are, or have been, available for similar purposes.

There is no necessity to describe the various designs, as they are shewn in the illustrations, or to mention the peculiarities of the different dies, as they are given in the list at the end of this article.

In 1862 the Inland Revenue allowed tinted paper to pass, and many combinations can be made of pale shades of various colours, on paper wove, laid or *bâtonné*—most of these, especially in the varieties of paper, appear to have been philatelic rather than necessary or unintentional.

Since 1877 tinted paper has been ruled inadmissible, paper of a good substance, and either white or azure, being officially required. This restriction, however, is not enforced in practice if good cause to the contrary can be shewn.

The stamping warrant, to be filled in and left with the paper, provides for various values beyond those for which dies exist, and which must necessitate the use of more than one die; and as, provided the fee for changing the die be paid, the Stamping Department offers no objection to embossing a stamp, or stamps, on paper which already has a duty impressed on it, the range of possible values, and of combinations, which can, by a little ingenuity be obtained, is, or should be, sufficient to satisfy the most voracious philatelic appetite.

These compound envelopes are, to a certain extent, official, as the dies used for denoting the original, or additional, duty are selected according to certain rules, and, fortunately, not according to the desire of the person paying the duty, though the tint, quality and size of the paper supplied are, within reasonable limits, in the discretion of the particular individual who sends it in.

The collecting of these "Compounds," taking in all the varieties of relative position of the stamps, the various combinations, and the different tints and qualities of paper, is most interesting; and this branch of philately has this advantage, that "cut squares" (or should I say "cut oblongs") are not only permissible, but absolutely sufficient, seeing that the size and shape of the envelope are entirely optional and not governed by any official regulation.

The list of "Compounds" which follows will, I believe, prove somewhat of a revelation even to those collectors who have specialised in them. It has been most carefully compiled



3d, ROSE.



4d, RED.



6d, VIOLET, MAUVE. PURPLE.



10d, BROWN, BLUE.



1s, GREEN.

from a very large accumulation, and supplemented from notes made during a period of some years by Messrs. Chas. Nissen & Co.

There are several prominent varieties of the Victorian dies for many, but not all of the various stamps:—(1), without date; (2), with date of stamping shewn by means of inserted plugs; (3), having a small floret ornament of 5 dots in place of date plugs; (4), similar, but with 9 dot florets; (5), with an arrow head or trefoil ornament—on three halfpence only.

The Edwardian dies are much simpler, there being no plugs either for dates or florets.

When these dies were first used for stamping paper sent in by the public they were furnished with date plugs, inserted in holes drilled in the die—except the halfpenny and ten pence, which were never dated.

Subsequently, the holes originally intended for the date were filled with plugs bearing small floret ornaments of five dots, afterwards increased to nine. Most of the dies in use at the end of Queen Victoria's reign were, and some had for a considerable time been, without plugs either for date or ornaments.

The following is a rough list of the principal variations of the Victorian dies, with reference to the absence or presence of plugs:— $\frac{1}{2}$ d., no plugs; 1d., no plugs, dated; $1\frac{1}{2}$ d., dated, 9 dot florets, trefoil; 2d., dated, 5 dot florets, 9 dot florets; $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., dated, 5 dot florets, 9 dot florets, undated; 3d., dated, 5 dot florets, 9 dot florets; 4d., dated, 9 dot florets; 6d., dated, 9 dot florets, 5 dot florets, without plugs; 10d., without plugs; 1s., dated, 5 dot florets, 9 dot florets, without plugs.

As it is impossible to give any general rule governing the use of the dies, one with another, we leave our readers to a perusal and study of the list which follows, and which is confined to combinations of two impressions only, that of the lower value being given first: no notice has been taken of the order in which they were stamped.

It will be noted that there are "Compounds" of Victorian and Edwardian dies, a combination which the authorities at first tried to avoid—they are scarce.

Compound envelopes, bearing impressions from the King's Head die, are being issued, and are, or will be, obtainable in combinations of value similar to those chronicled above.

DATED + DATED.

1874.

1d pink,	-	+ 1d pink.
1d ,,	-	+ 1½d brown.
1d ,,	-	+ 2d blue.
1d ,,	-	+ 2½d marone.
1d ,,	-	+ 3d rose.
1d ,,	-	+ 4d red.
1d ,,	-	+ 6d violet.
1d ,,	-	+ 6d purple.
1d ,,	-	+ 1/- green.
1½d brown,	-	+ 1½d brown.
1½d ,,	-	+ 2d blue.
1½d ,,	-	+ 2½d marone.
1½d ,,	-	+ 3d rose.
1½d ,,	-	+ 4d red.
1½d ,,	-	+ 6d violet.
1½d ,,	-	+ 6d purple.
1½d ,,	-	+ 1/- green.
2d blue,	-	+ 2d blue.
2d ,,	-	+ 2½d marone.
2d ,,	-	+ 3d rose.
2d ,,	-	+ 4d red.
2d ,,	-	+ 6d violet.
2d ,,	-	+ 6d purple.
2d ,,	-	+ 1/- green.
2½d marone,	-	+ 2½d marone.
2½d ,,	-	+ 3d rose.
2½d ,,	-	+ 4d red.
2½d ,,	-	+ 6d violet.
2½d ,,	-	+ 6d purple.
2½d ,,	-	+ 1/- green.
3d rose,	-	+ 3d rose.
3d ,,	-	+ 4d red.

3d rose,	-	+ 6d violet.
3d ,,	-	+ 6d purple.
3d ,,	-	+ 1/- green.
4d red,	-	+ 4d red.
4d ,,	-	+ 6d violet.
4d ,,	-	+ 6d purple.
4d ,,	-	+ 1/- green.
6d purple	-	+ 6d purple.
6d violet	-	+ 6d violet.
6d ,,	-	+ 1/- green.
1/- green	-	+ 1/- green.

1892.

1d pink,	-	+ 1½d yellow.
1d ,,	-	+ 2d lake.
1d ,,	-	+ 2½d blue.
1½d yellow,	-	+ 1½d yellow.
1½d ,,	-	+ 2d lake.
1½d ,,	-	+ 2½d blue.
1½d ,,	-	+ 3d rose.
1½d ,,	-	+ 4d red.
1½d ,,	-	+ 6d violet.
1½d ,,	-	+ 1/- green.
2d claret,	-	+ 2d claret.
2d ,,	-	+ 2½d blue.
2d ,,	-	+ 3d rose.
2d ,,	-	+ 4d red.
2d ,,	-	+ 6d violet.
2d ,,	-	+ 1/- green.
2½d blue,	-	+ 2½d blue.
2½d ,,	-	+ 3d rose.
2½d ,,	-	+ 4d red.
2½d ,,	-	+ 6d violet.
2½d ,,	-	+ 1/- green.

DATED + ROSETTES.

1½d yellow, dated,	-	+ 9 rosettes.
1½d ,, ,,	-	+ 1½d yellow, 9 rosettes.
1½d ,, ,,	-	+ 2d lake, 9 ,,
1½d ,, ,,	-	+ 4d red, 9 ,,
1½d ,, ,,	-	+ 6d violet, 9 ,,
1½d ,, 9 rosettes,	-	+ 6d ,, dated.
3d rose, 9 ,,	-	+ 4d red, ,,
4d red, 9 ,,	-	+ 4d ,, ,,

DATED + UNDATED.

½d vermilion, undated,	-	+ 3d rose, dated.
½d ,, ,,	-	+ 4d red, ,,
½d ,, ,,	-	+ 6d violet, ,,
½d ,, ,,	-	+ 1/- green, ,,
1d pink ,,	-	+ 1½d brown, ,,
1d ,, ,,	-	+ 2d blue, ,,

1d pink, undated,	-	+ 2½d claret, ,,
1d ,, ,,	-	+ 2½d blue, ,,
1d ,, ,,	-	+ 3d rose, ,,
1d ,, ,,	-	+ 4d red, ,,
1d ,, ,,	-	+ 6d violet, ,,
1d ,, ,,	-	+ 1/- green, ,,
1d ,, dated,	-	+ 10d blue, undated.
1d ,, ,,	-	+ 10d brown, ,,
1½d brown, ,,	-	+ 10d blue, ,,
1½d yellow, ,,	-	+ 10d brown, ,,
2d blue, ,,	-	+ 10d blue, ,,
2d lake, ,,	-	+ 10d brown, ,,
2½d purple, ,,	-	+ 10d blue, ,,
2½d blue, ,,	-	+ 10d brown, ,,
3d rose, ,,	-	+ 10d blue, ,,
3½d rose, ,,	-	+ 10d brown, ,,
4d red, ,,	-	+ 10d blue, ,,
4d red, ,,	-	+ 10d brown, ,,
6d violet, ,,	-	+ 10d blue, ,,
6d ,, ,,	-	+ 10d brown, ,,
10d blue, undated,	-	+ 1/- green, dated.
10d brown, ,,	-	+ 1/- ,, ,,

UNDATED + UNDATED.

½d vermilion, -	-	+ ½d vermilion.
½d ,, -	-	+ 1d pink.
½d ,, -	-	+ 6d violet.
½d ,, -	-	+ 10d brown.
1d pink, -	-	+ 1d pink.
1d ,, -	-	+ 6d violet.
1d ,, -	-	+ 10d brown.
6d violet, -	-	+ 10d brown.
10d blue, -	-	+ 10d blue.
10d brown, -	-	+ 10d brown.

ROSETTES + ROSETTES.

1½d yellow, 9 rosettes,	+ 1½d yellow, 9 rosettes.
1½d ,, 9 ,,	+ 2d lake, 9 ,,
1½d ,, 9 ,,	+ 3d rose, 5 ,,
1½d ,, 9 ,,	+ 3d ,, 9 ,,
1½d ,, 9 ,,	+ 4d red, 9 ,,
1½d ,, 9 ,,	+ 6d violet, 9 ,,
1½d ,, 9 ,,	+ 1/- green, 5 ,,
2d claret, 5 ,,	+ 2d claret, 5 ,,
2d ,, 9 ,,	+ 2d ,, 5 ,,
2d ,, 9 ,,	+ 2½d blue, 5 ,,
2d ,, 5 ,,	+ 3d rose, 5 ,,
2d ,, 5 ,,	+ 3d ,, 9 ,,
2d ,, 9 ,,	+ 4d red, 9 ,,
2d ,, 9 ,,	+ 6d violet, 5 ,,
2d ,, 5 ,,	+ 1/- green, 5 ,,
2d ,, 9 ,,	+ 1/- ,, 5 ,,
2½d blue, 5 ,,	+ 2½d blue, 5 ,,

2½d blue,	9 rosettes,	+ 2½d "	9 "
2½d "	5 "	+ 3d rose,	5 "
2½d "	9 "	+ 3d "	9 "
2½d "	5 "	+ 4d red,	9 "
2½d "	9 "	+ 4d "	9 "
2½d "	5 "	+ 6d violet,	5 "
2½d "	5 "	+ 1/- green,	5 "
3d rose,	9 "	+ 3d rose,	5 "
3d "	5 "	+ 4d red,	9 "
3d "	5 "	+ 6d violet,	9 "
3d "	9 "	+ 6d "	9 "
3d "	9 "	+ 1/- green,	9 "
4d red	9 "	+ 4d red,	9 "
4d "	9 "	+ 6d violet,	9 "
4d "	9 "	+ 1/- green,	5 "
6d violet,	9 "	+ 6d violet,	9 "
6d "	9 "	+ 1/- green,	5 "
1/- green,	5 "	+ 1/- "	5 "

ROSETTES + UNDATED.

½d vermilion, undated,	+ 1½d yellow, 9 rosettes.
½d " "	+ 2d claret, 9 "
½d " "	+ 3d rose, 5 "
½d green, "	+ 3d " 9 "
½d vermilion, "	+ 4d red, 9 "
½d " "	+ 6d violet, 9 "
½d " "	+ 1/-, 5 "
1d pink, "	+ 1½d yellow, 9 "
1d " "	+ 2½d blue, 9 "
1d " "	+ 4d red, 9 "
1d " "	+ 6d violet, 9 "
1d " "	+ 1/- green, 5 "
1½d yellow, 9 rosettes,	+ 10d brown, undated.
1½d " 9 "	+ 6d violet, "
2d claret, 9 "	+ 6l " "
2½d blue, 5 "	+ 6d, "
2½d " 5 "	+ 10d brown, "
3d rose, 5 "	+ 10d " "
3d " 9 "	+ 6d " "
4d red, 9 "	+ 10d brown, "
6d violet, undated,	+ 1/- green, 5 rosettes.
6d " "	+ 1/- " 9 "
6d " 9 rosettes,	+ 10d brown, undated.
10d brown, undated,	+ 1/- green, 9 rosettes.

QUEEN + KING.

1½d Queen's, - -	+ 1d King's.
2d " - -	+ 1d "
3d " - -	+ ½d "
6d " - -	+ 1d "
10d " - -	+ 1d "
1/- " - -	+ 1d "

Notes on a Few Recent Issues of Venezuela.

BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

THE Republic of Venezuela is not a country one would hold up as a pattern in postal matters, but at the same time its record is cleaner than that of several of the neighbouring states of South America. Ignore the "Escuelas" and "Instruccion" issues, refuse the "Certificado" stamps of 1899-1900, harden your heart against the "Oficial" emissions of 1898 and later, and in the residue—the *bona fide* postal adhesives, good for international mailing—



you have a series of less than a hundred fairly honest and straightforward postage stamps, this number including only half-a dozen commemorative stamps and a moderate number of provisionals.

The philatelic catalogues printed in the English language give a confused idea of Venezuelan issues, for they mix up the "Escuelas," "Instruccion," and other "side issues" with the genuine international emissions. Commend me to the classification adopted by Kohl in his "Grosser Katalog," where all the stamps of the "Escuelas" order are relegated to a separate section.

There is much that is of historical as well as philatelic importance in the later Venezuelan issues, reflecting as they do the rise and fall of General Cipriano Castro and other events of interest in the world of politics.

Let me begin at the issue of 1896—those famous "map" stamps of Venezuela which were issued as a cock-a-whoop

warning to Great Britain and other nations to keep off the Venezuelan grass. It was in 1896 that the late Grover Cleveland, greatly to the regret of the more level-headed of his own countrymen, issued his bellicose Message to Congress, containing something very like an ultimatum to Great Britain over the Venezuelan affair. The good sense of the two great Anglo-Saxon nations averted serious trouble; the matter of the Guiana-Venezuela boundary was settled by arbitration in Paris, and the result was so satisfactory to Venezuela that nothing short of a special series of postage stamps, shewing the boundaries of the Republic, would content her.

Miserable-looking stamps they are, indifferently lithographed on poor paper and in the cheapest of inks. There are, however, points of philatelic interest about the issue. There is, for instance, a variety of colour of each of the five values—the 5c. being known in green and yellow-green, the 10c. in blue and milk blue, the 25c. in yellow and orange, the 50c. in carmine and rose, and the 1 boliviano in two shades of violet. Mistakes of spelling also occur, the name "Guayana" in the lower right-hand portion of the map being rendered "Guavana" on a proportion of specimens of the 5c., 25c., and 50c. stamps. The 10 centimos may be found with "Coerros" instead of "Correos" in the upper label, while the same word is misspelled "Coroeos" on some of the specimens of the 1 boliviano. *Tête-bêche* pairs are obtainable of all the five values.

The year 1899 brought us a new set of the finely-engraved stamps with head of "The Liberator," General Bolivar—that bright, particular star of Venezuelan history. These are practically identical with the first engraved Bolivar issue (1883), except for a re-arrangement of the top label carrying the inscription "Correos de Venezuela," now more prominently displayed. These Bolivar stamps are issues which one would necessarily include in any list of the world's handsomest postage stamps. If only we could blot out the great majority of other Venezuelan emissions, what a model little country it would be!

There is little of importance to be said regarding the 1899 "Bolivar" issue. The perforation is that clean and uniform "12," which is so familiar to us among issues manufactured by the American Bank Note Company, of New York. The colours, too, are constant. Halves of the 10c. stamp, according to an American authority, have been used as 5c. value, probably without official sanction.

Now come the "Resellada" surcharges of 1899 and 1900.

A Venezuelan surcharge is a fearful and wonderful thing, generally covering the whole of the superficial area of the stamp and almost obliterating the original design. To this class belong the "Resellada" overprints of 1899-1900. In the former set the initials "R.T.M." stand for Ramon, Tellos, and Mendoza—three Ministers of the Venezuelan Government. In the "Resellada" overprint of 1900 these letters gave place to the name "Castro" printed in fac-simile, the grandiloquent flourish beneath the signature being characteristic of the now-banished and discredited "Dictator" of Venezuela. We may accept this as the first obtrusion of General Castro's own personality upon the postage stamps of the Republic. Even at that date—1900—President Castro was virtually in the position of a Dictator. I have copies of Government decrees of the period in which he is described with much pomp as "*Cipriano Castro, General-in-Chief of the Army of Venezuela and Supreme Chief of the Republic.*"

One of these documents, by the way, it may be well to reproduce here, since it refers to a projected issue of stamps which, for some reason, never made its appearance.

Bearing date January 15th, 1900, the decree is worded as follows:—

Cipriano Castro, General-in Chief of the Army of Venezuela and Supreme Chief of the Republic, decrees:

Art. 1. The Minister of the Treasury shall order a new issue of postage and Escuelas stamps, in accordance with the following regulations:

Art. 2. The postage stamps intended for interior and exterior correspondence shall have the form, dimensions, values, and colors as is expressed hereinafter: 25mm. high and 21mm. wide. They shall bear in the centre the bust of the Liberator in an ellipse. The upper part shall bear the inscription "Correos de Venezuela," and in the lower part there shall be inscribed the value in numerals, with the word "Centimos," "Bolivar," or "Bolivares" in the intermediate space. They shall be as follows:

5 centimos de bolivar,	yellow.
10 " " "	bright green.
25 " " "	red.
50 " " "	dark blue.
1 bolivar,	gray.
2 bolivares,	dark green.

Art. 3. For official correspondence directed to foreign countries there shall be issued a special stamp, 28mm. high and 24mm. broad, which shall bear in the centre the national arms, above "Venezuela," below "Union Postal Universal," and at each side, in numerals, the value. Above the

arms there shall appear the word "Oficial" in black ink. The issue of these stamps shall be divided into five values, as follows :

5	centimos,	violet.
10	"	yellow.
25	"	red.
50	"	dark green.
1	bolivar,	blue.

Art. 4. There shall also be a stamp 28mm. high by 24mm. wide, similar in form to those described in Art. 3, except that the upper and lower parts shall bear the words "Certificado." The stamp shall be of the value of 25 centimes de bolivar, in dark green color, and it is intended only for registered articles, in accordance with the law which has provided for such service.

Art. 5. The Escuelas stamps shall have the form, dimensions, values, and colors as hereinafter described :—25mm. high by 21mm. broad, inscribed "Instruccion" above and the value below. The stamps shall bear the bust of the Liberator, and their values and colors shall be as follows :

5	centimes de bolivar,	yellow.	
10	"	"	dark blue.
25	"	"	brown.
50	"	"	bright green.
1	bolivar,	gray.	
3	bolivares,	sienna.	
10	"	red	
20	"	violet.	

Art. 6. The printing of these stamps shall be done by the American Bank Note Company, of New York, in the best style.

Art. 7. As soon as the Government shall place in circulation the new stamps, those which have hitherto been in use shall remain without value, whether surcharged or not surcharged.

Art. 8. The Minister of the Treasury and the Minister of Public Instruction shall be entrusted with the execution of this decree.

* Given, signed with my hand, sealed with the seal of the National Executive, and countersigned by the Ministers of the Treasury and of Public Instruction, in Caracas, on January 15, 1900, eighty-ninth year of the Independence and forty-first of the Federation.

(Signed) CIPRIANO CASTRO.

(Countersigned)

Minister of the Treasury,

G. T. VILLEGAS PULIDO.

Minister of Public Instruction,

MANUEL CLEMENTE URBANEJA.

I should be very glad if any reader of the STAMP COLLECTORS' ANNUAL could inform me of any facts explaining why this decree was never acted upon. It seems an extraordinary and almost inexplicable thing that the responsible head of an independent nation, and a member of the Universal Postal Union, should issue such a decree without carrying out any one of its provisions. The fact that the colours of the

stamps enumerated in the decree do not accord with the Postal Union recommendations may possibly have something to do with the solution of the mystery ; and, of course, in the case of a none-too-affluent country like Venezuela there is always the possibility of a difficulty in settling the bill for designing, engraving, and printing.

So far there had been only one portrait used on Venezuelan stamps—namely, the great national hero, Simon Bolivar ; but in 1904 five stamps bearing the head of General Sucre made their appearance.

Having thus successfully broken away from the Bolivar tradition, it evidently seemed to Dictator Castro that the time was ripe for the reproduction of his own rather homely and undistinguished features. Consequently, in 1905 the new issue lists chronicled a series of three poorly-printed labels, whereon was shown the head of "President" Castro, with two attendant nymphs, one of whom seems to be desirous of crowning the "Supreme Chief of the Republic" with a wreath of laurel, while the other displays a scroll inscribed "23 de Mayo"—the date, I believe, of the convening of the Venezuelan National Congress.

The stamps are of native production, perforated 12. Being of a purely commemorative nature, and restricted to inland postage, the colours are not in conformity with Postal Union requirements, being vermilion for the 5 centimos, blue for the 10c., and yellow for the 25c. A further point of interest about them is the use of the inscription "E.F.U.U. de Venezuela" ("Estados Unidos," or United States of Venezuela), which was the style employed for the old arms-in-octagon stamps of 1866 and 1874.

These Castro stamps of 1905 were the first to bear the head of the wily Dictator, who for so many years snapped his fingers alike at Uncle Sam and the European Powers. Probably they will be the last, for it will be a remarkable turn of events, even for a South American Republic, if Cipriano Castro ever regains a position of power in Venezuela.

The Second Philatelic Congress of Great Britain.

CAXTON HALL, LONDON, 1910.



IN accordance with a resolution adopted by the First Philatelic Congress, held at the Hulme Town Hall, Manchester, in February last, the arrangements for the Second Congress have been undertaken by the Herts. Philatelic Society.

Caxton Hall, Westminster, which all philatelists will remember as the scene of a very successful J.P.S. exhibition, has been chosen as the venue for the 1910 Congress. Here the delegates will meet on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 27th, 28th, and 29th of April.

H R.H. the Prince of Wales has allowed the use of his name as Patron of the Congress; the Vice-Patrons are the Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, M.P., the Right Hon. the Earl of Crawford, Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., and Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P.

The Executive Committee.

The Chairman of the Executive Committee (who will act as Chairman of the Congress) is Mr. Franz Reichenheim. His colleagues on the Committee are Mr. H. L. Hayman, Mr. C. R. Sutherland, Baron Anthony de Worms, and Mr. H. A. Slade, the last named being Hon. Secretary of the Congress.

Rules and Regulations.

The Rules and Regulations governing the Congress have been formed by a Special Committee appointed by the Manchester Congress, and consisting of Messrs. Franz Reichenheim, L. W. Fulcher, W. H. Peckitt, and Alexander J. Séfi. They are as follows:—

1.—Each Society under 100 members may be represented by two Delegates; each Society of 100 to 200 members, by three Delegates; each Society over and above 200 members, by four Delegates.

2.—Each Delegate must register his vote in person; no proxies being allowed.

3.—Each subject for discussion must be notified to the Hon. Secretary of the Congress at least two months before the opening date of the Congress. It is left to the discretion of the Executive Committee to make a selection from the subjects proposed.

4.—The Chairman of the Executive Committee appointed by the Society, under whose auspices the Congress is held, shall be the Chairman of that Congress and has the right to a casting vote, although he need not be appointed one of the Delegates of his Society. The other members of the Executive are admitted to the Conference, but shall have no votes unless they are Delegates.

The following is the General Programme of the Congress:—

The General Programme.

Wednesday, April 27th, 1910: 4 p.m., Public Meeting. (1) Address by Major E. B. Evans, R.A.; (2) Paper on "The Manufacture of Stamps," with demonstrations, by Mr. J. Dunbar Heath (Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co.); 8 p.m., Reception of Delegates by invitation of the Vice-President of the Herts. Philatelic Society (Mr. H. L. Hayman), at his residence at Hampstead.

Thursday, April 28th, 1910: 11 a.m., Visit of the Delegates to the Tapling Collection at the British Museum, under the guidance of Mr. E. D. Bacon; 3 p.m., Conference of Delegates; 7 for 7.30, Banquet given by the Herts. Philatelic Society at the Café Monico, Piccadilly Circus, W.

Friday, April 29th, 1910: 11 a.m., by invitation of the Earl of Crawford, 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 (Public) Meeting. (1) Paper by the Hon. Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P.; Closing Address.

Arrangements for Congress Week.

Regarding the arrangements generally, Mr. Franz Reichenheim, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Congress, has made the following announcements:—

"In conformity with the wishes expressed at the Manchester Congress, the Committee have decided to hold the Second Congress during the last week of April, and hope this will be a convenient time for all those

who have the intention of attending it. They also trust that their decision to hold the public meetings in the large hall at Caxton Hall, Westminster, London, S.W., and the Conference of the Delegates in a smaller room of the same building, will meet with universal approval. The accommodation, light, etc., are very satisfactory in every respect, and the building is easily accessible from all parts of London by tram, omnibus, and underground railway.

“For the purpose of promulgating interest in our hobby, it was decided to arrange our Congress on similar lines to a German Philatelisten Tag, and to have two public meetings besides the Conferences of the Delegates of the various Societies. These public meetings will form the opening and closing meetings of the Congress, and will be held in the large hall at Caxton Hall, which easily accommodates four hundred persons. The philatelic reputation of those who have very kindly consented to read papers of universal philatelic interest at the public meetings is a sufficient guarantee of the great success of this part of the Congress.

“The programme also includes a visit to the Tapling Collection at the British Museum, under the able guidance of Mr. E. D. Bacon, and an invitation from Lord Crawford to the Delegates to inspect his famous collections. I trust that those Delegates who have never had an opportunity of inspecting these collections will not fail to avail themselves of this excellent occasion.

“The arrangements of the social part of the programme are entirely in the hands of our esteemed Vice-President (Mr. H. L. Hayman), and his well-known hospitality and endeavour to do the best for his own guests and those of the Society will be fully appreciated by all concerned.”





The Collecting of King's Head Colonials.

By H. B. W.

THE stamps which come within the above description have, since their first appearance, enjoyed a wide spread popularity, in spite of their sameness of design in some of the Colonial issues, relieved, however, by most welcome and pleasing variations from Messrs. De La Rue & Co.'s stock dies in many instances.

Usually, when the "tablet" type has been employed, two varieties have proved sufficient to afford the changes, complete with a judicious use of coloured inks and papers, necessary to avoid confusion as to the different values, and now, under the scheme of colour under the Postal Union rules, there should be no difficulty in this respect.

A clear and definite variation for all (or most) of the various values of a particular issue is always, to our mind, preferable to a change of colour only; and yet when we get the two together the result is generally very satisfactory from all points of view. We can instance the current issues of the Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, India, Gibraltar, St. Helena, etc.





There are many really handsome stamps issued during the last few years from Messrs. De La Rue & Co.'s works, shewing an intention to improve on the somewhat plain labels with which the great firm used to supply, not only the Colonies, but the Mother Country herself, as witness the 1884 monstrosities.

Variety, when really necessary and not merely speculative is always welcome, and in the case of King's Heads this has been furnished by the use of chalk-surfaced papers for certain stamps, and by employing coloured papers, some of a brilliant hue.

Then, too, who does not remember the excitement caused by the advent of the Multiple watermark, and the consequent rush for "Singles?" In many instances, the supplies of certain values, printed on the old paper, were very small, not sufficient in some cases for philatelic purposes, and, for a while, speculation ran riot. Quotations have, to a considerable extent, now settled down, but the figures often shew a very great appreciation on the prices at which the "singles" could be originally obtained. In some cases, stamps, purchaseable one year at a trifle over face, have attained a value of as many pounds as originally shillings, shewing that supplies were very limited.





Nowadays, when general collecting, even on moderate lines, or specialising in some country or group, is practically impossible, except for the very wealthy, owing to the scarcity, and consequent high price of the old rarities, King's Heads afford a group to which many collectors turn. It is true that even of such modern stamps as these, there are many, on "single" watermark paper, or even on non-chalky "multiple," which take a great deal of finding, and when found are expensive, and happy is the man who has regularly subscribed to some "new issue" service and got his copies at a trifle over face.

Owing to dealers' importations, and the often small supplies sent to Colonial post offices, unused copies are generally easier to obtain than are used specimens, for the reason that there were very few left to use.

Without saying that unused copies, in mint state, are not the ideal, there is a great deal to be said in favour of *genuinely* used stamps which, out of a very small issue, have filled the purpose for which they were made. When an entire issue has practically been bought up for philatelic purposes, as has sometimes happened, one is somewhat inclined to look upon mint copies as something less than postage stamps, seeing that a demand—genuine or fictitious—creates, and frequently absorbs a supply.

From a philatelist's point of view, a small issue is always to be deplored. He gets unused copies, at a heavy premium, of an ephemeral because small, issue ; and the next emission is a direct consequence of the demand made for its predecessor ; and so it goes on.

A collection of King's Heads is both interesting and valuable, whether mint, used, or used on entires ; and now that designs, colours, papers, etc., seem to have become settled, these stamps deserve recognition as a group well worth time and money.



Can the Postal Union Prevent Unnecessary Issues?

By C. L. J.



FREQUENT source of surmise and discussion (since the date of the decision of the Manchester Philatelic Congress to petition the Universal Postal Union on the subject of unnecessary stamps), has been the question, "Has the Postal Union the power absolutely to prevent further issues of speculative stamps?"

To that question there is only one possible answer, namely, that the Universal Postal Union has absolute power to take any action relating to the world's postal government which may be decided upon by the votes of its members, as recorded by the delegates sent to the periodical postal congresses.

Beyond a doubt it has the power, but will that power be exercised? That depends—firstly, upon how and by whom the matter is mooted; secondly, upon the votes of the delegates present at the "World's Postal Parliament."

In approaching this question one must first understand exactly what is the constitution of the Universal Postal Union. The U.P.U., briefly, is a confederation of the nations for the proper regulation of international postal arrangements.

Mark you, please, the word international.

Unless I am greatly mistaken, the Postal Union does not pretend to exercise any control over the internal postal affairs of individual nations; and this seems, at first glance, to be fatal to the hopes of the gentlemen who associated themselves with the resolution of the Manchester Philatelic Congress. For already the Postal Union has placed its ban upon commemorative stamps for international postage, and if the Union has no power to interfere with purely internal issues, then it may be argued that everything has been done that can be done in the way of checking the emission of unnecessary stamps. As to that, we shall see!

The Universal Postal Union, as the world's supreme postal authority, has very large powers. Those powers are self-conferred, and are capable of being extended by the votes of the delegates attending successive postal congresses. Therefore, it is competent for the U.P.U. (subject to the votes of the delegates representing the affiliated nations), to arrogate to itself an absolute veto upon all issues of postage stamps in all Postal Union countries, which, nowadays, is only another way of saying the whole of the civilized world.

Let me sketch an imaginary picture of what might conceivably happen as the result of the presentation of the petition drafted by Messrs. Castle, Bernstein, Beckton and Bishop. Representing as it does the feeling of the leading philatelic societies of the United Kingdom, and backed up as it will be by a similar expression of feeling by the German societies, the petition must necessarily carry some weight with the central administration of the Postal Union at Berne, Switzerland. As a result it is not unreasonable to assume that the question will figure on the agenda of the next International Postal Congress. Possibly only an academic debate would result; but, on the other hand, possibly a definite attempt would be made to invest the Postal Union with full power to supervise the postal issues for internal as well as for external mail matter of every country belonging to the Union.

Assuming that there was a motion to this effect before the Postal Congress, and that a vote were taken, we should probably see the delegates of the leading nations and the representatives of third-rate powers like the South and the Central American Republics arrayed against one another in a voters' battle.

In that case, would the "Ayes" have it, or the "Noes"?

To predict how the voting would go would be to hazard the wildest of guesses. It is safe to say that Britain, France, Germany, Austria, and Russia, and, indeed, the majority of the European nations, along with the United States and the principal British Colonies, would vote for any reasonable proposal calculated to avert the further abuse of the postage stamp; but against these would be arrayed many of those minor powers which in past years have certainly made a good thing out of the philatelic hobby.

A great deal, as I have said, must depend on the manner in which the subject is introduced, and a great deal more upon the voting.

If there were an adverse vote, then I fear that the cause would be seriously delayed, if not ruined entirely. If, on the other hand, the vote were an entirely favourable one, I surmise that the Postal Union would find itself invested with power to set up a world's censorship of postage stamps.

In such an event, it is possible that such regulations as the following would be framed :—

(1) That no nation should create a new set of postage stamps more often than once in three years, except with the special permission of the U.P.U. ; such permission only to be granted for the most pressing reasons, such as a change in the national currency.

(2) That no commemorative issue should be made without special sanction, and in no case should such an issue exceed a total face value of 1½d. (say, two stamps of ½d. and 1d., or 5 and 10 centimes).

(3) That surcharges and provisional issues generally should be tabooed, it being required of every postal administration to maintain such a reserve stock of postage stamps as would meet all possible demands.

(4) That a permanent board of administration should be established at the U.P.U. headquarters at Berne, Switzerland, capable of dealing with all applications for special or additional issues.

Most likely there would be strenuous opposition to any such plan as this. Nations which desire to net a little unearned increment at the expense of the stamp collector would naturally resent the whole thing as an interference with their liberty of action. All sorts of objections would be raised, but if the protestors were out-voted then there is no doubt that the law as laid down by the Postal Congress would determine the future issuing of stamps.

What will happen I do not pretend to know, but I think I have said enough to shew that the Postal Union, if it have not at present the power to prevent unnecessary and speculative issues, could readily acquire that power if a majority of the nations were disposed to grant it.

The Earl of Crawford's Philatelic Library.

ALl philatelists, and more particularly all those who are engaged in collecting philatelic literature, will be interested in an announcement regarding the Earl of Crawford's philatelic library just made by Mr. E. D. in the *Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society*.

"It gives me much pleasure," Mr. Bacon writes, "to be able to announce that I have commenced the printing of the Catalogue of Philatelic Literature I have been compiling for some long time past for the Earl of Crawford.

"Lord Crawford intends the work to form a volume of the catalogue of his general library, which is now also passing through the press. The work will be printed in uniform style with the other volumes of the series, will likewise consist of two hundred examples, and the whole of the edition will be distributed as presentation copies, mostly to public libraries.

"After the two hundred copies of the philatelic volume have been printed," proceeds Mr. Bacon, "Lord Crawford has very generously offered to let me make any arrangements I like for printing and publishing further copies of the work, subject, of course, to payment of the printer's charges.

This offer, Mr. Bacon, with great public spirit, passes on to the Philatelic Literature Society.

"I thought it was only fitting," he writes, "that, as President of the Philatelic Literature Society, I should first of all lay this very handsome offer before the Society, and give the members the opportunity of publishing the work under the same conditions as were made to myself. I am glad to know that the Society readily accepts the offer I have made, as it seems to me to be more appropriate for a work of this kind to be published by that body than in any other way. The actual cost to the Society of copies of the work should not be large, as there is practically only the paper and the actual printing to be paid for. It is hoped that it will be possible for the Society to pay the whole of the expenses out of the funds it has in hand, in which event it is proposed to present a copy free to each of the members."

The Course of Auction Prices during the Year.

THE auctioneers of stamps have had a busy year, and, at the moment of writing, are beginning a season which promises to eclipse all previous winters in the volume, if not the quality, of the business transacted. There has been a marked diminution in the number of first-class rarities offered in the public saleroom. The gems of the hobby, the really gilt-edged rarities, are all, slowly but surely, being gathered into the great public and private collections, and in many cases there is a certainty that these particular specimens will never again be offered for sale.

In London—and one must now add in the provinces also—the past year has seen a very large volume of stamp auctioneering business. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, Messrs. Plumridge & Co., Messrs. Glendining & Co., Messrs. Ventom, Bull, & Cooper, Mr. Hadlow, and Messrs. Harmer, Rooke, & Co., have held their usual sales in London, but of this number Mr. Hadlow has definitely retired from auctioneering, after a long and honourable association with that profession. The auctioneering portion of his business has been transferred to Messrs. Plumridge & Co., who are now holding extra Monday auctions at their usual rendezvous in Chancery Lane, while Mr. Hadlow is devoting himself exclusively to stamp dealing pure and simple. In the provinces auction sales are held with greater frequency than formerly. Mr. D. Ostara, of Manchester, has had many successful sales. Mr. J. W. Guthrie, of Glasgow, is a vigorous newcomer among provincial auctioneers.

The following compilation, by shewing the prices realised for representative stamps, will give readers of the **STAMP COLLECTORS' ANNUAL** a good general idea of the course of prices in 1908-1909.

Stamps are in used condition save where an asterisk (*) is employed to indicate unused. Where specimens are in mint state, the word "mint" is used:—

	£	s.	d.
Antigua , 1862, no wmk., 6d blue-green, mint,	1	8	0
Do. 1879, C.C., 2½d red-brown, mint,	1	10	0
Baden , 1862, perf. 10, 18kr green, the two shades, mint,	2	5	0
Bahamas , 1861, perf. 12, 6d lilac*,	4	4	0
Do. 1863, C.C., 12½, 4d rose-lake,	1	9	0
Do. 1884, £1 venetian-red, mint,	1	1	0

Bangkok , 1st issue, 2c on 32c pale-red, variety with wide "S," mint,	1	12	0
Barbados , 1861-70, 6d orange-vermilion, mint,	1	0	0
Do. 1873, large Star, clean cut, 4d dull rose-red, mint,	3	3	0
Do. do. 3d lilac-brown, brilliant mint,	1	0	0
Do. do. 5s rose, mint,	2	17	6
British Colombia , 1867; C.C., 14, 10c lake, brilliant mint,	2	6	0
British Culana , 1852, 1c magenta.	3	15	0
Do. 1862, 2c yellow, with border of crossed ovals,	2	17	6
British Honduras , 1882-87, wmk. C. & C.A., perf. 12, 1d rose, mint,	1	3	0
Do. 1882-87, perf. 12, 1d yellow, in colour of 6d, mint,	1	2	0
Buenos Ayres , steamship, 1858, 4 pesos brown.	1	8	0
Canada , 1st issue, 12d black, overprinted "SPECIMEN" in red,	2	10	0
Do. 1852, 7½d green. imperf.	1	14	0
Do. 1858, perf. 12, 6d purple-brown*.	8	10	0
Cape of Good Hope , 1853, blue paper, 4d blue,	3	5	0
Do. 1855, 1s deep-green, mint,	2	10	0
Do. do., 1s yellow-green*,	5	0	0
Do. 1861, woodblock, 1d scarlet,	4	0	0
Do. do. do. 4d deep-blue,	8	5	0
Do. do. do. 4d blue,	3	17	6
Do. do. do. pale-blue,	2	4	0
Cayman Islands , 1907, ½d on 5s, double surcharge, mint Do. do. ½d on 5s, a block of 4, one stamp showing inverted surcharge, mint,	2	8	0
Do. 1907, 1d. on 5s, a pair, showing apparent double sur- charge, mint,	4	2	6
Do. 1908, 2½d on 4d brown and blue, mint,	2	0	0
Do. do. 1d on 4d fiscal, mint,	3	0	0
Do. do. 1d on 4d fiscal, mint,	1	17	6
Cambria , 1874, imperf., 4d brown, mint. and 6d blue,	2	5	0
Great Britain , 1840, 2d blue, mint,	4	5	0
Do. 1847, 6d red lilac*,	4	4	0
Do. do 10d brown, mint,	3	12	6
Do. 1867, Spray, 2s brown, mint,	4	4	0
Do. do Cross, 5s rose, mint,	1	14	0
Do. do do £1 brown-lilac,	2	17	6
Do. do 3d rose, plate 4, wmk. Spray of Rose, a block of 9, mint,	10	10	0
Do. 1891, £5 orange on white,	1	6	0
Do. Levant, 1906 (July 2), provisional, 1 piastre on 2d, issued issued at Bayrouth, mint,	6	0	0
Mauritius , Post Paid, 1d red, intermediate impression, a pair,	6	6	0
Do. do. do worn plate, a pair,	5	15	0
Do. small fillet, 2d blue, early impression, on entire, with an 1859, 6d blue,	3	5	0
Do. large fillet, 2d blue, fine, on entire, with 1859, 6d blue (strip of 4 and single),	12	0	0
Do. Greek Border, 1d red, a pair,	6	10	0
Do. do. 2d blue, a pair,	4	15	0
Do. do. 2d pale blue, a pair,	4	4	0
Do. 1862, perf., 1s deep green, a pair,	3	5	0

Monaco , 1885, 5fr carmine on green, mint, ...	2	15	0
Natal , 1874-78, perf. 15½ × 15, 5s marone, a pair, mint, ...	2	10	0
Do. 1882-85, wmk. C. & C.A., perf. 12, ½d. green, mint, ...	1	2	0
Do. do. perf. 12, 3d grey, mint, ...	1	2	0
Do. do. perf. 12, 1s orange, without "POSTAGE," mint, ...	1	2	0
N.S. Wales , Sydney View, 1d red on yellowish, plate 2*, ...	10	10	0
Do. 1d, dull red on yellowish, laid p., plate 2, pair on entire, ...	4	10	0
Do. 2d., plate 2, ...	5	5	0
Do. Registered, 1860, no wmk., perf. 11½ to 12, 6d*, ...	1	12	0
N. Zealand , 1862, rouletted, 2d blue, ...	1	14	0
Do. 1871, perf. 10 × 12½, 9d blue*, ...	4	17	0
Do. 1871, perf. 10, 1d. brown*	2	10	0
Queensland , 1882-83, perf. 9½ × 12, 2d blue, mint, ...	3	10	0
Russia , 1857, 10kop blue and brown, imperforate, a pair.* ...	5	5	0
Do. 1889, 50kop green and mauve, error, without thunderbolts, mint, ...	2	0	0
Spain , 1851, 2 reales red,* ...	21	0	0
Do. 1850, 10 reales green-blue, mint, ...	3	0	0
Do. 1851, 10 reales green,* ...	2	0	0
Do. 1853, 2 reales vermilion,* ...	8	5	0
Do. "Madrid," 1855, 1 cuarto bronze, mint, ...	2	0	0
Sweden , 1855, 8sk bco, yellow, mint, ...	1	10	0
Do. 1866, 17 öre purple-grey, mint, ...	2	0	0
Do. 1872-76, the error, tretio öre vermilion, mint, ...	12	10	0
South Australia , 1860-67, rouletted, 2d vermilion, variety, printed both sides, ...	1	11	0
Do. 1s brown, a pair, rouletted on left side, perf. 12½ on other sides and on top, and imperf. at bottom, with expert committee's report, ...	2	16	0
Do. 1870-71, perf. 10 × 11½, 3d in black on 4d sky-blue,* ...	3	17	6
St. Helena , 1863, 4d carmine, imperforate, mint,* ...	1	2	0
Do. 1889, wmk. C. & C.A., perf. 12, 6d grey, mint, ...	1	3	0
Do. do. perf. 12, 6d ultramarine, mint, ...	1	0	0
St. Lucia , 1883-86, C.A., 6d lilac,* ...	1	6	0
St. Vincent , 1883-84, perf. 12, 1d violet, mint, ...	2	15	0
Tasmania , 1853, 1d blue, ...	2	7	6
Turks Island , 1891 provisionals, 2½d on 1s lilac, type 6, mint, ...	4	0	0
Victoria , 1864, 8d orange, pair, mint, ...	3	7	6
Do. 1878, 8d brown-rose on rose, wmk. "10," mint, ...	1	2	6
West Australia , 1882-90, wmk. C., C.A., perf. 12, 4d. deep brown, mint, ...	1	0	0
Do. perf. 12, 3d rose, mint, ...	1	0	0
Wurtemberg , 1st issue, 18kr on dull purple,* ...	1	1	0
Do. 1856, with orange silk thread, 6kr green,* ...	1	12	0
Do. 1858-90, without silk thread, 18kr deep blue,* ...	2	12	6
Do. 1873, 70kr purple, mint,* ...	3	5	0
Do. do. 70kr red-purple, mint, ...	2	12	6
Zululand , 1st issue, 5s carmine, mint, ...	2	1	0

A Plea for Stamp Collecting in Schools.

BY LEONARD S. GOLDSMITH.

[NOTE.—The following paper has been contributed by Mr. Goldsmith, himself an able and experienced teacher, to that well-known educational journal, the *Teachers' Aid*. It is re-published here at the kind suggestion of the author, with a view to shewing philatelists and others what strides are being made in popularising postage stamp study among school children.—EDS., S.C. ANNUAL.]



THE latest pronouncement of the Board of Education of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy is that every school reading-book shall contain a chapter devoted to the stamps of the world, illustrated by fac-simile reproductions. Realizing the immense value of the postage stamp as an educational factor, the Minister for Education in Vienna has adopted this method for popularising the study of stamps, or philately, as its devotees love to call it.

I have for several years past incorporated a brief study of the stamps of a country in my geography lessons, and would like to appeal to teachers for a trial of the merits of the postage stamp as an educational agent.

Geography is not the only subject in which they can offer information: the entire histories of many states and countries, their wars, revolutions, and important epochs in their career can all be built up from a study of their postal issues. The smatterings of language they offer, small though they be, are not to be despised, but above all these I place the value of philately as a hand and eye training for children.

Your small boy has his eye ever on the main chance, and the slight, in some cases microscopic, details that make all the difference between a valuable and common stamp will not escape him once he is awake to the existence of these varieties, while the arrangement of his stamps in chronological sequence will train him in habits of neatness and order. No boy ever liked his collection messy.

I have found that a collection of stamps brings to the study of a country that intrinsic interest that the average geography lesson so lacks, and have noted time and again the greater eagerness and alertness possessed by boys who collect. The very possession of stamps of a country predisposes a boy to unearth for himself further facts about that country. Recently, when taking an entirely new lesson on Germany, I was greatly surprised to find many of my boys able to give me many facts about the political divisions of the country—Saxony, Prussia, Wurtemberg—as each of these states issues, or has issued, its own distinctive sets of stamps. The names of many towns were known, and one boy was able to tell that Munchen (Munich) was in Bavaria, because he possessed a stamp of that state bearing the postmark of that town. Another told me that Samoa was a German colony, because all German colonies bore the design of a battleship travelling at full speed, and because the value of the stamp was expressed in pfennings—a purely German coin. One boy, indeed, was able to supply me with details of the unification of the German States and of the result of the war of 1870—details he had obtained from the headings of his stamp album.

One could easily form a little "stamp atlas," as many countries—Newfoundland, United States, Hayti, Panama, Australia, etc.—have printed maps on their stamps, while in 1900 Canada issued a stamp bearing a map of the world, with the British possessions marked in red.

Stamps also afford an easy method of calculating the coinage of a country as, by the new Postal Union Convention, all stamps of halfpenny values are printed in green, those of penny values in red, and those of twopence-halfpenny values in blue. Thus a 10 centime stamp of France would give the approximate value of a centime as $\frac{1}{10}$ th penny, or a 6 cent stamp of Ceylon would give the value of a Cinghalese cent as $\frac{1}{6}$ th penny.

Although the first postage stamps were not printed till 1840, much ancient history can be derived from their study. The United States of America issued a set of stamps in 1892, commemorating the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America, and bearing beautiful pictures of contemporary events: Columbus sighting land, his fleet at sea, his appearance before Isabella, the landing of Columbus, and his subsequent disgrace, are all depicted on this wonderful set of stamps.

On the occasion of the recent visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to Canada—a visit which coincided with the third Centenary of the founding of Quebec—the Dominion issued a set of stamps commemorative of the two events. Four of the stamps are double portraits, and the other four bear pictures of various events that play an important part in the history of “Our Lady of the Snows.” The Prince and Princess are represented on one stamp, the King and Queen, Montcalm and Wolfe, and Cartier and Champlain on others. The pictorial stamps shew views of Quebec in 1700, its old town-hall, Cartier’s arrival there in 1535, and a departure of pioneers for the West in 1600. Splendid material this for any teacher.

Newfoundland issued a beautiful commemorative set in honour of its discovery by Cabôt, which combined pictures of this intrepid sailor with the views of the various occupations and industries of the isle—*i.e.*, cod-fishing, mining, caribou-hunting, etc.

The issues of the Transvaal afford us a complete history of the colony. First we had rough, clumsy stamps bearing the crest of the South African Republic, with the inscription in Dutch; after the first British Occupation, in 1880, these stamps were overprinted *Transvaal V.R.* They were then superseded by stamps bearing Queen Victoria’s head. After Majuba, the Boers, pending a new issue of their own, surcharged or overprinted these Queen’s Head stamps with the initials of the state, *Z.A.R.*

During the Boer War of 1899-1902, the South African Republic’s stamps were again overprinted *V.R.I.*; later, after the death of Queen Victoria, *E.R.I.* Then followed the present issue bearing the portrait of King Edward.

A study of the early French issues throws interesting side-lights on the many changes of Government—the First Republic, the presidency of Louis Napoleon, the Coup d’Etat, the fall of the Dictator, and the return of France to Republicanism once more.

The stamps of Chili, Peru, and Spain all shew the changes and revolutions that have taken place in their careers, while many stamps bear excellent views of places of interest. The farthing stamp of Malta bears a fine picture of Valetta Harbour; the penny St. Helena shews us Napoleon’s prison and the

Government House; while each of the present issues of New Zealand and Tasmania bear beautifully-engraved representations of the various show-places of the colony.

Watermarks and varieties of paper—*i.e.*, wove and laid—can form a good introduction to a lesson on paper-making, while the varieties of printing—*i.e.*, engraving, lithography, and surface-printing—offer material for a most interesting lesson.

About three years ago I began to try to popularize stamp collecting in the elementary school in which I am engaged, and at the present time there are about fifty keen collectors among the boys, two of whom are now busily engaged in constructing a philatelic map of the world, the boundaries of each country being outlined in its own stamps. I am now able to give little lectures on stamps of various countries, and some short time ago set the following examination paper, which was very successfully answered:—

Questions.

1. What is meant by commemorative issues? Name three such, and give details of what they commemorate.
2. What distinctions can you draw between a colony, a dependency, and a protectorate? Give examples of each.
3. Name any six stamps that tell you the productions of their country, and say what those productions are.
4. Trace the history of Crete from its stamps.
5. What country or countries rule in the following:—Sudan, Ivory Coast, Uganda, Morocco, Cuba, Java? and say how you know.
6. What countries use the following coins:—Mark, heller, gulden, peseta, kopeck, anna, ore, para, millieme? Name another coin of each country, and give some idea of the value of both in English money.

I append a selection of answers to the above, given by boys whose ages range between 12 and 14, and feel that a very brief consideration of them will convince any teacher of the great educational value of foreign stamps:—

Answers.

1. A commemorative issue is one that is printed to bring to a nation's memory some event, war, or person in that nation's history.

The Columbus issue of the United States commemorates the 400th anniversary of its discovery in 1492; the large Swiss stamps of 1900 call to mind the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union at Basle; while the large Spanish Pictorials of 1905 remind us of the 300th anniversary of the birth of Cervantes, the author of "Don Quixote."

2. A colony is a territory ruled by a country in which the majority of the inhabitants belong to the home country—*i.e.*, Australia.

In a dependency the majority of the inhabitants are natives—*i.e.*, India.

In a protectorate the native king still rules, under the guidance of the country that protects it—*i.e.*, Zanzibar.

3. Bahama 1d., pineapples; Labuan 12 cent, crocodile skin; Liberia 1 cent, ivory; Guadeloupe 1 cent, bananas; Canada 1 cent, maple sugar; Perak 5 cent, tiger skins.

4. Crete was first ruled by Turkey, as Turkish stamps were first used there. In 1898 the Powers took the island from Turkey on account of her ill-rule, and Great Britain and Russia both issued stamps for use in Crete. In 1900 a new set of stamps was issued bearing a portrait of Prince George of Greece, who was called upon to rule the island. Last year all the Cretan stamps were overprinted with the word "Hellas" (Greece), and the island is now a Grecian colony.

5. (a) The Ivory Coast is ruled by France. Its stamps bear the initials R.F. (Republique Française) and the words "Côté d'Ivoire."

(b) Uganda is governed by Great Britain. The head of King Edward is seen on its stamps.

(c) Morocco seems to be under the protection of several countries, as stamps of Great Britain, France, Spain, and Germany have all been surcharged for use in Morocco.

(d) Cuba used to be ruled by Spain, as its old stamps bore the head of King Alfonso. After the American War, stamps of the United States were overprinted "Cuba." It is now a republic under the guidance of the United States.

- (e) Java is a Dutch colony. Its stamps have on them the words "Nederlandsche Indie" and a portrait of Queen Wilhelmina.
6. Mark worth 1s, used in Germany. Other coin, pfennig, $\frac{1}{10}$ d. 100 pfennig worth 1 mark.
 Heller worth $\frac{1}{10}$ d., in Austria. Other coin, kroner, 10d. 100 heller worth 1 kroner.
 Gulden worth $\frac{1}{8}$ d., in Holland. Other coin, cent, $\frac{1}{3}$ d. 100 cents worth 1 gulden.
 Peseta worth 10d., in Spain. Other coin, centime, $\frac{1}{10}$ d. 100 centimes worth 1 peseta.
 Kopeck worth $\frac{1}{4}$ d., in Russia. Other coin, rouble, 2s. 100 kopeck worth 1 rouble.
 Anna worth 1d. in India. Other coin, rupee, 1s. 4d. 16 annas worth 1 rupee.
 Ore worth $\frac{1}{8}$ d., in Denmark. Other coin, krona, 1s. 1d. 100 ore worth 1 krona.
 Para worth $\frac{1}{18}$ d., in Turkey. Other coin, piastre, $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. 40 para worth 1 piastre.
 Millieme worth $\frac{1}{4}$ d., in Egypt. Other coin, piastre, $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. 10 millieme worth 1 piastre.



The Philatelic Societies of the English-Speaking World.

A DIRECTORY AND GUIDE.

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