

HOW TO COLLECT
the STAMPS of
HOLLAND AND THE COLONIES

by

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of AMSTERDAM.

PART I. THE STAMPS OF HOLLAND.



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PREFACE.

After a long study of over 12 years I succeeded in composing the particulars about the history of the Dutch and Dutch-Indies stamps, which particulars I gathered during the above mentioned period and from a considerable Collection of Dutch and Dutch-Indies stamps, which I was requested to re-arrange and complete.

This Collection has been exhibited in September 1904 in Berlin and has been rewarded with the „Grand Gold Medal”, by an International Jury.

I now think to render a service to all stamp-collectors in publishing this work, fully explaining the Collection and that this book will be a useful „Manual of Dutch and Dutch-Indies stamps”, to those Collectors who wish to make a collection of these stamps as it ought to be made.

I tried everything possible to get the necessary

information from the Dutch Government, but could only find the Official publications in the „Nederlandsche Staatscourant“ (Dutch Official Newspaper), inasmuch as these publications, which are very incomplete, are still to be found in this paper.

The different Postmasters-General were unable to give me information; my repeated petitions to the authorities were all rejected. The Government was not inclined to give me any cooperation.

The Archives of the Government remained inaccessible for me and if I had not had the chance to meet a gentleman willing to support me financially, by ordering me to re-arrange his Collection of Dutch and Dutch-Indies stamps as it should be, my studies would have been of no use.

Now however this Collection is a scientific work and it will remain a piece of the history of the Dutch and Dutch-Indies stamps.

Repeatedly I met with great difficulties, during the years of my study, while the first issues of the above mentioned stamps have been made in a most careless way. The stamps have so many variations that it is nearly impossible to make a

correct estimation as to the origin of all these variations.

But this could not discourage me, millions of stamps passed through my hands, I gauged stamps continually, studied the obliterations, found out different sorts of paper and variations in color and came through this on a sound basis, which was for me a motive to make a book of the history of the Dutch and Dutch-Indies stamps and thus save this history from oblivion.

With this book I hope to render a service to the philatelic science and to the Government of the Netherlands.

I hope that the next pages of this work will prove that my study has not been in vain and that I have worked with the utmost correctness, trusting that this „Manual” will provide a great need, as it has always been a question to all stamp-collectors, how the Dutch and Dutch-Indies stamps ought to be collected.



1852.

On the 12th April 1850 a law was adopted that in the Netherlands stamps should be issued and that this law should enter into operation on the 31st December 1851 at the very latest.

On the 1st January 1852 these stamps were issued in three values, viz: 5, 10 and 15 cents, engraved on paper, specially made for this purpose, with the portrait of King WILLIAM III and the word „postzegel” (stamp) on them.

The stamps of 5 cents were printed in blue, those of 10 cents in red and those of 15 cents in orange. They were made in the Royal-Mint in Utrecht, under the auspices of the Board of the Mint. Each sheet contained a hundred stamps, divided into four series of 25 stamps each, was margined, in which

margin the watermark „Postzegel” (stamp) had been printed four times and each stamp watermarked with a Post Horn.

The print is copper-plated (from a steelengraving made by the late Mr. LEOPOLD WIENER of Brussels) which copper-plating was the cause of the innumerable varieties in the issues made at different periods. The good issues had a light colour and the ink did not spoil the paper. With the bad issues the paper had somewhat the colour of the stamp. There were stamps on thick and on thin paper.

As the reader will see the Board of the Mint was already careless with the first issue of these stamps, as a dozen of varieties can be found in each colour and especially the last issues of these stamps (1860-1864) were very bad.

All these varieties are due to a bad etching, the plates having been engraved irreproachably as shown by the *essay* (first proof) and *épreuve d'artiste* (artist's proof) of the 5 cents stamp in black, which is really a master-piece.

The first issues of the blue stamps (5 cents) were

too dark, so that the obliteration could hardly be seen and often an extra stroke or cross had to be put by hand on the stamp. This difficulty gave rise to a Ministerial Resolution dated 15th January 1852 (a fortnight only after the first issue), which Resolution said that from that date stamps of a somewhat lighter colour would be printed.

No further official particulars are known about these stamps, the so-called lighter colour is *not* the water-coloured one, as one might easily think, but the ultramarine variety with the obliteration Jan^r 1852. The water-coloured variety (judging from the obliterations) was issued for the first time in 1860. Both varieties in colour, especially *non-obliterated* are very rare. The ultramarine variety, which some catalogues mention as the steel-blue one, is still rarer than the water- or milk-blue variety.

In the red colour (10 c.) two important varieties are to be noted, though numerous varieties can also be found in this colour, but the dull-red print of 1860 is very rare.

With the 15 cents (orange) different varieties in colour are to be found, caused by the oxidising of

the metal-elements in the orange printing-ink, which can be seen best when comparing the used with the unused stamps of this issue. There are varieties amongst the used stamps, which cannot possibly be found amongst the unused ones, and which show an iron-mould-colour. There are also used stamps known with a canary-yellow colour on clear white paper, which shows that probably through the influence of time the paper and the ink has changed. This is not the case with the other values.

Many Catalogues mention these stamps on thick and on thin paper, with white and brown gum. Among the used non-gummed stamps, I gauged two differences in the paper, viz, 12 and 17 degrees or hundredth of m.M., which cannot be ascertained for sure from the unused ones, as the gum on these stamps, which gives a certain hardness to the paper, has often a thickness of some m.M. The oxidising of the chemical elements in the gum is also the reason for the two colours of the gum, for instance dextrine on which the light has an influence and which has also the peculiarity to stiffen the paper.

It will now be clear to the reader why some of these stamps are so thick and why the above mentioned three colours have so many varieties.

With a view to what I said before I make the following recapitulation:

1852. 1 Jan ^r	5 c. blue	} official
	10 c. red	
	15 c. orange	
15 Jan ^r	5 c. blue, of somewhat lighter colour (official)	
1860.	5 c. light blue	
	10 c. dull-red	
	15 c. orange, badly printed, through	

which the paper took somewhat the colour of the stamp (not official).

For special-collectors I add the following:

5. 10 and 15 c. on thick paper of 17^o or 100th m.M.
5. 10 and 15 c. on thin paper of 12^o or 100th m.M.

The varieties in the blue colour are from dark-blue to very light blue, waterblue (sky-blue) and ultramarine; in the red colour from clear carmine-red to pink; in the orange colour, from light orange to brown-orange and to canary-yellow.

To those collectors who want to make a good collection of all the above mentioned stamps I strongly recommend them to pay much attention to the obliterations (dated) as it is only possible to find from these the exact variety.



1864.

On the 13th of May 1864 a Resolution from the Minister of Finance was published, saying that a new type of stamps would be made, that the values remained the same and that the portrait of the King had been made after a new engraving.

There were no watermarks in the paper, while every sheet contained 200 stamps instead of 100 as before.

„The stamps have now perforated edges in the „length and breadth so as to make it easy to tear „each stamp from a sheet by hand, thus avoiding „the use of scissors or knife.” (Official.)

We call this description simply „perforation.”

The perforation is $12\frac{1}{2}$ horizontally and 12 vertically on 2 cM.

The print is copper-plated, like the first issues of 1852. The engraving is by Prof. J. W. KAISER in Amsterdam. Judging from the defective way these stamps have been printed (they have the same mistakes as the issues of 1852) it may be supposed that they were also made in the Royal Mint in Utrecht. The stamps of later issues, for instance those with obliteration 1867, are printed very defectively.

The varieties in the colours are also numerous and nearly the same as in the issues of 1852.

Though there are many varieties in the blue colour, the light-blue variety does not exist in this issue however.

Many varieties can also be found in the red colour.

A variety in the orange colour, which many think exceedingly rare, is the canary-yellow one (yellow-orange), which however is only a variety caused by the action of the chemicals in the gum.

The above named stamps are sometimes catalogued on laid paper, which can only be said to arise from

used stamps taken from linen envelopes. There are however stamps printed on wove paper, dotted horizontally or vertically; the dots being very indistinct can only be seen on washed or un gummed stamps.

The perforation is very regular and exclusively $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$. All so called varieties in the perforation are due to the inaccuracy of the different gauges (I recommend the gauges from HUGO KRÖTZSCH and SCOTT, which are perfect. The points of the perforation should be put *on* the black dots of the gauge.)

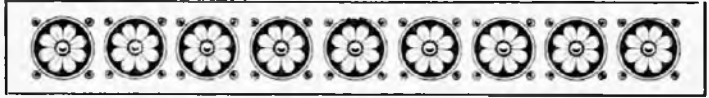
There are three issues of these stamps, viz; 1864, 1865 and 1866 which can be clearly seen from the colour of the stamps. Though these stamps have been in circulation three years only, the first issue and proofs are very good, the second issue not so good and the third issue very bad.

The following recapitulation can be made:

1864. 13th May. 5 c. blue, 10 c. red, 15 c. orange
(official)

1865 (2nd issue) 5 c., 10 c., 15 c. in feebler colours.

1866 (3rd issue) 5 c. blue, 10 c. red, 15 c. orange.
badly printed, through which the paper took the
colour of the stamp. All stamps perforated $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$.
(Not official.)



1867.

By Royal Decree, dated 4th September 1867 a new type of stamps, for home use, as well as for the colonies and foreign countries, was ordered to be made. The Royal Decree further said:

„The design of the new stamps will consist of the „portrait of the King, the word „Nederland” (Nether-„lands) and numerals, denoting the value. Six „types of the new stamps of different values will be „issued, viz:

	5 cents blue,
10	„ red,
15	„ ochre,
20	„ green,
25	„ violet,
50	„ gold.

A

5

10

15

20

25

50

B

5

10

15

20

25

50

„The new stamps of 5, 10, and 15 cents will be „issued as soon as the present stock of the old type „will be used. The stamps of 20, 25 and 50 cents „will be issued on the 1st October 1867. A Re- „solution fixing a date to cancel the stamps of „all earlier issues will not be published for the „present”.

The above are the only official communications about the issue 1867.

The design of these stamps is from M^r. J. NUSSER at Dusseldorf and originally in copper-plate, but as this engraving could be very well used for zinco-graphic reproductions, it seems that more clichés from this plate have been taken and that the ciphers could be changed. I dare say that all values have been printed on one plate. The first issue has been printed again at the Mint in Utrecht and show the first types in the ciphers (see figure A). The perforation is exactly $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$.

Later these stamps have been printed by the firm of JOHANNES ENSCHEDE & ZOONEN in Haarlem and from that time the disorder in the perforation commences. Judging from the many perforations in the

margins of the stamps it seems that the printer, while ordering the plates, forgot to reserve the necessary space for the perforations and that different ways have been tried to find the most practicable perforation, which can be seen from the many varieties in the perforation.

It is however very difficult to fix the different dates of issue for these stamps, while they have rarely dated-obliterations. Stamps on letters were only obliterated „Franco” (postage-paid) (no date) that time and stamped original letters (envelopes were not used then) from that period are very scarce now. Envelopes were getting into fashion that year though.

During the period these stamps were in circulation another obliteration has been used, viz: the „dotted-obliteration”, in which the number of the post-office figured. The above mentioned „Franco” (postage-paid) obliteration dates from the time that stamps were not in circulation yet. The reader will now understand that it is very difficult to fix the exact chronology of these stamps.

In May 1869 a second type of print seems to have been issued, with quite different ciphers (see figure B).

I have not found the two varieties in the ciphers together. I found the following perforations among the oldest dated-obliterations:

$12\frac{1}{4} \times 12$	among the two varieties of	1867 till 1869.
$10\frac{1}{2} \times 10$	" " " " "	1869.
$13\frac{1}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$	" " " " "	May 1869.
$13\frac{1}{4} \times 14$	" " " " "	March 1871.
14×14	" " " " "	June 1871.

Varieties in colours can rarely be found in these issues, the print having been correct and the varieties in colour, which might be found, are certainly stamps which were put in the windows of shops and thus exposed to the influence of light and dust.

Sometimes these stamps are catalogued on bluish paper. When seeing the stamps perforated 14×14 one should indeed say that the paper is somewhat bluish, but this seems also to be caused by the action of the chemicals in the gum, while all stamps for the Netherlands as well as those for the Colonies, perforated 14×14 have this somewhat bluish tint. To say that these stamps have been printed on bluish paper is dangerous, as the bluish tint is not clear enough.

The many imperforated stamps, used and unused, must be considered, after my opinion, as Essays (Proofs) which have been made as Specimen for the different Postal Administrations of the Postal Union.

How these stamps however have come into the hands of dealers is rather enigmatical. The stamps are however in the trade and were to be had at Moens' in Brussels. Very wisely these contrabandes were not to be had in Holland. Essays (proofs) etc. were never officially for sale and the authorities are very surprised to see these stamps in collections.

I made the following recapitulation for the varieties in the perforations.

1		2		3		4		5		6	
$12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$		$10\frac{1}{2} \times 10$		$13\frac{1}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$		$13\frac{1}{4} \times 14$		14×14		Imperforate	
A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
5	5	—	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	—	5
10	10	10	10	—	10	—	10	—	10	—	10
15	15	15	15	15	15	—	15	—	15	—	15
20	20	20	20	—	20	—	20	—	20	20	20
25	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	—	25
50	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50

This shows that:

The	5	cents	has	10	varieties	in	the	perforations
"	10	"	"	8	"	"	"	"
"	15	"	"	9	"	"	"	"
"	20	"	"	9	"	"	"	"
"	25	"	"	4	"	"	"	"
"	50	"	"	3	"	"	"	"

A long time I doubted the existence of Type B 15 c. perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, but I found a very fine one, unused, in Paris. I never saw a used stamp of this variety though. I also discovered a short time ago Type A, 20 c. perf. $10\frac{1}{2} \times 10$, also unused. I consider these stamps as the most important ones of the Netherlands' stamps.

In the course of years I discovered respectively: Type B, 25 c. perf. 14×14 , Type A, 10 c. perf. $10\frac{1}{2} \times 10$ and the two above mentioned varieties. I never saw Type A, 10 c. unused perf. $10\frac{1}{2} \times 10$. This stamp, in a used state, is already exceedingly rare and just as scarce as Type B, 25 c. perf. 14×14 .— 5 c. Type A, is rare in all perforations, but very rare in 14×14 and unused exceedingly rare.

I strongly recommend to be very prudent when

buying stamps, perforated $10\frac{1}{2} \times 10$, as there are cleverly made counterfeits of this very rare perforation. Some stamps of 25 and 50 c., with this perforation, were presented here, which were doubted however, and after thorough examination appeared to be made from imperforated stamps.

I further recommend not to try to get a complete collection (used and unused) of these stamps which is impossible after my opinion, mixed is possible, but very difficult. To find the used stamps of these issues is possible, but I consider it impossible to get them all in the unused state.



1869.

Up to now printed matters were mailed by fiscal way, which was found unpractical however, and by Royal Decree, dated the 3rd December 1868, stamps, principally for the purpose of mailing papers and printed matters were ordered to be made.

This Decree reads as follows:

„From the 1st January 1869, stamps of one and „2 cents, principally for the purpose of mailing „papers and other printed matters will be issued. „The central design will consist of Coat of arms, „with the word „Nederland” (Netherlands) above „and the value of the stamp under it. The stamp „of 1 c. will be printed in black, that of 2 c. in „ochre-yellow.”

By Royal Decree, dated the 19th April 1869 a

modification and completion of the Decree dated the 3rd December 1868 was published, ordering that stamps of 1½ c. were also to be issued and that the Minister of Finance had received the authorization to fix the colour of these stamps as well as the date of their issue.

By Royal Decree of 11th November 1870 stamps of 2½ c. and ½ c. were issued, announcing the same stipulations for these stamps as those for the stamps for 1½ c.

The Extracts of the Records of Resolutions of the Minister of Finance, dated the 26th April 1869, mention the following:

„The Royal Decree of the 19th April 1869 orders
 „the issue of stamps of 1½ c. on a date to be fixed
 „by the Minister, with authorization to fix the colour
 „of these stamps as well as to revise the colour of
 „the 1 and 2 c. stamps.

„Consequently the stamps of 1½ c. printed in red,
 „will be issued for the first time on the 10th May.

„As the cancellations on the black stamps (1 c.)
 „cannot be seen distinctly these stamps will now be
 „printed in green.”

The Royal Decree dated the 11th November 1870 announced the issue of stamps of 2½ c. and ½ c. and the authorization to fix the date of issue, as well as the colour of these stamps; therefore the following particulars were published:

„The stamps of 2½ c. will be printed in violet.
 „The first issue will be sent to the Directors of the
 „Post-Offices as soon as ready and must be put be-
 „fore the public as soon as received by said Directors.

„The stamps of 1½ c. printed in red will be
 „issued on the 1st January 1871.”—

„Each sheet of stamps of 2½ c. and ½ c. will con-
 „sist of 200 stamps.”

The above are the official communications about these stamps.

The design is also from Mr. J. NUSSE at Dusseldorf and the print of all issues by VIREY FRÈRES in Paris. These issues are easily to be recognized from those afterwards printed in Holland, as all stamps printed in Paris are perforated 14 × 14 and much better than those issues printed in Holland. This perforation (14 × 14) of the 2½ and ½ c. is very rare. There is still another perforation:

$13\frac{1}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$ in two varieties, viz; rough and clean cut perforation. Judging from stamps of $2\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ c. bearing the year 1873 as cancellation and perforated 14×14 , some proof-sheets, printed in the required colour, seem to have been accidentally put in that year between the stamps ready for issue.

The issues, printed in Paris, with the exception of the 1 c. black, seem to have been very limited, as the perforation 14×14 is difficult to find and especially in unused state this perforation is rare and for the values of $2\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ c., which are already very rare, when used, this perforation can be considered as a great curiosity.

It is also remarkable that already in 1869 stamps of 2 c., perf. $13\frac{1}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$ were found and that for the value of 1 c. (black) only one perforation exists, viz: 14×14 . Its substitute, the 1 cent green, is also perforated 14×14 , the print is better though and the paper thicker. The gum and the whole stamp are totally different to those otherwise perforated. When perforated 14×14 the $1\frac{1}{2}$ c. value looks quite different, the colour is then darker and the print better.

The perforation $13\frac{1}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$ which as I said before, has two varieties, is apparently the same as that of the 1867 issue. remarkable however is that in this series of stamps the perforation $13\frac{1}{4} \times 14$ does not appear and it is wrong as some people think that both these perforations 14×14 and $13\frac{1}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$ were cut by one machine, the more so as these two differences, also in further issues, can easily be recognized.

RECAPITULATION:

1869	1 st Jan ^y	1	c. black	—	Perf. 14×14	rough cut.
		2	c. pale-yellow	"	"	" "
	10 th May	$1\frac{1}{2}$	c. red	"	"	" "
		1	c. green	"	"	" "
1871	1 st Jan ^y	$2\frac{1}{2}$	c. violet	"	"	" "
		$\frac{1}{2}$	c. red-brown	"	"	" "

Later issues:

1869—1874	$\frac{1}{2}$	c. red-brown	"	$13\frac{1}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$	"	"
	1	c. green	"	"	"	"
	$1\frac{1}{2}$	c. red	"	"	"	"
	2	c. pale-yellow	"	"	"	"
	$2\frac{1}{2}$	c. violet	"	"	"	"

1875 About. $\frac{1}{2}$ c. red-brown Perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ clean cut.
 1 c. green " " " "
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ c. red " " " "
 2 c. pale-yellow " " " "
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. violet " " " "

For „Specialists” I add :

1 c. black, on thick paper 10° or 100^{th} mM.
 1 c. " " thin " 5° or 100^{th} mM.
 1 c. " no point in the left-lower-corner.
 1 c. green " " " " " " "

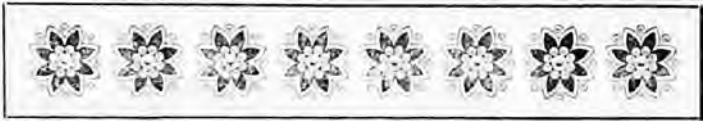
$\frac{1}{2}$ c. red-brown imperforated.
 1 c. green "
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ c. red "
 2 c. pale-yellow "
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. violet "

$\frac{1}{4}$ c. red-brown, on horizontally ribbed paper.
 1 c. green " " " "
 2 c. pale-yellow " " " "

$\frac{1}{2}$ c. red-brown	}	Print shining through, transparency caused by the chemicals in the gum. —
1 c. green		
$1\frac{1}{2}$ c. red		
2 c. pale-yellow		
$2\frac{1}{2}$ c. violet		

$\frac{1}{2}$ c. red-brown	on thick paper	10 à 15°	or 100 th	mM.
1 c. green	"	"	"	"
$1\frac{1}{2}$ c. red	"	"	"	"
2 c. pale-yellow	"	"	"	"
$2\frac{1}{2}$ c. violet	"	"	"	"

$\frac{1}{2}$ c. red-brown	on thin paper	5 à 6°	or 100 th	mM.
1 c. green	"	"	"	"
$1\frac{1}{2}$ c. red	"	"	"	"
2 c. pale-yellow	"	"	"	"
$2\frac{1}{2}$ c. violet	"	"	"	"



1872.

By Royal Decree, dated the 6th June 1872, a new design and also a new stamp of the value of *f* 2.50 were issued. These stamps were sold at the Post Offices on the 1st July 1872. The above mentioned stamps have as central design the portrait of the King, with the inscriptions „Nederland”, (Netherlands) and the value of the stamp. The stamps of *f* 2.50 is bigger than the other values.

The Records of Resolutions of the Minister of Finance, dated 13th June 1872, say:

„The stamps with the new design approved by „Royal Decree, will have the following colours: 5 c. „blue, 10 c. red, 15 c. brown, 20 c. green, 25 c. violet,

„50 c. brown (pale), *f* 2.50 blue and red (the portrait
„in blue with red around it.)

„Each sheet of the six first named values will
„contain 200 stamps, but each sheet of the *f* 2.50
„value will have 50 stamps only.

„The stamps of *f* 2.50 will be issued on the
„1st July, whereas the new design of the 5, 10, 15, 20,
„25 and 50 c. values will not be issued until the
„old design of these values will all be used.”

The above are the only Official informations known
about these series of stamps, which have been in
use for twenty consecutive years.

The varieties in these issues are numerous.

The print was very good at the beginning, but
the engravings, especially for those values much in
use, got very worn out. These stamps were typo-
graphed and many varieties appeared in the course
of years. The printers were very careless in selec-
ting paper, inks and perforation, so that there are
innumerable varieties, not only in colour, but also
in paper and perforation.

A relative small quantity seems to be printed by
the Government Printing Office in Berlin, who are

the makers of the blocks (clichés) and seem to be issued on an extremely small scale by the Dutch Authorities.

All stamps perforated 14 are decidedly better printed and finished and are just as good as the proofs, which remained imperforated however. The proofs of the six above called values are printed in their respective colours.

The exaggerated economy by the Authorities when these stamps were printed has done more bad than good in this matter and we can still add that the Comptroller at the time, had not the slightest idea of the dangers to print stamps in so many varieties. The same Printing Office, which printed Bank Notes with an unknown accuracy, printed stamps with an unknown carelessness.

The denomination of the colours in the above called Ministerial Resolutions is also very vague however. Blue is just as good as ultramarine or any other variety in colour of this serie, all sort of varieties of colours were printed, instead of adopting one fixed colour of ink. The same thing with the other colours, especially the red colour has many varieties.

The colour of the 15 c. value was called brown, also that of 50 c. but with the addition pale between brackets. Apparently the Authorities did not pay much attention to the printing of these stamps, an article which has nearly become as good as a banknote.

Fortunately for the Netherlands' Government, in these days the reproduction of printing was not so generally known as it is now, otherwise counterfeiters could have worked here with the greatest success, as no stamp could be taken as a basis, to-day they were printed like this, to-morrow like that.

The paper on which the stamps are printed is very different, not only in quality, but also in thickness and transparency. There are stamps printed on wove paper and laid paper, on horizontally and vertically dotted paper.

The blocks (clichés) of different values gradually wore out and showed mistakes, but were not renewed, and — the Authorities calmly continued to issue stamps full of mistakes.

The perforation varies from 14 to $11\frac{1}{2}$ and the following are the compound-perforation-varieties:

14×14 , $13\frac{1}{4} \times 14$, $13\frac{1}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$,
 $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$,

four of these perforations have still two varieties, viz. a clean and rough cut perforation, with the exception of the $13\frac{1}{4} \times 14$ perforation, which is always a rough cut perforation and the same perforation as that of the serie of 1867. The perforation $13\frac{1}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$ has a clean cut perforation only.

The perforation 14×14 seems to be cut by the Printing Office which made the Proofs, is very rare and seems to appear among certain values only; especially unused stamps are very great rarities.

The first issues are perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, the same perforation as that for the stamps of 1867. When the new stamps for bookpost purposes were perforated in 1876 the perforation machine was worked so badly that it was spoiled for ever. This explains why in a sheet two stamps next to each other had different perforations. Apparently the machine was spoiled by putting too many sheets at the time under the needles. The Authorities, without noticing all these mistakes, continued to issue these stamps from 1876 to 1885. This carelessness however has also its light

1864	13 May	Holland.....	5 10, 15.....
1865	—	India.....	10.....
1867	1 Oct.	Holland.....	5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50.....
1869	1 Jan.	"	1, 2.....
	10 May	"	1½, 1.....
1870	1 Jan.	India	5, 10, 20, 50.....
	15 May	Holland (Unpaid)	5, 10.....
1871	1 Jan.	Holland.....	2½, ½.....
1872	1 July	"	5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50.....
	1 "	"	2.50.....
1873	23 May	Curaçao.....	2½, 3, 5, 10, 25, 50.....
	1 Oct.	Suriname.....	2½, 3, 5, 10, 25, 50.....
1874	1 April	India (Unpaid)	5, 10, 20.....
	1 "	India.....	1, 15, 25, 2.50.....
1875	1 July	Holland.....	12½.....
	1 Aug.	India (Unpaid).....	15.....
1876	1 Sept.	Holland.....	½, 1, 2, 2½.....
1879	1 Jan.	Curaçao & Suriname.....	2.50.....
1881	1 April	Holland (Unpaid).....	1, 1½, 2½, 5, 10, 12½, 15, 20, 25, 1.—.....
1882	1 Jan.	India.....	2, 2½.....
	March	" (Unpaid).....	2½, 5, 10, 15, 20, 40, 75.....
1883	—	India	2½ (cipher).....
1884	—	"	2 "
	Dec.	Holland (Postal orders).....	1.—, 1.50, 2.—, 3.—, 4.—, 5.—, 10.—.....
1885	1 March	Suriname.....	1, 2, 12½.....
1886	—	India	1 (cipher).....
	1 Jan.	Suriname (Unpaid).....	2½, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50.....
	Aug.	Curaçao.....	12½.....
1887	—	India (Unpaid).....	50.....
	—	India.....	5, 12½.....
1888	1 July	Suriname.....	15, 20, 30, 40.....
	—	India.....	30.....
	—	" (Unpaid).....	30.....
	15 Dec.	Holland.....	7½, 22½, 1.—.....
1889	1 Jan.	Curaçao.....	15, 30, 60.....
	1 July	" (Unpaid).....	2½, 5, 10, 12½, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 60.....
	1 Sept.	"	1, 2, 2½, 3.....
1890	15 Sept.	Suriname.....	1, 2, 2½, 3, 5.....
	—	India	3, 5 (cipher).....



side, while otherwise we should not have got the many $11\frac{1}{2}$ perforations in the Netherlands and Colonial stamps, which are now also for some values rarities. Without exception these stamps can be found $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ and $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ touching.

I do not recommend to go in more details for these perforations as the perforation-machine was damaged to such an extent that all the ten stamps on a horizontal row had different perforations, but did not show such a striking difference as the two above named varieties.

In 1879—1880 a different perforation suddenly appeared, viz, $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, exclusively in clean-cut, whether sheets in that period suddenly were perforated one by one, I dare not say, but a rough cut perforation $13\frac{1}{2}$, from that date is very rare.

Later a new perforation $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ appeared, which can be compared with the stamps of $7\frac{1}{2}$, $22\frac{1}{2}$ c. and *f* 1.— of 1888, to recognize this perforation however in the above called six values is very difficult, nearly impossible, one should need for that entire sheets with margins (on the right side) to decide that they are really these stamps, which, after my opinion, is

now impossible as entire sheets are no more to be found.

In 1885 the Printing Office in Haarlem had apparently a new perforating machine, judging from the „Postbewijs Zegels,” (Stamps for Postal Orders) exclusively perforated $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$. All the above mentioned six values have this perforation.

The perforation has apparently been badly managed and instead of making this mark of authenticity of stamps correctly, some specimen of a certain value, differently perforated, were in circulation. Five or more gummed sheets were put together under the perforating machine, which made not only the perforation inexact, but spoiled the machine. Temporarily however there existed a perforation, which was absolutely bad and rough, the stamps of the Netherlands' India of $12\frac{1}{2}$ c. 1887 have all the so called pin-perforation. Stamps issued at that date may have a rough-perforation $12\frac{1}{2}$ all round, as for inst. $12\frac{1}{2}$ c. Curaçao, second issue, and an easily to recognize unpaid letter stamp of the Netherlands, $12\frac{1}{2}$ c., a light blue variety, both apparently printed and perforated in 1888—89.

In order to explain all the particulars I made a Table of all these stamps, (all the values) for the Netherlands and one of their Colonies, in chronological succession, showing clearly the varieties in perforation, allowing anyone to have at once a clear look into this labyrinth and know the different perforations etc.

I did not know first where to place this Recapitulation of the perforations, fearing that if I made a separate chapter of it, it might be overlooked and therefore thought it better to add this Table to the serie of stamps in which most of the perforation-varieties appeared. I hope this Table will be clear to the reader.

First original issue:

1872 1 July 5 c. blue	perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ clean cut
10 " red	" " "
15 " brown	" " "
20 " green	" " "
25 " violet	" " "
50 " brown (light)	" " "
250 " blue with red	" 14 \times 14

the following are the different varieties in their perforations:

a.	20	c.	perforated	14 × 14	rough cut
b.	25	"	"	14 × 14	clean cut
	50	"	"	"	" "
c.	5	"	"	13½ × 14	rough "
	10	"	"	"	" "
	15	"	"	"	" "
	20	"	"	"	" "
d.	15	"	"	14 × 13½	clean cut
e.	5	"	"	13½ × 13½	" "
	10	"	"	"	" "
	15	"	"	"	" "
	20	"	"	"	" "
	25	"	"	"	" "
	50	"	"	"	" "
f.	5	"	"	12½ × 12	rough cut
	10	"	"	"	" "
	15	"	"	"	" "
	20	"	"	"	" "
	25	"	"	"	" "
	50	"	"	"	" "

g. h.	5 c.	perforated	$11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$	clean cut and rough cut					
	10 "	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
	15 "	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
	20 "	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
	25 "	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
	50 "	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
i. j.	5 c.	perforated	$12\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$	"	"	"	"	"	"
	10 "	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
	15 "	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
	20 "	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
	25 "	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
	50 "	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"

Up till June 1879 the perforation was $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, with the variety $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$. The perforation $13\frac{1}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$ was found for the first time in July 1879. In 1886 appeared the perforation $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ in rough cut and in 1887 in clean cut mixed with the other perforations and from 1890 the perforation is regularly $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

These stamps are printed on thick paper of 10° and on thin paper of 5° , on horizontally and vertically dotted wove paper. The value of 10 c. is double-printed, that of 5 c. has a white dot in the hair and also a white dot above the fore-head, the value

of 15 c. double horizontally perforated has also a white dot in the hair of the occiput, the value of 20 c. a white dot on the left temple above the ear, that of 25 c. has 1°. a white dot in the hair near the parting, 2°. a white dot in the hair on the left temple, 3°. a white dot in the beard, 4°. the T. of the word cent split at the foot, the value of 50 c. has a white oval spot round the word 50 cent.
