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A HISTORY
OF
THE ADHESIVE STAMPS OF THE
BRITISH ISLES

AVAILABLE FOR POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH PURPOSES



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OF
THE ADHESIVE STAMPS OF
THE BRITISH ISLES

AVAILABLE FOR POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH PURPOSES

*(WITH TWELVE PLATES OF PHOTO-MEZZOTYPE ILLUSTRATIONS AND TWENTY-SIX
PLATES OF DIAGRAMS)*

Compiled from Official Sources

BY

HASTINGS E. WRIGHT

AND

A. B. CREEKE JUNR.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY GORDON SMITH

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Addenda et Corrigenda.

- Page 9, lines 15 to 20* :—The quotation is from PHILBRICK AND WESTOBY, p. 68 (*note*).
- Page 16, line 24* :—For "Chapter IV" read "Chapter V".
- Page 34, line 38* :—For "1 to 22" read "1 to 18"; *line 39* : for "seven" read "eight"; *and line 40* : for "23 to 26" read "19 to 26".
- Page 44, note* :—For "IV" read "V".
- Page 53, line 15* :—For "45,840,000" and "14,160,000" respectively, read "46,080,000" and "13,920,000".
- Page 61, line 5 in table* :—For "8th January, ," read "8th January, 1855,".
- Page 63, "Plate."* :—Blocks of the Tenpence are known, from some of the stamps on which the Die-number is apparently absent; whilst on the others it is plainly visible: presumably, the former are defective impressions.
- Page 80, line 1* :—For "5,173,200" read "6,853,200"; *line 4* : for "281,050" read "288,050"; *line 9* : for "21,550" read "28,550"; *and line 10* : for "5,172,000" read "6,852,000".
- Page 83, line 1* :—For "77,280,000" and "2,641,200" respectively, read "78,960,000" and "4,321,200".
- Page 98, line 8* :—Plate 4 was taken from press in April, 1865.
- Page 99, line 6 from bottom* :—For "completion" read "abandonment".
- Page 103* :—Insert "(See Diagram N.)" at end of *first paragraph*.
- Page 110* :—" (See Diagram J.)" at end of *fourth paragraph* should be placed after the *third paragraph*.
- Page 119, line 29* :—For "eleventh" and "second" respectively, read "last" and "first".
- Page 160* :—The word "Plate.—" is omitted from the commencement of the *third line*.
- Page 171, line 21* :—For "3" read "4".
- Page 174, line 25* :—For "1896" read "1886".
- Page 175, line 14* :—For "Both plates" read "Plates 3 and 4"; *and line 4 from bottom* : for "28" read "36".
- Page 177* :—The current One Shilling has recently appeared with the "Jubilee" line round the panes.
- Page 179, last paragraph* :—The height of the sheet of paper was 709½ mm. (27¼ inches).
- Page 181, fourth paragraph* :—"Penny Duties" was not omitted from the paper used for the earliest printings.
- Page 184, line 18* :—For "12th July" read "5th October".
- Page 249, Threepence, plate 4, "Remarks."* :—For "42,495" and "11,005" respectively, read "35,495" and "18,005".
- Diagram D.* :—Delete the watermarked crosses at the sides of the pane.
- Diagrams F. and U.* :—For the watermarks, which are indistinct, see Diagram M.
- Diagram P.* :—The word "MARK" should be watermarked in the margins of the paper.
- 31st July, 1899.

The Illustrations of the Stamps are by the London Stereoscopic and Photographic Co., Ltd., of 54, Cheapside, E.C., and 106 & 108, Regent St., W.

The Diagrams of the Plates (reduced from full-size facsimiles prepared by A. B. Creeke, Junr.) are by Lascelles & Co., Ltd., of 13, Fitzroy Street, W.



PREFACE.

SHORTLY after the commencement, in 1893, of my too short-lived acquaintance with one of the best and sincerest of friends, the late Hastings Elwin Wright, I suggested to him that we should essay the production of a work on the Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles, available for postal and telegraph purposes. Never anticipating that death would so soon sever our friendship, leaving me to complete the manuscript—which, even in 1897, had only just been commenced—we began our investigations in January, 1894, after our *embryo* work had been offered to, and accepted by, the Philatelic Society, London, of which we had the honour of being members.

The first part of our task, the magnitude of which we had not realised, was a careful and minute study of the *imprimatur* sheets, preserved in the Archives of the Inland Revenue Department at Somerset House, access to which, and to other sources of information, had been granted to us by the kindness of the Commissioners: this investigation, together with the drafting of the plate-diagrams, occupied all the time at our disposal during 1894.

We next proceeded to search the accumulation of books relating to the “creation,” printing and issue of the various Postage and Telegraph Stamps, and, thanks to the uniform interest and kindness shown by all the members of the Civil Service with whom we came in contact, we were enabled to inspect the record of events from early in 1840, down to comparatively recent times, with scarcely a break. It is to these records that we are indebted for the greater portion of those interesting *data* which have not hitherto been published.

Not only have the Archives at Somerset House been laid under contribution, but most valuable information has also been obtained from the General Post Office, from the past and present contractors for the supply of adhesive stamps, and from many official and private friends.

These researches occupied us until the middle of September, 1897, and it was only some few days before the death of my lamented *collaborateur* that we were at last able to congratulate ourselves on having exhausted all known sources of information. At this time the manuscript dealing with the four line-engraved, and the lowest value of the embossed adhesive postage stamps, had been completed; that relating to the remaining postal issues and the telegraph stamps being practically untouched, with the exception of a rough, and more or less incomplete, draft of the history of the former. I mention this as an excuse for the possible omission of details, known to my friend, but of which he did not leave any written note: fortunately for Philately, the manuscript on that most difficult series, the line-engraved adhesives, his knowledge of which was exceptionally complete, had been finally revised by him some weeks prior to his decease.

At an early stage of our labour we recognised the impossibility of producing a work with any especial pretension to literary merit, the nature of the subject requiring, if

clearness were to be attained, a large amount of repetition, which might at times tend to become tedious.

For the compilation of this work all available materials have been utilised, reference being made, whenever practicable, to original sources of information; each stamp has been described from an actual specimen; no theories have been advanced disguised as statements of *fact*; all figures and dates have been carefully checked; and, when any information has been given, obtained from other than an official source, the authority for such statement has been quoted. Our intention, which I have carried out to the best of my ability, was to ensure the greatest possible accuracy, and to place before the philatelic world an account of the Adhesive Postage and Telegraph Stamps of the British Isles, which, while confessedly incomplete, might be relied on with regard to statements of fact, even if at variance with long-established belief; and I sincerely hope that this work may be deemed not unworthy of the *premier* Philatelic Society, under whose auspices it is published, and of one whose name will always be remembered as that of an advocate for the collection of only the most perfect examples of stamps obtainable.

In conclusion, I gratefully acknowledge the aid so readily afforded to both of us by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, the General Post Office, Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., Limited, and Messrs. De La Rue & Co.; and, amongst many official and private friends who have assisted, I may mention, as having given most valuable aid, Mr. J. S. Purcell, C.B. (the Controller of Stamps and Stores), Mr. T. N. Crafer (the Secretary to the Board of Inland Revenue), Mr. T. C. Bokenham (Assistant Controller of Stamps and Stores), Mr. T. A. Colls (of the Inland Revenue Office Stamping Department), Mr. H. Dowsett (Assistant Controller of Stamps and Stores), and lastly, but by no means least, the late Mr. Pearson Hill.

The thanks of all Philatelists are due to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue for their kind permission to illustrate this work.

A. B. CREEKE, Junr.

31st December, 1898.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Preface	v
Introduction	xi
CHAPTER I.— <i>The Early Postal Systems</i>	xi
" II.— <i>The Postal System before 1840</i>	xii
" III.— <i>The New Movement</i>	xiv
" IV.— <i>The Introduction of "Penny" Postage</i>	xv
" V.— <i>The Creation of Postage Stamps</i>	xx
" VI.— <i>The Issue of Stamps by Private Persons</i>	xxv
Preliminary	i
Division I.—POSTAGE STAMPS ISSUED FOR PUBLIC USE	II
SECTION I.—LINE-ENGRAVED STAMPS	II

	Date of Issue.	De-sign.	Plate.	Paper.	Colour.	Gum.	Perf.	Crea-tion.	Re-marks.	Synop-sis.
(a) One Halfpenny - - <i>Page</i>	13	14	14	15	15	15	15	15	16	16
(b) One Penny—1st issue - -	16	18	18	19	19	19	20	20	22	...
2nd " - -	24	25	25	26	27	28	28	29	29	...
3rd " - -	31	31	31	31	32	32	32	32	32	...
4th " - -	32	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	...
5th " - -	33	34	34	35	35	35	35	35	35	...
6th " - -	35	35	35	35	36	36	36	36	36	...
7th " - -	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	37	37	...
8th " - -	37	38	38	39	39	39	39	39	39	40
(c) Three Halfpence - -	42	42	42	43	43	43	43	43	44	44
(a) Twopence—1st issue - -	44	46	47	47	47	48	48	48	48	...
2nd " - -	48	49	50	50	50	50	51	51	51	...
3rd " - -	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	52	52	...
4th " - -	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	...
5th " - -	52	52	52	53	53	53	53	53	53	...
6th " - -	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	...
7th " - -	53	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	55	...
8th " - -	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55
SECTION II.—EMBOSSSED STAMPS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57
(a) Sixpence - - - -	58	60	60	60	61	61	61	61	61	61
(b) Tenpence - - - -	62	63	63	64	64	64	64	64	65	65
(c) One Shilling - - - -	65	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	68	68
SECTION III.—SURFACE-PRINTED STAMPS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
SUB-SECTION A.— <i>Issued before 1880</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70
(a) Twopence Halfpenny—1st issue	71	71	71	72	73	73	73	73	73	...
" 2nd " - -	74	74	74	75	76	76	76	76	76	...
" 3rd " - -	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	...
" 4th " - -	76	76	76	77	77	77	77	77	77	77

	Date of Issue.	De- sign.	Plate.	Paper.	Colour.	Gum.	Perf.	Crea- tion.	Re- marks.	Synop- sis.
(b) Threepence—1st issue - <i>Page</i>	78	78	78	79	79	79	79	80	80	...
" 2nd " - - -	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	...
" 3rd " - - -	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	83	83	...
" 4th " - - -	83	83	83	83	83	83	83	83	84	...
" 5th " - - -	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	85	85	...
" 6th " - - -	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85
(c) Fourpence—1st issue - - -	86	87	87	87	94	94	94	94	95	...
" 2nd " - - -	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	...
" 3rd " - - -	95	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96	...
" 4th " - - -	96	96	96	96	96	96	97	97	97	...
" 5th " - - -	97	97	97	98	98	98	98	98	99	...
" 6th " - - -	99	99	99	100	100	100	100	100	100	...
" 7th " - - -	100	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	...
" 8th " - - -	101	101	101	102	102	102	102	102	102	...
" 9th " - - -	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	...
" 10th " - - -	102	102	102	103	103	103	103	103	103	103
(d) Sixpence—1st issue - - -	104	105	105	105	108	108	108	108	108	...
" 2nd " - - -	108	108	109	109	109	109	109	109	109	...
" 3rd " - - -	109	109	109	110	110	110	110	110	110	...
" 4th " - - -	110	111	111	111	111	111	111	111	111	...
" 5th " - - -	111	111	111	112	112	112	112	112	112	...
" 6th " - - -	112	112	112	113	113	113	113	113	113	...
" 7th " - - -	113	113	113	114	114	114	114	114	114	...
" 8th " - - -	114	114	114	114	114	114	114	114	...	...
" 9th " - - -	114	114	115	115	115	115	115	115	115	...
" 10th " - - -	115	115	115	116	116	116	116	116	116	...
" 11th " - - -	116	116	116	116	116	116	116	116	116	117
(e) Eightpence - - -	118	119	119	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
(f) Ninepence—1st issue - - -	120	120	121	121	121	121	121	121	122	...
" 2nd " - - -	122	122	122	122	122	122	122	122	122	...
" 3rd " - - -	122	123	123	123	123	123	123	123	123	123
(g) Tenpence - - -	124	124	124	125	125	125	125	125	125	126
(h) One Shilling—1st issue - - -	126	126	126	127	127	127	127	127	127	...
" 2nd " - - -	127	127	128	128	128	128	128	128	129	...
" 3rd " - - -	129	129	129	129	129	130	130	130	130	...
" 4th " - - -	130	130	130	130	130	130	130	131	131	...
" 5th " - - -	131	131	131	132	132	132	132	132	132	...
" 6th " - - -	132	132	132	132	132	132	132	132	...	...
" 7th " - - -	132	133	133	133	133	133	133	133	133	133
(i) Two Shillings—1st issue - - -	134	134	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	...
" 2nd " - - -	136	136	136	136	136	136	136	136	136	137
(j) Five Shillings—1st issue - - -	137	137	138	138	139	139	139	139	139	...
" 2nd " - - -	139	139	139	140	140	140	140	140	141	141
(k) Ten Shillings—1st issue - - -	141	141	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	...
" 2nd " - - -	142	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143
(l) One Pound—1st issue - - -	143	143	143	144	144	144	144	144	144	...
" 2nd " - - -	144	144	144	145	145	145	145	145	145	145
SUB-SECTION B.— <i>Issued</i> 1880-81										
(a) One Halfpenny—1st issue - - -	146	146	146	147	147	147	147	...	147	...
" 2nd " - - -	147	147	147	147	147	147	147	...	147	147
(b) One Penny - - -	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	...	148	148
(c) Three Halfpence - - -	148	149	149	149	149	149	149	...	149	149
(d) Twopence - - -	149	149	149	149	149	149	149	...	149	149
(e) Fivepence - - -	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	...	150	150

INTRODUCTION.

(By GORDON SMITH.)

THE subject of the present work being a history of the Postage Stamps and Telegraph Stamps of the United Kingdom, an elaborate or extensive dissertation upon the origin and growth of postal systems would be altogether beyond its scope. It will be sufficient, therefore, to capitulate, as briefly as possible, the chief events in the Postal History of this country, in so far as they have tended to create and form that great organisation, the British Post Office, as we find it at the present day, leaving the fuller historical study to those, who care to dip into the scanty records of the ancients, or the many excellent works and compilations of modern times, which will be found to deal exhaustively with the subject.*

CHAPTER I.

The Early Postal Systems.

The necessity for, and advantages of, the rapid conveyance of information from place to place, seem to have become apparent to the rulers of organized States in very early historical times. From China and Persia in the East, to Mexico and Peru in the West, there is scarcely a nation the records of which, where they have come down to us, fragmentary though they be, do not afford instances of systems for the conveyance of communications by carriers, and arrangements for facilitating their rapid transit. As nations grew in strength and progress, these postal systems, originally of a temporary nature, created during a state of war or apprehended invasion, gradually acquired a continuous existence. All these systems, however, were created for the service of the State, and the carriage of private letters for private persons was either not performed at all, or to such a very limited extent, as occasional opportunity permitted, that it can almost be regarded as non-existent. It is not really until the middle of the sixteenth century that we find any regular system introduced into this country. It is quite true that the *nuncii*, or messengers, appointed in the reign of King John for the conveyance of official dispatches, did carry some private correspondence, as letters are extant which were so carried; but, nevertheless, these officers were nothing more than the predecessors of the "Queen's Messengers" of to-day. The old postal systems, therefore, cannot be regarded as such at all, in the sense that we now understand the words; and we may pass on to consider the more interesting question of the origin and growth of our present postal organisation.

* *Her Majesty's Mails*, by WILLIAM LEWINS, London, 1864, second edition, London, 1865; *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain*, by FREDERICK A. PHILBRICK and W. A. S. WESTOBY, London, 1881; *The Royal Mail*, by JAMES WILSON HYDE, London, 1885, second edition, 1885; *A Hundred Years by Post*, by J. W. HYDE, London, 1891; *The Post in Grant and Farm*, by J. W. HYDE, London, 1894; *The History of the Post Office from its Establishment down to 1836*, by HERBERT JOYCE, C.B., London, 1893; *First Report of the Postmaster-General on the Post Office*, London, 1855.

CHAPTER II.

The Postal System before 1840.

“In the early part of Queen Elizabeth’s reign, disputes were frequent with the foreign merchants resident in London, with regard to the foreign post, which, up to this reign, they had been allowed to manage themselves . . . It would seem that, soon after the arrival of the Flemings in this country in the previous century, they established a post office of their own between London and the Continent, appointing one of themselves as postmaster, by the sufferance and favour of the reigning Sovereign.”*

In 1558, these merchants, being unable to agree on the appointment of a Post Master, the matter was referred to the Privy Council. It would appear that, at this period, the English merchants had also their own post for conveying their letters abroad, and they petitioned the Privy Council not to appoint a foreigner as Post Master, but an Englishman acquainted with their language. The consequence of this intervention was that Sir Thomas Randolph was appointed to manage both posts, under the title of “Chief Postmaster.” He was really the first “Postmaster-General.”

It should be noticed that in their petition the merchants contended “that it is one of the chief points of the prerogatives belonging to all princes, to place within their dominions such officers as were most trusty of their own subjects: that the postmaster’s place was one of great trust and credit in every realm, and, therefore, should be committed to the charge of the natural subjects, and not strangers.” It will be noticed that this contention, urged only in support of an Englishman being appointed postmaster in opposition to a foreigner, assumes a much wider proposition, namely, that the royal prerogative extends not only to the conveyance of Government despatches (a proposition which cannot be disputed), but also to the right to convey the letters of private persons. This right the Crown has always maintained as inherent to the royal prerogative, and, although at first but loosely enforced, has by successive enactments become more and more strictly defined, and more and more stringently enforced, until, at the present day, the only exception which exists is in the case where the sender of a letter delivers it into the hands of the messenger, to hand over to the person to whom it is addressed.

The office of Chief Postmaster, created in 1558, was only concerned with letters *inward* from abroad, and thus it came about that James I. created a new office of “Postmaster-General for Foreign Parts,” the duties of which consisted in “sole taking up, sending and conveying of all packets and letters concerning his” [the King’s] “service, or business, to be despatched into foreign parts.” As might have been expected, disputes arose between the holders of the two offices: these, however, were ultimately settled in 1632 by the Chief Postmaster (Lord Stanhope) retiring from his office, and the holders of the office of Postmaster-General (Mathew de Quester—or de l’Equestier—father and son), assigning their office, with the King’s consent, to William Frizell and Thomas Witherings.

Thomas Witherings, who seems to have been the active partner in the new arrangement, displayed great energy in the development of the postal system, and his appointment in 1635 to the control of the inland Postal Department (which was then for the first time established) gave him further opportunities for increasing the business. The rates charged were: 2d., for a single letter to any distance less than 80 miles from London; 4d., for distances less than 140 miles; 6d., for distances beyond; and 8d., to places in Scotland.†

* Lewins, *page* 5.† Rymer *Fœd.*, 192, 429, 630.

In 1644 Mr. Edmund Prideaux was appointed by both Houses of Parliament Master of the Posts, and established a weekly conveyance of letters to all parts of the country.* At first Mr. Prideaux, having to maintain the whole organization at his own expense, was permitted to retain whatever profit he could make, and in 1649 this amounted to £5,000 per annum. Awake to the advantages of revenue, but unwilling to assume the responsibility of management, the government of the Commonwealth made a new arrangement in 1650, and the Post Office was farmed for £5,000 per annum. This method of farming out the Post Office was continued up to the latter part of the XVIIIth century.

In 1656 by an Act "to settle the postage of England, Scotland and Ireland," it was enacted that there "shall be one General Post Office and one officer stiled "the Postmaster Generall of England, and Comptroller of the Post Office." In 1661, on the restoration of Charles II., this Act was re-enacted.†

In 1683 one Robert Murray started a penny post for the conveyance of letters between the different parts of London, within a radius of 10 miles. The charges were: 1d., within the City and suburbs; and 2d., for any distance within the radius. Soon after its establishment he assigned all his rights and property to Mr. William Docwra, or Docwray, who carried on the business with much success. This, however, brought him into conflict with the Duke of York, upon whom and his heirs had been settled the whole of the Post Office revenues.‡

The case was tried in the Court of King's Bench, which decided in favour of the Duke of York, and against Mr. Docwra. In the next year, however, he was appointed, under the Duke of York, as Comptroller of the District Post.

On the death of Charles II., the Duke of York succeeding to the throne, the revenues of the Post Offices consequently reverted to the Crown.



The accompanying illustration is a *facsimile* of the hand-stamp employed by Mr. Docwra on the letters passing through his post. The impression is in a brown-black ink, which was probably originally black, but has deteriorated with age. The historical interest attaching to this stamp is due to the fact that it is the oldest postage-stamp known.

In 1693 a Mr. Povey started a Halfpenny Post in London, but this was quickly suppressed at the instance of the Post Office.

In 1710 an Act was passed "for establishing a General Post Office in all Her Majesty's Dominions," § which not only repealed all previous enactments, but constitutionally established the London District Post, and at the same time may be said to be the basis upon which rest all the Statutes relating to the Post Office in force at the present moment.

The rates charged under this Act for single letters were: 3d., to any place in England, not exceeding 80 miles; as far north as Berwick, 4d.; to Scotland, south of Edinburgh, 6d.; London to Dublin, 6d.; a single letter to France was 10d.; to Germany, Denmark, Sweden and New York, 1s.; to Italy and Turkey, 1s. 3d.; and to Spain, 1s. 6d.

These rates remained in force until 1761, || when the single letter rate was altered to 1d. for 15 miles; not exceeding 40 miles, 2d.; and an extra 1d. for every 40 miles beyond.

**Stephen's Comment. (Blackstone), 9th edition, vol. II, p. 571.*

† 12 Car. II., c. 35.

‡ 15 Car. II., c. 14.

§ 9 Anne, c. 10.

|| 1 Geo. III., c. 25.

In 1784* the rates were increased, a charge of 1d. extra on the rates of 1761 being imposed for the purposes of revenue.

The state of war in all parts of the world in which this country found herself engaged during the next thirty years, the consequent crippling of trade and national resources, and the ever-increasing expenditure in providing warlike *materiel* rendered it imperative that every available source of revenue should be squeezed to the uttermost; thus, the postal rates, which had been increased in 1784, were still further increased in 1797, 1805 and 1812, remaining unchanged until 5th December, 1839, when the uniform *fourpence* rate was introduced. Immediately previous to its introduction the rate for distances under 15 miles had been 4d.; under 20 miles, 5d.; under 30 miles, 6d.; under 50 miles, 7d.; and so on, under 300 miles being 12d.; and afterwards an additional 1d. for every further 100 miles.

CHAPTER III.

The New Movement.

On the death of Napoleon in 1821 the last smouldering embers of European conflagration had died out, and the efforts and energies of all classes were now turned from the battlefields of Europe to their own domestic hearths. Even then the seeds of the progress and enlightenment, which have since made the Victorian era the most wonderful period in the world's history, were germinating in fruitful soil.

The wave of popular agitation for the enlargement of political rights triumphantly carried the Reform Bill in 1832; while some were engaged in the opening out of public privileges, others were not less earnestly occupied in promoting the causes of education and of commerce.

To further these objects it was seen that two things were necessary. Knowledge must be made accessible to the million; and the means of mutual intercourse must be greatly increased. The Liverpool and Manchester Railway had been opened in 1830, and men were beginning to see the possibilities created by the new mode of travel. The Taxes on newspapers, and on paper itself, were vigorously assailed, and with such good effect that in 1836 the former were considerably reduced.

In the year 1833, however, the first shots were fired in the attack on the Post Office, with its antiquated system and cumbersome methods, when Mr. Wallace, first returned as Member for Greenock, began his onslaught against that Institution.

In 1836 Mr. (afterwards Sir) Rowland Hill began to direct his attention to Post Office affairs, and, having placed himself in communication with Mr. Wallace, threw all his zeal and enthusiasm into the subject of the reform of the postal system. Having digested all the information he could gather together, he published a pamphlet in 1837 entitled, *Post Office Reform: its Importance and Practicability*. From the data he had collected, he was enabled to prove that the cost of dealing with a letter, from its receipt by the Post Office until its delivery, might be divided into three separate items:—1st. The cost of receiving and sorting; 2nd. The cost of conveyance; and, 3rd. The cost of delivering. From the mass of figures and statistics with which he had armed himself, he conclusively shewed that, in the case of a letter from London to Edinburgh, the cost of conveyance amounted only to the one-ninth part of a farthing.

* 24 Geo. III, c. 37.

The effect produced by Mr. Hill's pamphlet on the commercial world was enormous : in fact, all classes were awakened to the advantages of the proposals which he made, and to the soundness of the arguments with which he supported them.

On the 22nd November, Mr. Wallace successfully moved for a Committee, "To enquire into the present rates and modes of charging postage, with a view to such a reduction thereof, as may be made without injury to the revenue ; and, for this purpose, to examine especially into the mode recommended for charging and collecting postage, in a pamphlet published by Mr. Rowland Hill." The Committee met for business in February, 1838. In the meantime the "Mercantile Committee" had been formed by the leading bankers and merchants of the City of London, to collect evidence, disseminate information and stir up all classes of the community ; and subscriptions were obtained to further the agitation.

The House of Commons Committee sat for sixty-three days and, having heard almost everything that could be urged for or against Mr. Hill's proposals, dealt exhaustively with the evidence and produced their report. Practically, they endorsed every one of the proposals ; the vital one, however—the establishment of a penny rate throughout the United Kingdom—they were unable, by the terms of the appointment of the Committee, to recommend directly, but gave as their opinion that its adoption would not in the end cause any loss to the revenue.

Ultimately, a Bill intituled, "An Act for the further regulation of the duties on postage, until the 5th day of October, 1841," was introduced and, having passed both Houses, received the Royal assent on the 17th August, 1839.*

By this Act the Lords of the Treasury were authorized to fix the rates of postage, and also to regulate the mode of their collection, whether by prepayment or otherwise. The Act also abolished the right, hitherto enjoyed by members of both Houses of Parliament, of franking correspondence, a right which had been subject to most extensive abuse ; and the franking of official correspondence was also subjected to new regulations.

CHAPTER IV.

The Introduction of "Penny" Postage.

The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury immediately proceeded to take up the new obligations, with which they had been entrusted by Parliament under the new Act, and issued the following notice, which appeared on the 6th September, 1839, in the public press :—

"A copy of the Minute of the Board of Treasury, relative to carrying into effect the Act for establishing a reduced uniform Rate of Postage."

"My Lords read the Act for the Further Regulation of the Duties of Postage, which received the Royal assent on Saturday, the 17th inst.

"By this Act, my Lords are invested with a power of carrying into effect the reduced uniform rate of postage contemplated by Parliament, either according to the present mode of collecting the postage, or by prepayment, collected by stamps, compulsory or optional.

"My Lords feel the importance of the discretion with which Parliament has invested them, affecting as it must the convenience of the public, the collection of the revenue, as well as the security and facility of the transmission of the correspondence of the country.

"In comparing the advantages which may arise from the plan of prepayment by means of stamps, if such plan should be adopted, much must depend upon the stamp which may

* 2 & 3 Vict., c. 52.

“be employed. For the convenience of the public, it is of the greatest importance that the mode selected should afford every facility for obtaining and using the stamp. It is also clear that the charge, which will fall upon the public in the shape of extra payment, on account of the stamp itself, in addition to the penny rate, must vary according to the nature of the stamp adopted. In the course of the enquiries and discussions on the subject, several plans were suggested: *viz.*, stamped covers, stamped paper, and stamps to be used separately, and to be applied to any letter of whatever description, and written on any paper.

“Before My Lords can decide upon the adoption of any course, either by stamp or otherwise, they feel it will be useful that artists, men of science, and the public in general, may have an opportunity of offering any suggestions or proposals, as to the manner in which the stamp may be best brought into use. With this view, My Lords will be prepared to receive and consider any proposal which may be sent into them, on or before the 15th October, 1839.

“All persons desirous of communicating with my Lords on the subject are requested to direct to the Lords of the Treasury, Whitehall, marked ‘Post Office Stamp.’

“My Lords will be prepared to award a premium of £200 to such proposal as they may consider most deserving of attention, and £100 to the next best proposal.

“My Lords will feel at liberty to adopt for the public service any of the suggestions which may be contained in any communication made to them, except, of course, where parties have any rights secured by patent.

“The points which the Board consider of the greatest importance are:—

“1. The convenience as regards the public use:

“2. The security against forgery:

“3. The facility of being checked and distinguished at the Post Office, which must of necessity be rapid:

“4. The expense of the production and circulation of the stamps.

“My Lords will be prepared to receive and consider proposals from foreign countries and they desire that a copy of this Minute be transmitted to Lord Palmerston, and that his Lordship be requested to take such measures as he may deem most advisable, through Her Majesty’s Ministers abroad, for the purpose of making known the intentions of this Board.

“They desire, also, that Lord Palmerston be requested to procure for my Lords, through Her Majesty’s Ambassador at Paris, information respecting the system of stamps adopted in France, and specimens of the stamped impressions used in that country.

“Transmit a copy of this Minute to the Postmaster-General, for his information and guidance.

“Whitehall, Treasury Chambers,
“August 23rd.”

In response to this invitation, suggestions, including sketches and drawings, were received from two thousand six hundred “artists, men of science and the public in general,” but by no one were more practical suggestions offered than those already proposed by Mr. Rowland Hill, which consisted in the use of stamped covers, the size of a half sheet of paper, of stamped envelopes, and of adhesive labels or stamps.

In consequence of the enormous amount of new work, which it was apprehended would be thrown upon the officials of the Post Office, by having to weigh all letters handed in, the Lords of the Treasury decided to adopt a temporary measure; and, on the 22nd November, 1839, issued a warrant, authorizing a uniform rate of fourpence. The following are the material portions of the warrant, as it appears in the *London Gazette* of that date:—

“Whereas, by an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament, intituled ‘An Act for the further Regulation of the Duties on Postage until the 5th day of October, 1840,’ power is given to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Treasury, or any three of them, by Warrant under their hands, to alter, fix, reduce, or remit, all or any, of the Rates of British or Inland, or other Postage, payable by law on the transmission of Post Letters, and to subject such letters to rates of Postage according to the weight thereof, and a scale of weight to be contained in such Warrant (without reference to the distance or number of miles the same may be conveyed), and to fix and limit the weight of letters to be sent by the Post, and from time to time by Warrant as aforesaid, to appoint at what time the rates which may be payable are to be paid; that is to say, whether on posting the letter, or on receipt thereof, or at either of those times at the option of the sender, provided that all such Warrants should be inserted in the LONDON GAZETTE ten days at least before coming into operation, and should within fourteen days after making the same be laid

“before both Houses of Parliament (if then sitting), or otherwise, within fourteen days after Parliament should meet.

“And whereas, an Act was passed in the first year of the reign of Her present Majesty, cap. 34, intituled ‘An Act for the Regulation of the Duties of Postage’; and another Act was passed in the same Session, cap. 76, intituled ‘An Act to impose Rates of Packet Postage on East India Letters, and to Amend certain Acts relating to the Post Office’; and another Act was passed in the first and second years of the reign of Her present Majesty, cap. 97, intituled ‘An Act for imposing Rates of Postage on the Conveyance of Letters by Packet Boats between places in the Mediterranean and other parts.’

“Now, we, the undersigned (being three of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Treasury), do, in exercise of the powers or authority in us for such purposes vested in and by the said first-mentioned Act, and of all other powers enabling us in this behalf, by this Warrant under our hands, order and direct that this present Warrant shall come into operation on the 5th day of December next; and that all letters, not being by law specially exempted from postage, which on or after that day, shall be posted in any town or place within the United Kingdom, or within any of the Islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, Sark and Man, or shall be brought from parts beyond the seas to any port or place within the United Kingdom or the said islands, by any packet boat or private vessel, shall be subject to the several regulations and rates hereinafter contained.

“And we further order and direct that, on and after the said 5th day of December next, the present practice of charging the rates of postage on letters transmitted by the General Post, consisting of more than one sheet of paper, or containing any enclosure, shall be wholly discontinued, and thenceforth all letters of whatever description, transmitted through the General Post, and legally chargeable with postage, shall be charged by weight, as hereinafter mentioned.

“And we hereby fix and limit the following scale of weight of letters to be transmitted through the General Post, and we subject such letters, on and after the said 5th day of December next, to the following rates of postage; that is to say:—

“On every letter not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken one rate of postage:

“On every letter exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., and not exceeding 1 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken two rates of postage:

“On every letter exceeding 1 oz., and not exceeding 2 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken four rates of postage:

“On every letter exceeding 2 oz., and not exceeding 3 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken six rates of postage; and

“On every letter exceeding 3 oz., and not exceeding 4 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken eight rates of postage: and for every ounce in weight above the weight of four ounces there shall be charged and taken two additional rates of postage, and every fraction of an ounce, above the weight of four ounces, shall be charged as an additional ounce.

“And we order and direct that no letter exceeding 16 oz. in weight shall in any case be forwarded by the General Post between places within the United Kingdom and the said islands, or from the said United Kingdom and the said islands to parts beyond the seas.

* * * * *

“And we hereby fix and limit the following rates of postage, to be paid to Her Majesty’s Postmaster-General, for the use of Her Majesty on and after the 5th day of December next on the letters next hereinafter mentioned, and we order and direct the same to be charged and paid accordingly; that is to say:—

“INLAND LETTERS.

“On all letters not by law specially exempted from postage and not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. in weight, transmitted by the General Post between places within the United Kingdom or between the said islands, or between the United Kingdom and the said islands (not being letters sent to or from parts beyond the seas), there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of fourpence, without reference to the number of sheets or pieces of paper or enclosures of which the same may be composed, or to the distance or number of miles the same shall be conveyed.

“On all such letters, if exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken progressive and additional rates of postage (each additional rate being estimated at 4d.), according to the scale of weight and number of rates hereinbefore fixed and declared. . . .

“And we order and direct that all additional rates, now payable by law on all letters transmitted by post to or from Ireland by way of Holyhead, or in respect of the Menai Bridge, and by way of Conway and Chester in respect of Conway Bridge, and by way of Milford and Waterford, and also the additional rate of one halfpenny on letters conveyed by the post in any part of Scotland by a mail carriage with more than two wheels shall on and after the said 5th day of December next be wholly remitted, and shall cease to be payable.

“ That all additional rates for letters, originally sent by the General Post to places within the United Kingdom, or the said islands, directed beyond the limits of the General Post, and delivered by any Twopenny Post or Penny Post, or originally sent by any Twopenny or Penny Post, and afterwards passing through the General Post, shall be remitted and cease to be payable, except on letters franked or exempted by law from the General Post rates, but subject to the Twopenny or Penny Post rates, which letters shall still continue liable to and chargeable with the Twopenny and Penny Post rates, when transmitted by any such post.

“ That on all letters, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, and not being by law specially exempted from the Twopenny and Penny Post rates, transmitted by any Twopenny or Penny Post in London or Dublin, and not having passed through, or being intended to pass through, the General Post, there shall on and after the said 5th day of December next, be charged and taken a rate of one penny only, provided such postage be prepaid at the time of posting the same. But in case any letter not being by law specially exempted, as aforesaid, transmitted by any such Twopenny or Penny Post, shall not be prepaid when posted, or shall exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. in weight, there shall be taken the same rate of postage as is now payable by law thereon.

“ That on all letters, not specially exempted from Penny Post rates, transmitted by any Penny Post in the United Kingdom or the said islands, other than London and Dublin, and not having passed through, or being intended to pass through the General Post, there shall, on and after the 5th day of December next, be taken a rate of one penny as at present.

“ That no letter shall be sent by any such Twopenny or Penny Post exceeding 4 oz. in weight, unless the same shall have originally passed, or shall be intended to pass, through the General Post, and in such last-mentioned cases not exceeding the weight of 16 oz., unless specially authorised by this Warrant as aforesaid.

“ That all printed newspapers, Parliamentary proceedings, printed votes, and proceedings of the colonial legislatures, printed prices current, commercial lists, periodical publications posted at Falmouth, unstamped publications, bankers' parcels, patterns, samples, plantation accounts, deeds, books, pamphlets, and other printed papers, soldiers' and seamen's letters, and other letters, articles and things, which may now by law be sent by post under certain regulations free of postage, or at reduced rates of postage, shall continue to have the benefit of all exemptions and privileges they now enjoy, and shall, if forwarded in conformity with such regulations, be charged with the same respective amounts of postage as are now by law payable in respect thereof, subject nevertheless to all the regulations and liabilities now in force respecting the same.

* * * * *

“ As witness our hands this 22nd day of November, 1839.

“ MELBOURNE
“ F. BARING
“ H. TUFNELL.”

At the end of December, 1839, the experiment having proved satisfactory, the Lords of the Treasury resolved to give complete effect to the provisions of the Act, and ordered a warrant to be prepared for that purpose, and a minute was drawn up authorizing the preparation of stamped covers, stamped envelopes and adhesive stamps. The minute is dated 26th December, 1839, and is in the following terms :—

“ Their Lordships, upon full consideration, have decided to require that, as far as practicable, the postage of letters shall be prepaid, and to effect such prepayment by means of stamps. Their Lordships are of opinion that the convenience of the public will be consulted, more especially at first, by issuing stamps of various kinds, in order that everyone may select that description of stamp which is most suitable to his own peculiar circumstances ; and, with a view of affording an ample choice, their Lordships are pleased to direct that the following stamps be prepared :—

“ FIRST. Stamped Covers ; the stamp being struck on pieces of paper the size of half a sheet of quarto letter paper :

“ SECOND. Stamped Envelopes ; the stamp being struck on pieces of paper of a lozenge form, of which the stationers and others may manufacture envelopes :

“ THIRD. Adhesive Stamps ; or stamps on small pieces of paper with a glutinous wash at the back, which may be attached to letters, either before or after they are written : and

“ FOURTH. Stamps to be struck on paper of any description, which the public may send to the Stamp Office for that purpose.

“ The paper for the first, second, and third kinds of stamps to be peculiar in its watermark, or some other feature, but to be supplied to the Government by competition.

“ My Lords direct that the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, and the Commissioners of Excise, should receive the official directions to take the necessary steps, in conjunction with the Postmaster-General, for the preparation of the stamps herein enumerated.

“Although the necessary experiments and investigations which have been conducted under the direction of this Board are already far advanced, my Lords fear that a considerable time will be required for completing the preparation of the dies, plates and machinery (much of which is unavoidably of a novel construction) necessary for the manufacture of the stamps ; and, being desirous of affording to the public, with the least possible delay, the full advantage of the intended reduction in postage, their Lordships propose at once to effect such reduction.”

“On the use of stamps, however, My Lords have fully decided. They will be prepared with the least possible delay, and when ready due notice will be given of their introduction.

The Warrant above referred to was signed, and it appeared in the *London Gazette* for the 28th December, 1839. The following are the material portions :—

“Now we, the undersigned (being three of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Treasury), do by this Warrant order and direct that the said Warrant of the 22nd day of November now last, and the rates thereby fixed and directed to be charged shall be and the same are hereby repealed from and after the 9th day of January, 1840 (except as to any letters posted in, or brought into, the United Kingdom on or before that day, and also except as to any duties of postage which shall have become due under or by virtue of such Warrant, which may be recovered as if the same had continued in force).

“And we hereby further order and direct that this present Warrant shall come into operation on the 10th day of January, 1840, and that all letters which, on or after that day, shall be posted in any town or place within the United Kingdom, or shall be brought from parts beyond the seas to any port or place within the United Kingdom, or shall be sent between the United Kingdom and places beyond the seas, or between any of the places hereinafter mentioned, shall be subject to the several regulations and rates hereinafter contained.

“And we further order and direct that letters transmitted by the post shall not in future be charged with the British rates of postage according to the number of inclosures, but by weight, as hereinafter mentioned.

“And we hereby fix and limit the following scale of weight of letters to be transmitted by the post, and we subject such letters, on and after the said 10th day of January, 1840, to the following rates of postage ; that is to say :—

“On every letter not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken one rate of postage :

“On every letter exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., and not exceeding 1 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken two rates of postage :

“On every letter exceeding 1 oz., and not exceeding 2 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken four rates of postage :

“On every letter exceeding 2 oz., and not exceeding 3 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken six rates of postage : and

“On every letter exceeding 3 oz., and not exceeding 4 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken eight rates of postage :

“And for every ounce in weight, above the weight of 4 oz., there shall be charged and taken two additional rates of postage ; and every fraction of an ounce above the weight of 4 oz. shall be charged as an additional ounce.

“And we order and direct, that no letter exceeding 16 oz. in weight shall in any case be forwarded by the post between places within the United Kingdom, except addresses to Her Majesty, Parliamentary petitions, printed votes and proceedings in Parliament, letters addressed to, or despatched by, any of the Government offices or departments, or any public officer having now the privilege of franking by virtue of his office, deeds if transmitted under all such regulations and restrictions as the Postmaster-General shall from time to time appoint, and letters to and from places beyond the seas.

“And we hereby fix and limit the following rates of postage to be paid to Her Majesty’s Postmaster-General, for the use of Her Majesty, on letters posted and transmitted by the post on and after the 10th day of January, 1840 ; and we order and direct the same to be charged and paid accordingly ; that is to say :—

“INLAND LETTERS.

“On all letters, not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. in weight, transmitted by the post between places within the United Kingdom, not being letters sent to or from parts beyond seas, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of one penny, without reference to the number of sheets or pieces of paper or enclosures of which the same may be composed, or the distance or number of miles the same may be conveyed ; and that on all such letters, if exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken progressive and additional rates of postage (each additional rate being estimated at one penny), according to the scale of weight and number of weights hereinbefore fixed and declared, provided that such postage of one penny, and such progressive and additional postage, be prepaid

“at the time of posting such letters ; but, in case such postage on any such letters shall not be prepaid when posted, there shall be charged on such letters a postage of double the amount to which such letters would otherwise have been liable under this present Warrant.

“That all letters forwarded under the authority of the Postmaster-General by private vessels or packet boats, and transmitted between places in the United Kingdom, shall be considered as forwarded by the Post between such places, and be charged accordingly.

* * * * *
 “That, on and after the said 10th day of January next, the privilege of sending and receiving letters by the Post, free of postage, whether parliamentary, official, or of any other description whatsoever (except as hereinafter provided), as well under an Act passed in the first year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled ‘An Act for regulating the sending and receiving of letters and packets by the Post free of duty of Postage,’ being the 1 Vic., c. 35, as under any other Act or Acts now in force, or under any other authority whatsoever, shall be wholly suspended during the time this Warrant shall be in force ; and that all letters to which any such privileges now extend, except as aforesaid, shall thenceforth be charged and chargeable with the like rates as any other letters transmitted by the Post would be chargeable, under or by virtue of the present Warrant.

* * * * *
 “That, except in the cases hereinbefore specified, all privileges whatsoever of sending letters free of postage shall be wholly suspended during the time this present Warrant shall be in operation. . . .

“As witness our hands this 27th day of December, 1839.

“MELBOURNE
 “F. BARING
 “THOS. WYSE.”

The new system was eagerly taken advantage of by the public, but the work entailed thereby was very great. The scene at St. Martin’s-le-Grand is thus depicted in the *Westminster Review* for February, 1840 :—

“A night or two after the change to a penny, we ourselves witnessed the scene at St. Martin’s-le-Grand. The great hall was nearly filled with spectators, marshalled in a line by the police, to watch the crowds pressing, scuffling and fighting to get first to the window. The superintending President of the Inland Office, with praiseworthy zeal, was in all quarters, directing the energy of his officers where the pressure was greatest. Formerly, one window sufficed to receive letters. On this evening, six windows with two receivers at each, were bombarded by applicants. As the last quarter of an hour approached, and the crowd still thickened, a seventh window was opened, and, that none might be turned away, Mr. Bokenham made some other opening, and took in money and letters himself. To the credit of the Post Office, not a single person lost the time ; and we learnt that on this evening upwards of 3,000 letters had been posted at St. Martin’s-le-Grand between five and six. A witness present on the first night of the Penny Post described to us a similar scene. When the window closed, the mob, delighted at the energy displayed by the officers, gave one cheer for the Post Office, and another for Rowland Hill.”

CHAPTER V.

The Creation of Postage Stamps.

Although, as previously stated, no less than 2,600 suggestions, designs and sketches had been submitted to the Treasury, it was found nevertheless that none of these appeared to fulfil the desired requirements, accordingly Mr. (afterwards Sir) Henry Cole (who was assisting Mr. Rowland Hill at the Treasury in carrying out the new scheme) interviewed Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Petch, who were well-known as high-class engravers and steel-plate printers. They were informed that adhesive labels about an inch square in size would be required, and were requested to state whether they would be able to undertake the construction of the necessary dies and plates, and to indicate the terms upon which they would be prepared to supply the labels ready for use.

To this invitation, Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Petch replied as follows :—

“ Sir,
 “ 69, Fleet Street, London,
 “ 3 December, 1839.
 “ We have given the subject you mentioned yesterday afternoon all the attention the
 “ time would allow, and beg to say as the result that :—
 “ We could engrave steel dies of the size you gave us, containing work of any con-
 “ ceivable value as to cost and quality, transfer them to any number of plates that could
 “ possibly be wanted, and print them in any numbers per day, at a charge of eight pence
 “ per thousand stamps, exclusive of paper, which, we understand, would be supplied us ;
 “ and, assuming that the numbers wanted would be very large, we have only named a fair
 “ price for the printing, and have considered the plates and dies, which ought to be very
 “ costly in the first instance, as given in without charge. You are probably aware that,
 “ having prepared the original die, we could insure perfect *facsimiles* of it for a century.
 “ Our charge would not exceed what we have named above, nor be less than six pence
 “ per thousand ; but what relative position it would take between these two extremes, would
 “ depend upon the exact size of the stamp, and the number which the paper would allow us
 “ to put upon one plate.
 “ We could prepare everything so as to commence printing in a month. Our present
 “ belief is that we could print 41,600 labels per day, or double that number in a day and
 “ night, from each press employed upon the work.

“ We are, Sir, very respectfully,

“ Your humble servants,

“ Henry Cole, Esq.

Perkins Bacon & Petch.”

The first terms of the contract with Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Petch for the supply of these labels, and also that with Messrs. Clowes and Sons, of Blackfriars, London, E.C., for the printing of the Mulready envelopes and covers, were notified in a letter, dated the 18th March, 1840, from Mr. H. L. Wickham, addressed to Mr. Rowland Hill, in which he says :—

“ I send you the terms on which I have agreed with Clowes and Bacon :—
 “ Clowes, £25 per million for the Mulready covers and envelopes, he to supply stereo-
 “ type plates complete, packing and delivery included.
 “ Bacon & Co., 7½d. per thousand stamps, and to supply gumming, plates and every
 “ other charge, except paper.
 “ The 1d. value to be Black.
 “ The 2d. to be Blue.
 “ All for a year.”

Arrangements having been made for a supply of envelopes and stamps, the following Notice was issued towards the end of April, 1840 :—



“ TO ALL POSTMASTERS AND SUB-POSTMASTERS.

“ GENERAL POST OFFICE,
 “ 25th April, 1840.

“ It has been decided that Postage Stamps are to be brought into use forthwith, and as
 “ it will be necessary that every such Stamp should be cancelled at the Post Office or
 “ Sub Post Office where the Letter bearing the same may be posted, I herewith forward for
 “ your use an Obliterating Stamp, with which you will efface the Postage Stamp upon every
 “ Letter despatched from your Office. RED COMPOSITION must be used for this purpose,
 “ and I annex directions for making it, with an impression of the Stamp.

“ As the Stamps will come into operation by the 6th MAY, I must desire you will not
 “ fail to provide yourself with the necessary supply of Red Composition by that time.

“ Directions for preparing the Red Stamping Composition :—

“ 1 lb. Printer's red ink :

“ 1 pint Linseed Oil :

“ Half-pint of the droppings of Sweet Oil.

“ To be well mixed.

“ By Command,

“ W. L. MABERLY, *Secretary.*”



This notice was followed on the 29th April by another, which was as follows :—



“ TO ALL POSTMASTERS.

“ GENERAL POST OFFICE,

“ April, 1840.

“ I beg to enclose you two specimens of the Penny and Two-penny stamped Covers and Envelopes, and two of the Penny adhesive Labels (the Two-penny one is not yet ready), which I must beg you will carefully preserve, in order to compare them in case of doubt with the stamped Letters that may pass through your Office. In the event of your suspecting that the stamps used on any Letters are forged, you will not detain the Letters, but simply take the Address, and report the circumstance to me without loss of time, in order that the Party to whom the Letter is directed may be at once applied to. You will observe, however, that the adhesive Stamps vary almost in all cases one from the other, having different Letters at the bottom corners, and I point this out that you may not be misled by this circumstance, and be induced to suspect Forgery where the variation of the stamps has been intentional. The Numbers on the Covers and Envelopes also vary. You will carefully Stamp with the Cancelling Stamp that has been forwarded to you the Stamped Covers and Envelopes, as well as the adhesive Stamps, the two former must be struck on the figure of Britannia ; and in the case of more than one adhesive Stamp being attached to a Letter, each Stamp must be separately obliterated. The use of the Cancelling Stamp, however, will not dispense with the use of the ordinary dated Stamp, which will be struck on the Letter as usual. When the value of the Stamp is under the rate of Postage to which the Letter, if prepaid in Money, would be subject, you will surcharge the Letter with a Pen in the usual manner.

“ You will acknowledge the receipt of this Letter and the Specimen Stamps by return of Post.

“ By command,

“ W. L. MABERLY,

“ Secretary.”

The Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes simultaneously issued a notice in the following words :—

“ The Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Treasury having authorised and directed the use of Stamps for denoting the Duties of Postage on and after the 6th of May next, and that the sale of such Stamps shall in the first instance be confined to London, Notice is hereby given that on and after the 1st May next the STAMPS undermentioned may be obtained at this Office, and also at the Sea Policy Office, Bank Buildings, in the City of London, in the quantities and at the prices following, viz. :—

	£	s.	d.
“ Two reams of 1d. Stamps for covers, containing 80 sheets, or 960 Stamps	4	7	0
“ Same quantity of 1d. Stamps for envelopes	4	5	0
“ One ream of 1d. Stamps for covers, containing 40 sheets, or 480 Stamps	2	4	6
“ Same quantity of 1d. Stamps for envelopes	2	3	6
“ Half a ream of 1d. Stamps for covers, containing 20 sheets, or 240 Stamps	1	2	4
“ Same quantity of 1d. Stamps for envelopes	1	1	9
“ One ream of 2d. Stamps for covers, containing 40 sheets, or 480 Stamps	4	3	6
“ Same quantity of 2d. Stamps for envelopes	4	2	6
“ Half a ream of 2d. Stamps for covers, containing 20 sheets, or 240 Stamps	2	2	6
“ Same quantity of 2d. Stamps for envelopes	2	2	0
“ Quarter of a ream of 2d. Stamps for covers, containing 10 sheets, or			
“ 120 Stamps	1	1	4
“ Same quantity of 2d. Stamps for envelopes	1	1	1
“ Sheet of 1d. Labels, containing 240 Stamps (per sheet)	1	0	0
“ Same of 2d.	2	0	0

“ To enable any person to sell these Stamps it will be necessary that they should obtain licenses as Vendors of Stamps generally.

“ By Order of the Board,

“ CHARLES PRESSLY, Secretary.”

Next day, the Secretary to the Treasury issued the following public notice :—



“NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC
“AND
“INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL POSTMASTERS.

“GENERAL POST OFFICE,
“April, 1840.

“The Lords of the Treasury having fixed the *6th of May next* for the issue of Postage Stamps, on and after that day all Letters written on Stamped Paper, or enclosed in Stamped Covers, or having Stamps affixed to them, the Stamps in every such case being equal in Value or Amount to the Rates of Postage now chargeable on such Letters if prepaid, will pass *Free* of Postage in whatever part of the UNITED KINGDOM they may be posted.

“In those cases where the Value of Stamps on the Letter is less than the amount of the Postage to which it would now be liable if prepaid, the Letter will be charged double the amount of such difference on delivery. An Inland Letter, for example, weighing more than Half-an-ounce, and not exceeding an Ounce, if bearing only a Penny Stamp, will be charged Twopence on delivery.

“The same regulation applies to Letters prepaid by money where the full and proper rate of postage has not been paid in advance.

“Stamps may be used for *Printed Votes and Proceedings in Parliament*. If the Stamps, however, should be less in value than the proper rate of Postage to which these documents are subject, only the difference, and not double the difference, is to be charged.

“Stamps may also be used on Foreign, Colonial, and Ship Letters, &c., outwards. If any Letter, however, addressed to Places beyond the Sea, shall bear an insufficient number of Stamps, it will be sent to the Dead Letter Office, to be returned in all practicable cases to the writer. Stamps are *not* permitted to be used on Letters arriving in the United Kingdom *from the Colonies or Foreign Countries*. In such cases, therefore, Letters will be chargeable with the same rates as they would be if not bearing Stamps.

“All these Regulations will be applicable to Newspapers in those cases where they are liable to Postage.

“It must be distinctly understood that it is optional with the Public either to use Stamps, or to forward their Letters, &c., prepaid or unpaid as at present.

“The instructions issued in December, and on the 4th February last, remain in full force, the only alteration being that the Stamps are permitted to be used in certain cases instead of the Postage being paid in Money.

By Command,
“W. L. MABERLY, *Secretary*.”

A further Notice was, on the 8th May, 1840, circulated by the Post Office :—



“TO ALL POSTMASTERS.

“General Post Office,
“7th May, 1840.

“Referring to the Circular of last Month, transmitting specimens of the Penny and Twopenny Stamped Covers and Envelopes and of the Penny Adhesive Labels, I now enclose *two Specimens of the Twopenny Adhesive Labels*, which you will preserve with the Specimens already sent to you, for the purpose of comparison with any doubtful Postage Stamps passing through your hands. I also enclose, for your information, two Specimens of the Label Stamp bearing the Letters V.R. at the upper corners, which are to be applied to the correspondence of Public Departments and other Persons formerly enjoying the privilege of Official Franking. This latter Specimen of the Label Stamp is merely sent to prevent, when it may come into use, any misapprehension arising from the Letters V.R. which are intended to denote that the Stamp is employed for Official Correspondence.

“I embrace this opportunity also of stating, it is at present understood that Postmasters and Letter Receivers will be required to sell the *Adhesive Label Stamps*, and the *Stamped Covers* (but not the Envelopes) under License from the Commissioners of Stamps; upon this subject, however, you will receive full Instructions when the issue of Postage Stamps is extended to other places than London.

By Command,
“W. L. Maberly, *Secretary*.”

By the courtesy of the late Mr. Pearson Hill, a *facsimile* illustration of a page from Mr. Rowland Hill's diary is now published for the first time, covering the first few days in May, 1840, from which it will be seen that he records the first issue of "stamps" to the public, as taking place on the 1st of that month:—

1840⁸⁰
 Apr 30th The use of stamps in the public offices—
 Stamps May 1. Rose at 8: Stamps issued to the
 issue of public today (in London) for the first time
 first time Great bustle at the Stamp Office
 May 2. Rose at 7⁴⁵ £2500 worth of stamps
 sold yesterday.
 May 4. Monday. Rose at 7⁶⁰
 May 5th At work at 7¹⁰.
 May 6th At work at 7⁵⁰ Stamps came
 into use today. Coler went to the P.O. reports
 that about half the letters were stamped
 May 7th Rose at 7⁶⁰ Called at Stationery
 Office to arrange with Mr. Lulloch as to the
 stamping with the name of the office in
 Envelopes of the Gov^t Envelopes
 The London receivers have not been
 Stamps supplied with Stamps—The delay is I find
 London owing to an error in the Treasury—a minute
 Receiver directing that the same may not be delayed
 Delay till certain bonds are prepared & as
 worked into a letter to the P.M.G. with the
 word not omitted

It is, therefore, tolerably clear that adhesive labels were issued prior to the

6th May, not only in London, but also at suburban and provincial offices : though, if such were the case, it is probable that none were actually used before the notified date.

The annexed illustration is an exact reproduction of the original rough water-colour sketch of the designs of the 1d. and 2d. stamps, submitted by Mr. Rowland Hill to the Chancellor of the Exchequer for his approval, prior to the preparation of the dies. Across the head of the first design (coloured black) is written 1d. in



pencil in the handwriting of Mr. Rowland Hill, and the other (coloured blue) is similarly marked in pencil 2d. The original sketch is now in the possession of the Duke of York.

CHAPTER VI.

The Issue of Stamps by Private Persons.

A history of the stamps of this country would hardly be complete without some reference however slight, to the attempts which have been made from time to time to infringe upon the privileges of the Crown, existing either by inherent right, or conferred from time to time by express enactment. Two cases have already been referred to, the London Penny Post established by William Docwra, and the attempt by Povey ten years afterwards to set up a Halfpenny Post. Since the issue of postage stamps, however, there have been other cases, which, thanks to the strictness of the law, have in every instance suffered the same fate as their predecessors.

Between the years 1871 and 1885 several of the Colleges of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge issued adhesive stamps and also envelopes and cards, for the purpose of franking the local correspondence of their own members. From time immemorial it appears that such correspondence had been conveyed by private messengers, who were employed by the different colleges. Under the Act of the Long Parliament of 1656 (and re-enacted by 12 Car. II., c. 35), it was expressly enacted that the two Universities "may use their former liberties, rights and privileges of "having special carriers to carry and re-carry letters, as they formerly did, and as if "this Act had not been made"; and, although this Act was repealed in 1710 (9 Anne, c. 10), it did not abolish the ancient right which the Universities and their Colleges possessed.

The creation and use of *stamps*, however, rests on a different footing altogether and without attempting to go into the legal aspect of the question, it is sufficient to say, that after the unmolested use of stamps, in some cases for several years, pressure was at length brought to bear by the authorities on the Colleges in question, in consequence of which the use of stamps, or stationery of a postal character was discontinued.

In 1865 a company was formed in Edinburgh under the title of "The Edinburgh "and Leith Circular Delivery Company," for the distribution of circulars and small parcels, and adhesive stamps of the face value of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. were prepared and used. In 1866 stamps inscribed "The London Circular Delivery Co.," followed in 1867 by those inscribed "Metropolitan Circular Delivery Co.," appeared, and many others,

some having the value $\frac{1}{4}$ d., but others $\frac{1}{2}$ d., $\frac{3}{4}$ d. and 1d. In August, 1867 however, the attention of the Government was drawn to those companies, a prosecution of the "London and Metropolitan Circular Delivery Co." was instituted, and the defendant company was convicted by the stipendiary magistrate at Bow Street, of "delivering letters contrary to the privilege of the Postmaster-General," and fined £5. This was a death-blow to these companies, and no attempt of a similar kind to infringe the "privileges of the Postmaster-General" has since been made. Public attention had, however, been called to the exorbitant rates for the postage of newspapers and printed matter then in force, and the question having been brought up in the House of Commons, the matter did not rest until an Act was passed* whereby the rate was lowered to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on newspapers and printed matter, up to 2 ounces.

Only one other instance of a more recent date seems to have occurred. In 1890 an organization calling itself "Court Bureau" was started. Its object was the collection of postal matter at clubs, hotels, etc., on Sundays, and late at night or early in the morning for dispatch by the early morning mails; ordinary postage stamps were to be used, but for the service in expediting delivery, a series of special stamps was prepared, in values from 1d. upwards. The stamps are said to have been continued in use until March, 1891, when it seems that the company went into liquidation.

Before leaving this subject, the carriage of letters by train by the Railway Companies of the United Kingdom, and the use of stamps for this service, may be noticed. On a reference to the *Postal Guide*, under the heading "Conveyance of Single Post Letters by Railway," will be found a full account of the conditions under which letters may be received, transmitted and delivered, and how, when "a fee of 2d. in addition to the postage at the ordinary rate of 1d." has been paid, "the railway servant will affix and obliterate an adhesive label issued by the Railway Company." It is also further stated, that "this label will simply indicate that the sum of 2d. has been paid to the Railway Company." Whether the "adhesive label" can be regarded in any sense as a postage stamp or not, is a somewhat subtle question, upon which an opinion is not called for here.

* 33 & 34 Vict., c. 79.



THE ADHESIVE Postage and Telegraph Stamps

OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

Preliminary.

THE above Stamps, including certain fiscal stamps admitted to postal use, may be conveniently divided, for examination and study, and for greater facility of reference, into six Divisions, which it is proposed to consider in the following order:—

- I. Postage Stamps for public use :
- II. Fiscal Stamps admitted to postal use :
- III. Postage Stamps used by Government Departments :
- IV. Postage Stamps specially surcharged for use in the Levant :
- V. Telegraph Stamps for public use : and
- VI. Telegraph Stamps used by the War Office.

We do not intend, except in one or two instances, to describe or mention any of the numerous essays of or trials for adhesive stamps, but only to deal with those stamps which were actually issued, or prepared for issue.

Before proceeding to the consideration of any of the above adhesive stamps, we propose to make some remarks on certain points and features which, whenever they occur, are constant, thus avoiding needless repetition in each of the six Divisions of our work.

Die.—In deciding upon a design for the adhesive labels, it became a question of paramount importance to guard against the possibility of forgery ; while, at the same time, representing as they would a form of currency, it was obviously desirable that the labels should present a portrait of Queen Victoria. The selected design of the stamp is cut, either by hand alone or aided by machinery, and either directly or assisted by the use of another die, on a block of “softened” steel, which, after being hardened, is usually known as the Original Die. The engraving is, of course, either in *intaglio*, if line-engraved stamps are to be produced ; or in *cameo*, if they are to be surface-printed : for embossed stamps, the design is cut in *intaglio*, but the engraving varies in depth in order to impart an unevenly raised surface to the paper on which they are struck. These different styles of engraving will be considered when discussing the Sections of the postage stamps issued for public use.

Plate.—Except in the case of the embossed stamps, which were struck singly, the plates from which the actual printing takes place are composed of a number—usually two hundred and forty—of facsimiles of the original die, reproduced in a manner suitable to the style of engraving adopted, with the addition, if required, of the plate-numbers and corner-lettering subsequently referred to. After the completion of the plate, a proof impression in black ink is taken from it and carefully examined, in order to ensure accuracy. The make-up and arrangement of the plates were occasionally altered, and we propose to separate these different phases into “States.”

Plate-number.—Until 1880, broadly speaking, the plates of each value were numbered consecutively, the figures being inserted in the margin, beyond the space occupied by the stamps; and in the majority of cases, from 1858 to 1884, the stamps themselves bear a corresponding number, although in the last four years of this period, the marginal figure was omitted.

Each value of stamp has a separate series of consecutive numbers, commencing with 1*, and these numbers must not be confused with another consecutive series, known as the “Current Numbers,” which are dealt with below.

A letter of the 28th January, 1858, from the Inland Revenue to the General Post Office, contained a suggestion that each stamp should bear the number of the plate from which it was printed, this number to be inserted in very small Arabic figures, and to be repeated on each side of the stamp to prevent its being cut off by an encroachment of the perforation. This proposal was approved by the Postmaster-General on the 3rd February, 1858, and on the 5th of the same month the Inland Revenue Department was requested to carry it into effect.

The original suggestion, as made to the Postmaster-General by the Commissioners, was that the Plate Numbers should be in colour on a small white oblong tablet, to the right and left of the stamp—where, in fact, the figures on the line-engraved stamps were ultimately placed—but the white space, immediately opposite Her Majesty’s profile, produced such an unpleasing effect, that it was abandoned in favour of the alternative, white figures on the marginal engine-turning.

Current-numbers.—These serve to indicate the order in which the various *plates*, irrespective of the facial value of the stamps, were constructed: thus, in the line-engraved stamps, numbers 224, 225, 226 and 227 were respectively allotted to plate 14 of the Halfpenny, plates 189 and 190 of the One Penny and plate 15 of the Twopence; whilst amongst the surface-printed, plate 9 of the One Shilling, plate 13 (defective and never used) of the Threepence, plate 14 of the Sixpence, and plate 15 of the Fourpence were represented by numbers—which were of a separate series—425, 426, 427 and 428.

The current-number, which is in the margins only, was first inserted in November, 1860, on plate 2 (never registered) of the surface-printed Sixpence.

Lettering.—In the first-issued values—the One Penny and Twopence line-engraved—check-letters were inserted in the two lower angles only, until April, 1858; but all lettered stamps thereafter made had, with one or two exceptions, letters in all four corners, those in the lower angles being repeated in the upper ones, in reversed order.

According to the system adopted, the letter in the left lower angle of the stamp denoted the number of the horizontal row in which that particular stamp was, and that in the right lower angle its place in that row. Thus, the stamps in the first row would be lettered in the lower angles, “A.A.,” “A.B.,” “A.C.,” &c.; those in the

* Certain “reserve” plates were separately numbered, in a series of their own.

second row, "B.A.," "B.B.," "B.C.," &c. ; in the third row, "C.A.," "C.B.," "C.C.," &c. ; and so on up to the last row on the sheet : e.g., the fifth stamp in the second row would be lettered "B.E.;" or, if there were letters in all four corners, " $\begin{matrix} B & A \\ B & A \end{matrix}$ " In the Telegraph stamps, and in the Five Pounds postage stamp* the method of lettering was reversed, the letter in the right-hand lower corner showing the horizontal row, the other indicating the place of the particular stamp in that row.

These letters not only indicated the place on the sheet of any particular stamp, but were introduced to assist in guarding against forgery, as it was thought that any large sale, or extensive use, of forged stamps, all lettered alike, would cause enquiries and probably lead to detection ; and the production of stamps with different lettering would necessarily be a costly process.

The reason for subsequently inserting the check-letters in all four angles was given in the following Post Office circular :—



"Circular to all Postmasters who obliterate Postage Stamps.

**"ALTERATION IN THE SYSTEM OF LETTERING THE CORNERS OF
"POSTAGE LABELS.**

" In order to prevent frauds, which have sometimes been attempted upon the
" Revenue, by the use of Postage Stamps, formed by joining together clean portions
" cut from Labels, which have previously passed through the post, the Letters which
" now appear at the lower corners of the Postage Labels, will, in future, be repeated
" at the upper corners ; transposed, however, so as to afford still greater security,
" thus :—



" On the right and left-hand side of each Label, the number of the Plate from which
" it is printed will appear in small figures as shown above.

" If any Postage Label passing through your office, should appear to have been
" formed by pieces cut from separate stamps, you will be careful to ascertain whether
" the letters at the corners are arranged in the manner above described, and whether
" the number on each side of the Label is the same. Should any difference appear
" in these respects you will treat the letter in the manner laid down in the 130th Rule
" of Instructions to Postmasters.

" Twopenny Labels with these alterations will shortly be issued, and the change will
" ultimately be extended to the Penny and other Labels.

" GENERAL POST OFFICE,
" July, 1858.

ROWLAND HILL,
Secretary."

* The plate of this stamp was adapted from the *telegraph* plate of similar value.

The suggestion which was acted on for this alteration in the method of lettering, emanated from the Postmaster of Amersham (Mr. J. R. Bettesworth), who, on the 11th July, 1857, wrote officially to call attention to the facility with which the Revenue might be, and, as he believed, was being, defrauded, by joining together the clean portions cut from Penny postage stamps which had been only partially obliterated, and suggesting, as a means of readily detecting such frauds, that initial letters should be placed at all the four corners of these stamps.

He forwarded in his letter a sheet of paper divided into spaces resembling the postage stamps, lettered to illustrate his suggestion, thus:—

A	B B	C C	D D	E E	F F
C	D D	E E	F F	G G	H H
B	C C	D D	E E	F F	G G
D	E E	F F	G G		
C	D D	E E	F F		
E	F F	G G	H H		
D	E E	F F	G G		

and so on, throughout the sheet.*

The defect of the arrangement proposed by Mr. Bettesworth was that very many stamps on the sheet would be lettered in the same manner: *e. g.*, the first eleven stamps in any row would be lettered exactly the same as the last eleven stamps in the row above it; and, indeed, in the entire sheet of two hundred and forty stamps, there would be only thirty-one variations in the lettering. This difficulty was overcome by a modification suggested by Mr. Rowland Hill, of simply repeating in the upper corners, in reversed order, the two letters which the stamp already bore, under the old

* This plan had also suggested itself to Mr. (afterwards Sir) Rowland Hill so far back as August, 1852, at which time he had sought the opinion of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., as to the feasibility of such an alteration in the plates. To this Mr. J. B. Bacon replied in a letter, dated the 24th of that month:—

“ . . . I entirely concur with you in thinking the alteration should be ordered to take place in plates hereafter to be made, as it may do a vast deal of good . . . As, however, the top matter is now, and ever has been, on the die itself, and, therefore, requires no time or labour to produce it, and under the new plan it must be erased from the top corners and stamped in every plate 480 times, you will perceive in a moment that it will increase the time required in the preparation of every new plate by from 2½ to 3 days; and, in fact, from the quantity of plates now used, would oblige us to employ an extra hand.”

Owing, probably, to the additional expense thus involved, no further steps appear to have been taken in the matter at that time.

system in the lower corners: this would give every one of the two hundred and forty stamps a different lettering.

On the 16th November, 1857, the Post Office addressed a letter to the Inland Revenue Department requesting them to carry out this suggestion; and, on the 28th January, 1858, the Commissioners replied, saying that the plan could be adopted: the outcome of this was the above Circular of July, 1858.

Registration.—An impression, printed from each plate, in the colour and on the paper for the time being in use, or intended to be used, for the value so dealt with, was filed in the Archives of the Inland Revenue Department at Somerset House; and on it were endorsed a certificate as to the date when it was printed, and an order authorising the use of the plate. In later years, especially with the surface-printed stamps of Section III, these endorsements became little more than brief memoranda frequently consisting of only a date and initials.

Until 1889, the practice was to strike off six impressions, from which the *imprimatur* sheet was selected, the others going into stock and being issued: after that date only one sheet was printed on the registration of a new plate.

Perforation.—Until the end of January, 1854, all the postage stamps were, with one exception which will be duly noted, issued to the public in an imperforate condition, but the extreme inconvenience arising therefrom led to many suggestions for facilitating the severance of the stamps one from another, and various modes of effecting it were privately adopted. The earliest suggestion of this nature, which has come to our knowledge, was dated Aberdeen, 17th August, 1841, and signed "J. B.": it was addressed to Mr. Rowland Hill, and ran as follows:—

"If, in engraving the Postage Stamps, a deep line were cut between them, in the act of printing the paper would be so pressed into the cuts, that each stamp might be readily parted from its neighbour without knife or scissors. I cause my clerks to fold the whole sheets in line between the stamps, which breaks the gum there, and has the same effect as that which I now propose would have."

Nothing resulted from this suggestion, and the subject does not appear to have received official notice until the year 1847, when Mr. Henry Archer, an Irishman, brought forward a machine, ostensibly invented by himself, though in reality the joint work of several mechanics who had aided him, "whereby the stamps might be separated without the necessity of using knives or scissors." The matter was referred to certain officials at the Post Office, who, in their report to the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, made the 14th October, 1847, stated that the machine appeared to be a clever and useful invention, and one which, in their opinion, it was desirable should be adopted.

The invention was described at the time as being one "for piercing the portions of the paper intervening between the labels, by a series of cuts, in such a manner as to admit of their being detached singly, without the use of knife or scissors," a system now known to philatelists as "rouletting," which consists of cuts in the paper, without any of its substance being removed.

On the 13th October, 1847, Archer wrote to Mr. Rowland Hill, enclosing him a portion of a sheet of Penny stamps, rouletted by his machine, and requesting his approval of the system. These specimens, some of which are still in existence, show twelve to fourteen cuts in the vertical sides of the stamps, by eleven to twelve cuts in the horizontal, or 23 cuts in the space of 40 mm. ($1\frac{2}{8}$ inches) (*Illustration 4*). On the 7th January, 1848, the report of the Commissioners was approved by the Lords of the Treasury, and stamps rouletted by Archer's machine were authorized to be circulated.

The first trial of Archer's machine, however, was not satisfactory: it was found "that the piercing rollers by which the cuts were made, speedily wore out the table on which their edges descended, and but few sheets were perforated, as this defect soon put a stop to further experiments. Archer then, with the help of a practical machinist, modified the machine by introducing a series of lancet-shaped blades, but on trial this also failed, partly from the same cause as before, and partly from the blades becoming blunted against the table.

"Examples of the stamps, which are the result of both of these experiments, are preserved at the Post Office, and some few sheets found their way into the hands of the public, though the number must have been very limited, as specimens are exceedingly rare, but when found they may readily be distinguished from each other. In the first, the cuts vary in length, and the distances separating them from each other are unequal, while the cut itself is irregular and jagged, and the stamp is seldom left square at the angles. In the second, the cuts are straight and clean, widening at the extremities, and they are much closer together and at more regular intervals."

"The first apparatus offered by Archer consisted of two machines, to be used in succession—one containing a roller carrying thirteen little spur-wheels placed the width of a stamp apart; the other with twenty-one similar spur-wheels the length of the stamp apart. The sheets were passed first under the roller of the one to have the longitudinal lines of perforation pierced, then under the other for the cross lines."*

On its becoming evident, after repeated trials, that this system could not, from its fundamental defects, be successfully adopted, Archer, in the year 1848, produced another machine, by means of which a series of circular holes was punched out of the paper in the intervals between the stamps. In the course of a further series of trials conducted with this machine, it became apparent that the system of perforation was free from the objections inseparable from the previous endeavours in this direction; and Archer, having declined to continue his experiments at the premises of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Petch, had a room set apart for his use at Somerset House, where he continued them for some considerable further period.

The successive stages in the foregoing experiments and negotiations were summarized by Archer in a Memorial, addressed by him to the Lords of the Treasury, from which it may be of interest to give the following extract:—

"THE MEMORIAL of the Patentee of a Machine for punching the sheets of Postage Labels, so as to effect the instant separation of such Labels, without the employment of any cutting instrument.

"It appears, by returns made to Parliament, that nearly one half of the letters which pass through the Post Offices of the United Kingdom, instead of being paid by Labels affixed thereon, are prepaid in money by the writers . . . and your Memorialist, believing the cause of the public preferring to prepay in money rather than by label, to be attributable chiefly to the inconvenience of separating the labels either by cutting or tearing, did,—with a view to providing a remedy . . .,—invent, in the early part of 1847, a machine for perforating the sheets along the guide lines, so as to allow the stamps to be instantly dis severed without the operation of cutting . . .

"Such method of perforating" (*viz.*, rouletting) "the sheets necessarily produces scolloped or indented edges upon the stamps, which are thus rendered less liable to be removed by friction or otherwise after they have been attached to the letters.

"Your Memorialist, conceiving, if the proposed plan were carried out, it would

* *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain (Philbrick and Westoby), pp. 65-66, and note.*

“ prove a great public convenience, was induced to address, on the 1st October, 1847,
“ a letter to the Postmaster-General on the subject, who was pleased to refer the matter
“ to the Practical Department of the Post Office The chief officer of such depart-
“ ment, having duly enquired into the several matters referred to him, reported to the
“ Postmaster-General (14th October, 1847), that the machine was, in his opinion, com-
“ petent to perform the required work, and that the plan, if carried out, would prove
“ advantageous to the public.

“ On the receipt of this report, the Postmaster-General was pleased to forward it
“ (22nd October, 1847), to the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, with a recom-
“ mendation to adopt the system, if they should be of opinion it was desirable to do so.

“ In consequence the Commissioners immediately referred the matter to
“ their Supervisor, Mr. Hill, with a view to ascertaining the efficacy of the machine, &c.

“ After Mr. Hill had instituted the necessary enquiries, he reported (in effect) to
“ the Commissioners, that on public grounds, it was desirable to adopt the plan.

“ In consequence of this report, your Memorialist received a letter from the Com-
“ missioners of Stamps and Taxes, requesting that he would have two machines made
“ for perforating the sheets, in the way proposed by him.

“ Your Memorialist accordingly employed an eminent mechanical engineer to con-
“ struct the same, according to the plan submitted to the said Commissioners.

“ When the first machine was constructed, it was found upon trial that the piercing
“ rollers so wore the table upon which the sheets were laid, that it was considered that
“ the wear and tear would be too costly for carrying out the plan, with advantage to
“ the public ; and your Memorialist was therefore compelled to abandon the plan of
“ perforating the sheets by rollers.

“ Your Memorialist, however, being convinced that it was possible to construct a
“ machine to answer the object designed, freed from such objection, had another
“ perforating machine constructed by other parties, upon the fly-press principle ; but,
“ finding that the bed of this machine would likewise suffer from the perforating tools,
“ though in a far less degree than the table of the first machine, your Memorialist
“ invented another machine for *punching* the sheets, whereby the aforesaid objection to
“ the carrying out of his plan was entirely removed.

“ Your Memorialist, however, not deeming it prudent to incur any further expense,
“ without securing his invention, was induced to take out a patent to effect that object ;
“ and that (*sic*) immediately after he had done so, he—instead of making two single
“ machines—had, with a view of saving expense in the working, a double Punching
“ Machine constructed to accomplish the desired object, and which, upon trial in the
“ presence of Mr. Hill, was found to answer in every particular.

“ Subsequently to this successful preliminary trial, that is to say, on the 6th day of
“ December, 1848, your Memorialist was directed by the said Commissioners of Stamps
“ and Taxes, to forward the machine invented by him to the establishment of their
“ printers in Fleet Street, to ascertain whether they could work it for the purpose designed.

“ The machine was found not to act, in consequence of the punching tools
“ and matrices having become clogged and choked with gum.

“ In consequence of this mishap, Mr. Hill requested Mr. De La Rue, a
“ gentleman who has had great experience in such work, to give him his opinion on
“ the subject.

“ Your Memorialist then removed the machine from the said printers, in
“ order to make some alterations and improvements, suggested by Mr. Hill and
“ Mr. De La Rue.

" As soon as the required alterations were made, your Memorialist informed the Authorities at the Stamp Office, that the machine was ready for working, in consequence of which a preliminary trial was made in the presence of Mr. Hill, at the establishment of Mr. Addenbrooke, the machinist who constructed it.

" Shortly afterwards, Mr. Hill, having received the Commissioners' permission, requested your Memorialist to forward the machine for use to Somerset House.

" In compliance with such request, your Memorialist, on the 9th day of January, 1850, sent it to the Stamping Department in that Establishment It was found after several days' trial, that the spoil occasioned by the machine amounted to one sheet in a hundred.

" With a view of effectually removing the cause, which produced this trifling amount of waste, an important alteration in the machine was suggested by Mr. Hill

" The machine, with this alteration, having been recently used for several days at the Stamp Office, has been found to answer in every respect.

" Your Memorialist, therefore, submits that by the adoption of his plan the convenience of the public would be greatly promoted

" Your Memorialist, therefore, humbly prays that either a Select Committee of the House of Commons, or a Commission be appointed to enquire and report and finally to determine, what would be a fair remuneration to allow your Memorialist for his patent right, &c.

" 24, Upper Eccleston Place,

HENRY ARCHER.

" Eccleston Square. May, 1850."

As a result of the negotiations which followed on this Memorial, the Treasury, on the 31st January, 1851, offered Archer £600 for his machine and the patent rights connected therewith. This amount was rejected by Archer, as totally inadequate, and further negotiations took place, in the course of which Archer forwarded the following certificate to the Postmaster-General, in order to prove the utility of his invention, and the benefit that would accrue to the public by its adoption :—

" *Parliamentary Paper Office,*

" *House of Commons,*

" *Westminster, London,*

" *September 2nd, 1851.*

" This is to certify that the perforated Postage Labels, which were supplied at the House of Commons for the use of Members of Parliament, during the last Session, were highly approved of by them : so much so, that the quantity sold was very considerably greater than in any previous year.

" WM. JNO. LINTON."

This document is of interest, as showing that, during the year 1851, which was more than two years before perforation was officially adopted, a considerable number of *perforated* stamps, probably of both One Penny and Twopence, was in this way semi-officially issued. It is indeed possible that post-marked specimens, perforated 16, may exist bearing dates of 1848, or early in 1849, though we are not aware of any such having been chronicled, dated earlier than 1850.

Archer continued his negotiations with the Treasury, and in 1852 the matter was referred to a Select Committee of the House of Commons, whose report, dated in

May of that year, was in favour of perforation. Shortly afterwards the Government paid Archer the sum of £4,000, in full satisfaction of all claims, including the purchase of his machine and the patent rights connected therewith.

Although the credit of inventing the perforating machine has always been ascribed to Archer, it would seem that the system, and in particular its adaptation to sheets of stamps, was really in a greater degree due to the skill and suggestions of others. The bare conception may have been Archer's; and, we are informed by a gentleman who knew him intimately at this period, that he well remembers Archer having told him, that the idea of applying perforation to stamps was suggested to him by observing the office window-blinds then in use, which consisted of a thin sheet of iron, having a number of small circular holes, in close proximity, punched out of the metal. It is clear, however, that Archer was quite incapable of giving practical effect to his idea; and it has been stated by Mr. Ormond Hill, formerly Inspector of Stamping at Somerset House, "that Archer was not possessed of any inventive power, or mechanical knowledge; but, having imagined or picked up a good idea, was entirely dependent on others for the mode in which it should be carried out, and, being almost without means, he went from one mechanician to another, and got each to work for him, upon the hope of being paid when success was attained. When the Government purchased the machine and the right to use it, he told Mr. Hill, that he had to pay about £2,000 amongst the several mechanicians that had so aided him." In addition to the help Archer received from professional mechanicians, he was for long very ably and materially assisted by Mr. Edwin Hill, then Controller of the Stamping Department at Somerset House.

Under date of 1st June, 1853, Mr. Rowland Hill noted in his diary the fact of the Chancellor of the Exchequer having "just purchased Archer's patent for £4,000," which he goes on to characterise as an "extravagant sum," from which it may be inferred that he also entertained a poor opinion of Archer's merits as the inventor.

The authorities, on the other hand, were far from appreciating how great a boon the perforation of stamps would prove itself to be, alike to postmasters and the public, and it is due to Archer to remember that, but for his persistent efforts, the introduction of perforation would undoubtedly have been delayed for many years.

From the statements made by Archer, in the course of his examination before the Committee of 1852, it would appear that he experimented upon about five thousand sheets of the One Penny stamps, of which some were distributed by him, the rest being forwarded to Country Post Offices. One of the greatest difficulties in perforating the stamps arose from the irregular spacing of the impressions on the plate (*Illustration 3*), a defect subsequently remedied by means of a ratchet arrangement, adopted by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., which secured an even and regular spacing throughout the plate.

It was not, however, until the beginning of 1854 that perforation was officially adopted for the line-engraved and surface-printed stamps; and, on the 28th—not, as is generally supposed, the 27th—January in that year, perforating machines, constructed by Mr. James N. Napier, the well-known mechanical engineer of Southwark, were brought into use. Until the 1st September, 1880, the perforation of all stamps was carried out at Somerset House; but the present contractors, Messrs. Thos. De La Rue and Co., having, on the 7th of the previous June, commenced to remove the machines to their own premises, the perforation was, after the completion of the removal at the end of August, carried out by that firm, the stamps being delivered ready for issue.

The pins of the machine produce at each descent, one entire horizontal, and thirteen short vertical rows of holes, so that, at each step of the process, every stamp in any one row is perforated on three sides. The thirteen vertical rows of needles were, in the later machines, capable of lateral adjustment, so as to adapt the machine for perforating sheets, in which the stamps were arranged either in one or, as in the early issues of the surface-printed series, in several, panes.

“*Creation.*”—This is the official term for an order for a supply of stamps, and special books are kept for the purpose of recording the various requirements.

When it becomes necessary to order a further supply, a Warrant is made out, directed to the storekeeper, for the required number of sheets of paper: these are “mill” sheets, and sometimes—as in the case of the large (1880) crown paper now in use—sufficiently large to receive two, or even four, impressions from the plate. The paper is then forwarded to the contractors for the printing, to whom a Warrant is sent, directing them to print off the requisite number of sheets: these are always given in “Post-office sheets,” which comprise, according to the facial value of the stamp, from twenty to two hundred and forty stamps: *e. g.* if 12,000 *entire* sheets of the One Shilling on spray of rose paper had been required, the *Paper Warrant* would have been for 12,000 sheets, and the *Creation Warrant* for 144,000 sheets, *i. e.* Post-office sheets of twenty stamps each.

Division I.

Postage Stamps issued for Public use.

In order to avoid the confusion, which would result from considering the Stamps of this Division in the strictly chronological order of their issue, they are divided into Sections, according to the method of their production :—

- I. Line-engraved :
- II. Embossed : and
- III. Surface-printed.

The Stamps comprised in the first two Sections, and—prior to the 1880-81 series—in the third Section, will be considered in the order of their value ; and each value will be examined, from its commencement until its final withdrawal.

The Stamps issued subsequently to 1879, would appear to be capable of being better dealt with as distinct emissions of several values, and they are thus treated, each issue being considered throughout, from the lowest to the highest value, before proceeding to another issue.

SECTION I.

LINE-ENGRAVED STAMPS.

These consist of :—

- (a) The One Halfpenny :
- (b) The One Penny :
- (c) The Three Halfpence : and
- (d) The Twopence.

The Stamps referred to in this Section were produced by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Petch (now Perkins Bacon & Co., Ltd.) of Fleet Street and Whitefriars Street, London, E.C., from line-engraved steel plates, the lines appearing in colour on the stamps themselves being cut into the metal, in *intaglio*.

The method of printing was to distribute the ink over the plate, rubbing it into the engraving ; then to clean off the surplus ink remaining on the flat surface—first with cloths and rags, and finally with the hand—and afterwards to lay the paper (previously dampened), intended to receive the impression, on the plate, and to subject both to heavy pressure, whereby the paper was forced into the lines of the engraving, from which it took up the ink. The sheets of stamps were then gummed and dried,

and, from early in 1854, also perforated (at Somerset House) and pressed, when they were ready for issue.

Before passing to the individual stamps of the Section it will be as well to notice certain features common to all of them, thereby avoiding unnecessary repetition.

Die.—The proposed design—without corner-lettering or plate-numbers—was engraved partly by mechanical means and partly by hand, in *intaglio* on a block of softened steel, which was then hardened and constituted what is known as the “original die.”

Plate.—By the aid of powerful pressure, amounting to several tons, an impression was taken from the die on a small “roller” of softened steel; and this was, as regards the design, in relief or *cameo*. In those issues in which there was a plate-number on the stamp itself, it was added on the roller, which after being hardened was used to reproduce *intaglio* impressions, one by one, on a plate of softened steel, the process being repeated until the desired number had been so produced. The “burr” on the plate, caused by the rocking of the roller, was removed; the letters, as previously mentioned, were then punched in the angles; and the plate-number at the corners of the plate and the marginal inscriptions were added. The plate was then hardened and became fit for use.

The plates from which the stamps in this Section were printed, were—with the exception of the 20 “Reserve” plates of the One Penny value—all numbered consecutively, in each value, except under special circumstances, as when a plate had been spoiled in the making: those of the One Penny, Die I and Die II, were, however, numbered in two series. As the position, &c. of the plate-numbers varied, they are described separately, under the various values to which they belong.

Paper.—The paper employed was greyish-white handmade wove, with ragged or “deckle” edges on all sides of the sheet, manufactured at Rush Mills, Northampton—originally by Mr. Stacey Wise, and afterwards by his widow, who subsequently married a Dr. Faircroft—and was made up in reams of five hundred sheets each. It varied very much in substance, like all hand-made papers, ranging from thick to very thin.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in procuring a paper suitable for the adhesive labels, and, though samples and tenders were invited and received from several of the leading makers, none appeared to fulfil the necessary conditions, one of the most essential features being difficult of imitation.

Mr. John Wood, the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, considered the most suitable paper, in this respect, to be that manufactured by Mr. Dickinson, of the firm of Dickinson & Longman, of Nash Mills, in which silk threads were introduced into the substance of the paper, now known to Philatelists as “Dickinson” paper. Mr. Dickinson had already been entrusted with a contract for supplying his paper for the Mulready envelopes and covers, but it was found to be in many respects unsuitable for the adhesive labels.

Mr. Rowland Hill was early of opinion that a watermarked paper would present the greatest obstacle to successful imitation; and so much did this prove to be the case, that even the makers who originally tendered appeared at the time unable to surmount it. Ultimately Mr. Stacey Wise* informed Mr. Rowland Hill that he was

* A Minute of the Board of Commissioners, dated 9th April, 1840, reads:—

“The necessary contracts with Messrs. Perkins and Bacon, of Fleet Street, for printing the adhesive stamps for denoting the postage of letters, have been completed; and the warehouse-keeper in this office being prepared to receive the paper for such stamps, which is to be supplied by Mr. Stacey Wise, under the sanction of the Board of Excise, the necessary instructions given for the supply.”

prepared to supply paper watermarked as desired, with the result that, on the 4th March, 1840—the time then being very short—he was given a temporary contract for 200 reams. The manufacture of this paper was commenced on the 30th March, 1840, and, judging from the instructions in the before-mentioned Minute, the first warrant authorising the supply of paper to the printers was issued in the following month. In many instances the variation from a common standard of thickness was intentional, in order to maintain the weight of the ream within prescribed limits,* and from time to time the substance was altered by order of the authorities, in response to suggestions from Mr. Rowland Hill, who speedily perceived that when the paper was very stout the adhesiveness of the labels was greatly impaired.

Watermarks.—These were produced by affixing to the wire-gauze of the paper moulds, patterns, in brass wire or thin sheet brass, of the required design, which had the effect of making the paper somewhat thinner, an impression of the design being visible on holding the paper up to the light or placing it on a dark background.

Impression.—The stamps were printed at hand-worked copperplate presses, at the rate of four to five hundred sheets daily for each press. In 1855, printings were made experimentally from some of the line-engraved plates at steam presses.

The number of sheets struck from each plate varied considerably, from a few thousands to over one million; and details of the “lives” and work of the various plates are, in many instances, given in the Appendix.

Gum.—After the sheets had been printed, the “cement,” as the marginal legend termed it, was applied to the back.

This “cement,” which was commercially known as “British Gum,” varied from white to brownish, was deficient in adhesive qualities, and was exceedingly disagreeable to the taste. It was made from potato starch, slightly toasted, or burnt, at a temperature of 400° Fahrenheit, with the addition, after the middle of 1855, of a certain proportion of gelatine.

In and after 1864, two coats of gum were applied, in order to increase the adhesive power of the “cement.”

(a) THE ONE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE: 1ST OCTOBER, 1870.

Date of Issue.—The issue of this value, and the object of its introduction, were notified in the following Post Office Circular, dated the 10th September, 1870:—



“NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

“HALFPENNY POSTAGE LABELS

“In connection with the reduction in the rate of Postage on Inland Newspapers, Printed Matter and Patterns or Samples, which will take effect on and from the 1st October, Halfpenny Postage Labels will be introduced

“*Note.*—Reduction of Postage is not to commence before the 1st October.”

* The contract specified that the weight of a ream should be 11½ lbs., but, in fact, it varied from 9 lbs. to 12 lbs.

The first issue from store took place on the 24th August, 1870, and consisted of 10,000 sheets,* consigned to the General Post Office.

The total issues from store up to the day of first distribution to the Public amounted to 81,682 sheets.

Design.—The die, which was of diminutive size, much smaller than that of the other values, was engraved by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Petch, the design consisting of a diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, within an upright oval having a plain white background. The oval is contained within an oblong rectangular frame, the ground-work of which was mechanically engraved in a lattice-work pattern. At each of the four corners is a square white block to contain the check-letters, and at each side of the frame, on a solid ground of colour is inscribed " $\frac{1}{2}$ " in white. The plate-number was inserted in minute Arabic numerals, and appears in white on the lattice work, immediately to the right and to the left of the oval medallion.

The stamp, which is oblong rectangular in shape, measures 18 mm. by 14 mm. (*Illustration 1.*)

Plate.—Although the last plate made was numbered 22, only fifteen were used, viz., nos. 1, 3 to 6, 8 to 15, 19 and 20.

(*State I.*)—The plate measured 472 mm. ($18\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in width, by 316 mm. ($12\frac{7}{8}$ inches) in height, and contained four hundred and eighty impressions in a single pane, arranged in twenty horizontal rows of twenty-four in each row; and this constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of £1.

On the top, bottom and side margins was engraved the following legend:—
 "PRICE $\frac{1}{2}$ Per Label. 1/- Per Row of 24. £1, Per Sheet. Place the Labels ABOVE and at the RIGHT HAND SIDE of the Address. In Wetting the Back be careful not to remove the Cement." At each corner of the plate, its number was inserted in Arabic figures within a small circle, and the "current" number was placed over the seventh stamp in the top row, and under the eighteenth in the bottom row. A fan-shaped ornament was engraved at the top and bottom of the plate, at a point indicating where the sheet could be divided into equal portions; and at each side were a cross and a horizontal line, inserted as a guide for the perforating machine, and perhaps also for the purposes of further division. In the four corners of each stamp, coloured check-letters in small *sans-serif* capitals were inserted by means of hand-punches; and the lettering extended from "A.A." to "X.T.", there being four hundred and eighty stamps on the Plate instead of the usual two hundred and forty. (*See Diagram A.†*)

Plate 1, approved and put to press on the 20th June, 1870, remained in use until the 13th May, 1872; plate 2 was found to be imperfect after 232 roller impressions had been made on it; plate 3, approved and put to press on the 28th June, 1870, was discarded on the 2nd October, 1873; plate 4, approved on the 4th July, 1870, was in use from that day until the 16th December, 1873; and plate 5, registered on the 19th July, 1870, was at press from a week before that date to the 16th December, 1876.

(*State II.*)—The only difference between the two States was that the second showed a double instead of an ordinary cross at each side of the plate. (*Diagram A.*)

Plate 6, approved and put to press on the 19th July, 1870, remained in use till the 6th May, 1876; plate 7, owing to the roller being defective, was never commenced; of plates 8 and 9, approved respectively on the 26th July and 23rd December, 1870,

* "Sheets" are always entire sheets, unless otherwise stated.

† Diagram A, with an ordinary cross at each side of the Plate, instead of the double one, would show State I.

we have no details, except that the former was destroyed on the 26th October, 1880, and the latter put to press on the 9th October, 1871; plate 10, registered on the 25th October, 1872, was at press from the 2nd October, 1873, until the 6th May, 1878; and plate 11, approved on the same day as plate 10, was first printed from on the 21st January, 1874, and was in use till the 19th May, 1879.

Of the remaining plates employed, we have only the dates when they were registered and put to press: no. 12, on the 30th April and 29th June, 1874; no. 13, on the 3rd June, 1875, and the 6th May, 1876; no. 14, on the 3rd June, 1875, and the 16th November, 1876; no. 15, on the 16th November, 1876, and the 6th May, 1878; no. 19 on the 16th November, 1877, and the 18th July, 1878; and no. 20 on the 31st December, 1878, and the 27th June, 1879. These six plates were destroyed on the 26th October, 1880.

Plate 16 was never completed, as the roller broke after making 198 impressions; the rollers of plates 17 and 18 both cracked after sixteen impressions had been made; and plates 21 and 22, although made, were never brought into use, or even registered, and were destroyed on the 26th October, 1880.

Paper.—The sheet measured 532 mm. ($20\frac{1}{8}$ inches) in width, by 346 mm. ($13\frac{3}{8}$ inches) in height, and bore the words “half penny” in cursive hand, watermarked one hundred and sixty times—*i. e.*, eight times in each of the twenty horizontal rows, so that one watermark extended the length of three stamps. In the margin at each side, and opposite

half penny

the centre of the sheet, were the words “Postage Stamps” in script characters, the watermark measuring

Postage Stamps

86 mm. ($3\frac{3}{8}$ inches) in length. (*Diagram A.*)

86 mm. ($3\frac{3}{8}$ inches) in length. (*Diagram A.*)

In substance, the paper was rather thinner than the average thickness of that employed for the other values in this Section.

Colour.—This was lake-red, similar to that employed for the One Penny, varying in depth of shade, and sometimes approaching to a rose-red tint not found in that value.

Gum.—The gum, which has been previously described, varied in colour from brown to white.

Perforation.—The Perforation was of the uniform gauge then employed, containing fourteen holes in the space of two centimetres; but, instead of being applied to the sheets in successive *horizontal* rows, commencing from the top or bottom, as in the other values, it was begun at the side, by which method the stamps were perforated in *vertical* rows, leaving one of the two outside rows imperforate on either the right or left-hand side, according to the manner in which the sheet was placed in the machine. Examples having the right-hand side imperforate, must necessarily be lettered from “X.A.” to “X.T.”; and similarly if imperforate on the left-hand side, the lettering of the partially perforated stamps must range from “A.A.” to “A.T.”

Specimens from several of the plates put to press may be met with imperforate, having been so issued.

Creation.—The demand for this value was very considerable, and the Warrants issued to the printers, during the ten years these stamps were in use, indicate a total printing of no less than 3,827,500 sheets, or 1,837,200,000 stamps, of which (according

to an Inland Revenue return given in the *Life of Sir Rowland Hill*) 3,333,909 sheets, or 1,600,276,320 stamps had been issued up to the end of 1879.

The number of sheets struck from some of the plates will be found in the Appendix.

The last warrant was dated in July, 1880, and was for 19,500 sheets.

Remarks.—Copies from plate 9, which was once supposed not to have been used, are somewhat scarce.

The stamps continued in issue until October, 1880, when they were superseded by the stamps of similar value described under Section III (surface-printed stamps). p. 146

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked "*half penny*" in script, as above, extending the length of three stamps; Plates 1, 3 to 6, 8 to 15, 19 and 20.

1st October, 1870.—One Halfpenny, lake-red, rose-red (shades of both); perforated 14.

Varieties.

One Halfpenny, lake-red, rose-red; Plates 1, 4, 5, and 6; imperforate.

(b) THE ONE PENNY.

FIRST ISSUE: 1ST (FOR 6TH) MAY, 1840.

Date of Issue.—The 6th May has been the hitherto accepted date on which this value was first issued, but there is now evidence which shows it to be highly probable that the *issue* really took place some days prior to this date. The 1st May was the date originally fixed by the Lords of the Treasury, but, as it drew near, the authorities had reason to fear that a sufficient supply would not then be ready, and accordingly the date of their use was postponed for five days: thereupon the notices, which have been given *in extenso* in Chapter IV of the Introduction, were issued.

While, as will have been seen from these Circulars, the 6th May was assigned as the date on which "Stamps" would be first issued to the Public, it is necessary to note that the term "Stamps," in these early official documents, is generally applied to the Mulready envelopes and covers, the adhesive stamps being termed "Labels." In the course of our investigations, however, we were fortunate in discovering, amidst a vast and extremely dusty accumulation of long-forgotten ledgers, the original Issue-book of the Storekeeper of Stamps at Somerset House, in which is contained a minute account of the adhesive stamps despatched to the various Postmasters throughout the kingdom.

The first entry relates to adhesive stamps of the Penny value, and is under date of the 27th April, 1840. It records the despatch of thirteen entire sheets to the General Post Office; the second entry, dated the 29th April, recording the despatch of five more sheets to the same place. These were, without doubt, utilised in connection with the Post-office Circular of the latter date, to which specimens of the Penny "labels" were attached; and, on the same day, 1,950 sheets were supplied to Mr. Cockell, at the Head Office, Somerset House; and the same number of sheets to Mr. Mc Quoid, at the Sea Policy Office, in the City of London.

On the 30th April, supplies, amounting in the aggregate to 1,799 sheets, were despatched to 88 Postmasters, including those of the following places, from which it will be seen that the stamps were distributed over a very large area:—Bromsgrove,

22 entire sheets; Kidderminster, 20; Louth, 35; Lincoln, 34; Boston, 34; Sheffield, 126; Canterbury, 62; Tunbridge Wells, 26; Maidstone, 78; Bedford, 28; Henley, 132; Wantage, 8; Sevenoaks, 30; Hythe, 8; Gravesend, 39; &c.

On the following day, the 1st May, a further 5,540 sheets were sent to 168 other offices, including:—Bath, 215; Bristol, 338; Cheltenham, 125; Taunton, 49; Norwich, 124; Hereford, 42; Gloucester, 65; Southampton, 113; Portsmouth, 95; York, 124; Leicester, 82; Brighton, 148; &c.

On the 2nd of May, there was a further distribution of 5,189 sheets to 253 offices, other than those previously mentioned; and this was the last general despatch of this value. No issue was made on the 3rd or 4th of May; but, on the 5th, 1,000 sheets were forwarded to Edinburgh, 1,000 to Dublin, 1,000 to the Head Office at Somerset House, and 2,000 to the Sea Policy Office in the City.

Up to and including the 6th May, the total distribution amounted to 22,993 sheets, sent to 514 offices. The supplies were presumably in accordance with requisitions from the various Postmasters, and the number of sheets despatched to individual offices affords an interesting insight into their relative degrees of local postal importance in those days.

With the exception of the eighteen sheets previously mentioned, no supply of this value appears to have been sent to the General Post Office until the 13th May, on which date it received 1,000 sheets, in response to an application from the Secretary, to which we find a reference in the following Minute of the Commissioners:—

“ 13th May, 1840.

“ Read letter from Col. Maberly of G. P. O., requesting a supply of stamps, with “ a view to the letter-receivers in London being furnished with them.

“ Prepare Warrant for consigning to Receiving Agent of the Post-office £1,000 “ worth of 1d. labels. . . .”

The consignments of this issue to Postmasters, inclusive of all those in the London offices, amounted to a total of about 300,000 sheets, distributed over a period of nine or ten months, as follows:—

To the 14th July, 1840	90,871 sheets
From the 15th July to the 10th October	97,130 “
“ “ 11th October to the 5th January, 1841	76,840 “
“ “ 6th January to the exhaustion of stock, about	35,159 “
TOTAL	<u>300,000 sheets</u>

Although, as we have shown, considerable supplies were at an early date despatched to offices throughout the Kingdom, the issue was not general in London until the end of May, or early in June, owing to a clerical error in transcribing a Treasury Minute, which had directed that the issue of stamps from the sub-offices in London was *not* to be delayed; but, in sending a copy of this to the Postmaster-General, the word “not” was omitted, and considerable delay occurred before the mistake was discovered and rectified.

Towards the end of 1840, the consumption of One Penny labels for the whole of Scotland was about 1,000 entire sheets per week; and, on the 21st December of that year, the stock in hand at the Office of Stamps and Taxes at Edinburgh was 16,000 sheets.

A Minute of the Board of Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes (now the Inland Revenue), dated the 11th December, 1840, directed that a stock of from 10,000 to 20,000 sheets of the Penny value should always be kept on hand at Somerset House.

The supply could not apparently keep pace with the constantly increasing consumption, as we find that, on the 22nd September, 1840, the stock had fallen to 5,700 sheets; and in the following January, it was only 3,000 sheets, to augment which 11,000 sheets were ordered to be returned from Scotland.

Design. (Die I.)—The accepted design consisted of a diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, upon a background, and within a frame, of ornamental lathe-work.

The preparation of the die was entrusted to Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., who, by means of a special machine, (the invention of Mr. Perkins), first engraved the lathe-work, a portion of which was subsequently erased to receive the head; and this part of the work was executed by Mr. Frederick Heath, an artist of great skill, who received fifty guineas for his labours, which occupied some six weeks. The model from which Mr. Heath worked was a drawing by Mr. Henry Corbould—for which he was paid twelve guineas—of the obverse of Mr. William Wyon's medal, struck in commemoration of Her Majesty's visit to the City of London, on the 9th November, 1837.

On a horizontal tablet above the head, is the word "POSTAGE," and below the bust, on a similar tablet, is the value "ONE PENNY," both legends being in white Roman capitals, on a background of close vertical lines. With regard to this portion of the design, Mr. Rowland Hill made the following entry in his diary, under date of the 30th January, 1840:—

" agreed with the C(hancellor) of the Ex(chequer) that the legend on the " stamps should be 'Postage One Penny.' "

In the four corners were square white blocks, the two upper being occupied by stars so drawn as to give the appearance of white crosses *paté*, the lower ones being left blank; on the completion of the plate, these latter were filled in with check-letters in Roman capitals, inserted by means of hand punches. The entire design is of upright rectangular shape, $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $18\frac{3}{4}$ mm. (*Illustration 2.*)

Plate.—For the first issue plates 1 to 11, inclusive, were used.*

(*State I.*)—The plate consisted of two hundred and forty impressions in one pane, arranged in twenty horizontal rows of twelve stamps, representing the facial value of £1, and constituting a Post-office sheet.

Above, below, and at each side of the pane, were marginal inscriptions in italics:—

" PRICE 1⁶/₈ Per Label. 1|- Per Row of 12. £1⁰/₁₁ Per Sheet. Place the Labels ABOVE the Address and " towards the RIGHT HAND SIDE of the Letter. In Wetting the Back be careful not to remove the Cement." and in each of the four corners were Arabic numerals denoting the number of the Plate. (*See Diagram B.* †)

The square white blocks in the lower corners of each stamp contained the check-letters, inserted by means of punches. The position of these letters, in relation to the blocks within which they were contained, was frequently very irregular, and the relative positions of the stamps themselves were also irregular in a marked degree, affording evidence of the haste with which some of these early plates were constructed, due to the pressure put upon the contractors to insure a sufficient supply of impressions by the notified day of issue. The lettering ran from "A. A." to "T. L."

There are several prominent errors in the lettering of the plates:—"D." over "I." ;

* We have exercised the greatest care in allocating the various plates, both in this value and in the Twopence, but as our data are not always quite complete, we cannot guarantee absolute correctness.

† Diagram B, *minus* the circles round the plate-numbers, the current numbers ("268"), the dividing marks at top and bottom, and the circular ornaments at the sides, would show State I.

double "D."; double "F."; double "H."; double "M."; double "T."; "Q." over "S."; &c.

Plates 1 and 2 were both approved on the 27th April, 1840; but plate 1 had been completed by the 15th of the month, and must evidently have been put to press prior to the date of its formal approval by the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, as we find that nearly 6,000 sheets had been served out to Postmasters by the end of that month, which would represent twelve days' printing from a single plate.

The plates for this value were so numerous that the reader is referred, except in some few special instances, to the Appendix for dates of completion, approval, &c.

Paper.—The size of the sheet was 521 mm. (20½ inches) in height, by 270 mm. (10½ inches) in width, and such part of it as was to be occupied by the stamps was contained in a watermarked frame of five parallel straight lines, 11 mm. in total width at the top and bottom of the sheet, and 7½ mm. at the sides: of these lines the outer four were discontinued for the space of 67 mm. (2½ inches), once at the top and bottom, and

At top and bottom. } POSTAGE

At the sides. } P O S T A G E

twice at each side, to admit the word "POSTAGE" in outlined Roman capitals, 65 mm. (2½ inches) long, the top of the word being always towards the edge of

the sheet. At the top and bottom of the sheet the watermarked word was in the centre; at the sides the two words were symmetrically placed, 130 mm., (5½ inches), apart.

Within this border were two hundred and forty Small Crowns, arranged in one pane of twenty horizontal rows of twelve in each row, so disposed that one watermark should come in the centre of each stamp. The "bits," or patterns for these watermarks consisted of fine brass wire, wrought into shape by hand, consequently the crowns were not absolutely uniform in size or shape, and sometimes varied slightly in design. The letters found watermarked at the edge of the sheet refer to the mould in which the paper was made. (*Diagram C.*)



The discolouration of the paper, which, in varied degrees, formed so marked a feature of several succeeding issues, was entirely absent from the impressions of this issue.

Colour.—The colour of the impressions was a deep black, becoming less intense as the plates wore away. Although we have direct evidence that plates 1, 2, and 5 were hardened, it is certain that they were put to press, in the first instance, before hardening; and it is probable that many other plates were never hardened: hence the wear was very rapid, the increasing demand for the labels rendering it necessary to keep the presses at work day and night.

So early as the 30th May, 1840, we find Mr. Rowland Hill complaining to Messrs. Perkins and Co. of the large percentage of defective impressions then appearing, the responsibility for which the contractors declined to accept, stating that they were being called upon to supply twice as many labels in a given time as they had contracted for, and, to accomplish this, they were compelled to print from worn-out plates which ought to be discarded.

Gum.—The "gum" employed for this issue varied in colour from nearly white to brownish yellow, but so deficient in its adhesive qualities, that vast numbers of stamps became detached from the postal matter in course of transit, constituting a continued source of trouble and annoyance to the Post Office Authorities and to the Public.

Perforation.—The stamps were imperforate.

Creation.—The number of stamps “created” for the present issue cannot be determined with absolute exactitude. Of the warrants issued to the printers prior to the 14th July, 1840, no record is available, beyond an official entry to the effect that, up to that date, the creation of One Penny *and* Twopence represented a total value of £169,500. A calculation, based upon other official data, points to the conclusion that not less than £129,000 of this total was represented by the One Penny value. From the 15th July to the 6th October inclusive, warrants were issued for the printing of 65,000 sheets; and for the succeeding quarter ending the 4th January, 1841, the creations were 92,000 sheets, of which 6,000 ordered on the 4th January were undoubtedly printed in red, in conformity with the Treasury Minute of the 19th December, 1840, directing that henceforth the One Penny labels were to be struck in that colour (*see page 27*).

This gives a net total of 280,000 sheets printed in black, and includes 10,000 sheets, created under a warrant dated the 18th December, 1840. There is little doubt that these were the last impressions printed in black* in the usual course, but a subsequent and special printing in this colour must have occurred, as we find that on the 19th January, 1841, Mr. Edwin Hill wrote to Mr. Rowland Hill:—

“ . . . We are running rather close upon our stock of black labels. We have “ 3,000 sheets here, and 5,000 in Scotland, of which last 3,000 were ordered to be “ returned to London (in addition to 8,000 sheets we have already received from “ Scotland). As I anticipate some trouble in getting more black printed . . . I wish “ to know whether it is expected to wait for the new obliterating ink, before issuing “ in the red colour, as the necessity does not seem very obvious.”

On the next day, Mr. Rowland Hill made the following entry in his diary:—

“ Pressley called to say that, owing to a sudden large demand for 1d. labels, the “ stock of those printed in black ink was very nearly exhausted, and to suggest that “ the red labels should be immediately issued, and obliterated with the present black “ ink till a black ink obliteration is ready.† To this I acceded, having indeed in the “ morning, in reply to a note from Edwin, proposed his going to the P. O., to advise “ such an arrangement to Bokenham, and adding that black obliterating ink could be “ immediately supplied for use in London, and for the larger provincial towns, to which “ it might be sent by coach in stone bottles, the difficulty being not to supply the ink, “ but the bottles to hold it. Pressley will write to-morrow morning to Colonel Maberly, “ proposing this arrangement, and adding that, unless it is at once acceded to, they “ must again revert to the printing of the labels in black ink.”

For reasons which we have been unable to trace, Colonel Maberly did not agree to the immediate issue of the red stamps, and it is therefore certain, considering that the stock of black impressions was then on the point of being exhausted, that a further supply *was* printed in black. At this date, the last previous printing in this colour was probably under the warrant dated the 18th December, 1840. Three warrants followed, dated respectively the 4th, 9th and 18th January, for a total of 26,000 sheets, which were undoubtedly struck in red, though it is possible that, if any portion of the impressions, authorised by the last-dated warrant, had not been struck

* Since this was written, we have seen a note in Mr. Rowland Hill's diary, which tends to show that part of the warrant of the 18th December was executed in *red*.

† The obliterating medium then used was ordinary black printer's ink: the reference here is to a specially prepared ink.

when Colonel Maberly's decision became known, the remainder may have been printed in black. In any case, there can be little doubt that the next creation, which consisted of 20,000 sheets, was in black: the printing was under a warrant, dated the 26th January, 1841, and it was probably the last for this issue.

On this basis, the creation of this value in *black* may be taken as being not less than 300,000 sheets, equivalent to 72,000,000 stamps.

The fire, which occurred on the premises of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., on Wednesday, the 11th March, 1857, unfortunately destroyed most of their books and papers containing the records relating to the early issues, and it is therefore impossible to state with certainty the number of impressions struck from each of the eleven plates employed for this issue; but information gleaned from other sources, and summarised below, enables us to form an approximate estimate.

On the 14th April, 1840, Mr. Rowland Hill visited the works of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Petch, to ascertain what progress they were making with the plates for printing this value. One plate was then just completed, and a second one was to be ready on the 20th. Two presses were also ready; a third was to be finished by the 20th, a fourth by the 27th, and, in addition, two more were in progress. The printers undertook to deliver 200,000 *stamps* by the 20th April, and to continue the supply at the rate of 240,000 stamps per day afterwards, to be further increased when they got more than two presses to work, the increase to be at the rate of 120,000 stamps per day for each additional press. To effect this rate of production, they explained that it would be necessary to keep the plates at press day and night. Mr. Rowland Hill was informed at the same time that each new plate would occupy from ten to twelve days in construction.

The impression from plate 1, preserved in the Archives at Somerset House, was struck on the 15th of April, the day following Mr. Rowland Hill's visit; it was re-registered on the 28th of that month, after hardening, but it had undoubtedly been kept at press in the interval. The 15th April, 1840, occurred on a Wednesday, which would give ten clear working days between the completion of the plate and its being hardened: it may accordingly be considered that some 5,000 impressions were struck from plate 1, and 1,500 from plate 2, in this unhardened state. An entry, dated 10th June, 1840, in Mr. Rowland Hill's diary records the fact that there were, at that date, five plates at press, producing, in the aggregate, 600,000 labels* per day of twenty-four hours, and a reference to the Appendix will show this to be confirmed by the official records, plate 5 having been registered on the 1st June.

It will be observed that, in the case of several subsequent plates, no impressions are now preserved in the Archives at Somerset House,† and there is some reason for doubting the accuracy of the dates officially given of their approval.

Plate 11 (of which there is no impression in the Archives at Somerset House) was first printed from in red, and was the first to be registered in this colour: the plate was, however, subsequently put to press with black ink (*see page 22*), and specimens in black, bearing the marginal plate number, are known.

Incidental references, extracted from a mass of official correspondence, which it

* This doubtless refers to the One Penny only, the demand for the Twopence being comparatively so trivial that the printings were only occasional.

† Since writing this paragraph it has been authoritatively stated that the *imprimatur* books contain—as we were aware—traces of the missing sheets: this undoubtedly is so; and, owing to the inclusion of sheets of card-wrappers, &c., it is possible to discern the "take-off" from the missing sheets, and even to determine the colour of the impression, with some degree of certainty.

would weary the reader to enter upon in detail, complete the sum of information obtained relative to the number of impressions struck in *black* from each plate, and a careful analysis gives the following result:—

<i>Plate.</i>	<i>Impressions before hardening.</i>	<i>Total (in black).</i>
1	5,000	33,500 sheets.
2	1,500	30,000 „
3 . . . . .	. . . . .	36,500 „
4 . . . . .	. . . . .	30,000 „
5 . . . . .	. . . . .	30,000 „
6 . . . . .	. . . . .	30,000 „
7 . . . . .	. . . . .	20,000 „
8 . . . . .	. . . . .	35,000 „
9 . . . . .	. . . . .	35,000 „
10 . . . . .	. . . . .	10,000 „
11 . . . . .	. . . . .	10,000 „
	Grand Total	<u>300,000 sheets.</u>

Remarks.—With the introduction of adhesive labels for denoting the prepayment of postage, it was feared that means would be devised for removing the obliterations, and so enabling the stamps to be used on successive occasions. The One Penny labels, being printed in ordinary black printer's ink, readily lent themselves in this respect to treatment of the most drastic character; and, within a few weeks of their issue, communications were received from chemists and others in all parts of the kingdom, calling the attention of the authorities to the fact that the cancellation might be entirely removed from the same stamp for an almost infinite number of times without injury to the impression. The *red* obliterating ink thus proving worthless as a security against the fraudulent use of the labels, it became necessary to provide another medium for cancellation, of such a character that no re-agent would act upon it without at the same time affecting the stamp itself.

With this object in view, Mr. Rowland Hill consulted the eminent chemist Faraday, who approved of his suggestion to print the stamps with an aqueous ink, and to obliterate them with an ink of a similar character.

It was decided (25th August, 1840) in the meantime to use ordinary black printing ink for obliterating, and it would appear that this was brought into use forthwith, though several months elapsed before the red cancellation was superseded. The earliest obliteration in black which we have seen is dated the 31st October, 1840.

A long series of experiments with inks of all descriptions finally resulted in a report by Mr. Rowland Hill, completed 17th September, in which he recommended that the labels should, in future, be printed in a new *red* ink, oleaginous but fugitive; and obliterated with "good black printing ink prepared in a 'peculiar manner.'" These suggestions, though subsequently modified in the light of further investigations and experiments, practically formed the basis for the production of the succeeding issue.

A word may be said with reference to impressions of the One Penny value in *blue*, examples of which may occasionally be met with. Two varieties, in point of colour, are known, originating from two distinct series of colour trials carried out in April and October, 1840. Specimens of the first are in the precise colour of the Twopence, having been struck after the selection of black and blue as the respective colours for the two values, but before it had been determined which should be assigned to the One Penny. Consequently, impressions of each value were struck in both colours: such

impressions were for the time being merely Essays, but several of the impressions of the One Penny in blue were improperly used to frank letters, and examples postally cancelled are still extant. The following letter, addressed to Mr. William Bokenham, of the General Post Office, explains the manner in which these impressions got into circulation :—

“ *Inland Revenue,*

“ *Somerset House.*

“ 1 April, 1857.

“ MY DEAR SIR,

“ In regard to the impression of the 1d. stamp in *blue*, which you sent me some time since, and which I now return, I feel sure that it is one from some experimental sheets taken off 16 or 17 years ago. I enclose you an envelope bearing another such, which came here addressed to me by one of my father's men, and which passed safely through your department. The sender of this stamp has been questioned, and says that he purchased a few such from the servant of the son of the late Mr. H. Goulburn, and he destroyed those remaining unused.

“ We know that Mr. Goulburn, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, had had some few sheets of these stamps, and it appears probable that one or two sheets must have got into wrong hands. As the number must be very small, we shall not take any further steps in the matter, unless more such should be discovered in your office.

“ Yours very truly,

“ ORMOND HILL.”

Specimens of the second variety previously referred to are not in the exact colour of the Twopence, but of a blue-black tint, occupying a position midway, as it were, between the normal colours of the two values. These belong to the second series of Essays struck towards the end of October, 1840, with the object of discovering a more fugitive ink, the peculiar shade of the impressions being due to the admixture of Prussian blue with the black ink then in use. With reference to these trials, Mr. J. B. Bacon, of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Petch, writing to Mr. Rowland Hill, on the 17th November, 1840, said :—

“ The specimens we sent you on the 2nd inst., were mostly—viz., seven of them—printed with more or less of Prussian blue in them, as will be seen by examination. Your late directions to me have been to keep as far from Black as possible, so as to allow of a contrast between the postage and the obliterating stamp; but, if we used more than half Prussian blue, which is the quantity in some of the specimens sent you, it would scarcely be distinguishable from Black”

As in the case of the earlier Essays, specimens of this later series were postally used and passed without detection.

With respect to actual forgery of the labels, the earliest record traced is contained in a letter from Mr. W. Ledingham to Mr. Rowland Hill, which runs as follows :—

“ 11, *Downing Street,*

“ *Sept. 2nd, 1840.*

“ DEAR SIR,

“ Mr. Smith has just called and informed me that a forgery of the Penny Label was yesterday detected in his office. The letter bearing the forged stamp has been handed over to the stamp office to be dealt with by them.

“ He also stated that, since the 14th ult., 380 attempts have been made to pass stamps previously used.

“ Mr. Smith and the gentlemen in his office are of opinion that the forged stamp is

“a wood-cut: the features are not well brought out, and the back-ground is very coarse, but in every other respect the imitation is very good. I shall mention this affair to Mr. Edwin Hill

“Your very faithful
“and obedient servant,
“W. LEDINGHAM.”

Under date of the 5th September, the following entry occurs in Mr. Rowland Hill's diary :—

“Edwin Hill confirmed the previous account as to the forged stamp. It was on a letter from a Register office of a disreputable kind. The people of the Stamp Office have caused several letters to be addressed to this place, in order to see if other forged stamps are used in reply, and have taken other steps with a view to detection, but hitherto without avail.”

And again on the 14th September, the following occurs :—

“At the Stamp Office, I saw the forged label. It is a miserable thing, and could not possibly deceive any except the most stupid and ignorant.”

With regard to the cancellation of worn-out or discarded plates, this was effected by the drastic method of sending them to a steam grinding-mill, where the impressions were effectually removed.

SECOND ISSUE: 20TH JANUARY, 1841.

Date of Issue.—In connection with this issue, which differed only as to colour—*red* in place of *black*—from the preceding, the following circular was despatched from the General Post Office on the 3rd February, 1841 :—



“TO ALL POSTMASTERS, SUB-POSTMASTERS AND LETTER-
“RECEIVERS.

“GENERAL POST OFFICE,
“*January, 1841.*

“An immediate alteration is about to be made in the adhesive postage label Stamps The new Labels are to replace those in present use, but, until the whole of the latter remaining on hand is disposed of, the old Labels are to circulate in common with the new ones

“By Command,
“W. L. MABERLY, *Secretary.*”

The precise date of issue is not indicated in the foregoing notice, but an extract from the Board Minutes of the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes throws some light upon this point :—

“Board Minute, 1st February, 1841.

“Read letter from Colonel Maberly of G.P.O., stating that, so far as his Department is concerned, the issue of the new Postage Stamps may commence on the 10th February next. Instructions accordingly.”

That the issue was *officially* made on that date is proved by the entry, which occurs in Mr. Rowland Hill's diary, under date of the 11th February, 1841 :—

"Yesterday the new Envelopes and Labels came into use."

In respect of "Labels," this can only refer to the One Penny value, the first warrant for impressions from the new plates for the Twopence being dated fifteen days later.

As we have shown (*see page 20*), this issue was on the point of being made some three weeks earlier, but was delayed in deference to certain objections on the part of the Post Office authorities: some sheets, however, must have been then issued, as copies in red, post-marked on the 21st and 31st January, 1841, are known.

Design. (Die I.)—No alteration whatever was made in the design. (*Illustration 2.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plates 1, 2, 4 to 175, 176 (?), and 177 (?), were printed from; and full details as to date of approval, &c., will be found in the Appendix.

(*State I.*)—The original arrangement has already been described. In addition to the eleven plates mentioned under the first issue, the succeeding plates, up to and including no. 92, were similarly arranged.

On plate 77, the first stamp in the second row, which should have been lettered "B.A.," bore the first letter only, the second letter-block being a blank. The error was discovered and corrected about nine months after registration, and the plate was then re-registered as 77, B.: this fact is recorded in the Archives, and the latter plate, therefore, was not, as has been stated, a duplicate. Copies of the incomplete stamp presumably exist, but we have never seen or heard of one.

(*State II.*)—A small dot was added in the margin at the top of the plate, above the inscription, and between the sixth and seventh stamps; and a vertical line was placed in a similar position at the bottom, to indicate the point for division into half sheets. (*See Diagram B.**)

Plates 93 to 131, inclusive, were of this State.

The circumstances attending the construction of plate 95 are, we believe, unique. The original plate was commenced on the 2nd June, 1849, but, turning out a bad one, it was never registered. Another plate was made between nos. 99 and 100, and this was numbered 95, in lieu of the discarded one; and a reference to the Appendix will show that plate 95 was registered on the same day as no. 99, and subsequently to the intermediate ones. The usual practice in case of a bad plate was to discard it without replacing it.

(*State III.*)—A further addition was made close to the centre of each side of the pane, consisting of a circular ornament, to indicate the place for dividing the sheet horizontally into half panes. (*See Diagram B.†*)

To this State belong plates 132 to 137 inclusive.

With the first of these plates (no. 132), a larger and slightly different type of lettering was employed; but on plate 133, there was a curious confusion, as two punches appear to have been used for the letter "G.," the vertical row of that letter—*i.e.*, those in the right-hand corner of the seventh stamp of each horizontal row—being of the old and smaller type; and the horizontal row—*i.e.*, those in the left-hand corner of all the stamps in the seventh horizontal row—being of the newer and larger type.

* Diagram B, *minus* the circle round plate-numbers, the current-number ("268"), the dividing line at the top and the crosses at the top and bottom, and the circular ornaments at the sides, but *plus* the small dot, would show State II.

† Diagram B, *minus* the circle round plate-numbers, the current-number ("268"), the dividing line at the top and the crosses at the top and bottom, but *plus* the dot at the top, would show State III.

A notable feature in many of the plates employed for this issue was the irregularity, not only of the corner check-letters, but also of the relative positions of the stamps themselves on the plate, evincing some degree of carelessness in their construction, due no doubt to the haste with which some of the plates had to be made.

Impressions, forming part of this and of the preceding issue, may frequently be met with showing fine coloured lines running through various portions of the design : these lines were guides used during the construction of the plate, to indicate the exact position for each impression from the roller, and were not intended to show in the printing. When the roller impressions were truly registered, these faint lines on the steel plate occupied a position midway in the space dividing the stamps, both horizontally and vertically : consequently, when an impression on the plate was made out of position, these lines passed through the design, and when drawn upon the plate deeper than was intended, they appeared in the printed impression.

Paper.—The paper, watermarked with small crowns,* was similar to that employed for the previous issue, save that it was of less substance, in order to improve the adhesiveness of the labels. In commenting on this subject, Mr. Rowland Hill made the following entry in his diary :—“Have had some experiments tried, with a view of rendering the labels more rapidly adhesive. With this view the paper will be made finer and will be less sized.” In 1852, which was during this issue, three hundred reams of paper, four-fifths the usual thickness, were ordered for experimental use.

A marked feature of the stamps forming this and some subsequent issues, was the discolouration of the paper, long supposed to be caused by a chemical action set up between the ink and the gum. This, however, was clearly not the cause, as the *imprimatur* sheets, which were never gummed, show the discolouration in precisely the same degree as the gummed impressions. In some cases, the discolouration or blueing is only partial, in others it is altogether absent ; and our investigations have led us to the conclusion that, while the blue tinge originated in the *red* ink (because no discolouration took place while the *black* ink was in use), the degree of blueing which manifested itself was governed entirely by the dampness of the paper at the moment of printing. It was necessary that the paper employed for printing from the line-engraved plates should be damped, and it would appear that when this was insufficiently done, as no doubt frequently happened by inadvertence, the very slight amount of moisture present was insufficient to set up the chemical action from which the blueing originated, and consequently such impressions are found to present no trace of it.

That the discolouration took place at once, and was not the effect of time, is shown by the following letter written by Mr. Edwin Hill, then Controller of Stamps at Somerset House, to his brother, Mr. Rowland Hill, under date of 27th January, 1841 :—“I wish you to see the peculiar colour which the gum assumes upon the red labels. Many changes in the mode of dissolving and applying the gum have been tried, to prevent the green hue from appearing, but in vain. You will notice that it shows itself at the back of the print, and a little way beyond it, but not far upon the unprinted part. It does not appear to affect the adhesion. In many cases, the green hue comes on gradually after the drying of the gum. . . . It seems most likely that the gum sinks into the paper, till it reaches the ink, and that a chemical union takes place to a small extent.” Mr. Hill was apparently unaware that the blueing occurred when the sheets remained ungummed. Though it is possible that the gum may have

* Mr. A. H. Stamford has shown us a stamp of this issue, with a double watermark, the upper one inverted and overlapping the lower one.

been an additional cause, it must have been a very minor factor in the matter, as gummed impressions of these stamps are to be met with showing no discolouration whatever.

Colour.—The colour ultimately selected for this issue, though always officially referred to as “red,” was really a red-brown, and this may be regarded as the normal colour; but considerable variations in tone and shade (brick-red, orange-red, lake-red) occurred from time to time, often accentuated by the blueing of the paper, though primarily due to a want of uniformity in the method employed for preparing the ink. Apart from the change in colour, which was made in order to render the new black obliteration as distinct as possible from the ink, the character of the ink itself was altered from that used for the previous issue, with a view to rendering it more fugitive, and thereby lessen the risk of the obliterating marks being fraudulently removed, after the stamps had done duty. It was found that this could readily be effected with the preceding issue, and, to overcome so vital an objection, a long series of experiments was carried out, the result of which was embodied in a Treasury Minute, dated the 19th December, 1840, from which we give an extract:—

“ My Lords read the Postmaster-General’s letter of the 13th August, stating that “ means had been discovered for effectually and readily removing the obliterating mark “ on the Postage Stamps, and requesting instructions as to the course to be pursued.

“ Previously to the receipt of his Lordship’s* letter, it having come to the know-
“ ledge of the Chancellor of the Exchequer that it was possible to remove the obliter-
“ ating mark, although by means so expensive or troublesome that there appeared to
“ be little danger of their being resorted to for fraudulent purposes, investigations had
“ been commenced with the view, if possible, of rendering the obliterating mark abso-
“ lutely indestructible. Since the receipt of his Lordship’s letter these investigations
“ have been continued without intermission: they have led to a great variety of experi-
“ ments, and several confidential reports on this subject have been made.

“ Having had the result of these investigations laid before them, and having con-
“ sulted the practical officers of the Post Office and Stamp Office, my Lords are of
“ opinion that the most secure arrangement will be to use good black printing ink,
“ prepared in a peculiar manner, for the purpose of obliterating the stamps, and in
“ order that the black obliteration may readily be distinguished, to substitute some
“ other colour for the black ink now used in printing the Penny Stamps.

“ A similar arrangement, my Lords are aware, was in the first instance desired, both
“ by the Stamp Office and the Post Office, with whom the selection of colours was
“ left by the Minute of 20th February last, but was reluctantly abandoned in conse-
“ quence of the contractors for printing the Postage labels having failed, after repeated
“ trials, in obtaining any other light colour than blue (now used for the Twopenny
“ labels), which was capable of affording a good impression.

“ Subsequently, however, Messrs. Perkins & Co., the contractors, have, after
“ a great variety of experiments, succeeded in procuring a red ink, which not only
“ affords a good impression, but possesses the additional advantage of being readily
“ acted upon by nearly all the chemical agents which are likely to be resorted to for
“ removing the obliterating mark

“ My Lords are, therefore pleased to direct as follows:—

“ 1st.—That the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes be instructed in future to
“ print the Penny Postage Stamps with the new Red ink

* The Earl of Lichfield was then Postmaster-General.

“ 2nd.—That the Post Office be instructed to obliterate the stamps with the “ ink No. 2, prepared in the manner recommended by Mr. Phillips, this ink having “ been preferred by the Post Office from among several which were subjected to “ trial.”

In conformity with these instructions, the stamps of this value were forthwith printed in new, so-called “ red ” ink, but the issue of these impressions was withheld for a time as stated on page 20.

The first registered impression in red, which is now in the Archives at Somerset House, was struck from plate 12, but the missing *imprimatur* sheet of plate 11 was also approved in this colour.

Gum.—There do not appear to be any official records to show that any change was made from the gum of the previous issue.

Perforation.—Throughout the period covered by this issue the stamps were supplied to the public in an imperforate state, perforation not being *officially* adopted until early in 1854.

Specimens of the One Penny value, perforated 16, are, however, to be met with on the original covers, postmarked in the year 1850, and these must necessarily be from some of the trial sheets referred to by Archer. An examination will show that these stamps are usually perforated with a degree of excellence, never excelled and but rarely equalled when the machine was, three or four years later, taken over by the Government. The explanation lies in the fact that the perforated sheets, distributed by Archer, prior to the sale of his machine, were only the most perfect examples, that had been perforated in single sheets and with great care. When it became a question of perforating several sheets at a time, and with the speed necessary to keep pace with the rate of issue, the results were far from satisfactory : hence several years were occupied in bringing the machine to a degree of perfection sufficient to justify the authorities in putting it into every-day practical use.

Perforated specimens of this, and also of other values, may occasionally be found, which, at a first glance, have somewhat the appearance of having been *rouletted* ; but, upon a more careful examination, it will in every instance be found that this peculiarity applies to the sides of the stamp only, the top and bottom lines generally presenting, in *single* copies, a normal appearance. The abnormal feature is due to the perforating pins having descended *twice*, but not in precisely the same position, thereby cutting away a portion, and in some instances the whole, of the paper, which, after the first descent of the pins, was left between the punctures at the sides. The effect of this was to sever, more or less completely, the stamps along the vertical lines of perforation, and at the same time to produce a second and more or less distinct line of perforation along the top and bottom of each stamp in the row,* the pins being then, as now, so disposed that at each descent an entire horizontal row of stamps was perforated at both sides and along either the top or bottom, according to which way the sheet was placed upon the machine.

The variety possesses little or no philatelic interest, and would be undeserving of special mention, were it not for a prevalent belief that its peculiar features were designedly produced by one of Archer’s machines, instead of being merely the result of carelessness on the part of the operator.

* The second line of perforation is not usually present in single specimens, but must necessarily be so in the case of vertical pairs ; if *not* present, the horizontal perforation would, as a rule, appear normal.

Creation.—For this issue, warrants were made out for the printing of 10,826,500 sheets, or 2,598,360,000 stamps, the number of sheets printed in red ink in each year being as follows :—

During 1841	. . . . .	435,500 entire sheets.
„ 1842	. . . . .	480,000 „
„ 1843	. . . . .	490,000 „
„ 1844	. . . . .	540,000 „
„ 1845	. . . . .	650,000 „
„ 1846	. . . . .	720,000 „
„ 1847	. . . . .	760,000 „
„ 1848	. . . . .	750,000 „
„ 1849	. . . . .	870,000 „
„ 1850	. . . . .	1,000,000 „
„ 1851	. . . . .	1,243,000 „
„ 1852	. . . . .	1,326,000 „
„ 1853	. . . . .	1,522,000 „
„ 1854	. . . . .	40,000 „
Total	. . . . .	<u>10,826,500</u> entire sheets.

The 40,000 sheets last in the list were struck under a warrant dated 7th January, 1854, which was three weeks prior to the official introduction of perforation, and the consumption of this value being at that time about 5,000 sheets per day, the entire number were probably issued imperforate. The succeeding warrant was dated the 16th January, and it may be assumed that the impressions struck under it were the first to be perforated.

Remarks.—A variety of errors in the lettering occurred on the plates employed for this issue, and, although nearly always rectified, the original mistakes are clearly visible : many of the more prominent of these, together with other abnormal features, will be found noted in the Appendix.

It will be observed that certain plates bore the letter “R.” prefixed to the plate-number : this signified “Reserve,” and those so marked were intended to be kept at Somerset House, so as to be ready for instant use, in the event of a fire occurring on the premises of the contractors, whereby the plates at press might be destroyed. Some of these reserve plates, nos. 1 to 6, 15 to 17, and, probably, 18 to 20, were apparently printed from, but not even such of them as were registered long prior to the official introduction of perforation were used during this issue.

Although not an issued variety, a word or two may here be said, respecting certain impressions of this value, of which eight sheets were struck from plate 11, on paper bearing no watermark, but having in *lieu* thereof silk threads running through, or as it were incorporated into the substance of, the paper. This was the patented invention of Mr. Dickinson, by whom at this time the whole of the paper for the stamped envelopes and wrappers was supplied.

It was the opinion of many officials that the silk threads in the paper, rendering it exceedingly difficult of manufacture, offered a greater safeguard against forgery or imitation than a watermark, though Mr. Rowland Hill was not one of those who shared this view, he being greatly in favour of the watermark. Messrs. Dickinson & Longman were, however, desirous of securing the contract for the label paper, and Mr. Dickinson had repeated interviews on the subject with Mr. Rowland Hill. On the 3rd April, 1841, he wrote :—

" *Nash Mill,*

" DEAR SIR,

" I am sorry not to be able to send you a sample of paper with threads in
" it, adapted for labels, but I have no doubt of being able to furnish you one in the
" course of the present week, sized in such a way as to make the threads adhere
" strongly, without the printing quality being impaired by the process.

" Very sincerely yours,

" TO ROWLAND HILL, ESQ."

" JOHN DICKINSON."

Again on the 10th April he wrote:—" Herewith I send 15 sheets of tub-sized
" paper, which, perhaps, you will allow Bacon & Co. to try the printing of. . ."

To this Mr. Rowland Hill agreed, and a few impressions of the One Penny and
" Twopence were accordingly struck on this paper, and submitted for trial. Eight sheets
" were printed from plate 11 of the One Penny on the 1st May, 1841, the impressions
" being in a rich red-brown: they were not gummed, as were the impressions of the
" Twopence, taken from plate 2. The paper, which had been specially prepared,
" appeared very suitable for printing upon, and these impressions—the only ones ever so
" struck—surpass all others of this Section in clearness and beauty. No further use
" was, however, made of this paper for the line-engraved adhesives, Mr. Rowland Hill
" being of opinion that the silk threads would cause additional trouble in severing the
" stamps, and would moreover be liable to draw out in that process.

A peculiar attempt at forgery came to light during the early period of this issue, and
" was thus referred to by Mr. Rowland Hill in his diary, under date of 2nd March,
" 1841:—" — called with an electrotype cast from the *label*. He had no impression
" from it and I do not think it would give an impression: still it was very extraordinary
" to me that the mere thickness of the ink should suffice at least to transfer the general
" features of the plate."

Reference to another forgery occurs under date of 4th March, 1841:—" Last night
" Mr. Smith stated, in a note to Mr. Cole, that another forged label had appeared in
" the P. O., and that it had been forwarded to the Stamp Office. It appears from
" enquiries made this morning at the latter office, that it resembles the stamp detected
" in September last, but, though marked 'One Penny,' it is printed in blue ink and on
" a dirty brown paper. It appears to be rather a joke than a forgery, but, as the stamp
" was detached from the letter in the P. O., there are now no means of tracing the
" offender."

On the 12th February, 1841, a notice was issued from the General Post Office,
" relative to the change of colour in the obliterating ink, from red to black, though it is
" evident, from many used and dated copies of stamps, that ink of the latter colour had
" been long previously in use to a certain extent: the earliest instance known to us was
" on the 31st October, 1840,* on a letter posted at Holborn Hill, London.

The above notice reads as follows:—



" TO ALL POSTMASTERS AND SUB-POSTMASTERS.

" GENERAL POST OFFICE,

February, 1841.

" It having been decided that in future all Postage Stamps are to be obliterated

* We have, since writing this paragraph, heard of a copy dated in August, 1840.

“ with Black Composition, instead of the Red, which has been hitherto used, I forward
 “ you a supply of Black Composition for that purpose

“ You will immediately commence using the Black Composition, instead of the Red.

“ I am,

“ Your obedient servant,

“ W. L. MABERLY,

“ *Secretary.*”

THIRD ISSUE: FEBRUARY, 1854.

Date of Issue.—Perforation, first applied on the 28th* January, 1854, constitutes the sole point of difference between the impressions of this and the preceding issue.

It does not appear that any official notification was made in regard to the change from imperforate to perforated, nor is it now possible to assign the precise date on which perforated specimens were first in the hands of the public, but it was probably early in the month of February: even then, a certain proportion of stamps continued for a time to be sent out imperforate, although they are obviously undistinguishable from impressions issued prior to the above date.

We find that the first delivery of perforated stamps was made on the 31st January, 1854, when 1,500 sheets of the One Penny value were sent to the storekeeper at Somerset House, followed by further supplies, the total, up to and including the 1st March, being 74,000 entire sheets.

The earliest postmarked copy, of which we have received a record, is dated the 20th February, 1854.

Design. (Die I.)—No alteration from that of the preceding issue. (*Illustration 2.*)

Plate.—The plates which were at press during the issue were nos. 152, 155, 157, 160 to 204 and reserve plates 1 to 6, all inclusive, as to the details of which the reader is referred to the Appendix. Reserve plates 7 to 14 were never printed from.

With this issue, the series of plates from Die I was completed.

(*State III.*)—Already described.

Plates prior to 178, including the above six reserve plates, come under this arrangement.

(*State IV.*)—Similar to the preceding, with the addition of a cross above the dot at the top of the plate, and another cross to the right of the vertical line at the bottom to serve as guides for the perforation. (*See Diagram B.†*)

The fourth State includes plates 178 to 193 and 202 to 204, all inclusive.

(*State V.*)—The alteration is again in the guiding marks, which are now a vertical line and a cross at the top, and a cross and vertical line at the bottom of the sheet, both the crosses being in the centre. (*See Diagram B.‡*)

Curiously enough, the fifth arrangement was adopted for plates 194 to 201, abandoned for the next nine plates, and then resumed with no. 5 of those which were constructed from Die II, and belong to Issue V.

Paper.—The paper bore the small crown watermark, and was similar to that employed for the previous issues, but weighing somewhat less per ream.

The blue discolouration continued to be more or less visible in the paper, throughout this issue.

* Not the 27th, as is usually supposed.

† Diagram B, *minus* the circle round plate-numbers, the current number (“268”), and the dividing line at the top, but *plus* the dot, would show State IV.

‡ Diagram B, *minus* the circle round plate-numbers, and the current number (“268”), would show State V.

Colour.—The normal colour continued to be red-brown, but with the variations noted in connection with the preceding issue.

Gum.—As before, varying in colour from white to brown. The quality of the gum appears to have been much improved, by the admixture, early in February, 1855, of a certain proportion of animal size; and Mr. Ormond Hill then reported that he had “tested samples of the Penny Postage Labels as now gummed, and am of opinion “that a very decided improvement in the gumming has been effected.”

Perforation.—On the purchase by the Government of Archer's perforating machine, in May, 1853, Mr. James M. Napier, the able mechanical engineer, was ordered to construct several machines adapted for working by steam power, and he modified Archer's machine very considerably. Mr. Edwin Hill also suggested several improvements in the machines before they left Mr. Napier's workshops; and, after the first two were set to work at Somerset House (the perforation of the stamps being quite independent of Messrs. Perkins & Co.'s contract), considerable alterations and other improvements were made by him and Mr. Ormond Hill.

The machines perforated 16 holes in the space of two centimetres, which was precisely the same gauge as that of Archer's last machine; and each machine was capable of perforating 1,500 sheets per day, in batches of three at a time, and subsequently, after the introduction of the steam machines, at the rate of 600 per hour, five sheets at a time. The stamps of this issue are, therefore, known to philatelists as “perforated 16.”

In this, and the subsequent gauge of 14, the pins when worn produced smaller holes than when new, and the punctures were less sharply defined. Several sheets superimposed were operated upon at one time, as stated above, and, with a worn set of pins, the effect on the lower sheets was a series of jagged punctures, only a small portion of the paper being actually cut away. Examples presenting this feature have been chronicled as a special “pin-perforated” variety, but are nothing more than as above described.

Creation.—The number of stamps forming this issue cannot be precisely determined, but the machines producing sixteen perforations to two centimetres continued to be solely employed for a space of eleven months, during which period the issues of the One Penny value amounted to 410,000,000 stamps. This must consequently represent the minimum number so perforated, while the actual number was doubtless largely in excess, as the 16-gauge continued in partial use after it had been nominally discarded in favour of the coarser gauge of fourteen holes in the space of two centimetres.

It may here be remarked that a change in the gauge of the perforation does not necessitate an alteration of the machine itself. The “set of pins,” which, whatever their gauge, can be worked on any machine, consists of a plate on which the pins are fixed, a perforated guide-plate through which the pins work and under which the sheets are placed, and a bed-plate, furnished with holes, into which the pins pass after perforating the paper.

Remarks.—As will be noted subsequently, the 16-gauge perforation did not entirely disappear until 1858.

FOURTH ISSUE: JANUARY, 1855.

Date of Issue.—This issue differed from the preceding only in respect to the perforation, the gauge of which was now altered to fourteen holes in the space of two centimetres. No official notification appears to have been made in connection there-

with, and the precise date when stamps bearing the new perforation were first issued to the public is consequently obscure, but it was certainly as early as the middle of January, 1855, for we have received a record of a postmarked copy dated the 16th of that month.

Design. (Die I.)—Same as in the last issue. (*Illustration 2.*)

Plate.—The plates which were apparently at press when the new perforation was adopted were nos. 157, 163, 166, 173, 176 to 179, 182 and 184 to 204, and reserve plates 1 to 6, all of which had previously been employed when the smaller perforation was solely in use; and the reader is referred for details to the preceding issues under the same heading.

Paper.—The same as that employed for the last issue, and, as before, showing more or less blue discolouration in the printed sheets.

Colour.—The colour remained nominally as before, but in practice it varied from brick-red to red-brown and lake-red, many of the printings having a distinctly orange shade. These, again, passed into sub varieties of shade, according to the discolouration of the paper, this latter factor imparting to some impressions a peculiar silvery appearance, more or less pronounced, and in some cases producing a very beautiful effect.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—When the previous perforation had been in use some eleven months, it was found defective in two respects: not only was too much paper cut away, thereby causing the stamps to become detached too readily, but the steel plates of the machines, into which the perforating pins descended, were found to be too weak, due in both cases to the close proximity of the holes. Consequently, in January, 1855, an alteration was made in the spacing of the pins, fourteen of which were introduced into the space previously occupied by sixteen. This allowed a greater body of metal between the holes in the plates, and, necessarily also, less paper was cut away in the process of perforating: thus the stamps, while readily severable from each other, were not so liable to be accidentally torn apart along the lines of perforation. The new gauge proving satisfactory, a similar alteration was made in all the perforating plates and pin-bars, the *machines* themselves remaining as before; and the gauge of fourteen holes to the two centimetres became the standard, and—except for some of the larger-sized stamps—it has remained in use to the present day.

Creation.—Owing to the fact that the first gauge of perforation remained in more or less constant use, side by side with the new one—until, in fact, the old pin-plates were worn out—it is not possible to arrive at the number of impressions from Die I, which received the new perforation; especially as some of the plates constructed from Die II were in use together with the plates of this issue. The perforation of *fourteen* must, however, have largely predominated.

Remarks.—This was the last issue of impressions from plates constructed from Die I, but the thirty-six plates, then being printed from, remained in use until after seven plates from Die II had been put to press: some of them until the beginning of the following August, a period of seven months.

The stamps of the third, fourth and fifth issues, the characteristics of which were changes of perforation or die, were all in simultaneous use early in 1855; and, to some extent, with those of the sixth issue, in the middle of that year.

FIFTH ISSUE: FEBRUARY, 1855.

Date of Issue.—The plates, from which the stamps forming the fifth issue were produced, were constructed from a new die, differing only in minute details from that

previously employed. The first plate from the new die was put to press on the 16th January, 1855; but, beyond this, there is no direct official evidence as to the date of issue, which can only be approximately determined from the evidence afforded by postmarked specimens, the earliest recorded date being the 28th February, 1855: it is, however, possible that impressions were issued in the month of January.

Design. (Die II.)—The design remained precisely the same as that of the preceding issues; but, consequent on the increasing frequency of weak and indistinct impressions, which ultimately attracted the notice of the authorities, it was determined to deepen the lines in the die, so as to produce sharper impressions, and to allow a greater margin for the wear of the plates. (*Illustration 5.*)

The work was entrusted to Mr. William Humphrys, a very skilful engraver employed by Messrs. Perkins & Co., and, owing to the decision of the authorities not to interfere with the original die, a reproduction was made for Mr. Humphrys' operations. The object in view was to deepen the lines in the die, while, at the same time, to preserve an absolute identity with the old die, in all its features. In this Mr. Humphrys succeeded to a remarkable extent, though the experienced philatelist will distinguish at a glance between impressions from the two dies in an unused condition. Apart from a slight difference in the expression of the face, impressions from Die II—which had "NEW" engraved on it to distinguish it from its predecessor—may be readily distinguished from those of Die I, by the following points, an examination of which will be greatly facilitated by a reference to the accompanying enlarged reproductions of impressions taken from the originals of both dies:—there are three principal and very distinct points of difference, namely, in the shading of the eyelid, in the curve of the nostril, and in the shading of the band round the hair behind the ear. In Die I, the eye-lid is almost devoid of shading, whereas in Die II, there are eight distinct lines at right angles to the curve of the eye-lid; in Die II, the nostril will be found more curved or distended; and the band round the hair has a thick dark line forming its lower edge: this is absent altogether from Die I.

A reference to the reproductions will reveal other minute differences, most of which are there indicated; but those above pointed out are the chief, and constitute useful and sufficient guides in distinguishing between the two dies. The new die was approved by the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes on the 11th November, 1854.

Plate.—The plates constructed from the new die were numbered afresh from "1" onwards, to distinguish them from the first series, except in the case of the reserve plates, the numbering of which followed consecutively those constructed from the old die.

Plates 1 to 22 were certainly employed for this issue, having all been put to press more than seven weeks prior to the earliest known appearance (31st July, 1855), of the large crown watermark, which is the feature of the next issue; and plates 23 to 26, with reserve plates 15 (? date of use), 17 and 18 to 20 (if used at all), were probably also used with the small crown paper, the last appearance of which, in the official archives, was on the 12th November, 1855. Details of these plates will be found in the Appendix.

(*State IV.*)—This has been described. Plates nos. 1 to 4, inclusive, were so arranged.

(*State V.*)—Previously described.

The Plates coming under State V were nos. 5 to 26, and the five reserve plates: of the former, impressions from nos. 16 and 17 were taken experimentally at a steam press



DIE I.

- 1.—The upper of the two rows of jewels, in the band of the diadem, appears to be of round stones.
- 2.—The shading below the band of the diadem is very light.
- 3.—The shading on the upper eyelid is very faint.
- 4.—The entire nose is quite straight.
- 5.—The lower eyelid is slightly shaded with dots.
- 6.—The shading on the eyeball is very slight.
- 7.—The nostril is comparatively straight.
- 8.—The mouth is open, showing a short upper lip.
- 9.—The top of the chin, just under the lower lip, forms a curve.
- 10.—The bottom of the chin is shaded with dots.
- 11.—The top of the band behind the ear is faint.
- 12.—The lower edge of the band is formed by two faint lines, with an intermediate white space.
- 13.—The penultimate twist of the pendent curl appears to go almost straight down towards the next twist.
- 14.—The shading on the external rim of the ear is comparatively heavy.
- 15.—The lobule of the ear curves slightly towards the front of the ear.
- 16.—The cheek is very delicately shaded.

The above Illustrations, with the description of the points of difference (which was written



DIE II.

- 1.—The deep shading at the side of each stone, in the upper of the two rows of jewels in the band of the diadem, gives them a diamond-shaped appearance.
- 2.—The shading below the band of the diadem is very heavy.
- 3.—There are eight heavy lines at right angles to the curve of the upper eyelid.
- 4.—The nose, at its juncture with the forehead, is concave, which gives the bridge a convex appearance, entirely altering the shape of the organ.
- 5.—The lower eyelid is heavily shaded with lines.
- 6.—The shading on the eyeball is very pronounced.
- 7.—The nostril is larger and distinctly arched, with heavier shading.
- 8.—The mouth is almost closed, showing a much longer upper lip.
- 9.—The top of the chin shows a distinct indentation, causing the lower lip to appear much fuller.
- 10.—A line has been added to the bottom of the chin, almost at the edge, following its curve up to the above-mentioned indentation.
- 11.—The top of the band behind the ear is quite distinct.
- 12.—The lower edge of the band is formed by one thick line, the white space having disappeared.
- 13.—The penultimate twist of the pendent curl curves distinctly round towards the centre of same.
- 14.—The shading on the external rim of the ear is lighter and less distinct.
- 15.—The lobule of the ear ends abruptly on reaching its lowest point.
- 16.—The shading of the cheek is much heavier, and of a coarser character.

by Mr. Creeke), originally appeared in the Christmas, 1897, Number of "*The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*."

on the 15th May, 1855; and from no. 18 on the 1st June next: they were again put to press later on—plates 16 and 18 on the 11th December, and plate 17 on the 30th November, 1855.

Paper.—The paper was in all respects the same as that employed for the preceding issues, and became, from time to time, more or less discoloured as previously explained.

Colour.—As before, and exhibiting the same varieties of shade.

Gum.—Unchanged.

Perforation.—Both gauges of perforation were in use, and consequently specimens are found perforated, some 16, and others 14.

Creation.—We have not sufficient details to enable us to give, even approximately, the number of stamps of this issue.

Remarks.—We have never seen an issued imperforate copy of the One Penny value, printed from Die II, on the small crown paper: such may, however, have existed.

SIXTH ISSUE: JULY, 1855.

Date of Issue.—The impressions forming this issue were struck upon paper, bearing a new watermark of different design from that previously employed, *viz.*, a large crown, which constitutes the principal feature of this issue. No official announcement was made regarding the change, and the first impression from Die II on the new paper was registered on the 12th November, 1855, (the last on small crown paper having been approved on the 8th June) though it had undoubtedly been in use some time prior to that date, as a postmarked copy is known dated the 31st July of the same year, probably owing to a plate or plates already registered, being used for the first printings on the new paper.

Design. (Die II.)—The design remained unchanged. (*Illustration 5.*)

Plate.—All the plates employed for the preceding issue were in existence, and probably at press, when the new paper came into use, and the remarks previously made as to the reserve plates still apply; further plates, after no. 26, up to and including no. 60 (except nos. 53 and 54), came into use during this issue.

(*State V*)—All the additional plates come under this arrangement, which has been already described.

Plate 53, being inaccurately laid down for perforation, was rejected; and no. 54 was spoiled in the making.

Paper.—The paper was similar to that hitherto employed, save that the watermark was considerably enlarged and of a more complex design, the previous watermark of the small crown being considered too small and faint to be readily observed in individual stamps: hence the alteration to Large Crown.* (*Diagram B.*)

Impressions on the large crown paper continued to show traces of blueing, until the early part of 1857, though the discolouration was much less frequent, and, when it occurred, was of a less intense hue than formerly.

In November, 1856, Mrs. Wise, who had continued, after her husband's death, to supply the paper, wrote to the Commissioners, asking if they would accept thirty reams of crown paper, from which "some of the border watermarks have been omitted;"

* There are varieties in the shape and size of the large crown watermark, but no variation in *design* until 1862, which will be duly noted in the next issue.

this request was granted. The omission was of the word "POSTAGE," which occurred six times in the margins of the sheets.

Colour.—In all respects as before, with similar variations of shade.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Both gauges of perforation continued to be employed, though that of 14 largely predominated.

About this period it was a matter of frequent occurrence for imperforate sheets to become circulated, a state of things that continued for some considerable time. Whilst unable to assign a reason for the fact, we state it on excellent official authority.

Creation.—We have not any details as to the number of stamps issued.

Remarks.—The last *imprimatur* sheet, showing even the slightest trace of the *blueing*, is the one from plate 59, printed on the 11th February, 1857.

SEVENTH ISSUE: JANUARY, 1858.

Date of Issue.—With the seventh issue a change was made in the colour, the first impression printed in carmine-rose being registered on the 18th January, 1858. Beyond that afforded by dated copies, no evidence is available for determining the precise date of issue, but the new colour was employed early in January, though possibly only to a limited extent until later.

The earliest postmarked copy seen by us is dated the 9th January, though we have heard of one used two days earlier.

Design. (Die II.)—As before. (*Illustration 5.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plates 33, 36 to 39, 41 to 68, the five reserve plates (nos. 15, and 17 to 20), previously mentioned and with the same reservations, and reserve plate 16.

(*State V.*)—All the plates of the present issue belong to this State, which has been already described.

Paper.—The paper employed was in all respects similar to that of the preceding issue, save for a very slight alteration in the *design* of the Large Crown, which took place some time in 1862: it consisted in the omission of two short vertical lines, which will have been noticed in the illustration of the watermark in the last issue.

Owing to the change in the character of the ink, the blue discolouration absolutely ceased from the date when the new ink was first used.

Colour.—The colour now adopted was carmine-rose, varying only in shade, from pale to very deep.

The extreme variation from the normal colour employed for previous issues, furnishes evidence of the difficulty experienced by the contractors in obtaining uniformity in this respect; and, in addition to this, the ink hitherto used had the defect of causing the objectionable discolouration, so marked in the earlier issues. With the advent of the new ink, a much greater degree of uniformity in the colour was also obtained.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—The gauge of 14 had now entirely superseded the old gauge of 16, but a temporary recourse to the latter occurred in January, or February, 1858. The comparative scarcity of impressions so perforated indicates the brief period of its employment, and it was probably in connection with one machine only. Although nothing is officially known with regard to the employment of the 16-gauge at this



period, we are informed it was probably due to the fact that the old pin-plates, with pins so spaced, had not been destroyed, and one or more of these plates, in good condition, were probably then in reserve. A fresh set of pins, and the pin-plate in connection therewith, being required for one of the perforating machines, recourse would be made to the sets kept in store; and it would be a mere matter of chance whether the pins and pin-plate then given out were of the old or the new gauge, both being equally applicable to the machines in use. This, no doubt, affords an explanation for what has long been in the nature of a puzzle to philatelists: and it may here be noted that no subsequent use of the 16-gauge was ever made.

As mentioned in connection with the preceding issue, imperforate impressions were issued, though these probably amounted to only a very few sheets which accidentally escaped the perforating machine.

Creation.—Again, unfortunately, we cannot give any details.

Remarks.—Imperforate impressions in black, struck from plate 66 (Die II), may occasionally be met with. This variety is known amongst some philatelists as the “Royal Reprint,” and its origin arose in the fact that, in the year 1864, some younger members of the Royal Family having commenced to form a collection, application was made to the Revenue authorities for specimens, including the One Penny, black, of the first issue. None of these latter being found in stock, impressions in black were authorised to be struck from one of the old plates then in reserve at Somerset House: the plate selected for the purpose was no. 66 (Die II.), which had been withdrawn from press on the 17th March, 1864.

The impressions in black were necessarily on paper watermarked with large crown, none with the small crown remaining in stock at that date. These impressions were intended to be reprints of the old black Penny, from which, however, they differ in being from a plate constructed from the new die, and also in respect to the watermark; but they bore a sufficiently close resemblance to the originals to serve the purpose in view. We believe that only four sheets were printed.

The watermark on these “reprints” is always inverted—whether designedly or inadvertently, we are unable to say—and, by a curious coincidence, the *imprimatur* impression of the plate employed also has the watermark in a similar position.

EIGHTH ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1864.

Date of Issue.—The impressions of this issue differed from the preceding in two particulars, the chief feature consisting in the introduction of check-letters in all four corners, instead of only the lower ones, as heretofore. In the month of August, 1862, the Post Office authorities wrote to the Inland Revenue Department, enquiring when this alteration, which had then already been adopted in the Twopence, Threepence, Fourpence, and Ninepence values, would be extended to the One Penny. On the 27th August, 1862, a reply was received, stating that all new plates for the One Penny, prepared since April, 1858, had had the letters inserted in all four corners, but that the old plates, of which a large stock had been made in case of fire, were not worn out, and that consequently the new plates were not brought into use on account of the very heavy pecuniary loss, which the sacrifice of the old ones would have entailed.*

* The reasons for this change, and the events which led up to it, are given very fully in the “Preliminary” on pages 3-4, *supra*.

The matter remained more or less in abeyance until the 4th March, 1864, when the Post Office authorities suggested that, if the loss involved in discarding the old plates could be avoided by placing them in reserve for use in case of fire, the Commissioners of Inland Revenue might not object to the immediate use of the plates then in store, bearing letters in the four corners of each stamp: the Commissioners agreed, and instructions were given for the issue to take place as early as possible.

We have been unable to trace any official announcement of the issue, but we are informed, as the result of a search in the Archives at the General Post Office, that it took place on the 1st April, 1864. Impressions from several of the plates had been registered so far back as March, 1861, and some of the spare sheets then struck for this purpose may possibly have got into circulation at the time. The earliest example which has come under our notice is dated the 15th May, 1864; but any which may be found bearing a postmark, dated prior to March in the same year, must undoubtedly have come from the extra impressions struck at the time of registration.

Design. (Die II.)—The design remained the same as before, save that the stars in the upper angles were removed from the rollers employed in the construction of the plates, all four corners being thus left blank, instead of only the lower ones as heretofore. After the roller impressions had been transferred to the plate, check-letters were inserted in the angles, by means of hand punches, in *sans serif* capitals, instead of the Roman previously employed, the letters in the lower corners being arranged as before, and those in the upper ones being the same, but transposed. The modification in the type of the letters was effected at the instance of the Post Office authorities, who desired that the lettering should be as clear and bold as possible. The plate-number was now also inserted on the roller, small numerals being introduced into the engine-turned framework at each side of the design: consequently, every impression bore the plate-number twice. (*Illustration 7.*)

These alterations had been effected in the case of the Twopence early in 1858; but, as above stated, they were not made in the One Penny until new plates were actually required.

Plate.—For this issue, plates 71-74, 76-125, 127, and 129-225 were used. Details are given in the Appendix.

(*State V.*)—Has been described, and all the plates up to and including no. 97, are included therein.

Plate 69, completed on the 10th December, 1860, was the first for the One Penny value with letters in all four angles, and the plate-number at the sides; but, being defective, it was destroyed on the 29th October, 1861, before any impressions for registration were struck from it. Curiously enough, this number, 69, was also that of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co.'s premises in Fleet Street, which fact has been frequently mentioned as a means of remembering the first plate of the four-letter series.

Plate 70, completed the 24th January, 1861, was also rejected on account of a flaw in the steel, but, though no impression taken from it exists in the Archives, a few were nevertheless struck off before the defect was discovered. It is, therefore, by no means impossible that specimens may exist. Indeed, examples are frequently chronicled, but no undoubted copy has come under our observation, every so-called impression from plate 70 proving upon examination to be from plate 76.

Plates 71 to 74 were registered on the 14th March, 1861, but, as already explained, were not put to press until nearly three years later.

Plates 75 and 77 were not registered, as they were found to be incorrectly laid down for perforation : they were defaced on the 1st December, 1864. Copies of plate 77 exist, presumably from a sheet, or sheets, put through the perforating machine before the discovery of the defect, which prevented the official approval of the plate.

(*State VI.*)—The plate-numbers in the margins were now enclosed in small circles, and the "current" number of the plate was also engraved above the space between the first and second stamps in the top row, and below the space between the eleventh and twelfth in the bottom row. The dot at the top of the plate was omitted. (*Diagram B.*)

To this State belong all the plates after no. 97, up to and including no. 225, the last used.

Plate 126 was never made, as the roller was defective ; and plate 128 was rejected as being not rectangular. Plates 226 to 228 were made, but were not put to press or even registered, owing to the expiration of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co.'s contract at the end of 1879.

Paper.—The paper bore the watermark of large crowns—the 1862 variety, without the short vertical lines—and was similar to that previously employed ; and, owing to the difficulty then experienced in making large quantities of an absolutely uniform substance, it was necessary to insert with each ream, a certain number of thick or thin sheets, in order that it should be of the weight specified in the contract. Impressions may, therefore, be found on paper varying from stout to very thin, the common standard of thickness being midway between these extremes.

The impressions of this issue were entirely free from any discolouration of the paper.

About the year 1870, a few sheets of the large crown paper were chemically treated, as an experiment, with a view to rendering the obliteration on the stamp more difficult of removal, though we have not met with evidence to show that such a step had become necessary, owing to attempts in this direction. A few impressions from plate 121 were struck on this paper, and imperforate examples in red are known : they may be distinguished from the ordinary impressions by the blueness of the paper, an invention of Dr. Perkins.

Colour.—This was practically the same as in the previous issue, varying in tones and shades of carmine-rose, carmine-red, rose-red and rose-pink.

Gum.—Same as hitherto, varying from brown to so-called white. In June, 1864, it was decided to give the stamps of this value, and also the Twopence, a double gumming, for one year as an experiment : as this was fairly successful, the practice was continued.

Perforation.—The perforation was uniformly 14, but examples from several of the plates may be met with imperforate, many having been so issued in isolated sheets, overlooked in the process of perforating. The best known instance of this occurred with a few impressions from plate 116, which were accidentally forwarded in an imperforate state to the Cardiff Post Office, in 1873, from which circumstance this particular stamp is known to Philatelists as the "Cardiff Penny."

Creation.—This amounted to some 14,000,000,000 stamps.

Remarks.—There is a curious error in the shape of one of the large crown watermarks, for a sight of which we are indebted to Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen, and which we here illustrate. It was under a stamp from plate 92, which was lettered "A. M." M. A.



The minuteness of the numerals denoting the plate number on each stamp, renders it a matter of frequent difficulty to satisfactorily determine from what plate the

impression was struck, and examples said to bear a number on one side differing from that on the other, have been chronicled from time to time. Such "errors" cannot, however, exist, as the numbers were inserted on the roller from which the plate was constructed; and, therefore, an error of this nature, to occur on the plate, must obviously in the first instance be on the roller; and, if on the roller, then it follows that it would necessarily occur on each and every stamp throughout the plate.

Imperforate impressions in black and in red, struck on cardboard from plate 103 for the Paris Exhibition of 1867, are occasionally to be met with.

Copies of this value may be found, bearing on the back either under or over the gum, the names or initials of various firms, printed there as an advertisement. The Oxford Union Society obtained permission to overprint these postage stamps with their initials, "O. U. S." between two wavy lines; examples of many of the One Penny stamps of this section, except those of the first issue, may be met with so surcharged on the front, and occasionally on the back, under, and subsequently over, the gum.

The line-engraved One Penny stamp was superseded in 1880, by the surface-printed one of similar value in Venetian red, designed and printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with a Small Crown; Plates, (no numbers on the stamps), 1 to 11; imperforate.

1st (for 6th) May, 1840.—One Penny, black, (shades).

SECOND ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with a Small Crown, and frequently more or less blued; Plates, (no numbers on the stamps), 1, 2, 4 to 175, 176 (?) and 177 (?).

20th January, 1841.—One Penny, red-brown, brick-red, (many shades of both, and the latter sometimes with a tinge of orange or lake); imperforate.

Error on Plate 77.

1847.—One Penny, red-brown, brick-red, (shades of both), lettered "B. ." (the second letter-block being blank); imperforate.

Varieties.

1848-50.—One Penny, red-brown, brick-red, (shades of both).

January, 1848.—Rouletted by Archer's first machine:

1848.— " " " second " :

1850—Perforated 16, by Archer's third machine—specimens to be distinguished from later issues, must be used and dated prior to 28th January, 1854.

THIRD ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with a Small Crown, and frequently more or less blued; Plates, (no numbers on the stamps), 152, 155, 157, and 160 to 204, and "Reserve" 1 to 6; perforated 16.

February, 1854.—One Penny, lake-red, brick-red (sometimes with tinge of rose or lake), red-brown (many shades of each).

See p. 148.

p. 146.

p. 24.

FOURTH ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with a Small Crown, and frequently more or less blued; Plates, (no numbers on the stamps), 157, 163, 166, 173, 176 to 179, 182 and 184 to 204, and "Reserve" 1 to 6; perforated 14.

January, 1855.—One Penny, red-brown, brick-red (shades of both, and the latter sometimes with tinge of orange or rose).

FIFTH ISSUE.

Die II.—Paper watermarked with a Small Crown, and frequently more or less blued; Plates, (no numbers on the stamps), 1 to 26, and "Reserve" 15 and 17 to 20;* perforated 16 and 14.

February, 1855.—One Penny, brick-red (sometimes with tinge of orange or rose), orange-red, lake-red (shades of each).

SIXTH ISSUE.

Die II.—Paper watermarked with a Large Crown, and sometimes more or less blued; Plates, (no numbers on the stamps), 1 to 52 and 55 to 60, and "Reserve" 15 and 17 to 20.*

July, 1855.—One Penny, brick-red (sometimes with tinge of orange, rose or lake), red-brown, lake-red, rose-red, red-rose, red-orange, rose-orange (shades of each); perforated 16 and 14.

Variety.

One Penny, rose-red; imperforate.

SEVENTH ISSUE.

Die II.—Paper watermarked with a Large Crown; Plates, (no numbers on the stamps), 33, 36 to 39 and 41 to 68 and "Reserve" 15 to 20;* perforated 14 and 16.

January, 1858.—One Penny, carmine-rose, (shades from pale to very deep).

EIGHTH ISSUE.

Die II.—Paper watermarked with a Large Crown; Plates (with numbers on the stamps and letters in all four corners), 71 to 74, 76 to 125, 127, and 129 to 225.

1st April, 1864.—One Penny, carmine-rose, carmine-red, rose-red and rose-pink (many varying shades and tones of each); perforated 14.

Varieties.

One Penny, carmine-rose, carmine-red, rose-red, and rose-pink (shades and tones of each), imperforate. Possibly impressions from the majority of the above plates were issued in this condition; but only Nos. 90, 100, 103, 107, 108, 114, 116, 120, 121, 136, 146, and 191 are known to us used.

* "Reserve" plate 17 was, we find, put to press, and produced 191,200 impressions; but the records do not show whether or not nos. 18, 19 and 20 were ever printed from.

(c) THE THREE HALFPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST OCTOBER, 1870.

Date of Issue.—The reason for which this value was brought into use, and the date of its issue, were notified as follows in a circular dated the 20th September, 1870, and addressed to all Postmasters:—

“In connection with the reduction in the rate of Postage on Inland Newspapers, Printed Matter, and Patterns or Samples, which will take effect on and from the 1st of October next . . . Postage Stamps of the value of Three Half-pence will be issued for sale to the Public . . . They are on no account to be sold to the Public before the 1st of October.”

The first consignment from store consisted of 6,000 sheets, sent to the General Post Office on the 7th September, 1870; and the total supplies from store up to the date of issue to the public amounted to 10,583 sheets.

Design.—The die, designed and engraved by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. in 1860, was, in the first instance, a reproduction of Die II of the One Penny, from which the stars in the upper angles had been removed. The upper and lower tablets, containing the legends “POSTAGE” and “ONE PENNY,” were erased* and a triangular curvilinear band substituted therefor, the apex being downwards, and the edge touching the exterior line of the rectangular frame at the top, bottom and sides. On this band, which is white, is “POSTAGE” on the left, “THREE” at the top, and “HALFPENCE” on the right, the intervening spaces being filled in with ornamentation of a scroll pattern. Within the band is a diademed profile, to left, of Queen Victoria, precisely similar to that on the One Penny, save that the lower portion of the bust is shortened in order to bring it inside the triangular band. In the four angles are the usual white blocks, for the reception of the check-letters, and the background of the design is composed of engine-turning, with reticulated side-borders.

The die, which is upright rectangular in shape, measures $18\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 6.*)

Impressions from plate 1 do not bear any plate-number, but those from plate 3 have that figure inserted in the side-borders, as in the One Penny. (*Illustrations 8 and 8a.*)

Plate.—There were only two plates used, nos. 1 and 3.

(*State I.*)—The plate contained two hundred and forty impressions, in twenty horizontal rows of twelve each, arranged in a single pane as in the One Penny value, and measured 478 mm. ($18\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in height by 240 mm. ($9\frac{7}{8}$ inches) in width. An entire sheet constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of £1 10 0.

On the top, bottom and side margins was engraved the following legend:—

“PRICE $1\frac{1}{2}$ Per Label. $\frac{1}{6}$ Per Row of 12. £1,10,0 Per Sheet. Place the Labels ABOVE the Address and towards the RIGHT HAND SIDE of the Letter. In Wetting the Back be careful not to remove the Cement.”

At the top and bottom of the plate were the usual dividing and guiding marks, a vertical line and a cross; and opposite to the centre of each side was a floriated ornament, similar to that in the later States of the One Penny. The plate-numbers in small Arabic figures, were at the four corners of the plate.

* In some impressions from the Plate, traces of these tablets are distinctly visible, but more particularly so in the proofs from the Die.

In the four angles of each stamp were the check-letters, in coloured *sans serif* capitals, the lettering running from "A. A." to "T. L." (See *Diagram B.**)

Plate 1 was registered, and first put to press, on the 22nd March, 1860; but the supply then printed was never issued for use. It was again put to press on the 6th June, 1870, discarded probably in May, 1874, and defaced on the 26th October, 1880.

On this plate an error occurred in the corner lettering, the third stamp in the fifteenth horizontal row having "O" in the left-hand top corner, instead of "C." This error was not discovered at the time, nor subsequently when the plate was put to press for the issue, and consequently specimens may be met with in the colour of both printings. (*Illustration 8—the third stamp.*)

(*State II.*)—The arrangement of the plate remained as before, but each plate-number was enclosed in a small circle; and the "current" number was now inserted, also in Arabic figures, just above the space between the first and second stamps in the top row, and below that between the eleventh and twelfth in the bottom row. (See *Diagram B.†*)

Plate 2, constructed in 1874, was rejected in consequence of the impressions being inaccurately spaced: it was defaced on the 20th October, 1874, without having been put to press, or registered.

Plate 3, registered on the 30th April, 1874, was at press from the 10th August following until the end of July, 1880. It was defaced on the 26th of the next October.

Paper.—The large crown paper, employed for the later issues of the preceding value of One Penny, was used. No signs of discolouration appear in the issued impressions, but the *imprimatur* sheet of plate 1, struck in lilac-rose, is deeply discoloured blue, and is without gum: impressions in this colour may, however, be met with showing no trace of the discolouration. (*Diagram B.*)

Colour.—The first impressions, struck in 1860, were in lilac-rose, a colour then employed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. for certain fiscal stamps: these impressions were never issued. When the plate was again put to press in 1870, the colour adopted was lake-red, varying in shade, and at times approaching very closely to that of the One Penny.

Gum.—The same as that used for the One Penny issue of this date.

Perforation.—This was a machine perforation, uniformly gauging 14. Specimens from plate 1, in both colours, may be met with imperforate.

Creation.—The first creation, which was in lilac-rose, consisted of 10,000 sheets, struck under two warrants, dated respectively the 22nd and 29th March, 1860, each for 5,000 sheets. Owing to the then contemplated alteration in the postal rates failing to secure the assent of Parliament, these stamps were not brought into use, but remained in stock until 1867, when the storekeeper reported to the Board of Inland Revenue as follows:—

" 13th May, 1867.

" In the year 1860, a stock of 1½d. Postage Labels was provided in anticipation of stamps of that description being required for the postage of Newspapers. They have not been brought into use, but occasionally a few stamps have been given as specimens. The value of the stock of these stamps now in my charge is £13,443; and, being an incumbrance from which I would be relieved, I submit that they be destroyed.

" George Evett."

* *Diagram B*, minus the circle round the plate numbers, and minus the "current" numbers, would, *mutatis mutandis*, show *State I*.

† *Diagram B*, *mutatis mutandis*, would show *State II*.

In response to this, the Board, on the 17th May, 1867, ordered their destruction, and, on the 14th June following, a warrant was issued to that effect.

From a note in the Storekeeper's Discharge-book, appended to the above entries, we find that the 10,000 sheets are accounted for as follows:—

1 sheet for the *imprimatur* of Plate 1, in 1860:
 1 sheet for the Paris Exhibition of 1867:
 1,036 sheets distributed to Postmasters, Collectors, &c. :
 8,962 sheets destroyed in 1867

Total 10,000 sheets, equivalent to 2,400,000 stamps.

Of the subsequent impressions in lake-red, we find from the various warrants that 189,634 sheets, or 45,512,160 stamps, were printed, of which (according to an Inland Revenue return), 177,659 sheets, or 42,638,160 stamps, had been issued up to the end of 1879. The first of these warrants was in May, 1870, and the last in July, 1880.

There are no records to show the respective numbers of impressions struck from each of the two plates; but, on the assumption that only one plate was at press at a time, we calculate that plate 1 yielded (excluding the two lilac-rose printings), 66,134 sheets, or 15,872,160 stamps, and that plate 3 gave 123,500 sheets, or 29,640,000 stamps.

Remarks.—This stamp continued in use until October, 1880, when it was superseded by the surface-printed stamp of the same value, designed and printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co.

see p. 149.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large Crown; Plates 1 and 3, the first not being numbered on the stamps.

1st October, 1870.—Three Halfpence, lake-red (shades), perforated 14.

Variety.

Three Halfpence, lake-red, Plate 1, imperforate.

Error.

Three Halfpence, lake-red, Plate 1, lettered "O.P."
P.C., both perforated and imperforate.

(d) THE TWOPENCE.

FIRST ISSUE: 1ST (FOR 6TH) MAY, 1840.

Date of Issue.—The exact date on which this value was first issued has always been obscure, and the evidence hitherto available has been of a contradictory character. On the 29th April, 1840, a circular, addressed "To all Postmasters," was issued from the General Post Office, enclosing specimens of the One Penny label, and stating that the "Twopenny one is not yet ready."

On the same day, a notice* was issued by the Inland Revenue authorities, announcing that the use of stamps for denoting the duties of postage was authorised "on and after the 6th of May next," and that "the sale of such stamps shall in the

* See Chapter IV of the Introduction.

“first instance be confined to London,” and further that “on and after the 1st of May
 “next, the stamps undermentioned may be obtained at the Sea Policy Office, Bank
 “Buildings, in the City of London, in the quantities and at the prices following.”
 The last two items in the list which follows are :—

	£	s.	d.
“Sheet of 1d. Labels containing 240 Stamps (per sheet) .	1	0	0
“Same of 2d.	2	0	0”

It subsequently transpired that neither of these notices was in accord with the facts as regards the Twopence labels. In point of fact, the Twopence, as we shall show, was ready for issue (though probably in only limited quantities), on the date of these notifications, whereas, on the other hand, this value was *not* obtainable on the 1st May, at the places indicated, because no supplies had been sent. We do, however, know that supplies were forwarded to a considerable number of Country Postmasters on the 30th April, and this in spite of the Treasury Minute directing that the sale, in the first instance, be confined to London.

A partial explanation of these conflicting announcements may possibly lie in the fact that Mr. Rowland Hill, when he visited the works of Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Petch on April 14th, had been given to understand that the first plate for the Twopence could not be ready for use before 1st May, which would render it impossible for them to furnish a sufficient supply of the stamps for immediate circulation before the 4th or 5th of that month. The notification of 29th April, that the Twopence labels were not then ready, was, doubtless, based upon this expectation; and the Postmaster General was apparently not informed that the manufacturers had succeeded in completing the plate sooner than they had anticipated. On the other hand, the announcement by the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes that the Twopence labels would be obtainable in London on 1st May, was probably due to their knowledge that a supply of this value was actually then in store at Somerset House. We possess no evidence enabling us to explain how it was that the supplies, issued the day following this notification, were sent to country Postmasters only, and none to London offices, not excepting even the General Post Office.

Such was, nevertheless, the case, and the Storekeeper's first issue book (mentioned under this heading in the first issue of the One Penny) contains a minute account of the stamps despatched to the various Postmasters throughout the kingdom. The first entry relating to the Twopence is dated 30th April, 1840, and records the despatch of four entire sheets to Mr. Adams, at Bromsgrove. This is followed, under the same date, by further entries recording the despatch of this value to eighty-seven other Postmasters, including those at Louth, 6 sheets; Kidderminster, 3; Lincoln, 5; Boston, 6; Sheffield, 20; Canterbury, 10; Tunbridge Wells, 4; Maidstone, 12; Bedford, 4; Henley, 21; Wantage, 1; Sevenoaks, 5; Hythe, 1; and Gravesend, 6. The total number of entire sheets of the Twopence sent out on this date was two hundred and eighty-six.

On the day following, five hundred and ninety-seven sheets were sent out to one hundred and sixty-eight places, including Bath, 37; Bristol, 58; Cheltenham, 20; Taunton, 8; Norwich, 20; Hereford, 7; Gloucester, 11; Southampton, 19; Portsmouth, 15; York, 22; Leicester, 13; and Brighton, 27. The respective numbers of sheets supplied to the various towns, are, as has been previously pointed out, of interest as denoting in some measure their relative degree of local postal importance at that period.

On the 2nd May there was a further despatch of 1,115 sheets, distributed among

253 places other than those enumerated above, and this day was the last on which there was any general despatch of this value.

The total number of entire sheets sent out up to, and including, the 6th May, the advertised date of issue to the public, was 2,316, of which 1,998 were distributed amongst 509 country post-offices. In addition to this country despatch, eighteen sheets were forwarded to the Postmaster-General on the 5th, and on the 6th 150 sheets were sent to the Head Office, Somerset House, and the same number to the Sea Policy Office, in the City. The first consignment to Edinburgh was 500 sheets on the 15th May, and that to Dublin, 1,000 sheets on the 23rd. The above-mentioned eighteen sheets, sent to the Postmaster-General, were probably for distribution as specimens in connection with the following Post Office circular:—

“TO ALL POSTMASTERS.

“GENERAL POST OFFICE,

“7th May, 1840.

“Referring to the Circular of last month, transmitting specimens . . . of the “Penny Adhesive Labels, I now enclose *two specimens of the Twopenny Adhesive Labels*, which you will preserve . . . for the purpose of comparison with any “doubtful Postage Stamps passing through your hands”

“By Command,

“W. L. MABERLY,

“Secretary.”

This Circular was sent out on the 8th May.

It was not until the 13th May, that a supply for the public use was sent to the General Post Office, in response to an application from the Secretary, to which the following reference occurs in the Board's Minutes of the same date.

“Read letter from Colonel Maberly of G. P. O., requesting a supply of stamps, with a view to the letter-receivers in London being furnished with them.

“Prepare Warrant for consigning to Receiving Agent of the Post Office £600 worth of 2d Labels,”

These were despatched the same day, but, by a curious error, the Storekeeper, evidently forgetting that the face-value of a sheet of Twopenny stamps was £2, forwarded 600 entire sheets, or double the quantity ordered. The Storekeeper's mistake, as to the facial value of a sheet of the Twopenny, was not discovered until the following July, and consequently the totals of the supplies forwarded up to then had to be rectified.

The issue probably took place the day following the despatch of this consignment, but it is beyond question that this value must have been on sale at a great number of provincial offices, simultaneously with the One Penny, at least a week prior to this; and it is quite possible that both values were sold to the public as early as the 1st May. The issue of either value was not general in London until the end of May, or early in June, owing to the reasons given in dealing with the One Penny value.* The last consignment from Store of this issue took place on the 25th February, 1841.

Design. (Die I.)—The design was similar to that of the One Penny, the die being a reproduction from the original die of that value, with the necessary alteration of the lower tablet, on which the value “TWO PENCE” was inscribed, in place of “ONE PENNY.” With reference to this, Mr. Rowland Hill wrote in his diary, under date of the 30th January, 1840:—“. . . Agreed with the Ch(ancellor) of the Ex(chequer)

* See page 17, *supra*.

“that the legend on the Stamps should be . . . “Postage, Two Pence,” and have “issued instructions to the engravers accordingly.”

The stamp is upright rectangular in shape, and measures $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in height and $18\frac{3}{4}$ mm. in width. (*Illustration 9*).

Plate.—For this issue only two plates, nos. 1 and 2, were used.

(*State I.*)—The Plate was made up of two hundred and forty impressions, arranged in one pane, consisting of twenty horizontal rows of twelve stamps each, representing the facial value of £2, and constituting a Post-office sheet. The pane measured 478 mm. ($18\frac{1}{2}$ inches), vertically, by 240 mm. ($9\frac{7}{8}$ inches) horizontally. Above, below and at either side of the pane were marginal inscriptions, in italics:—

“PRICE 2^s Per Label. 2/- Per Row of 12. £2,000 Per Sheet. Place the Labels ABOVE the Address and towards the RIGHT HAND SIDE of the Letter. In Wetting the Back be careful not to remove the “Cement.”

At each corner of the pane was an Arabic numeral, denoting the number of the plate. (*See Diagram C.**)

The lettering, which was in the lower corners only of the stamps, ran from “A. A.” to “T. I.”: there were no errors in the punching.

Plate 1 was approved on the 2nd May, and plate 2 on the 31st July, 1840. Although plate 1 was not formally approved till the 2nd May, it is evident, from what has been stated under “*Date of Issue*,” that it had been found correct and put to press, probably a week previously, as, up to and including the day of approval, about 2,000 sheets had been issued from Store at Somerset House; and this quantity would be equivalent to four days’ printing, the output from a single press being 500 impressions per day of twenty four hours. In order to provide a supply of this value, in time for its issue simultaneously with the One Penny, the contractors were compelled to put plate 1 to press, before it had been hardened, and it appears to have remained in this state throughout its existence. The wear of the plate was consequently rapid, and for this reason it is probable that, when plate 2 was ready, plate 1 was discarded. Both plates were defaced on the 27th January, 1842.

No official record has been preserved as to the respective number of impressions struck from these plates; but, from other data, it appears probable that the approximate numbers were 20,000 sheets from plate 1, and 10,000 sheets from plate 2. The latter was only in use from the 27th July, to the 31st August, 1840, the last warrant, authorising impressions for this issue, being for 3,100 sheets, and dated the 25th August.

Impressions from plate 1 present a softer, or somewhat more spongy, appearance than those struck from plate 2, and this is no doubt due in a large measure to the former plate not having been hardened. The two plates were intended to be in all respects identical; but, owing to the absence of impressions in the official Archives, we are unable to state, from personal observation, whether the type or disposition of the lettering in the lower corners presented any peculiarities, or marked features, such as might enable individual specimens to be identified with either plate.

Paper.—The paper bore the watermark of small crown, and was, in all respects, identical with that employed for the early issues of One Penny. (*Diagram C.*) The discolouration of the paper, more or less marked in the following issue, was entirely absent in these impressions.

Colour.—The stamps were printed in ordinary blue printer’s ink, the shades varying from pale to dark.

* Diagram C, *minus* the dividing and perforating marks at the top, bottom and sides, would show State I.

“ Stamps The new Labels are to replace those in present use, but, until
 “ the whole of the latter remaining on hand is disposed of, the old Labels are to
 “ circulate in common with the new ones

“ By Command,

“ W. L. MABERLY, *Secretary.*”

The above was circulated on the 3rd of February, 1841.

In the Board Minutes of the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, the following item occurs under date of the 13th January, 1841 :—“ Read letter from Col. Maberly, “ requesting that 18 sheets of . . . 2d. of the new colour, be forwarded to him. “ Ordered accordingly.” It is evident that none of these stamps had been printed on that date, as we find a warrant for eighteen sheets of the Twopence was issued to the printers on the following day. The order does not appear to have been executed until the 25th February, possibly because the new plate was not ready ; but, on this latter date, the *imprimatur* sheet was approved, and the remaining seventeen sheets were, doubtless, at once sent to the General Post Office for circulation as specimens amongst the various postmasters and letter-receivers. A second warrant for 5,000 sheets was directed to the printers on the 26th February, and some of these were probably issued as soon as they were received into stock : none, however, were supplied to the General Post Office until the 19th July, on which date 2,000 sheets were sent thither.

It is impossible to fix the precise date on which this issue was first made, as the stock of this and the preceding issue was not distinguished in the Storekeeper's books ; but in the Minutes of the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, we find the following, under date of the 1st February, 1841 :—“ Read letter from Col. Maberly of G.P.O., “ stating that, so far as his Department is concerned, the issue of the new postage “ stamps may commence on the 10th February next. Instructions accordingly.” This date is verified by an entry in Mr. Rowland Hill's diary, under date of the 11th February :—“ Yesterday the new envelopes and labels came into use.” It is clear, however, that the reference to *labels* applied only to the One Penny, as the Twopence had not then been printed ; but it may be taken for granted that the Twopence was in issue early in March, and a few sheets may possibly have been circulated as early as the end of the previous month.

Design. (Die I.)—This was similar to the design of the preceding issue, except that two horizontal white lines were introduced, one immediately below and the other above the upper and lower tablets respectively, containing the legends. The alteration was made on the roller, the die remaining in its original state. It has been hitherto supposed that this modification in the design was introduced in order to accentuate the difference between this value and the One Penny, but the following extract from a Treasury Minute, dated the 19th December, 1840, proves this supposition to be erroneous :—“ . . . My Lords are therefore pleased to direct as “ follows : 1st.—That the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes be instructed in future “ to print . . . the Twopenny Stamps with the new Blue ink, prepared by Messrs. “ Perkins and Co. ; and, as it may be important hereafter, to have the means of “ distinguishing the new Twopenny labels from the old ones, to make some alteration “ in the plates used for printing them”

The precise nature of the proposed alteration appears to have been left to the direction of Mr. Rowland Hill, who had evidently anticipated the Treasury's suggestion on this point, as we find that Messrs. Perkins & Co. wrote to him on the 23rd October, 1840, enclosing two impressions from the die of the Twopence, the one

having a white line below the upper tablet only, and the other having a second white line above the lower one: this latter was finally selected. (*Illustration 10.*)

Plate.—Only two plates, nos. 3 and 4, were employed for this issue.

(*State I.*)—This has already been described in the preceding issue.

Plate 3 was put to press in February, 1841, and was defaced on the 6th March, 1850, after yielding, as we gather from the warrants, some 191,000 impressions.

(*State II.*)—The only difference between this and State I consisted in the addition of a vertical line, introduced into the margin at the bottom of the plate, opposite the space between the sixth and seventh stamps, and a dot in a corresponding position above the pane (*see Diagram C**). The line and dot were inserted as a guide in perforating, the plate thus arranged being approved subsequently to the commencement of Archer's experiments.

Plate 4, put to press on the 6th December, 1849, was in use at the termination of this issue, having then given, according to the warrants, about 192,000 impressions.

The stamps printed from these two plates may, to a certain extent, be distinguished by the corner-letters, which were not struck on both plates by means of the same punches. On plate 3, the letters are thinner than those on plate 4, and a marked difference exists in the letters "A" and "O:" on plate 3 the "A" has the upper portion open, showing a distinct white triangle, and the "O" is oval in form; whereas on plate 4 the "A" shows no white above the cross-bar, and the "O" is circular. In addition to these points of difference, there is, of course, the usual irregularity in the position of the letters in the corner spaces.†

Paper.—The paper, watermarked with small crowns, was precisely the same as that used for the preceding issue; and the blue discolouration, which became so prominent a feature in the One Penny, also now manifested itself in the Twopence, though in a somewhat less marked degree.

Colour.—This still remained blue, differing but slightly in appearance from that of the first issue. The ingredients of the ink had, however, been altered, in order to render it of a more fugitive character, and thereby lessen the risk of the obliterating marks being fraudulently removed, after the stamps had done duty. It had been found that this could be readily effected with the stamps of the previous issue, and a series of experiments with other inks and colours had consequently been carried out, the result of which was announced in the before-mentioned Treasury Minute dated the 19th December, 1840:—

The use of another colour ". . . . was reluctantly abandoned, in consequence of " the contractors for printing the Postage labels having failed, after repeated trials, " in obtaining any other light colour than blue (now used for the Twopenny labels), " which was capable of affording a good impression. Subsequently, however, Messrs. " Perkins & Co., the Contractors, have, after a great variety of experiments, succeeded " in procuring a new Blue ink which also, though in a less degree, possesses " the latter advantage" of being readily acted upon by nearly all chemical agents, likely to be employed for removing the obliterating marks, " while as a printing ink it is not " inferior to that now used"

Gum.—The gum continued the same as hitherto, but owing to the effect produced by the blue discolouration, it frequently presented a deep greenish hue.

* Diagram C, *minus* all the dividing and perforating guides, except the line at the bottom (in the place of the cross), and *plus* the dot at the top, would show State II.

† Those who may be desirous of reconstructing sheets for the two States, will derive great assistance from *The English Specialists' Journal* for May, 1896.

Perforation.—The stamps of this issue were not perforated.

Creation.—The total number of stamps created for this issue was about 91,920,000, of which 45,840,000 were struck from plate 3, and 46,080,000 from plate 4.

Remarks.—In the year 1847, Mr. Henry Archer commenced his series of semi-official experiments, which finally resulted in the purchase and adoption of his perforating machine (*see page 5*); but, although he rouletted a considerable number of sheets of the One Penny, and subsequently operated upon a further number with his perforating machine, it does not appear, nor is it probable, that he had recourse to the stamps of the Twopence value, for the purpose of his experiments. Rouletted specimens of the Twopence *are* known, but whether the rouletting is Archer's or of private origin cannot be definitely determined.

THIRD ISSUE: FEBRUARY (?), 1854.

Date of Issue.—No official notification appears to have been made with regard to the adoption of perforation, in which respect alone this issue differs from the preceding one. A record is, however, preserved in the official archives, to the effect that perforation was first officially applied to the stamps of this value on the 31st January, 1854; and impressions so perforated were doubtless issued to the public during the following month. The last printing of the Twopence, prior to the 31st January, consisted of 5,000 sheets, authorised by a warrant dated the 17th of that month, these would be received from the printers about the end of January, which coincides with the date recorded, as that on which the perforating commenced. The earliest known copy is dated 7th April, 1854.

Design. (Die I.)—The same as that of the preceding issue. (*Illustration 10.*)

Plate.—Only two plates, nos. 4 and 5, were used.

(*State II.*)—This has been described.

Plate 4, which was in use during the preceding issue, was also employed for this, and remained at press into the succeeding one.

(*State III.*)—The dividing and perforating guide-marks were now a cross and a vertical line, both above and below the pane, the cross being opposite the space between the sixth and seventh stamps. At each side of the pane was a wedge-shaped ornament, showing where the pane could be divided horizontally into half sheets of the facial value of £1 each. (*Diagram C.*)

Plate 5, registered on the 8th June, 1855, was put to press on the following day, and continued in use into the next issue.

Paper.—The small crown paper still continued to be employed.

Colour.—The colour also remained as before—shades of blue.

Gum.—About this period, a slight change was made in the gum, by the addition of a certain proportion of animal size: this rendered it whiter than formerly, though it still remained somewhat deficient in adhesive qualities.

Perforation.—The stamps of this issue were the first of the Twopence value to be perforated officially; but it is possible that a few sheets may have been previously perforated by Archer in the course of his experiments. We have not, however, met with any evidence of his having done so, and it is improbable that he operated upon stamps other than the One Penny, during the trials with his machines.

The purchase of Archer's perforating machines, and his patent rights in connection therewith, was concluded by the Treasury in May, 1853, and the machines were forthwith utilised for perforating certain fiscal stamps; but it was not until the 31st January in the following year that the perforation of the Twopence was com-

menced. The machines were constructed to perforate sixteen holes in the space of two centimetres, and have been already fully described.

Creation.—As these two plates, nos. 4 and 5, are found on small crown and on large crown paper, perforated 16 and 14, we have been unable to give even an approximate figure for the issue on the former paper, with the small perforation.

Remarks.—It is possible that, in the early days of perforation, some sheets of plate 5 may have been issued imperforate; but individual specimens are not to be distinguished from those from plate 4, unless they show the marginal plate-number, or some part of the dividing marks or perforating guides which do not exist on the earlier plate.

FOURTH ISSUE: MARCH, 1855.

Date of Issue.—The distinguishing feature of this issue is the alteration of the perforation gauge, from sixteen holes in the space of two centimetres, to fourteen holes only; and, as there was no official notification of the change, we can only fix approximately the date of issue from the time at which the new perforation plates and pins were brought into use, and from dated specimens of the stamps, of which the earliest known to us is postmarked 4th March, 1855.

Design. (Die I.)—The same as in the last issue. (*Illustration 10.*)

Plate.—Two plates only, nos. 4 and 5, were printed from during this issue, both of which had already been at press when the smaller perforation was solely in use; and the States to which they respectively belonged have been described: they were at press on the termination of the issue.

Paper.—This was the small crown of the previous issues.

Colour.—Blue was still employed, and varied in shade.

Gum.—As previously.

Perforation.—The larger perforation of fourteen holes in the space of two centimetres was adopted in March, 1855, but it must be understood that, although we have separated this issue from the preceding one, the two gauges of 16 and 14 were used simultaneously for some time, until the latter gradually superseded the former.

To avoid repetition, the reader is referred to this heading under the fourth issue of the One Penny. (*See page 33.*)

Creation.—We cannot give even approximate figures.

Remarks.—Our reason for dividing the impressions from Die I, on small crown paper, into two issues, perforated 16 and 14 respectively, is that plate 4 alone was at press when the smaller perforation only was in use; and plate 5 was not printed from until after the simultaneous use of both gauges had commenced.

FIFTH ISSUE: JULY, 1855.

Date of Issue.—The issue differs from the preceding two only in respect of the watermark, which was now a large crown; and this paper appears to have been in use from the above date until the November or December following, simultaneously with that watermarked with a small crown.

The precise date on which impressions on the new paper were first issued to the public is a matter of conjecture, though that given above is probably very near the mark, if not absolutely correct. The earliest postmarked copy of which we have any record is dated 21st July, 1855.

Design. (Die I.)—Same as in preceding issues. (*Illustration 10.*)

Plate.—Only two plates, nos. 4 and 5, were at press during this issue; and of these the former was in use not more than thirteen, but not less than eight months.

These plates, and their respective arrangement, have already been fully described. Plate 4 was defaced on the 8th May, 1856, after yielding, in the aggregate, about 250,000 sheets; and plate 5 gave a total of 81,000 impressions, and was cancelled on the 29th October, 1861.

Paper.—This now bore the watermark of large crown, being identical with that employed for the later issues of the One Penny. (*Diagram B.*)

Colour.—Blue, varying in shade, still continued to be used.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Both gauges of 16 and 14 holes to the two centimetres were in use at the commencement of this issue, though the larger perforation predominated more and more as the 16-gauge plates and pins became worn out and unfitted for use.

Creation.—The utmost we can do, is to give the total number of stamps struck from plates 4 and 5 which were perforated; but it is absolutely impossible to apportion them between this and the preceding two issues. The aggregate number from plate 4 was 60,000,000, of which 45,840,000 were issued imperforate, leaving 14,160,000 stamps perforated 16 or 14 and on small crown or large crown paper. From plate 5 19,440,000 specimens were printed, all perforated, except in the case of some few (if any) accidentally issued imperforate on the earlier paper.

Remarks.—Unobliterated copies of impressions on the large crown paper, and perforated 16, are of considerable rarity.

SIXTH ISSUE: MAY (?), 1857.

Date of Issue.—The impressions forming this issue were all from one plate, which was put to press early in May, 1857.

As their distinctive marks consist of a slight, and perhaps unintentional, modification of the design, no records exist which enable us to determine the exact date, but it was possibly as early as May, and probably not later than June. The earliest copy known to us is dated the 2nd July, 1857.

Design. (Die I.)—The slight modification above referred to consists in the white lines, below and above the top and bottom tablets, being thinner than in the preceding plates. (*Illustration 11.*)

Plate.—Only one plate, no. 6, was made with the white lines thinner than usual.

(*State III.*)—This has been described.

Plate 6, approved on the 11th February, 1857, was put to press on the 9th of the following May, and defaced on the 29th October, 1861, after yielding 42,500 impressions.

Paper.—This was the large crown paper.

Colour.—Blue, varying slightly in depth of shade.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—As in the previous issue—14 and 16.

Creation.—10,200,000 stamps, of which the major part were perforated 14, but no records exist which render it possible to determine the exact proportion.

Remarks.—Unused copies, perforated 16, are of extreme scarcity.

SEVENTH ISSUE: JULY, 1858.

Date of Issue.—The Post Office Circular of July, 1858, was sent out in connection with this value, as well as that of the One Penny, and a copy of it will be found on page 3. Although it is possible that a few spare sheets, struck when the first of the

new plates was registered on the 11th June, may have been then issued, the impressions from Die II, which is the chief characteristic of this issue, were not generally circulated until the end of July. The earliest copy known is dated in July, 1858.

Design. (Die II).—A new die was made for this value, in April, 1858, being a reproduction, with the necessary alteration in the value, of Die II of the One Penny; and the plates from which the impressions for this and the following issue were struck, were constructed therefrom. Some important alterations were, at the same time, made in the design, the stars in the upper angles being removed, and letters, similar to those in the lower corners, but transposed, substituted therefor. In consequence of a wish expressed by the Post Office authorities, that the lettering should be as bold and conspicuous as possible, *sans serif* capitals were employed, instead of those of Roman type hitherto used. A further addition was also made, by the insertion of the plate-number, denoted by minute numerals in *white*, in the reticulated framework of the stamps, on both sides of the Queen's head: these were, of course, with the white lines, added on the roller. (*Illustration 12.*)

As in the case of the One Penny, the official mind had been apprehensive that the Revenue might be defrauded by the use of stamps of this value, made up by joining together unobliterated portions cut from labels which had already passed through the post; and it was to assist in obviating this risk that the above alterations in the design of the stamps were determined on. We have already described in detail the various steps which led up to these modifications (*see page 4*).

Plate.—For this issue, plates 7, 8, 9 and 12 were employed.

(*State IV.*)—The arrangement of the plate was the same as under State III, except that the plate-numbers were enclosed in small circles. (*See Diagram C*.*)

Plate 7, approved in June, 1858, was put to press on the 19th of the following month, and, after giving 40,000 impressions, was defaced on the 29th October, 1861; plate 8, registered in July, 1859, was put to press on the 21st September, and defaced at the same time as the preceding one, having yielded 66,000 sheets; and plate 9, approved and put to press on the 14th March, 1861, was cancelled on the 13th October, 1869, having been responsible for no less than 383,500 sheets.

(*State V.*)—The addition of the "current-number," in Arabic figures, above the space between the first and second stamps in the top row, and below the space between the eleventh and twelfth in the bottom row, constituted the sole difference between this and the preceding State. (*See Diagram C†.*)

Plates 10 and 11 were irregularly laid down, and were defaced on the 23rd June, 1868, without having been registered. Plate 12, approved in January, 1868, was put to press on the 28th October following, and cancelled on the 20th February, 1871, after producing 30,600 impressions.

Paper.—That with the large crown watermark, as used in the contemporaneous issues of the One Penny, was employed.

Colour.—The original colour, blue, in a deep shade, still continued to be used.

Gum.—This remained as before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—No less than 124,824,000 stamps, of which 9,600,000 were struck from plate 7; 15,840,000 from plate 8; the comparatively large number of 92,040,000 from plate 9; and only 7,344,000 from plate 12.

* Diagram C, with the plate-numbers in circles, as in Diagram B, would show State IV.

† Diagram C, with the plate-numbers in circles and the current-numbers, as in Diagram B, would show State V.

Remarks.—From the above figures, it might reasonably be expected that specimens from plate 12 would be the scarcest, but, as a matter of fact, unused copies of plate 7 are rarer.

EIGHTH ISSUE: APRIL (?), 1869.

Date of Issue.—We have been unable to determine the exact date of this issue, which differs from the preceding only in the thickness of the white lines; but, as sheets were frequently on sale to the public within a few days of being printed, it is quite possible that specimens may have been issued early in April, 1869.

Design. (Die II.)—The design was similar to that of the last issue, save that the white lines were perceptibly thinner. (*Illustration 13.*)

Plate.—Three plates, nos. 13, 14 and 15, provided the impressions for the issue.

(*State V.*)—This has been described.

Plate 13 was put to press on the 13th April, 1869, and defaced on the 3rd May, 1875, having given 125,000 impressions; plate 14 was first printed from on the 16th September, 1871; and plate 15 on the 14th March, 1876; both of these latter were defaced on the 26th October, 1880.

There are no records showing the number of sheets printed from plates 14 and 15.

Paper.—Large crown paper as before.

Colour.—This was still blue, varying from a medium dull shade to very dark, and having, towards the termination of the issue, a tinge of violet.

Perforation.—Uniformly perforated 14 only.

Gum.—As before.

Creation.—There are no details to be obtained of the total creation, as only the production of plate 13—30,000,000 stamps—is known.

Remarks.—Imperforate copies from plate 13 are sometimes chronicled, but these are merely impressions struck, during a series of experiments by Dr. Perkins, on chemical paper, and never intended for issue.

This value, the last of the line-engraved series, was superseded, in December, 1880, by the surface-printed stamp of similar denomination, designed and printed by Messrs. Thomas De La Rue & Co.

see page 149.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with a Small Crown; Plates (no numbers on the stamps) 1 and 2; imperforate.

1st (for 6th) May, 1840.—Twopence, light blue, dark blue (shades of both).

SECOND ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with a Small Crown, and frequently more or less blued; white line below "POSTAGE," and above "TWOPENCE"; Plates (no numbers on the stamps) 3 and 4; imperforate.

March, 1841.—Twopence, dull to dark blue.

THIRD ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with a Small Crown; white lines, as before; Plates (no numbers on the stamps) 4 and 5; perforated 16.

February (?), 1854.—Twopence, blue, dark blue (shades of both).

FOURTH ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with a Small Crown ; white lines as before ; Plates (no numbers on the stamps) 4 and 5 ; perforated 14.

March, 1855.—Twopence, blue, dark blue (shades).

FIFTH ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with a Large Crown ; white lines as before ; Plates (no numbers on the stamps) 4 and 5.

July, 1855.—Twopence, blue (shades) ; perforated 16.

Twopence, blue, dark blue (shades of both) ; perforated 14.

SIXTH ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with a Large Crown ; white lines as before, but thinner ; Plate (no numbers on the stamps) 6.

May (?), 1857.—Twopence, blue, dark blue (slight shades of both) ; perforated 14.

Twopence, dark blue (very slight shades) ; perforated 16.

SEVENTH ISSUE.

Die II.—Paper watermarked with a Large Crown ; white lines, as in fifth issue ; Plates (with numbers on the stamps and letters in all four corners) 7, 8, 9 and 12 ; perforated 14.

July, 1858.—Twopence, deep to very deep blue (shades).

EIGHTH ISSUE.

Die II.—Paper watermarked with a Large Crown : white lines, as before, but thinner ; Plates (with numbers on the stamps and letters in all four corners) 13, 14 and 15 ; perforated 14.

April (?), 1869.—Twopence, dull blue, deep to very deep blue, violet-blue (shades of each).

SECTION II.

EMBOSSSED STAMPS.

Of these there are three values :—

- (a) The Sixpence :
- (b) The Tenpence : and
- (c) The One Shilling.

The manufacture of the stamps comprised in this Section was undertaken by the Inland Revenue Department, probably because the method of production was similar to that then in use for impressing the necessary duty on envelopes—viz., embossing. No other adhesive postage stamps were ever made at Somerset House.

The mode of production was to apply the ink to the surface of the die, which was then made to descend on the paper, beneath which was a counterpart made of leather or lead, or some other soft metal, fitting loosely into the embossing die, resulting in an impression of which the flat parts of the design were coloured, and the remaining portion in plain relief.

Design and Die.—The stamps of this section were prepared from the designs submitted by Mr. Ormond Hill, the Supervisor of stamping at Somerset House.

The original, from which these stamps were ultimately produced, consisted of a steel die, on which was engraved a diademed portrait, in profile to the left, of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. This was executed in 1847, at the Royal Mint, by Mr. William Wyon, who took as a model the obverse of his City medal, from which the head on the line-engraved series was also copied. The head was shown on the die with a plain tress of hair only; the pendent curls, which varied in each of the three values, being subsequently added, together with the framework containing the indication of value, on the matrices used for producing the working dies: on these latter were inserted the initials "W. W." of the engraver, and the index number of the die itself.

Impression.—The stamps were produced at the ordinary embossing presses, manufactured by Messrs. Dryden Brothers, of Lambeth, and then used at Somerset House by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue; and, as the impressions were struck singly, the process was exceedingly slow and tedious. The paper being "fed" by hand into the press, it was seldom that the impressions were kept in line, and at proper intervals: in fact, as will be seen in *Illustrations 17, 18 and 19*, they were generally arranged most irregularly, and frequently overlapped, in some cases to a considerable extent.

Gum.—Ordinary gum arabic of a yellowish hue was used, and was applied to the paper *before* the stamps were struck, as is shown by the following extract from a letter, dated the 28th February, 1855, written by Mr. Ormond Hill to Mr. J. Pitt :—

“ The half sheet of 6^d Postage Stamps, enclosed in your letter of yesterday, is one
 “ of a few which have, by mistake, been stamped upon the gummed side. Owing to
 “ the tint of the paper used for the 6^d Postage Stamps, and to the clearness of the cement
 “ applied to it, it has been found difficult to distinguish the gummed side of the paper
 “ from the ungummed ; and, from this cause, a few sheets have been stamped upon
 “ the gummed side, and issued before they were detected. The half sheet, which
 “ you sent in your letter of yesterday, is of this lot. . . . To prevent the recurrence
 “ of this fault, I have had the gum slightly coloured.”

(a) THE SIXPENCE.

ISSUE : 1ST MARCH, 1854.

Date of Issue.—The issue of this value was notified by the following circular :—



“ BY COMMAND OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

“ INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL POSTMASTERS.

“ NEW POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE VALUE OF SIXPENCE.

“ GENERAL POST OFFICE,
 “ February, 1854.

“ The Lords of the Treasury having authorised the issue of Postage Labels of the
 “ value of *Sixpence*, a specimen is forwarded *separately* to those Postmasters who
 “ obliterate Postage Stamps, for the purpose of being compared, in case of doubt, with
 “ the stamped letters of this description that may pass through the Post Office.

“ These labels will be issued after the 1st March next”

This circular was despatched from the General Post Office after the 26th February, 1854, on which day the first supply of these stamps, amounting to 3,000 sheets of 40 each was received there. Of these, 4,000 stamps were issued as specimens to Postmasters, 600 being distributed among the offices in London and district.

The proposed issue was also advertised in the *London Gazette*, in the following terms :—

“ INLAND REVENUE,
 “ SOMERSET HOUSE,
 “ February, 1854.

“ Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners of Inland Revenue have provided
 “ a stamp for denoting the value of 6d. for postage, and that such stamp will be issued
 “ to the public on and after the 1st March next.

“ By Order of the Board,
 “ THOMAS KEOGH, *Secretary.*”

In addition to the above, the public were informed of the issue of the new value, by a notice, which was first displayed on the 23rd February :—



“ BY COMMAND OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

“ NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

“ NEW POSTAGE STAMPS

“ OF THE

“ VALUE OF SIXPENCE.

“ GENERAL POST OFFICE,

“ *February, 1854.*

“ Postage labels of the value of Sixpence will be issued on and after the 1st of
“ March next”

We have quoted the above three notices, in order to effectually remove any possible doubts as to the date of issue of this stamp, as, until some twenty years ago, it was generally supposed to have been issued in 1842.

The original suggestion for a stamp of the value of sixpence appears to have emanated from a solicitor in Peterborough, early in the year 1850; and, on the 9th August, 1851, Mr. Rowland Hill made the following communication to the Postmaster-General:—“I submit a letter from the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, suggesting the issue of a Sixpenny postage stamp. In my minute of the 20th February, 1850, this question was considered (though chiefly with reference to the use of stamps as a registration fee), but the measure was deferred in consequence of the difficulty anticipated in the Receiver-General's Office, from an increase in the variety of stamps. Since then, the Twopenny envelopes and the half-sheets have been withdrawn from use, and the Receiver General no longer entertains any objection to the issue of Sixpenny stamps. I should have proposed their adoption some time ago, but that I waited in the expectation that a reduction in the rate of postage with France, would have enabled me, at the same time, to have recommended the withdrawal of the Tenpenny stamps. As, however, there appears to be no immediate prospect of such reduction, I submit that, subject to the consent of the Treasury, the suggestion of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue may receive your Lordship's sanction.”

The suggestion received the Postmaster-General's approval the same day, and, on the 29th of the month, the Treasury were written to on the subject: to this they replied on the 8th September next, authorising the creation of a Sixpence stamp.

Considerable delay ensued in giving effect to this decision, and, on the Post Office authorities enquiring as to the cause, the following reply, dated the 30th December, 1852, was received from the Board of Inland Revenue:—“ With reference to your letter of the 4th March last, requesting to be informed at what period the postage stamps of the value of Sixpence would be issued, I am directed to acquaint you that difficulties, which had arisen in the preparation of a die * for these stamps, rendered the period of their issue a matter of great uncertainty. These are now overcome,

* The difficulties here referred to probably arose through the death of Mr. Wyon, which occurred in 1851.

“and there seems every probability of the stamps being ready for issue very shortly.” Notwithstanding this expectation, it is to be presumed that further difficulties must have arisen, as it was not until the 26th February, 1854, that the Board of Inland Revenue were able to inform the Post Office that they were “now prepared to issue embossed postage stamps of the duty of 6d.”

Design.—The design for this value, prepared by Mr. Ormond Hill, was a modification of the design previously prepared by Mr. Wyon for the Tenpence and One Shilling values. It consists of a diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, embossed in white relief on a solid ground of colour, within an octagonal frame, the vertical and horizontal sides of which are straight, the remaining four being curved outwards. The space between the inner and outer sides of the frame is filled in with an interlaced pattern of fine white lines, in relief, on a ground of solid colour, on which is the inscription—“POSTAGE” on the left side, “SIX” at the top, and “PENCE” on the right side, in sunken coloured *sans serif* capitals. The ornamentation within the frame stops short on each side of the bottom portion, in which, in white relief, is a bouquet composed of the rose, shamrock and thistle. The die, so far as it related to the embossed head of the Queen was a reproduction from the original one engraved by Mr. Wyon for the One Shilling, but slight alterations were introduced, noticeably in the arrangement of the hair. At the base of the bust are the engraver’s initials “W. W.”, preceded by an Arabic numeral denoting the number of the die, both initials and figure being in relief: these, of course, were added on the working die.

The stamp is an upright elongated octagon in shape, and measures across the centre $24\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by 28 mm. ($1\frac{3}{8}$ inches). (*Illustration 14.*)

Plate.—As the stamps were impressed on the sheet, one at a time, direct from the die, the term “plate” is inapplicable, but the heading has been retained for the sake of uniformity.

It has hitherto been stated that this value was prepared in sheets of twenty stamps, but the creation warrants and the Storekeeper’s books refer to them as “6d. Labels, 40 to the sheet,” each sheet, which also constituted a Post-office sheet, thus having a facial value of £1, which rendered them uniform in this respect with the Tenpence and One Shilling values. So far as we have been able to ascertain, the sheet consisted of two panes, vertically disposed, each containing twenty stamps, in five horizontal rows of four. The margins of the sheets were perfectly plain.

Only four dies were ordered and constructed, impressions from which were registered on the 11th January, 1854. Die 1 was put to press on the 30th of that month, and remained in use until the 8th January, 1857: it presumably furnished all the impressions for the adhesive stamps of this value, and no specimens of these postage stamps, bearing any other die number, are known to us. M. Rondot, however, in his monograph (*Magasin Pittoresque*, 1863, p. 224) speaks of Die 2 having been in use, and, as this die was put to press in November, 1855, it is possible, though very improbable, that it also may have been employed for the adhesives for a few days; but, as will be seen from the remarks under the subsequent heading of “*Creation*,” no stamps, printed after the 29th September, 1855, were issued; and, therefore, any adhesive impressions from it (if they existed), were destroyed. This die, with Dies 3 and 4, was subsequently furnished with date-plugs, and used for stamping envelopes, the earliest known date being in December, 1855.

Paper.—The paper, which was manufactured by Mrs. Stacey Wise, was thick, cream- to straw-coloured, hand-made wove, and the sheet measured $323\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($12\frac{3}{4}$ inches) vertically, by $120\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($4\frac{3}{4}$ inches) horizontally; like all hand-made

papers, it varied in substance, and impressions are to be met with on decidedly thin paper. That part of the sheet which was to be occupied by the impressions from the die, was watermarked with the letters "V R" in large *sans serif* capitals, repeated forty times, so that one watermark would be under each stamp.

Colour.—The earliest impressions were struck in violet, which varied somewhat in shade; afterwards a reddish-lilac was adopted for a time; and the colour then reverted to violet, which became of a dark and cold tone towards the termination of the issue.

Gum.—Ordinary yellowish gum arabic was used, and was applied to the paper before the stamps were struck. Towards the end of 1854, or early in 1855, the gum was slightly tinged with green, for the reason before described.

Perforation.—These stamps were issued imperforate.

Creation.—The entire printing amounted to 6,659,920 impressions, or 166,498 sheets. Of these, 60,000 sheets were ordered in 1854, 58,000 in 1855, and 48,498 in 1856; the first creation warrant being on the 27th January, 1854, for 10,000 sheets, and the last on the 3rd October, 1856, for 3,500 sheets. Of this total, only 3,718,280 stamps, or 92,957 sheets, were sent from the warehouse to, and issued by, the Stamp Distributors, who did not receive any supplies after the 29th September, 1855; and of these, 4,000 specimens were distributed amongst various post-offices.

The despatches from the warehouse were:—

From 7th January, to 5th April, 1854	. . .	15,885 sheets.
„ 7th April, „ 5th July, 1854	. . .	10,164 „
„ 6th July, „ 10th October, 1854	. . .	11,075 „
„ 12th October, 1854, to 4th January, 1855	. . .	12,989 „
„ 8th January, „ 30th March, 1855	. . .	17,285 „
„ 2nd April „ 29th June, 1855	. . .	14,493 „
„ 2nd July, „ 29th September, 1855	. . .	11,066 „
	Total	<u>92,957 sheets</u>

The balance of 2,941,640 stamps, or 73,541 sheets—of which 2,219,920 stamps, or 55,498 sheets, were *printed* in 1856—was presumably destroyed by burning.

Remarks.—This value was created in consequence of the reduction in the rate of postage to Belgium and other countries; and for payment of the registration fee, which had been lowered to sixpence.

Although the stamps were not issued until 1854, a column was provided for this value in the creation-warrant book, as early as 11th February, 1852. All the warrants, with one exception, were addressed to Mr. Edwin Hill; this particular order, dated in August, 1855, for 10,000 sheets, was, for some reason with which we are unacquainted, directed to Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co.—possibly, in error.

The embossed stamp was superseded, in October, 1856, by the surface-printed one of the same value, designed and prepared by Messrs. De La Rue & Co.

See p. 104.

SYNOPSIS.

Embossed, with coloured ground, on cream- to straw-coloured, hand-made, wove paper, usually of a thick, but occasionally of a thin, substance, water-marked "V R"; Die 1; imperforate.

1st March, 1854.—Sixpence, violet, reddish-lilac, dark violet (shades of each).

Variety.

Sixpence, violet, embossed on the gummed side of the paper.

(b) THE TENPENCE.

ISSUE: 6TH NOVEMBER, 1848.

Date of Issue.—It was originally intended that this value should be issued simultaneously with the One Shilling, *i. e.* on the 11th September, 1847; but its preparation was delayed, owing to Mr. Wyon being engaged on other important duties.

The first official announcement was the following Circular, sent out on the 27th October, 1848:—



“INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL POSTMASTERS, SUB-POSTMASTERS AND
LETTER-RECEIVERS.

“NEW STAMPS OF THE VALUE OF TENPENCE.

“GENERAL POST OFFICE,
“October, 1848.

“The Lords of Her Majesty’s Treasury having authorised the issue of Postage
“Stamps of the value of *Ten pence*, a specimen is forwarded *separately* to those
“Deputies, &c., who obliterate Postage Stamps.

“With respect to the issue of these new Postage Stamps to Postmasters, . . . the
“distribution by the Post Office will be confined, *for the present*, to the Postmasters of
“the undermentioned Places in the United Kingdom, who will be supplied with the
“new Stamps as early as possible.”

[Here follows a list of 109 places: 59 in England and Wales; 20 in Scotland;
and 30 in Ireland.]

“By Command,
“W. L. MABERLY,
“Secretary.”

The above Instructions were followed, on the 1st November, by a public intima-
tion of the proposed issue, which Colonel Maberly fixed for the 6th:—



“BY COMMAND OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

“NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

“NEW POSTAGE STAMPS
“OF THE VALUE OF
“TENPENCE.

“GENERAL POST OFFICE,
“October, 1848.

“*Postage Stamps* of the value of Tenpence being about to be issued for the
“purpose of Postage, in addition to those now in use, they will be sold to the Public
“at the rate of *Tenpence each*, whatever may be the number purchased.

“ The issue of these new Postage Stamps by the Post Office will be confined, *for the present*, to the Post Offices of the undermentioned places in the United Kingdom, *viz.* —

“ London—	{	Chief Office, St. Martin’s-le-Grand.	{	Lombard Street, Borough, Charing Cross, Cavendish Street,
	}	Branch Offices.	}	
<hr/>				
		“ Edinburgh	—	Chief Office,
<hr/>				
		“ Dublin	—	Chief Office.”

[Here follows a list of 109 places, similar to that in the Instructions to Postmasters.]

For transmission simultaneously with the first of the above notices, the General Post Office received, on the 26th September, 4,000 “SPECIMEN” stamps; but, for the issue to the public, it was not until the 20th October that any supply was forwarded, when 5,000 sheets of 24 stamps each were delivered at the Chief Office in London.

Design.—As early as the 2nd December, 1846, the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes forwarded to the Treasury, a sketch, by Mr. Wyon, of the proposed design for this value; and, on the 17th April, 1847, they wrote to Colonel Maberly, of the General Post Office, enclosing an impression from the One Shilling die, struck in *brown*, “the die for the 10d. not yet being made,” in order to show the selected colour.

The design consists of a diademed profile, to left, of Queen Victoria, similar to that on the other values of this Section, except that the arrangement of the pendent curl is peculiar to this stamp. The head appears in white relief, on a ground of solid colour, enclosed in an octagonal frame, in which, on an ornamental pattern of wavy lines in relief, is the inscription, in sunken coloured *sans serif* capitals :—“POSTAGE” on the left; “TEN” at the top; and “PENCE” on the right.

The first working die, as originally constructed and used, was without the subsequent addition of the engraver’s initials and the die-number: afterwards “W. W. 1.” was engraved on the base of the bust. In the later “working dies,” the numeral preceded the initials.

The stamp, which is an upright elongated octagon in shape, measures across the centre, 25 mm. by 27 mm. ($1\frac{1}{8}$ inches). (*Illustration 15.*)

Plate.—As in the case of the Sixpence, the impressions were struck, one at a time, direct from the working die; but, as this value is of a higher denomination, the entire sheet—which was also a Post-office sheet—consisted of only twenty-four stamps, in one pane of six horizontal rows of four in a row, the remainder of the sheet being perfectly plain.

Six working dies were prepared for this issue, and of these the first existed in two states: one without either initials or die-number, and the other, which was necessarily the later, with both. This uninitialled and unnumbered die was registered on the 23rd May, 1848; but we have not been able to ascertain the dates of approval of the other dies. The impressions, in the Archives at Somerset House, from the six numbered dies are struck on a sheet of ordinary plain wove paper, with an added note that the date of striking was the 8th February, 1853.

Die 1 (unnumbered and numbered) was at press from the 3rd January, 1848, to

the 14th March, 1850; Die 2, from the 4th May, 1850, until the 15th December, 1852; Die 3, from the 8th February, 1853, to the 8th December, 1854; and Die 4 from the latter date until the 28th April, 1855: the last three dies were destroyed in May, 1862.

With regard to Die 5, the official records state that it was not put to press until the 18th March, 1889, but we have seen undoubted impressions, on Dickinson paper, and with full gum. Both this and Die 6 were subsequently used for stamping telegram forms and envelopes. Die 6 was never used for producing the adhesive stamps.

Paper.—We have been so fortunate as to obtain about three-quarters of a mill sheet of this paper, sufficient to show the extreme length and breadth, which are respectively 516 mm. ($20\frac{5}{8}$ inches) and 289 mm. ($11\frac{3}{8}$ inches). It is of the kind known as "Dickinson," with coloured silk threads in the substance of the paper. These threads are in parallel pairs, from $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm. to 6 mm. apart, running lengthwise in the sheet. The side margins, outside the threads, average 40 mm. ($1\frac{5}{8}$ inches), and the spaces between the pairs are from 20 mm. to 21 mm. wide, with the exception of the centre space, which is 48 mm. ($1\frac{7}{8}$ inches). At the top and bottom of the sheet, the threads naturally continued right up to the edge of the paper.

We have seen a note by Mr. Ormond Hill, under date of 1st February, 1854, stating that a mill sheet of this paper, when stamped, was worth £6. This would mean (as is confirmed by the paper-warrant book), for the Tenpence value, one hundred and forty-four impressions, in two panes, disposed horizontally, each consisting of eighteen horizontal rows of four stamps each. The paper was, for convenience of handling, divided lengthwise into two long strips, which were sub-divided, horizontally, into three equal-sized pieces. Each of these was sufficiently large to receive twenty-four impressions, in six rows of four, from the dies of this value. The entire sheet was, therefore, 172 mm. ($6\frac{7}{8}$ inches) in length by 144 mm. ($5\frac{1}{8}$ inches) in width.

The substance of the paper varied slightly, and copies are occasionally to be met with on a decidedly thin paper.

We have a note of a sheet of this "Dickinson" paper in the Berlin Museum, in which a silk thread runs down the middle of the wide central space, evidently inserted to facilitate division.

Colour.—This was chesnut-brown, varying in depth of shade.

Gum.—Similar to that used for the Sixpence, varying from brown to almost white; but it does not appear to have ever been tinted, as in the case of the other value.

Perforation.—This value was issued imperforate.

Creation.—The creation warrants, of which the first was dated the 14th May, 1847, for 4,000 sheets, and the last on the 18th October, 1854, for 10,000 sheets, show a total of 2,928,000 stamps, or 122,000 sheets of twenty-four each.

The warrants were as follows:—20,000 sheets (ordered with a supply of the One Shilling value) in 1847; none in 1848 or 1849; 8,000 sheets in 1850; 16,000 in 1851; 14,000 in 1852; 32,000 in 1853; and 32,000 in 1854. Although supplies were ordered in 1847, it was obviously impossible to furnish them until after the working dies had been struck in the following year.

The issues to the stamp distributors from the warehouse are too lengthy to repeat in detail, but we give the totals for the various years during which this value was in use:—6,517 sheets in 1848; 1,035 in 1849; 9,282 in 1850; 13,581 in 1851; 20,840 in 1852; 27,247 in 1853; 30,367 in 1854; 6,034 in 1855; and 2,012 sheets—for details of which the reader is referred to "*Remarks*"—in the "Sixties."

The balance of the creation, amounting to 5,085 sheets, is presumably accounted for by spoilage and destruction.

Remarks.—This value was created for the purpose of prepaying the postage to France and to many of the British Colonies, and, though not issued until the end of 1848, a column was provided for it in the Stamp Distributor's book on the 8th September, 1847.

A Circular was forwarded from the General Post Office, shortly before the date of the issue, announcing the creation of a Tenpence value and enclosing a specimen stamp, to the postmasters in Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Bermuda, Jamaica, and the West Indies; also to those at Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, Aden, Singapore, Penang, Hongkong, Malta, Gibraltar, Corfu, and Alexandria.

It has been noted, under "*Date of Issue*," that this value was at first supplied to one hundred and nine country Post Offices, besides certain others in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin: these offices were at places, in which the average weekly delivery of letters amounted, in England and Wales to 10,000, and in Scotland and Ireland to 3,000.

In April, 1850, this limitation was removed, and the issue became general throughout the kingdom.

The demand for this value was greatly diminished after 1854, in consequence of the reduction to fourpence of the rate to France; and on the 15th August, 1855, a notice was issued by the General Post Office, addressed to the public and all postmasters, stating that "Postage Labels of the value of 10d. will no longer be "issued."

In 1862 and 1863 there was a sudden demand for Tenpence stamps, and the following issues took place:—In 1862: 1st quarter, 56 sheets; 2nd quarter, 24; 3rd quarter, 36; and 4th quarter, 33; and in 1863: 1st quarter, 48 sheets; 2nd quarter, 220; 3rd quarter, 1,451; and 4th quarter, 144. Of the comparatively large supply in the third quarter of 1863, 600 sheets were sent, in July and August, to the Licence Office; and, on the 25th August, 500 sheets to the General Post Office.

This value was "out of stock" at Somerset House towards the end of 1863, and was only restored in 1867, when the surface-printed stamp of the same value, prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., was issued; but, as late as September, 1866, the Postmaster-General appears to have had a small stock in hand, and he then expressed a wish for a large supply, which the Inland Revenue were unable to provide.

SYNOPSIS.

Embossed, with coloured ground, on cream-coloured "Dickinson" paper, usually thick, but sometimes of a thin substance; dies 1 (both unnumbered and numbered), 2, 3, 4 and 5; imperforate.

6th November, 1848.—Tenpence, pale to very deep chesnut-brown (shades).

(c) THE ONE SHILLING.

ISSUE: 11TH SEPTEMBER, 1847.

Date of Issue.—The issue of this value, the earliest of the embossed stamps, was announced by the following:—

see p. 124.



“INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL POSTMASTERS, SUB-POSTMASTERS,
“AND LETTER-RECEIVERS.

“NEW POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE VALUE OF ONE SHILLING.

“GENERAL POST OFFICE,
“September, 1847.

“The Lords of Her Majesty’s Treasury having authorised the issue of Postage
“Stamps of the value of *One Shilling*, a specimen is forwarded *separately* to those
“Deputies, &c., who obliterate Postage Stamps,

“With respect to the issue of these new Postage Stamps to Postmasters
“the distribution by the Post Office will be confined, *for the present*, to the Post-
“masters of the undermentioned Places in the United Kingdom, who will be supplied
“with the new Stamps as early as possible

[Here follows a list of 109 places.]

“By Command,
“W. L. MABERLY,
“Secretary.”

This was officially circulated on the 3rd September.

The public also were informed of the proposed issue by the following notice, which
was published on the 7th of the same month :—



“BY COMMAND OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

“NOTICE to the PUBLIC.

“NEW POSTAGE STAMPS

“OF THE VALUE OF

“*ONE SHILLING*.

“GENERAL POST OFFICE,
“September, 1847.

“*Postage Stamps* of the value of One Shilling being about to be issued for the
“purpose of Postage, in addition to those now in use, they will be sold to the Public
“at the rate of *One Shilling each*, whatever may be the number purchased.

“The issue of these new Postage Stamps by the Post Office will be confined,
“*for the present*, to the Post Offices of the undermentioned places in the United
“Kingdom, viz. :—

“London —	} Branch Offices . . .	Chief Office, St. Martin’s-le-Grand.
		{ Lombard-street, Borough, Charing Cross, Cavendish-street,

“Edinburgh — Chief Office,

“Dublin — Chief Office.

[Here follows a list of 109 places, similar to that in the Instructions to Postmasters.]

The date of issue has hitherto been given as the 13th September, but Mr. Rowland Hill records in his diary, under date of 11th September, that "the Shilling Stamps "are issued to-day."

In order to enable specimens of the new value to be forwarded to the various postmasters, 4,000 stamps were supplied to the General Post Office early in the month of issue.

The first consignment for sale to the public consisted of 230 sheets, of twenty stamps each, distributed among six post-offices, on the 8th September; but the General Post Office did not receive a stock until the following day, when 3,000 sheets were delivered.

Design.—This consists, as in the preceding values, of a diademed profile, to left, of Queen Victoria, but with the pendent curl differently arranged. The head is in white relief, on solid colour, within an octagonal frame, the ground-work of which is composed of interlaced wavy lines, differing somewhat from the pattern of those on the Tenpence. The inscription appears in the frame, in sunken coloured *sans serif* capitals: "POSTAGE" on the left side; "ONE" at the top; and "SHILLING" on the right.

On the base of the bust are Mr. Wyon's initials: "W. W.", followed by the die-number, all in white relief.

The stamp, which is an upright elongated octagon, measures, across the centre, 24 mm. by 27 mm. ($1\frac{1}{8}$ inches). (*Illustration 16.*)

Plate.—The impressions were struck singly, as in the case of the two other values, from the working die; but, as this value is of the highest denomination, it was necessary to have only twenty stamps on the sheet, in order to constitute a post-office sheet of the same facial value, namely, £1. Occasionally the stamps were so irregularly struck, that the silk threads appear, one at the left side and the other at the right, *i. e.*, one from each of two pairs.

The impressions were in one pane, of five horizontal rows of four, the margins of the sheet being perfectly plain.

Three working dies were prepared, but only the first two were used for producing the adhesive stamps. No. 1, registered on the 25th June, 1847, was put to press four days previously, and was condemned in May, 1862, as being worn out and unfit for use. Dies 2 and 3 were approved on the 8th February, 1853, but the former alone was put to press, on the 23rd of the following February, for the adhesives: both of these dies were subsequently furnished with date-plugs, and used for stamping envelopes and telegram forms.

The impressions from the three dies, preserved in the official archives, are on a sheet of plain white wove paper, having been struck, as appears by the endorsement, on the 8th February, 1853.

Paper.—This was "Dickinson" paper, similar to that used for the preceding value of Tenpence, and cut to the same shape and size.

Colour.—The ink chosen was green, varying in shade and tone, through yellow-green and emerald-green, to a full deep colour.

Gum.—As in the preceding value.

Perforation.—This was not applied to these stamps.

Creation.—Of this value, 7,460,000 impressions, or 373,000 sheets, were struck, but only 5,655,420 appear to have been issued, the balance of the creation being spoilage or waste. The first creation warrant, dated the 14th May, 1847, was for 8,000 sheets; and the last, for 6,000 sheets, was signed on the 23rd September, 1856.

The yearly creations were as follows :—in 1847, 40,000 sheets ; none in 1848 or 1849 ; in 1850, 16,000 sheets ; in 1851, 32,000 ; in 1852, 46,000 ; in 1853, 64,000 ; in 1854, 82,000 ; in 1855, 45,000 ; and in 1856, 48,000 sheets. The printings, as might be expected from such a tedious process, occupied a considerable time in their execution, for we find that, in 1848 (when there were no creations), only 5,275 sheets were struck off ; while, in the last year of issue, no less than 57,000 sheets were produced. No stamps were printed subsequently to October, 1856.

Remarks.—This value was created to pay the rate of postage to the United States, and to some of the more distant of the British Colonies ; also for the then registration fee of one shilling.

The largest quarterly issue to the Distributors was for the three months ending the 10th October, 1854, during which period 18,324 sheets were despatched ; and the smallest, for 60 sheets only, was for the last quarter in 1847.

This stamp was superseded, in November, 1856, by the surface-printed one of the same value, designed and produced by Messrs. De La Rue & Co.

SYNOPSIS.

Embossed, with coloured ground, on thick cream-coloured "Dickinson" paper varying slightly in substance ; Dies 1 and 2 ; imperforate.

11th September, 1847.—One Shilling, emerald-green, full deep green, yellow-green (varying, and intermediate, shades and tones).

see p. 126



SECTION III.

SURFACE-PRINTED STAMPS.

All the stamps comprised in this section have been designed, engraved and printed by Messrs. Thos. De La Rue & Co., of Bunhill Row, London, E.C., under the supervision and instructions of the Inland Revenue Department.

Before discussing the various stamps *seriatim*, it will obviate useless repetition if certain features, common to all, are described, special deviations from which can be noticed as the several values are dealt with.

The *Die* was engraved on steel, the design being in relief, or *en épargne*; and, when the stamp was intended to bear plate-numbers or check-letters, the die itself was pierced in the necessary places for the reception of plugs bearing the proper figures or letters.

From the die—after the insertion of the plate-number plugs—moulds were struck in lead, or some other suitable material, the check-letter plugs being changed in the die as required; the necessary number of these moulds was arranged in a *forme*, with the marginal inscriptions, etc. (if any), and an electro-cast taken from the whole. One or more of these electros, after being backed, mounted and faced—formerly with silver, latterly with steel—to preserve the surface, constituted the

Plate.—In its entirety, the plate consisted of two or more of the above-mentioned electro-casts, which are technically termed “panes,” and which vary in number in the different values. On the 11th November, 1871, instructions were given that all plates were to be withdrawn after having yielded 35,000 impressions, in order to avoid any risk of imperfect printing; but of late years, improved methods of repeatedly “facing” the plates enable them to be kept in good condition for a long period, and to yield a far larger number of sheets than was contemplated by the above-mentioned directions.

Paper.—Both hand-made and machine-made paper, as will be duly noted, have been provided for the surface-printed stamps: in both cases it was supplied by Messrs. Turner & Co., of Chafford Mills, Fordcombe, under the supervision of the Inland Revenue officials deputed for that purpose.

So long as the paper was hand-made, the watermarks were produced in the manner described in the preliminary remarks to Section I; but, on the introduction of machine-made paper, the same result was attained by the use of a “dandy-roll” (bearing the required designs in relief), under which the paper passes whilst still soft, and before going through the final stages.

The paper has always been wove, and, until 1880, of a fine, firm texture, varying in substance and thickness, and glazed by milling; but, since this date, it has not been of such good quality, and its firmness and texture are inferior.

With the exception of the bluish, or blue, so-called “safety” paper used in the “fifties,” and of any fiscal paper (which was usually more or less tinged with blue) used for the printing of postage stamps, the colour of the paper has been, up to 1887,

of an uniform white, or what passed as white ; since the beginning of that year, some of the postage stamps have been, and still are, printed on coloured papers.

Control Marks.—As the contractors were debited with the amount of duty which each sheet of paper was intended to receive, a system was adopted in July, 1860, whereby every sheet was marked with an indication of the duty to be impressed, in order to obviate the possibility of errors in the manufacture of the stamps. The control mark consisted of the word "POSTAGE," surmounted by a crown and with the figure of value below, the impression being effected by means of a newspaper printing machine, through which the paper was run : it was impressed in the margins of the



sheet, at the right upper and left lower corners. The word "MARK," which, after 1860, was watermarked at these two corners of the sheet, indicated the place where the control mark was to be affixed.

Until 1875, the impressions were in blue ink, and since then in red, until the system was abandoned in 1881.

Gum.—This has always been pure white gum arabic, of excellent adhesive quality, and of considerable toughness, which prevents it from cracking. It is applied to the paper before the stamps are printed, and is always most carefully prepared.

Perforation.—Until the autumn of 1880, when the contractors took over the entire manufacture, the perforations running down the spaces between the vertical rows of panes were, in the Eightpence, as follows :—in some cases, a single line down the centre ; in others, with perforation close to the side of each pane ; whilst at times, there was no perforation at all. In the remaining values, the perforation was midway down the space. After 1880, all values were perforated close to the sides of the panes.

Impression.—Up to the year 1880, the surface-printed stamps were printed in ordinary presses worked by hand ; but since then, by steam presses.

For facility of reference and discussion, we have divided this Section into four Sub-sections :—

- A.—Stamps issued prior to 1880 :
- B.—The issues of 1880-'81 :
- C.—The issues of 1881-'84 : and
- D.—The issues of 1887-'92.

Sub-section A.

Surface-printed stamps issued before 1880.

In this Sub-section are comprised all the stamps bearing on their face a number, or other distinctive mark, to indicate the plate from which they were printed,—with the exception of the Five Pounds value, issued in 1884,—and also those issued prior to the adoption of the facial plate-number, or mark, which commenced with plate 3 of the Fourpence, approved on the 29th November, 1861.

The stamps falling under this category, and now proposed to be dealt with in detail, are twelve in number, viz. :—

- (a) The Twopence Halfpenny :
- (b) The Threepence :
- (c) The Fourpence :
- (d) The Sixpence :
- (e) The Eightpence :
- (f) The Ninepence :
- (g) The Tenpence :
- (h) The One Shilling :
- (i) The Two Shillings :
- (j) The Five Shillings :
- (k) The Ten Shillings : and
- (l) The One Pound.

(a) THE TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.

1ST ISSUE: 1ST JULY, 1875.

Date of Issue.—The only official intimation of the creation of this value was contained in a notice, published by the General Post Office on the 9th June, 1875, which announced that, “on the 1st July next and thenceforth, Postage Stamps of the value “ of 2½d. . . . will be issued for sale to the Public.”

Design.—On the 20th October, 1874, the Postmaster-General wrote to the Inland Revenue that, in all probability, a rate of postage of twopence halfpenny would shortly be fixed for continental letters; and that, as the number of these might be very considerable, it was desirable that a distinctive postage stamp of that denomination should be issued. This communication concluded with a request that designs for the new stamp should be prepared and submitted, as soon as possible.

Accordingly, on the 17th December, 1874, designs were submitted to the Postmaster-General, by whom a selection was made.

The design chosen consists of a diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, within an octagonal border, which is enclosed by a rectangular frame. The upper part of this border is inscribed “POSTAGE”, and the vertical left and right sides “TWO PENCE” and “HALF PENNY” respectively; whilst, in the lower part, is “2½d.”; the inscription is in colour on white, the letters being *sans serif* capitals. At each side of the stamp, immediately above the indication of value, is the plate-number in coloured Arabic figures. The four angles of the stamp are occupied by square white blocks, for the reception of the check-letters, which are also *sans serif* capitals. The vacant spaces in the design are filled in with ornamental tracery.

The stamp, which is upright rectangular in shape, measures 18½ mm. by 22½ mm (*Illustration 20.*)

Plate.—In this issue, plates 1, 2 and 3, and (to a very limited extent) 4 and 5, were used.

(*State I.*)—The entire plate, consisting of one hundred and ninety-two stamps, was in two panes, vertically disposed, each containing ninety-six stamps, in eight horizontal rows of twelve; and one pane constituted a post-office sheet of the facial value of £1.

The two panes, which were 50 mm. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ inches) apart, occupied a total space measuring $241\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($9\frac{1}{2}$ inches) horizontally, by 434 mm. ($17\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically.

Above the top pane was the inscription, in Arabic figures and Roman letters, in one line, “

$2\frac{1}{2}$ POSTAGE
POSTAGE $2\frac{1}{2}$ ”

The current-number, in colour within an oblong frame with engrailed corners, was inserted after the first “ $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. ;” and before the second, the plate-number appeared, in white on a coloured disc, encircled by a single line of colour. For the purposes of serving as a guide for the perforation, and of facilitating the subsequent division of the sheet, a vertical line, above the sixth stamp in the first row, and a cross opposite the space between the sixth and the seventh stamps, were added. At the foot of the lower pane was a similar arrangement, but the current- and plate-numbers were transposed, and the vertical line was below the seventh stamp.

In the space between the two panes, was the legend, in Roman capitals,

“POSTAGE TWO PENCE
HALFPENNY”

twice, one above the other, with an intervening space of 14 mm. The lettering in the corners of the stamps ran from “A. A.” to “P. L.” (*Diagram D.*)

Impressions from plates 1 and 2 were struck for approval on the 30th March, 1875, and No. 3 was registered on the 10th June following. Plate 1 was at press from the 30th March until the 12th of the following June; and plate 2 from the 1st of that month to the 6th August, 1875: each of these plates produced 35,000 sheets.* Plate 3 was put to press on the 12th June, 1875, and was in use at the termination of this issue, having then yielded 20,000 impressions. Plates 4 and 5, registered on the 13th July, 1875, were not put to press for this issue, and any copies which may hereafter be discovered, are from the ten surplus sheets struck at the time of registration.

Paper.—For this issue there was provided a supply of the machine-made wove paper, then in use for the small One Penny Inland Revenue stamps.

The sheet of paper measured 521 mm. ($20\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in length, by 282½ mm. ($11\frac{1}{8}$ inches) in width. Arranged in one pane, of twenty horizontal rows of twelve each, were two hundred and forty Small Anchors, varying in height from 12 mm. to 15 mm.: these were not enclosed in a frame, but at each corner, two straight lines (about 23 mm. long) placed at right angles to each other, indicated the size of the pane, which was 483 mm. (19 inches) long, and 241½ mm. ($9\frac{1}{2}$ inches) wide. Placed diagonally, opposite to and just outside the junction of each pair of corner-lines, was a small anchor, with the flukes turned towards the pane.



* All figures, unless otherwise stated, exclude the extra sheet for the *imprimatur*.

In the top, bottom and side margins of the sheet, were a *fac-simile* signature of Sir W. H. Stephenson, and the words "Inland Revenue" in cursive hand. The space between the two inscriptions was, at the top and bottom of the sheet, 55




mm. ($2\frac{3}{8}$ inches), with a small cross midway; and at the sides, 118 mm.

($4\frac{5}{8}$ inches). Towards the top of the right-hand side of the sheet, and the bottom of the left-hand side, was the word "MARK," measuring 38 mm. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ inches) by $11\frac{1}{2}$ mm., in large outline *sans serif* capitals.



The paper was frequently more or less blued, as is generally the case with that specially made for fiscal stamps, which are intended to be obliterated with pen and ink. (*Diagram D.*)

Colour.—Towards the end of March, 1875, twelve colour-essays of the selected design were submitted to the Postmaster-General, who chose "maroon," as the colour of the stamp: it was a lilac tint of pink, which continued to be very uniform, varying only in depth of shade.

Gum.—Pure white gum arabic, very evenly applied, and of excellent adhesive quality.

Perforation.—Uniformly 14.

Creation.—17,281,920 stamps: 6,720,000 from each of plates 1 and 2; 3,840,000 from plate 3; and 960 from each of plates 4 and 5.

Remarks.—As one of the great authorities has stated* that "Plate 4 was put to press, 21.4.76, prior to the change of paper. Specimens of Plate 4, wmk. S. A., do "not appear to have been found, but they presumably exist," we feel that, in venturing to differ to some extent, the fullest details of our grounds for so doing should be given.

We find, from the paper-warrant ledger, that the supplies of small anchor paper, used for this issue, were requisitioned for as follows:—in 1875: 1st March, 12 sheets; 13th March, 10,000 sheets; 12th April, 20,000 sheets; 21st May, 20,000 sheets; 2nd June, 10,001 sheets; 29th June, 1 sheet; 2nd July—part of a warrant for 20,000, of which half was for the then current One Penny, Inland Revenue, at that time, always in lots of 10,000 each—10,000 sheets; and 9th July, 10,001 sheets; and in 1876: 18th January, 10,000 sheets. Total, 90,015 sheets.

The 12 sheets of the 1st March, 1875, were for the registration and surplus sheets of plates 1 and 2—six of each; the odd one on the 2nd June, for the *imprimatur* sheet of plate 3; the solitary sheet on the 29th June, for the registration of plate 4; and the extra one on the 9th July, for the first impression from plate 5. In the case of each of the last three plates, five additional sheets were presumably struck off, at the time of registration, and these would be taken from the supply already debited to the plates actually at press; though, doubtless, it was so arranged that each plate actually contributed the exact number of sheets (in addition to the extra impression for registration) officially credited to it.

* Westoby's "Postage Stamps of the United Kingdom, 1840-90," page 21, lower note.

Moreover, impressions from plate 3 are known watermarked both with the small anchor, and with the orb of the next issue: the latter paper was in use, when this plate was discarded on the 21st April, 1876, the day on which plate 4 was put to press. Still referring to plate 3, we find that it also yielded 35,000 impressions; and, as 70,000 sheets of the small anchor paper were used for plates 1 and 2, presumably five sheets for each of plates 4 and 5, and five sheets for the five *imprimaturs*, only 20,000 sheets could have been available for plate 3: therefore, the balance of 15,000 sheets from this latter plate must have been on orb, for which the first paper warrant was on the 14th March, 1876.

The above facts, we consider, place it beyond all question, that plate 4 was not *at press* whilst the small anchor paper was in use, and that, at the utmost, only five sheets from each of plates 4 and 5 could possibly have been issued on this paper.

Until recently, we had never seen any impressions from either plates 2 or 3 on blued paper, but we have lately been shewn a fine unused copy, with full gum, from plate 2, on paper blued as deeply as the bluest specimens of plate 1. We also know of copies from the third plate, on paper which is sufficiently discoloured to be considered as blued.

As will have been gathered from their respective descriptions, the "Plate" did not fit the "Paper," which was much too long for it: consequently, there were four rows of watermarks—one at the top, another at the bottom, and two between the panes—which had no stamps printed over them; and this accounts for the inscriptions of these plates being on watermarked paper.

A curious error occurs on plate 2, which apparently was never detected whilst the plate was in use: the last stamp in the eighth horizontal row of the upper pane, which should have been lettered "L. H.", actually bore the letters "F. L." (*Illustration 21.*) The error was discovered in America, during the month of June, 1893, and was first noted at Somerset House, in consequence of a letter from the finder, on the 17th of the following October.

This value was created as a result of the establishment of the Postal Union, two-pence halfpenny (with the various foreign equivalents) being fixed as the rate for letters of half-an-ounce, which was the unit of weight.

SECOND ISSUE: MAY, 1876.

Date of Issue.—As the sole distinguishing feature between this and the first issue consisted in the use of orb paper, instead of that watermarked with small anchors, no official information was ever published; and we have only the evidence of used copies to guide us to an approximate date. The earliest specimen, of which we are aware, is postmarked the 31st May, 1876.

Design.—Exactly as in the preceding issue. (*Illustration 20.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plates 3 to 17, inclusive, were used.

(*State I.*)—This has been described.

Plate 3, which had already yielded 20,000 impressions on small anchor paper, remained at press until the 21st April, 1876, and produced 15,000 more sheets for this issue; plate 4, which had already been registered, was put to press on the last-named date, and continued in use till the 3rd July following; and plate 5, also previously approved, was at press from the last-mentioned date until the 7th September, 1876: these two latter plates gave for this issue, 34,995 impressions each.

(State II.)—With the exception of the type used for the inscriptions above, below and between the panes, this arrangement was the same as that of the earlier plates, the letters now being *sans serif* capitals. The legends read, at

the top and bottom of the plate, “ $2\frac{1d.}{2}$ POSTAGE

POSTAGE $2\frac{1d.}{2}$ ” with the plate- and current-num-

bers, and perforation and division guides as before; and between the panes,

“POSTAGE TWO PENCE

HALFPENNY” repeated, as in the earlier plates. (*Diagram E.*)

Plate 6 was at press from the 7th September, 1876, to the 20th March, 1877; plate 7, from the 16th February, till the 5th June; plate 8, from the 4th June to the 13th September; plate 9, from the next day, until the 7th December, 1877; plate 10, from this last date, till the 19th of the following March; plate 11, from then to the 25th July; plate 12, from that day, until the 30th September; plate 13, from the last day of September to the 11th February, 1879; plate 14, from this date, until the 8th May; plate 15, from then to the 15th August; plate 16, from that date until the 22nd October; and plate 17, from the next day, on into the following issue. Each of these plates produced 35,000 impressions; but of those from plate 17 probably only 5,000 were in lilac-rose, the remainder being in the blue of the succeeding issue.

Paper.—This was a machine-made paper, specially manufactured for this value, and was not, as has sometimes been stated, the same as that subsequently used, in 1881, for the One Penny Inland Revenue stamp.*

The sheet measured 483 mm. (19 inches) in length, by 283 mm. ($11\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in width, and contained two panes, vertically disposed, each composed of ninety-six Orbs, in eight horizontal rows of twelve.



The panes, separated by a space of 45 mm. ($1\frac{3}{4}$ inches), were each 194 mm. ($7\frac{5}{8}$ inches) high, by 245 mm. (or $9\frac{3}{8}$ inches) wide, and were bounded at their four corners by a pair of angle lines, as in the Small Anchor paper of the preceding issue. At either side of each pane was a *facsimile* signature of

MARK Sir W. H. Stephenson†; and the word “MARK,” measuring 42 mm. ($1\frac{3}{4}$ inches), by 9 mm., in out-line *sans serif* capitals, appeared towards the top of the right-hand side of the upper pane, and the bottom of the left-hand side of the lower one. At the top and bottom of the sheet, opposite the centre of the pane, and at each end of the central space, was a small cross. (*Diagram E.*)

The “dandy-roll” used for this paper produced a double sheet, and the “sheets”

* Compare diagrams E and Z, the former of which shows the postage orb paper, and the latter the fiscal.

† See page 73.

entered in the paper warrants were each sufficiently large to receive two impressions from a plate.

Colour.—Shades of lilac-rose, as in the previous issue.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—This gauged 14, as usual.

Creation.—About 91,200,000 stamps: 2,880,000 from plate 3; 6,720,000 from each of plates 4 to 16; and probably 960,000 from plate 17.

Remarks.—Whilst plate 17 was at press the colour of the stamp was changed from lilac-rose to blue, which was then in use for the corresponding value of the majority of the countries in the first class of the Postal Union.

THIRD ISSUE: 5TH FEBRUARY, 1880.

Date of Issue.—The 1st January, 1880, has usually been given as that on which stamps of the new colour were first on sale to the public; but the earliest copy known to us is postmarked the 5th February, which is the date assigned to the issue in *The Philatelic Record* for that month (vol. II, p. 5). This is strongly confirmed by a Post Office circular of the 3rd February, 1880, which announced that "It has been decided to change the colour of the 2½d. Postage Stamp. The new colour will be light blue, and the issue will take place in a few days."

Design.—There was no alteration. (*Illustration 20.*)

Plate.—For the present issue, nos. 17 to 20 were employed.

(*State II.*)—Described above.

Plate 17, which was in use at the commencement of the issue, was discarded on the 23rd March, 1880, after yielding, probably, 30,000 further impressions; no. 18 was in use from the 11th February to the 15th April, 1880, and produced 35,000 sheets; plate 19, first printed from on the 6th April, was taken from press on the 6th October, 1880, after giving 60,000 sheets; and no. 20 was put to press on the 11th October, and defaced on the 2nd February, 1881, but there is no record of its production—probably the usual 35,000 sheets.

Paper.—That watermarked with orb, as in the preceding issue.

Colour.—Cobalt, varying in shade, and, in some of the impressions from plates 18, 19 and 20, approaching ultramarine.

Gum.—This was unchanged.

Perforation.—As before.

Creation.—About 30,720,000 stamps; but the respective numbers from the plates, except 18 and 19, are very doubtful.

Remarks.—The printing in blue ink probably commenced on the 1st January, 1880, but owing to the large stock in lilac-rose, the issue in the new colour was not required until early in February.

FOURTH ISSUE: 23RD MARCH, 1881.

Date of Issue.—A Post Office circular, dated 22nd March, 1881, announced that "In future Postage Stamps of the value of 2½d. will be issued in sheets of 120 "stamps." This alteration in the number of stamps composing a "Post-office" sheet, could only apply to the impressions on the new paper, and from the larger plates, used for this issue; and, although the earliest known copy is postmarked the 4th April, we feel justified in antedating the issue to the date above given.

Design.—The stamps themselves remained unaltered. (*Illustration 20.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plates 21, 22 and 23 were used,

(*State III.*)—The plate now consisted of two hundred and forty stamps, in two panes vertically disposed, each containing one hundred and twenty stamps, in ten horizontal rows of twelve. The panes, each of which measured 251 mm. ($9\frac{7}{8}$ inches) vertically, by 241½ mm. ($9\frac{1}{2}$ inches) horizontally, were separated by an interval of 25½ mm. (1 inch).

The margins of the plate were entirely plain, except for a small perforating guide-mark at the top and bottom of the sheet; but, on the *imprimatur* sheets, the plate- and current-numbers were inserted in pen and ink. (*See Diagram N.*)

Consequent on the increased number of stamps on the plate, a Post-office sheet was now one pane of one hundred and twenty, of the facial value of twenty-five shillings, and the corner-lettering ran from "A. A." to "L. T."

Plate 21 was approved and put to press on the 3rd February; and plates 22 and 23 were brought into use on the 9th June, 1881: they were all defaced on the 13th January, 1886, though, of course, withdrawn from press some two years previously, when the following issue took place. We have no record of the yield from these plates; but, under the new system of facing the plates with steel, periodically renewed, the printings must have been very far in excess of those from previous plates.

Paper.—The sheet of paper, which was machine-made, measured 535 mm. ($21\frac{1}{8}$ inches), by 285½ mm. ($11\frac{1}{4}$ inches), and contained two panes, vertically disposed, each of one hundred and twenty Large (1880) Crowns, in ten horizontal rows of twelve. At the four corners of each pane were angle-lines, as in the paper previously used for this value. The pane was 243 mm. ($9\frac{5}{8}$ inches) square, and the space between the two measured 21 mm.



At the top and bottom of the sheet, and also at each side of each pane, was the word "POSTAGE," in large outline *sans serif* capitals, with the tops of the letters towards the margin of the sheet, except in the case of that at the foot of the lower pane, which was not always inverted. At each end of the space between the panes was a small cross. (*Diagram N.*)

The paper was in double sheets, as manufactured, and, therefore, the paper warrants, which were for "sheets" of this size, must be calculated accordingly.

Colour.—Blue, as before, varying slightly in shade.

Gum.—The gum continued as in the previous issues.

Perforation.—Uniformly of the 14-gauge.

Creation.—There are absolutely no records from which even an approximate calculation can be made.

Remarks.—This was the last issue of this type of the Twopence Halfpenny, which was superseded by the "Postage & Revenue" stamp, of the same value, produced by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. in 1884.

See p. 155

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with a Small Anchor, bluish or white; large coloured letters in angles; Plates 1, 2 and 3 and (to a very limited extent) 4 and 5*; perforated 14. 1st July, 1875.—Twopence Halfpenny, lilac-rose (shades).

* Specimens of these two plates, on Small Anchor paper, have not yet been found.

Variety:—Error on Plate 2.

The last stamp in the eighth row, lettered "^{L.H.}_{F.L.}" the "F" being in mistake for "H." (September, 1875.)—Twopence Halfpenny, lilac-rose (shades).

SECOND ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with an Orb; large coloured letters in angles; Plates 3 to 17; perforated 14.

May, 1876.—Twopence Halfpenny, lilac-rose (shades).

THIRD ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with an Orb; large coloured letters in angles; Plates 17 to 20; perforated 14.

5th February, 1880.—Twopence Halfpenny, cobalt, and also, for the last three plates, ultramarine (shades of both).

FOURTH ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; large coloured letters in angles; Plates 21 to 23; perforated 14.

23rd March, 1881.—Twopence Halfpenny, bright blue (shades).

(b) THE THREEPENCE.

FIRST ISSUE: 1ST MAY, 1862.

Date of Issue.—Official notice, as to the creation of this new value, was given in three Post Office Circulars, dated respectively the 19th, 21st and 29th April, 1862, which announced that, on the 1st May following, a Threepence Stamp would be issued.

The first two supplies, of 500 sheets (or 3,000 Post-office sheets of 40) each, sent to the General Post Office, were received on the 26th and 28th April.

Design. (Die I.)—This consists of a diademed profile, to the left, of Queen Victoria, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, within a solid trilobed border, the lobes of which are connected, at the sides by foliate ornaments, and at the top by a trifoliate one: this border touches the interior of the two lines composing the outer frame of the stamp. In the upper portion of the border is "THREE PENCE", in white *sans-serif* capitals, the words being separated by the trifoliate ornament; and, in the lower portion, the word "POSTAGE," in similar letters. In each of the four corners of the stamp is a diagonally-lined trefoil on which, on solid colour within a white circle, is a check-letter, a small white *sans serif* capital. There are no plate-numbers on the stamps, which are upright rectangular in shape, and measure $18\frac{3}{4}$ mm. by $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 23.*)

In plate 3, a small white dot was inserted on each side of the stamps, just beneath the foliate ornament. (*Illustration 25.*)

Plate.—Only two plates, nos. 2 and (to a very limited extent) 3, were used for this issue.

(State I.)—The plate was composed of two hundred and forty stamps, in twelve panes, each measuring 119 mm. ($4\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically, by $79\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($3\frac{1}{8}$ inches) horizontally, arranged in four horizontal rows of three. Each pane—of which two constituted a Post-office sheet, of the facial value of ten shillings—contained twenty stamps, in five horizontal rows of four. The spaces between the horizontal rows of panes were 25 mm. deep, and those between the vertical ones $9\frac{1}{2}$ mm. wide.

Between the second and third horizontal rows of panes was the inscription, "POSTAGE THREE PENCE," in coloured Roman capitals twice between each vertical pair of panes, the upper one being inverted. Between the first and second, and also between the third and fourth, horizontal rows of panes, was the indication of value, once between each vertical pair, in coloured Roman letters and

" 3 Pence 1 Shilling 10 Shillings "

Arabic figures, thus : P R I C E .

per Label. per Row of 4. per Sheet of 40.

Above the eleventh stamp in the top row, and below the second in the bottom one, was the plate-number, in white on an oval coloured ground ; and, at the opposite corners of the plate, was the current-number, in colour, within an oblong linear frame with engrailed corners.

At the top and bottom of the plate was a cross, as a guide for the perforating-machine.

The corner-lettering, which was arranged as if the plate consisted of a single large pane, ran from "A.A." to "L.T." (See Diagram F.*)

Plate 1, being defective, was never registered or printed from, and was destroyed on the 28th November, 1861.

Plate 2 (*as used*) was registered and put to press on the 19th March, 1862, but we have no record as to how long it continued in use : probably, only until the month of December, 1864, when plate 4, for the next issue, was first put to press. Plate 3, was registered on the 25th August, 1862, but, except for the purpose of taking the usual five extra impressions struck at the same time as the *imprimatur* sheet, it was never at press : it was destroyed on the 11th April, 1866.

Paper.—This was always a hand-made paper, of which a sheet measured 610 mm. (24 inches) in height, by 305 mm. (12 inches) in width. On the sheet, were twelve single-lined frames, arranged in four horizontal rows of three, slightly larger than the panes of the plate which they enclosed : the outside lines of the external frames were continued, so as to surround the entire group of twelve. Within each frame, in five horizontal rows of four, were twenty sets of the Heraldic Emblems of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, arranged in groups of four, *viz.*, two of the Rose, and one each of the Shamrock and Thistle—so disposed that a rose was in each of the upper corners, and the shamrock and thistle in the two lower corners, of the space to be subsequently occupied by a stamp.

The words "*Postage Stamps*," in cursive hand, were inserted once above each horizontal row of frames,

Postage Stamps

and at the foot of the sheet, and a similar inscription appeared twice at each side. At the

top and bottom of the sheet was a small cross. (*Diagram I.*)

Colour.—On the 22nd May, 1861, it was recommended that this value should be printed in carmine, then the colour of the Fourpence, which was about to be changed to vermilion-red, a colour officially termed "scarlet."

Gum.—As in the former value.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

* Diagram F, with the plate-number in white on coloured oval, would show State I.

Creation.—Probably 5,173,200 stamps, all from plate 2, with the exception of 1,200 (or 5 sheets), which were struck from plate 3.

The paper-warrant books show requisitions, subsequent to the alteration of plate 2, up to and including the 2nd February, 1872, for an aggregate of 281,050 sheets, excluding the special warrants for 16 sheets for registration purposes. The next supply of paper, requisitioned for on the 13th February, 1872, was for plate 8 (put to press on the 29th of the same month, the day on which plate 7 was discarded), as the next warrant was not issued until the 4th April, 1872. From plates 4 to 7, an aggregate of 259,500 sheets is officially stated to have been printed, leaving 21,550 sheets, or 5,172,000 stamps, as the production of plate 2, *as issued*.

Remarks.—This value was created exclusively for the prepayment of letters going abroad, especially to Belgium and Switzerland; and it was not till the 1st April, 1865, that it became available for inland postage, there being no rate of threepence for inland letters until this date, when the letter-rate was fixed at one penny for every half-ounce, or fraction thereof.

The plate for the stamp, as originally intended to be issued, was constructed from a die, the spandrels of which were filled in with a reticulated pattern (*Illustration 22*), and the plate was so registered, and put to press on the 17th October, 1861; but the Postmaster-General refused to sanction the issue, as he feared that there might be some difficulty in distinguishing between impressions from this plate and the Fourpence stamps then in use. As the carmine ink was considered to be very satisfactory for this value, it was decided to alter the design rather than to change the colour. Messrs. De La Rue & Co. were instructed to efface the reticulated background, which they effected by removing the reticulations from each stamp on the plate with a drill: two or three of the *clichés* were spoiled in the process and had to be replaced. The alteration brought the corners of the design into prominence, and, with the white spandrels, rendered the stamp easily distinguishable from the Fourpence, even by artificial light.

There were only two paper warrants issued for the plate in the original design, both dated the 15th October, 1861, and being for one sheet and 1,500 sheets respectively. The third warrant was on the 7th January, 1862, for 50 sheets; followed, on the 15th March, by a single sheet for the *imprimatur* of the altered plate; and, on the 28th March, by an order for 5,000 entire sheets, the plate having been re-registered nine days earlier. The majority of the impressions from the reticulated plate were destroyed. Copies are not infrequently found surcharged "SPECIMEN," but without this overprint they are of extreme rarity.

For plate 3, six sheets were struck off, the paper warrant being dated the 21st August, 1862; and, of these, one was placed in the Archives: of the others, at least one was perforated and issued, as a used specimen is known, which is now in the "Tapling Collection," at the British Museum. Imperforate copies from this plate exist, but they were never so issued to the public. Within the last three or four years a small portion of a pane, perforated, was discovered at Somerset House, in the desk of an official who had left the service in the early "seventies;" the perforation of these copies does not appear to be quite similar to that of the used copy above referred to, and probably it was not effected by the machines in use, in 1862, for perforating the surface-printed stamps. It is possible that these few copies may have been perforated, during the period of this issue; but whether an entire sheet, or only a small portion, was so operated upon, is at present a matter of doubt.

With regard to the watermark of heraldic emblems, the correct position heraldically speaking, of the rose is with one cusp uppermost and slightly inclined to one side or the other: on this paper, the rose is usually as in the illustration, on page 79, but sometimes as above described; and these two varieties are to be found in the same sheet, and occasionally in the same stamp.

SECOND ISSUE: 1ST MARCH, 1865.

Date of Issue.—We have not seen any official notification as to this issue, but the above date is generally accepted as being correct.

Design. (Die II.)—The general design of the stamp remained as in the preceding issue, but the trilobed border was reduced in size and made a little shorter, though more prominent, and the profile of Her Majesty was slightly altered.

In lieu of the trefoils in the corners, square coloured blocks were introduced, for the reception of the check-letters in large white *sans serif* capitals. The ornaments at the sides of the border were changed, and coloured discs within small white circles, for the number of the plate, were inserted immediately above them. (*Illustration 24.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plates 4 and (to a very limited extent) 5 were employed.

(*State I.*)—The arrangement continued unchanged.

Plate 4, registered 28th November, 1864, and put to press on the 19th December, was still in use on the termination of this issue: its production was apparently 35,495 sheets. Plate 5, approved in October, 1865, was not put to press until after the change of the paper, but the usual five spare sheets were presumably struck off at the time of registration, and issued with those from the earlier plate.

Paper.—That watermarked with heraldic emblems still continued in use.

Colour.—A carmine-pink, varying in shade, was adopted.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—The usual 14-gauge was employed.

Creation.—From the following calculations, we estimate that 8,520,000 stamps were printed: 8,518,800 from plate 4, and 1,200, from plate 5.

The official records show that 53,500 sheets were struck from plate 4, impressions from which are found, not only on the paper of this issue, but also on the paper described in the next issue; and it therefore becomes necessary to turn to other sources of information, in order to correctly apportion the printings between the two papers.

On referring to the Appendix, we find, on looking at the periods during which the various plates were in use, that we can, as stated under this heading in the last issue, make a "rest" on the 2nd February, 1872, which was nearly a month before plate 7 was discarded and plate 8 put to press. Up to that date, 288,050 sheets were used for the five plates of this value formally put to press—64,050 watermarked with the heraldic emblems, and 224,000 with the succeeding spray of rose: of the former we have already accounted for 28,550 for plate 2, *as issued*, and five more were used on the registration of plate 5, only the *imprimatur* sheet being specially requisitioned for; and of the latter paper, plates 5, 6 and 7 absorbed 205,995 sheets. The differences between these figures give 35,495 sheets printed on the heraldic emblems paper, and 18,005 on that watermarked with the spray of rose: these together amount to 53,500 sheets, the production, as officially given, of plate 4.

Remarks.—Copies from plate 5 have not yet been found, but presumably exist.

THIRD ISSUE : JULY, 1867.

Date of Issue.—With this issue, the new paper watermarked with a spray of rose came into use ; but, as both this and the paper employed for the preceding issues were officially designated as “Flowers,” there is no official intimation of the change : we have, therefore, to rely on postmarked copies. The earliest date known to us is 12th July, 1867, though it is possible that the issue took place in May, as the first spray of rose paper warrant for this value was on the 27th April.

Design. (Die II.)—This remained unchanged. (*Illustration 24.*)

Plate.—Seven plates, nos. 4 to 10, were used.

(*State I.*)—We have already described this arrangement.

At the commencement of the issue, plate 4 was at press, and it continued to be used until the 13th June, 1868, producing some 18,005 impressions on the new paper. Plate 5, which was registered on the heraldic emblems paper, and probably contributed five sheets towards the total creation of the preceding issue, was put to press on the 18th December, 1867, and remained in use until the 14th October, 1870, during which period 96,495 more sheets were struck from it.

(*State II.*)—The arrangement of the next plate was practically the same as in State I, the only differences being in the “face” of the type used for the marginal inscriptions ; and a slight change in the position of the current-number, and in the shape of the cross at the top and bottom of the plate.

Plate 6, registered on the 8th June, 1868, was put to press on the 22nd June, 1869, and, after producing 74,500 impressions, was discarded on the 14th May, 1872.

(*State III.*)—The plate-number in the margin was now in white on colour within a circle. (*Diagram F.*)

Plate 7, registered on the 20th February, 1869, was at press from the 19th October, 1871, till the 29th February, 1872 ; from this last date, plate 8, registered on the 22nd February, 1872, was in use until the 29th November following ; plate 9, approved on the 22nd April, 1872, was first put to press on the 31st July, 1872, and was discarded on the succeeding 1st January ; on this date, plate 10, registered on the 6th December previous, was put to press, and remained in use until the 10th July following : each of these four plates produced 35,000 impressions.

Paper.—This was a machine-made paper, identical in size with, and watermarked in exactly the same manner as, that described under the first issue, except that a



Spray of Rose was substituted for each group of Heraldic Emblems. In the early part of 1872, the word “**MARK**” in large outline *sans serif* capitals,* measuring 42 mm. ($1\frac{3}{4}$ inches) by 10 mm., was added in the upper part of the right-hand margin of the sheet, and again in the lower part of the opposite side. (*Diagram F.*)

It was at first proposed to have, instead of the spray of rose, a spray consisting of the rose, shamrock and thistle on one stalk, but the idea did not find favour, and the rose alone was adopted.

Colour.—The colour used for this issue was carmine-pink, in varying shades, which became during the lives of the last two plates, of a rosier tone.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Uniformly machine-perforated 14 ; but copies from plates 5, 6 and 10 are to be found imperforate, having been so issued.

* See page 75.

Creation.—77,280,000 stamps, of which 2,641,200, as shown in the last issue, were from plate 4 ; 23,158,800 from plate 5 ; 17,880,000 from plate 6 ; and 8,400,000 from each of the succeeding plates.

Remarks.—Copies of plate 4, in perfect condition, with original gum, are scarce.

Imperforate and perforated copies of plate 5 are known, printed on a blued safety paper : these were part of a series of experiments made in 1870, and described on page 39.

FOURTH ISSUE: JULY, 1873.

Date of Issue.—A Post Office circular of the 11th August, 1873, announced that an alteration *had* been made in the Threepence value, by printing “the letters and figures . . . in colour on white ground, instead of leaving the letters and figures “in white on a coloured ground, as hitherto.”

The only means of fixing the date of the innovation is by the examination of postmarked copies, of which the earliest known to us is dated the 12th July, 1873.

Design. (Die III.)—The trilobed border was again reduced in size, and the bust of the Queen remodelled. The white check-letters, on coloured blocks, of the preceding issues were now replaced by coloured *sans serif* capitals on a white ground ; and the plate-numbers were similarly altered. With the above exceptions, the general design of the stamp was unchanged. (*Illustration 26.*)

Plate.—There were ten plates used for this issue—nos. 11, 12, 14 to 20, and, to a very slight extent, 21.

(*State III.*)—The third arrangement of the plate has already been described.

Plate 11, registered on the 5th February, 1873, was employed from the 17th April, 1873, to the 3rd September in that year ; on the following day, plate 12, approved on the 21st June, 1873, was put to press, and remained in use until the 11th of December ; plate 13, which proved to be defective, was destroyed on the 26th August, 1873, without having been registered ; plate 14, approved on the 12th September, 1873, was at press from the 12th January to the 8th June, 1874 ; plate 15, registered on the 25th November, 1873, was in use from the 9th June till the 5th October, 1874 ; plate 16, approved on the 10th June, 1874, was brought into use on the 29th October, following, and was discarded on the 19th February, 1875 ; plate 17, registered on the 30th September, 1874, was at press from the 20th February to the 12th June, 1875 ; plate 18, approved on the 16th March, 1875, was in use from the 13th July next until the 6th March, 1876 ; plate 19, registered on the 3rd June, 1875, was put to press on the following 8th March, and was not rejected as worn out until the 29th November, 1878 ; and plate 20, approved on this last date, was put to press at once, and was still in use on the termination of the issue. Each of the plates prior to no. 20 (as to the production from which we have no information), furnished 35,000 impressions. Plate 21, registered on the 15th July, 1880, was not employed for this issue, but the usual five extra sheets were presumably printed.

Paper.—The spray of rose paper, already described, with “MARK” in the margins of the sheet, continued to be used for this issue.

Colour.—Shades of carmine-rose, approaching, sometimes, a carmine-pink.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—Between seventy-four and seventy-five millions of stamps. Each of the first eight plates yielded 35,000 sheets, or 8,400,000 stamps ; and plate 20, judging from the time during which it was in use for this issue, probably produced

some 7,200,000 stamps. Plate 21, of course, gave the usual small number of stamps, 1,200 only.

Remarks.—We have not been able to trace the paper warrant for the registration of plate 21, but there is no reason to doubt that the usual practice was followed of having six sheets printed, from which to select one to receive the imprimatur. Specimens from such sheets, however, have not yet been met with.

FIFTH ISSUE: 1ST JANUARY, 1881.

Date of Issue.—As the number of stamps on the plate and the facial value of a Post-office sheet remained unchanged, it appears to have been considered unnecessary to announce the only real alteration—a change of paper—and we have, therefore, no official record of the date of this issue; but that given above has always been considered correct, and our own investigations lead us to the same conclusion.

Design. (Die III).—This remained exactly as in the preceding issue. (*Illustration 26.*)

Plate.—For this issue, nos. 20 and 21 were used.

(*State IV.*)—This arrangement of the plate was exactly similar to that of State III of the Twopence Halfpenny, described on page 77, and the same remarks apply to this value; but, as a Post-office sheet consisted of less than an entire pane of stamps, small ornaments were introduced in the upper and lower margins of the plate, and also in the space between the panes, opposite the spaces between the fourth and fifth and between the eighth and ninth vertical rows, to facilitate the separation of the sheet into six smaller ones of forty stamps each, of the facial value of ten shillings. (*See Diagram N.*)

These ornaments were small linear hexagons, divided vertically into three sections, of which the two outer were shaded with diagonally crossed lines, with a dot in each of the diamonds so formed, the remaining section being plain. The ornaments between the panes were complete, but those at the top or bottom of the plate were halves only.

Plate 20, which had been employed during the last issue, was now cut up, so as to enable the six upper panes to be formed into one pane, and the six lower into another, and was so re-registered on the 19th February, 1881, although it must have been in use as recently as the previous December: this plate was defaced on the 15th of the following June.

(*State V.*)—The same as State IV, with the omission of the marginal ornaments. (*Diagram N.*)

Plate 21, which had been approved, but not put to press, during the preceding issue, was altered in the same way as plate 20, and it was re-registered on the 18th July, 1881.

We have no further details with reference to these two plates, either as to periods of use or their production.

Paper.—That watermarked with a large (1880) crown, as described under the fourth issue of the preceding value of Twopence Halfpenny on page 77. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Carmine-rose in slight shades: paler than in former issues.

Gum.—As before, but not always so colourless.

Perforation.—The usual 14-gauge.

Creation.—We have no information.

Remarks.—As only two plates were used for this issue, which extended over two years, it is obvious that, owing to improved processes in the manufacture, their production must have been in excess of that of former plates.

SIXTH ISSUE: 1ST JANUARY, 1883.

Date of Issue.—On the 19th December, 1882, the General Post Office issued a Notice that, "On and after 1st of January, 1883, all 3*d.* and 6*d.* Postage Stamps issued "will be printed in a purple colour, and overprinted with their respective values in "red."; and the issue duly took place on the appointed date.

Design. (Die III.)—The stamp itself remained unaltered, but was "overprinted," with an indication of its facial value, thus: "3*d.*", in a full shade of pink. There are two distinct varieties of this overprint, dependent on the depth of the space between the "d" and the two dots below: this, in the one, is $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm., and in the other, $1\frac{3}{4}$ mm. (*Illustration 27.*)

Plate.—Only one plate, no. 21, was in use for this issue.

(*State IV.*)—This has already been described.

Although the arrangement of plate 21 was under State V, when at press for the preceding issue, it was now brought under State IV by the insertion of the marginal division ornaments described under this heading in the previous issue; and the altered plate was registered on the 23rd November, 1882.

Paper.—This continued to be watermarked with the large (1880) crown.

Colour.—A doubly-fugitive purple, varying very slightly in shade; and the overprint was in a full shade of pink. The impression was rougher than in the preceding issues.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—As usual, gauging 14.

Creation.—There are no official records as to the numbers printed.

Remarks.—This was the final issue of this type of the Threepence, as it was superseded by the "Postage & Inland Revenue" stamp of the same value, issued in 1884.

It was at one time intended that all the values, from a Halfpenny to One Shilling, should be printed in purple, and overprinted with a large numeral indicating the facial value of the stamp, but though supplies of all the values were printed, only the Threepence and Sixpence had been issued, when the unified series of 1884 obviated the necessity of using the other values. (*Illustrations 97 to 106.*)

See p. 155.
in Black.
near 107

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with Heraldic Emblems; small white letters in angles; Plates 2 (no numbers on the stamps) and (to a very limited extent) 3 (with "dot"); perforated 14.

1st May, 1862.—Threepence, carmine, pale to deep (shades).

SECOND ISSUE.

Die II.—Paper watermarked with Heraldic Emblems; large white letters in angles; Plates 4 and (to a very limited extent) 5*; perforated 14.

1st March, 1865.—Threepence, carmine-pink (shades).

* Plate 5, watermarked Heraldic Emblems, has not yet been found.

THIRD ISSUE.

Die II.—Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; large white letters in angles ; Plates 4 to 10.

July, 1867.—Threepence, carmine-pink, carmine-rose (shades of both), perforated 14.

Varieties.

Threepence, carmine-pink, carmine-rose, Plates 5, 6 and 10 ; imperforate.

FOURTH ISSUE.

Die III.—Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; large coloured letters in angles ; Plates 11, 12, 14 to 20, and (to a very limited extent) 21* ; perforated 14.

July, 1873.—Threepence, carmine-rose, carmine-pink (shades of both).

FIFTH ISSUE.

Die III.—Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; large coloured letters in angles ; Plates 20 and 21 ; perforated 14.

1st January, 1881.—Threepence, carmine-rose (shades).

SIXTH ISSUE.

Die III.—Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; large coloured letters in angles ; Plate 21 ; perforated 14.

1st January, 1883.—Threepence, purple (shades), overprinted with value in deep pink :—

- (a) narrow space between "d" and dots of overprint :
- (b) wide space " " " "

(c) THE FOURPENCE.

FIRST ISSUE : 31ST JULY, 1855.

Date of Issue.—On the 8th February, 1855, the Secretary of the Treasury forwarded the following communication to the Postmaster-General:—"I am commanded by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to acquaint your Lordship that, in compliance with the recommendation contained in your Report of the 26th ult., my Lords are pleased to approve of your suggestion for the adoption of a Fourpenny stamp, and the discontinuance of the Tenpenny stamp. . . ."

This value was accordingly prepared, and its issue was announced by public notice :—

"INLAND REVENUE, SOMERSET HOUSE,
" 24th July, 1855.

"NOTICE is hereby given that the Commissioners of Inland Revenue have provided a stamp for denoting the value of 4d. for postage, and that such stamps will be issued to the Public, on and after the 31st of this month, at the Office of the Distributor of Postage Stamps in this Department, and of the Distributor of Sea Policy Stamps, New Bank Buildings, City.

"Further notice will be given of the period, when such stamps may be procured at the offices of the Distributors throughout the Country.

"THOMAS KEOGH,
" Secretary."

* Plate 21, watermarked Spray of Rose, has not yet been found.

For distribution amongst the various Post-offices, 4,000 stamps, surcharged "SPECIMEN," were forwarded from the Inland Revenue to the Post Office, and these were attached to official circulars informing Postmasters of the intended issue.

The first supply sent out consisted of 2,000 Post-office sheets, or 500 entire sheets, forwarded to the Chief Office in London, on the 28th July; and, from this date to the 29th September following, the total consignments to distributors amounted to 22,935 Post-office, or 5,733 $\frac{3}{4}$ entire, sheets of stamps.

Design. (Die I.)—This consists of a diademed profile, to left, of Queen Victoria, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, within a double-lined circle. Above and below, and following the curve of, this circle, are coloured tablets respectively inscribed "POSTAGE" and "FOUR PENCE" in white Roman capitals. The spandrels are filled in with a honey-comb pattern, and small crosses *pommé*, saltirewise, occupy the four corners. The whole is enclosed by a shaded rectangular frame, interrupted at the top and bottom by the tablets, and at the sides by the circle. There are no check-letters or plate-number on the stamp, which is upright rectangular in shape, and measures 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. by 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 28.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plate 1 and (to a very limited extent) plate 2 were used.

(*State I.*)—The plate, containing two hundred and forty stamps, was divided into four panes, two and two, each consisting of sixty stamps in ten horizontal rows of six. The space between the horizontal rows of panes, which measured 238 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (9 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches) vertically by 119 $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. (4 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches) horizontally, was 25 mm. deep, and that between the vertical rows 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. wide. Above each pane, in Roman capitals, was "POSTAGE FOUR PENCE." and on the exterior side of each pane, with the feet of the letters towards the stamps, was "PRICE. — 4d. per Label, 2s. per Row of Six, £1 per Sheet of Sixty.", also in Roman type and Arabic figures. At each corner of the plate was its number in white on a coloured disc, within two concentric circles. A pane constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of one pound. (*See Diagram G*.*)

Plate 1, registered on the 13th July, was put to press about that date, and was still in use on the termination of this issue, for which it yielded 11,500 sheets.

(*State II.*)—The arrangement of the panes, &c. remained as before; but, at the top and bottom of the sheet was a cross as a guide for the perforating. (*Diagram G.*)

Plate 2 was approved on the 29th October, 1855, and apparently 45 sheets (including that for the *imprimatur*) were then struck off; but, beyond this, there were no printings from it for this issue, as it was not put to press until the 7th June, 1857.

Paper.—For this issue, a stout, hard, highly-surfaced hand-made paper was used: it was always more or less blued by chemical action, generally to a very great extent, but sometimes so faintly, that the discolouration is barely perceptible.

The sheet measured 553 mm. (21 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches) vertically by 289 mm. (11 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches) horizontally; and was watermarked with two hundred and forty Small Garters, in four panes, arranged two and two. Each pane, which measured 240 mm. (9 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in height by 120 mm. (4 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches) in width, was surrounded by a frame, containing sixty Small Garters, in ten horizontal rows of six: the space between the horizontal rows of panes was 24 mm. deep, and between the vertical ones 10 mm. wide. At the top and bottom of the



* Diagram G, minus the perforating guides, would show State I.

sheet, and at the exterior side of each pane, was watermarked "*Postage Stamps*" in script, and a similar inscription appeared in the space between the upper and lower panes. Opposite each end of the spaces between the panes was a small cross. (*Diagram G.*)

The Small Garter measured 14 mm. in width, by 19 mm. in extreme length.

Before leaving the subject of "*Paper*," we propose to deal, not only with that above described, but also, to some extent, with that watermarked with the Medium Garter and the Large Garter, and respectively used for the next two issues, as by adopting this course, a clearer and more consecutive account can be given, on a matter which has always been more or less controversial.

Prior to the issue of any surface-printed postage stamps—of which this value was the first to be created—the Inland Revenue authorities were supplying adhesive stamps, for various fiscal purposes, nearly all of which were intended to be obliterated with pen-and-ink: these were consequently printed on a so-called "safety" paper, into which, while in a state of pulp, some chemical ingredient had been introduced, so that any attempts to remove the cancelling mark might be immediately detected.

To effect this, a small amount of prussiate of potash was mixed with the pulp whilst still in the vat; and the paper, though it possessed to a certain extent the desired properties, was discoloured by a blue tinge, varying in its intensity from a deep shade to almost imperceptible traces of colour.

With regard to the blueness of the paper, we cannot do better than give, *in extenso*, a letter written, on the 7th February, 1859, by Mr. Warren De La Rue to Mr. Ormond Hill, which deals very fully with this feature of the "safety" paper:—

"My dear Sir,

"I have delayed for some days answering your letter of the 20th ulto., in order that I might have an opportunity of discussing the subject therein referred to with a friend, and also of reflecting on the cause of the defects in the Anchor paper, with a view to their prevention.

"I am, after due reflection, enabled to state that the defects you complain of *are* preventable, and that you would be fully justified in rejecting all paper having the objectionable blue stains, or that having blue spots. Mr. Turner is so far right, when he says that the prussiate of potash is the cause of the blueness in the paper, and also of the blue spots, but I cannot for a moment admit that either the blueness, or the blue spots, are a necessary consequence of the employment of that salt. As far as the blue spots are concerned, we may readily dismiss them, for they are unquestionably due to the presence of small particles of iron in the paper, which ought not to exist therein, for more than one reason.

"The V.R. paper* is always white, but in this Mr. Turner puts no prussiate of potash, although he was originally instructed to do so; but, as he made a great trouble of having to do this, we put prussiate of potash into the white colour we use in preparing the paper, and thus obtain the requisite security against the reissue of the stamp.

"Although *we* employ prussiate of potash, you have never reason to complain

* This was a fiscal paper, the watermark being "*V. R.*" in interlaced script capitals.

“of the blueness of the V.R. sheets when printed, and you have here distinct evidence
 “that the employment of prussiate of potash does not necessarily produce the defects
 “complained of, and which, in the case of the Anchor paper, result entirely (so far
 “as regards the general blue shade) from the decomposition of the prussiate of
 “potash itself.

“Now prussiate of potash is a very stable salt—I may pronounce it to be one
 “of the most stable—and I feel justified in stating that its decomposition in some
 “of the paper manufactured by Mr. Turner, is the result of want of necessary
 “precautions. Prussiate of potash, by oxidising re-agents, is convertible into red
 “prussiate of potash (feric cyanide of potassium), by a removal of a portion of the
 “potassium as potash, but it is necessary that free acid, or an acid salt, should be
 “present, or that it should be in contact with decomposing organic matter (stale size).
 “I am, however, inclined to attribute the decomposition of the prussiate of potash,
 “and the production of Prussian blue and red prussiate, to the existence of free
 “chlorine, or chloride of lime, in small quantities, in the pulp from which the paper is
 “made, and which could be got rid of by using the antichlore (sulphide of soda).

“If Mr. Turner will, in the first place, employ pulp free from iron particles, be
 “careful, after thorough washing of the pulp, to add some antichlore in the engine,
 “and lastly, not to employ size in the slightest degree putrescent, I am convinced that
 “he will obviate the defects complained of. I assume that he takes the precaution to
 “employ alum free from iron, and that he does not dissolve his alum in iron vessels,
 “and hence I do not suggest the probability of the defects arising from such an
 “obvious cause.

“Both the V.R. and the Anchor paper are good, as regards texture and surface.

“I am, dear Sir,

“Yours faithfully,

“Ormond Hill, Esq.

Warren De La Rue.”

Beyond the discolouration, there were other imperfections revealed by a use of this paper. It was not only very thick, but its hard and highly-glazed surface, resembling enamel, prevented the printing ink, which was a pure carmine, from sufficiently penetrating the dry paper, and the colour had consequently a tendency to peel off.

In spite of the non-penetration of the printing ink, and the use of a “safety” paper, it was soon found that the Post-office obliterations could be removed with ease and a fair amount of success; and, in the course of the experiments which followed, some individual stamps were cleaned twice, or even three times.

Whilst dealing with the paper of this issue, it seems desirable to give, in detail, the results of our investigations as regards the dates when the Small Garter was abandoned in favour of the Medium Garter, and the latter, in its turn, superseded by the Large Garter.

With this view, and to finally settle the vexed question of dates, and the numbers of sheets of paper watermarked with the Small and Medium Garters respectively, we have prepared the tabular statement, appearing on the next page, which we will now proceed to discuss in detail, giving all our reasons for the theories advanced. The “Orders” have been extracted from official correspondence; the “Deliveries” from “Triplicate Accounts” of Messrs. Turner & Co., the manufacturers, and from the paper warrant-books; and the “Creations” have been taken from the original warrant-book kept for that purpose.

In dealing with these papers, there are the following points to be considered:—

PAPER SUPPLIED FOR, AND CREATIONS OF, THE FOURPENCE.

Orders for Paper.		Consignments of Paper.		Creations.*		Remarks.
Date.	Quantity.	Date.	Quantity.	Date.	Quantity.	
?	reams. † sheets. — I	?	reams. sheets. — I	?	sheets. I	<i>Imprimatur</i> sheet.
		1' 7'55	2 = 1,000	—	—	Retained in stock, as being "short length."
		6' 7'55	6 = 3,000	10' 7'55	3,000	
14' 6'55	25 = 12,500	20' 7'55	6 = 3,000	23' 7'55	3,000	
		27' 7'55	5 = 2,500	31' 7'55	2,500	
		3' 8'55	6 = 3,000	7' 8'55	3,000	On 4' 8'55, Certificate for 23 reams; <i>i.e.</i> , the supply to date, less 2 reams on 1' 7'55.
		—	—	20' 10'55	45	<i>Imprimatur</i> and spare sheets of plate 2: part of 1,000 on 1' 7'55.
		25' 1'56	5 = 2,500	26' 1'56	2,500	First Creation on Medium Garter.
		1' 2'56	6 = 3,000	4' 2'56	3,000	
3' 10'55	30 = 15,000	8' 2'56	10 = 5,000	4' 8'56	2,000	First Creation on <i>white</i> paper.
				23' 10'56	3,000	First Creation in the <i>new</i> ink.
		15' 2'56	8 = 4,000	30' 10'56	3,000	
				— 12'56	1,000	
		12' 3'56	1 = 500	5' 2'57	1,500	The "2 reams" is marked, on the Bill, as "new make:" <i>i.e.</i> , Large Garter.
		17' 12'56	2 = 1,000	13' 2'57	4,500	
11' 1'55	30 = 15,000	11' 2'57	9 = 4,500	15' 5'57	5,000	
				20' 8'57	5,000	
		17' 4'57	33½ = 16,750	7' 11'57	5,000	
				5' 1'58	5,000	
				23' 4'58	5,000	
3' 11'56	50 = 25,000			7' 7'58	5,000	
				14' 9'58	5,000	
		24' 12'57	57 = 28,500	6' 12'58	5,000	
	&c.		&c.		&c.	
Total, 135 = 67,001.		Total, 156½ = 78,251.		Total, 72,045.		

* In the Creation Warrant-book, the "sheets" consist of sixty stamps each, but we have reduced them to entire sheets of two hundred and forty each.

† A ream is stated to be five hundred entire sheets.

Firstly, the dates of issue of (1) the Small Garter; (2) the Medium Garter* (*a*) on blue, and (*b*) on white; and (3) the Large Garter†; and secondly, the numbers of sheets of stamps printed on each of these three papers, from plates 1 and 2 of the Fourpence. This subject, on which a great deal has been said and written, is so interesting and has been hitherto so shrouded in obscurity, that we purpose, even at the risk of being tedious, to give every detail of information obtained by us.

The Fourpence stamp was, as stated above, issued to the public on the 31st July, 1855, and this date is well established by the official notices given under "*Date of Issue*;" and, as regards the watermark, even if it were not a matter of common knowledge, the fact that the registration sheet of plate 1 is on very blued Small Garter paper would indicate this as being the first used.

We have, therefore, as regards the issue on the Small Garter paper, only to consider what supplies of paper, so watermarked, were received from the makers and forwarded to the printers.

The first order for Garter paper was on the 14th June, 1855, for twenty-five reams of 500 sheets each, which was delivered during the next seven weeks. This stock of paper, which must all have been Small Garter, is accounted for by a rejection of 1,000 sheets as being "short length," and by four creations, which latter, in the warrant-book, are in post-office sheets of sixty each, but we give them, as being more convenient, in entire sheets of two hundred and forty:—1855: 10th July, 3,000 sheets; 23rd July, 3,000; 31st July, 2,500; and 7th August, 3,000. After these, there was a very small creation, on the 20th of October, 1855, of 45 sheets, which must have been taken from the rejected 1,000 sheets, as there was then no other paper in stock: they were evidently supplied for the registration of plate 2, on Small Garter, on the 29th of the same month.

The second order for paper was on the 3rd October, 1855, when the makers were instructed to provide "new adhesive paper for the 4d., 6d. and 1/-", to the extent of "30 reams for the 4d., and 30 reams for the 1/- and 6d.;" and this was followed, on the 1st of the next month, by a further order for a similar quantity of each paper. On the 16th November, Mr. Ormond Hill—as appears from an official memorandum—"saw Mr. Turner, and settled that it would be best to have . . . new Garters to both "the 4d. moulds." Presumably, these instructions for new Garters, which we know from dated copies were Medium, were carried out as expeditiously as possible; and the alterations were charged in Messrs. Turner & Co.'s (the makers') next account, extending from the 25th January to the 22nd February, 1856. No part of these orders for 60 reams was executed until the 25th January, 1856, when five reams, or 2,500 sheets, were despatched. It seems practically certain that the "new paper," in the delivery of the 25th January, was watermarked Medium Garter: if not, then the next consignment—of six reams, or 3,000 sheets, on the 1st February, 1856—must have been, as a specimen of this value, so watermarked, is known on a letter post-marked the 25th of that month. These two supplies of paper were at once forwarded to the printers; and further instalments of the order of the 3rd October, 1855, were forwarded to Somerset House as follows:—1856: 8th February, ten reams, or 5,000 sheets; 15th February, eight reams, or 4,000 sheets; and 12th March, one ream, or 500 sheets. These last three supplies were kept in hand at Somerset House for some months before any further creations took place.

* See page 95, for illustration and description.

† See page 96, for illustration and description.

On the 18th March, 1856, Mr. Bokenham wrote to Mr. Rowland Hill: "I regret "having to bring under your notice the ease with which the 4d. postage stamps can "be, in some instances, cleaned and used a second time . . . ;" and he enclosed with his letter two, presumably cleaned, copies of the Fourpence, both printed in carmine on blued safety paper, but one watermarked Small Garter and the other Medium Garter. Evidently, at that date, no copies on white paper had been issued, or printed; and the Creations, up to and including that on the 4th February, 1856, were presumably on the blued "safety" paper.

In an official memorandum of the 9th April, 1856, it is suggested "that in future" the Fourpence stamps "be printed with ink of a more fugitive nature;" and it is added, "6d. and 1/- delayed printing for this reason; De La Rue making experiments."

Two days after the above note, a communication was made by the Inland Revenue to the General Post Office: ". . . The Board are of opinion that in future the 4d. "stamps should be printed with ink of a more fugitive nature than that heretofore "used; and they have delayed the printing of the 6d. and 1/- labels until inks of the "required tints, but decidedly more fugitive than the present 4d. colour, shall have "been prepared"

The experiments were apparently very protracted, as, on the 5th August, 1856, Mr. Ormond Hill reported to the Inland Revenue:—"Experiments not yet complete; "stock of 4d. supplied previously exhausted; printing stopped; stamps wanted; "suggest more be printed in old ink." On this the following communication was forwarded to the General Post Office:—"The Board of Inland Revenue have had "before them a report . . . as to whether the production and issue of the 4d. labels "should remain suspended, pending further experiments as to the fugitiveness of the "ink . . . or whether a moderate supply be printed as heretofore. . . . The supply of "these stamps in the office has been exhausted, which has occasioned complaints from "the public; but, previously to the Board giving any directions, they will be pleased "to hear from the Postmaster-General on the subject."

On the back of the above letter is a memorandum by Mr. Bokenham:—"13/8/56. "The 4d. stamp is of great use to, and much prized by the public, and, such being the "case, I think it will be better to risk the danger, &c., rather than it should go out of "use."

In evident anticipation of the result of Mr. Ormond Hill's intended report of the 5th August, 1856, a creation had, on the previous day, been made to the extent of 2,000 sheets: the paper supplied under this warrant formed part of the delivery of ten reams, or 5,000 sheets, on the 8th February previous, which, as we shall show, was probably all ordinary white paper, without any added chemical.

Shortly after the above correspondence, the experiments appear to have been crowned with success, for we find, under date of 13th September, a report from Mr. Ormond Hill to the Inland Revenue:—"New inks successful; recommend that "permission be given to De La Rue to proceed at once with printing 4d., 6d. "and 1/-."

On the 23rd September, 1856, the Secretary to the Inland Revenue wrote to the General Post Office:—"With reference to your letter of the 20th instant, requesting, by "direction of the Postmaster-General, that the experiments might be continued with "a view to prevent the removal of the obliterating mark from the Postage Stamps, I "am directed to acquaint you that the Board have since been informed by Messrs. "De La Rue, that they have succeeded in producing a stamp, from which the Post- "office obliterating mark cannot be removed without destroying the head . . . although

“it can be removed from the red colour, or 4d. stamps. Messrs. De La Rue have made a further modification in the nature of the” red “ink . . . from which the obliterating mark has not been removed successfully. As, therefore, the experiments may now be deemed successful, the Board leave it to the Post Office authorities to decide whether the suspension of the printing and issue of these stamps should be longer continued, and request that a communication may be made to them on that subject.”

A fortnight after the above communication, the authorities at Somerset House received from Messrs. De La Rue, a sheet, struck from plate 1 of this value, in pink, on unwatermarked paper, sent to show the advantage of printing on a soft porous paper.

On the 9th October, 1856, Mr. Edwin Hill, writing from Somerset House to the General Post Office, says:—“ . . . I understand there is some difficulty as to the 1/- stamps . . . perhaps you can let me know if it will be well to forward the 4d. and 6d., *without* the 1/-, supposing the difficulty with them cannot be immediately surmounted.” The Fourpence stamp here referred to was, of course, that printed in the new ink on the thinner soft paper, the use of which was adopted towards the end of 1856, in place of the unsatisfactory “safety” paper hitherto employed.

At this time—early in October—there was in hand, at Somerset House, a supply of 7,500 sheets of Garter paper, of which 3,000 were the balance of a consignment of 5,000 sheets, forwarded by the makers on the 8th February previous. Now, these 3,000 sheets must have been the ordinary white paper (on which, as is known, the Fourpence, Medium Garter, finished its existence), because, as we shall show, the new stamps—*i. e.*, those in rose, on white paper—were issued on the 1st November, the following month; and the next supply of paper was not forwarded to the printers until the 30th October, too late to be used and be ready for issue two days later. It is unlikely that there were two kinds of paper in one and the same consignment, and we therefore assume that the entire delivery of 5,000 sheets on the 8th February was of ordinary *white* paper, and was the first consignment of that paper.

With regard to the date of issue of this variety, the Post Office was, on the 28th October, informed by the Inland Revenue that “the new kind of 4d. labels will be issued to the public on the 1st proximo:” this was followed, on the 30th October, by a further communication advising Mr. Bokenham that:—“ . . . 580 specimens,” for London and district, “1/- and 4d. labels sent herewith for immediate distribution. “The new stamps will be issued to the public on the 1st proximo . . .”

The following announcement of the intended new issue was “circulated” on the 30th October, and the specimens sent to Mr. Bokenham on that day, together with 4,000 of each value received on the 25th, were used for enclosure therewith:—

“NEW KIND OF SHILLING
“AND
“FOURPENNY POSTAGE STAMPS.

“Enclosed are specimens of a New kind of Shilling and Fourpenny Stamps, such as will, in future, be issued by the Office of Inland Revenue, and by the General Post Office.

“The Shilling and Fourpenny Stamps already issued must, however, be looked upon and treated in all respects the same as the New Stamps.

“GENERAL POST OFFICE,
“29th October, 1856.

ROWLAND HILL,
Secretary.”

As above mentioned, there was, early in October, a stock of 7,500 sheets at Somerset House, and of these we have accounted for 3,000: of the remainder, eight reams, or 4,000 sheets, had been sent by the makers on the previous 15th February, and one ream, or 500 sheets, on the 12th of the next month, completing the order for thirty reams given on the 3rd October, 1855. On the 17th December, 1856, two reams, or 1,000 sheets (part of another order for thirty reams given on the 1st November previous) were consigned to Somerset House, and these are noted, in the margin of the makers' account, as being from the "new mould."

This gave a total of 5,500 sheets, of which the printers received 3,000 on the 30th October, 1856, a further 1,000 in December, and 1,500 on the 5th February, 1857; and exhausted the stock, except 955 sheets, balance of the 1,001 comprising the first two deliveries.

If the paper had been issued to the printers, in the same order as received, the 1,000 sheets from the new mould—which was, of course, the Large Garter—would not have been used until the 5th February, 1857, and no specimens of the Fourpence, with this watermark, could then have existed; but, as a copy is known, postmarked January, we can only assume that some of the last consignment must have been employed before the exhaustion of the Medium Garter paper, probably under the creation warrant of the previous December.

We have now dealt *seriatim* with all the orders, supplies and creations, from the commencement up to the first printing on the Large Garter; and, though we have given, in the tabular statement, some further particulars, it seems needless to discuss them in detail: we, therefore, conclude our remarks on the Garter paper, and append the result of our investigations:—

(1.) *Fourpence, carmine, on thick, blued "safety" paper, watermarked with a Small Garter*: paper ordered, 14.6.55; paper consigned, 1.7.55 to 3.8.55; printings, 10.7.55 to 20.10.55; issue, 31.7.55; creation, including the *imprimatur*s, 11,500 sheets from plate 1, and 45 from plate 2.

(2.) *Fourpence, carmine, on paper watermarked with a Medium Garter*:—

(a.) *On "safety" paper, as before*: paper ordered, 3.10.55; paper consigned, 25.1.56 and 1.2.56; printings, 26.1.56 and 4.2.56; issue, —.2.56; creation, 5,500 sheets, all from plate 1.

(b.) *On ordinary white paper, as in next issue*: paper ordered, 3.10.55; paper consigned, 8.2.56; printing, 4.8.56; issue, —.9.56; creation, 2,000 sheets, all from plate 1.

(3.) *Fourpence, dull rose, on ordinary white paper, watermarked with a Medium Garter*: paper ordered, 3.10.55; paper consigned, 8.2.56 to 12.3.56; printings, 23.10.56 to 5.2.57; issue, 1.11.56; creation, 7,500 sheets, all from plate 1.

(4.) *Fourpence, dull rose, on ordinary white paper, watermarked with a Large Garter*: paper first ordered, 1.11.55; paper first delivered, 17.12.56; first printing, —.12.56; issue, —.1.57; creation, 119,904 sheets, of which 96,449 were from plate 1, and 23,455 from plate 2.

Colour.—This was a pure carmine, varying only in shade.

Gum.—Pure white Gum arabic, as usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—As we have shown, when dealing with the paper, the creation of this issue was 2,770,800 stamps, of which 10,800 were from plate 2: these figures include the *imprimatur* sheets.

Remarks.—This value was introduced to prepay the reduced rate to France, which came into force on the 1st January, 1855.

The highly-glazed surface of the paper, used for the issue, preventing the ink from penetrating into its substance, the colour shows a tendency to peel off; in fact, so enamel-like is the surface, that it is possible to remove every trace of the impression without in the least damaging the gloss on the paper.

SECOND ISSUE: FEBRUARY, 1856.

Date of Issue.—The only change being in the watermark, there was no official notification of this issue; and, we have, therefore, to fall back on dated copies, of which the earliest known to us is postmarked 26th February, 1856. The first creation warrant, involving the use of this new paper, being dated the 26th January, 1856, it is almost impossible for any specimens to have been in the hands of the public until the next month; and we, therefore, feel justified in giving the above date as that of the issue.

For further details we refer our readers back to the preliminary remarks, in the first issue, under "*Paper.*"

Design. (Die I.)—This remains unaltered. (*Illustration 28.*)

Plate.—For the present issue, plate 1 continued in use.

(*State I.*)—We have already described the first arrangement of the plate.

Plate I, at press during the last issue, was still being employed, when the watermark was again changed some few months later: it produced 7,500 sheets.

Paper.—The only alteration from that previously used was in the substitution of a Medium Garter for the small garter. This watermark measured 19 mm. by 23 mm., the width of the band being 3 mm.



In August, 1856, a small supply, 2,000 sheets, was printed in the colour of this issue, on the thinner white paper prepared for the printings in the new ink, which was adopted in the following October.

Colour.—This was carmine, as before, varying in shade. On copies from any of the 2,000 sheets above-mentioned, the colour appears, at first sight, to be different from that of the impressions on the thick safety paper, but this is owing to the ink penetrating into the substance of the paper, and thereby losing the intensity of colour which characterised the earlier-printed stamps.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—According to the figures given under "*Plate*" and "*Paper*" 1,800,000 stamps, of which 1,320,000 were on "safety" paper, and 480,000 on the ordinary white paper: all from plate 1.

Remarks.—The reason for the change in the watermark was the apprehension that the small garter might interfere with the appearance of Her Majesty's head, which would be obviated by the adoption of one of a larger size. It was for this same reason, that the paper for some of the other values in this section at first bore the flower watermarks in the four angles.

THIRD ISSUE: 1ST NOVEMBER, 1856.

Date of Issue.—The distinguishing characteristic is the use of the ordinary white paper, alluded to in the preceding issues, to which the reader is referred, and the use of a new and specially prepared ink. With regard to the date of this issue, the Post Office notice announcing same is given in full on page 93.

Design. (Die I.)—There was no change in the design. (*Illustration 28.*)

Plate.—Only the first plate was employed for this issue.

(*State I.*)—Already described.

Plate 1 remained at press during the short period of this issue, for which it yielded 7,500 sheets, and it was still in use when the next change of paper took place.

Paper.—This was ordinary white paper, watermarked with a medium garter as previously described.

Colour.—The ink was specially prepared, so that any attempt to remove the obliteration might affect the impression : in colour it was a dull rose.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—The usual gauge of 14.

Creation.—As we showed above, when discussing the paper, 1,800,000 stamps were printed in the new colour on the ordinary white paper, all from plate 1.

Remarks.—This variety was in use for about three months only, when the watermark was again altered.

FOURTH ISSUE : JANUARY, 1857.

Date of Issue.—The change of watermark not receiving any official notice, we must look to dated specimens, of which the earliest copy known to us is postmarked in January, 1857, and it is probable that the issue took place early in that month. The printers appear to have received a small supply of this paper, before that watermarked with a medium garter was all used : if this had not occurred, they would not have had any of the large garter paper until the beginning of February, as will be seen from a perusal of the tabulated statement on page 90.

Design. (Die I.)—This was still unchanged. (*Illustration 28.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plates 1 and 2 were in use.

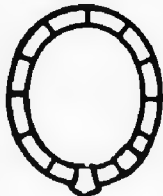
(*State I.*)—We have already described the arrangement of the plate.

At the commencement of this issue, plate 1 was at press, and it was not discarded until the 6th June, 1861, after yielding 122,949* sheets, of which, after allowing for those appropriated to the earlier issues, 96,449 may be accepted as the number watermarked with the large garter.

(*State II.*)—Already described in the first issue.

Plate 2, from which 45 impressions had already been struck on the small garter paper, was formally put to press on the 7th June, 1857, and, after 23,455 more sheets had been printed from it, was withdrawn from use on the 31st October, 1862.

Paper.—The sole alteration was the substitution of the Large Garter for the medium garter. (*Diagram H.*)



This new watermark, though its band was narrower ($2\frac{1}{2}$ mm.) than that of the medium garter, was somewhat larger in size, measuring 19 mm. by $23\frac{1}{2}$ mm., and extending to the outside line of the frame of the stamp : there are other slight differences.

As at first adopted, this garter was thin-lined, and lighter in appearance than that produced by the "bits" subsequently used ; but the difference is slight, and can scarcely be looked upon as constituting a variety.

Colour.—Varying shades of dull and pale to deep rose, and pink.

Gum.—As usual.

* This is the official number, and presumably does not include the *imprimatur* sheet.

Perforation.—Machine-perforation, gauging 14.

Creation.—The total printings from plates 1 and 2 on the large garter paper amounted to 119,904 sheets, or 28,776,960 stamps: of these, plate 1 yielded 23,147,760 stamps, while plate 2 gave 5,629,200 only.

Remarks.—Many copies of this stamp on blue paper have been seen by us, but the discolouration has undoubtedly been the result of a misplaced ingenuity with a view to supplying an unheard-of variety. However, it is possible that copies may exist genuinely blued, as the following letter from Mr. Turner to Mr. Ormond Hill suggests that a supply of Garter paper was made from pulp which had prussiate of potash in it; and we do not know of any stamp other than the Fourpence so water-marked, until some thirteen or fourteen years later, when a Garter paper was used for certain fiscals, and subsequently, in 1876, for the Eightpence postage stamp:—

“Chafford,

“9th February, 1859.

“Dear Sir,

“I am making the V.R. paper,* which has the prussiate of potash in it, and which is free from spots, and has only a slight shade (blue) in it, less than the piece you sent me as a sample.

“As I am on this sort of paper, at the vat, I purpose making a little more of the Garter; as I have about 12 reams left: I will make the quantity up to 40 reams, and hold it in stock till you require it.

“Yours obediently,

“Rd. Turner.”

“Ormond Hill, Esq.

FIFTH ISSUE: 15TH JANUARY, 1862.

Date of Issue.—We have not been successful in finding any official record as to the date of issue, but the above has for long been accepted as correct, and we therefore adopt it. The earliest copy brought to our notice, is postmarked on the 16th January.

Design. (Die II.)—The design is substantially the same as that of die I, but the profile of the Queen was retouched. The tablets above and below the circle, the line of which is now more clearly defined, were shortened, and the ends made slightly concave. In the four angles of the stamp, square coloured blocks were introduced, for the reception of the check-letters in small white *sans serif* capitals. The lower portion of the frame was made solid, instead of being shaded; and the spandrels were filled in with a wavy reticulated pattern.

There are no plate-numbers on the stamps of this issue; but in plate 3, a hair-lined Roman numeral I was cut at each extremity of the lower part of the frame, close to the letter-blocks; and in plate 4, the Roman numeral II is found in a similar position, and a hair-line crosses diagonally the exterior angle of each of the letter-blocks. (*Illustrations* 31 and 29.)

Plate.—Only plates 3 and 4 were used for this issue.

(*State III.*)—The arrangement of the panes continued as in the earlier states, but there were certain alterations in, and additions to, the marginal inscriptions.

The words, POSTAGE FOUR PENCE, were now inserted once below each of the upper panes, and once above each of the lower ones, instead of above each pane as heretofore.

Above the eleventh stamp at the top, and below the second one in the bottom row,

* A fiscal paper, watermarked *V.R.* in interlaced script capitals.

was the plate-number in white on colour within an oval frame; and, at the opposite corners of the plate, the current-number was inserted in the usual oblong frame. The lettering on the stamps ran from "A. A." to "L. T." (*Diagram H.*)

Plate 3, registered on the 29th November, 1861, was put to press on the next day, and continued in use until the 8th June, 1863, by which date it had produced 57,500 impressions.

Plate 4, approved on the 27th June, 1862, was brought into use on the 7th September in the following year; but there is no record as to when it was taken from press, or as to the number of sheets printed. It was destroyed on the 11th April, 1866. On the probably correct assumption that this plate was discarded before the plates of the succeeding issue were put to press, we are justified in allocating to it all the supplies of paper "drawn for" during its use and up to the 17th March, 1865, which was two and a half months prior to the next plate, no. 7, being printed from. The next paper warrant was on the 12th May, 1865, and must have been for plate 7, as no more paper was sent to the printers until the 23rd August, two months after this last plate was put to press. We, therefore, assess the number of sheets from plate 4 at 67,500.

Plate 5, in consequence of the change of design, was never completed.

Paper.—The large garter paper, already described, continued in use.

During this issue, the use of machine-made paper was commenced, in place of the hand-made paper previously employed: the makers inform us that the last consignment of hand-made paper was in June, 1864, and the first supply of the machine-made in the following December.

Colour.—The stamps were printed in varying shades of carmine-vermilion and vermilion-red.

The printing in the new colour, which was to a large extent composed of vermilion, commenced on the 30th November, 1861; but the following note by Mr. Ormond Hill, dated six days subsequently, shows that the first trials had not given entire satisfaction:—"In attempting to print the Fourpenny labels in scarlet, more difficulty was experienced than had been anticipated. Ink, containing vermilion, cannot be used with a copper plate, because the copper decomposes the vermilion. Mr. De La Rue failed to produce a fugitive scarlet ink without the use of vermilion. It was then proposed to change the material of the plate, and, after experiment, Mr. De La Rue reported that he could make a plate with a silver surface, with which ink containing vermilion could be printed. I instructed him to proceed with a new plate for the Fourpence. The plate has been successfully completed, and it was registered on the 29th November last, and is now at work."

The alteration in colour was decided upon in May, 1861, in consequence of the Threepence stamps also being printed in carmine, whereby confusion was sometimes caused. As, at that time, the supply of the Fourpence was nearly exhausted, the change was ordered to be made in the future printings of this value, and the colour of the lower value remained as before.

Gum.—As previously.

Perforation.—Uniformly of the 14-gauge, but copies from plate 4 are to be found imperforate.

Creation.—Probably 30,000,000 stamps, of which 13,800,000 were from plate 3.

Though there is no official record of the number of impressions struck from plate 4, we learn from the Inland Revenue return, given in the *Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, that the total issue of this value, up to the end of 1879, was 153,815,820 stamps:

this (with, say, 27,500 sheets, or 6,600,000 stamps, as cancelled, or then unissued) should represent a creation of about one hundred and sixty and a half millions, or 670,000 entire sheets. The records inform us that all the Fourpence plates, except no. 4, at press from the creation of that value up to June, 1880, produced 601,961 sheets, or 144,470,640 stamps. On deducting these last figures from the 160,500,000, we get a nett residue of some 16,029,360 stamps, or, say, 67,000 sheets, as having been printed from plate 4.

Remarks.—The alteration in the design, which took place in this issue, was to some extent evidently due to the fact that a difficulty had arisen, in distinguishing Fourpence stamps from those of One Penny; and we find, from the following official communication made by the Post Office to the Inland Revenue, in October, 1857, that a change of design was even then suggested:—"The examiners of stamps complain that, by gas-light, the 4d. and 1d. postage labels are so much alike, that, when placed together upon a letter, a very close scrutiny is necessary to enable them to read off correctly the amount of postage which has been paid. . . ."

"I beg to suggest that it be ascertained if some slight alteration can be made in the form of the labels."

SIXTH ISSUE: JULY, 1865.

Date of Issue.—Again, there is no official record as to the time of issue, and the earliest copy known to us is postmarked the 25th July, 1865: as the printing commenced on the 8th June of this year, it is probable that copies of the new stamps were in the hands of the public during the last few days of that month, or early in July.

Design. (Die III.)—Although the general design remained unchanged, the die was re-engraved. The circle, enclosing the head of Her Majesty, was reduced, so that with it the inscribed tablets only partially intercepted the frame of the stamp, which was somewhat similar to that in the earlier issues. The tablets were also shortened, and their extremities were rounded. At each end of the upper tablet, was a small white circle for the reception of the plate-number, in white on solid colour; and in the four corners of the stamp, were square coloured blocks, in which the check-letters, in large white *sans serif* capitals, were to be inserted. The spandrels were filled in with a reticulated pattern. (*Illustration 30.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plates 7 to 14, inclusive, were employed.

(*State IV.*)—The only change in the arrangement of the plate, was the placing of the plate- and current-numbers a little farther—now about 4 mm.—from the panes. (*See Diagram H.*)

Plate 6 was made, but, as the silver coating failed to adhere satisfactorily to the copper, it was discarded as useless: this plate has hitherto been supposed to have been prepared for the former issue, but we have ascertained, beyond a doubt, that this was not so; and, moreover, it was not ordered until the 14th March, 1865, nearly thirteen months after it had been determined to increase the size of the corner-lettering, and more than a year and nine months subsequently to the completion of the former plate, no. 5, which was not required in consequence of the change of design.

Plate 7, registered the 3rd June, 1865, was at press from the 8th of that month until the 1st December in the following year, and produced 34,500 sheets; plate 8, approved the 15th August, 1865, was in use from the succeeding 23rd January to the 15th July, 1867, and yielded 45,000 impressions; plate 9 was approved on the

2nd November, 1866, put to press on the 16th May, 1867, and, after 42,000 sheets had been printed, finally discarded on the 8th August in the following year; plate 10, registered on the 22nd December, 1866, produced 11,500 impressions, being in use from the 17th March to the 21st November, 1868; plate 11, approved on the 10th September, 1868, produced, whilst at press from the end of that year, until 21st March, 1870, sheets to the number of 55,000; plate 12, registered on the 28th November, 1868, was first employed on the day when plate 11 was withdrawn, and continued in use until the 11th October, 1872, having yielded 66,012 impressions; and plate 13, approved on New Year's Day, 1869, remained at press from the 11th October, 1872, up to the 11th June, 1874, and was responsible for 50,000 sheets.

(*State V.*)—The plate-number was now on a coloured disc, within a circle, a little closer to the panes than formerly; but the current-number was moved still farther away. The "face" of the type, employed for the marginal inscription POSTAGE FOUR PENCE, differed slightly from that on the previous plates of this issue. (*Diagram H.**)

Plate 14, approved on the 1st April, 1869, was at press from the 8th May, 1873, until the 16th November, 1875, during which time 35,000 sheets were printed from it.

Paper.—This was the large garter paper previously described. Sometime about

MARK

1872, the word "MARK", in out-lined *sans serif* capitals, measuring 44 mm. ($1\frac{3}{4}$ inches) by $10\frac{1}{2}$ mm., was added in the margin at the top right-hand side of the sheet, and in the opposite corner at the other side.

In 1872, the outline of the watermarked garter, which had hitherto been thin, became much thicker in appearance: the difference between these two varieties, though marked, is hardly of such a character as to merit more than passing mention.

Colour.—During this issue, the colour was vermilion, varying in shade, and in tone from orange-vermilion to vermilion-red: it gradually degenerated in brightness, and impressions from plate 14, and to some extent from plate 13, are in a pale red colour.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—The usual 14-gauge was in use, but copies from plates 11 and 12 may be found imperforate.

Creation.—The official records give the number of sheets, printed from the plates of this issue, as 339,012, equivalent to 81,362,880 stamps.

Remarks.—As might be expected, the scarcest stamps of this issue are those printed from plate 10, which only yielded the comparatively small number of 11,500 sheets, or 2,760,000 stamps.

Although the garter is correctly placed when the buckle is at the bottom, all the printings of this value, from the middle of 1867 up to the end of 1871, are watermarked with the large garter inverted: possibly, the pressman considered that the buckle should be at the top. The following printings were on the inverted paper: a few from plate 8, about half from plate 9, all from plates 10 and 11, and about half from plate 12.

SEVENTH ISSUE: 1ST MARCH, 1876.

Date of Issue.—The Post Office Circular of the 11th August, 1873, briefly referred to, on page 83, stated that the alteration in the corner-letters, from white to coloured, would be duly notified; but we have not been able to find any such notice

* Diagram H, with the plate-numbers in white on a coloured disc, would show State V.

with regard to this value : possibly the Circular had been forgotten. The earliest copy, known to us, is postmarked the 1st March, 1876.

Design. (Die IV.)—Slight alterations were made in the head of Her Majesty, and in the groundwork of the spandrels ; and the point of the bust touches the enclosing circle. The check-letters and plate-numbers are now in colour on white, instead of white letters and figures on coloured ground as formerly. (*Illustration 32.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plate 15 and (to a very limited extent) plate 16 were used.

(*State V.*)—The fifth arrangement of the plate has already been described.

Plate 15, registered on the 10th June, 1874, was put to press on the 17th November, 1875, and continued in use until the 5th June, 1877, producing, for this issue, about 15,000 impressions. Plate 16, approved on the 4th August, 1874, in a deep shade of vermilion, was not brought into use for this issue ; but the usual five extra sheets were struck off at the time of registration, and put into stock : used copies are known.

Paper.—The large garter paper with “**MARK**” in the margins.

Colour.—Pale vermilion for the general issue ; but the spare sheets printed from plate 15, at the time of its approval, were in a medium shade, and those from plate 16, as above stated, were of a deeper tone.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—Excluding the 1,200 stamps from plate 16, the creation probably amounted to 3,600,000, all from plate 15.

Remarks.—Copies of plate 16 are, of course, extremely scarce, and the variety was not known until September, 1894, when it was discovered by Mr. L'Estrange Ewen.

Some six months after the commencement of this issue, complaints were made by members of the public, that the similarity between stamps of this value and those of Eightpence caused the former to be bought and used instead of the latter ; and a report, made to the Postmaster-General on the 23rd October, 1876, stated that the designs of the Fourpence and Eightpence were sufficiently distinctive, but that the colours were so alike, especially by gas-light, that the Eightpence was sold for the Fourpence, and *vice versâ*. As the stock of the Fourpence was very low, it was decided to change its colour, and not that of the higher value.

EIGHTH ISSUE : 27TH FEBRUARY, 1877.

Date of Issue.—In the Stock-book, in use at this time, there is an entry that the “first issue of green Fourpence was on the 7th February, 1877 ;” but this was probably only to the Distributors, as a Post Office Circular, dated the 26th February in the same year, announced that the “Fourpence will in future be light green, instead of “light red.” The earliest known copy is postmarked in March, 1877.

Design. (Die IV.)—Unaltered. (*Illustration 32.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plates 15 and 16, and (to a very limited extent) plate 17, were used.

(*State V.*)—We have already described this arrangement of the plate.

At press when the change of colour was decided upon, plate 15 remained in use until the 5th June, 1877, having produced 35,000 sheets, of which probably 20,000 were printed in the pale green of this issue. Plate 16, registered on the 4th August, 1874, was put to press on the 23rd October, 1877, and remained in use until the 14th June, 1880, yielding altogether 30,000 impressions.

(*State VI.*)—The difference between this and the preceding state consisted solely in the omission, from the plate, of the marginal indication of price, at the exterior sides of the two panes. (*See Diagram H.**)

Plate 17, approved on the 9th August, 1877, was not put to press for this issue, but the usual five extra sheets were then struck off and issued with those printed from the other plates; used copies are known.

Paper.—As in the last issue.

Colour.—When it had been decided to change the colour of this value, in preference to that of the Eightpence, various essays were submitted to the Post Office, and finally a pale sage-green was selected by the Postmaster-General and approved on the 24th October, 1876.

Gum.—As in former issues.

Perforation.—Uniformly of the 14-gauge.

Creation.—About 12,000,000 stamps, of which 7,198,800 were from plate 16: the remainder, except 1,200 stamps from plate 17, constituted the residue of the printing from plate 15, which had already supplied practically the whole of the last issue, in pale vermilion.

Remarks.—The discovery, in 1894, of plate 17 in sage-green is due to Mr. Walter Morley: it is printed in a normal shade of colour.

NINTH ISSUE: JULY, 1880.

Date of Issue.—The above date has hitherto been accepted as correct, though the earliest known copy of this stamp is postmarked 1st September following.

Design. (Die IV.)—As in the preceding issue. (*Illustration 32.*)

Plate.—Only one plate, no. 17, was used.

(*State VI.*)—This arrangement of the plate has already been described.

Plate 17, registered in sage-green during the last issue, was put to press on the 10th June, 1880, and was destroyed on the 13th January, 1886: we have no information as to the period during which it continued in use.

Paper.—The large garter paper, with "MARK", as in the later issues.

Colour.—Mouse-brown, varying slightly in shade.

Gum.—As formerly.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—We have been unable to obtain any details as to the number of stamps printed.

Remarks.—The issue of this value in mouse-brown on large garter paper, only continued for a few months, and copies of the stamp are comparatively scarce.

TENTH ISSUE: 1ST JANUARY, 1881.

Date of Issue.—There does not appear to have been any official notification of this issue, which only differed from the preceding in the kind of paper used.

The earliest known copy is postmarked on the above date.

Design. (Die IV.)—This was unchanged. (*Illustration 32.*)

Plate.—Two plates, nos. 17 and 18, were used for this issue.

* Diagram H, with the plate-number in white on a coloured disc, and *minus* the lateral inscriptions, would show State VI.

(*State VII.*)—Consequent on the change of paper, from large garter to large (1880) crown, plate 17 was altered, by bringing the two upper panes together so as to form one pane, the two lower panes being similarly dealt with as described under *State III* of the Twopence Halfpenny, on page 77. In the centre of the space between the panes was the hexagonal ornament already described, to indicate the place at which each pane could be divided into two Post-office sheets, of 60 stamps each, and of the facial value of one pound.

Plate 17, which had furnished the entire printing for the preceding issue, remained in use until superseded by plate 18, registered and put to press on the 15th August, 1882; both these plates were destroyed on the 13th January, 1886.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown paper, already described. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—No change was made in the colour, which was mouse-brown in slightly varying shades.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—The usual 14-gauge.

Creation.—We have not been able to ascertain the number of stamps printed for this issue.

Remarks.—This was the last issue of this type of the Fourpence; and it was succeeded, on the 1st April, 1884, by the "Postage and Revenue" stamp of the same value.

See p. 157

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Die I.—Thick glazed "safety" paper, varying slightly in substance and frequently deeply blued, watermarked with a Small Garter; no letters in angles; Plates 1 and (to a very limited extent) 2 (no numbers on the stamps of either plate); perforated 14.

31st July, 1855.—Fourpence, deep and dull carmine (shades of both).

SECOND ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with a Medium Garter; no letters in angles; Plate 1 (no number on the stamps); perforated 14.

(a) Thick glazed "safety" paper, varying slightly in substance and blued, generally deeply but sometimes very slightly.

February, 1856.—Fourpence, pale carmine (shades).

(b) Ordinary white paper.

September, 1856.—Fourpence, pale carmine (shades).

THIRD ISSUE.

Die I.—Ordinary white paper watermarked with a Medium Garter; no letters in angles; Plate 1 (no number on the stamps); perforated 14.

1st November, 1856.—Fourpence, dull rose (shades).

FOURTH ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with a Large Garter; no letters in angles; Plates 1 and 2 (no numbers on the stamps); perforated 14.

January, 1857.—Fourpence, dull and pale to deep rose, pink (shades of each).

FIFTH ISSUE.

Die II.—Paper watermarked with a Large Garter; small white letters in angles; Plates 3 and 4 (no numbers on the stamps, but plates distinguishable by special marks).

15th January, 1862.—Fourpence, carmine-vermilion, vermilion-red (shades of both); perforated 14.

Variety.

Plate 4, Fourpence, vermilion-red, imperforate.

SIXTH ISSUE.

Die III.—Paper watermarked with a Large Garter; large white letters in angles; Plates 7 to 14.

July, 1865.—Fourpence, pale to dark vermilion (shades and tones); perforated 14.

Varieties.

Plates 11 and 12, Fourpence, vermilion, imperforate.

SEVENTH ISSUE.

Die IV.—Paper watermarked with a Large Garter; large coloured letters in angles; Plates 15 and (to a very limited extent) 16* ; perforated 14.

1st March, 1876.—Fourpence, pale vermilion (very slight shades).

EIGHTH ISSUE.

Die IV.—Paper watermarked with a Large Garter; large coloured letters in angles; Plates 15, 16 and (to a very limited extent) 17; perforated 14.

27th February, 1877.—Fourpence, pale sage-green (shades).

NINTH ISSUE.

Die IV.—Paper watermarked with a Large Garter; large coloured letters in angles; Plate 17; perforated 14.

July, 1880.—Fourpence, mouse-brown (very slight shades).

TENTH ISSUE.

Die IV.—Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; large coloured letters in angles; Plates 17 and 18; perforated 14.

1st January, 1881.—Fourpence, mouse-brown (shades).

(d) THE SIXPENCE.

FIRST ISSUE: 21ST OCTOBER, 1856.

Date of Issue.—The following official Circular, distributed on the 17th October, 1856, fixes, to some extent, the date of issue of this stamp:—

“NEW KIND OF SIXPENNY POSTAGE LABELS.

“Enclosed is a specimen of the New Kind of Sixpenny Stamp, such as will, in future, be issued by the Office of Inland Revenue, and by the General Post Office.

“The Sixpenny Stamp already issued must, however, be looked upon and treated in all respects the same as the New Stamp.

“GENERAL POST OFFICE,
“3rd October, 1856.

“ROWLAND HILL,
“Secretary.”

* Plate 16 is found only in a darker shade than that of the general issue.

this and the One Shilling values, differed considerably from that employed for those subsequently created, of which the Ninepence, issued in January, 1862, was the earliest.

The registered impression of the Sixpence, struck on the 29th March, 1856, is on stout, highly-glazed and blued "safety" paper, almost identical with that on which the Fourpence was first printed; but, although copies on this paper are occasionally met with, the greater part of the first printing was evidently on the thinner white paper of the later consignments.

Following the plan adopted when discussing the Garter paper, we give, on the opposite page, a tabular statement of the orders for, the deliveries of, and the printings on, the officially-termed "Flower" paper used during the first three years: these details have been obtained from the same sources as in the case of the Garter paper, and we hope to settle the question as to the possible extent of the printings on the blued "safety" paper.

The first order was on the 3rd October, 1855, for 30 reams, and the second, on the 1st of the next month, was for a similar quantity. Of these 60 reams, no portion was delivered until the 25th January, 1856, when 6 reams, or 3,000 sheets, were consigned to Somerset House; and this supply was augmented on the 1st of the succeeding month, by 4 reams, or 2,000 sheets. These two deliveries were respectively made at the same time as the sixth and seventh consignments of Garter paper; and, as the official direction to Messrs. Turner & Co.—the makers of both the Flower and Garter papers—was that the former should be in "quality like that for 4d., and equal to it," we are justified in assuming that pulp taken from the same vat was used indiscriminately for both papers: the similarity in the quality of the two papers continued to be very close, until the use of hand-made paper was abandoned in favour of machine-made, which was, of course, always constant in quality.

As the Garter paper, delivered on the 25th January and the 1st February, 1856, was that known as "safety,"* we have 5,000 sheets of stout, more or less blued Flower paper to account for; and, on the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 28th February, we get further supplies, which, judging from the quality of the contemporaneous Garter paper, were of ordinary thin white paper: these latter amounted to 18,500 sheets, and there was no further delivery by the makers until the 17th July, 1857.

The entire supply of 23,500 sheets was in hand prior to the date (19th March, 1856) of the first creation warrant, and, when the above-mentioned consignment of the 17th July was received, 21,000 sheets had been despatched to the printers, leaving only 2,500 sheets in stock: this shows that, of the 5,000 sheets of "safety" paper, at least 2,500 must have been used—2,000 for the Sixpence, and 500 for the One Shilling.

That the "safety" paper was used to some extent, is also evident from the fact that not only is the *imprimatur* sheet of this value deeply blued, but also that of the One Shilling, struck three months later, on the 27th June, 1856. From this alone, it may fairly be assumed that part of the first creations of the Sixpence and the One Shilling were on the blue "safety" paper, consigned on the 25th of the preceding January.

How many of these sheets were issued we cannot say: evidently none of the One Shilling, as copies on blued paper have not yet been found; but the Sixpence is known on this paper, both in an unused and used condition.

* See page 91 and 92.

SURFACE-PRINTED STAMPS.

PAPER SUPPLIED FOR, AND CREATIONS OF, THE SIXPENCE AND ONE SHILLING.

Orders for Paper.		Consignments of Paper.		Creations.*			Remarks.
Date.	Quantity.	Date.	Quantity.	Date.	Quantity.		
					Sixpence.	One Shilling.	
3 ¹⁰ 55	30=15,000	25 ¹ 56	6= 3,000	19 ³ 56	2,000	—	} Blue safety paper. } From the same vat as the contemporaneous Garter paper. } First white paper.
		1 ² 56	4= 2,000	21 ⁶ 56	—	500	
		8 ² 56	5= 2,500	3 ¹⁰ 56	—	500	
		15 ² 56	12= 6,000	4 ¹¹ 56	3,000	—	
		22 ² 56	10= 5,000	8 ¹¹ 56	—	1,500	
		28 ² 56	10= 5,000	5 ¹ 57	3,500	—	
		17 ⁷ 57	11= 5,500	5 ¹ 57	—	2,000	
		9 ¹⁰ 57	40=20,000	19 ³ 57	5,000	—	
		8 ² 57	50=25,000	3 ⁴ 57	—	1,500	
		15 ⁶ 58	50=25,000 &c.	8 ⁷ 57	—	1,500	
1 ¹¹ 55	30=15,000	17 ⁷ 57	11= 5,500	5 ⁸ 57	4,000	—	— On 25 ³ 56, a certificate was given for 37 reams: i.e., all the consignments to date except the first two, of which half was used.
		30 ⁷ 58	20=10,000	24 ⁹ 57	—	1,500	
		6 ⁸ 58	38=19,000	30 ¹⁰ 57	4,000	—	
		21 ¹ 59	—	5 ¹² 57	—	1,500	
		25 ¹ 59	6,000 &c.	15 ¹² 57	4,000	—	
		6 ¹² 58	4,000	27 ¹ 58	—	1,500	
		21 ¹ 59	—	7 ⁴ 58	4,000	—	
		25 ¹ 59	6,000 &c.	14 ⁵ 58	—	1,500	
		6 ¹² 58	4,000	14 ⁶ 58	4,000	—	
		21 ¹ 59	—	15 ⁷ 58	4,000	—	
Total, 160=80,000	Total, 156=78,000	Totals,	47,500	18,500	} Either the creations in June and July were in anticipation of a supply of paper; or part of the consignment, <i>nominally</i> made in July, was early in June.		

* In the Creation Warrant-book, the "sheets" consist of forty stamps for the Sixpence, and twenty stamps for the One Shilling, but we have reduced them to entire sheets of two hundred and forty each.

† A ream is stated to be five hundred entire sheets.

From the observations and comparison in the above-mentioned letter of the 27th October, 1856, from the Inland Revenue to the Post Office, it would appear that a supply had been delivered prior to the 21st October, evidently printed on the blued "safety" paper, which had a very smooth surface.

Colour.—As in the case of the Fourpence, experiments were made by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., with a view to obtaining a fugitive ink, which would render it impossible to remove the obliteration without, at the same time, affecting the stamp itself. On the 13th September, 1856, Mr. Ormond Hill reported that these experiments had been successful; and the contractors were at once instructed to proceed with the printing: there seems, however, to have been some delay, as the next creation warrant was not signed until the 4th November.

The selected colour was dull lilac, varying much in depth of shade.

Gum.—This was, as usual, pure white gum arabic.

Perforation.—The first perforation of this value took place on the 16th October, 1856, when 148 entire sheets were so dealt with; and on the following day, 333 entire sheets were perforated: in addition to these, 89½ sheets were spoiled during the process, and rejected. The gauge was the usual one of 14 holes to the two centimetres.

Copies, on the white paper, are known imperforate and used.

Creation.—For this issue, 133,500 sheets, equivalent to 32,040,000 stamps, were printed, all, of course, from plate 1.

Remarks.—This surface-printed stamp superseded the embossed one of the same value; but, between the first and second creations of the former, there were orders for the embossed stamp, amounting to several thousands of sheets (of forty each), the last one being given so late as the 3rd October, 1856.

There is an official entry of instructions given on the 9th April, 1856, for "one £1 sheet of 6d. postage to be handed to De La Rue, to be sent to the Prince of Wales, as specimen."

SECOND ISSUE: 1ST DECEMBER, 1862.

Date of Issue.—This has usually been given as "September," but a Post Office Circular of 29th November, 1862, announced that ". . . the arrangement . . . under which the Letters at the lower Corners of Postage Labels are repeated at the upper corners . . . will, on the 1st December and thenceforward, be extended to the 6d. and 1/- labels."

Further, it was only on the 27th August, that the General Post Office was informed that stamps of the new type were being printed; and an interval of two or three months between printing and issuing does not appear to be unreasonably long. The first creation warrant for the new stamp was dated the 21st August, 1862, and was for 6,000 sheets; and the earliest copy known to us is postmarked on the date above given.

The first supply to the General Post Office was despatched on the 7th November, 1862, and consisted of 5,000 specimen stamps, evidently for distribution amongst the various Post Offices.

Design. (Die II.)—The decision to have small letters inserted at the four corners of the stamps, was come to on the 4th February, 1862; and a new die was accordingly prepared.

The design differed only slightly from that of die I, the head of the Queen being retouched and some few alterations being made in the framework. The corner ornaments were replaced by small square coloured blocks, for the reception of the check-

letters in small white *sans serif* capitals; the exterior angles of the spandrels were brought to a right angle; and the ends of the tablets containing the inscriptions were squared. The inscriptions were unchanged, but a hyphen was inserted between the words "SIX" and "PENCE", in the lower tablet.

There were no plate-numbers on the stamps, but plate 4 was distinguished by fine white lines drawn across the exterior angles of the letter-blocks. (*Illustrations 35 and 34.*)

Plate.—For this issue plates 3 and 4 were used.

(*State II.*)—The arrangement of the panes continued to be as in State I, but certain marginal alterations were made: the indication of value, POSTAGE SIX PENCE, was omitted from the top and bottom margins of the plate, and the plate- and current-numbers were inserted, the former in white on colour, within an oval, above the third stamp of the last pane in the top row, and below the second stamp in the first pane of the bottom row; and the latter, in the usual oblong frame, at the opposite corners of the plate. The check-letters ran from "A. A." to "L. L." (*Diagram J.*)

Plate 3, registered on the 17th October, 1861, was at press from the 9th September in the following year, until the 11th April, 1864; and plate 4, approved on the 15th April, 1862, was brought into use on the day on which the earlier plate was discarded: both were destroyed on the 11th April, 1866. There are no official records as to the printings, but paper warrants for 49,000 sheets were signed whilst plate 3 was at press; and, after a somewhat elaborate calculation, we find that plate 4 yielded only 18,000 impressions.

Paper.—This was the ordinary white paper, watermarked with heraldic emblems as in the previous issue.

Colour.—Dull lilac, in varying shades, as used for the printings from plate 1.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—16,080,000 stamps, of which 11,040,000 were from plate 3 and the remainder from plate 4.

Remarks.—The earliest known used copy of plate 4 is dated the 20th June, 1864, a little over two months from the time it was put to press.

THIRD ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1865.

Date of Issue.—The earliest known copy is postmarked on the above date, which is generally accepted as that of the issue.

Design. (*Die III.*)—For this issue, though the general design was retained, the die was re-engraved, the frame being altered, and the circle enclosing the head reduced in size: there were also some changes in the profile of Her Majesty. The coloured letter-blocks, inserted in the corners of the frame, were now to bear large white *sans serif* capitals, in place of the small letters previously employed. The reticulated tablets at the sides of the stamp were shortened; and, in the spaces thus left between them and the letter-blocks, small white circles were introduced, each of the two upper containing a small white star on colour, whilst in each of the two lower the plate-number, also in white on colour, was inserted.

The hyphen in the lower tablet is shorter and thicker, than in the preceding die. (*Illustration 36.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plates 5 and 6 were in use.

(*State III.*)—This arrangement was practically similar to that of State II, the sole difference being that the cross at the top and bottom of the plate was larger, and was not exactly opposite to the centre of a stamp. (*See Diagram J.*)

Plate 5, approved on the 30th December, 1864, was at press from the succeeding 4th January until the 15th July, 1867, and yielded 62,000 impressions.

(*State IV.*)—The difference was again very slight, the former size of cross being reverted to, and the plate- and current-numbers being placed farther from the panes.

Plate 6, registered on the 5th December, 1865, was put to press on the 22nd November, 1866, and was in use at the termination of this issue, having apparently given (on the paper of the issue) some 12,000 entire sheets. (*See Diagram J.*)

Paper.—There was no change in the paper, that watermarked with heraldic emblems being used.

Impressions from plate 5 may be found on a comparatively thick paper, in which the watermark is almost invisible.

Colour.—This still remained a dull lilac, varying in shade.

Gum.—As previously.

Perforation.—Of the usual gauge.

Creation.—Probably 17,760,000 stamps, of which 14,880,000 were from plate 5, and 2,880,000 from plate 6.

The total printing from plate 6 was 72,000 entire sheets; but, as both the heraldic emblems paper, and that watermarked with a spray of rose adopted for the subsequent issues, were used for it, we have to look to the paper-warrant book to enable us to ascertain the relative proportions of the two papers.

The first warrant for spray of rose paper, for this value, was dated the 6th April, 1867, and was for 6,000 sheets. At this date, plates 5 and 6 were both at press, but we have not seen, or heard of, any copies from the earlier plate printed on this paper: probably, plate 5 was only nominally at press. Before plate 6 was taken from press on the 21st November, 1868, spray of rose paper had been supplied to the extent of 60,000 sheets, the last warrant being dated the 19th October in that year. The next warrant was on the 1st December following, when there was not any plate at press, and was evidently intended for plate 8, which succeeded plate 6. We thus obtain, as the production of plate 6, during this issue, 12,000 entire sheets, equivalent to 2,880,000 stamps.

Remarks.—On the 3rd July, 1867, there was a paper warrant (not included in the above figures) for six sheets: these, no doubt originally intended for plate 7, which was subsequently found to be imperfect, appear to have been kept in hand for the registration of plate 8, on the 23rd January, 1868, the next *small* warrant not being until the 4th February of the following year.

A variety of this stamp, supposed to be printed from plate 5 on unwatermarked paper, and known as the "Maltese" Sixpence, has occasionally been chronicled. The specimens are on thick paper, in which it is extremely difficult to trace the watermark, but it is clear that no printings ever took place on any but the duly authorised paper.

FOURTH ISSUE: JUNE, 1867.

Date of Issue.—The only difference between this and the preceding issue being in the paper, there was no official intimation of the change, and we have to rely on such evidence as is afforded by dated copies.

The first warrant for the new spray of rose paper to be supplied for the printing of this value, was on the 6th April, 1867; and the earliest postmarked copy known to us is dated the 22nd June following.

Design. (Die III.)—As in the last issue. (*Illustration 36.*)

Plate.—Only one plate, no. 6, was used.

(*State IV.*)—This arrangement of the plate has already been described.

Plate 6, at press prior to the change of paper, continued in use until the 21st November, 1868, having then yielded, for this issue, 60,000 impressions.

Paper.—The stamps of this issue were printed on the machine-made spray of rose paper, described on page 82. (*Diagram F.*)

Colour.—The ink still continued to be of a dull lilac colour, varying in shade; but, on the 24th March, 1868, it was decided to “change colour to the lilac approved “by the Board”: this was of a much brighter tone, approaching somewhat to violet, and may be designated as bright lilac. The earliest copy in this latter shade is, so far as we are aware, postmarked the 22nd July, 1868.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—The usual machine-perforation, gauging 14.

Creation.—From the remarks under this heading in the preceding issue, it will have been seen that, of the total creation from plate 6 of this value, 60,000 sheets, equivalent to 14,400,000 stamps, were printed on the spray of rose paper.

Remarks.—We estimate that 24,000 sheets were printed in the bright lilac shade.

FIFTH ISSUE: MARCH, 1869.

Date of Issue.—This is usually given as April, but a copy from plate 8, the first used for this issue, is known with a postmark dated the 12th March, 1869. The characteristic of this issue being a very slight alteration in the design, no official notification was given of the proposed change.

Design. (Die IV.)—The principal, and practically the only, difference between this and die III, consists in the omission of the hyphen between the words “SIX” and “PENCE” in the lower tablet. (*Illustration 37.*)

Plate.—Four plates, nos. 7, 8, 9 and 10, were prepared, but the first was never used, and the last to a very limited extent only.

(*State V.*)—This arrangement of the plate is similar to that of State IV, but the marginal inscription of POSTAGE SIX PENCE was printed in type with a slightly different face. (*See Diagram J.*)

Plate 7, being found to be defective, was never put to press or registered: it was destroyed on the 25th March, 1868; but plate 8, approved on the 23rd January, 1868, was in use from the 18th December following to the 3rd May, 1870, and yielded 60,500 impressions.

(*State VI.*)—The marginal plate-number was now on colour, within a circle, and was placed a little nearer the pane than formerly.

Plate 9, registered on the 20th February, 1869, was put to press on the 3rd May, 1870, and continued in use until the 6th March, 1872, during which period 55,500 sheets were printed from it.

Plate 10 approved on the 1st April, 1869, was never brought into use, as, before it became necessary to print from it, a change of type was decided upon. Although only one sheet of paper was ordered specially for this plate, it is evident that more than one impression was taken, as a used copy, on the original letter, has been seen

by us: possibly part of a small requisition about this date—24 sheets for this and two other values—was used. The plate was destroyed on the 27th May, 1872.

Paper.—This was the spray of rose paper, of the previous issue.

Colour.—Lilac, deep lilac and purple-lilac for plate 8; and the latter colour for plates 9 and 10: varying shades of both.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—The usual 14-gauge; but copies from plates 8 and 9 are known imperforate, having been so issued.

Creation.—Including the customary five extra sheets, presumably printed from plate 10, the total production was 27,341,200 stamps, of which 14,520,000 were from plate 8, 12,820,000 from plate 9, and 1,200 from plate 10.

Remarks.—Owing to the great similarity between the colour of this value and that of the then current One Penny Inland Revenue stamp, it was decided to change the colour of the former; and, at the same time, the design was ordered to be altered, so as not to so closely resemble that of the Fourpence and Tenpence.

SIXTH ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1872.

Date of Issue.—The following Circular announced the impending alterations in the stamps of this value, and the issue appears to have taken place on the above date:—

“CIRCULAR TO POSTMASTERS WHO OBLITERATE STAMPS.

“SIXPENNY POSTAGE STAMPS.

“NEW PATTERN.

“Sixpenny stamps differing from the present pattern, are about to be issued. A specimen is annexed to this notice for the information of the postmasters concerned.

“Any stocks of the present Sixpenny stamps remaining on hand should continue to be sold to the public until they are exhausted.

“GENERAL POST OFFICE,

“March, 1872.

“JOHN TILLEY,

“Secretary.”

Design. (Die V.)—This differs very materially from the design of the previous issues, and consists of the usual diademed profile of Queen Victoria, to left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, enclosed in a white hexagonal frame, the lateral angles of which extend to the edges of the stamp. The upper and lower parts of the hexagon are continued up to the exterior frame, forming white tablets for the inscriptions, which are respectively “POSTAGE” and “SIXPENNY”, both in coloured *sans serif* capitals. The spandrels in the upper corners are filled in with rosaces and other conventional ornamentation: those in the lower corners contain the plate-number, in white on colour, within a small circle.

The check-letters are large white *sans serif* capitals, on square coloured blocks. In size and shape, the stamp remains as in the former issues. (*Illustration 38.*)

Plate.—Only two plates, nos. 11 and (to a very limited extent) 12, were in use.

(*State VI.*)—Already described.

Plate 11, registered on the 5th January, 1872, was put to press on the 25th of the same month, and was being printed from at the termination of this issue: from the paper warrants, it appears that only 20,000 sheets (exclusive of the six printed at the time of approval) were struck from the plate in the colour of this issue.

Plate 12, approved on the 22nd April, 1872, was not put to press for this issue;

but the spare sheets, struck at the time of registration, were evidently issued, as a used copy, postmarked Newcastle-on-Tyne, August 24th, 1872, was discovered early in 1896 by Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen. *have*

Paper.—The spray of rose paper still continued in use.

Colour.—A bright chesnut-brown, in dark and light shades.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—There were only four paper warrants for this issue :—22nd December, 1871, 6 sheets (for registration of plate 11, in chesnut-brown); 10th January, 1872, 10,000 sheets; 25th March, 1872, 6 sheets (for registration of plate 12, in light chesnut-brown); and 4th April, 1872, 10,000 sheets. As the *imprimatur* sheet of plate 12 was actually printed on the 22nd April, eighteen days after the last of these warrants, it may reasonably be argued that the impressions on the above 20,012 sheets were all in chesnut-brown. It is not likely that the contractors would make up a special supply of ink, for printing the six sheets from plate 12: the course they probably adopted, was to take advantage of the fact that they were running a press, early in April, for the last order of 10,000 sheets, and, after completing it, to put plate 12 on the press and print off the necessary impressions whilst the usual colour was still being used.

On the above hypothesis, we have (excluding those printed at the time of registration) 20,000 sheets equivalent to 4,800,000 stamps, from plate 11; and 5 sheets, or 1,200 stamps, from plate 12.

Remarks.—The *imprimatur* sheet of plate 11 is printed in a very fine shade of dark chesnut-brown, with a tinge of bronze in it, quite different from the colour of the stamps as issued.

SEVENTH ISSUE: OCTOBER, 1872.

Date of Issue.—Although this has always been given as June, 1872, we venture to place it four months later, for the following reasons. Under the heading of "*Creation*" in the preceding issue, we endeavoured to show the probability that the supply of 10,000 sheets, on the 4th April, was all used for printing in chesnut-brown: if so, the earliest use of the new colour, pale buff (which is the characteristic of this issue), could not have been prior to the 12th August, 1872, the date of the next paper warrant for this value. Further, the earliest known copy in *light* chesnut-brown, the colour of the April printing, is dated so late as the 28th August; and the majority of the stamps of this value, issued as late as November, were in chesnut-brown.

Design. (Die V.)—This was unchanged. (*Illustration* 38.)

Plate.—Only plates 11 and 12 were actually at press for this issue; but, as the spare sheets from plate 13 (Die VI*), struck at the time of registration, were issued together with those from plates 11 and 12, we have—perhaps, not quite correctly—included them.

(*State VI.*)—There was no alteration in the arrangement of the plate.

Plate 11, in use at the commencement of this issue, remained at press until the 29th November, 1872, having then yielded a total of 35,000 impressions, of which 20,000 belong to the prior issue, and 15,000 to this; and plate 12, registered on the 22nd April, 1872, was put to press on the 30th October following, and was being

* See page 114.

employed, when the colour was again changed: apparently, only 5,000 sheets were printed for this issue.

Plate 13, from a new die and registered on the 21st December, 1872, was not put to press until the 11th December in the following year; but the spare registration sheets were evidently issued, as used copies are known.

Paper.—That watermarked with spray of rose.

Colour.—Varying shades of buff.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—The usual machine-perforation, gauging 14.

Creation.—According to the paper warrants, 20,005 sheets, equivalent to 4,801,200 stamps: of these 3,600,000 were from plate 11, 1,200,000 from plate 12, and 1,200 from plate 13.

Remarks.—We have been somewhat puzzled as to how to deal with the abnormal variety of plate 13 in buff: in colour it belongs to this issue, but, if placed according to design, it should be classed with the ninth issue, which commenced early in 1874. Strictly speaking, it is an issue in itself; but it would appear to be more convenient to include it with the issue during which it was actually used, and with which it agrees in colour.

EIGHTH ISSUE: (END OF) APRIL, 1873.

Date of Issue.—We have post-dated the issue for nearly a month (the usually accepted date being the 1st April), relying on a Post Office Circular of the 21st of that month, which announced that “Sixpenny Postage Stamps, differing in colour from those now in use, are about to be issued.”

Design. (Die V.)—There was no alteration. (*Illustration 38.*)

Plate.—Only one plate, no. 12, was in use for this issue.

(*State VI.*)—We have described this arrangement.

Plate 12, put to press during the last issue, remained in use until the 10th October, 1873, by which time it had yielded 35,000 sheets, of which, deducting the 5,000 printed in buff, 30,000 may be allocated to this issue.

Paper.—That watermarked with a spray of rose.

Colour.—A further change took place in the colour, the one now selected being a greenish-grey, varying, as usual, in depth of shade.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—The ordinary gauge of 14 to the two centimetres.

Creation.—As shown above, 30,000 sheets, equivalent to 7,200,000 stamps, all from plate 12.

NINTH ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1874.

Date of Issue.—The Post Office Circular of the 11th August, 1873, which announced the decision to print the corner-letters in colour instead of in white, stated that “this alteration . . . is about to be made in the 6d. stamps.” The earliest copy, so far as we are aware, is postmarked on the above date.

Design. (Die VI.)—The general appearance remained as in the previous die, but the frame was altered, being reduced in width by a quarter of a millimetre. The hexagon was reduced in size, so that its upper right side almost touches the chignon; and

a small white disc, for the insertion of the plate-number, was introduced at each of its side angles. The depth of the lower tablet was slightly increased, and the space between the words "SIX" and "PENCE" was decreased. The check-letters were now coloured *sans serif* capitals, on square white blocks, and the spandrels were filled in with ornamental tracery. (*Illustration 39.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plates 13 to 17, both inclusive, and possibly plate 18 to a very limited extent, were used.

(*State VI.*)—This has been described.

Plate 13, registered in buff, during the seventh issue, was at press from the 11th December, 1873, until the 19th October in the following year; plate 14, approved on the 25th July, 1873, was in use from the 16th October, 1874, up to the 10th September, 1875; plate 15, registered on the 15th July, 1874, remained at press from the 26th November, 1875, until the 3rd of the same month in the year 1877; and plate 16, approved on the 23rd September, 1875, was put to press on the 2nd November, 1876, and was not discarded until the 14th January, 1880: each of these plates produced 35,000 impressions. Plate 17, registered on the 13th December, 1877, was not brought into use until the 21st April, 1880, and it was still at press on the termination of this issue: there is no record as to its production. Plate 18, approved on the 15th July, 1880, was not put to press during this issue, but the usual five spare sheets were probably issued with the stamps printed from the other plates.

Paper.—The spray of rose paper previously described.

Colour.—This remained a greenish-grey, as in the preceding issue, varying in depth of shade.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14. Copies from plates 13 and 16 are known imperforate and used.

Creation.—Probably 37,201,200 stamps: 3,600,000 from plate 17; 1,200 from plate 18; and 8,400,000 from each of the other plates.

As four plates, nos. 13 to 16, produced 140,000 impressions in a little over six years, we may fairly assume that plate 17 yielded 15,000 sheets in the seven months it was in use prior to the change of paper; and we have calculated its production on that basis.

Remarks.—No copies of plate 18 on spray of rose paper have as yet been discovered, but they presumably have existed.

TENTH ISSUE: 1ST JANUARY, 1881.

Date of Issue.—There was no official announcement of the issue, but it apparently took place on the above date.

Design. (Die VI.)—It remained unaltered. (*Illustration 39.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plates 17 and 18 were used.

(*State VII.*)—Both plates (which, when first registered, were of State VI) were altered, on the change of paper, by having the six upper panes brought together into one pane, and the six lower into another, thus forming two large panes, one above the other.

This arrangement of the plate was precisely similar to that described under State III of the Twopence Halfpenny, on page 77, and the same remarks apply.

The hexagonal division ornaments, showing where each pane could be divided

into three Post-office sheets of forty stamps, and of the facial value of £1, were disposed as follows:—at the top, in the central space, and at the bottom of the plate, opposite, in each case, to the intervals between the fourth and fifth and also between the eighth and ninth vertical rows: the ornaments within the space were entire, but the others were only demi-hexagons, with the apex towards the stamps. The lettering in the corners remained as before. (*See Diagram N.*)

Plate 17, at press during the preceding issue, was re-registered on the 25th February, 1881, and was taken from press on the 19th July, 1882; and plate 18, registered on the 15th July, 1880, on spray of rose paper, and subsequently re-registered on the 12th January, 1882 (after the change of paper) was brought into use early in 1882, and was still being printed from at the termination of this issue.

Paper.—That with the large (1880) crown watermark. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Greenish-grey continued to be the colour used for this value.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—There are no records from which the printings can be ascertained.

Remarks.—This stamp—the number of the plate was not stated—has been chronicled as existing imperforate; we have never seen the variety.

ELEVENTH ISSUE: 1ST JANUARY, 1883.

Date of Issue.—In the December of 1882, the Post Office authorities announced that this issue would commence on the first of the following month.

Design. (Die VI.)—So far as the design of the stamp was concerned, there was no alteration; but the impressions were overprinted “6d”, similarly to those of the Three-pence stamps, issued at the same time, which also bore an additional indication of their value. There were four minor varieties of the overprint, dependent on the position and number of the dots under the letter “d”: these are dealt with under “*Remarks.*” (*Illustration 40.*)

Plate.—Only plate no. 18 was used for this overprinted issue.

(*State VII.*)—Has been described.

Plate 18, which had already been at press during the preceding issue, was re-registered, with overprint, on the 23rd November, 1882, and was destroyed on the 13th January, 1886, some two years after its use had been discontinued.

Paper.—With the large (1880) crown watermark, as in the last issue.

Colour.—The stamp proper was printed in a doubly-fugitive purple, with the overprint in a full shade of pink: both colours varied slightly in shade.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—We have not been able to find any record as to the number of these stamps.

Remarks.—The space between the “d” of the overprint and the dots below is, in some instances $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm., and in others only $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm. Occasionally, copies are to be met with, on which there is but one dot; and, on all the sheets printed, the stamp lettered “ $\frac{1}{6}$ d.” (*Illustration 41*) was, probably through some accident to the overprinting plate, without either of the dots: the *imprimatur* sheet shows this variety.

This was the last issue of this type of the Sixpence, which was superseded, on the 1st April, 1884, by the “Postage & Inland Revenue” stamp of the same value.

See p. 158.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with Heraldic Emblems ; no letters in angles ; Plate 1 (no number on the stamps).

(a) Medium "safety" paper, varying slightly in thickness, and slightly blued ("mottled") ; perforated 14.

21st October, 1856.—Sixpence, dull lilac.

(b) Ordinary white paper.

21st October, 1856.—Sixpence, dull lilac (many shades), perforated 14.

Variety.

Sixpence, dull lilac, imperforate.

SECOND ISSUE.

Die II.—Ordinary white paper watermarked with Heraldic Emblems ; small white letters in angles ; Plates 3 and 4 (no numbers on the stamps, but the latter distinguishable by special marks) ; perforated 14.

1st December, 1862.—Sixpence, dull lilac (shades).

THIRD ISSUE.

Die III.—Paper watermarked with Heraldic Emblems ; large white letters in angles ; Plates 5 and 6 ; perforated 14.

1st April, 1865.—Sixpence, dull lilac (shades).

Variety.

Sixpence, dull lilac, on stout paper, Plate 5.

FOURTH ISSUE.

Die III.—Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; large white letters in angles ; Plate 6 ; perforated 14.

June, 1867.—Sixpence, dull lilac (shades).

July, 1868.—Sixpence, bright lilac (shades).

FIFTH ISSUE.

Die IV.—Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; large white letters in angles ; Plates 8, 9 and (to a very limited extent) 10.

March, 1869.—Sixpence, lilac, deep lilac, purple-lilac (shades of each), Plate 8 ; purple-lilac (shades), Plates 9 and 10 ; perforated 14.

Varieties.

Sixpence, purple-lilac, Plates 8 and 9, imperforate.

SIXTH ISSUE.

Die V.—Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; large white letters in angles ; Plates 11 and (to a very limited extent) 12 ; perforated 14.

1st April, 1872.—Sixpence, bright chesnut-brown (dark and light shades).

SEVENTH ISSUE.

Die V.—Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; large white letters in angles ; Plates 11 and 12 ; perforated 14.

October, 1872.—Sixpence, buff (shades).

Variety.

Die VI.—Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; large coloured letters in angles ; Plate 13 (to a very limited extent) ; perforated 14.
(early in) 1873.—Sixpence, buff.

EIGHTH ISSUE.

Die V.—Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; large white letters in angles ; Plate 12 ; perforated 14.
(end of) April, 1873.—Sixpence, greenish-grey (shades).

NINTH ISSUE.

Die VI.—Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; large coloured letters in angles ; Plates 13 to 17, and (to a very limited extent) 18.
1st April, 1874.—Sixpence, greenish-grey (shades), perforated 14.

Varieties.

Sixpence, greenish-grey, Plates 13 and 16, imperforate.

TENTH ISSUE.

Die VI.—Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; large coloured letters in angles ; Plates 17 and 18.
1st January, 1881.—Sixpence, greenish-grey, perforated 14.

ELEVENTH ISSUE.

Die VI.—Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; large coloured letters in angles ; Plate 18 ; perforated 14.
1st January, 1883.—Sixpence, purple (shades), overprinted with value in deep pink :—

- (a) Narrow space between “d” and dots of overprint :
(b) Wide space ” ” ” ”

Varieties.

With only one dot under “d” of overprint.
Without dots, on stamp lettered “1. 0. 1.”

(e) THE EIGHTPENCE.

ISSUE : 11TH SEPTEMBER, 1876.

Date of Issue.—The hitherto accepted date has been the 1st September ; but that this is incorrect is shown by a Post Office Notice, dated the 4th September, 1876, which announced that : “ On and after 11th instant, Postage stamps of the value of 8d. “ will be sold to the Public. They are issued for correspondence with India and “ Australia.”

It was originally intended to issue this value by the 1st July, but it was found impossible to prepare the plate, and print a supply of the stamps, by that date, on which the reduction in certain of the postage rates was to take effect. On the 28th August, the Inland Revenue, after informing the Post Office that they had a supply of £50,000 worth of the Eightpence stamp, suggested that the issue should take place on the 4th proximo ; this supply must have been part of the printing in chrome-yellow ;

but, for reasons we have not been able to trace, the issue was delayed for an additional week, which brings us to the date given above.

Design.—This consists of the diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, within a wide border, the exterior perpendicular lines of which are on the edge of the stamp. The upper and lower portions of the border, which are curved and touch the frame of the stamp at the top and bottom, are inscribed "POSTAGE" and "EIGHTPENCE" respectively, in coloured *sans serif* capitals. In the middle of each side border is a white disc, for the insertion of the plate-number; and plain square white blocks, for the check-letters, are introduced into the four angles: the rest of the design is filled up with conventional ornamentation. The stamp is upright rectangular in shape, measuring $18\frac{3}{4}$ mm. by $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 42.*)

It appears that, on the 29th April, 1876, the Inland Revenue submitted to the Postmaster General, for selection, three designs for this stamp, of which one was similar to the then current Tenpence, except as to the indication of value.

The original suggestion for the design of this value, was to utilise the Ninepence die, by substituting the indication of the new value for the original one.

Plate.—Two plates, nos. 1 and 2, were prepared, but, with the exception of the usual five sheets, the entire issue was printed from plate 1.

(*State I.*)—The plate was constructed to contain two hundred and forty stamps, in four panes, arranged two and two, of sixty stamps in each, in ten horizontal rows of six: half a pane constituted a Post-office sheet of the value of £1. Each pane measured 238 mm. ($9\frac{3}{8}$ inches) vertically, by 119 mm. ($4\frac{1}{8}$ inches) horizontally; the horizontal rows of panes were separated by a space 25 mm. deep, and the vertical rows by one $10\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in width. Twice at the external side of each pane, was "POSTAGE EIGHT PENCE." in coloured Roman capitals; and above and below each pane, was the inscription, in Roman letters and Arabic figures, "PRICE. 8 Pence 4 Shillings 1 Pound" per Label. per Row of 6. per Sheet of 30.

Above the eleventh stamp in the top row, and below the second in the bottom one, was the plate-number, in white on colour within a circle; and, at the opposite corners of the plate, was the current-number in the usual oblong frame. As a guide for perforating, a cross was inserted, at the top and bottom of the plate. The lettering on the stamps ran from "A.A." to "T.L." (*Diagram K.*)

Plate 1, registered in purple-brown on 31st July, 1876, was evidently put to press before that date; but there is no further record concerning it, except that of its destruction on the 10th January, 1884. For issue, 19,994 sheets, as we find from the paper warrants, were printed from it.

(*State II.*)—Similar to the preceding state, with the addition, opposite the centre of the exterior side of each of the four panes, of a large arrowhead-shaped ornament, to indicate the point at which a pane could be divided into two Post-office sheets: this ornament is the same as that found on the sheet of the £5, Telegraphs. (*See Diagram K.**)

Plate 2, approved on the 11th September, 1876, was never put to press, but the usual five extra sheets were printed from it, at the time of registration, and were presumably issued.

* Diagram K, plus the division ornaments, as in the £5 Telegraphs, at the exterior side of each pane, would show State II.

Paper.—That watermarked with a large garter, with “MARK” in the margins of the sheet, described in the sixth issue of the Fourpence, on page 100. (*Diagram K.*)

Colour.—As was stated under “*Design*,” one of the essays submitted to the Postmaster-General was similar to the Tenpence, which, in the early part of the year, it had been proposed to withdraw: it was in purple-brown, which colour was selected for the Eightpence value. After the first supply had been prepared, it was feared that the similarity in colour to that of the then current Twopence Halfpenny might lead to confusion; and the issue was, on the 28th July, 1876, postponed, in order to allow the stock to be replaced by a further printing in chrome-yellow. This latter colour varied little in shade, but copies are to be met with in a pure yellow tone.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14. Copies from plate 1 are to be met with imperforate; but it is doubtful if any were so issued.

Creation.—From the official records, we find that only three paper warrants were made out, each for 10,000 sheets, on the 13th June, the 24th July and the 19th August, 1876, respectively: this gives a total creation of 7,200,000 stamps. Of this number, 2,400,000 stamps, which would absorb all the paper ordered by the first warrant, were in purple-brown, and the remaining 4,800,000 in the colour of the issue: of the entire printing, all but 1,200 stamps (and the *imprimatur* of plate 2) were from plate 1.

Remarks.—We believe that practically the entire stock of this value, in purple-brown, was destroyed.

The Eightpence was created to prepay the reduced rate of postage to India, *via* Marseilles (formerly one shilling), and to Australia, *via* Brindisi, and the Brazils (formerly ninepence), which came into force on the 1st July, 1876.

The demand for this stamp was very small, and accordingly a Post Office Circular of the 6th July, 1880, announced that “it has been decided to discontinue the 8d. . . . Postage Stamps;” and no stamp of this value has been on sale since that date.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large Garter; large coloured letters in angles; Plates 1 and (to a very limited extent) 2.

11th September, 1876.—Eightpence, chrome-yellow* (shades), pale yellow; perf. 14.

Variety.

Eightpence, chrome-yellow, Plate 1, imperforate. (?)

(f) THE NINEPENNY.

FIRST ISSUE: 15TH JANUARY, 1862.

Date of Issue.—The issue of this value was announced by a Post Office Circular of the 11th January, 1862, which informed the public that “On the 15th instant, and thenceforth, Postage Stamps, price Nine Pence each, will be issued . . . at all Post Offices;” and the first supply, consisting of 6,668 Post-office sheets of twenty stamps each, was despatched on the 13th January to the Head Office in London.

Design. (Die I.)—This consists of a diademed profile of Queen Victoria to

* Plate 2 is in this colour only.

the left, on a ground of horizontal lines, within a circular-shaped border, composed of nine invected curves, enclosed in a rectangular frame. At the top and bottom of the stamp, are straight white tablets, inscribed "POSTAGE" and "NINE PENCE" respectively in coloured Roman capitals. In the four corners are coloured blocks, for the reception of the check-letters, which are small white *sans serif* capitals; and the spandrels are filled in with a horizontal reticulated pattern. The stamps bear no plate-numbers; but, on those from plate 3, each corner letter-block has a fine white hair-line, drawn across its exterior angle. The stamp is upright rectangular, and measures $18\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustrations 43 and 44.*)

Plate.—Only two plates, nos. 2 and 3, were used for this issue.

(State.)—The plate was constructed to print two hundred and forty stamps, in twelve panes arranged in four horizontal rows of three, each pane containing twenty stamps in five horizontal rows of four, and constituting a Post-office sheet of the facial value of fifteen shillings. The spaces between the horizontal rows of panes were 25 mm. deep, and those between the vertical rows $9\frac{1}{2}$ mm. wide. Each pane measured 119 mm. ($4\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically by $79\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($3\frac{1}{8}$ inches) horizontally.

Above the centre pane in the top row, above each pane in the second and third rows, below the middle pane in the bottom row, and (with the feet of the letters towards the panes) at the exterior sides of the first and third panes in the top and bottom rows, was the inscription "POSTAGE NINE PENCE." in coloured Roman capitals; and below each pane in the first, second and third rows, and above each pane in the fourth row, was the indication of value, thus:—

" PRICE. Ninepence 3 Shillings 15 Shillings "
per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20

Above the eleventh stamp in the first row, and below the second in the last row, was the plate-number in white on colour, within an oval; and, at the opposite corners of the plate, was the current-number in the usual oblong frame. At the top and bottom of the plate, was a cross as a guide for the perforating.

The lettering ran across the plate, extending from "A.A." to "L.T." (*Diagram L.*)

Plate 1, being defective, was never registered, and was destroyed on the 28th November, 1861. Plate 2, registered and put to press on the 14th November, 1861, yielded 6,650 sheets; and plate 3, which was approved on the 8th May following, but never brought into use, gave the usual five spare sheets: these figures we have extracted from the paper warrants. Both these plates were destroyed on the 18th January, 1866.

Paper.—This was the heraldic emblems paper, described on p. 79, under the first issue of the Threepence. (*Diagram L.*)

Colour.—This was originally ochre brown, but at an early stage of the printing, it was changed to a bright bistre.

Gum.—Pure white gum arabic as usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—In all 1,597,200 stamps, all of which, except 1,200, were from plate 2.

Although there is no official record of the printing, we find from the paper-warrant books, that, exclusive of the two sheets in the Archives, there were 7,660 sheets of heraldic emblems paper issued to the printers prior to plate 4 being put to press on the 24th May, 1865. As the next warrant was not until the 29th November, 1865, it follows that the previous one of the 26th April, for 1,000 sheets, must have been for plate 4, as otherwise it could not have been put to press, and only one plate was in use at a time. This leaves 6,650 sheets for plate 2, and 10 sheets between plates 3

and 4 : of the former, some were certainly perforated and issued, as used copies have long been known ; the latter belong to the next issue.

Remarks.—This value was originally issued to pay the postage to India *viâ* Southampton, to Australia *viâ* Marseilles, and to the Brazils.

Plate 3 is, of course, the well-known stamp, usually spoken of as the “Ninepence, “hair-lines:” it exists both perforated and imperforate, though only issued in the former condition, in which unused copies are of very great rarity.

SECOND ISSUE: 1ST DECEMBER, 1865.

Date of Issue.—We have been unsuccessful in finding any official notification of this issue, but we have no reason to consider the above date as other than correct.

Design. (Die II.)—This is to a great extent similar to die I, but the frame was changed, and the profile of Her Majesty’s head altered. Small bracket-like ornaments were inserted in the spandrels, each of the upper ones being occupied with an eight-rayed star, whilst, on each of the lower, the plate-number, in white figures on colour, was inserted. Large coloured blocks, for the reception of the check-letters, in large white *sans serif* capitals, were placed in the four angles. The reticulated background runs vertically, instead of horizontally as in the previous issue. (*Illustration 45.*)

Plate.—Two plates only, nos. 4 and (to a very limited extent) 5, were printed from.

(State.)—The arrangement of these two plates was, save for an extremely slight alteration in the disposition of the lines forming the crosses at the top and bottom, exactly the same as that of the plates used in the last issue ; and, the difference being so very minute, we feel justified in placing them all under one State. (*Diagram L.*)

Plate 4, approved on the 27th February, 1865, was put to press on the succeeding 24th May, and was in use at the termination of this issue, for which it provided 3,005 sheets ; and plate 5, registered on the 24th April, 1866, though never put to press, yielded the five spare sheets, as was usual in such cases. Both these plates were destroyed on the 10th January, 1884.

Paper.—The heraldic emblems paper continued to be used for this issue.

Colour.—Bistre-brown and straw, varying slightly in shade.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—We believe only 722,400 stamps, of which 1,200 were from plate 5.

Remarks.—Again we have no official record as to the number of sheets printed ; but the paper warrants show 6 sheets (including that for the *imprimatur*) for each plate, and three supplies of 1,000 sheets each, of which the first was a month before, and the second six months after, plate 4 had been put to press.

Both these stamps are scarce, especially those from plate 5, of which only a few copies are known ; but it was undoubtedly issued, as a used specimen, on the original letter, has recently been discovered.

THIRD ISSUE: OCTOBER, 1867.

Date of Issue.—Various dates—1st March, 1867 ; early in 1868 ; and 1st March, 1869—have been assigned for this issue : the first, which is possibly a misprint for 1868 or 1869, is clearly incorrect, as the earliest warrant for the spray of rose paper—the characteristic of this issue—was only made out on the 12th September, 1867. The paper warrants for the Ninepence, at this period, were as follows :—of heraldic emblems : 29th November, 1865, 1,000 sheets ; 20th April, 1866, six sheets ; and

10th September, 1866, 1,000 sheets; and of spray of rose: 12th September, 1867, 500 sheets; 24th February, 1868, 1,000 sheets; 27th February, 1868, 1,000 sheets; and 19th January, 1869, 1,000 sheets. Judging from these supplies, there was not, on the date of the first spray of rose warrant, a large stock in hand, and this supposition is borne out by the fact that there were two further warrants immediately after the lapse of five and a half months. These latter would not have been signed unless required; and we consider that it may be reasonably assumed, that some of the September, 1867, printing was issued in the following month, and that stamps on the new paper were in general use early in 1868.

Design. (Die II.)—This has been described. (*Illustration 45.*)

Plate.—For this issue, only plate 4, which was put to press during the preceding issue, was in use.

(State.)—The arrangement was unaltered. Plate 4 remained at press until the value went out of use, and yielded a further 23,500 sheets: it was destroyed, as was stated above, on the 10th January, 1884.

Paper.—This was the spray of rose paper, described under the third issue of the Threepence, on page 82. (*Diagram F.*)

Colour.—Dull and bright shades of straw.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14; but copies are to be met with imperforate.

Creation.—Although there is no statement in the official records, there is no doubt as to the numbers printed, as the paper warrants disclose requisitions for 23,500 sheets, equivalent to 5,640,000 stamps.

Remarks.—During the ten years of this issue, there were only fourteen paper warrants, one for 500 sheets, three for 1,000 each, and ten for 2,000 each.

From an official return, it appears that 7,635,080 stamps of this value were issued, up to the end of 1879—four years after its withdrawal. A destruction of 230,660 stamps, which took place in December, 1876, and an assumed waste or spoilage of 93,860, will account for the difference between the issue and the total printing of 7,959,600.

In December, 1872, an entirely new die was constructed, and approved, but no plate was made. (*Illustration 46.*)

In consequence of the reduction, early in 1876, of the postage rates to Australia, *viâ* Brindisi, and to the Brazils, from ninepence to eightpence, and the increase of that to India, *viâ* Southampton, from ninepence to tenpence, the demand for this value became very small, and it was finally withdrawn in December, 1877; and, to provide a stamp of eightpence, it was proposed, in March, 1876, to utilise the ninepence die by substituting a new value for the original one: the suggestion was not, however, carried out.

A ninepence stamp was not again on sale, until the issue of April, 1884, which included that value.

Augt 1883.

ec 1/2. 159.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with Heraldic Emblems; small white letters in angles; Plate 2 (no number on the stamps), and (to a very limited extent) Plate 3 (with "hair-lines"); perforated 14.

15th January, 1862. —Ninepence, ochre-brown, bright bistre* (shades of both).

* Plate 3 is in this colour only.

SECOND ISSUE.

Die II.—Paper watermarked with Heraldic Emblems ; large white letters in angles ; Plates 4 and (to a very limited extent) 5 * ; perforated 14.

1st December, 1865.—Ninepence, bistre-brown, straw (shades of both).

THIRD ISSUE.

Die II.—Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; large white letters in angles ; Plate 4.

October, 1867.—Ninepence, straw (shades), perforated 14.

Variety.

Ninepence, straw, imperforate.

(g) THE TENPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST JULY, 1867.

Date of Issue.—On the 3rd September, 1866, the Postmaster-General informed the Inland Revenue authorities that he was anxious to issue a stamp of this value ; and he enquired if he could be furnished with a supply of the Tenpence, embossed, of which he then had a small stock. The Board replied in the negative, as the old machines and dies had been destroyed, but that they had ordered surface-printed stamps of the required value to be at once prepared. The issue was announced by the following

“ CIRCULAR TO POSTMASTERS WHO OBLITERATE STAMPS.

“ NEW POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE VALUE OF TEN PENCE, TWO SHILLINGS AND
“ FIVE SHILLINGS.

“ On the 1st July next and thenceforth, Postage Stamps of the values of Tenpence,
“ Two Shillings and Five Shillings will be issued for sale to the Public.

“ Specimens of these Stamps are annexed

“ JOHN TILLEY,
“ *Secretary.*”

“ GENERAL POST OFFICE,
“ 10th June, 1867.”

For the purpose of enclosure with this circular, 4,000 specimen stamps were supplied to the General Post Office.

Design.—Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, within a single-lined circle, which is enclosed in a double-lined rectangular frame. Above, following the curve of the circle, and touching it and the frame, is a white tablet, inscribed “ POSTAGE ” ; and below the circle a straight white tablet, lettered “ TEN PENCE ” : both inscriptions are in coloured *sans serif* capitals. The spandrels are plain ; and, in the four angles of the frame, are coloured blocks, for the reception of the check-letters, in white *sans serif* capitals. Immediately above each of the lower letter-blocks is the plate number, in white on colour, within a circle. The stamp is upright rectangular in shape, and measures 19 mm. by 22½ mm. (*Illustration 47.*)

Plate.—Plate 1, and (to a very limited extent) plate 2 were used.

* Plate 5 is in this colour only.

(*State.*)—The plate was made up of twelve panes, arranged in four horizontal rows of three, each containing twenty stamps in five horizontal rows of four, and constituting a Post-office sheet of the facial value of sixteen shillings and eightpence. Each pane measured 119 mm. ($4\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically, by 79½ mm. ($3\frac{1}{8}$ inches) horizontally; the spaces between the horizontal rows of panes were 25 mm. deep, and those between the vertical rows 9½ mm. wide.

Above the middle pane in the first row, above each in the second and third rows, and below the centre pane of the bottom row, and also (with the feet of the letters towards the stamps) at the exterior side of the first and last panes in the top and bottom rows, was the inscription "POSTAGE TEN PENCE." in coloured Roman capitals. Below each pane in the first, second and third rows, and above each in the fourth row, was the indication of value, in Arabic numerals and Roman letters :—

" PRICE: Tenpence 3s. 4d 16s. 8d. "
 per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20

The plate-number, in white on colour, within an oval frame, appeared above the eleventh stamp in the first row, and below the second in the last row, and, at the opposite corners of the plate, was the current-number, in colour, within the usual oblong frame. At the top and bottom of the plate was a small cross, as a guide for perforating.

The lettering ran from "A.A." to "L.T." (*See Diagram L*.*)

Plate 1, registered on the 22nd March, 1867, was put to press on the same day, and continued in use throughout the issue, producing 14,000 sheets; and Plate 2, approved on the 30th August, 1867, though never formally at press, yielded the usual five sheets, which were put into stock and issued.

Paper.—This was the spray of rose paper, described under the third issue of the Threepence, on page 82. (*Diagram F.*)

Colour.—Red-brown, varying in shade.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14; but copies from plate 1 may be found imperforate.

Creation.—Although there is no official record, the paper warrants show that only 14,005 sheets, or 3,361,200 stamps, were printed; and, of these, all were from plate 1, with the exception of five sheets, or 1,200 stamps, from plate 2. Of this small quantity, 195,660 stamps were destroyed in December, 1876, leaving an issue of little more than three and one-sixth millions.

Remarks.—This value was created to prepay the postage to Australia, *via* Marseilles, the increased rate (formerly ninepence) to India, *via* Southampton, and that to the Mauritius. In 1870, the first of these was reduced; and, in 1876, the Indian rate became eightpence, and the postage to Mauritius sixpence halfpenny: consequently, the demand for Tenpence stamps gradually fell off, until, in September, 1877, it was declared "out of stock."

From an official memorandum, it appears that the Postmaster at Hull issued some stamps of this value on the 17th June, a fortnight before the advertised date.

Copies of plate 2 are rare, and most of the known used specimens, found on their original envelopes, prepaid letters from Messrs. Crosse & Blackwell, of Soho Square, London, to their Indian correspondents; we have also seen an unused, though rather soiled, copy, which is now in a well-known collection.

* Diagram L, *mutatis mutandis*, would show the State of this value.

There is, however, a much scarcer variety of this value, namely, the small printing from plate 1 on the heraldic emblems paper, which, when this value was created, was being superseded by that watermarked spray of rose. This was a printers' error, contrary to instructions; and it was not analogous to the printing of the One Pound, 1884, on orb paper (mentioned in dealing with that value), which was a mistake, not of the printers, but of the official who made out the warrant and inadvertently inserted the number of sheets required in the wrong column. We know of two used copies of the error, both in a deepish shade of red-brown: the one is lettered "L.L." and bears the Constantinople postmark; the other is lettered "K.S." and was used in London on the 11th November, 1867.

In December, 1872, a new Tenpence die was prepared, but no plate was made from it. (*Illustration 48.*)

This value was "out of stock" from 1877, until the issue, in 1890, of the current Tenpence.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose; large white letters in angles; Plates 1 and (to a very limited extent) 2.

1st July, 1867.—Tenpence, red-brown* (shades), perforated 14.

Variety.

Tenpence, red-brown, Plate 1, imperforate.

Error.

(1867).—Tenpence, red-brown, on Heraldic Emblems paper, Plate 1, perforated 14.

(h.) THE ONE SHILLING.

FIRST ISSUE: 1ST NOVEMBER, 1856.

Date of Issue.—By the Post Office Circular of the 29th October, 1856, quoted on page 93, the intended issue of a "New Kind of Shilling" stamp was notified to the various Postmasters; and on the following day the Inland Revenue informed the General Post Office that "the new stamps," *viz.*, the Fourpence and the One Shilling, "will be issued to the public on the 1st proximo."

Design. (Die I.)—Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, within a coloured upright oval, inscribed, in small white *sans serif* capitals, "POSTAGE" in the upper part, and "ONE SHILLING" in the lower, the intervals between the two inscriptions being filled in with a white reticulated pattern. The spandrels are filled in with a closely reticulated pattern, running vertically, and the entire design is enclosed within a double-lined frame, beyond which the top, bottom and sides of the oval border extend.

The entire stamp, which is upright rectangular in shape, measures 18½ mm. by 22½ mm. (*Illustration 49.*)

Plate.—Only plate 1 was in use for this issue.

(*State I.*)—The entire plate contained two hundred and forty stamps, in twelve panes arranged in four horizontal rows of three in a row, each pane consisting of twenty stamps in five rows of four. A pane constituted a Post-office sheet, with a facial value of one pound.

* Plate 2 is only found in a pale shade.

Each pane measured 119 mm. ($4\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically, by $79\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($3\frac{1}{8}$ inches) horizontally, the distance between the panes being $9\frac{1}{2}$ mm. horizontally, and 25 mm. vertically.

Above each pane in the first and third rows, and inverted below each in the second and fourth, was the inscription "POSTAGE ONE SHILLING." in coloured Roman capitals; and between the first and second rows of panes, and also between the third and fourth rows, once under each pane, was, in Roman letters and Arabic figures, "PRICE. 1 Shilling 4 Shillings 1 Pound "

per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20

The plate-number, in white on colour within a circle, was at each corner of the plate; and above and below the group of panes was a cross as a guide for the perforating. (*See Diagram I*.*)

Plate 1, registered on the 27th June, 1856, was at press from the 12th of the following October to the 20th August, 1862, during which period 50,000 impressions were struck off.

Paper.—For this issue the heraldic emblems paper, described under the Three-pence, on page 79, was employed. (*Diagram I.*)

The registered impression of the first plate of this value is on stout, highly-glazed, blued "safety" paper, and the first supply of paper was undoubtedly of a similar quality; but a trial printing which took place in June, 1856, was rejected, and obliterated copies on "safety" paper are unknown: if they exist they should be looked for abroad, as the value was created for the payment of postage on foreign letters. Moreover, the above-mentioned Circular, with which were enclosed specimens of the Fourpence on thin white paper, also contained specimens of the One Shilling on similar paper, and it is unlikely—on whatever paper these were printed—that the thick blued paper should have been employed for the issue of this value, after it had been abandoned in the case of the Fourpence. We discussed this question on page 106, to which we refer our readers.

Colour.—Green, varying in shade and of a dull tone, was used for the first issue.

Gum.—The usual white gum arabic.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—Exactly 12,000,000 stamps.

Remarks.—This stamp superseded the embossed one of the same value; but, between the trial printing and the date when the plate was finally put to press, several thousand sheets of the embossed stamp were struck off and issued.

SECOND ISSUE: 1ST DECEMBER, 1862.

^{29.11.62.} *Date of Issue.*—The usually accepted date is the 1st October, but the Post Office Circular, quoted under the Sixpence, on page 108, announces the issue of both values, with "the letters at the lower corners . . . repeated at the upper corners" as fixed to take place on the 1st December. With this Circular, 5,000 "SPECIMEN" stamps were despatched to postmasters.

Design. (Die II.)—Although the general design was retained, some few alterations and additions were made: Her Majesty's profile was retouched; the frame was redrawn, and the position of the head inside the oval was altered; the obtrusiveness of the reticulated spandrels was reduced; and the oval frame was made more prominent.

* Diagram I, *mutatis mutandis*, would show State I of this value.

In the four corners small coloured blocks, for the reception of small white *sans serif* capital check-letters, were inserted, and similar blocks for the plate-numbers were placed at the sides of the oval border. (*Illustration 51.*)

In plate 3, white hair-lines were drawn across the exterior angles of the letter-blocks. (*Illustration 50.*)

Plate.—Two only were used: plate 2, so numbered on the plate itself, but "1" on the stamps; and (to a very limited extent) plate 3, which has that number in the margins of the plate, but "2" on the stamps themselves, and with hair-lines across the exterior angles of the letter-blocks.

(*State II.*)—The size and arrangement of the panes were exactly as in State I, but the disposition of the inscriptions was different. Above the centre pane in the top row, above each pane in the second and third rows, below the middle pane of the bottom row, and (with the feet of the letters towards the stamps) at the exterior sides of the first and last panes in the top and bottom rows were the words, "POSTAGE "ONE SHILLING.", in coloured Roman capitals as before; and the indication of value, in Roman type and Arabic figures, appeared below each pane in the first, second and third rows, and above each pane in the fourth row.

Above the eleventh stamp in the first row, and below the second in the bottom row, was the plate-number, in white on colour in an oval; and at the opposite corners, in the usual oblong frame, was the current-number. At the top and bottom of the plate was a cross, as a guide for the perforating.

The lettering ran from "A. A." to "L. L." (*see Diagram L*.*)

Plate 2, approved on the 8th May, 1862, was put to press five months subsequently, and destroyed on the 11th April, 1866, though it had evidently not been in use since the end of 1864. It produced, we believe, 26,000 impressions.

Plate 3 was never at press, but, of the six sheets presumably struck off at the time (16th June, 1862) of registration, some were possibly perforated and issued.

Paper.—That watermarked with heraldic emblems, as employed for the previous issue.

Colour.—Green, varying in shade from pale to dark.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—Probably 6,240,000 stamps. There is no official record of the printing from plate 2, but we calculate the production from the following: it was put to press about six weeks after the use of plate 1 had been discontinued, and plate 4, of the next issue, was discarded some two months before plate 5 was first printed from. We thus get a period, from the end of August, 1862, to the 23rd December, 1870, during which only plates 2 and 4 were in use, and paper warrants were made out to the extent of 142,030 entire sheets. Deducting the 116,012 impressions, officially credited to plate 4, and the eighteen sheets used on the registration of plates 5 and 6, we have 26,000 as the number of sheets printed from plate 2.

With regard to plate 3, there was a warrant for only one sheet of paper, at the time of registration; but, as imperforate and perforated copies are known, five extra sheets were evidently struck off, taken from the supply debited to plate 1 the perforation is similar to that of the Threepence with "dot," mentioned on page 80.

* Diagram L, *mutatis mutandis*, would show State II of this value.

Remarks.—Used and perforated copies of plate 3 have not yet been met with, and the few unused specimens known appear to come under the same category as the perforated copies of the Threepence, plate 3, mentioned in the last paragraph on page 80.

Copies of the stamp lettered “ $\begin{smallmatrix} D. K. \\ K. D. \end{smallmatrix}$ ” on plate 2 are to be found with a small white circle round the “K” in the lower left-hand corner. Various explanations have been given as to the presence of this circle, but, as will be appreciated by those of our readers who may be conversant with printing, we think the true reason is given in the subjoined extract from a communication made by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., under date of 31st January, 1894 :—“With reference to the 1/- . . . stamps returned here—“with, we beg to inform you that the circle round the letter “K” in the lower left—“hand corner of the 1/- stamp, is to be explained in the following manner :—

“When the stamps bore letters in the corners, they were struck from a die, which “was pierced in the four corners, so as to allow of the introduction of letter plugs, “which were changed as required. There is no doubt that, in striking the lead for the “stamp in question, the “K” plug was not driven quite home into the die : conse—“quently, when the plate came to be made, there was a slight circular indentation in “it. This would be overcome by our printer putting extra ‘overlays’ where this “indentation occurred, so that the circle would not be observable in any of the sheets “printed, until the ‘overlays’ began to give way. Our printer would, as soon as he “observed this defect, rectify it by putting fresh overlays.” The variety is not shown on the *imprimatur* sheet.

THIRD ISSUE: FEBRUARY, 1865.

Date of Issue.—In February, 1864, it was decided that, in all future plates of the surface-printed series of stamps, the check-lettering should be of a larger and bolder type. The first plate of the One Shilling, with this modification, was put to press in the early part of December, 1864, and stamps printed therefrom appear to have been in the hands of the public by the beginning of the following February.

Design. (Die III.)—Whilst the general design remained unaltered, the die was entirely remodelled. The head was re-engraved ; coloured blocks, bearing large white *sans serif* capital letters, were inserted in the angles ; and the spandrels were filled in with reticulations of an entirely different pattern. The blocks for the reception of the plate-numbers remained as in the preceding die. (*Illustration 52.*)

Plate.—For the third issue, the only plates in use were nos. 4 (so numbered both on plate and stamps) and 5, the latter to a very limited extent.

(*State II.*)—This arrangement has already been described.

Plate 4, registered on the 28th November, 1864, was put to press on the 8th of the following month, and was still in use at the termination of this issue, which was limited to impressions on heraldic emblems paper. The number of sheets printed from plate 4 on the above paper appears, from the entries in the warrant book, to have been 39,012, the odd twelve being struck at the time of approval.

(*State III.*)—The only difference between this and the preceding state consisted in a slight reduction in the size of the oval containing the plate-number, and the frame of the current-number, and in their position, which was farther away from the pane.

Plate 5, approved on the 28th March, 1866, was not put to press until after the change of paper ; but the five spare impressions were presumably issued.

Paper.—The heraldic emblems paper was still in use.

Colour.—Green and bluish green, in varying shades.

Gum.—The usual gum arabic.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—Probably 9,363,840 stamps, excluding those of the *imprimatur* sheet.

As the official return of the printings from plate 4 includes impressions on heraldic emblems and spray of rose paper, we have to resort to the paper-warrant book to ascertain the respective proportions. The warrants for heraldic emblems paper issued after plate 1 had been taken from press (20th August, 1862) were for 65,011 entire sheets, excluding that used for the registered impression of plate 4, and the six sheets from plate 5. Of these, 26,000 sheets were used for plate 2, leaving 39,011 sheets, or 9,362,640 stamps, on heraldic emblems paper, printed from plate 4. There were also the five sheets, or 1,200 stamps printed from plate 5, and presumably issued.

Remarks.—Perforated and used copies from plate 5 on the paper of this issue are not yet known.

FOURTH ISSUE: (EARLY IN) AUGUST, 1867.

Date of Issue.—The first warrant for spray of rose paper—the distinguishing characteristic of the fourth issue—was for 2,500 sheets, and was dated the 19th March, 1867. We should have put the probable date of issue as in May, but the earliest copy which has come to our knowledge is postmarked the 9th August, which month has hitherto been given as that of the first appearance of the One Shilling on the new paper.

Design. (Die III.)—This was unchanged. (*Illustration 52.*)

Plate.—For the present issue, plates 4, 5, 6 and 7 were in use.

(*State II.*)—We have described this.

Plate 4, at press when the change of paper took place, remained in use until the 23rd December, 1870, when it had yielded 116,012 impressions, of which 77,000 were watermarked with the spray of rose.

(*State III.*)—This arrangement has also been described.

Plate 5, which had already produced five sheets (in addition to that for the *imprimatur*) on the heraldic emblems paper, was at press from the 20th February, 1871, until the 30th September, 1872, by which date it had yielded a further 55,495 impressions on the spray of rose paper.

(*State IV.*)—The plate-number was now within a circle, instead of an oval: otherwise there was no alteration.

Plate 6, registered on the 20th February, 1869, was at press from the 20th March of that year, until the 15th October, 1872, and produced 35,000 entire sheets.

(*State V.*)—There was a slight change in the "face" of the type used for the various marginal inscriptions: otherwise the arrangement of the plate was as in State IV.

Plate 7, approved on the 30th September, 1872, was put to press on the 11th November following, and was discarded on the 10th July, 1873, after giving 35,000 impressions.

Paper.—For this issue the spray of rose paper was used. Early in 1872 the word "MARK" was added in the margins, as already noted in other values. (*Diagram F.*)

Colour.—Green, yellowish green and bluish green, in varying tones and shades.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14; but copies from plate 4 are to be met with imperforate, having been so issued.

Creation.—No less than 48,598,800 stamps, of which 18,480,000 were from plate 4 ; 13,318,800 from plate 5 ; and 8,400,000 from each of plates 6 and 7.

Remarks.—Copies from plate 4 may sometimes be met with on a bluish chemical paper, imperforate : they formed part of a series of experiments, and were not issued.

Early in 1898, the discovery was made of a number of forgeries of the One Shilling, plate 5, surface-printed on unwatermarked paper and perforated 14 : in the original the corners of the letter-blocks are sharp and clear, while in the forgery they are blurred ; and the first space in the reticulations, just after the " E " of " POSTAGE ", is twice as large in the counterfeit as in the genuine stamp. Some of the forgeries bear in the upper left-hand and the lower right-hand corners, a letter subsequent to L, which is the latest used in the genuine stamps for denoting the place in a horizontal row. All the known copies of this forgery were taken off telegram forms, used at the Stock Exchange Telegraph Office, London, E.C., and all bear the same date, 23rd July, 1872.

FIFTH ISSUE : SEPTEMBER, 1873.

Date of Issue.—The principal characteristic of this issue was the substitution of coloured check-letters for the previous white ones ; and a Post Office Circular, dated the 11th August, 1873, announced that the alteration had then been made in the One Shilling value. Although the printing was commenced on the 10th June, copies of the stamps have not yet been found with a postmark of an earlier date than September, which we therefore give as the month in which the issue took place.

Design. (Die IV.)—The head of the Queen was retouched, and the frame reconstructed, the check-letters now being, as stated above, coloured *sans serif* capitals on a white ground, as were also the plate-numbers. The lettering of the inscriptions and the reticulated pattern in the spandrels were modified, and the exterior line of the frame was thickened. (*Illustration 53.*)

Plate.—For the present issue plates 8 to 13 and (to a very limited extent) 14 were used.

(*State V.*)—This has been described.

Plate 8, registered on the 30th September, 1872, was at press from the 10th June until the 24th October, 1873 ; and plate 9, approved on the 10th July, 1873, was in use from the 21st November, 1873, until the 14th of the following July. Each plate produced 35,000 impressions.

(*State VI.*)—The panes remained as in the previous issues, but the positions of the inscriptions and of the plate- and current-numbers were altered. Above and below each pane respectively were the inscriptions " POSTAGE ONE

" SHILLING." and PRICE.

1 Shilling	4 Shillings	1 Pound
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per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20
in Roman type and Arabic figures, and the numbers of the plate were placed about 6 mm., diagonally, away from the exterior angles of the corner panes. (*Diagram M.*)

Plate 10, registered on the 25th November, 1873, was put to press on the 14th July, 1874, and remained in use until the 13th November following ; and plate 11, approved on the 30th April, 1874, was at press from the succeeding 14th December up to the 24th June in the next year. From each plate 35,000 sheets were printed.

(*State VII.*)—The positions of the plate- and current-numbers were again slightly changed : otherwise, this arrangement of the plate is similar to State VI.

Plate 12, approved on the 30th September, 1874, and at press from the 24th June to the 20th December, 1875, yielded 35,000 impressions ; and plate 13, which was

registered on the 3rd June, 1875, and put to press on the 17th January, 1876, was still in use at the termination of this issue. Plate 14, although approved on the 5th January, 1876, was not put to press until after the colour of the impression had been changed: presumably, the five spare sheets struck at the time of registration, were perforated and put into stock.

Paper.—The spray of rose paper, with “**MARK**” in the margins, still remained in use.

Colour.—Shades of green and bluish green.

Gum.—As in previous issues.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14. Plate 12 is known imperforate and used.

Creation.—From the paper warrants, we find that the production of plate 13, before the change of colour, was 25,000 sheets, equivalent to 6,000,000 stamps: these, the five sheets from plate 14, and the 35,000 sheets from each of the other plates, make up a total creation of 48,001,200 stamps.

Remarks.—From 1870 until 1875 this value was principally used for the prepayment of telegrams, and, after the adoption of a distinctive series of stamps for that purpose, the demand became more limited; and its use further fell off when a subsequent reduction was made in the postal rate to India and China.

Copies of plate 14 in green have not yet been found.

SIXTH ISSUE: 14TH OCTOBER, 1880.

Date of Issue.—A Post Office Circular of the 21st September, 1880, announced that a new stamp of this value, printed in brown instead of green, would shortly be issued, and copies in the new colour appear to have been put into circulation on the 14th of the following month, which is the date given in *The Philatelic Record* for October, 1880.

Design. (Die IV.)—As plate 13, already described, was used for this issue, there was manifestly no change in the stamp. (*Illustration 53.*)

Plate.—Only plate 13 was employed.

(*State VII.*)—We have described this arrangement.

Plate 13, at press when the colour of the impressions was green, was still in use on the change of paper which was the characteristic of the following issue; and there is no official record of the printings.

Paper.—That watermarked with a spray of rose, with “**MARK**” in the margin.

Colour.—A pale red-brown, varying slightly in shade.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—Though there is no record, we do not think there was more than one warrant, for 5,000 sheets, made out in September, 1880, some three weeks before the issue of the stamps in the new colour. It must be borne in mind that, at this period, there was a comparatively small demand for postage stamps of this value, and 5,000 sheets would most probably be a sufficient provision for many months, especially as, since the end of 1875, the entire printings had then amounted to only 25,000 sheets. The creation may, therefore, be put at 1,200,000 stamps.

SEVENTH ISSUE: 15TH JUNE, 1881.

Date of Issue.—We have been unable to trace any official notification of the change to large (1880) crown watermark, the characteristic of this present issue,

but *The Philatelic Record* of July, 1881, announces that the emission took place on the 15th of the preceding month.

Design. (Die IV.)—There was no change. (*Illustration 53.*)

Plate.—Two plates, nos. 13 and 14, were in use.

(*State VIII.*)—Consequent on the change of paper, both these plates (which, when originally registered, were of State VII) were altered by having the six upper panes brought together into one pane, and the six lower into another.

The plate, as now constituted, was in two panes, vertically disposed, and measuring 240 mm. ($9\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically by 241½ mm. ($9\frac{1}{2}$ inches) horizontally, with an intervening space 25½ mm. (1 inch) deep. Each pane contained one hundred and twenty stamps, in ten horizontal rows of twelve, the lettering running from "A. A." to "L. T." There were no plate- or current-numbers on the margins of the plate, which, on the new *imprimatur* sheet, were endorsed in pen and ink; and there were no marginal inscriptions, but the usual T-shaped cross appeared at the top and bottom of the plate.

The hexagonal ornaments, described on page 84, indicating where each pane could be divided into Post-office sheets of twenty stamps, of the facial value of one pound, were distributed as follows:—At the top and bottom of the plate and in the central space, opposite the intervals between the fourth and fifth and between the eighth and ninth rows; and at the sides of the panes, opposite the interval between the fifth and sixth horizontal rows: the ornaments in the central space were entire, but the others were only "demi" ornaments, with the apex turned towards the stamps. (*Diagram N.*)

Plate 13, which had been at press for the last two issues, and plate 14, registered during the fifth issue, were used; but we have no record with regard to them, except that they were both destroyed on the 13th January, 1886.

Paper.—That watermarked with the large (1880) crown, described under the Twopence Halfpenny, on page 77. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—As in the preceding issue, a pale red-brown, varying in shade.

Gum.—Pure white gum arabic, as usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—We have not been able to ascertain the exact extent of the printings, but they were comparatively small.

Remarks.—This type of the One Shilling remained in use until the 1st April, 1884, when it was superseded by the "Postage & Revenue" stamp of same value.

See p. 159

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with Heraldic Emblems; no letters in angles; Plate 1 (no number on the stamps); perforated 14.

1st November, 1856.—One Shilling, dull green, pale to dark green (shades of both).

SECOND ISSUE.

Die II.—Paper watermarked with Heraldic Emblems; small white letters in angles; Plate 2* (numbered "1" on the stamps) and, to a very limited extent (? at all), Plate 3 (numbered "2," and with hairlines, on the stamps); perforated 14.

1st December, 1862.—One Shilling, pale to dark green (shades).

* On this plate is the so-called "K" variety: see p. 129, *supra*.

THIRD ISSUE.

Die III.—Paper watermarked with Heraldic Emblems ; large white letters in angles ; Plates 4 and (to a very limited extent) 5 * ; perforated 14.

February, 1865.—One Shilling, pale to dark green, bluish green (shades of both).

FOURTH ISSUE.

Die III.—Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; large white letters in angles ; Plates 4, 5, 6 and 7.

(early in) August, 1867.—One Shilling, pale to dark green, deep yellowish green, bluish green (shades of each), perforated 14.

Variety.

One Shilling, green, Plate 4, imperforate.

FIFTH ISSUE.

Die IV.—Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; large coloured letters in angles ; Plates 8 to 13, and (to a very limited extent) 14.*

September, 1873.—One Shilling, light to dark green, bluish green (shades of both), perforated 14.

Variety.

One Shilling, green, Plate 12, imperforate.

SIXTH ISSUE.

Die IV.—Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; large coloured letters in angles ; Plate 13 ; perforated 14.

14th October, 1880.—One Shilling, pale red-brown (slight shades).

SEVENTH ISSUE.

Die IV.—Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; large coloured letters in angles ; Plates 13 and 14 ; perforated 14.

15th June, 1881.—One Shilling, pale red-brown (shades).

(i) THE TWO SHILLINGS.

FIRST ISSUE: 1ST JULY, 1867.

Date of Issue.—By a Post Office Circular of the 10th June, 1867 (quoted on page 124), the issue was announced for the 1st July ; and it accordingly took place on that day. For enclosure with this circular 4,000 "SPECIMEN" stamps were, on the 30th May, forwarded by the Inland Revenue authorities to the General Post Office.

Design.—Diademed profile to left of Queen Victoria, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, within an upright pointed oval-shaped white band, the upper part bearing the inscription "TWO SHILLINGS", and the lower "POSTAGE", both in coloured *sans serif* capitals, separated from each other by small ornaments. In the corners are coloured letter-blocks, for the reception of the check-letters, in white *sans serif* capitals : above the lower blocks are small circles for the insertion of the plate-number in white on colour ; and below the upper ones, are similar circles, containing star-like ornaments.

* Copies of this variety have not yet been discovered.

The remaining space is filled in with conventional ornamentation ; and the entire design is surrounded by an upright rectangular linear frame, measuring $18\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 54*).

The design for this value was approved on the 26th November, 1866.

Plate.—For this issue, plate 1, and (to a very limited extent) plate 3 were used.

(*State.*)—The plate contained two hundred and forty stamps, in twelve panes disposed in four horizontal rows of three, each pane containing twenty stamps in five horizontal rows of four each : a pane constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of two pounds. The vertical rows of panes, each of which measured 119 mm. ($4\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically by $79\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($3\frac{1}{8}$ inches) horizontally, were separated by a space $9\frac{1}{2}$ mm. wide, and the horizontal rows by one of 25 mm. in depth.

Above the centre pane in the top row, and each pane in the second and third rows, below the middle pane of the bottom row, and (with the feet of the letters inwards) at the exterior sides of the first and last panes in the top and bottom rows, was the inscription "POSTAGE TWO SHILLINGS." in coloured Roman capitals ; and below each pane in the first, second and third rows, and above each

pane in the fourth row was

" PRICE.	Two Shillings	8 Shillings	Two Pounds "
	per Label	per Row of 4	per Sheet of 20

also in coloured Roman type, with Arabic figures.

Above the eleventh stamp in the top row, and below the second in the bottom row, was the plate-number, in white on colour, within an oval ; and, at the opposite corners, were the current-numbers in the usual oblong frames. A cross was inserted as a guide for the perforating, above the sixth stamp in the top row, and below the seventh stamp at the bottom of the plate. The lettering ran across the plate in the usual manner, from "A. A." to "L. L." (*See Diagram L.**)

Plate 1, registered on the 5th April, 1867, was put to press on the 10th of that month. It proved, however, to be incorrectly laid down, and the sheets printed from it could not be satisfactorily perforated : consequently it had to be partly cut up, and re-arranged. The corrected plate was re-registered on the 5th July, 1867, and was still in use on the termination of this issue, having then yielded 28,005 sheets. Plate 2, which was never put to press or registered, was destroyed on the 10th December, 1867. Plate 3, approved on the 23rd January, 1868, was never formally put to press, but the five spare sheets then printed were issued, as used copies are known.

Paper.—This was the spray of rose paper, with the addition, in 1872, of the word "MARK" in the margins of the sheet. (*Diagram F.*)

Colour.—During the first and the last two years the colour was a pale blue ; but the intermediate printings, from 1868 to 1878, were in a deeper shade, sometimes approaching to a Prussian blue.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14, but copies from plate 1, in pale blue, are to be found imperforate and used.

Creation.—Probably 6,722,400 stamps, all, except 1200, from plate 1 : these figures we take from the paper warrants.

Remarks.—This value was created to prevent the use of a large number of stamps of other values on any particular letter, one firm in Liverpool, who suggested, in September, 1865, the adoption of higher values, having had to affix no fewer than seventy-seven one shilling stamps to some of their postal packets. As mentioned under "*Plate,*"

* Diagram L, *mutatis mutandis*, would show the State of the Two Shillings plate.

the first one was inaccurately laid down : this irregularity extended to only the bottom row of stamps, but we are unable to give any details to assist in discriminating between impressions from the two stages : apparently, 2,005 sheets were printed before the defect was remedied. Copies from plate 1, in the deepest shade of blue, are extremely scarce in unused condition ; and specimens of plate 3, which was printed from in pale blue, are, as might be expected, of still greater rarity.

Through the carelessness of the postal officials at Hull, some stamps of this value were accidentally issued to the public on the 17th June, 1867, if not earlier.

SECOND ISSUE : (END OF) FEBRUARY, 1880.

Date of Issue.—Hitherto this has been given as the 1st January, but a Post Office Circular, dated the 17th February, stated that “ It has been decided to change the colour of the 2/- postage stamp. The new colour will be brown, and the issue will take place in a few days”

Further, the first supply of the new stamps, consisting of 500 entire sheets, was only received at the General Post Office on the 16th February ; and the earliest mention of it is in a report of the meeting of the Philatelic Society, London, on the 28th February, when it was shown by the then Secretary, Mr. M. Burnett. The issue, very possibly, took place on Monday, the 23rd February, 1880.

Design.—There was no change. (*Illustration 54.*)

Plate.—Only plate 1 was used for this issue.

(State.)—This has been described.

Plate 1, which had already produced practically all of the impressions for the preceding issue, remained at press until this value was discontinued : it was destroyed on the 10th January, 1884.

Paper.—The spray of rose paper continued in use.

Colour.—To avoid confusion between stamps of this value and those of Twopence Halfpenny, the colour of which had lately been changed to blue, it was decided to print the Two Shillings stamp in a light brown.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14. Imperforate copies are known, but were never issued : these were probably the printings on two small supplies of paper, requisitioned on the 1st July (25 sheets), and the 1st September (20 sheets), 1879. As compared with imperforate copies of other values, these are not very scarce.

Creation.—With the exception of the two small requisitions above-mentioned, there were no paper warrants for this value between the 6th March, 1878, and the 1st January, 1880 : this was the last one drawn, and was for only 1,000 sheets. The creation of this value in brown was, therefore, to the comparatively small number of 240,000 stamps.

Remarks.—On the 6th July, 1880, a Post-Office circular announced that “ It has been decided to discontinue the . . . 2/- postage stamps . . . ;” and, in the same month, 657½ entire sheets were destroyed, leaving only 4½ sheets in stock.

In December, 1872, a new die was made for this value (*Illustration 55*), but no plates were ever constructed : provision was made on this die for the insertion of *coloured* letters and plate-numbers, and the slight unsightliness, caused by the first “ 1 ” of “ SHILLINGS ” not being exactly at the top of the oval band, was rectified, as will be seen from a comparison of the illustrations (*nos. 54 and 55*).

No subsequent issue of this value has taken place.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; Plates 1 and (to a very limited extent) 3.*
1st July, 1867.—Two Shillings, pale to full blue (shades), very deep blue,
perforated 14.

Variety.

Two Shillings, pale blue, Plate 1, imperforate.

SECOND ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; Plate 1 ; perforated 14.
(end of) February, 1880.—Two Shillings, light brown.

(j) THE FIVE SHILLINGS.

FIRST ISSUE : 1ST JULY, 1867.

Date of Issue.—The issue of this value was announced by the Post Office Circular of the 10th June, 1867, quoted under the preceding value of Tenpence, on page 124. As in the case of the two other values therein mentioned, 4,000 specimens were forwarded to the General Post Office, for distribution with the Circular amongst the various offices.

Design.—On the 23rd October, 1866, an official suggestion was made to the Postmaster-General that this value should be of a design similar to that adopted for the five shillings "Companies Registration" stamp, with the word "POSTAGE" at the top. Some correspondence took place between the General Post Office and Somerset House, and, on the 26th November, the following communication was despatched :—

" The Board of Inland Revenue have before them your letter of the 22nd instant, stating that, with respect to the 5/- stamp, as it differs so materially from the design approved by the Postmaster-General, his Grace desires a specimen stamp may be prepared in accordance with that design.

" In reply, I am directed to acquaint you that the variation in the design is necessary, as the Board find it objectionable to have two stamps intended for different purposes precisely alike.

" It is hoped, therefore, that the slight alteration in the design may be approved. I have, however, to add that there is no objection to substitute the numeral "5" on the stamp for the word "five"; and, on hearing from you, instructions will be given to the engraver"

The selected design consists of a diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, within a circular border of a Greek pattern, with a row of pearls on each side of it, touching the sides of the enclosing rectangular frame. Above and below the circular band are straight white tablets, respectively inscribed, in coloured Roman capitals and Arabic figure, "POSTAGE", and "5 SHILLINGS". In the four corners are square coloured blocks, for the reception of the check-letters in white *sans serif* capitals ; and, in the lower part of the band, is the plate-number in white, on a coloured disc. The spandrels are filled in with conventional ornamentation, and the entire design is enclosed in an upright rectangular frame, measuring 25 mm. by 29½ mm. ($1\frac{5}{8}$ inches). (*Illustration 56.*)

* Specimens from Plate 3 are in pale blue.

Plate.—For this issue, plates 1, 2 and (to a very limited extent) 4 were used.

(*State I.*)—There were eighty stamps on the plate, arranged in four panes, two and two, each containing twenty stamps in four horizontal rows of five each, and constituting a Post-office sheet of the facial value of five pounds.

The horizontal pairs of panes, each of which measured $139\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($5\frac{1}{2}$ inches) horizontally by $128\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($5\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically, were separated by a space 38 mm. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in depth, and the vertical pairs by one $63\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($2\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in width.

Above and below each of the panes was the inscription, in thick coloured Roman capitals,

“ POSTAGE FIVE SHILLINGS. ”

and, at each side of each pane, with the feet of the letters towards the stamps, was, in smaller lettering, “TWENTY 5s. POSTAGE STAMPS, £5.” As will be seen from a reference to the Diagram, the punctuation in the latter inscription was anything but regular.

The plate-number, in white on colour within an oval, was inserted at the upper right and lower left corners of the plate; and the current-number, in colour within the usual oblong frame, appeared at the opposite corners.

At the top and bottom of the plate, were the usual division marks and perforation guides—a vertical line and a cross. The lettering ran from “A.A.” to “J.H.” (Diagram O.)

Plate 1, registered on the 18th April, 1867, was at press from that day until the 28th March, 1874, and yielded 49,000 impressions.

(*State II.*)—The only difference between this and the preceding state, was that the vertical inscriptions on the inner sides of the panes were so disposed that the heads, instead of the feet, of the letters were towards the stamps. (See Diagram O.*)

Plate 2, approved on the 5th July, 1867, was brought into use on the 25th March, 1874, and destroyed on the 13th January, 1886: there is no record as to how long it remained at press, or as to the number of sheets printed.

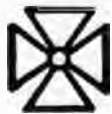
(*State III.*)—The only alteration consisted in the plate-number being within a circle, instead of in an oval. (See Diagram O.†)

Plate 3 was found to be imperfect, and was never put to press or registered: it was destroyed on the 30th March, 1875.

Plate 4, approved on the 28th November, 1874, was not put to press for this issue, but, of the six sheets printed at the time of registration, five were presumably put into the general stock and distributed with it.

Paper.—The sheet of paper, which was machine-made, measured $387\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($15\frac{1}{4}$ inches) in width by $349\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($13\frac{3}{4}$ inches) in height, and was divided into quarters by a line running from top to bottom, and another from side to side: these lines, which did not extend to the extreme edge of the paper, terminated at each end in a small cross.

Within each quarter sheet was a single-lined frame, 143 mm. ($5\frac{5}{8}$ inches) wide by 132 mm. ($5\frac{3}{8}$ inches) high, containing twenty crosses *paté*, arranged in four horizontal rows of five crosses in each row, the frames being separated vertically by a space 37 mm. ($1\frac{7}{8}$ inches) deep, and horizontally by a space 62 mm. ($2\frac{7}{8}$ inches) wide. (Diagram O.)



* Diagram O, with the interior vertical inscriptions inverted, would show State II.

† Diagram O, with the plate-number in a circle, and with the interior vertical inscriptions inverted, would show State III.

There were no marginal inscriptions ; but, about the year 1872, the word " MARK " in out-lined *sans serif* capitals, and measuring 35 mm. (1 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches) by 12 mm., was added towards the top of the right-hand margin, and the bottom of the left-hand side, of the sheet. (*Diagram P.*)

MARK

The first order for the cross *paté* paper was given on the 15th January, 1867, when Messrs. Turner were instructed to make ten reams.

Colour.—The selected colour was pink, which varied slightly in shade and tone, becoming gradually of a carmine tint.

Gum.—Of the usual quality, but sometimes slightly yellowish.

Perforation.—The perforation of this, and other stamps of similar size, was effected by a machine differing from those used for the smaller stamps, the pins being so disposed as to produce 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ holes horizontally and 15 holes vertically, in the space of two centimetres : this is usually termed " 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 15." Specimens from plate 1 may be met with imperforate, having been so issued.

Creation.—So far as we can ascertain, 5,480,800 stamps, 3,920,000 from plate 1 ; 1,560,400 from plate 2 ; and 400 from plate 4.

Remarks.—From the warrants, we find that 68,513 sheets of paper were supplied for the printing of this value : on deducting the three sheets in the archives, the 49,000 officially recorded as the number printed from plate 1, and the five spare sheets from plate 4, we have 19,505 sheets (equivalent to 1,560,400 stamps) as the probable production of plate 2.

Specimens from plate 4 have not yet been discovered, but there is every reason to suppose that they must have existed, although in very small numbers.

As in the case of the Tenpence and Two Shillings, some copies of this value were inadvertently issued by the Hull Postmaster about a fortnight before the appointed date.

There 1.

SECOND ISSUE : (MIDDLE OF) NOVEMBER, 1882.

Date of Issue.—A change of paper, and a consequent alteration in the size and disposition of the plate, being the sole characteristics of this issue, it was evidently considered unnecessary that any official notification should be given, although, in the case of the Five Shillings Telegraph, an announcement of a precisely similar change was made.

We find, however, that a paper warrant was, on the 3rd October, 1882, made out for 500 mill sheets (equivalent to 2,000 "entire sheets," or 112,000 watermarks) of the new anchor paper for the Five Shillings value ; and, from the " Issue Book," that, in the same month, a supply of 112,000 stamps of this value was debited to the stock at Somerset House. On the 1st November, there was a balance in hand of 133,357 stamps, of which 89,448 stamps remained unissued at the end of that month. As stamps in the new-sized sheets would not be sent out to postmasters until those on the cross paper had been exhausted, we may reasonably assume that the Five Shillings value on large anchor paper was issued in the middle of November, 1882—when the 112,000 must have been drawn on—and not, as is usually stated, in October of that year.

Design.—There was no change in the stamp itself. (*Illustration 56.*)

Plate.—Only one plate, no. 4, was in use for this issue.

(*State IV.*)—Consequent on the change of paper, from cross *paté* to large anchor, the plate, as originally registered, was cut up, and fifty-six of the eighty stamps

were re-arranged in one pane, of seven horizontal rows of eight stamps each, the entire pane measuring 235 mm. ($9\frac{1}{4}$ inches) vertically by 238 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($9\frac{3}{8}$ inches) horizontally. Twenty-eight stamps constituted a Post-office sheet of the value of seven pounds.

The margins of the plate were perfectly plain, except for the usual small crosses added above and below the centre of the pane, as a guide for the perforating; but the plate- and current-numbers were written, in pen and ink, on the *imprimatur* sheet struck from the altered plate. As the number of stamps had been reduced, the lettering now ran from "A. A." to "H. G." only.*

Plate 4, already registered on the 28th November, 1874, was re-registered, after alteration, on the 24th October, 1882, the *imprimatur* sheet being endorsed "*Alteration in size of Plate*" and "*Ordered—That the Plate, as altered, be brought into use.*" We have no record as to the printings, or as to how long this altered plate was at press, but it could not have been for more than one year, as the new stamp of this value was being printed in the autumn of 1883: it was destroyed on the 13th January, 1886.

Paper.—In the paper warrant book, the "sheets" are, as we have previously pointed out, full mill sheets, and these occasionally differ in size from the "entire sheet" of stamps as printed from a single plate. In the present instance, the paper—a machine-made fiscal paper, into the composition of which prussiate of potash entered, and consequently sometimes more or less tinged with blue—was manufactured in sheets containing two hundred and twenty-four Large Anchors 20 mm. high; but, as no postage, telegraph or fiscal plate was ever made larger than sufficient to cover a single half mill-sheet of paper (cut vertically), we confine our description to a "sheet" of that size.



The "sheet" measured 541 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($21\frac{1}{8}$ inches) in height, by 280 mm. (11 inches) in width, and contained one hundred and twelve Large Anchors (20 mm. high) in two panes, vertically disposed, of fifty-six each, in seven horizontal rows of eight watermarks in a row. Each pane was 241 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($9\frac{1}{2}$ inches) square, its area being defined by angle lines as described in the small anchor paper on page 72; the space between the panes was 29 mm. ($1\frac{1}{8}$ inches) in depth.

At the top and bottom of the sheet and at the sides of each pane, was "*Inland Revenue*" in script characters, the feet of the letters being towards the panes; and at each corner of the "sheet," and at each end of the space between the panes, was a cross. (*Diagram Q.*)

Inland Revenue

For the printing of this value, the "sheet" was again divided into halves, as the plate was the size of one pane only.

Colour.—The original pink had become of a fuller and brighter tone, and may be designated carmine-pink.

Gum.—As usual, pure white gum arabic.

Perforation.—The stamps of this issue were all uniformly perforated 14.

Creation.—There were three warrants for anchor paper for this issue: 3rd October, 1882, 500 mill-sheets; 29th December, 1882, 1,000 sheets; and 11th July, 1883, 1,000 sheets. This gives a total of 10,000 "entire" sheets, or 560,000 stamps; they were received into stock at Somerset House:—112,000 in October, and 224,000 in

* We have considered it unnecessary to illustrate this State, as the sheet is uninterestingly plain.

December, 1882; and the balance, 224,000, in July, 1883. Of this creation, 22,626 stamps were, we believe, destroyed in 1884.

The next two paper warrants for this value were on the 22nd August and the 4th September, 1883, for 6 and 2,500 "mill" sheets respectively; and the latter is marked "*unified*," indicating that the paper was for the new type of the Five Shillings, subsequently issued in April, 1884, and now current.

Remarks.—This value was created to further obviate the necessity for using a large number of lower value stamps for heavy letters; and the stamp was superseded by that of the same facial value issued in April, 1884.

see p. 161.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Cross *paté*; Plates 1, 2 and (to a very limited extent) 4*. 1st July, 1867.—Five Shillings, pink, pale rose (shades of both), perforated 15½ by 15.

Variety.

Five Shillings, pink, Plate 1, imperforate.

SECOND ISSUE.

Fiscal paper watermarked with a Large Anchor, bluish or white; Plate 4; perforated 14.

(middle of) November, 1882.—Five Shillings, carmine-pink (shades).

(k) THE TEN SHILLINGS.

FIRST ISSUE: 26TH SEPTEMBER, 1878.

Date of Issue.—By a Post Office Circular of the 23rd September, 1878, it was announced that Postage Stamps of the value of Ten Shillings and One Pound were about to be issued; and the notice continued: "Postmasters are requested to use them, as far as possible, in denoting the charges for unpaid postage, &c. on the Head Office Letter Bill Dockets, so that the amounts may be represented by the smallest number of stamps.

"A supply of the New Stamps will be forwarded to certain Postmasters by the Night Mail of the 25th instant."

The 25th September has hitherto been given as the date of issue, but we fail to see how, in the face of the concluding paragraph of the above circular, it can be maintained.

Design.—Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, within a border of solid colour, of which the upper and lower portions are curved outwards, and the sides are straight, the latter being conventionally ornamented.

In the upper part of the frame is "POSTAGE" and in the lower "TEN SHILLINGS", both being in white *sans serif* capitals; and below the frame is the plate-number in white on colour, within a white circle. In the corners are square

* Copies from Plate 4 on *cross paté* have not been found: they would be in pale rose.

coloured blocks, for the reception of the check-letters in white *sans serif* capitals. The exterior part of the design is zig-zag, and heavily crowded with ornamental details; and the entire stamp, which is not enclosed within the usual linear frame, is upright rectangular in shape, and measures $25\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by 30 mm. ($1\frac{3}{8}$ inches). (*Illustration 57.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plate 1—the only one ever constructed—was used.

(*State I.*)—The entire plate consisted of eighty stamps, divided into four panes of twenty each, in four horizontal rows of five stamps in a row. Each of the panes, which were arranged two and two, measured $139\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($5\frac{1}{2}$ inches) horizontally by 127 mm. ($5\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically: they were separated from each other, horizontally by a space $73\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($2\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in width, and vertically by one of 38 mm. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ inches).

Above and below each pane, in thick coloured Roman capitals, was “**POSTAGE TEN SHILLINGS.**” and at each side of each pane was, in smaller lettering, “**TWENTY 10s.**” “**POSTAGE STAMPS, £10.**” the interior inscriptions being with the heads, and the exterior inscriptions with the feet, of the letters towards the stamps.

The plate-number was in white on colour, within a circle, at the upper right and lower left corners of the plate; and the current-number, in colour within the usual frame, occupied the other corners. At the top and bottom of the plate were the perforation guide-marks—a vertical line and a cross.

The lettering, in white *sans serif* capitals, ran from “**A. A.**” to “**H. H.**” (*Diagram P.*)

Plate 1, registered on the 6th August, 1878, was put to press on the same day, but there is no record of the number of sheets printed: it was still in use at the termination of this issue.

Paper.—The first printings of this value were on the cross *paté* paper, with “**MARK**”, described under the preceding value of Five Shillings on page 138. (*Diagram P.*)

Colour.—Green-grey was the colour selected.

Gum.—Pure white gum arabic as usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated, $15\frac{1}{2}$ by 15, as in the first issue of the Five Shillings.

Creation.—So far as is shown by the paper warrants only 3,025 sheets, including that used for the *imprimatur*, (equivalent to 242,000 stamps) were printed.

Remarks.—There appears to have been only one printing, as all the cross *paté* paper supplied for this value was sent to the contractors in July, 1878.

SECOND ISSUE: (MIDDLE OF) FEBRUARY, 1883.

Date of Issue.—The hitherto accepted date is May, 1883, but it appears clear that copies of this value on large anchor paper were in circulation by the middle of the previous February.

On the 29th December, 1882, a paper warrant for 1,000 “mill” sheets of large anchor paper was made out for the Ten Shillings, and in the same month—as is the official practice—the consequent number of stamps, 224,000, was debited to stock. On the 1st February, 1883 (there having been no further additions) the stock stood at 232,046 stamps, which, by the end of the month, had been reduced to 218,448: there cannot, therefore, be now any doubt that this issue must have taken place in February and not in May.

Design.—No change took place in the stamp itself. (*Illustration 57.*)

Plate.—For this issue, plate 1 continued in use.

(*State II.*)—The new arrangement of the plate was precisely similar to State IV of the Five Shillings, described on page 139.

Plate 1, as altered, was approved on the 27th January, 1883, the *imprimatur* sheet being endorsed "*Proof after alteration in the size of plate:*" it was destroyed on the 13th January, 1886, and there is no official record of the number of sheets printed.

Paper.—This was the large anchor paper described on page 140. (*Diagram Q.*)

Colour.—Green-grey as before.

Gum.—As in the previous issue.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—As we have stated, there is no official record, but there seem to have been two printings of 2,000 entire sheets (*i. e.* 500 mill-sheets in the warrant) each, which would account for the 224,000 stamps received into stock in December, 1882.

Remarks.—From the dates given above it will be seen that a large, and perhaps the only, printing took place some weeks before the approval of the altered plate, which is recorded as having taken place on the 27th January, 1882: the position in the archives of the *imprimatur* sheet shows that this is a *lapsus calami* for 1883.

The stamp was superseded in April, 1884, by one of the same value, but of different design. Copies are of considerable scarcity.

see p 162

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Cross *paté*; Plate 1; perforated 15½ by 15.
26th September, 1878—Ten Shillings, green-grey (slight shades).

SECOND ISSUE.

Fiscal paper watermarked with a Large Anchor, bluish or white; Plate 1; perforated 14.

(middle of) February, 1883.—Ten Shillings, green-grey (slight shades).

(1) THE ONE POUND.

FIRST ISSUE: 26TH SEPTEMBER, 1878.

Date of Issue.—Under this heading we quoted on page 141, in the previous value of Ten Shillings, a Post Office Circular of the 23rd September, 1878; and for the reasons then given, we post-date the issue of this value also, until one day after the date usually given.

Design.—A diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a groundwork of fine horizontal lines, within an octagon, enclosed in an ornamental rectangular frame. Above and below the octagon are white labels, respectively inscribed in coloured *sans serif* capitals, "POSTAGE" and "ONE POUND".

In the angles are coloured blocks, for the reception of white *sans serif* capital check-letters; and at the top and sides of the rectangular frame are small circles each containing a cruciform ornament, and a similar one at the bottom of the stamp with the plate-number in white. The spandrels are filled in with foliate ornaments.

The stamp measures 25½ mm. (1 inch) by 30 mm. (1¼ inches.) (*Illustration 58.*)

Plate.—Only one plate, no. 1, was made.

(*State I.*)—The plate consisted of eighty stamps in four panes, disposed two and two, each measuring 139½ mm. (5½ inches) horizontally, by 127 mm. (5¼ inches) vertically.

Each of the panes, which were separated horizontally by a space 73½ mm. (2½ inches) wide and vertically by a space 38 mm. (1½ inches) deep, contained twenty stamps in four horizontal rows of five in a row.

Above and below each pane was "**POSTAGE ONE POUND.**" in thick coloured Roman capitals; and at each side of each pane, "**TWENTY £1 POSTAGE STAMPS, £20.**" in smaller lettering, the interior inscriptions being with the heads, and the exterior inscriptions with the feet, of the letters towards the stamps.

The plate-number, in white on colour within a circle, was at the upper right and lower left corners of the plate, and at the opposite corners, in the usual frame, was the current-number. At the top and bottom of the plate were the perforation and division marks—a vertical line and a cross.

The lettering ran from "A. A." to "H. J." (*See Diagram P.**)

Plate 1 was registered and put to press on the 6th August, 1878, but there is no official record of the printings: it continued in use for the succeeding issue.

Paper.—For the first issue the cross *paté* paper with "MARK", described on page 138, was supplied to the printers. (*Diagram P.*)

Colour.—A brown-violet was the colour selected.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 15½ by 15.

Creation.—From the paper warrants we find that only 3,025 sheets including that used for the *imprimatur* (equivalent to 242,000 stamps) were printed.

Remarks.—As in the case of the Ten Shillings, there was only one printing.

Copies of this stamp are of considerable rarity.

SECOND ISSUE: (END OF) DECEMBER, 1882.

Date of Issue.—We again venture to differ from the accepted authorities on the question of date of issue, which is generally given as November, 1882. In that month 112,000 one pound stamps, on large anchor paper, were debited to Somerset House; and at the commencement of December the stock was 122,588, which, by the end of the year, was reduced to 109,821 stamps.

As postmasters would not be supplied with the new sheets of 56 stamps each until the exhaustion of the old stock, printed on cross *paté* paper, it follows that the One Pound on large anchor could not have been issued until the latter part of December, on the stock diminishing to less than 112,000 stamps.

Design.—There was no change in the stamp itself. (*Illustration 58.*)

Plate.—No. 1 still continued in use.

(*State II.*)—The second arrangement of the plate, consequent on the change of paper, was precisely similar to State IV of the Five Shillings, described on page 139.

Plate 1, as altered, was re-registered on the 20th November, 1882, the *imprimatur* sheet being endorsed "*Alteration in size of plate,*" and "*Ordered—That the plate, as altered, be brought into use.*"

* Diagram P, *mutatis mutandis*, would show State I of this value.

There is no official record as to the printings from the altered plate, which was destroyed on the 13th January, 1886.

Paper.—This was the large anchor paper, described in the second issue of the Five Shillings, on page 140. (*Diagram Q.*)

Colour.—Brown-violet, as before.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—There was only one paper warrant, *viz.*, for 500 mill-sheets on the 10th November, 1882, which was accounted for by the 112,000 stamps received into stock towards the end of that month.

Remarks.—This stamp was superseded by the oblong stamp of the same value, issued in April, 1884. Unused copies are of great rarity.

See p. 163

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Cross *paté*; Plate 1; perforated 15½ by 15.
26th September, 1878.—One Pound, brown-violet (slight shades).

SECOND ISSUE.

Fiscal paper watermarked with a Large Anchor, bluish or white; Plate 1;
perforated 14.

(end of) December, 1882.—One Pound, brown-violet (slight shades).

Sub-section B.

The Issues of 1880-81.

Under this Sub-section, we propose to deal with the four surface-printed stamps which superseded the line-engraved stamps of the same values, and with a fifth and new value : they are :—

- (a) The One Halfpenny :
- (b) The One Penny :
- (c) The Three Halfpence :
- (d) The Twopence : and
- (e) The Fivepence.

The series can readily be distinguished from the stamps described in the preceding Sub-section, by the entire absence of plate-numbers, and (except in the One Penny) of check-letters in the corners ; also by the coarser style of engraving, which it was necessary to adopt, in order to make it possible to print at machines driven by steam power.

Plate.—There being no plate-numbers on the stamps or plates, the interest attaching to the periods of their use is of little importance ; and we therefore usually mention only the numbers of the plates, referring our readers to the Appendix if they desire fuller details.

Creation.—We have absolutely no details as to the numbers of stamps printed, and therefore omit this heading in the present Sub-section.

(a) THE ONE HALFPENNY.

FIRST ISSUE : 14TH OCTOBER, 1880.

Date of Issue.—A Post Office Circular, dated the 21st September, 1880, contained the following information :—

“ New Postage Stamps of the value of $\frac{1}{2}$ d., $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. . . . will shortly be issued. . . .

“ The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. Stamps are new in design and colour. . . .

“ The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Stamp will be of a green colour. . . .

“ The colour of the $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. will be the same as that of the 1d. . . .”

From *The Philatelic Record* for October, 1880, we find that the issue took place on the 14th of that month.

Design.—This consists of a coarsely engraved profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a ground of coarse horizontal lines, within a circle. At the top and bottom of the circle, and following its curve, are coloured tablets, inscribed “ POSTAGE ” and “ HALFPENNY ” respectively, in thin white *sans serif* capitals.

The vacant spaces are occupied by a zig-zag frame, which produces a rectangular shape, measuring $18\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 59.*)

Plate.—For the first issue, plates 1, 2, 3 and 6, and possibly 7 and 8, were used.

(*State.*)—The entire plate consisted of two hundred and forty stamps, in two panes one above the other, with an intervening space of $25\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (1 inch). Each pane contained ten horizontal rows of stamps, twelve in a row, and measured $228\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (9 inches) horizontally by 240 mm. ($9\frac{7}{8}$ inches) vertically.

With the exception of a T-shaped cross at the foot of the plate, as a perforating guide, the margins were blank, not having either inscriptions, division marks, or plate- or current-numbers, these latter being marked in pen and ink on the *imprimatur* sheets. (*See Diagram N.*)

The entire sheet constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of ten shillings.

Plates 1, 2, 3 and 6 were used; plates 4 and 5 were spoiled in preparation; and plates 7 and 8, which were certainly used for the next issue, were probably at press before the change of colour took place.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown paper described on page 77. (*Diagram N.*)

It will be remembered that a "mill" sheet of the paper is a double "entire" sheet, and, commencing with this value, all the stamps about to be described up to and including the One Shilling (except the Fourpence, Fourpence Halfpenny, Ninepence and Tenpence of 1887-92), were printed on it from *pairs* of plates, the impressions covering the whole of the double sheet.

Colour.—Green, varying from a fairly full shade to a very pale, ineffective greyish tone.

Gum.—Pure white gum arabic.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—This stamp superseded the line-engraved Halfpenny of 1870, produced by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co.

SECOND ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1884.

Date of Issue.—A Post Office Circular of the 18th March, 1884, announced the intended issue, on and after the above date, of several values, including that of One Halfpenny, now changed in colour from green to slate-blue.

Design.—There was no alteration. (*Illustration 59.*)

Plate.—Nos. 7 to 14 were used.

(*State.*)—Precisely as in the first issue.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown.

Colour.—Shades of slate-blue.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—In 1887, this Halfpenny stamp was superseded by that now current, of a different design and colour.

See page 167.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.

14th October, 1880.—One Halfpenny, pale green, bluish green, dark green (shades of each).

SECOND ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.

1st April, 1884.—One Halfpenny, slate-blue (shades).

(b) THE ONE PENNY.

ISSUE: 1ST JANUARY, 1880.

Date of Issue.—A Post Office Circular of the 23rd December, 1879, contained the following notice:—

“A Penny Postage Stamp of a New Design will shortly be issued. . . . Any “stock of the present Penny Stamp that may remain on hand must be sold before “commencing the sale to the Public of the New Stamp.”

The Philatelic Record for January, 1880, gives the date of issue as 1st January in that year.

Design.—The design of the new stamp consists of a coarsely executed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a groundwork of coarse horizontal lines, within a rectangular frame, the sides of which are of a chain-like pattern, with an outer festooned edge continued along the top and bottom. In the upper and lower parts of the frame are coloured tablets, inscribed “POSTAGE” and “ONE PENNY” respectively, in thin white *sans serif* capitals. At the corners of the stamps are square white blocks for the reception of coloured *sans serif* capital letters.

The stamp, which is upright rectangular in shape, measures $18\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 60.*)

Plate.—Out of 31 approved plates, only 18, we believe, were put to press, *viz.*: nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 to 10, 12 to 15, 17 to 20, 23 and 24.

(State.)—Exactly as in the first issue of the preceding value, and described on page 147. (*See Diagram N.*) The entire sheet constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of one pound. The lettering ran from “A. A.” to “T. L.”

The plates above enumerated were employed for this stamp; plate 3 was spoiled; plate 11 was prepared, but never registered; and the remaining plates—nos. 6, 16, 21, 22 and 25 to 33—though approved, were not put to press.

Paper.—That watermarked with large (1880) crown. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Venetian red, varying in shade. The colour was fugitive, becoming grey if treated with acid, and disappearing if ammonia were used.

Gum.—The usual pure gum arabic.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.—Imperforate copies exist, having been so issued.

Remarks.—The above replaced the line-engraved stamp of the same value, which had been in use for nearly forty years; and was itself superseded by the One Penny “Postage and Inland Revenue” stamp issued in the middle of 1881.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; large coloured letters in angles. 1st January, 1880.—One Penny, Venetian red (shades); perforated 14.

Variety.

One Penny, Venetian red; imperforate.

(c) THE THREE HALFPENCE.

ISSUE: 14TH OCTOBER, 1880.

Date of Issue.—The issue of this value was announced by the Post Office Circular of the 21st September, 1880, quoted under the One Halfpenny on page 146; and we are again indebted to *The Philatelic Record* for the exact date of its appearance.

see p. 152.

Design.—A coarsely-drawn diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left on a ground of coarse horizontal lines, enclosed in a solid pointed upright oval frame, inscribed, in white *sans serif* capitals, "POSTAGE" in the upper part, and "THREE HALF PENCE" in the lower. The oval frame impinges on the rectangular frame containing the entire design, and the spandrels are filled in with some slight ornamentation.

The stamp, which is an upright rectangle in shape, measures $18\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 61.*)

Plate.—Only two plates, nos. 1 and 2, were used or made.

(State.)—The arrangement was similar to that of the preceding value of One Halfpenny, described on page 147. (*See Diagram N.*) The entire sheet constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of thirty shillings.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown paper previously described. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Venetian red, as in the One Penny value, varying slightly in shade.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—This stamp superseded the line-engraved stamp of similar value, issued in 1870, to be in its turn replaced by that of the unified series of 1884.

see p. 154

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.
14th October, 1880.—Three Halfpence, Venetian red (shades).

(d) THE TWOPENCE.

ISSUE: 8TH DECEMBER, 1880.

Date of Issue.—The announcement as to the Twopence was contained in a Circular of the 23rd November, 1880; and the exact date is given in *The Philatelic Record* of the following December.

Design.—On a ground of coarse horizontal lines is a diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, within a straight-sided frame, of which the upper and lower parts are curved outwards. Above and below the head, and following the curve of the frame, are coloured tablets, inscribed "POSTAGE" and "TWO PENCE" respectively in white *sans serif* capitals. The corners of the frame are engrailed, the inner line being denticulated.

The stamp, which is upright rectangular in shape, measures $18\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 62.*)

Plate.—Two plates, nos. 1 and 2, were used.

(State.)—As already described under the One Halfpenny on page 147. The entire sheet constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of two pounds. (*See Diagram N.*)

Paper.—The large (1880) crown. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Carmine-red, varying greatly in shade.

Gum.—The gum arabic already described.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—This stamp superseded the Twopence, line-engraved, and was itself abandoned in favour of the stamp of the same value issued in April, 1884.

see p. 155

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown, perforated 14.
8th December, 1880.—Twopence, pale to very deep carmine-red (shades).

(e) THE FIVEPENCE.

ISSUE: 15TH MARCH, 1881.

Date of Issue.—A Post Office Circular of the 15th March, 1881, announced:—
“Postage Stamps of the value of 5d. are ready for issue to the Public. They are for
“the convenience of persons corresponding with India, China, &c. . . .”

Design.—Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left on a ground of coarse horizontal lines, enclosed in an upright oval, formed by a single wavy line, with dots following its outside festoons. Above and below the oval are straight coloured tablets, inscribed “POSTAGE” and “FIVE PENCE” respectively in white *sans serif* capitals, the spandrels being blank. There is a little ornamentation at the sides of the stamp, which is upright rectangular in shape and measures $18\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 63.*)

Plate.—Only two plates, nos. 1 and 2, were in use.

(State).—Precisely as in the preceding values, with the addition of a hexagonal division ornament, as described on page 84, in the centre of the space between the two panes, to indicate the place at which each pane might be divided into two Post-office sheets, of the facial value of twenty-five shillings. (*See Diagram N.*)

Plate 3 was prepared, but never put to press.

Paper.—That watermarked with large (1880) crown, as in the other values. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—A very dark dull indigo, sometimes closely approaching to black.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—The Fivepence was an entirely new value: it was superseded by the stamp issued in April, 1884.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.

15th March, 1881.—Fivepence, dark dull indigo, indigo-black (slight shades).

Sub-section C.

The Issues of 1881-84.

As a consequence of "The Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1881,"* which came into force on the 1st June of that year, it became unnecessary to provide separate adhesive stamps of the value of One Penny for postal and for certain fiscal purposes. A stamp of this value was accordingly created, capable of defraying charges whether postal or fiscal, if (as regards the latter) they had previously been payable by stamps "not appropriated by any word or words on the face of them to any particular description of instrument."

By a further enactment, "The Revenue, Friendly Societies and National Debt Act, 1882," † the distinction between postage and certain fiscal stamps, up to and including the amount of two shillings and sixpence, was abolished, and it became necessary to provide a new series of stamps, available for any purpose for which adhesive stamps, whether postage or fiscal (with the same limitation as regards the latter, as was inserted in the above-mentioned Act of 1881) had hitherto been employed. It was to meet this requirement that the stamps of this Sub-section, from the three halfpence up to and including the half-crown value were created.

The Five Pounds was a value originally belonging solely to the series of Telegraph Stamps; but, on their supersession at the end of 1881, and postage stamps again being made available for telegraphic purposes, it became necessary to provide a Postage Stamp of that denomination.

The following stamps were therefore issued, of which the One Penny was the only value without the corner check-letters, and the Five Pounds alone bore any indication of the plate from which it was printed:—

- (a) The One Penny :
- (b) The Three Halfpence :
- (c) The Twopence :
- (d) The Twopence Halfpenny :
- (e) The Threepence :
- (f) The Fourpence :
- (g) The Fivepence :
- (h) The Sixpence :
- (i) The Ninepence :
- (j) The One Shilling :
- (k) The Two Shillings & Sixpence :
- (l) The Five Shillings :
- (m) The Ten Shillings :
- (n) The One Pound : and
- (o) The Five Pounds.

* 44 Vict., c. 12, sec. 47.

† 45 & 46 Vict., c. 72, sec. 13.

(a) THE ONE PENNY.

FIRST ISSUE: 12TH JULY, 1881.

Date of Issue.—On the 28th June, 1881, a Post Office Circular announced that "A combined adhesive 1d. Postage & Inland Revenue stamp . . . will shortly be issued;" but the new stamp was not placed on sale until the above date.

Design. (Die I.)—A diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a background of coarse horizontal lines, within an upright oval frame, inscribed "POSTAGE AND INLAND REVENUE" at the top, and "ONE PENNY" at the bottom, in small white *sans serif* capitals, on a solid coloured ground. This is superimposed on a rectangular pearled linear frame, which is intercepted by the oval band at the sides, top and bottom, leaving the spandrels plain: each of the four angular portions of the frame contains fourteen entire pearls. The stamp, which is upright rectangular in shape, measures $18\frac{3}{4}$ mm. by $22\frac{3}{4}$ mm. (*Illustration 65.*)

Plate.—Only eight plates were constructed, all of which were registered and employed.

(State.)—Precisely as in the lowest value of the preceding Sub-section, described on page 147. (*See Diagram N.*) An entire sheet constituted a Post-office sheet, of the facial value of one pound.

The first plate was approved and put to press on the 25th May, 1881, and the last was brought into use on the 15th of the following month.

Paper.—That watermarked large (1880) crown, as in the preceding Sub-section. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—The first printing, all of which was despatched to country Post Offices, was in purple-lilac of a reddish tinge; but the London issue was purple, from which the reddish tinge was altogether absent.

Gum.—Pure white gum arabic.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14. Imperforate impressions are to be met with, but the stamps were never issued for use in that state.

Remarks.—This stamp superseded the 1880 postage stamp of the same value, and also all the One Penny adhesive fiscal stamps, which were not specially appropriated to any particular instrument. It seems curious that this stamp should have been inscribed "postage *and* revenue." The inscription denotes the use to which that particular stamp could be put, and would imply that it could be used for a postal *and also* for a fiscal purpose. Surely, common sense and grammar should have made the inscription to read "postage *or* revenue."

SECOND ISSUE: 12TH DECEMBER, 1881.

Date of Issue.—There was no announcement of this issue, as the only change consisted in a slight alteration of the design. The earliest known obliterated copies are postmarked on the above date.

Design. (Die II.)—Closely resembling die I, but the lettering is slightly larger, and there are now sixteen complete pearls in each corner portion of the frame, instead of fourteen. (*Illustration 66.*)

Plate.—Up to the end of 1898, one hundred and eleven plates had been made.

(State.)—The arrangement of the plate was similar to that of the One Halfpenny, described on page 147.

No. 9 was the first plate from the new die: it was registered and put to press on the 14th October, 1881. Plates 19 to 24, 29 to 32, 70 and 71 have not been registered or put to press; plate 53 was spoiled in preparation; and plates 118 to 120 have not yet been brought into use. Plate 80 was the last one registered.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown paper, already described.

Colour.—Many varying shades and tones of purple.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14; but copies are known imperforate, having, it is believed, been issued for use in that condition.

Remarks.—There are two varieties of this stamp, caused through want of care in the printing: impressions printed on the wrong side of the paper, and consequently *over* the gum; and double impressions, one on each side of the paper.

A *sans serif* capital letter has since 1884 been printed in the margin of the sheet, under the eleventh stamp of the last row, to assist the contractors in keeping an account of the production of the stamps—the plates of the One Halfpenny and Penny values being always at press—and for the purposes of book-keeping: the letter has no philatelic interest, being inserted by the printers entirely for their own convenience, and changeable by them as they think fit. (*Illustration 67.*)

Since May, 1887, a line of printers' "rule" has been placed round each pane, to assist in preserving the plates from undue wear at their edges: the line is no part of the plate. (*Illustration 66.*)

From the use of the account letters and the "Jubilee" line (as it has been called) the following varieties arise:—Without line, "A" to "J"; and with line, "G" to "W". A so-called error of lettering exists, the original letter "N" being cancelled by two bars, and the letter "O" printed by its side: this was because some of the multiples of the plates then in use had not shown signs of wear, and, in order to make them conform to the lettering of the multiples of the new plate replacing those which were worn, whilst still preserving their identity, the above alteration was effected. The fact that, as will be seen from examining several specimens, both the letters were printed at the same time entirely does away with the supposition that the second letter was a correction of the first.

Copies of this stamp may be met with, apparently with a double watermark, presumably caused by the paper going a second time under the dandy-roll.

The stamp is still current.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; fourteen pearls in each angle; perforated 14.

12th July, 1881.—One Penny, purple-lilac, purple (shades of each).

SECOND ISSUE.

Die II.—Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; sixteen pearls in each angle.

12th December, 1881.—One Penny, purple (many shades and tones), perforated 14.

Varieties.

One Penny, purple, printed on gummed side of paper, perforated 14.

One Penny, purple, printed on both sides of paper, perforated 14.

One Penny, purple, imperforate.

(b) THE THREE HALFPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1884.

Date of Issue.—On the 18th March, 1884, the General Post Office announced that "On and after 1st April, a new series of stamps available for postal, telegraph and, up to the value of 2/6, for Revenue purposes, will be issued." The values intended to come within the terms of this notice were ten in number, being those marked (b) to (k) in the list at the end of the preliminary remarks to the present Sub-section, though the Ninepence and the Two Shillings and Sixpence had been issued in the previous year.

Design.—A small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a ground of horizontal lines, within a coloured curvilinear shield-shaped band, on which is the inscription, in small white *sans serif* capitals, "POSTAGE AND REVENUE THREE HALFPENCE." At the foot of the shield is a square white tablet, inscribed "1½" in coloured figures and letter. The spandrels, which are entirely devoid of ornamentation, contain the check-letters in coloured *sans serif* capitals; and the entire design contained in an upright rectangular linear frame, measures 18¾ mm. by 22¾ mm. (*Illustration 64.*)

Plate.—Only two plates were employed.

(State.)—The arrangement of the plate was that described on page 147, and the lettering ran from "A. A." to "L. T." (*See Diagram N.*) An entire sheet constituted a Post-office sheet, of the facial value of thirty shillings.

The two plates were put to press on the 20th October, 1883, and destroyed on the 19th January, 1888.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—A doubly-fugitive purple, varying in shade and sometimes inclined towards a reddish tone.

Gum.—As in the preceding value.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—Copies of the Three Halfpence, and the subsequent values of Twopence, Twopence Halfpenny, Threepence, Fourpence, Fivepence, Sixpence, One Shilling and Five Shillings, exist perforated 12, both with and without the overprint "SPECIMEN." With reference to these, which it was at one time supposed had been issued, it appears that certain portions of waste sheets were ordered to be sent to Somerset House for official purposes; and, as anything less than an entire sheet could not be perforated by the ordinary machines, they were operated upon at a treadle-machine, the pins in which were so arranged as to produce twelve holes in the space usually occupied by fourteen. These varieties are, in our opinion, entirely devoid of philatelic interest, as they were never intended for public use; and we only mention them to dispel any doubts as to their true character.

This stamp replaced the Three Halfpence of October, 1880, and was superseded in January, 1887, by the one of the same value now current.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.
1st April, 1884:—Three Halfpence, purple (shades and tones).

see p. 169

(c) THE TWOPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1884.

Date of Issue.—The Circular quoted under the preceding value gives the date when this stamp came into use.

Design.—Within a square frame, is a small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of horizontal lines. Above and below the square are coloured tablets, inscribed in small white *sans serif* capitals "POSTAGE & REVENUE" and "TWO PENCE" respectively; and at each side of the square is a large white space, bearing "2^d" in colour.

Square white blocks, for the reception of coloured *sans serif* capital check-letters, are at the corners of the stamp, which is oblong in shape, and measures 22³/₄ mm. by 18³/₄ mm. (*Illustration 69.*)

Plate.—Two plates were prepared and used.

(State.)—As in the preceding values; but the stamps being oblong, instead of upright rectangular in shape, were arranged in two panes, each of twelve horizontal rows of ten stamps in a row, the panes being now side by side, instead of one above the other. The lettering ran from "A. A." to "T. T." (*See Diagram N.*) The entire sheet constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of two pounds.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown paper on which the stamps, owing to their shape, were printed sideways, with the top of the crown to the left. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—A doubly-fugitive purple, varying as in the preceding value.

Gum.—This was of the usual quality.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—For an explanation as to the copies perforated 12, see page 154. This stamp, superseding the Twopence of December, 1880, was in use until the issue of the current stamp of that value in January, 1887.

see p. 160.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.
1st April, 1884.—Twopence, purple (shades and tones).

(d) THE TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1884.

Date of Issue.—This was given under the Three Halfpence value.

Design.—A small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of horizontal lines, enclosed within a coloured circular band, inscribed "POSTAGE & REVENUE" in the upper part, and "TWOPENCE HALFPENNY" in the lower, both being in small white *sans serif* capitals. Each side of the band is intercepted by a large white block, bearing the indication of value, "2¹/₂". The spandrels are perfectly plain, the extreme corners being occupied by coloured *sans serif* capital check-letters; and the entire design is within a linear frame, oblong in shape, and measuring 22³/₄ mm. by 18³/₄ mm. (*Illustration 73.*)

Plate.—Again only two plates were made.

(*State.*)—Precisely as in the Twopence. (*See Diagram N.*) A single pane constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of twenty-five shillings. Both plates were put to press on the 4th December, 1883, and were destroyed on the 19th January, 1888.

Paper.—The stamps of this value were printed on the large (1880) crown paper, the watermark appearing sideways, as before. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Doubly-fugitive purple, as in the preceding values.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—With regard to specimens perforated 12, see "*Remarks*" on page 154. This stamp replaced the one of the same value, first issued in 1876, and was superseded in January, 1887, by the current Twopence Halfpenny.

See p. 170.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.
1st April, 1884.—Twopence Halfpenny, purple (shades and tones).

(c) THE THREEPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1884.

Date of Issue.—The Circular announcing the issue of this and other values, is quoted under the Three Halfpence, on page 154.

Design.—Within a hexagonal band of solid colour, and on a ground of horizontal lines, is a small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left: the upper part of this band is inscribed "POSTAGE & REVENUE" in small white *sans serif* capitals, and the lower part is lettered "THREE PENCE" in similar letters. On each side of the frame is a hexagonal white tablet, bearing the value "3^d". The spandrels, which are perfectly plain, contain the usual check-letters in coloured *sans serif* capitals; and the entire design is contained in an upright rectangular linear frame, measuring 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. by 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. (*Illustration 76.*)

Plate.—Two plates were constructed and used.

(*State.*)—The arrangement is similar to that of the other values in this Sub-section. (*See Diagram N.*) One third of a pane constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of ten shillings; and the lettering ran from "A.A." to "L.T."

Both plates were put to press on the 12th July, 1883, and were destroyed on the 19th January, 1888.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—As in the preceding values, a doubly-fugitive purple.

Gum.—White gum arabic.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—The copies perforated 12, which may occasionally be met with, are referred to on page 154. The Threepence, first issued in 1862, was replaced by this stamp, which was superseded, in January, 1887, by the one now current.

See p. 171

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.
1st April, 1884.—Threepence, purple (shades and tones).

(f) THE FOURPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1884.

Date of Issue.—This is one of the values included in the Circular quoted on page 154, under the Three Halfpence.

Design.—Diademed profile—larger than in the lower values issued on the above date—of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of horizontal lines, within an upright oval band of solid colour, inscribed, in small white *sans serif* capitals, “POSTAGE & REVENUE” in the upper part, and “FOUR PENCE” in the lower. At each side of the band is a rectangular white tablet, inscribed “4d” in colour; and in the spandrels, which are quite plain, are the check-letters in coloured *sans serif* capitals. The design is enclosed in an upright rectangular linear frame, measuring 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. by 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. (*Illustration 68.*)

Plate.—Three plates appear to have been constructed, but only two were employed.

(*State I.*)—Exactly as described on page 147. (*See Diagram N.*) Half a pane constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of one pound; and the lettering ran as usual.

Plate 1 was brought into use on the 16th October, 1883, and destroyed on the 19th January, 1888.

(*State II.*)—As in State I, with the addition of the hexagonal ornament mentioned on page 84, which was inserted in the centre of the space between the panes, to indicate the place for division into Post-office sheets. (*See Diagram N.*)

Plates 2 and 3 were registered on the 16th October, 1883, on which day the former was put to press: the latter was never used.

Paper.—As before, the large (1880) crown. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—A doubly-fugitive sea-green, varying in shade and tone.

Gum.—The usual gum arabic.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—The note on page 154 explains the large perforation (12) which is found in this value. This stamp replaced the Fourpence, originally issued in 1855, and was superseded in January, 1887, by the one of the same value now current.

see p. 172

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.
1st April, 1884.—Fourpence, sea-green (shades and tones).

(g) THE FIVEPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1884.

Date of Issue.—The above value also is included in the circular of ^{18.} March, 1884, which gave the 1st of the following month as the date on which the issue was to take place.

Design.—The Fivepence was similar, *mutatis mutandis*, to the Three Halfpence, described on page 154, the inscriptions being “POSTAGE AND REVENUE “FIVE PENCE” and “5d”. (*Illustration 71.*)

Plate.—Four plates were prepared, but the first two were never registered, nor

was there any issue of the stamps printed therefrom, for reasons which we deal with under "Remarks."

(*State.*)—As in the lower values of this Sub-section, with the addition of the hexagonal ornament in the centre of the space between the panes, to indicate the place for division into Post-office sheets of the facial value of twenty-five shillings. (*See Diagram N.*) The lettering was from "A.A." to "L.T."

Plates 3 and 4 were put to press on the 16th November, 1883, and destroyed on the 19th January, 1888.

Paper.—That watermarked with large (1880) crown. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—A doubly-fugitive sea-green, in varying shades and tones.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14. *also 12. see p. 154*

Remarks.—The first two plates of this value were constructed from a die differing from that employed for the issue, the principal feature of the earlier design being in the indication of value at the base of the shield. In the first die (*Illustration 70*), the "5" is an ordinary Arabic numeral, and the "d" is lower-case Roman with a line below it; in the second die (*Illustration 71*), the "5" is the same thickness throughout, and the "d" is lower-case *sans serif*, with a dot below it.

From the earlier die, two plates were constructed, "and"—quoting from a letter from Messrs. De La Rue & Co.—"six reams of stamps were printed therefrom under "warrant No. 24, dated April 12th, 1883. These six reams were delivered . . . in "May, 1883, as waste: consequently, they should have been destroyed at Somerset "House. It was found that the die was cracked, and the die and plate(s) were "destroyed. . . . A new die and plate(s) were prepared. . . ."

We do not know why the alteration in the numerical indication of value was made in the second die: probably, to ensure uniformity in the series of values.

This stamp replaced the Fivepence of March, 1881, and was superseded by the one of the same value, issued in January, 1887, and now current.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.
1st April, 1884.—Fivepence, sea-green (shades and tones).

(h) THE SIXPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1884.

Date of Issue.—The circular of March includes this value, which was issued on the above date.

Design.—The Sixpence is, *mutatis mutandis*, of similar design, shape and size to the Twopence, described on page 155, the inscriptions being "POSTAGE & "REVENUE" and "SIX PENCE", with "6d" in the lateral margins. (*Illustration 72.*)

Plate.—Two plates only were constructed and used.

(*State.*)—The plate was arranged as in the other values, with the same variations as in the Twopence. As a Post-office sheet consisted of forty stamps, of the facial value of one pound, hexagonal ornaments were introduced showing where the panes might be vertically divided into three equal parts, each of that value. (*See Diagram N.*)

see p. 174

The two plates were put to press on the 16th January, 1884, and destroyed in January, 1888.

Paper.—As for the preceding values, the large (1880) crown. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Sea-green, varying in shade and tone.

Gum.—Uniform with that used for the other values.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14. *also 12 see p. 154*

Remarks.—The Sixpence of Sub-section A was replaced by this stamp, which was superseded by the one of the same value now current, issued in January, 1887.

See p. 174.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; perforated 14.
1st April, 1884.—Sixpence, sea-green (shades and tones).

(i) THE NINEPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST AUGUST, 1883.

Date of Issue.—It is only very recently that the above date has been given, all catalogues having ante-dated the issue by a month. The first supply (80,000 Post-office sheets, or 10,000 entire sheets) was only received from Messrs. De La Rue & Co. towards the end of July, the plates having been put to press on the 18th of that month.

Design.—Similar to that of the preceding value of Twopence Halfpenny, the inscriptions being "POSTAGE & REVENUE", "NINE PENCE" and "9d". (*Illustration 75.*)

Plate.—Four plates were constructed, but only nos. 3 and 4 were employed.

(State.)—As in the preceding value of Twopence. (*See Diagram N.*)

Plates 1 and 2 were found to have some of the corner-letters misplaced, and were never registered or put to press: they were defaced on the 22nd September, 1883. Plates 3 and 4 were brought into use on the 18th July, as above stated, and were destroyed on the 19th January, 1888. Thirty stamps constituted a Post-office sheet.

Paper.—That watermarked with large (1880) crown. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Varying shades and tones of sea-green.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—Since 1877, there had been no Ninepence value, which was again revived in the Post Office List by the issue of this stamp: the latter was superseded in January, 1887, by the one now current.

see p. 175

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; perforated 14.
1st August, 1883.—Ninepence, sea-green (shades and tones).

(j) THE ONE SHILLING.

ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1884.

Date of Issue.—The above value was also included in the March Circular issued by the Post Office, and it was on sale on the first of the following month.

Design.—As in the Threepence value, the inscription being “POSTAGE & REVENUE”, “ONE SHILLING” and “1^s”. (*Illustration 78.*)

Two plates were employed.

(*State.*) As in the preceding values of similar shape, with the hexagonal ornaments at top, bottom and one side showing where the sheet could be divided into Post-office sheets of the facial value of one pound each. (*See Diagram N.*)

The two plates were put to press on the 8th February, 1884, and destroyed on the 19th January, 1888.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Sea-green, in varying shades and tones.

Gum.—As in the other values.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14. *A 12*

Remarks.—This stamp replaced one of the same value described in Sub-section A, and was itself superseded, in January, 1887, by the One Shilling now current.

see p. 177.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.
1st April, 1884.—One Shilling, sea-green (shades and tones).

(k) THE TWO SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE.

ISSUE: 2ND JULY, 1883.

Date of Issue.—The earliest mention is on the 3rd July, 1883, in a Post Office Circular, which announced that “A stamp of the value of 2s. 6d., available for postal, telegraph, or Inland Revenue purposes is now ready for issue.” The value is again mentioned in the Circular of the 18th March, 1884, quoted under the Three Halfpence on page 154. It was issued on Monday, the 2nd July, 1883.

Design.—Diademed profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a ground of horizontal lines within a fancy square frame, the inner lines of which at the top, bottom and sides are indented up to its outer margin. At each side of this frame is a row of pearls, and above and below are solid coloured tablets inscribed, in thin white *sans serif* capitals, “POSTAGE & REVENUE” and “2. SHIL^s & 6. PENCE”, respectively: the value, “2,6”, is in figures on a white tablet at each side of the frame; and the usual square white blocks, bearing coloured *sans serif* capital check-letters, occupy the corners of the stamp, which is upright rectangular in shape, measuring 25 mm. by 29½ mm. (1½ inches). (*Illustration 74.*)

Plate.—Only two plates have as yet been constructed.

(*State.*)—The plate contains one hundred and twelve stamps in two panes, one above the other, of fifty-six each, arranged in seven horizontal rows of eight in a row. Each pane measures 227 mm. (8½ inches) horizontally by 230 mm. (9¼ inches) vertically, and the space between them is 41½ mm. (1½ inches) in depth. At the top and bottom of the plate are marks, a line and dot, to act as guides for the perforating. The lettering runs from “A. A.” to “H. N.”. There are no marginal inscriptions, but the plate- and current-numbers are inserted in pen and ink, on the *imprimatur* sheets.

We do not illustrate the arrangement of the plate, but its appearance will be gathered from *Diagram Q*, representing a sheet of the Five Pounds postage stamps, which are twice the size of these stamps.

Both plates were registered on the 19th June, 1883; and plate 1 was put to press on the 27th September, 1883, plate 2 having been brought into use on the 25th of the previous June: they are still in use.

Paper.—This is the large anchor paper, previously described on page 140 (*Diagram Q*); and the earlier supplies were, like most fiscal papers, of a more or less bluish tint: recently, the blue discolouration has again become noticeable.

Colour.—Shades of doubly-fugitive purple; but there appears to have been an early printing in a dull lilac, copies in which colour are comparatively scarce.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforation 14.

Remarks.—It is, of course, well-known that this stamp superseded the embossed Inland Revenue stamp of the same value, which, unlike the other embossed fiscals, was not withdrawn on the 30th December, 1882, but was issued for a further six months; and a reference to the Stock Book in use at that time discloses the fact that 4,540 of these stamps were received at Somerset House early in January, 1883, and brought into the postage stamp accounts. We at first thought that the stock of the Inland Revenue stamps of this value had been exhausted at some of the offices, and that, as no further supplies could be obtained, a small issue of the *postage* stamps had been made; and we were much puzzled by the apparent discrepancy between the date of approval of the plates and the presumed printing of the stamps: further investigations, however, showed that the stamps supplied and used, to some extent for postal purposes, were the remainders of the Two Shillings and Sixpence fiscal stamps, which were then about to be withdrawn. Of the 4,540 fiscal stamps the following supplies were forwarded as postage or revenue stamps to Postmasters and Distributors: in January, 1,069 stamps; in February, 207; in March, 213; in April, 429; in May, 328; and in June, 1,034: a total of 3,280 stamps.

In June, 113,344 postage stamps of the Half-crown value were added to stock, and the first issue was made in the following month, when 30,248 stamps were despatched to various offices.

The stamp is still current.

SYNOPSIS.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with a Large Anchor, bluish or white; perforated 14.

2nd July, 1883.—Two Shillings and Sixpence, purple (shades), dull lilac,* dark purple (shades).

(1) THE FIVE SHILLINGS.

ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1884.

Date of Issue.—This is another of the new series of stamps, and it was issued on the above date.

Design.—Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of horizontal lines, within a circular band of Greek pattern, with an interior row of pearls; above and below are coloured tablets inscribed, in thin white *sans serif* capitals, "POSTAGE" and "FIVE SHILLINGS" respectively. On each side of the circular band is a white tablet, bearing the value "5s." in colour; and in the corners of the design, at the ends of the tablets, are square white blocks for the reception of the check-letters

* On white paper only.

in coloured *sans serif* capitals. Conventional Greek ornamentation in the spandrels, and an ornamental border at the sides complete the design, which is upright rectangular in shape and measures $25\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (1 inch) by $30\frac{1}{4}$ mm. ($1\frac{3}{8}$ inches). (*Illustration 79.*)

Plate.—Only two plates have as yet been constructed.

(State.)—The arrangement is precisely similar to that of the Two Shillings and Sixpence, described on page 160. (*See Diagram Q.*)

Plates 5 and 6, following consecutively plate 4 of the previous type, were approved on the 6th September, 1883, and put to press on the 16th of the following month: they are both still in use.

Paper.—That watermarked with large anchor, as previously described on page 140 (*Diagram Q.*): some of the sheets employed were of a bluish tint, though not so pronounced as in the preceding value. Recent impressions are to be found on slightly bluish paper.

Colour.—Carmine, varying in shade from pale to very deep.

Gum.—The same as that on the other values.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14. ~~12.~~

Remarks.—This stamp, which is still current, superseded that of the same value first issued in 1867. The change in the designs of this and the two following higher values does not appear to have been officially announced; but, early in 1884, there was exhibited in every Post Office in the United Kingdom, a large card, bearing coarsely lithographed illustrations of all the stamps, which would on the 1st April be on sale: these included all the values in this Sub-section.

SYNOPSIS.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with a Large Anchor, bluish or white; perforated 14. 1st April, 1884.—Five Shillings, pale* to very deep carmine (shades).

(m) THE TEN SHILLINGS.

ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1884.

Date of Issue.—The design of this value also was changed, and the issue took place on the above date, in conformity with the Notice given in the preceding March.

Design.—Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of horizontal lines, within an octagon, enclosed in an ornamental rectangular frame. Above and below the octagon are white tablets, inscribed in coloured *sans serif* capitals "POSTAGE" and "TEN SHILLINGS" respectively. In the corners are white blocks for the reception of coloured *sans serif* capital check-letters; and at the top and bottom of the frame are small circles, each containing a cruciform ornament. At the sides of the stamp are white tablets, bearing the indication of value, "10s" in colour; and the spandrels are filled in with foliate ornaments.

The stamp, which is upright rectangular in shape, measures $25\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (1 inch) by $30\frac{1}{4}$ mm. ($1\frac{3}{8}$ inches). (*Illustration 81.*)

Plate.—As yet, only two plates have been constructed.

(State.)—Exactly the same as that of the Two Shillings and Sixpence, described on page 160. (*See Diagram Q.*)

Plates 2 and 3, following plate 1 of the previous type, were registered on the 17th July and 1st August, 1883, respectively, and the former was put to press on the 3rd of the following October: it is still in use.

Paper.—The large anchor paper, employed for the preceding two values, was also used for this one (*Diagram Q.*); and, as in the Five Shillings, it may be met with, even now, faintly tinged with blue.

Colour.—Pale to dull blue, and cobalt, the latter colour appearing in May, 1884, on white paper.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—This stamp superseded that of the same value, issued in 1878, and is still in use.

SYNOPSIS.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with a Large Anchor, bluish or white; perforated 14. 1st April, 1884.—Ten Shillings, pale blue, cobalt, * light to dull blue.

(n) THE ONE POUND.

1ST ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1884.

Date of Issue.—The One Pound was the last of the values issued on the above date.

Design.—Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a horizontally-lined background, within a white band, the interior line of which is a circle, and the exterior line a transverse pointed oval, inscribed "POSTAGE" above and "ONE POUND" below, in coloured graduated *sans serif* capitals: at each end of this frame is "£1", on a reticulated ground. The entire design is contained within a wide fancy border, the top and bottom of which are impinged upon by the frame encircling the head. The corners of the stamp are occupied by coloured blocks, for the reception of the check-letters which are in white *sans serif* capitals.

The stamp, which is oblong in shape, measures 58 mm. ($2\frac{3}{8}$ inches) by $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 77.*)

The design of this stamp is the same as that of the One Pound, Telegraphs, which became obsolete at the end of 1881.

Plate.—Two plates were employed for this issue, both of which are still in use.

(State.)—The plate consists of eighty stamps, in two panes of forty each, one above the other, arranged in ten horizontal rows of four in a row. Each pane measures 229 mm. (9 inches) horizontally by 240 mm. ($9\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically; and the intervening space is 25 mm. in depth: there are no marginal inscriptions, but the plate- and current-numbers are added, in pen and ink, on the *imprimatur* sheets. At the top and bottom of the plate are the perforating guides, a horizontal line and a dot. (*See Diagram W.†*)

The lettering runs from "A.A." to "D.T."
A.A. T.D.

Plate 2—no. 1 being that of the previous issue—was approved on the 31st January, 1884, and put to press two days later; plate 3, registered on the 25th February, 1884, was brought into use on that day.

* On white paper only.

† Diagram W, with *plain* margins (except for the perforating guides above described), and in two panes, would show the State of this value.

Paper.—For this value the large (1880) crown paper, described on page 77, was employed, each stamp covering the space occupied by three watermarks. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Brown-violet, varying slightly in shade.

Gum.—The usual white gum arabic.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—The present stamp superseded the One Pound, first issued in 1878.

On the 5th November, 1887, a warrant was made out for 505 mill-sheets of paper for this value, but, through some inadvertence, the amount of the required supply was inserted in the column marked "Orb" on the forms then in use, instead of in the column headed "Crown." The consequence was that 80,800 One Pound stamps were printed on the orb paper then employed for certain fiscal stamps—of which a description, (*Diagram Z*), will be given when dealing with the last issue of the One Penny, Inland Revenue—and were, to some extent, issued before the mistake was discovered: many of the sheets were overprinted for official use, as will be duly noted. It was at first intended to recall those sheets still at the various Post Offices, but ultimately they were allowed to be sold. This variety appears to have been on sale from the early part of October, 1888, until the following May.

SECOND ISSUE: 27TH JANUARY, 1891.

Date of Issue.—A Post Office Circular of the above date announced that "The £1 stamp has been altered in colour, from chocolate to bright green, and Post-masters are informed that future supplies of this stamp will be in the new colour. The sale of the stamps of the present colour will, of course, be continued until the supply is exhausted. . . ."

The stamp was in use by the end of the month, possibly on the above date.

Design.—There was no alteration. (*Illustration 77.*)

Plate.—Both plates are still in use.

(*State.*)—This has already been described. (*See Diagram W, and footnote on page 163.*)

Plate 3 was re-registered in green on the 26th November, 1890, the *imprimatur* sheet being endorsed "*Registered for colour*": printing in the new colour was then presumably proceeded with.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown employed for the preceding issue.

Colour.—A bright green, varying slightly in shade.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—This stamp is still current. We believe that the reason for the change of colour lay in the fact that photographic reproductions of the One Pound, *brown-violet*, so closely resembled the original stamp, as to render the Inland Revenue authorities apprehensive of attempts to defraud the Government.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown, three appearing in each stamp; perforated 14.

1st April, 1884.—One Pound, brown-violet (shades).

Error.

Printed on the fiscal paper watermarked with an Orb, three appearing in each stamp; perforated 14.

(October, 1888.)—One Pound, brown-violet (slight shades).

SECOND ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown, three appearing in each stamp; perforated 14.

27th January, 1891.—One Pound, bright green (slight shades).

(o) THE FIVE POUNDS.

ISSUE: 21ST MARCH, 1882.

Date of Issue.—Even in the most recently published work, this is given as the 1st May, 1882, but we have no hesitation, on the following facts, in fixing the date at nearly six weeks earlier.

On the 30th January, 1882, a warrant was made out for 250 (mill-) sheets of the large anchor paper, which, allowing two watermarks for each stamp, would be sufficient for the printing of 28,000 stamps: this very quantity was received into stock in February, and from it the following consignments were forwarded to Distributors and Postmasters:—in March, 1,077 stamps; in April, 414; in May, 518; &c., &c.

We give the above details, in order to do away with any idea that the following Post Office Circular, of the 21st March, 1882, remained practically a dead letter until the usually accepted date of the 1st May:—"A stamp of the value of £5 is now ready for issue and may be obtained by Postmasters on application . . . to the "Controller of Stamps, Inland Revenue, London."

Design.—A diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, within a circle, in a transverse rectangular frame: at each side of the circle is the indication of value, "£5", on a diapered background. Above and below the frame are white tablets, inscribed in coloured *sans serif* capitals, "POSTAGE" and "FIVE POUNDS" respectively, the former having an ornament at each end to fill up what would otherwise be a vacant space. At the ends of each of the tablets are small square coloured blocks: the upper for the reception of the plate-number, and the lower for the check-letters in white *sans serif* capitals.

The design, which is completed by an ornamental frame, is oblong in shape, and measures 54 mm. ($2\frac{1}{8}$ inches) by 30 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. ($1\frac{3}{8}$ inches). (*Illustration 80.*)

Plate.—There is only one plate for this value.

(*State.*)—The plate contains fifty-six stamps, arranged in two vertically disposed panes, each of seven horizontal rows of four in a row. The panes, each of which measures 227 mm. ($8\frac{1}{8}$ inches) horizontally, by 235 mm. ($9\frac{1}{4}$ inches) vertically, are separated by a space of 41 mm. ($1\frac{5}{8}$ inches). At the top and bottom of the plate is the usual perforating guide. (*Diagram Q.*)

The stamp—as mentioned in "*Remarks,*" *infra*—being constructed from the Telegraph stamp of the same value, the corner-lettering runs differently, the first letter indicating the place in the horizontal row, and the second letter the number of that row: consequently, it extends from "A.A." the first stamp in the top row, to "D. N." the fourth stamp in the fourteenth row.

Plate 1, though put to press at the end of January or early in February, 1882, was not registered until the 9th of March following. The *imprimatur* sheet is endorsed : " This plate has already been registered by the Secretary's Department, as a Telegraph Plate. The word ' Telegraph ' " [sic] " has since been cut out, and the word ' Postage ' " is now printed in the space to render the stamps available for either telegraph or postal " purposes." ; and " Ordered—That the plate, as altered, be brought into use." It is still at press.

Paper.—The large anchor fiscal paper described on page 140, two watermarks in each stamp. (*Diagram Q.*)

Colour.—The first printing was in a dull orange-vermilion ; but the subsequent printings have shown less and less orange, until the colour is now a decided bright vermilion.

Gum.—Pure white gum Arabic.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—As briefly mentioned under "(State)", this stamp was produced from the Five Pounds, Telegraph. The word " TELEGRAPHS " was drilled out of each electro on the original plate, which was then divided into two panes, as stated above : the impressions therefrom show the upper tablet of each stamp blank, and in this space there is printed, by a second operation, the word " POSTAGE " with an Etruscan ornament at each end to compensate for the comparative shortness of the new inscription. The shade of the second printing is not always identical with that of the stamp itself, and the *register* is sometimes defective. Although we are unable to give any details of the creation of this value, which is still current, we have obtained particulars of the yearly issues, which may prove of interest : in 1882 there were 6,570 stamps issued ; 1883, 8,753 ; 1884, 9,294 ; 1885, 12,072 ; 1886, 12,632 ; 1887, 11,908 ; 1888, 12,861 ; 1889, 13,191 ; 1890, 14,269 ; 1891, 15,786 ; 1892, 17,012 ; 1893, 16,346 ; 1894, 18,079 ; 1895, 22,523 ; 1896, 22,297 ; 1897, 16,822 ; and 1898, 4,992 ; a total of 235,407, of the facial value of £1,177,035.

SYNOPSIS.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with a Large Anchor, two in each stamp, bluish or white ; perforated 14.

21st March, 1882.—Five Pounds, orange-vermilion, vermilion, bright vermilion, (intermediate tones and shades).

Sub-section D.

The Issues of 1887-92.

The series of stamps, from One Halfpenny to One Shilling (exclusive of the One Penny), described in the two preceding Sub-sections (and in use subsequent to the 31st March, 1884), having proved to be most unsatisfactory, not only to the public but also to the Post Office, a Committee was appointed shortly after their issue, consisting of two gentlemen from the Post Office and two from the Inland Revenue, with the Controller of the London Postal Department as Chairman. Most exhaustive enquiries were made, both in England and at various places on the Continent, to enable the authorities to arrive at a satisfactory decision on the subject of a new issue; and the Committee presented its report in the early part of 1885.

The outcome of the recommendations of the Committee was the issue, on the 1st January, 1887, of a series of new stamps, all of which, except the highest and lowest values, were either in two colours, or printed on a coloured paper; and these colours were so arranged that each stamp with the exception of the One Halfpenny, was, in part at least, printed in one or other of the doubly-fugitive inks—green and purple.

The original values have since received several additions; and the entire series, which is commonly known as the "Jubilee" issue, now consists of the following, all of which are current:—

- (a) The One Halfpenny :
- (b) The Three Halfpence :
- (c) The Twopence :
- (d) The Twopence Halfpenny :
- (e) The Threepence :
- (f) The Fourpence :
- (g) The Fourpence Halfpenny :
- (h) The Fivepence :
- (i) The Sixpence :
- (j) The Ninepence :
- (k) The Tenpence : and
- (l) The One Shilling :

As in the preceding Sub-section, we have been unable to obtain any details as to the creation of the various values, and the plate- and current-numbers are marked in pen and ink, on the *imprimatur* sheets only.

(a) THE ONE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE : 1ST JANUARY, 1887.

Date of Issue.—A Post Office Circular, dated Thursday, the 30th December, 1886, contained the following announcement:—

“ISSUE OF NEW STAMPS FOR POSTAL, TELEGRAPH AND REVENUE PURPOSES.”

“On the 1st January, 1887, new stamps of the following denominations, *viz.*, “ $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 9d. and 1s., will be brought into use, and they “will be available for Postage, Telegraph and Revenue purposes. No change has “been made in the 1d. stamp now in use.”

Design.—A small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of solid colour, enclosed within a coloured circular band, inscribed in small white *sans serif* capitals “POSTAGE & REVENUE” in the upper part, and “ONE HALFPENNY” below, all within a zig-zag frame. In the spandrels are rosaces, and the stamp, which is upright rectangular in shape, measures 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. by 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 82.*)

Plate.—Up to the time of writing, 41 plates have been brought into use, but as multiples of each plate are made, the actual number of electros employed has been much larger, there being presses continually at work for the printing of this value.

(State.)—The arrangement of the plate is the same as that of the One Halfpenny in Sub-section B. (*See Diagram N.*)

Plates 1 and 2 were approved and put to press on the 9th April, 1886; and details of the other plates will be found in the Appendix.

Paper.—That watermarked with a large (1880) crown. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Orange-vermilion to bright vermilion.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—This stamp, which is still current, superseded the one of the same value, first issued in October, 1880.

Some sheets of the One Halfpenny were inadvertently printed on the gummed side of the paper, and were so issued; as also, were a few sheets with impressions on both sides of the paper.

As in the case of the One Penny of 1881, the panes of the One Halfpenny have been, since early in 1888, surrounded by a line of printer’s “rule,” to preserve the margins of the plate; the “rule” was usually rounded at the corners (*Illustration 82*), but in some cases the horizontal and vertical lines met at right angles (*Illustration 83*); and various Account letters are also to be found below the eleventh stamp of the last row on the sheet. The following varieties and combinations of “Jubilee” line and letters are found:—Without line, **A** to **E**; with line “square” at corners, **D** to **F**; and with line rounded at corners, **B** to **Q**, the letter now in use.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.

1st January, 1887.—One Halfpenny, orange-vermilion to bright vermilion (shades).

Varieties.

One Halfpenny, bright vermilion, printed on gummed side of paper.

One Halfpenny, bright vermilion, printed on both sides of paper.

(b) THE THREE HALFPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST JANUARY, 1887.

Date of Issue.—The Post Office Circular, quoted under the preceding value, included the Three Halfpence, which was issued on the above date.

Design.—Small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left on a solid oval ground, upon a mantle lined with white, above which is “POSTAGE & REVENUE” in small white *sans serif* capitals. At the foot of the oval frame, is the indication of value in figures, “1 $\frac{1}{4}$ ”, upon a horizontally-lined transverse hexagon, from behind which rise two branches of olive up the sides of the oval, on the white lining of the mantle. The background of the stamp, which is an upright rectangle in shape, is of solid colour: the dimensions of the design are 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. by 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 84.*)

Plate.—Seven plates have been constructed, the first being numbered 3, consecutively after the Three Halfpence of 1884.

(*State.*)—As in the One Halfpenny of Sub-section B. (*See Diagram N.*) The first plate—or plates, as the stamp is printed in two colours—were registered and put to press on the 21st September, 1886.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown paper, already described. (*Diagram N.*)

Colours.—Green (struck from the “Duty Plate”) for the tablet at the foot of the stamp and for the olive-branches; purple (from the “Key Plate”) for the remainder of the design. The first printing was in pale shades of both colours, which have varied in intensity from time to time.

Gum.—Of the usual quality.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—There are “Jubilee” lines round the panes of this value also: at first, towards the end of 1888, two lines of “rule” were added, one in green and the other in purple, rounded at the corners, the green being external (*see Illustration 86*); but, in and since 1890, the green line appears at the vertical sides only, and not above or below the panes. (*Illustration 84.*)

This stamp superseded that of the same value issued in 1884, and is still current.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.

1st January, 1887.—Three Halfpence, green and purple (shades, from pale to deep).

(c) THE TWOPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST JANUARY, 1887.

Date of Issue.—The Twopence was another of the values announced in the Circular of December, 1886, and came into use on the 1st of the next month.

Design.—A small diademed profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a plain white circular ground: above is a tablet of solid colour, inscribed “POSTAGE & REVENUE” in small white *sans serif* capitals; and below is an oblong horizontally-lined tablet, with hollowed corners, bearing the value, “2^d” in figure. The remainder of the design, which is upright rectangular in shape and measures 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. by 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm., is filled in with foliate ornamentation. (*Illustration 85.*)

Plate.—Up to the present time four plates have been registered, the first being numbered 3, following on those of the previous Sub-section.

(*State.*)—Precisely as in the case of the One Halfpenny of Sub-section B. (*See Diagram N.*)

The second pair of plates (Duty Plate 1 and Key Plate 4)—the stamp being in two colours—were approved on the 27th July, 1886: we cannot trace the first pair, Duty

Plate 2 and Key Plate 3, except that they, together with the second set, were destroyed on the 28th February, 1889.

Paper.—As in the preceding values, the large (1880) crown paper. (*Diagram N.*)

Colours.—Shades of green and scarlet to carmine, the latter being that of the tablet at the foot of the stamp.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—This stamp superseded the one of the same value issued in 1884, and is still current.

About the middle of 1889, a continuous green line, with rounded corners, was placed round the panes; and broken carmine lines (outside the one in green) were added opposite to, and co-extensive with, the tablet containing the numeral of value. (*Illustration 85.*) This arrangement has continued in use up to the present, except for a very short period in December, 1889, and the following January, during which the carmine lines were, like those in green, continuous: this "variety" appears to be of considerable rarity. (*Illustration 86.*)

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.

1st January, 1887.—Twopence, green and scarlet to carmine (shades of both).

(d) THE TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE: 1ST JANUARY, 1887.

Date of Issue.—This was the fourth of the values issued on the above date, in conformity with the Circular of the 30th December, 1886.

Design.—On a disc of solid colour is a small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, above being the inscription "POSTAGE & REVENUE", in small uncoloured *sans serif* capitals, on a coloured tablet. At each side of the disc is a laurel branch, and below is a large uncoloured tablet, with rounded ends bearing the value "2½", enclosed within a framing of Greek pattern, except where interrupted by the circle.

The stamp, which is upright rectangular in shape, measures 19 mm. by 22½ mm. (*Illustration 87.*)

Plate.—Five plates, the first being numbered 3 in continuation of the preceding issue, have been approved.

(State.)—As in the One Halfpenny of Sub-section B., each pane being a Post-office sheet of the facial value of twenty-five shillings. (*See Diagram N.*)

The first two plates were registered and put to press on the 18th August, 1886.

Paper.—For this value the paper was blue, watermarked with the large (1880) crown. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—A dark shade of purple, varying considerably.

Gum.—The same as in the previous values.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—This stamp superseded that of the same value issued in 1884: it is still in use.

Towards the end of 1896, the "Jubilee" line was added round the panes of the plate, as in the current One Halfpenny. (*See Illustration 82.*)

In October, 1894, a sheet of the Twopence Halfpenny, printed on the gummed side of the paper, was on sale at the Southampton Post Office : possibly sheets so printed were sent to other Post Offices as well.

SYNOPSIS.

Blue paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown, perforated 14.
1st January, 1887.—Twopence Halfpenny, dark purple (shades).

Variety.

Twopence Halfpenny, dark purple, printed on gummed side of paper.

(e) THE THREEPENCE.

ISSUE : 1ST JANUARY, 1887.

Date of Issue.—The Threepence was another of the values issued on the above date, as announced by the Circular of the 30th December.

Design.—A small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of solid colour within an uncoloured fancy oval medallion, at each side of which are uncoloured tablets, inscribed "3^d". Below the oval frame is a tablet of solid colour, bearing the inscription "POSTAGE &" "REVENUE" in two lines, in small uncoloured *sans serif* capitals ; and in each corner is an ornamental block.

The design, which is upright rectangular in shape, and measures 19 mm. by 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm., is enclosed by a heavy ornamental frame, and the spandrels are filled in with conventional foliage. (*Illustration 88.*)

Plate.—Commencing with number 3, five plates have been registered.

(State.)—The arrangement is similar to that of the One Halfpenny of Sub-section B., with the addition of the usual hexagonal ornaments to indicate where each pane may be divided into three Post-office sheets of the facial value of ten shillings. (*See Diagram N.*)

The first two plates were approved and put to press on the 28th September, 1886.

Paper.—The paper employed for this value is yellow, varying in depth, watermarked with the large (1880) crown. (*Diagram N.*) In 1891, a small printing took place on an orange-yellow paper.

Colour.—Purple, varying in depth. In the copies printed on orange-yellow paper, the colour of the impression is of a medium shade.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—The Threepence of 1884 was superseded by this stamp, which is still in use.

In 1897, each pane was enclosed in a line of "rule," as in some of the other values. (*See Illustration 82.*)

SYNOPSIS.

Yellow paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; perforated 14.
1st January, 1887.—Threepence, purple (shades).

Variety.

(1891.)—Threepence, purple, on orange-yellow paper.

(f) THE FOURPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST JANUARY, 1887.

Date of Issue.—The Circular of the 30th December included the above value, which was issued two days later.

Design.—On a ground of solid colour is a small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, within an oval frame, inscribed "POSTAGE" on the left, and "& REVENUE" on the right, in small coloured *sans serif* capitals, with a small Greek ornament in the upper and lower parts: this is enclosed by a cross-shaped design, with discs bearing the value "4^d", between the limbs of the cross and the corners of the containing frame, which is upright rectangular in shape and measures 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. by 22 mm. The spaces between and surrounding the panes are lined. (*Illustration 89.*)

Plate.—Thirty-three pairs of plates have been registered, and of these twenty-seven have been put to press.

(State.)—There are eighty stamps on the entire sheet in four panes, arranged two and two, each measuring 94 mm. ($3\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically by 120 mm. ($4\frac{3}{4}$ inches) horizontally, and containing twenty stamps in four horizontal rows of five: the vertical distance between the panes is 48 mm. ($1\frac{7}{8}$ inches) in depth, and the horizontal 43 mm. ($1\frac{1}{8}$ inches) in width. Each pane is a Post-office sheet of the facial value of six shillings and eightpence. (*Diagram R.*)

Eight plates, *viz.*, two for each pane, were approved on the 8th December, 1896; and each pair together prints twenty stamps.

Paper.—For the Fourpence a special paper was employed, the sheet measuring 272 mm. ($10\frac{3}{8}$ inches) in height by 280 mm. (11 inches) in width. In this paper were eighty large (1880) crowns, in four panes arranged two and two, each pane containing twenty crowns in four horizontal rows of five; between the upper and lower pairs is the word "POSTAGE"* in very large open fancy capitals; and at each corner of the sheet is a small cross. (*Diagram R.*) Four of these sheets constitute a full mill-sheet of the same size as a mill-sheet of the ordinary large (1880) crown paper; and sixteen pairs of the small plates of this value are employed to print the impressions, which are, after being perforated, cut up into four "entire" sheets and so issued.

Colours.—The central part of the design, within the cross-shaped frame, is green, the rest of the stamp (with the outside lines) being in brown: shades of each.

Gum.—White gum arabic, as before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14. The full mill-sheet, even to the spaces within each group of four panes, and the spaces between the horizontal groups of panes is perforated, as for two entire sheets each of two hundred and forty stamps, in ten rows of twelve.

Remarks.—There are several marginal varieties on the plate of this value: at first, the spaces between the panes were, except for the narrow lined background, quite plain; afterwards, a brown line-block was placed below the upper panes, and another above the lower, and outside each of these was added a green line-block. These line-blocks are 121 mm. ($4\frac{3}{4}$ inches) long by 3 mm. deep, defined by a plain thin line, and filled with short vertical lines. Between each horizontal pair of panes were twenty-

* This watermark, which measures 230 mm. ($9\frac{1}{8}$ inches) by 20 mm., is too large to illustrate in the text.

one similar line-blocks 30 mm. ($1\frac{3}{8}$ inches) long, arranged one above the other, the uppermost being green, the next brown, and so on, ending in green. (*See Illustration 91.*)

Subsequently, two continuous lines of "rule"—the inner one brown, and the outer one green—were placed immediately round each pane; and the number of short line-blocks between each horizontal pair of panes was increased to twenty-three. (*See Illustration 90.*) The next arrangement was similar to that last described, but shows the green lines of "rule" broken away at the corners of the panes; and at the external side of each of the left-hand panes are a number of thin horizontal lines, 3 mm. apart, green and brown alternately, beginning and ending with the former colour: there are thirty-five lines at the side of the upper pane, and thirty-seven by the lower. (*Illustration 89.*) The thin horizontal lines are now omitted.

This stamp is still in use.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.

1st January, 1887.—Fourpence, green and brown (shades of both).

(g) THE FOURPENCE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE: 15TH SEPTEMBER, 1892.

Date of Issue.—We have not seen any official notice, announcing the issue of this new value, but the above date is given in *The London Philatelist* for September, 1892, and in *The Philatelic Record* of the following month.

Design.—A small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a plain white disc, within a fancy diamond-shaped frame, inscribed "POSTAGE" above and "AND REVENUE" below, in small white *sans serif* capitals. In each angle of the stamp, is a large white block bearing the value " $4\frac{1}{2}$ " in solid colour; and the background of the design is filled up with fine coloured lines. The entire stamp, which is enclosed within an upright rectangular linear frame, measures 18 mm. by $21\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 90.*)

As in the preceding value of Fourpence, the spaces between the stamps, and the margins of the panes are lined.

Plate.—Three pairs of plates have been constructed.

(*State.*)—The entire plate contains eighty stamps, in four panes, arranged two and two each, measuring 94 mm. ($3\frac{2}{3}$ inches) vertically by 120 mm. ($4\frac{3}{4}$ inches) horizontally and containing twenty stamps in four horizontal rows of five: the vertical space between the panes is 48 mm. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in depth, and the horizontal 43 mm. ($1\frac{1}{5}$ inches) in width. Each pane constitutes a Post-office sheet of the facial value of seven shillings and sixpence. (*Diagram R.*)

The first plates—for the stamp is bi-coloured—were registered on the 18th August, 1892, and are still at press.

Paper.—That watermarked with a large (1880) crown, described under the last value of Fourpence, and the stamps were similarly printed. (*Diagram R.*)

Colours.—Green for the head and diamond-shaped frame, and carmine for the rest of the design, including the lines outside the stamps: shades of each.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14, in the same way as the sheets of the Fourpence.

Remarks.—This value was created for use in the Parcels Post, prepaying the postage on a weight of two pounds ; but that rate is now obsolete.

The lines of "rule" and the line-blocks are as in the last variety but one of the preceding value. (*Illustration 90.*)

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; perforated 14.
15th September, 1892.—Fourpence Halfpenny, green and carmine (shades of both).

(h) THE FIVEPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST JANUARY, 1887.

Date of Issue.—The series issued on the above date included a stamp of Fivepence, succeeding that of the same value issued in 1884.

Design.—On a plain white ground, within a pearled octagonal frame, is a small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left : below this is a small shield containing the Arms of the United Kingdom,* on each side of which is a tablet containing the value "5^d" At the foot of the stamp is "POSTAGE & REVENUE" in small white *sans serif* capitals, the remainder of the design being filled in with conventional ornamentation, and enclosed within an upright rectangular frame, measuring 19 mm. by 22½ mm. (*Illustration 92.*)

Plate.—Five plates, nos. 5 to 9, have been approved and put to press.

(State.)—The plate is made up in the same way as that of the One Halfpenny in Sub-section B., with the addition of the usual hexagonal ornaments, indicating where each pane may be divided into two Post-office sheets of the facial value of twenty-five shillings. (*See Diagram N.*)

The first plates—Duty-plate 1 and Head-plate 5—were registered and put to press on the 2nd November, 1896.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown paper already described. (*Diagram N.*)

Colours.—Blue for the tablets of value, and purple for the rest of the design : shades of both.

Gum.—White gum arabic, as in the other values.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—The margins of the panes were at first plain ; then two lines of colour, the inner one in purple and the outer in blue, were added (*see Illustration 86*) : in the variety now in use, the inner purple line remains as before, but the outer blue line is broken at regular intervals all round the panes. (*Illustration 92.*)

SYNOPSIS.

Paper water-marked with a Large (1880) Crown, perforated 14.
1st January, 1887.—Fivepence, purple and blue (shades of both).

(i) THE SIXPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST JANUARY, 1887.

Date of Issue.—The Sixpence, issued on the above date, was another of the values included in the Circular of the previous month.

* See page 189, for description of the Royal Arms.

Design.—A small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a plain uncoloured disc, within a square frame, with dotted spandrels; below is an uncoloured scroll, inscribed “**POSTAGE AND REVENUE**” in small coloured *sans serif* capitals; and below it is a plain uncoloured tablet, bearing the indication of value, “6^d” in colour. The sides of the design are occupied by the National Emblems, and the whole is enclosed within an upright linear rectangle, measuring 18 $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. by 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (*Illustration 93.*)

Plate.—Five plates have been prepared, nos. 3 to 7, following those of similar value stamps in the previous issue.

(State.)—The plate is arranged in the same way as that of the One Halfpenny in Sub-section B, with the addition of hexagonal ornaments, to indicate where the entire sheet could be divided into six Post-office sheets, each of the facial value of one pound. (*See Diagram N.*)

Both plates were registered and put to press on the 18th November, 1886, and are still in use.

Paper.—For this value a pale red paper, with large (1880) crown watermark, was employed. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Shades of purple.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—The edges of the panes were at first plain, but early in 1897 a line of colour was added, as in the other values. (*See Illustration 82.*)

SYNOPSIS.

Pale red paper, watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown: perforated 14.
1st January, 1887.—Sixpence, purple (slight shades).

(j) THE NINEPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST JANUARY, 1887.

Date of Issue.—The Circular of ³⁰December, 1886, also included a stamp of the above value, which was duly issued on the 1st of the following month.

Design.—The usual small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left on solid colour, within an upright elongated octagonal frame, enclosed in an ornamental cross “*paté*,” in the upper and lower parts of which are “**POSTAGE**” and “**AND REVENUE**” in small *sans serif* capitals: “and” in white, and the other words in colour. In each corner, between the limbs of the “cross” and the containing upright rectangular frame, which measures 18 $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. by 22 mm., is the indication of value, “9^d” in white. (*Illustration 91.*)

The margins of the panes and the spaces between the stamps are lined, as in the Fourpence value.

Plates.—Thirty-one pairs of plates appear to have been constructed, of which twenty-seven have been put to press: the numbers run, following the plates of the superseded stamp of similar value, from 5 to 28.

(State.)—The stamps are arranged exactly as in the preceding value of Fourpence, and each entire pane represents a Post-office sheet of the facial value of fifteen shillings. (*Diagram R.*)

The first four pairs of plates, of which each pair represents only one pane, being Duty-plates 1 to 4 and Head-plates 5 to 8, were all approved and put to press on the 22nd November, 1886.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown paper as employed for the Fourpence, and the stamps are printed in a similar manner. (*Diagram R.*)

Colours.—Purple for the head and cross, and blue for the rest of the design and the edging of lines: the first printings were in pale shades.

Gum.—Of the usual quality.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—The *imprimatur* sheets each contain impressions from four pairs of plates, and the sheets printed for use are cut up into panes before being issued from Somerset House.

The sheets, as at first issued, had plain margins; coloured line-blocks were then added, as in the second variety of the Fourpence (*Illustration 91*); and the sheets are now being printed with the marginal lines and line-blocks, as described in the last stage but one of that value. (*See Illustration 89.*)

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.
1st January, 1887.—Ninepence, purple and blue (shades of both).

(k) THE TENPENCE.

ISSUE: 24TH FEBRUARY, 1890.

Date of Issue.—A Post Office Circular, dated the 18th February, 1890, announced that "A new stamp of the value of 10d., available for Postage, Telegraph or Inland "Revenue purposes, will be ready for issue on the 22nd instant." It does not, however, appear to have been on sale until the 24th, which, in 1890, fell on a Monday.

Design.—A small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on an upright elongated octagonal ground of solid colour, with, on white tablets, "POSTAGE" above and "& REVENUE" below, in small coloured *sans serif* capitals, all within a fancy frame: at the sides in white are large numerals of value with a microscopic "d". The entire stamp, which is upright rectangular in shape, measures 18 mm. by 22 mm. (*Illustration 95.*) As in the Fourpence and some of the other values, the spaces between the stamps and the margins of the panes are lined.

Plates.—Four pairs of small plates, as in the Ninepence, were registered on the 8th February, 1890.

(*State.*)—The entire *imprimatur* sheet consists of four panes, each printed from a different pair of plates, as in the Fourpence. (*Diagram R.*)

Paper.—That watermarked with a large (1880) crown, as described under the Fourpence, and the stamps are printed in the same manner. (*Diagram R.*)

Colours.—Purple for the central portion of the design, and carmine-red for the frame and the lines.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—As at first printed, there were two lines of "rule" round the pane, the outer one, in purple, being broken at the corners: on the inner vertical side of each pane was a long line-block, and between each vertical pair of panes were twenty-three

short line-blocks, running vertically. As now altered, the short line-blocks run horizontally between the horizontal pairs of panes, and the long purple line-block, with another similar block in carmine between it and the pane, runs horizontally. (*Illustrations* 94 and 95.)

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; perforated 14.
24th February, 1890.—Tenpence, purple and carmine-red (shades of both).

(1) THE ONE SHILLING.

ISSUE: 1ST JANUARY, 1887.

Date of Issue.—This, the last of the values included in the Circular of December, 1886, was issued on the above date.

Design.—A small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a disc of solid colour, within an escutcheon, inscribed in small coloured *sans serif* capitals, "POSTAGE & REVENUE" above, and "ONE SHILLING" below: in the corners are small crosses, and the entire design, which is upright rectangular in shape, measures $18\frac{3}{4}$ mm. by $22\frac{1}{4}$ mm. (*Illustration* 96.)

Plate.—Five plates, nos. 3 to 7, following those of the prior issue, have been constructed.

(State.)—The arrangement of the plate is the same as that of the One Halfpenny in Sub-section B., with the addition of the marginal ornaments, showing where each pane may be divided into six Post-office sheets of the facial value of one pound. (*Diagram N.*)

At present, plates 3 and 4, both registered and put to press on the 18th August, 1886, and plate 5, put to press on the 26th April, 1898, are in use.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown paper, as originally described. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Shades of green.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—This is the last of the Postage Stamps issued for public use, and concludes Division I.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; perforated 14.
1st January, 1887.—One Shilling, green (shades).

Division II.

Fiscal Stamps admitted to Postal use.

The use of two stamps of the value of One Penny, one for postage and the other for receipts and other fiscal purposes, was always attended with some inconvenience ; and accordingly, in 1881, an arrangement was made between the Inland Revenue and the Post Office, whereby, in the event of the One Penny postage stamp becoming available for fiscal purposes, the Post Office was to pay to the Inland Revenue a certain annual sum, based on the average amount of One Penny fiscal stamps issued during the preceding five years, and increasing yearly to an agreed maximum sum.

This system was, by an Act passed in 1882, extended to various other postage and fiscal stamps, of values not exceeding two shillings and sixpence.

We, therefore, divide the fiscal stamps, admitted to postal uses, into two sections, the one under the Act of Parliament passed in 1881, and the other under that of the following year.

SECTION I.

(under the Act of 1881.)

The Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1881 (44 Vict., c. 12, s. 47, passed 3rd June, 1881) provided that " On and after the first day of June, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-one, any stamp duties of one penny, which may legally be denoted by adhesive stamps not appropriated by any word or words on the face of them to any particular description of instrument, may be denoted by adhesive penny postage stamps ; and on and after that day postage duties may be paid by the use of penny adhesive stamps not appropriated by any word or words on the face of them to postage duty, or to any particular description of instrument."

Early in June, 1881, the Post Office issued the following

" NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

" *Use of 1d. Adhesive Postage Stamps and 1d. Adhesive*

" *Receipt stamps for either receipt or postage purposes.*

" In future the Ordinary Adhesive Penny Receipt Stamp may be used as a Penny Postage Stamp, and the Adhesive Penny Postage Stamp as an Ordinary Receipt Stamp.

" It is understood that, for the purpose of postage, the Receipt Stamps, in common with Postage Stamps, must have no printing or writing placed on their face by the public.

" *By command of the Postmaster-General.*"

As will have been observed, the Notice was not in strict conformity with the Act ; and, in practice even, it was not adhered to. The Act sanctioned the use of such stamps as were not " appropriated . . . to any particular description of instrument " ; and the only fiscal stamps within this category are those inscribed " Inland Revenue " only. The Postmaster-General's notice was so worded as to also embrace the brown

“Draft” and blue “Receipt” stamps of 1853, and the purple “Draft payable on demand or receipt” stamps of 1855 : these are, however, clearly outside the provisions of the Act, and we do not include them as having been admitted to postal uses.

The stamps described in the present Section, which became available for postal purposes on the 1st June, 1881, were all prepared and surface-printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and are three in number :—

- (a) The One Penny of April, 1860 :
- (b) The One Penny of May, 1860 : and
- (c) The One Penny of September, 1867.

Under “Creation,” we give the numbers of stamps printed for fiscal purposes : what proportions remained in an unused condition, until available for postage, we cannot of course state.

(a) THE ONE PENNY OF APRIL, 1860.

ISSUE : 3RD APRIL, 1860.

AVAILABLE FOR POSTAGE : 1ST JUNE, 1881.

Date of Issue.—The stamp now under consideration was created by virtue of the Act, 23 Vict., cap. 15, which provided for the payment of (*inter alia*) certain One Penny fiscal duties—on certificates of birth, &c.—by means of adhesive stamps.

It was issued for fiscal purposes on the 3rd April, 1860.

Design.—A diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a background of horizontal lines, enclosed within a double-lined solid oval, inscribed in white *sans serif* capitals, “DRAFT PAYABLE ON DEMAND OR RECEIPT”, and, in the lower part, “ONE PENNY”. The spandrels are filled in with a reticulated pattern, and the entire design is contained in an upright rectangular frame, measuring 25½ mm. (1 inch) by 30¾ mm. (1¼ inches). The design is completed by an overprint, reading upwards, of “INLAND” at the left of the stamp, and “REVENUE” at the right, both words being in *sans serif* capitals. (*Illustration 111.*)

Plate.—We have no record as to what plates were at press, whilst the overprint of “INLAND REVENUE” was in use.

(*State.*)—The entire plate consisted of two hundred and forty stamps, arranged in twenty horizontal rows of twelve each, the pane measuring 338 mm. (13¼ inches) horizontally by 664 mm. (26½ inches) vertically. There were no marginal inscriptions ; but above the eleventh stamp in the top row, and below the second in the bottom row, was the plate-number in white on colour within an oval, and at the opposite corners of the plate was the current-number in colour within the usual oblong frame. At the top and bottom of the pane, opposite the space between the sixth and seventh stamps, was a cross as a guide for perforating and subsequent division of the entire sheet, which constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of one pound. (*Diagram Y.*)

The overprint, which was the essential feature of this stamp as a stamp available for postage, was registered on the 4th April, 1860.

Paper.—For this stamp a machine-made paper was employed, the sheet measuring 693½ mm. (27¼ inches) in height by 379½ mm. (14½ inches) in width, and containing one large single-lined pane, within which were two hundred and forty Foul Anchors, arranged in twenty horizontal rows of twelve each : the pane was 660½ mm. (26 inches) high by 347½ mm. (13½ inches) wide. At each corner of the pane was a Foul Anchor, placed diagonally with the arms towards the pane.



At the top and bottom of the sheet was "Commercial Stamps", with a cross

Commercial Stamps

between the two words. At each side of the pane the inscription ran, "Commercial

Penny Duties "Stamps", "Penny Duties", "Charles Pressly", "Commercial Stamps" and "Penny Duties", with a

Charles Pressly

cross between the words "Charles" and "Pressly." All the inscriptions were in script, with the feet of the letters towards the pane, the name of the Chairman of the

Board of Inland Revenue being a facsimile of his signature. (*Diagram Y.*)

Like the other fiscal papers in use at this time, the paper was usually blued.

Colour.—Shades of purple, the overprint being in bright red.

Gum.—Pure white gum arabic.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ horizontally by 15 vertically.

Creation.—We do not know how many stamps were overprinted.

Remarks.—Without the overprint of "INLAND REVENUE", the stamp was appropriated to a particular description of instrument, and could not be legally used for postage.

This fiscal, which was only employed provisionally, was superseded by the Inland Revenue stamp of the same value, issued in May, 1860.

SYNOPSIS.

Fiscal paper watermarked with a Foul Anchor, bluish or white; perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ by 15.

3rd April, 1860. } —One penny, purple (shades), overprinted in bright red.
1st June, 1881. }

(b) THE ONE PENNY OF MAY, 1860.

FIRST ISSUE: MAY, 1860.

AVAILABLE FOR POSTAGE: 1ST JUNE, 1881.

Date of Issue.—We do not know of any official notice of the issue of this fiscal stamp, but the date of its first employment appears to be well established.

Design.—A diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of horizontal lines, within a circular band of solid colour, inscribed "INLAND REVENUE" in white Roman capitals. In the lower part of the band is a bouquet composed of the Rose, Shamrock and Thistle; and above is an Imperial crown, the top of which projects beyond the outer frame of the stamp. At the bottom of the stamp is a tablet of solid colour, inscribed "ONE PENNY" in white Roman capitals. The spandrels are filled in with a reticulated pattern, and the design is enclosed within an upright rectangular frame, measuring 25 mm. by (including the projecting part of the crown) $30\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($1\frac{1}{8}\frac{1}{2}$ inches). (*Illustration 116.*)

Plate.—There were twenty-two plates, numbered from 1 to 22 inclusive, prepared and registered for this fiscal issue, but of these only the first eighteen—possibly, all

except the last—were put to press before the change of paper, which constituted the characteristic of the second issue: presumably, the usual number of spare sheets were struck at the time of registration.

(*State.*)—The arrangement of the plate was like that of the One Penny of April, 1860, except that the crosses at the top and bottom of the sheet were respectively above the sixth stamp in the first row, and below the seventh in the last row. (*See Diagram Y*.*)

Plate 1, registered on the 25th April, 1860, was put to press on the following day; and plate 22, approved on the 22nd April, 1864, was brought into use on the 4th November following.

Paper.—For the permanent stamp, the paper at first employed was similar to that employed for the prior issue, watermarked with a fowl anchor, except in the marginal inscriptions at the sides of the pane: from these, which now commenced about 9 mm. from one end of the pane and concluded 140 mm. ($5\frac{1}{2}$ inches) from the other, the words "*Penny Duties*" were omitted. (*See Diagram Y.†*)

The paper still continued to show more or less traces of the blue discolouration already mentioned.

Colour.—Shades of purple.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ horizontally by 15 vertically.

Creation.—Probably over 200,000,000 labels.

SECOND ISSUE: (LATE IN) 1864.

AVAILABLE FOR POSTAGE: 1ST JUNE, 1881.

Date of Issue.—The characteristic of the second issue being a slight change in the watermark, we have so little evidence as to date of issue, that we cannot do more than say that it took place before November, 1864, the first appearance in the Archives of the new watermark, being in the registration sheet of plate 23, on the 2nd of that month.

Design.—No alteration was made in the design of the stamp. (*Illustration 116.*)

Plate.—Twenty-six plates, nos. 19 to 44 inclusive, were at press for this issue: of these the first three and, to the extent of the few spare registration sheets, plate 22, had been in use before the change of paper.

(*State.*)—There was no alteration.

Plate 44, the last of this stamp, was taken from press on the 21st November, 1868.

Paper.—Beyond the alteration in the Anchor, which was now divested of its cable, the watermarking of the paper was similar to that used for the 1860 issue, with the following exceptions: the marginal inscriptions at the sides of the panes, from which the words "*Penny Duties*" were omitted, were placed equidistant from each end; and in place of the single-lined frame round the entire pane, "angle-lines"—as have been previously described—were placed at each of the four corners. Commencing in April, 1866, the word



MARK

"**MARK**" in outline *sans serif* capitals was inserted in the usual position: the word measured 45 mm. ($1\frac{3}{8}\frac{1}{2}$ inches) by 10 mm. (*See Diagram Y.‡*)

* Diagram Y, with the position of the crosses changed as in text, would show this State.

† Diagram Y, with the alteration in the marginal inscriptions as in the text, would show this paper.

‡ Diagram Y, altered as in the text, would show this paper.

Colour.—Shades of purple.

Gum.—As in former issues.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ by 15.

Creation.—Nearly 1,000,000 sheets, equivalent to 240,000,000 stamps.

THIRD ISSUE: (MIDDLE OF) 1867.

AVAILABLE FOR POSTAGE: 1ST JUNE, 1881.

Date of Issue.—Again, the change is in the watermark only. The new paper does not appear in the Archives, and must therefore have come into use subsequently to the registration of the last *imprimatur* sheet of this stamp, in April, 1867.

Design.—There was no alteration. (*Illustration 116.*)

Plate.—Printings were from plates 43 and 44: possibly, also, from 41 and 42.

(*State.*)—This was unchanged.

Paper.—The anchor, now divested of its flukes, was increased in height to 18 mm., and the arms were less curved than formerly: with this slight alteration, the paper was similar to that of the preceding issue. (*See Diagram Y.*)



As the size of the anchor was subsequently again increased, we designate this the Medium Anchor.

Colour.—Shades of purple.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ by 15.

Creation.—At the most, 60,000 sheets, or 14,400,000 stamps.

Remarks.—Full details of the printings of this stamp are given in the Appendix.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Foul Anchor, bluish or white. Plates 1 to 18 and (?) 19 to 21; perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ by 15.

May, 1860. }
1st June, 1881. } —One Penny, purple (shades).

SECOND ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with an Anchor, bluish or white; Plates 19 to 44; perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ by 15.

(late in) 1864. }
1st June, 1881. } —One Penny, purple (shades).

THIRD ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Medium Anchor, bluish or white; plates (?) 41 and 42, and 43 and 44; perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ by 15.

(middle of) 1867. }
1st June, 1881. } —One Penny, purple (shades).

(c) THE ONE PENNY OF SEPTEMBER, 1867.

FIRST ISSUE: 1ST SEPTEMBER, 1867.

AVAILABLE FOR POSTAGE: 1ST JUNE, 1881.

Date of Issue.—As a fiscal, this stamp was issued on the 1st September, 1867.

Design. (Die I.) — Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left on ground of horizontal lines, within a double-lined oval frame of solid colour, inscribed, in white *sans serif* capitals, "INLAND REVENUE" above and "ONE PENNY" below.

The spandrels are filled in with reticulations of a diamond pattern, and the whole design is enclosed in an upright rectangular frame, measuring $18\frac{3}{4}$ mm. by $22\frac{3}{4}$ mm. (*Illustration 112.*)

Plate.—From the first die of this stamp twelve plates, nos. 1 to 12, were constructed.

(*State I.*)—The plate contained two hundred and forty stamps, arranged in one pane of twenty horizontal rows of twelve each, measuring 242 mm. ($9\frac{1}{2}$ inches) horizontally by $476\frac{1}{4}$ mm. ($18\frac{3}{4}$ inches) vertically. There were no marginal inscriptions; but, above the eleventh stamp in the top row, and below the second in the bottom row, was the plate-number, in white on colour within a circle; and, at the opposite corners of the pane, was the current-number in the usual frame. Opposite the centre of each side of the pane was an elaborate ornament, similar to that shown on the diagram (*S*) of the One Penny Telegraph stamp.

Plate 1 was registered on the 6th May, 1867, and plate 12 was taken from press on the 25th May of the following year.

Paper.—That watermarked with a small anchor, and previously described, on page 72, under the Twopence Halfpenny postage stamp. (*Diagram D.*) At this period it varied considerably in substance, and was generally more or less blued.

Colour.—Varying shades and tones of purple.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—Exactly 309,000 sheets, equivalent to 74,160,000 stamps

Remarks.—This stamp superseded the larger one of the previous issue.

SECOND ISSUE: JUNE, 1868.

AVAILABLE FOR POSTAGE: 1ST JUNE, 1881.

Date of Issue.—The date of the issue of this stamp, which differs from the preceding one principally in having plain instead of reticulated spandrels, has generally been given as July, 1871; but, as the first plate constructed from the new die was put to press in May, 1868, and was followed by twenty-eight more plates, all brought into use before July, 1871, we venture to antedate the issue by three years.

Design. (*Die II.*)—The principal difference between dies I and II, was the substitution in the latter of plain spandrels, with a small ornament in the corners for the reticulated pattern in die I. The profile was slightly altered, but the nostril is still straight, especially in comparison with that on the profile of die III in the following issue. The oval frame is slightly larger and the lettering is bolder than in the first die; and there is an ornament at each side of the oval frame, dividing the two inscriptions. The ends of the ribbon with which the back hair is tied are unshaded, and not shaded as in the first issue. The stamp is upright rectangular in shape, and measures 19 mm. by $22\frac{3}{4}$ mm.* (*Illustration 113.*)

Plate.—Ninety-three plates were constructed from die II, being numbered from 13 to 105 inclusive: of these, nos. 48, 49, 56, 61 and 72 proved defective, and were never registered or put to press. Plate 55 was registered, but, proving defective, was never employed.

(*State I.*)—We described this arrangement of the plate under the previous issue.

Plate 13 was put to press on the 20th May, 1868; and plate 105 was discarded on the 15th March, 1877.

* The differences between Dies II and III are so slight, that it will be advisable to refer to the description of the latter, on the next page, and compare them.

Paper.—That watermarked with a small anchor still continued in use.

Colour.—Purple, in varying shades and tones.

Gum.—This remained as in former issues.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—3,678,000 sheets, equivalent to 882,720,000 stamps.

THIRD ISSUE: MARCH, 1877.

AVAILABLE FOR POSTAGE: 1ST JUNE, 1881.

Date of Issue.—An extremely small alteration in the die was the characteristic of this issue, and the first of the new plates was put to press in the early part of February, 1877. Probably, the stamps were in use during the following month.

Design. (Die III.)—The profile of Her Majesty was altered, the nostril being more curved, and the lower lip reduced in size; and the corner ornaments are slightly larger. The ends of the ribbon are still unshaded. (*Illustration 114.*)

Plate.—Of die III, there were only 15 plates, nos. 106 to 120, of which two were spoiled in the process of manufacture.

(*State I.*)—There was no alteration in the arrangement of the plate.

The first plate, no. 106, was put to press on the 12th February, 1877, and the last one, no. 120, was discarded on the 12th July of the following year. Plates 117 and 118 were spoiled in making.

Paper.—As in the previous issue, that watermarked with a small anchor.

Colour.—Shades and tones of purple.

Gum.—Of the usual quality.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—585,500 sheets, equivalent to 140,520,000 stamps.

Remarks.—The existence of this type, which differs very slightly from that of die II, was only discovered in 1894, by Mr. E. D. Bacon.

FOURTH ISSUE: JULY, 1878.

AVAILABLE FOR POSTAGE: 1ST JUNE, 1881.

Date of Issue.—Again there was a slight alteration in the die, the first plate from which was put to press early in July, 1878; and copies of the stamps probably were in the hands of the public during that month.

Design. (Die IV.)—The principal differences between this die and that of the preceding issue, consist in the enlargement of the corner ornaments and the shading of the ends of the ribbon. (*Illustration 115.*) As only stamps from die IV exist on the paper watermarked with an orb, constituting the next and final issue, there should be no difficulty in distinguishing them from those of the earlier dies.

Plate.—There were 20 plates, nos. 121 to 140, constructed from this die, of which plate 136 was spoiled in the making.

(*State I.*)—This has already been described.

Plate 121 was put to press on the 5th July, 1878, and plate 140 was altered, so as to adapt it for the new paper of the fifth issue, early in February, 1881.

Paper.—Watermarked with small anchor, as before.

Colour.—Varying shades and tones of purple, and, during the last year (1880) of issue, a pale lilac.

Gum.—There was no alteration.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—There is no record of the printings from the last two plates, but the others produced 857,600 sheets, equivalent to 205,824,000 stamps.

Remarks.—The registration sheet of plate 135 was the first printed in pale lilac, and the original colour, purple, was not reverted to until plate 140, as altered, was approved.

FIFTH ISSUE: JANUARY, 1881.

AVAILABLE FOR POSTAGE: 1ST JUNE, 1881.

Date of Issue.—The characteristic of this issue was a change of paper which first appears in the Archives in December, 1880: printing, however, did not commence until early in January following when the new plates were brought into use.

Design. (Die IV.)—As in the preceding issue. (*Illustration 115.*)

Plate.—Five plates only, nos. 140 to 144, were used for printing on the new paper.

(*State II.*)—The arrangement was exactly similar to that of State III of the Twopence Halfpenny postage stamp of 1875. (*Diagram Z.*)

Plate 140, originally used for printing on the paper watermarked with a small anchor, was altered so as to fit the new paper; and the new *imprimatur* sheet is endorsed "*Proof after alteration of Plate.*" The earliest plate at press appears to have been no. 141, which was first used on the 10th January, 1881: probably the printing from these plates ceased towards the end of the following May, when the One Penny Postage and Inland Revenue stamp was produced.

Paper.—This paper was machine-made and highly surfaced, and, like other fiscal papers, was occasionally more or less blued. The entire sheet measured 552½ mm. (21¾ inches) in height, by 279½ mm. (11 inches) in width, and contained two hundred and forty Orbs in two panes, one above the other, 21 mm. apart, each pane measuring 242 mm. (9½ inches) square, and containing one hundred and twenty watermarks in ten rows of twelve. At each corner of the two panes were the short "angle-lines" already described; and, at the top and bottom of the sheet, and at each side of each pane, was the facsimile signature of the then Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue, the feet of the letters being in all cases towards the panes. (*Diagram Z.**)



C. J. Herries

Colour.—Slight shades of purple.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—We have no information as to the number of stamps printed on the orb paper.

Remarks.—This was the last issue of the One Penny fiscal stamps, not specially appropriated to any particular kind of instrument, rendered available for postage by the Act of 1881.

During the first three weeks of July, 1881, the stamps of this issue were sold at the post offices both for postal and fiscal purposes.

* Compare Diagrams E and Z, the former showing the postal, and the latter the fiscal, orb.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Die I.—Paper watermarked with a Small Anchor, bluish or white ; Plates 1 to 12 (no number on the stamps) ; perforated 14.

1st September, 1867. }
1st June, 1881. } —One Penny, purple (shades and tones).

SECOND ISSUE.

Die II.—Paper watermarked with a Small Anchor, bluish or white ; Plates 13 to 47, 50 to 54, 57 to 60, 62 to 71, and 73 to 105 (no number on the stamps) ; perforated 14.

June, 1868. }
1st June, 1881. } —One Penny, purple (shades and tones).

THIRD ISSUE.

Die III.—Paper watermarked with a Small Anchor, bluish or white ; Plates 106 to 116, 119 and 120 (no number on the stamps) ; perforated 14.

March, 1877. }
1st June, 1881. } —One Penny, purple (shades and tones).

FOURTH ISSUE.

Die IV.—Paper watermarked with a Small Anchor, bluish or white ; Plates 121 to 135, and 137 to 140 (no number on the stamps) ; perforated 14.

July, 1878. } One Penny, purple* (shades and tones), pale lilac †
1st June, 1881. } (shades).

FIFTH ISSUE.

Die IV.—Paper watermarked with an Orb, bluish or white ; Plates 140 to 144 (no number on the stamps) ; perforated 14.

January, 1881. }
1st June, 1881. } —One Penny, purple (slight shades).

* Plates 121 to 132.

† Plates 132 to 135, and 137 to 140.

SECTION II.

(Under the Act of 1882.)

By Section 13 of "The Revenue, Friendly Societies and National Debt Act, 1882" (45 and 46 Vict., c. 72), passed on the 18th August in that year, it was enacted:—

" 13. (1) On and after the first day of January, One thousand eight hundred and eighty-three any stamp duties of an amount not exceeding two shillings and sixpence which may legally be denoted by adhesive stamps not appropriated by any word or words on the face of them to any particular description of instrument, and any postage duties to the like amount may be denoted by the same adhesive stamps.

" (2) With a view to exhaust any adhesive postage stamps denoting an amount not exceeding two shillings and sixpence which may have been unissued or unused, such stamps to a proper amount may be used to denote any stamp duties of an amount not exceeding two shillings and sixpence, which may legally be denoted by adhesive stamps not appropriated by any word or words on the face of them to any particular description of instrument."

The effect of the first sub-section of the above enactment, the wording of which is not very clear, was to permit the use, for postal purposes, of certain adhesive stamps of two shillings and sixpence, and under, which had been issued by the Inland Revenue, and were not appropriated to any special instrument. At the passing of the Act, there were six of these Inland Revenue stamps in use: viz., twopence, ninepence, one shilling, and two shillings and sixpence, embossed; and threepence and sixpence, surface-printed. After the 30th December, 1882, the sale of these stamps, except that of two shillings and sixpence, was discontinued; and the stock called in and destroyed. The two shillings and sixpence remained in use until the 2nd July, 1883, when it was formally superseded by the "Postage & Revenue" adhesive of the same value.

In connection with this Act, the Post Office issued the following Circular, under date of 20th February, 1883:—

"Inland Revenue Stamp Duties.

" The duties which have hitherto been denoted by adhesive Inland Revenue stamps of the value of 2d., 3d., 6d., 9d., 1s. and 2s. 6d., or by combinations of those stamps, are for the future to be denoted by postage stamps, one or more stamps, as may be necessary, to be used to make up the requisite amount, care being taken however, in every case to cancel the stamps by writing the signature or initials and date across the stamps. Until a postage stamp of the value of 2s. 6d. shall have been provided, that amount of duty may be denoted either by the present Inland Revenue Stamp at 2s. 6d., or by the necessary number of postage stamps at lower rates, and although no more of the superseded adhesive Inland Revenue stamps will be supplied to postmasters for sale to the public,* yet any such stamps which may already be in the possession of the public may continue to be used for the

* As to this, see what is stated under "Remarks" on page 161.

“ payment of Inland Revenue duties, and they may be used also in payment of postage. The documents for which postage stamps may in future be used are :—

- “ Agreements liable to a duty of 6d. :
- “ Bills of Exchange for payment of money on demand liable to a duty of 1d. :
- “ Certified copies or extracts from register of births, &c. (duty 1d.) :
- “ Charter-parties (duty 6d.) :
- “ Contract notes (duty 1d.) :
- “ Delivery orders (duty 1d.) :
- “ Lease, or tack, or agreement, for the letting, for any definite term, less than a year, of a dwelling-house, or part of a dwelling-house, at a rent not exceeding the rate of £10 a year (duty 1d.) :
- “ Lease of a furnished dwelling-house, or apartments for any definite term less than a year (duties 6d., 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s. and 2s. 6d.) :
- “ Letters of renunciation (duty 1d.) :
- “ Notarial Acts (duty 1s.) :
- “ Policies of Insurance, not life or marine (duty 1d.) :
- “ Protests of bills of exchange, or of promissory notes (duties 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 9d., and 1s.) :
- “ Proxies liable to the duty of 1d. :
- “ Receipts (duty 1d.) :
- “ Transfers of shares in cost-book mines (duty 6d.) :
- “ Voting papers (duty 1d.) :
- “ Warrants for goods (duty 3d.) :
- “ Postage stamps cannot be used for inland bills, payable otherwise than on demand, for promissory notes, for foreign bills, for law or other fees, nor for any documents other than those above enumerated.

“ By command of the Postmaster-General.”

The various stamps, which became available for postal purposes under the provisions of the above Act, were nine in number : of these seven were embossed at Somerset House by the Inland Revenue Department, and the remaining two were prepared and surface-printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. : for convenience, we divide them according to the method employed for their production.

All the stamps described in this section became available for postal use on the 1st January, 1883.

(A) EMBOSSED STAMPS.

These embossed stamps were struck from certain dies, not appropriated to any special purpose, on paper upon which the words “INLAND REVENUE” had previously been printed ; and they thus became available for payment of *any* duties, for which no special stamp had been provided, and for which adhesive stamps might be used.

The seven embossed stamps are :—

- (a) The Twopence :
- (b) The Threepence :
- (c) The Sixpence :
- (d) The Ninepence :
- (e) The One Shilling :
- (f) The Two Shillings : and
- (g) The Two Shillings and Sixpence.

As these fiscal stamps were issued in regular series, differing only in colour, paper or perforation, and as they all became simultaneously available for postage, we propose to depart from the usual mode of consideration, and to describe them in a way which will obviate much needless repetition.

THE DESIGNS.

THE TWOPENCE.—The die of this value is nearly square, with the top and bottom curved outwards, and measures $30\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($1\frac{7}{8}$ inches) by 33 mm. ($1\frac{1}{3}$ inches). In the upper part of the design is the word "TWO" in white Roman capitals, on a dotted ground within a curved tablet, at the ends of which circular holes were drilled for the reception of figure-plugs indicating the day and month when the particular impression was struck, similar provision being made at the bottom of the stamp for denoting the year. In the centre is the word "PENCE" in white *sans serif* capitals, on a ground of solid colour; in the left-hand lower corner is the number of the die, indicated by a white Roman capital letter; and the rest of the design, which is surrounded by a linear frame, is filled in with conventional foliate ornamentation. (*Illustration 117.*)

THE THREEPENCE.—Within, and slightly impinging on, a circular Garter, bearing the motto "HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE" * in small white Roman capitals, is a shield bearing the Arms of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland,† and above is an Imperial Crown. From the bottom of the design, where the year-plug is inserted, spring two branches of oak towards the upper part of the stamp; and over these, below the Garter, is an oblong tablet, with curved ends, bearing the value "THREE PENCE" in white Roman capitals, on a ground of solid colour. The day- and month-plugs are in the upper part, and immediately above them, are the die-letter and a *fleur-de-lys*, respectively.

The design, which is of an upright oval shape, measures $29\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($1\frac{1}{3}$ inches) by $36\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($1\frac{7}{8}$ inches). (*Illustration 118.*)

THE SIXPENCE.—Within and slightly impinging on a circular Garter, bearing the motto "HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE" in small white Roman capitals, is a shield bearing the Arms of the United Kingdom; and above is an Imperial Crown—exactly as in the Threepence value. Just below the shield is the year-plug, from underneath which spring two sprays of Rose, Shamrock and Thistle combined. At the foot of the stamp is "SIX PENCE" in white Roman capitals; and, in the upper part, are the day- and month-plugs, the die-letter and *fleur-de-lys* as in the preceding value.

The design, which is of an upright octagonal shape, measures 28 mm. ($1\frac{1}{8}$ inches) by 36 mm. ($1\frac{3}{8}$ inches). (*Illustration 119.*)

THE NINEPENCE.—On a ground of horizontal lines, within a transverse octagonal frame, is the indication of value, "NINE PENCE", in white Roman capitals; above is a bouquet of the Rose, Shamrock and Thistle, surmounted by an Imperial crown;

* "It is curious that the Motto of this" [most Noble] "Order" [of the Garter] "should never have been properly translated; for how few persons are aware that it has any other meaning than the almost unintelligible one of 'Evil be to him who evil thinks.' The proper version is, however, 'Dishonoured be he who thinks evil of it.'"—*Retrospective Review*, 1827.

† The technical description of the Royal Arms is as follows:—*Quarterly of four*: 1 and 4. *Gules, three Lions passant-guardant in pale, or*; for England: 2. *Or, a Lion rampant, within a Tressure fleury-counterfleury, gules*; for Scotland: 3. *Azure, a Harp, or, stringed argent*; for Ireland.

and at each side is conventional ornamentation. The date-plugs, die-letter and *fleur-de-lys* occupy the usual positions.

The stamp, which is of an upright rectangular shape, curved at the top, measures 27 mm. ($1\frac{1}{8}$ inches) by 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($1\frac{5}{8}$ inches). (*Illustration 121.*)

THE ONE SHILLING.—In the centre is a Tudor Rose—*i. e.*, an Heraldic Rose, with another and smaller one superimposed—surmounted by an Imperial crown. At the bottom and sides is foliate ornamentation, across which, immediately below the rose, is an upturned curved tablet of solid colour, inscribed "ONE SHILLING" in white Roman capitals. The date-plugs, die-letter and *fleur-de-lys* are in the usual positions.

The design, which is of a rectangular shape with rounded corners and an arched top, measures 27 mm. ($1\frac{1}{8}$ inches) by 33 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ inches). (*Illustration 120.*)

THE TWO SHILLINGS.—Within a circular Garter, inscribed with the motto "HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE" in small white Roman capitals, is the Star of that Most Noble Order; but the Garter, which is usually round the Badge immediately within the Rays, is replaced by a circle of pearls. Above is an Imperial crown, and below are the words "TWO SHILLINGS", in white Roman capitals. The date-plugs occupy the usual positions; but the die-letter and *fleur-de-lys* are below the garter, above the ends of the indication of value.

The entire design, which is of upright rectangular shape with the upper corners cut off, measures 30 mm. ($1\frac{3}{8}$ inches), by 33 mm. ($1\frac{5}{8}$ inches). (*Illustration 122.*)

THE TWO SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE.—Within an oblong frame, with engrailed corners, is the indication of value, "TWO SHILLINGS SIXPENCE", in white Roman capitals, in three lines; above is an Imperial crown; and, in the usual positions, are the date-plugs, die-letter and *fleur-de-lys*. The lower part and sides of the design are filled in with floreate ornamentation, and the stamp, which is of a fancy shape, measures 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ inches) by 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($1\frac{9}{16}$ inches). (*Illustration 123.*)

THE PAPERS.

(1) THE "WHATMAN" paper, which was the first to be employed, was a stout, blue, wove, hand-made paper, without watermark, on which, within spaces about 45 mm. ($1\frac{3}{4}$ inches) square, machine-ruled with black ink, the words "INLAND REVENUE", in tall, thick *sans serif* capitals, were printed in green ink. Each space was intended for an impression from the die of the value to be embossed. The stamps were in ten rows of six each.

(2) THE SMALL ANCHOR paper was the same as that used for the first issue of the Twopence Halfpenny postage stamp, and was described on page 72. The "titling" "INLAND REVENUE" was now in shorter, thin *sans serif* capitals, in green; and spaces were not ruled. There were sixty stamps on the sheet, in ten rows of six.

(3) THE ORB paper has already been described in the last issue of the One Penny Inland Revenue stamp on page 185; "titling" as on the small anchor paper. The sheet contained sixty stamps in ten horizontal rows of six each, in two panes.

As all the above papers were too large to go entirely under the arm of the embossing press, each sheet was turned round after the impressions had been struck on its upper half, and the stamps on the lower half were consequently inverted as regards those previously impressed: in anticipation of this, the "titling" was printed in a similar manner. (*Illustration 120.*)

THE GUM used for these fiscal stamps was pure white gum arabic, applied prior to the "titling" and embossing.

THE ISSUES.

FIRST ISSUE: THREEPENCE and SIXPENCE.

3RD APRIL, 1860.

The first two values were the Threepence and Sixpence, both embossed on the "Whatman" paper, previously "titled" in green, in varying shades of pink: they were issued imperforate. There are two dies "C" and "D" of the Threepence, but only "U" of the Sixpence; and both values exist in *tête-bêche* vertical pairs. In 1860 they were superseded by surface-printed stamps of the same values.

Copies of the Threepence are known, with a rough unofficial perforation of $11\frac{1}{2}$, 12.

SECOND ISSUE: ONE SHILLING, TWO SHILLINGS and
TWO SHILLINGS & SIXPENCE.

JUNE AND AUGUST, 1861.

In the year 1861, three further values appeared, all embossed in shades of pink on the "Whatman" paper, "titled" as above described in green; and these also were issued imperforate. There are two dies "E" and "F" of the One Shilling; and one each, "K" and "O" respectively, of the other values.

Tête-bêche vertical pairs are to be met with.

THIRD ISSUE: TWOPENCE and NINEPENCE.

1ST JANUARY, 1871.

Two new values were issued in January, 1871, both embossed in shades of pink on the "titled" "Whatman" paper, and imperforate. There is only one die of each value, "A" and "C" respectively. "*Tête-bêche*" vertical pairs are to be found.

FOURTH ISSUE: TWOPENCE, NINEPENCE, ONE SHILLING and
TWO SHILLINGS & SIXPENCE.

AUGUST, 1871.

In July, 1871, the imperforate stock then in hand of these four values was perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$, and so issued in the following month. The dies of the various values are "A," "C," "E" and "F," and "O" respectively; and "*tête-bêche*" vertical pairs exist.

FIFTH ISSUE: NINEPENCE and ONE SHILLING.

NOVEMBER, 1874.

A change of paper is the characteristic of this issue, the stamps being now embossed in shades of pink, on paper with watermark of small anchor without ruled spaces, and "titled" in short, thin green letters (*Illustrations* 125 and 126), and perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$. The dies in use were "C" for the Ninepence, and "F" for the One Shilling.

The Twopence and Two Shillings & Sixpence are also chronicled as existing in pink on the small anchor paper, but it does not appear that they were ever so embossed; and it is doubtful if this variety of the Ninepence was issued: we have seen only the One Shilling.

"*Tête-bêche*" pairs exist, as in the earlier issues.

SIXTH ISSUE: TWOPENCE, NINEPENCE, ONE SHILLING and
TWO SHILLINGS & SIXPENCE.

NOVEMBER, 1875.

A change of colour took place for all four values still in use, and for the lowest and highest a change of paper as well. The stamps were now embossed in shades of vermilion, on the small anchor paper of the preceding issue "titled" in short, thin

wanting

6 u.

1/2

2/K

9^d

1/

lettering (*Illustrations 124 to 127*), and were perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$. The dies in use were "A," "C," "E" and "O" respectively.

"*Tête-bêche*" vertical pairs are to be met with.

SEVENTH ISSUE: TWOPENCE, NINEPENCE, ONE SHILLING and
TWO SHILLINGS & SIXPENCE.

OCTOBER, 1882.

For the last issue of these stamps, paper watermarked with an Orb, without the ruled spaces, and with the "titling" in short, thin lettering was employed: the impressions were in vermilion, and the perforation was $12\frac{1}{2}$. (*Illustrations 124 to 127*.) Dies "A," "C," "E" and "O" respectively, were at press.

"*Tête-bêche*" vertical pairs of this issue are to be found. Though the highest value remained on sale till July, 1883, the others were withdrawn on the preceding 30th December: all were superseded by the Postage stamps of the same values.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Thick, blue, wove, hand-made "Whatman" paper, unwatermarked, ruled in squares with black ink; "titling" in tall, thick letters; imperforate.

✓ 3rd April, 1860.—Threepence, pink (shades), Dies "C" and "D."
Sixpence, pink (shades), Die "U."

SECOND ISSUE.

Thick, blue, wove, hand-made "Whatman" paper, unwatermarked, ruled in squares with black ink; "titling" in tall, thick letters; imperforate.

✓ 28th June, 1861.—One Shilling, pink (shades), Dies "E" and "F."

6th August, 1861.—Two Shillings, pink (shades), Die "K."

✓ 28th June, 1861.—Two Shillings & Sixpence, pink (shades), Die "O."

THIRD ISSUE.

Thick, blue, wove, hand-made "Whatman" paper, unwatermarked, ruled in squares with black ink; "titling" in tall, thick letters; imperforate.

✓ 1st January, 1871.—Twopence, pink (shades), Die "A."

Ninepence, pink (shades), Die "C."

FOURTH ISSUE.

Thick, blue, wove, hand-made "Whatman" paper, unwatermarked, ruled in squares with black ink; "titling" in tall, thick letters; perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$.

August, 1871.—Twopence, pink (shades), Die "A."

Ninepence, pink (shades), Die "C."

One Shilling, pink (shades), Dies "E" and "F."

✓ Two Shillings & Sixpence, pink (shades), Die "O."

FIFTH ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Small Anchor, bluish or white; "titling" in short, thin letters; perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$.

November, 1874.—(?) Ninepence, pink (shades), Die "C."

One Shilling, pink (shades), Die "F."

SIXTH ISSUE.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with a Small Anchor, bluish or white ; "titling" in short, thin letters ; perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$.

- November, 1875.—Two pence, vermilion (shades), Die "A."
 ✓ Nine pence, vermilion (shades), Die "C."
 ✓ One Shilling, vermilion (shades), Die "E."
 ✓ Two Shillings & Six pence, vermilion (shades), Die "O."

SEVENTH ISSUE.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with an Orb, bluish or white ; "titling" in short, thin letters ; perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$.

- October, 1882.—Two pence, vermilion, (shades), Die "A."
 Nine pence, vermilion (shades), Die "C."
 One Shilling, vermilion (shades), Dies "C" and "E."
 ✓ Two Shillings & Six pence, vermilion (shades), Die "O."

Note.—All the above embossed stamps are to be found in *tête-bêche* vertical pairs.

(B) SURFACE-PRINTED STAMPS.

The surface-printed Inland Revenue stamps were used for the same purposes as the embossed stamps of the same values, and were employed contemporaneously with the other values of that series : like them they are capable of being more easily dealt with in separate issues, and we therefore adopt a somewhat similar system in considering them.

There are only two values :—

- (a) The Threepence : and
 (b) The Sixpence.

all the varieties of which became available for postage on, as above stated, the 1st January, 1883.

THE THREEPENCE and SIXPENCE.

FIRST ISSUE : $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{JUNE, 1860.} \\ \text{OCTOBER, 1860.} \end{array} \right.$

Dates of Issue.—The lower value was issued late in June, 1860, and the Sixpence early in the October following.

Designs.—The design of the Threepence consists of a diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, within a circle, imposed upon an isosceles triangle, across the apex of which is a white arched tablet inscribed "INLAND REVENUE" in coloured Roman capitals. At the foot of the stamp is a straight coloured tablet, bearing the value, "THREE PENCE," in thin white Roman capitals ; and between this tablet and the central disc is a bouquet of the rose, shamrock and thistle. The ground-work of the stamp is reticulated ; and the entire design, which is contained within an upright rectangular frame, measures $25\frac{1}{4}$ mm. by $30\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($1\frac{3}{8}$ inches). (*Illustration 128.*)

In the Sixpence, on a ground of horizontal lines, in a circle within a fancy hexagonal frame, is the usual diademed portrait of Queen Victoria to left. The margin

of the stamp consists of a wide reticulated band, inscribed in white shaded Roman capitals:—"SIX PENCE" at the top and bottom, "INLAND" on the left, and "REVENUE" on the right; and between the side portions of this band and the sides of the hexagonal frame, are reticulated discs, bearing "6d" in white shaded characters. The upper and lower angles of the hexagon impinge on the inscribed marginal band; and the ground of the design is filled in with reticulations.

The stamp is of large size, oblong in shape, and measures $54\frac{1}{4}$ mm. ($2\frac{1}{8}$ inches) by $30\frac{3}{8}$ mm. ($1\frac{7}{8}$ inches.) (*Illustration 129.*)

Plates.—The plate of the Threepence consisted of two hundred and forty stamps, arranged in one large pane, measuring 664 mm. ($26\frac{1}{8}$ inches) in height by 338 mm. ($13\frac{5}{8}$ inches) in breadth, of twenty horizontal rows of twelve stamps in each row.

Plate 1, the only one used, was registered on the 12th June, 1860, and put to press three days later.

In the plate of the Sixpence the pane was of similar dimensions to that of the Threepence, but the stamp being double the size of the lower value, there were only one hundred and twenty stamps in twenty rows of six each.

There was only one plate, no. 1, which was registered on the 26th, and put to press on the 27th September, 1860.

Paper.—The first paper employed for these two values was that watermarked with a fowl anchor, and described on page 179.

Colour.—Shades of purple.

Gum.—Pure white gum arabic, as in the case of the surface-printed postage stamps.

Perforation.—The machines used for the large-sized postage stamps were employed for perforating these fiscals, the gauge being $15\frac{1}{2}$ horizontally by 15 vertically.

Creation.—We have no details.

Remarks.—These two stamps superseded the embossed ones of the same values.

SECOND ISSUE: (LATE IN) 1864.

Date of Issue.—The only change being a slight one in the watermark, there was no official notification of the issue, which apparently took place in 1864.

Plates.—There was no alteration in the arrangement of the respective plates.

Plate 1 of each value continued to be employed.

Paper.—The paper now in use was that watermarked with an anchor—without the cable—described on page 181.

Colour.—As before, shades of purple.

Gum.—There was no change.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ by 15.

Creation.—We do not know the number printed.

Remarks.—The Threepence appears to be unknown on bluish paper, though the higher value is to be found on both white and bluish.

THIRD ISSUE: (MIDDLE OF) 1867.

Date of Issue.—Again, the change is only one of watermark, the new paper coming into use about the middle of 1867.

Plates.—The respective arrangements of the plates remained unaltered.

Plate 1 of each value was still at press.

Paper.—This paper was watermarked with the medium anchor, as described on page 182.

Colour.—Varying shades of purple.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ by 15.

16²/₈

18⁰⁰⁰/₁₀₀₀

Towards the end of 1880, when the perforating-machines were taken over by the contractors, Messrs. De la Rue & Co., a small creation of both values was printed and perforated by them, the machines used gauging 14 all round. This variety, though comparatively scarce, does not merit being classed as a separate issue.

Creation.—From a careful search in the creation-warrant and paper-warrant books, we have reason to believe that only 1,750 sheets, “drawn for” on the 2nd December, 1880, were perforated 14: of the stamps printed, 60,000 were of the lower value, and 180,000 of the higher.

Remarks.—As in the preceding issue, the Threepence does not appear to exist on bluish paper; and the Sixpence, perforated 14, is only to be found on white paper.

FOURTH ISSUE: MAY, 1881.

Date of Issue.—The characteristics of this issue were a further change of paper, and an alteration in the plates, which latter was made in April, 1881. Probably the issue took place in the following May.

Plates.—The plate of the Threepence was cut up into two panes, one above the other, measuring 241 mm. ($9\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in height by 224 mm. ($8\frac{1}{8}$ inches) in width, with a space of $36\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($1\frac{7}{8}$ inches) between them. Each contained fifty-six stamps in seven horizontal rows of eight in a row. There were no inscriptions, or plate- or current-numbers in the margins of the sheet.

Plate 1, which was still in use, was re-registered on the 26th August, 1881, the *imprimatur* sheet being endorsed “*Proof after alteration of plate.*” (*Diagram Q.*)

The Sixpence plate was similarly altered, the number of stamps in each pane being twenty-eight, in rows of four each.

Plate 1 was still at press, and the *imprimatur* sheet, registered on the 23rd August, 1881, is endorsed in a similar manner to that of the Threepence.

Paper.—For the new plates, the paper watermarked with a large anchor, as described on page 140, was used. 207

Colour.—Varying shades of purple.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—We have no details.

Remarks.—The *imprimatur* sheet of the re-constructed plate of the Sixpence bore (in manuscript) a new-current number, 628, instead of the original one, 172: the reason for this is not known, but, as it is officially noted that the original plate was “cut into two plates” on the 21st April, 1881, the old current-number may have been retained for that part of the plate which was discarded on the change of paper.

These two stamps were superseded by the overprinted postage stamps of the same values, issued on the 1st January, 1883.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with a Foul Anchor, bluish or white; perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ by 15.

June, 1860.—Threepence, purple (shades).

October, 1860.—Sixpence, purple (shades).

SECOND ISSUE.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with an Anchor; perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ by 15.

(late in) 1864.—Threepence, purple (shades), on white paper.

Sixpence, purple (shades), on bluish and white paper.

THIRD ISSUE.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with a Medium Anchor ; perforated.

(middle of) 1867.—Threepence, purple (shades), on white paper ; perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ by 15.

Sixpence, purple (shades), on bluish and white paper ; perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ by 15.

Varieties.

January, 1881.—Threepence, purple, on white paper ; perforated 14.

Sixpence, purple, on white paper ; perforated 14.

FOURTH ISSUE.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with a Large Anchor, bluish or white , perforated 14.

May, 1881.—Threepence, purple (shades.)

Sixpence, purple (shades.)

Division III.

Postage Stamps overprinted for use by Government Departments.

Prior to the introduction of specially overprinted postage stamps, the correspondence of the various Government Departments was either franked by an official signature, or prepaid by means of ordinary stamps, the cost of which was reimbursed at the end of each quarter. To obviate what was often a heavy personal outlay, the system of overprinting was adopted, the stamps so overprinted being supplied on requisition, and accounted for periodically.

The overprints,* which were printed in a glossy black ink, employed up to the present time, are four in number, as follows :—

- (I) “ I. R. ”
OFFICIAL, for the Inland Revenue Department (correspondence) :
- (II) “ GOVT. ”
PARCELS, for the Inland Revenue Department and War Office (parcels) :
- (III) “ O. W. ”
OFFICIAL, for the Office of Works : and
- (IV) “ ARMY ”
OFFICIAL, for the War Office.

As the characteristics of the stamps considered under this Division consist in overprints applied to Postage Stamps already described, it will be necessary to do little more than indicate the stamps so treated, giving a few details of the application of the overprints : these, which are all in black *sans serif* capital letters, are set up in the ordinary way, and an electrotype is taken from them for the purpose of printing.

SECTION I.

Postage Stamps overprinted “I.R. OFFICIAL.”

The correspondence between officers of the Inland Revenue in the country and Somerset House passes free of postage ; but all other correspondence despatched by provincial and metropolitan (other than Somerset House) officials, as well as official letters for places abroad, has to be prepaid by means of postage stamps ; and it was to meet this, that the issue of these overprinted stamps was made.

On the 26th September, 1882, the following Post-office Circular was issued :—

“The Postmaster-General has approved of the use, on and after the 1st October next, of stamps overprinted *I. R. Official*, for denoting the Postage and Registration Fees on Letters transmitted by certain Officers of Inland Revenue, stationed outside the Metropolis”

The following stamps have received this overprint :—

A.—Of the issues of 1880-81 :—

- (a) The One Halfpenny :
- (b) The One Penny : and
- (c) The Sixpence :

* We purposely refrain from giving these overprints in *facsimile* : they can be sufficiently studied from the illustrations of the stamps.

B.—Of the issue of 1884 :—

- (a) The One Halfpenny :
- (b) The Twopence Halfpenny :
- (c) The One Shilling :
- (d) The Five Shillings :
- (e) The Ten Shillings : and
- (f) The One Pound :

and C.—Of the issues of 1887-91 :—

- (a) The One Halfpenny :
- (b) The Twopence Halfpenny :
- (c) The One Shilling : and
- (d) The One Pound.

The various dates of issue are those officially given, and we reproduce them without comment.

(A) STAMPS OF 1880-81.

(a) THE ONE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE : 28TH OCTOBER, 1882.

Description.—The stamp overprinted was the One Halfpenny, green, on the large (1880) crown paper, issued on the 14th October, 1880, and described on page 146. (*Illustration 130.*)

(b) THE ONE PENNY.

ISSUE : 27TH SEPTEMBER, 1882.

Description.—This was the stamp issued in December, 1881, being the second die of the Postage and Inland Revenue One Penny, with sixteen pearls in each angle, printed in purple on large (1880) crown paper, and described on page 152. (*Illustration 133.*)

Remarks.—Copies of the One Penny, from die I, have been erroneously chronicled as existing with this overprint. The stamp is still current ; but the later printings appear to have been made from fresh electros, as the letters are in a slightly thicker type.

(c) THE SIXPENCE.

ISSUE : 30TH NOVEMBER, 1882.

Description.—The tenth issue of the first surface-printed Sixpence stamp, die VI, in greenish-grey, on large (1880) crown paper, was in use at this time, and a description will be found on page 115. (*Illustration 132.*)

Although two plates, nos. 17 and 18, were employed for the ordinary issue, the former had been discarded some four months before any overprinting took place.

Remarks.—This stamp is still in use, a large supply having been printed.

(B) STAMPS OF 1884.

(a) THE ONE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE : 8TH MAY, 1885.

Description.—This was the slate-blue stamp, on large (1880) crown paper, issued on the 1st April, 1884 (*see page 147*): it is identical (except in colour) with the One Halfpenny above mentioned, which it superseded. (*Illustration 130.*)

(b) THE TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE: 12TH MARCH, 1885.

Description.—This was one of the series, in purple, on large (1880) crown paper, issued originally on the 1st April, 1884: it is described on page 155. (*Illustration 134.*)

(c) THE ONE SHILLING.

ISSUE: 12TH MARCH, 1885.

Description.—The above value was first issued to the public on the 1st April, 1884, and an account of the stamp, which is printed in sea-green, on large (1880) crown paper, is to be found on page 159. (*Illustration 135.*)

(d) THE FIVE SHILLINGS.

ISSUE: 12TH MARCH, 1885.

Description.—At the above date, the Five Shillings, carmine, on large anchor fiscal paper, of the 1st April, 1884—for which the reader is referred to page 161—was being supplied to the public, and was then issued with the overprint of “I. R. OFFICIAL.” (*Illustration 136.*)

Remarks.—The overprint on this value, which is still current, and also on the two higher values, is larger than on the preceding stamps.

(e) THE TEN SHILLINGS.

ISSUE: 12TH MARCH, 1885.

Description.—The Ten Shillings, blue, on the large anchor fiscal paper, of the 1st April, 1884 (*see page 162*), was also overprinted, and issued for official purposes on the above date. (*Illustration 138.*)

Remarks.—The value is still in use.

(f) THE ONE POUND.

ISSUE: 12TH MARCH, 1885.

Description.—This value, printed in brown-lilac on the large (1880) crown paper was the last of the 1884 issue (*see page 163*), to which the overprint was applied. (*Illustration 137.*)

Remarks.—It will be remembered that, in 1888, a printing of 505 double sheets of the One Pound was made on the fiscal paper watermarked with an Orb (*Diagram Z*), an account of which will be found on page 164: some sheets of this error were overprinted for official use and were issued in the early part of 1890.

It is worthy of mention that, of the two stamps, that on the large (1880) crown paper is the scarcer; whilst, of the same stamps, without the overprint, the one printed on the wrong paper is the rarer of the two.

(C) STAMPS OF 1887-91.**(a) THE ONE HALFPENNY.**

ISSUE: 21ST JANUARY, 1888.

Description.—The stamp of this value was originally issued, in vermilion-red, on large (1880) crown paper, on the 1st January, 1887, and a description is given on page 168. (*Illustration 139.*)

Remarks.—This stamp, which superseded that of the 8th May, 1885, is still current.

(b) THE TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE: 20TH OCTOBER, 1891.

Description.—Another of the values of the 1887 issue, in purple, on blue, large (1880) crown paper (*see page 170*), was employed officially on and after the above date. (*Illustration 140.*)

Remarks.—This value, which replaced the same one of the 12th March, 1885, is still in use.

(c) THE ONE SHILLING.

ISSUE: 15TH MARCH, 1889.

Description.—The One Shilling (*see page 177*), originally issued in 1887, in green, on large (1880) crown paper, was adapted for official purposes and brought into use on the date given above. (*Illustration 141.*)

Remarks.—The stamp is still being issued: it superseded the One Shilling of March, 1885.

(d) THE ONE POUND.

ISSUE: 13TH APRIL, 1892.

Description.—The One Pound stamp of April, 1884, printed on large (1880) crown paper, was issued in green, in January, 1891, as recorded on page 164, and was employed officially from the above date. (*Illustration 137.*)

Remarks.—Identical in design with the stamp of like value overprinted in 1885, the printings in green were issued on the exhaustion of the stock in brown-lilac: it is still current.

SYNOPSIS.

(a) STAMPS OF 1880-81.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted "I. R. OFFICIAL," in black.

28th October, 1882.—One Halfpenny, green (shades).

27th September, 1882.—One Penny (Die II), purple (shades).

30th November, 1882.—Sixpence (Die VI), greenish-grey, Plate 18.

(b) STAMPS OF 1884.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; similarly overprinted in black.

8th May, 1885.—One Halfpenny, slate-blue (shades).

12th March, 1885.—Twopence Halfpenny, purple (shades).

One Shilling, sea-green (shades).

Fiscal paper, watermarked with a Large Anchor, bluish or white; perforated 14; overprinted in black.

12th March, 1885.—Five Shillings, pale to deep carmine (shades).*

Ten Shillings, pale to full blue (shades).*

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted in black.

12th March, 1885.—One Pound, brown-lilac (shades).

Error.

(early in 1890.)—One Pound, brown-lilac (shades), on fiscal paper watermarked with an Orb; perforated 14.

* Only pale shades of the Five and Ten Shillings values are to be found on bluish paper.

(c) STAMPS OF 1887-91.

Paper (blue for the Twopence Halfpenny), watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; perforated 14 ; overprinted in black.

21st January, 1888.—One Halfpenny, vermilion-red (shades).

20th October, 1891.—Twopence Halfpenny, dark purple (shades) on blue paper.

15th March, 1889.—One Shilling, green (shades).

13th April, 1892.—One Pound, bright green (slight shades).

THE "V.R."

An account of the official stamps would be incomplete without mention of the "V.R.," which, although only prepared for issue, is always afforded a place in a collection of British stamps.

When adhesive postage stamps were first issued, it was intended to supply the various Government Offices with a stamp of the value of One Penny, specially adapted for their use ; but the idea was abandoned, and nearly all the stock which had been printed was ultimately destroyed. The design of the stamp was identical with that of the One Penny, black, issued in May, 1840, except that the stars in the upper angles were removed from the "roller," the blank spaces on the plate being filled in by aid of punches with the letters "V" and "R," in Roman capitals ; the arrangement of the plate was also the same in all respects, except that a Roman capital "A" was engraved in the margins in place of the ordinary plate-number. On the 15th April, 1840, Mr. Gates, at Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Petch's, wrote to Mr. Rowland Hill :—"Mr. Edwin Hill has directed me to draw your attention to the price being marked round the border of the sheet, intended to be used by the Government Offices for adhesive stamps, and to suggest that in place of the "legend" at present used, it should be denoted that these sheets are for the Government offices, and not intended for sale. I find, upon enquiry of Mr. Petch, the legend on the plate can be removed in about six hours." On the following day Mr. Rowland Hill saw the contractors, but evidently did not adopt the suggestion, as the legend remained unaltered. The printing was in black on the small crown paper (*Diagram C*), and the stamps were imperforate. (*Illustration 131.*)

Only one plate was prepared, from which, before it had been hardened, an impression was taken on the 15th April, 1840, and registered on the 27th of the same month : the plate was then hardened, and a fresh impression struck and approved on the following 9th May.

On the stamp lettered "O. L." the tail of the "R." is broken ; and there are what appear to be traces of the original stars in the upper angles of those lettered "P. J.," "P. K.," and "P. L."

We have not been able to find any record of the number of sheets printed from this plate, which was not destroyed until the 6th March, 1850, but it was probably 5,000.

The Circular of the 7th May, 1840, partly quoted on page 46, continued, after the extract there given : ". . . . I also enclose, for your information, two specimens of the "Label Stamp bearing the letters V.R. at the upper corners, which are to be applied to the correspondence of Public Departments and other Persons formerly enjoying the privilege of Official Franking. . . ." Many of the unused copies known probably came from the Post Offices, to which the above stamps had been sent.

A few of the sheets were employed for experiments with obliterating marks and inks, and some of the stamps were used for postage, as postmarked copies on the original envelopes are known to exist.

It is evident that a considerable number of these stamps remained in stock for some time after it had been decided not to use them, as the following entry occurs in the Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, held on the 12th February, 1841:—"Read letter from Mr. Allen, warehouse-keeper, that "the 3,302 sheets of official 1d. labels may be removed from his custody: ordered "that these stamps remain in the warehouse at present." At a subsequent Board Meeting, on the 20th January, 1843, one of the Minutes entered was:—"Read letter "from the warehouse-keeper, stating that he has 3,302 sheets of 1d. postage labels, "printed in black, and requesting that, if it is not intended to bring them into use, "they may be destroyed. . ." An order to this effect was given, and the stamps were destroyed on the 25th January, 1843, their destruction being certified by Mr. Edwin Hill.

SECTION II.

Postage Stamps overprinted "GOVT PARCELS."

As the overprint indicates, these stamps were used for prepaying official parcels, as those overprinted "I.R. OFFICIAL" were employed for correspondence.

The overprint has been applied to:—

A.—Of the issues of 1880-83:—

- (a) The Ninepence: and
- (b) The One Shilling:

B.—Of the issue of 1884:—

- (a) The Three Halfpence: and
- (b) The Sixpence:

C.—Of the issues of 1887-92:—

- (a) The Three Halfpence:
- (b) The Twopence:
- (c) The Fourpence Halfpenny:
- (d) The Sixpence:
- (e) The Ninepence: and
- (f) The One Shilling:

and D.—Of the issue of 1881:—

The One Penny.

We give, without comment, the dates of issue officially assigned.

(A) STAMPS OF 1880-83.

(a) THE NINEPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST AUGUST, 1883.

Description.—The stamp of this value in sea-green on large (1880) crown paper, was issued without and with overprint on the 1st August, 1883, and was described on page 159. (*Illustration 142.*)

Remarks.—This stamp was superseded in 1888, by the one of the same value now current.

(b) THE ONE SHILLING.

ISSUE: 1ST JULY, 1883.

Description.—At the above date, plates 13 and 14 of the One Shilling, die IV, in pale red-brown on large (1880) crown paper (*see page 132*), were in use, and copies from both plates received this overprint. (*Illustration 143.*)

Remarks.—A minor variety may occasionally be met with, consisting in the omission of the dot under the "T" of the overprint on stamps from plate 13. The stamp was superseded in 1890, by the one now in issue.

(B) STAMPS OF 1884.

(a) THE THREE HALFPENCE.

ISSUE: 30TH APRIL, 1886.

Description.—This stamp was the Three Halfpence of the 1st April, 1884, printed in purple on large (1880) crown paper, and was described on page 154. (*Illustration 144.*)

Remarks.—In October, 1887, the current stamp of the same value superseded the above.

(b) THE SIXPENCE.

ISSUE: 30TH APRIL, 1886.

Description.—This was the third and last value of the 1883-84 series of postage stamps to receive this over-print. The original stamp was issued in sea-green on large (1880) crown paper, on the 1st April, 1884, and was described on page 158. (*Illustration 145.*)

Remarks.—The stamp continued in use until late in 1887, when it was replaced by the one of the same value now current.

(C) STAMPS OF 1887-92.

(a) THE THREE HALFPENCE.

ISSUE: 29TH OCTOBER, 1887.

Description.—The bi-coloured postage stamp of this value, described on page 169, was issued in purple and green on large (1880) crown paper, on the 1st January, 1887; and was first employed with the official overprint on the above date. (*Illustration 146.*)

Remarks.—This and the following values are all in actual use.

(b) THE TWOPENCE.

ISSUE: 24TH OCTOBER, 1891.

Description.—This is another of the 1887 series, printed in green and scarlet, on large (1880) crown paper, as described on page 169. (*Illustration 147.*)

(c) THE FOURPENCE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE: SEPTEMBER, 1892.

Description.—This value (which was originally issued on the 15th September, 1892), was specially created for the parcels post: it was printed in green and carmine on large (1880) crown paper, and a description was given on page 173. (*Illustration 148.*)

(d) THE SIXPENCE.

ISSUE: 19TH DECEMBER, 1887.

Description.—The supply of this value of the 1884 series not being exhausted till the end of 1887, the Sixpence originally issued in purple on red, large (1880) crown paper, on the 1st January, 1887, and described on page 175, did not receive the official overprint until nearly a year later. (*Illustration 149.*)

(e) THE NINEPENCE.

ISSUE: 21ST AUGUST, 1888.

Description.—The Ninepence, in purple and blue on large (1880) crown paper, of the 1st January, 1887, described on page 175, received the official overprint on the above date. (*Illustration 150.*)

(f) THE ONE SHILLING.

ISSUE: 25TH MARCH, 1890.

Description.—On page 177 will be found a description of this value, which was printed in green on large (1880) crown paper, and originally issued on the 1st January, 1887. (*Illustration 151.*)

(D) A STAMP OF 1881.

THE ONE PENNY.

ISSUE: JUNE, 1897.

Description.—Owing to the alteration in the parcels post rates, this value, printed in purple on large (1880) crown paper, and originally issued in December, 1881 (*see page 152*), received the official overprint on the above date. The design is that of die II, with sixteen pearls in each of the angles. (*Illustration 154.*)

Remarks.—This stamp exists with the overprint inverted, both unused and used copies being known. It appears that one sheet (240 stamps) only was circulated. (*Illustration 154a.*)

As an instance of an error passing the trained eyes of many persons entrusted with the supervision of stamps, it is unparalleled in the history of the stamps of this country, no other overprinted stamp being known in this condition.

SYNOPSIS.

(a) STAMPS OF 1880-83.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted "GOVT PARCELS" in black.

1st August, 1883.—Ninepence, sea-green (shades).

1st July, 1883.—One Shilling (Die IV), pale red-brown (slight shades), Plates 13 and 14.

Variety.

One Shilling, pale red-brown, without dot under "T" of the overprint, Plate 13.

(b) STAMPS OF 1884.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprint in black. 30th April, 1886.—Three Halfpence, purple (shades).

Sixpence, sea-green (shades).

(c) STAMPS OF 1887-92.

Paper (red for the Sixpence) watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprint in black.

29th October, 1887.—Three Halfpence, purple and green (slight shades).

24th October, 1891.—Twopence, green and scarlet (slight shades).

September, 1892.—Fourpence Halfpenny, green and carmine (slight shades).

19th December, 1887.—Sixpence, purple (shades).

21st August, 1888.—Ninepence, purple and blue (slight shades).

25th March, 1890.—One Shilling, green (shades).

(d) A STAMP OF 1881.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; Die II; perforated 14; overprint in black.

June, 1897.—One Penny, purple (shades).

Error.

(1898).—One Penny, purple, with overprint inverted.

Illustrations 107 to 110 show two essays of this overprint.

SECTION III.

Postage Stamps overprinted "O. W. OFFICIAL."

Prior to the issue of these stamps, the Office of Works, for which they were printed, made use of the ordinary postage stamps perforated with the initials O.W. surmounted by a Crown.

In 1896 it was determined to issue special stamps, and the following notice was published in the Post Office Circular of the 24th March, 1896:—

"STAMPS OVERPRINTED 'O. W. OFFICIAL' TO BE USED IN CERTAIN
"CASES FOR OFFICE OF WORKS CORRESPONDENCE.

"The Postmaster-General has approved of the use of stamps overprinted 'O.W. Official,' for denoting the postage and registration fees on letters, &c., transmitted
"by certain Officers of the Office of Works."

Only two values have as yet been issued: they are:—

Of the issues of 1881-87:—

(a) The One Halfpenny: and

(b) The One Penny.

The dates of issue given by us have been officially supplied.

STAMPS OF 1881-87.

(a) THE ONE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE: MARCH, 1896.

Description.—The lower of the two values which received this overprint was the One Halfpenny (*see page 168*), printed in vermilion-red on large (1880) crown paper, and originally issued on the 1st January, 1887. (*Illustration 152.*)

(b) THE ONE PENNY.

ISSUE: MARCH, 1896.

Description.—This value (*see page 152*) was originally issued in December, 1881, in purple, on large (1880) crown paper: the design is of die II, with sixteen pearls in each angle. (*Illustration 153.*)

Remarks.—Both values are now current.

SYNOPSIS.

STAMPS OF 1881-87.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprint of "O.W. OFFICIAL" in black.

March, 1896.—One Halfpenny, vermilion-red (shades).

One Penny (Die II), purple (shades).

SECTION IV.

Postage Stamps overprinted "ARMY OFFICIAL."

The stamps of this Section were issued to prepay "the cost of postage of letters and book-packets at home military stations, now borne by the public under a special arrangement. These stamps will be supplied by the General Post Office, to district and station paymasters only, who will distribute them to their sub-accountants."

Only three values have as yet received this overprint, *viz.* :—

Of the issues of 1881-87 :—

- (a) The One Halfpenny :
- (b) The One Penny : and
- (c) The Twopence Halfpenny.

We give the dates of issue, as officially supplied to us.

STAMPS OF 1881-87.

(a) THE ONE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE : 1ST SEPTEMBER, 1896.

Description.—The lowest value was, as in the last Section, the One Halfpenny (*see page 168*) of the 1st January, 1887, printed in vermilion-red on large (1880) crown paper. (*Illustration 155.*)

Remarks.—In the early printings of the overprint on the One Halfpenny, there were two so-called "errors," which, however, were caused solely by broken letters: on the seventh stamp in the third horizontal row of the lower pane, the second word of the surcharge read "OFFICIAL"—the foot of the last letter being broken off; and on the eighth stamp in the next horizontal row, the foot of the "I" was also broken off, but not so completely as in the former case. (*Illustrations 158 and 157.*) The "errors" have been corrected in the later printings, by restoring the broken feet, the two overprints being easily distinguishable by the thickness of the horizontal stroke of the last letter.

but on the upper pane

(b) THE ONE PENNY.

ISSUE : 1ST SEPTEMBER, 1896.

Description.—The current One Penny (die II), purple, of December, 1881, on large (1880) crown paper, was issued, with this overprint, on the above date. (*Illustration 156.*)

Remarks.—The sheets of this value being overprinted by means of the same plates, the same "errors" are to be found as in the lower value. (*Illustrations 161 and 160.*)

(c) THE TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE : 1ST SEPTEMBER, 1896.

Description.—For the highest of the three values, the Twopence Halfpenny of the 1887 issue, in purple, on blue large (1880) crown paper, was overprinted, the

words being, on this stamp, of a thicker type and only $9\frac{1}{4}$ mm. apart, instead of 12 mm. as on the other values. (*Illustration 159.*)

Remarks.—The above three stamps are still in use.

SYNOPSIS.

STAMPS OF 1881-87.

Paper (blue for the highest value) watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; perforated 14 ; overprinted "ARMY OFFICIAL" in black.

1st September, 1896.—One Halfpenny, vermilion-red (shades).

One Penny (Die II), purple (shades).

Twopence Halfpenny, purple (shades).

Division IV.

Postage Stamps specially surcharged for use in the Ottoman Empire.

The stamps of this division are surcharged with the Turkish equivalent, according to the rates of the Postal Union, of their original facial value, for use in the various British Post Offices established in the Ottoman Empire. All British stamps may be used for prepayment of letters, &c., despatched from these post offices, but the Five Shillings stamp is, we believe, the highest value on sale there.

The following have been surcharged :—

- A. Of the issue of 1884 :—
 - (a) The Twopence Halfpenny :
 - (b) The Fivepence : and
 - (c) The Two Shillings & Sixpence :
- B. Of the issues of 1887-90 :—
 - (a) The Twopence Halfpenny :
 - (b) The Fivepence : and
 - (c) The Tenpence :
- and C. Of the issue of 1887 :—
 - (a) The One Halfpenny.

As in the preceding division, the surcharge, which is always in black *sans serif* figures and capital letters, is the characteristic of the various issues ; and we, therefore, propose to treat the stamps as briefly as possible.

(A) STAMPS OF 1884.

(a) THE TWOPENCE HALFPENNY, surcharged "40 PARAS."

ISSUE : 1ST APRIL, 1885.

Description.—We give this date as above, on the authority of Mr. W. A. S. Westoby (*Postage Stamps of the United Kingdom*, p. 50) ; but this and the two following values were only chronicled in *The Philatelic Record* for August, 1885, and Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen also gives this month as that in which the issue took place.

This value was of the type first issued in April, 1884, printed in purple, on large (1880) crown paper. (*Illustration 162.*)

Remarks.—The stamp was superseded in June, 1887, by the Twopence Halfpenny stamp issued in that year, and similarly surcharged.

(b) THE FIVEPENNY, surcharged "80 PARAS."

ISSUE : 1ST APRIL, 1885.

Description.—We refer our readers to the last value, for our authority as to the date of issue.

The surcharge was applied to the Fivepence of April, 1884, printed in sea-green on the large (1880) crown paper. (*Illustration 164.*)

Remarks.—The Fivepence of 1887 was similarly surcharged in the middle of that year, and superseded this stamp.

(c) THE TWO SHILLINGS & SIXPENCE, surcharged "12 PIASTRES."

ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1885.

Description.—The above date is also given on the authority of Mr. Westoby, our remarks under the first value being applicable here.

This value was originally issued in July, 1883, being printed in purple on the large anchor fiscal paper; as in the ordinary postage stamp, the paper was sometimes tinged with blue. (*Illustration 163.*)

Remarks.—The *imprimatur*, dated 16th March, 1892, is endorsed on the surcharged lower pane only of an entire sheet; and it would appear that, until within the last two or three years, the Turkish value was not surcharged on the upper pane, although that portion of the sheet was in ordinary use, together with the remainder of the impressions from the plate.

The stamp is still current.

(B) STAMPS OF 1887-90.

(a) THE TWOPENCE HALFPENNY, surcharged "40 PARAS."

ISSUE: JUNE, 1887.

Description.—On the above date, which is usually accepted as correct, the Twopence Halfpenny of the 1st January, 1887, was issued with this surcharge: the stamp is in varying shades of purple, on blue paper, watermarked with the large (1880) crown. (*Illustration 165.*)

Remarks.—The stamp is now in use.

(b) THE FIVEPENNY, surcharged "80 PARAS."

ISSUE: JUNE, 1887.

Description.—On the same date as the lower value, the Fivepenny of January, 1887, appeared with this surcharge. The stamp is printed in two colours, purple and blue, on the large (1880) crown paper. (*Illustration 166.*)

Remarks.—This stamp is still current.

(c) THE TENPENNY, surcharged "4 PIASTRES."

ISSUE: OCTOBER, 1896.

Description.—On the above date, the Tenpenny of 1890, printed in purple and crimson, on large (1880) crown paper, was issued with surcharge in Turkish currency, as on the other values, it being a multiple of the single Postal Union rate of twopence halfpenny. (*Illustration 167.*)

Remarks.—The stamp is in use.

(C) A STAMP OF 1887.

(a) THE ONE HALFPENNY, surcharged "40 PARAS."

ISSUE: 25TH MARCH, 1893.

Description.—The date is occasionally given as the 27th March, 1893, but we have the authority of one of the officials at the British Post Office, Constantinople, for ante-dating this by two days.

with this is an error in this issue 30 Paras for 80.
c.

The stamp which received the surcharge was the One Halfpenny of the 1st January, 1887, printed in vermilion-red on the large (1880) crown paper. (*Illustration* 168.)

Remarks.—This was a provisional issue of the British Post Office at Constantinople, in use for only five days—from the 25th February to the 1st March, 1893, rendered necessary by the “delay in London in sending out ordinary 40 paras stamps.”

The surcharge was applied at the Post Office, by means of a hand-stamp; and the stamps were supposed to be affixed to the letters by the clerks, and not sold to the public over the counter: “most of” them “were obliterated with the date-stamp “(British Post Office, Constantinople), but . . . some of the earlier ones were cancelled with the ordinary “C” stamp used for obliterating stamps.”

Only twenty-five sheets, or 6,000 stamps, were surcharged, and those which remained on hand, when the supply of 40 paras stamps was received from London, were “sold on the 1st March, the last date on which they were used.”

We are indebted to Mr. R. Pearce for the greater part of the above particulars.

So-called forgeries are known, made by a Post-office clerk with the original hand-stamp, after the provisional had become obsolete.

SYNOPSIS.

(a) STAMPS OF 1884.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14, surcharged with Turkish currency in black.

1st April, 1885.—Forty Paras, on Twopence Halfpenny, purple (shades).

Eighty Paras, on Fivepence, sea-green (shades).

Fiscal paper, watermarked with a Large Anchor, bluish or white; perforated 14; surcharged with Turkish currency in black.

1st April, 1885.—Twelve Piastres, on Two Shillings & Sixpence, purple (shades).

(b) STAMPS OF 1887-90.

Paper (blue for the lowest value) watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; surcharged with Turkish currency in black.

June, 1887.—Forty Paras, on Twopence Halfpenny, purple (shades).

Eighty Paras, on Fivepence, purple and blue (shades).

October, 1896.—Four Piastres, on Tenpence, purple and crimson (shades).

(c) A STAMP OF 1887.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; surcharged with Turkish currency in black.

25th March, 1893.—Forty Paras on One Halfpenny, vermilion-red.

Division V.

Telegraph Stamps issued for public use.

Prior to the 31st July, 1869, the inland telegraphic communication was conducted by six private Telegraph Companies, whose various undertakings were then, or in 1870, acquired by the Postmaster-General, under the powers conferred upon him by "The Telegraph Act, 1868" (31 & 32 Vict., cap. 110), and "The Telegraph Act, 1869" (32 & 33 Vict., cap. 73).

As soon as the various telegraph systems had been acquired, the Post Office fixed a uniform rate of charges for all inland messages: this was one shilling for any message not exceeding twenty words (exclusive of the names and addresses of the sender and receiver, which were transmitted without charge), and threepence for every additional five words. The present rate is sixpence for the first twelve words, and one halfpenny for each additional word, inclusive of the names and addresses of the sender and receiver, which are now charged for.

Until the 1st February, 1876, the charges for transmission of telegraphic messages were denoted by means of the embossed envelope stamp of the value of One Shilling,* impressed on the telegraphic forms, or by the ordinary adhesive postage stamps, any excess of cost over one shilling being paid by means of the latter.

So early as January, 1875, a proposal for distinctive telegraph stamps was approved, and, by a Post Office Circular, dated the 3rd January, 1876, it was announced that, on and after the 1st February next, "distinctive stamps will be used for denoting all charges collected on Telegraph Messages"

"The Telegraph stamps will be of the value of:—

" 1d.

" 3d.

" 1s. and

" 5s. respectively.

"Supplies of all will be sent before 1st February next, to every Post Office in the United Kingdom, which renders a daily cash account"

The designs of these four values were approved on the 23rd October, 1875.

For three months after the introduction of special telegraph stamps, it was permissible to use adhesive postage stamps for the prepayment of messages; but, on the 24th April, 1876, the following Post Office Circular was published:—

"DISTINCTIVE STAMPS FOR TELEGRAPH MESSAGES.

"On and after Monday, the 1st May next, no postage stamps other than those embossed on Telegraph Message Forms—the original supplies of which may still be unexhausted—must be accepted in payment of Telegrams."

A distinctive series of telegraph stamps continued to be employed until the close

* This stamp was identical with the adhesive one of same value (*Illustration 19*), except that the date of striking was indicated by date-plugs.

of 1881, when the Post Office, on the 13th October, announced that :—"On and from the 1st November next, Postage Stamps may be used in prepayment of Telegrams. Supplies of Telegraph Stamps will cease to be sent to Postmasters on the 31st inst."

An official note, in the following terms, was also sent to the newspapers :—

"The assimilation of the penny adhesive stamps for Postal and Inland Revenue charges, having been received by the Public with much satisfaction, it has been decided to proceed further in the same direction, and to abolish the distinctive stamps now used for the payment of the charges upon Telegraph Messages."

As in the case of the Postage Stamps, there are certain features, common to all or most of the stamps used for telegraphic purposes, which can be referred to before dealing with the various values, which are eleven in number, as follows :—

- (a) The One Halfpenny :
- (b) The One Penny :
- (c) The Threepence :
- (d) The Fourpence :
- (e) The Sixpence :
- (f) The One Shilling :
- (g) The Three Shillings :
- (h) The Five Shillings :
- (i) The Ten Shillings :
- (j) The One Pound : and
- (k) The Five Pounds.

With regard to *Die, Plate, Paper, Gum, Perforation* and *Impression*, the reader is referred to our preliminary remarks, on pages 69 and 70, to the Section dealing with the Postage Stamps produced by surface-printing, the process adopted for the stamps of this Division.

So far as the *Colour* was concerned, it was, in most cases, the same as that employed for the postage stamps of corresponding value, then current.



TELEGRAPHS

The *Control Marks* were, with the substitution of the word "TELEGRAPHS" for "POSTAGE", similar to those used for the postage stamps, as described on page 70, the impression being in blue.

(a) THE ONE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE: 1ST APRIL, 1880.

Date of Issue.—A Post Office Circular of the 23rd March, 1880, announced that "On and from the 1st April next Telegraph Stamps of the value of $\frac{1}{2}d.$ will be brought into use." ; and the issue took place on that day.

Design.—Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, enclosed within a white circular band, inscribed in coloured *sans serif* capitals, "TELEGRAPHS" above and "HALF PENNY" below. At each side of the band is the plate-number, and in the lower corners are square white blocks for the reception of the *sans serif* capital check-letters, all in colour. The spandrels are filled in with conventional ornamentation, and the stamp, which is oblong in shape, measures $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $18\frac{3}{4}$ mm. (*Illustration 169.*)

Plate.—Only one Plate was in use for this value.

(*State.*)—The plate contained two hundred and forty stamps, in one large pane, measuring $479\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($18\frac{7}{8}$ inches) horizontally, by $241\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($9\frac{1}{2}$ inches) vertically, the

electros being arranged in twelve horizontal rows of twenty in a row. Above the pane was “**TELEGRAPHS HALF-PENNY.**” in large coloured *sans serif* capitals, with an elaborate



ornament between the words, repeated in the lower margin; and at each end were a cross and a horizontal line, as a guide for the perforating and for division into half-sheets.

At the commencement of the second horizontal row and at the end of the eleventh, was the plate-number in white on colour within a circle; and at the opposite corners of the plate was the current-number, within the usual linear frame: both these numbers read upwards as regards the stamps. The lettering ran from “A. A.” to “T. L.” (See *Diagram S.**) An entire sheet constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of ten shillings.

Plate 1 (which was numbered 5, having been prepared, as is mentioned under “*Remarks,*” from that plate of the One Penny) was approved on the 13th March, 1880, and at once put to press.

Paper.—This was a white hand-made paper, specially manufactured for the following value of One Penny, the sheet measuring 528½ mm. (20½ inches) in width by 281 mm. (11¼ inches) in height.

Within a single-lined frame, 479½ mm. (18¾ inches) by 241½ mm. (9½ inches), two hundred and forty Shamrocks were disposed in one pane of twelve horizontal rows of twenty in a row. Above the left-hand top corner of the pane, and below the right-hand bottom one, was the word “**MARK**” in outline *sans serif* capitals, the word being 38 mm. (1½ inches) by 11½ mm., with the feet of the letters towards the watermarks. Opposite the centre of each of the four sides of the pane, was a small cross. (*Diagram S.*)



Colour.—Orange-vermilion, varying in shade.

Gum.—Pure white gum arabic, as in the Postage Stamps.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14, but imperforate copies are known, having been so issued.

Creation.—We have no record as to the production, but the issue for the first year was 434,880 stamps, equivalent to 1,812 entire sheets.

Remarks.—In consequence of an alteration in the rates for messages to certain countries, it was imperative that a stamp of the value of One Halfpenny should at once be provided; and, to enable this to be done, plate 5 of the One Penny—which had been registered, but not put to press—was selected, and the words “**ONE PENNY**” removed from each of the electros. The plate, thus altered, was put to press, the new value of “**HALF PENNY**” being inserted by a second printing, as may be seen by comparing copies of this stamp, the words being frequently out of “register” with the tablet on which they appear.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Shamrock; Plate 1 (numbered 5).

1st April, 1880—One Halfpenny, orange-vermilion (shades), perforated 14.

Variety.

One Halfpenny, orange-vermilion, imperforate.

* *Diagram S, mutatis mutandis*, would show the State of the One Halfpenny.

(b) THE ONE PENNY.

ISSUE: 1ST FEBRUARY, 1876.

Date of Issue.—The above date is given in the extract from the Circular of the 3rd January, 1876, quoted on page 212, under the preliminary remarks to this Division.

Design.—Identical with that of the One Halfpenny, except for the indication of value, which is "ONE PENNY" in coloured *sans serif* capitals. (*Illustration 170.*)

Plate.—Five plates—nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and (to a very limited extent) 5—were employed for the One Penny.

(*State.*)—As in the preceding value of One Halfpenny, except that the inscription above and below the pane was **"TELEGRAPHS
ONE PENNY."** The entire sheet constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of one pound. (*Diagram S.*)

Plates 1 and 2 were approved and put to press on the 11th August, 1875, and produced 35,000 sheets each: the former was taken from press on the 25th November, 1875, and the latter on the 21st January following; and plates 3 and 4 were registered on the 16th August, 1875, the former being in use from the following day until the 17th February, 1876, on which date plate 4 was put to press: plate 3 also produced 35,000 impressions, but we have no official record as to the subsequent plate.

With regard to plate 5, it was registered on the 23rd September, 1875, and presumably the usual five spare sheets were printed, though copies are as yet unknown as stated under "*Remarks*" in the preceding value, this plate was utilised for the One Halfpenny.

Paper.—That watermarked with a shamrock, as described under the previous value. (*Diagram S.*)

Colour.—Varying shades of reddish-brown. The Postmaster-General at first disapproved of this colour, desiring it to be altered to that of the then current One Penny postage stamp; but, on its being pointed out that 78,000 sheets had already been printed in brown, he withdrew his objection.

Gum.—As previously.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—From the paper-warrant books we find that at least 110,000 sheets of paper, equivalent to 26,400,000 stamps (together with five extra sheets for the *imprimatur* impressions from the five plates) were supplied for the printing of this value: of these, 105,005 were exhausted by the printings from plates 1, 2, 3 and 5; and, the limit of production (35,000) for each of the first three having been reached, plate 4 was put to press on the 17th February, 1876, to comply with the creation warrant. This plate may therefore be credited with the balance of 4,995 sheets: perforated copies, however, are unknown, and it is possible that the greater portion of them were in stock when the use of special telegraph stamps was discontinued, and were then destroyed.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Shamrock; Plates 1, 2, 3 and (to a very limited extent) 4 and 5*; perforated 14.

1st February, 1876.—One Penny, reddish-brown (shades).

* Copies of these Plates are as yet unknown.

(c) THE THREEPENCE.

FIRST ISSUE: 1ST FEBRUARY, 1876.

Date of Issue.—As announced by the Circular, quoted on page 212, the Threepence also was issued on the above date.

Design.—A diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines within a circle, is enclosed in a white, pointed, transverse-oval band, inscribed "TELEGRAPHS" above and "THREE PENCE" below, in coloured *sans serif* capitals. In each angle are square white blocks, the upper two intended for the reception of the plate-number, and the lower two for the check-letters in coloured *sans serif* capitals; and the rest of the design is filled in with ornamentation.

The stamp, which is oblong in shape, measures $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $18\frac{3}{4}$ mm. (*Illustration 171.*)

Plate.—Five plates, nos. 1, 2, 3 and (to a very limited extent) 4 and 5, were employed.

(*State I.*)—The plate consisted of two hundred and forty stamps, in twelve panes, which were disposed in three horizontal rows of four in a row, two of which constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of ten shillings. Each pane, which contained twenty stamps in four horizontal rows of five, measured 119 mm. ($4\frac{1}{8}$ inches) horizontally by $79\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($3\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically, the spaces between the horizontal rows of panes being $9\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in depth, and those between the vertical rows $25\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (1 inch) in width. At the left-hand end of each pane, reading upwards as regards the stamps, was "TELEGRAPHS THREE PENCE." in coloured *sans serif* capitals; and at each end of the plate, also reading upwards, were the plate- and current-numbers: the former in white on colour within a circle, at the upper left- and lower right-hand corners, and the latter in the usual frame, at the opposite corners.

At the centre of each end of the plate was a cross, as a guide for perforating; and the lettering ran from "A.A." to "T.L." (*See Diagram U.**)

Plate 1 was registered on the 9th August, 1875, after being put to press four days previously: it produced 35,000 sheets and was discarded on the 21st March, 1876; plate 2, approved on the 23rd September, 1875, was in use from the 23rd February, 1876, until the 30th April, 1878, during which time 35,000 sheets were printed from it; and plate 3, registered on the 31st March, 1876, was put to press in November, 1878, and was still in use at the termination of this issue.

Plates 4 and 5, approved respectively on the 9th August, 1877, and the 12th January, 1878, were not put to press for this issue; and, beyond the usual five spare sheets from each plate, no impressions from them were issued.

Paper.—For the Threepence the spray of rose paper, with "MARK", as described under the first postage stamp of similar value on page 82, was employed: the telegraph stamps being oblong, the watermark appears sideways. (*Diagram U.*)

Colour.—Varying shades of carmine

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—Although there is no official record of the number of sheets of spray of rose paper used for plate 3, we are able, from the paper warrants and the stock-book, to arrive at an approximate figure. For this issue requisitions were made out for

* Diagram U, *mutatis mutandis*, would show State I of this value.

97,265 sheets (excluding those used for the five *imprimatur* impressions): of these, 70,000 were absorbed by plates 1 and 2, and 10 sheets were used for plates 4 and 5, leaving 27,255 sheets for plate 3. The total creation was, therefore, 23,343,600 stamps.

Remarks.—Copies from plates 4 and 5 have not yet been discovered, but undoubtedly five extra sheets were printed from each, as there were three special paper warrants for these two plates—one sheet on the 17th and five on the 20th July, 1877, for plate 4; and six sheets on the 9th January, 1878, for plate 5.

SECOND ISSUE: (EARLY IN) AUGUST, 1881.

Date of Issue.—There is no official record as to the date of the second issue, the sole characteristic of which was a change of paper from that watermarked with a spray of rose, to that bearing the large (1880) crown. The usually accepted date is March, 1881, and Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen mentions a copy of this stamp as cancelled on the 20th of that month; but the earliest crown paper warrant which we have been able to find was on the 4th July, for 10,000 mill-sheets, equivalent to 20,000 entire printing sheets.

In the face of these conflicting facts it is difficult to fix a reliable date, but the copy seen by Mr. Ewen may have been from one of the five extra sheets struck when plate 3, in its altered form, was re-registered on the 17th February; and, in the absence of further information, we feel justified in giving "early in August" as the date of the formal issue of this stamp.

Design.—The design remained unaltered. (*Illustration 171.*)

Plate.—Three plates, nos. 3, 4 and 5, were employed.

(*State II.*)—The altered plate now consisted of two hundred and forty stamps, in two panes side by side and $25\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (1 inch) apart, each containing one hundred and twenty stamps, in twelve horizontal rows of ten in a row: each pane measured $241\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($9\frac{1}{2}$ inches) vertically by 251 mm. ($9\frac{7}{8}$ inches) horizontally. The margins of the plate were plain, except for the usual division ornaments—two in the horizontal space and two half hexagons at each end of the plate—showing where each pane might be divided into three Post-office sheets of 40 stamps, of the facial value of ten shillings; and a small T-shaped perforation guide-mark at each end. The plate- and current-numbers were inserted on the *imprimatur* sheets in pen and ink. (*See Diagram N.*)

Plate 3 was re-registered on the 17th February, 1881, and plates 4 and 5 on the 5th of the following August: each *imprimatur* sheet is endorsed "*Proof after alteration of Plate.*," and "*Ordered that this altered Plate be brought into use.*" We have not any further note as to these plates, except that nos. 4 and 5 were destroyed on the 10th January, 1884.

Paper.—This was the large (1880) crown, fully described on page 77; but the present stamps being oblong in shape, the watermarks appear sideways. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Carmine, in varying shades, as in the former issue.

Gum.—Of the usual quality.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—We have no details as to this, except that the first paper warrant was for 20,000 entire sheets: of these, 7,750 were probably used for plate 3 (to make up the usual 35,000 sheets), the remainder of the printings being from plates 4 and 5.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose: Plates 1, 2, 3, and (to a very limited extent) 4 and 5* ; perforated 14.

1st February, 1876.—Threepence, carmine (shades).

SECOND ISSUE.

Paper water-marked with a Large (1880) Crown ; plates 3, 4 and 5 ; perforated 14. (early in) August, 1881.--Threepence, carmine (shades).

(d) THE FOURPENCE.

ISSUE: 1ST MARCH, 1877.

Date of Issue.—By a Post Office Circular of the 26th February, 1877, it was announced that “. . . . On and after the 1st March next, Telegraph Stamps of the “following additional denominations will be brought into use, *viz.*:—4d., 6d., 3s., “10s., £1, £5. . . .”

Design.—Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines within a circle. A coloured arched tablet, springing from the white letter-blocks in the lower angles of the stamp, and extending to the upper margin of the design, bears the inscription “TELEGRAPHS” in white *sans serif* capitals, and between the letter-blocks is a coloured tablet, inscribed “FOUR PENCE” in the same type, with the plate-number on a small white disc above each extremity. Conventional ornamentation completes the design, which is oblong in shape, and measures $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $18\frac{3}{4}$ mm. (*Illustration 172.*)

Plate.—Two plates, nos. 1 and 2, were approved, but only the first was formally brought into use.

(*State.*)—The plate contained two hundred and forty stamps, in four panes disposed two and two, each pane consisting of sixty stamps in six horizontal rows of ten in a row. Each of the panes measured $238\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($9\frac{3}{8}$ inches) horizontally, by $119\frac{1}{4}$ mm. ($4\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically, being separated from each other by a horizontal distance of 25 mm. and a vertical distance of $10\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

At the left-hand end of each pane, and reading upwards as regards the stamps, was “TELEGRAPHS FOUR PENCE.” in coloured *sans serif* capitals. The plate-number, in white on colour, within a circle, appeared at the left-hand upper and right-hand lower corners of the plate; and the current-number, in the usual oblong frame, at the opposite corners. The perforating guide-marks were at each end of the plate, opposite the seventh and sixth stamps respectively in the first and last vertical rows; and the lettering was from “A.A.” to “T.L.” (*Diagram T.*)

Plate 1, approved on the 12th January, 1877, was put to press three days subsequently, and was destroyed on the 10th January, 1884. Plate 2, registered on the 18th June, 1877, was never brought into use; but the usual five sheets were presumably struck at the time of registration, and copies should exist. We have no further details, either as to the plates themselves or their production.

Paper.—For this value the large garter paper, with “MARK”, as described on page 100, was employed. (*Diagram T.*) The watermark, owing to the shape of the stamps, was necessarily sideways as regards the impressions.

* Copies from these two plates have not been found.

Colour.—Pale sage-green, varying in shade.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—Apparently there were only three paper warrants, giving a total of 25,000 sheets, or 6,000,000 stamps, of which probably half were never issued; these, with the exception of six sheets, were all struck from plate 1.

Remarks.—Copies from plate 2 have not yet been discovered, but presumably have existed.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Large Garter; Plates 1 and (to a very limited extent) 2* ; perforated 14.

1st March, 1877.—Fourpence, pale sage-green (shades).

(e) THE SIXPENCE.

FIRST ISSUE: 1ST MARCH, 1877.

Date of Issue.—This stamp was announced by the Circular referred to under this heading, in the preceding value of Fourpence.

Design.—A small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a ground of horizontal lines, within a circle, enclosed in an oblong frame, of which the upper angles are engraved. At the top and bottom of the design are white tablets, inscribed respectively "TELEGRAPHS" and "SIX PENCE" in *sans serif* capitals; and the side portions, beyond the circle, are filled in with conventional ornamentation. At the ends of the upper tablet are white discs, bearing the plate-number in coloured *sans serif* figures; and in the lower corners are square white blocks, containing coloured *sans serif* capital check-letters.

The stamp is oblong in shape, and measures 22½ mm. by 18¾ mm. (*Illustration 173.*)

Plate.—Two plates, nos. 1 and 2, were at press for this issue.

(*State I.*)—There were two hundred and forty stamps on the plate, in twelve panes of twenty each, disposed in three horizontal rows of four, the horizontal rows of panes being separated by a space of 9½ mm., and the vertical rows by an interval of 25½ mm. (1 inch). A pane, in which the stamps were in four rows of five each, measured 118 mm. (4½ inches) horizontally, by 79½ mm. (3¼ inches) vertically, and at the left-hand end of each was the inscription, reading upwards, "TELEGRAPHS SIX PENCE." in coloured *sans serif* capitals: two panes constituted a Post-office sheet of forty stamps of the facial value of one pound.

At the upper left- and lower right-hand corners of the plate, reading the same way as the marginal inscription, were the plate-numbers in white on colour, within a circle; and at the opposite corners, in the usual frames, were the current-numbers, also reading upwards.

A cross, at the centre of each end of the plate, served as a guide for the perforating, and the lettering extended from "A. A." to "T. L." (*See Diagram U†.*)

Plate 1, approved on the 12th January, 1877, was at press from the 15th of that month, until the 22nd April 1880: it produced 35,000 sheets. Plate 2, registered on the 18th June, 1877, was brought into use on the 22nd June, 1880, and was altered,

* Copies of plate 2 are at present unknown.

† Diagram U, *mutatis mutandis*, would show State I of this value.

in January, 1881, for the succeeding issue ; so far as we have been able to ascertain, only 5,000 sheets were printed from it for the present issue.

Paper.—The spray of rose paper, originally described on page 82, was employed for this value, the watermarks appearing sideways in the stamps. (*Diagram U.*)

Colour.—Slight shades of greenish-grey.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—From plate 1, 8,400,000 stamps, and from plate 2, probably 1,200,000 : in all, 9,600,000.

SECOND ISSUE : JULY, 1881.

Date of Issue.—This is generally given as 1st January, 1881, and a copy is chronicled with a dated obliteration of the 31st of that month ; but the *imprimatur* sheet from the plate, as altered in January for this issue, was not approved until the 29th of the following June, and the first warrant for the new paper—large (1880) crown—was only signed fourteen days previously : we feel justified, in the absence of better proof of an earlier obliteration, in giving the above date.

Design.—This remained unaltered. (*Illustration 173.*)

Plate.—Only plate 2 was employed for this issue.

(*State II.*)—The present arrangement of the plate was precisely similar to that of State II of the Threepence, described on page 217, the hexagonal ornaments indicating where each pane might be divided into three one pound Post-office sheets. (*See Diagram N.*)

Plate 2, as altered, was approved on the 29th June, 1881, the *imprimatur* sheet being endorsed "*Proof after alteration of Plate.*," and "*Ordered that this altered Plate be brought into use.*" : it was destroyed on the 10th January, 1884, after yielding, we believe, only 2,500 sheets.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown paper, as used for the postage stamps, was employed, the watermark appearing sideways. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Very slight shades of greenish-grey.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—The usual 14-gauge.

Creation.—Probably 600,000 stamps.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose ; Plates 1 and 2 ; perforated 14.
1st March, 1877.—Sixpence, greenish-grey (shades).

SECOND ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; Plate 2 ; perforated 14.
July, 1881.—Sixpence, greenish-grey (slight shades).

(f) THE ONE SHILLING.

FIRST ISSUE : 1ST FEBRUARY, 1876.

Date of Issue.—This is the third of the values announced by the Circular quoted on page 212, and was issued on the above date.

Design.—A small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a horizontally-lined background, within a white, upright, truncated, oval frame, inscribed, in coloured *sans serif* capitals : "TELEGRAPHS" above, and "ONE SHILLING"

below, the two inscriptions being separated by small stars. This is enclosed by an ornamental oblong frame, the top and bottom of which are intercepted by the truncated oval.

In the four corners are square white blocks, the upper containing the plate-number, and the lower the check-letters, all in coloured *sans serif* figures or capital letters.

The stamp is oblong, and measures $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $18\frac{3}{4}$ mm. (*Illustration 175.*)

Plate.—Twelve plates, nos. 1 to 10, and (to a very limited extent) 11 and 12, were employed for the first issue.

(*State I.*)—The plate was made up of twelve panes, in three horizontal rows of four, each containing twenty stamps, in four horizontal rows of five. The vertical rows of panes were $25\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (1 inch) apart, and the horizontal rows $9\frac{1}{2}$ mm. At the left-hand end of each pane, which measured 118 mm. ($4\frac{1}{8}$ inches) horizontally by $79\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

($3\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically, was the inscription, reading upwards, “**TELEGRAPHS ONE SHILLING.**” in coloured *sans serif* capitals: one pane constituted a Post-office sheet, of the facial value of one pound.

The plate-numbers, in white on colour within a circle, and reading upwards, were at the upper left- and lower right-hand corners of the plate; whilst at the other corners were the current-numbers, in the usual oblong linear frames.

A cross, opposite the centre of each end of the plate, served as a perforating guide. (*See Diagram U.**)

Only one plate was at press at any one time, and the periods of their employment may be seen from the Appendix: each of the first nine plates produced 35,000 impressions; but 63,000 sheets were printed from plate 10, most of which were in the colour of the next issue.

Copies from plates 11 and 12 have not yet been found, but the usual five spare sheets from each were printed in green at the time of registration.

Paper.—The spray of rose paper, employed for the preceding values of Threepence and Sixpence, the watermark appearing sideways in the stamps. (*Diagram U.*)

Colour.—Shades of green.

Gum.—As in the lower values.

Perforation.—The usual perforation, gauging 14.

Creation.—Probably 78,722,400 stamps: 8,400,000 from each of plates 1 to 9; possibly 3,120,000 from plate 10; 1,200 from plate 11; and 1,200 from plate 12.

Remarks.—It is somewhat difficult to trace the paper warrants at this period; but, so far as we can tell, not more than 15,000 sheets were printed from plate 10 prior to December, 1880, and some of these must have belonged to the next issue, copies of which are known cancelled late in October.

SECOND ISSUE: OCTOBER, 1880.

Date of Issue.—The characteristic of this issue was a change of colour—pale red-brown instead of green—the alteration being announced by a Post Office Circular of the 21st September, 1880: the earliest recorded copy is dated the 26th of the following month.

Design.—As in the last issue. (*Illustration 175.*)

Plate.—The printings for the second issue were from plates 10 and 12.

(*State I.*)—Previously described.

Plate 10, which had already been employed for the preceding issue, was taken from

* Diagram U, *mutatis mutandis*, would show State I of this value.

press shortly after the change in the colour of the ink had taken place: it produced 63,000 sheets, of which probably 48,000 belong to this issue.

Plate 12, registered in green, was put to press on the 14th February, 1881, and was still in use at the termination of this issue.

Paper.—The spray of rose paper, as used for the printings in green.

Colour.—Shades of pale red-brown.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—We have no details.

Remarks.—Plate 11 is stated to have been put to press on the 6th December, 1880, but no copies in pale red-brown, on the spray of rose paper, have been met with.

THIRD ISSUE: FEBRUARY, 1881.

Date of Issue.—For the third issue there was a change of paper—large (1880) crown instead of spray of rose—the colour being unaltered. The earliest known copy is dated 4th February, 1881.

Design.—There was no change. (*Illustration 175.*)

Plate.—Two plates only, nos. 11 and 12, were employed.

(*State II.*)—As in State II of the Threepence, but the hexagonal ornaments were placed so as to show where each pane might be divided into six Post-office sheets of the facial value of one pound each: the two ornaments between the panes were entire, the others—two at each end of the plate, and one above and below each pane—were halves only. (*See Diagram N.*)

Plate 11 was approved in its altered form on the 10th February, 1881; and plate 12, approved, as altered, on the 13th August, 1881, could only have been at press for a brief period, as the issue of distinctive telegraph stamps ceased at the end of the following October: they were both destroyed on the 10th January, 1884.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Slight shades of light red-brown.

Gum.—Unchanged.

Perforation.—Uniformly of the 14-gauge.

Creation.—We have no details as to the quantities printed.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose; Plates 1 to 10, and (to a very limited extent) 11 and 12: perforated 14.

1st February, 1876.—One Shilling, green (shades).

SECOND ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose; Plates 10, 11 (?), and 12; perforated 14. October, 1880.—One Shilling, pale red-brown (shades).

THIRD ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; Plates 11 and 12; perforated 14. February, 1881.—One Shilling, pale red-brown (slight shades).

(g) THE THREE SHILLINGS.

FIRST ISSUE: 1ST MARCH, 1877.

Date of Issue.—This was the third of the values announced by the Circular of the previous 26th February, and was issued on the above date,

Design.—A small diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, within an octagon, enclosed in an elongated octagonal frame of solid colour, inscribed in white *sans serif* capitals “TELEGRAPHS” above and “THREE SHILLINGS” below. In the corners of the design, which is oblong in shape, and measures $22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by $18\frac{3}{4}$ mm., are square white blocks, the upper bearing the plate-number, and the lower the check-letters, in *sans serif* figures or capitals: on each side of these corner-blocks, wedge-shaped portions are removed, forming gaps in what would otherwise be a rectangular frame. (*Illustration 174.*)

Plate.—Only one plate was made.

(*State I.*)—There were twelve panes on the plate, arranged in three horizontal rows of four, each containing twenty stamps, in four horizontal rows of five. The vertical rows of panes were separated by an interval of $25\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (1 inch), and the horizontal rows by a space of $9\frac{1}{2}$ mm. At the left-hand end of each pane, which measured $79\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($3\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically by 119 mm. ($4\frac{11}{16}$ inches) horizontally, was “TELEGRAPHS THREE SHILLINGS.” in coloured *sans serif* capitals, reading upwards. A pane constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of three pounds.

The plate- and current-numbers occupied the usual positions at the corners of the plate; and, opposite the centre of each end of the plate, was a cross as a guide in perforating. (*Diagram U.*)

Plate 1, approved on the 12th January, 1877, was put to press three days later, and was still in use when the paper was changed to that of the next issue: judging from the creation warrants, it produced 10,000 sheets for this issue.

Paper.—The stamp was first printed on the spray of rose paper, the watermark appearing sideways. (*Diagram U.*)

Colour.—Slight shades of slate-blue.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—The ordinary machine-perforation, gauging 14.

Creation.—Probably 2,400,000 stamps.

Remarks.—We have only been able to trace two supplies, of 5,000 sheets each, of spray of rose paper for this value, the warrants for which were respectively dated the 2nd December, 1876, and the 7th February, 1879.

SECOND ISSUE: AUGUST, 1881.

Date of Issue.—As there was no official notification of this issue, the characteristic of which was a change of paper, we have to rely on dated copies, the earliest of which was used on the 19th August, 1881.

Design.—This was unchanged. (*Illustration 174.*)

Plate.—No. 1 was still employed.

(*State II.*)—The altered arrangement was similar to that of State II of the Threepence, as described on page 217. (*See Diagram N.*)

Plate 1 was re-registered, after alteration, on the 29th July, 1881, the *imprimatur* sheet being endorsed “*Proof after alteration of plate.*”; and “*Ordered that altered Plate be brought into use.*”: it was destroyed on the 10th January, 1884.

Paper.—The large (1880) crown paper, the watermark appearing sideways on the stamp. (*Diagram N.*)

Colour.—Slate-blue, as in the last issue.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—We have no record as to the production.

Remarks.—This is an extremely scarce stamp, in an unused condition; and, whatever the amount of the creation, the number of sheets issued must have been very small.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Spray of Rose; Plate 1; perforated 14.
1st March, 1877.—Three Shillings, slate-blue (shades).

SECOND ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; Plate 1; perforated 14.
August, 1881.—Three Shillings, slate-blue.

(h) THE FIVE SHILLINGS.

FIRST ISSUE: 1ST FEBRUARY, 1876.

Date of Issue.—This was the highest of the four values, announced by the Circular of the 3rd January, 1876, as about to be issued on the above date.

Design.—Large diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on a ground of horizontal lines, within a circle, enclosed in an oblong frame, the upper and lower portions of which contain the inscriptions "TELEGRAPHS" and "FIVE SHILLINGS" respectively, in coloured *sans serif* capitals on a white ground. The side portions of the frame are filled with an ornamental pattern, and the spaces between them and the circle with foliate ornamentation.

In the four corners are square coloured blocks, the two upper containing the plate-number, and the two lower the check-letters, in white *sans serif* figures and capitals.

The stamp, which is of oblong shape, measures 30 mm. ($1\frac{1}{16}$ inches) by 25 mm. (*Illustration 176.*)

Plate.—Three plates, nos. 1, 2 and (to a very limited extent) 3, were employed.

(*State I.*)—The entire plate consisted of four panes, arranged two and two, each measuring 128½ mm. ($5\frac{1}{8}$ inches) horizontally by 139½ mm. ($5\frac{1}{2}$ inches) vertically and containing twenty stamps in five rows of four each, the space between the upper and the lower pairs being 63½ mm. ($2\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in depth, and between the two vertical pairs 38 mm. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in width. Above and below each pane, which constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of five pounds, was the inscription "**TELEGRAPHS FIVE SHILLINGS.**"

in coloured Roman capitals; and in the upper right- and lower left-hand corners of the plate, were the plate-numbers, in white on colour, within a circle: at the other corners were the current-numbers in the usual oblong frames.

At the sides of the plate were the perforating guides, a line and a cross; and the corner-lettering ran from "A.A." to "H.J." (*Diagram V.*)

Plate 1, approved on the 9th August, 1875, was at press four days earlier, and remained in use until the 24th May, 1878, producing 35,000 sheets; and plate 2, registered on the 23rd September, 1875, was first employed on the 31st of December, 1879. It yielded, we believe, 5,000 sheets; but plate 3, although registered in October, 1878, was not put to press until the next issue: five spare sheets were printed with that for the *imprimatur*, and were presumably issued.

Paper.—This was the cross *paté* paper with “**MARK**” described under the Five Shillings postage stamp on page 138. (*Diagram V.*)

Colour.—Dark and light shades of rose.

Gum.—Pure white gum arabic.

Perforation.—All the sheets from plates 1 and 3, and most of those from plate 2, were perforated 15 horizontally by 15½ vertically; but the last creation, on the 5th June, 1880, of 1,250 sheets was perforated 14 by the contractors, who had at that time commenced the removal of the perforating machines from Somerset House to their own premises.

Creation.—So far as we can ascertain, 3,200,400 stamps: 2,800,000 from plate 1; 300,000 perforated 15 by 15½, and 100,000 perforated 14, from plate 2; and only 400 from plate 3.

Remarks.—Copies from plate 3 on the cross *paté* paper are unknown, and the chance of a specimen being found is very slight.

With regard to the copies of plate 2 perforated 14, the variety was the result, not of an intentional change, but of the fact that the perforation of the stamps was taken over by the contractors, who used pins and pin-plates of that gauge: it does not appear to merit being classed as a separate issue. All the used copies seen by us are dated in March, April and May, 1881, the earliest being the 11th of March; but Major Evans informs us that he has one dated the 30th of the preceding November.

SECOND ISSUE: (EARLY IN) AUGUST, 1881.

Date of Issue.—By a Post Office Circular, dated the 19th July, 1881, “Post-masters, &c., are informed that the 5s. Telegraph Stamps will shortly be issued in “sheets containing 28 stamps, instead of 20 as at present. . . .” This can only refer to the printings on the large anchor fiscal paper, the characteristic of this issue, in which the watermarks are arranged in panes of fifty-six.

The date has hitherto been given as May, 1881, but none of the stamps were issued from store until August, and we have never seen any used copies dated prior to that month.

Design.—There was no change. (*Illustration 176.*)

Plate.—Only plate 3 was employed.

(*State II.*)—The plate, as altered, now consisted of one pane, containing fifty-six stamps in eight horizontal rows of seven, and measuring 235 mm. (9¼ inches) horizontally by 247½ mm. (9¾ inches) vertically. The margins were entirely plain, except for a small perforating and dividing mark at each side of the sheet; and the lettering extended from “A. A.” to “G. H.”; we do not illustrate this state. A half-sheet constituted a Post-office sheet of the facial value of seven pounds.

The altered plate was never registered; it was put to press on the 14th May, 1881, and destroyed on the 10th January, 1884, after producing 14,000 sheets.

Paper.—This was the large anchor fiscal paper, described on page 140, and generally more or less blued, sometimes very deeply: the watermark appears sideways.

Colour.—Carmine-rose.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—According to the paper warrants, 784,000 stamps, of which the greater part were destroyed.

Remarks.—We have been at considerable pains to ascertain how many copies of this very scarce stamp were issued to the public; and to show the difficulties encountered

Have one
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in this and other instances, and to further justify the above date of issue, we venture to give our readers the benefit of the calculations, extracted from the Issue Books:—

In May, 1881, a warrant was issued for 2,500 mill-sheets of large anchor paper, sufficient for 10,000 "entire" sheets, or 20,000 £7 Post-office sheets of twenty-eight stamps each. The stock then in hand at Somerset House, consisted £5 sheets of 20. of 4,123 £5 Post-office sheets of twenty, on the cross *paté* paper ... 4,123

The 20,000 £7 sheets were therefore entered as, at £5 per sheet	28,000
	<hr/> 32,123
May, 1881 :—Issued to postmasters	1,292
June, 1881 :—Brought forward	<hr/> 30,831
Issued to postmasters 1402	
Cancelled, 304 £7 sheets= 425 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{3}{8}$	1,827 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{3}{8}$
July, 1881 :—Brought forward	<hr/> 29,003 $\frac{3}{8}$
Issued to postmasters	1,400
In stock at end of July, 1881	<hr/> <hr/> 27,603 $\frac{3}{8}$

August, 1881 :—The stock is brought forward from July, as 29 £5 sheets and 19,696 (*i.e.*, 20,000 less the 304 cancelled) £7 sheets (equivalent to 27,574 $\frac{3}{8}$ £5 sheets, which, with the 29, makes up the total of 27,603 $\frac{3}{8}$).

	£5 sheets of 20.	£7 sheets of 28.
	29	19,696
Issued to postmasters	<hr/> 29	<hr/> 1,022
September, 1881 :—Brought forward		18,674
Issued to postmasters 986		
Returned into stock 1		985
October, 1881 :—Brought forward		<hr/> 17,689
Issued to postmasters 1,099 $\frac{3}{8}$ $\frac{5}{8}$		
Returned into stock 1		1,098 $\frac{3}{8}$ $\frac{5}{8}$
November, 1881 :—Brought forward		<hr/> 16,590 $\frac{3}{8}$
Issued to postmasters		590 $\frac{3}{8}$
December, 1881 :—Brought forward		<hr/> 16,000
Cancelled 4,080		
Returned into stock 85		3,995
January, 1882 :—Brought forward		<hr/> 12,005
May, 1882 :—Returned 19		
Cancelled 19		0
June, 1882 :—Brought forward		<hr/> 12,005
Created (1,000 mill-sheets)		8,000
		<hr/> 20,005
Cancelled 20,000		
On hand, and since cancelled 5		<hr/> <hr/> 20,005

An analysis of the above shows that :—

14,000 entire sheets, or 28,000 Post-office sheets, or 784,000 stamps were printed :
 12,222 $\frac{1}{8}$ „ „ or 24,444 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{3}{8}$ „ „ or 684,444 stamps were cancelled.
 and 1,777 $\frac{4}{8}$ „ „ or 3,555 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{3}{8}$ „ „ or 99,556 stamps were issued.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Cross *paté*; Plates 1, 2 and (to a very limited extent) 3.* 1st February, 1876.—Five Shillings, dark to light rose (shades), perforated 15 by 15½.

Variety.

November, 1880.—Five Shillings, rose (shades), perforated 14, Plate 2 only.

SECOND ISSUE.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with a Large Anchor, bluish or white; Plate 3; perforated 14.

(early in) August, 1881.—Five Shillings, carmine-rose (slight shades).

(i) THE TEN SHILLINGS.

ISSUE: 1ST MARCH, 1877.

Date of Issue.—The issue of the Ten Shillings value was announced by the Circular of the 26th February, 1877, to take place on the above date.

Design.—A large diademed profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a ground of horizontal lines, within an octagon, enclosed within a transverse hexagonal frame, inscribed in coloured *sans serif* capitals on a white ground: "TELEGRAPHS" above, and "TEN SHILLINGS" below. In the corners of the stamp are square coloured blocks, the upper bearing the plate-number, and the lower the check-letters in white *sans serif* figures or capitals. Ornamental work fills up the remainder of the design, which is oblong in shape, and measures 30 mm. ($1\frac{3}{8}$ inches) by 25 mm. (*Illustration 178.*)

Plate.—Only one plate was made.

(*State.*)—There were eighty stamps on the plate, arranged in four panes, two and two, each measuring 128½ mm. (or $5\frac{1}{8}$ inches) horizontally by 139½ mm. ($5\frac{1}{2}$ inches) vertically, and containing twenty stamps, in five horizontal rows of four, the space between the upper and lower pairs being 63½ mm. ($2\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in depth, and that between the vertical pairs 38½ mm. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in width.

The inscription "**TELEGRAPHS TEN SHIL-**
LINGS." in coloured Roman capitals appeared above and below each pane;

and at the upper right- and lower left-hand corners of the plate, was the plate-number, in white on colour, within a circle, the current-number, in the usual frame, occupying the other corners. At the sides of the plate were the perforating guides, a line and a cross; and the check-letters ran from "A. A." to "H. J." (*See Diagram V.†*)

Plate 1, put to press on the 19th January, 1877, two days after approval, provided the entire issue: it was destroyed on the 10th January, 1884.

Paper.—For this value the cross *paté* paper, described on page 138, was employed. (*Diagram V.*)

Colour.—Slight shades of green-grey.

Gum.—As in the preceding values.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 15 horizontally by 15½ vertically.

Creation.—Judging from the creation warrants, 6,500 sheets, or 520,000 stamps.

* Copies from Plate 3 are unknown.

† Diagram V, *mutatis mutandis*, would represent the State of this value.

Remarks.—The stamps of this and the following values could be supplied singly to postmasters, and the sheets were not divisible into Post-office sheets.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Cross *paté*; Plate 1; perforated 15 by 15½.
1st March, 1877.—Ten Shillings, green-grey (slight shades).

(j) THE ONE POUND.

ISSUE: 1ST MARCH, 1877.

Date of Issue.—The Circular of the 26th February, 1877, also included this value, as one of those to be issued on the 1st prox.

Design.—Large diademed profile of Queen Victoria to the left, on a ground of horizontal lines, within a circle, enclosed by a white, transverse, pointed, oval frame, inscribed in graduated *sans serif* coloured capitals, “TELEGRAPHS” above, and “ONE POUND” below; at each end of this oval, is “£1” on a reticulated background; and the design is enclosed within a wide fancy oblong border, impinged upon at the top and bottom, by the frame containing the head, and having at the corners square coloured blocks, the upper bearing the plate-number and the lower the check-letters, in white figures and *sans serif* capitals. The stamp measures 58 mm. ($2\frac{2}{3}\frac{1}{2}$ inches) by 22½ mm. (*Illustration 177.*)

The particular size of this value, equal to a vertical strip of three of the small stamps, was chosen to enable the sheets to be perforated, without incurring great expense in altering the machines.

Plate.—Only one plate was made.

(State.)—The stamps were arranged in one large pane of twenty horizontal rows of four each, the whole measuring 241½ mm. ($9\frac{1}{2}$ inches) horizontally by 479½ mm. ($18\frac{7}{8}$ inches) vertically. At the top and bottom of the plate was “TELEGRAPHS ONE POUND.” in coloured *sans serif* capitals, and between the first and second words were the perforating guides, a cross and line. The plate-number in white, on colour, within a circle, occupied the upper right- and lower left-hand corners of the plate, the current-number, in the usual linear frame, being at the other corners; and at the centre of each side of the plate was an arrow-head shaped ornament. (*Diagram W.*) The lettering extended from “A.A.” to “D.T.”

Plate 1, approved on the 12th January, 1877, three days before being put to press, produced the whole of the issue: it was destroyed on the 10th January, 1884.

Paper.—The hand-made paper, watermarked with a shamrock, and described on page 214, was employed for this value. The shamrocks, three under each stamp, appear sideways. (*Diagram W.*)

Colour.—Slight shades of brown-purple. Vermilion was originally selected, but on that colour being assigned to the Five Pounds, it was changed to brown-purple.

Gum.—As before.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Creation.—From the paper warrants we estimate the total production at 400,000 stamps, or 5,000 sheets.

Remarks—The design of this stamp was retained for the postage stamp of the same value, issued in April, 1884.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Shamrock ; Plate 1 ; perforated 14.
1st March, 1877.—One Pound, brown-purple (slight shades).

(k) THE FIVE POUNDS.

ISSUE : 1ST MARCH, 1877.

Date of Issue.—This value was issued on the above date, as announced by the Circular of the 26th February.

Design.—A large diademed profile of Queen Victoria, to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines, within a circle, enclosed in an oblong frame : at each side of the circle is “£5” on a diapered background. Above and below the frame are white tablets, inscribed in coloured *sans serif* capitals, “TELEGRAPHS” and “FIVE POUNDS” respectively : at the ends of each of the tablets are small square coloured blocks, the upper containing the plate-number, and the lower the check-letters, in white *sans serif* figures and capitals. An ornamental outer frame completes the design, which is oblong in shape, and measures 54 mm. ($2\frac{1}{8}$ inches) by 30 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. ($1\frac{3}{8}$ inches). (*Illustration 179.*)

This stamp being equal in size to a vertical pair of the Five Shillings or Ten Shillings, the expense of an alteration in the perforating machine was avoided.

Plate.—Only one plate was constructed.

(State).—The plate consisted of fifty-six stamps, arranged in one large pane of fourteen rows of four stamps each. Above and below the pane was

**“ TELE-
GRAPHS FIVE POUNDS.”**

in coloured *sans serif* capitals ; and the plate-number, in white on colour within a circle, was at the upper right- and lower left-hand corners of the plate, the current-number, in the usual frame, being at the opposite corners. An arrow-head shaped ornament was placed opposite the centre of each side of the pane, which measured 227 mm. ($8\frac{1}{8}$ inches) horizontally by 473 mm. ($18\frac{1}{8}$ inches) vertically ; and at the top and bottom of the pane was a cross as a guide for the perforating. The lettering ran from “A.A.” to “D.N.” (*Diagram X.*)

Plate 1 was approved and put to press on the 17th January, 1877, and was defaced at the end of 1881 by drilling out the word “TELEGRAPHS” so as to enable it to be used as a postage stamp plate, the word “POSTAGE” being printed by a second impression in the blank space thus left.

Paper.—That watermarked with a shamrock. The watermarks, not being arranged for stamps of the size of the Five Pounds value, do not coincide with the impressions, on which they appear sideways. (*Diagram X.*)

Colour.—Slight shades of orange-vermilion. It was at first intended to print this value in gold, but the estimated cost being from fourpence to sixpence per stamp, the suggestion fell through : blue was then proposed, but was rejected on its being pointed out that a series of Probate stamps was being issued in that colour.

Gum.—As in the other values.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ horizontally by 15 vertically.

Creation.—We have only been able to trace two paper warrants, one for 1,000 sheets on the 2nd December, 1876, and the other for 500 sheets on the 25th of the following May: this would indicate a creation of 84,000 stamps.

Remarks.—This is the last value of the Telegraph Stamps issued for public use, and is of extreme rarity in an unused condition.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked with a Shamrock; Plate 1; perforated $15\frac{1}{2}$ by 15
1st March, 1877.—Five Pounds, orange-vermilion (slight shades).

Division VI.

Telegraph Stamps used by the War Office.

The stamps to be described under this heading were provided by the Inland Revenue, to facilitate the keeping of the accounts by the officials in charge of the telegraph departments of the War Office, in connection with campaigns and punitive expeditions, and, on one occasion, also at the army manœuvres in this country.

There are two series of these stamps, the one overprinted "**MILITARY TELE-GRAPHS**," used only in Africa, and the other "**ARMY TELEGRAPHS**," employed both at home and abroad.

SECTION I.

The overprint "**MILITARY TELEGRAPHS**" was the first to be applied, originally to eight stamps only, and ultimately to ten, ranging in facial value from One Penny to One Pound.

With regard to the stamps of this Section, we reproduce, with some additions—chiefly as to the Bechuanaland provisionals—and a few alterations, a paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, and published in *The Philatelic Record* for April, 1891.

MILITARY TELEGRAPHS.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON, FEB. 20TH, 1891,

By A. B. CREEKE, *Juur.*

The only allusions to these stamps, so far as I am aware, are contained on pages 50-51, and 117-118 of Vol. X of *The Philatelic Record*, and on page 48 of the recently-published *Postage Stamps of the United Kingdom*, by Mr. Westoby. These were all confessedly incomplete, as no copies of the very scarce locally surcharged set had been seen by the authors.

A chance remark made in the presence of a friend who had, unknown to me, a fine and complete collection of these stamps, was the means of enabling me to write the paper which I have the pleasure of reading before you this evening.

The types of, and the appropriating overprints on, the stamps of this series being the same throughout, and the different issues being caused solely by the absence or presence of a surcharge, it will be as well to first describe the stamps as they existed before being appropriated for this service.

They are printed from what are known as the "unappropriated" dies, the only inscription thereon being the value in English currency, a blank tablet—tablets in the One Pound—being provided to receive the overprint of the particular service in which they are to be issued. The values used, which are of three principal designs (varying *inter se* as regards the minute details), are One Penny, Twopence, Threepence, Sixpence, Eightpence, One Shilling, Two Shillings, Five Shillings, Ten Shillings and One

Pound, all surface-printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., from steel-faced electro-types, in doubly-fugitive ink, on machine-made, medium, surfaced, white, wove, watermarked paper. In the following descriptions all the measurements are given in millimetres.

I. THE ONE PENNY, TWOPENCE, THREEPENCE, SIXPENCE and EIGHTPENCE.—Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on ground of horizontal lines, within a single-lined octagonal frame. Below is a blank tablet, the groundwork of which is of a reticulated, zig-zag, or trellis pattern. The values are in shaded *sans serif* capitals on each side of the head, the word on the left reading upwards, that on the right downwards. The spandrels are filled in with small conventional ornaments, and the entire design is enclosed by a single coloured line. *Inscriptions*: to left, "ONE", "TWO", "THREE", "SIX", "EIGHT"; to right, "PENNY" or "PENCE"; *colour*, purple; *shape*, upright rectangular; *size*, 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. by 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.; *watermark*, orb; *perforation*, 14; *number on sheet*, one hundred and twenty, in one pane, of ten horizontal rows of twelve each. (See *Illustrations* 180, 197, 181, 182 and 200).

II. THE ONE SHILLING, TWO SHILLINGS, FIVE SHILLINGS and TEN SHILLINGS.—Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on ground of horizontal lines, within a white oval frame, which touches the top and sides of the stamp: below is a blank tablet, with a zig-zag groundwork. The values are in shaded *sans serif* capitals above and below the head, the words being inside, and following the curve of, the oval frame. The spandrels are filled in with conventional leaf- or scroll-like ornaments, except in the Two Shillings value, in which they contain a small diagonally-disposed white tablet, bearing a coloured figure "2." with an ornament on each side. A single coloured line encloses the design. *Inscriptions*: above, "ONE", "TWO", "FIVE", or "TEN"; below, "SHILLING" or "SHILLINGS"; *colour*, green; *shape*, upright rectangular; *size*, 18 mm. by 31 mm. (1 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches); *watermark*, "V R", in script capitals, reading upwards; *perforation*, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$; *number on sheet*, eighty-four in one pane, of seven horizontal rows of twelve each. (See *Illustrations* 183, 184, 186 and 187.)

III. THE ONE POUND.—Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, on ground of horizontal lines within an upright oval frame, bearing leaf-like ornaments, and the sides of which almost touch the exterior line round the stamp. Above and below the oval, and following its curve, is a blank tablet, the groundwork of which is of a net pattern. The ends of these tablets are cut off close to, and parallel with, the sides of the stamp; and the centres of their upper and lower sides respectively almost touch the exterior line. The value is in shaded *sans serif* capitals, above and below the head, the words being inside, and following the curve of the oval frame. The spandrels are filled in with conventional leaf-like ornamentation, and a single coloured line encloses the design. *Inscriptions*: above, "ONE"; below, "POUND"; *colour*, purple; *shape*, upright rectangular; *size*, 22 $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. by 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches); *watermark*, two orbs, sideways; *perforation*, 14 by 13 $\frac{1}{2}$; *number on sheet*, sixty in one pane, of six horizontal rows of ten each. (See *Illustration* 185.) The stamps are gummed with white gum arabic.

The immediate cause of the issue of these stamps, after being "appropriated," was the inconvenience caused to the officials in charge of the Army Telegraphs in Egypt, through having to keep account of small amounts paid in currency. With a view to obviate this inconvenience, Colonel Webber, C.B., of the Royal Engineers, personally applied, in the autumn of 1884, to the Controller of Stamps at Somerset House, for a series of stamps from the "unappropriated dies," overprinted "MILITARY TELE-GRAPHS." Confirming this request, a communication from the War Office, formally authorising the requisition, was received early in September of that year.

A supply of the required stamps had apparently been at once struck off; for, immediately on receipt of the above, the following were sent to Colonel Webber, who had meanwhile gone to Cairo:—

42	sheets of 120 each	(5,040 stamps),	at 1d. :
42	”	(5,040 ”),	at 3d. :
43	”	(5,160 ”),	at 6d. :
62	” of 84 each	(5,208 ”),	at 1s. :
63	”	(5,292 ”),	at 2s. :
61	”	(5,124 ”),	at 5s. :
63	”	(5,292 ”),	at 10s. :
83	” of 60 each	(4,980 ”),	at £1.

In all 41,136 stamps, of the aggregate value of £9,909 12s. They were received about the middle of September, 1884, and presumably issued at once.

These stamps were, as I have stated, from the “unappropriated dies,” the appropriating overprint being “**MILITARY TELEGRAPHS**,” in *sans serif* capitals, struck on the blank tablet reserved for that purpose. Of this issue impressions were registered as follows: the One Penny, One Shilling and One Pound on the 9th September, 1884; the other values on the following day.

On all the values under One Pound, the appropriating overprint is in two lines, the letters being 2 mm. in height. The words in the pence values are respectively 14 mm. and 17 mm. in length, with the lines some $\frac{1}{2}$ m. apart; and in the shilling values they respectively measure $14\frac{1}{2}$ mm. and $15\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in length, the lines being 1 m. apart. In the One Pound the first word occupies the upper tablet, and the second the lower one: the letters are $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. high, each word following the curve of its tablet, and measuring 19 mm. from end to end, taken straight across. The colour of this overprint varies in the different values:—One Penny and Twopence (only included in the last issue), blue; Threepence, brown-red; Sixpence, green; Eightpence (also only in last issue), brown; One Shilling, black; Two Shillings, blue; Five Shillings, lilac rose; Ten Shillings, pink: and One Pound, black. (*Illustrations* 180 to 187.)

Another consignment of these stamps was prepared for the Bechuanaland Expedition, and was forwarded, towards the end of November, 1884, to Captain Jelf, R.F., commanding the Telegraph Corps, and received by him when on board H.M.S. *Pembroke Castle*. I do not know the numbers of this supply.

The supply of Sixpence and One Shilling was evidently deficient, as it became necessary to provide stamps of these two values locally; this was effected by surcharging, with pen and black ink, the highest three values.

The surcharges, which appear to be all in the same handwriting, are: “6d.” on the Ten Shillings, and “1/-” on both the Five Shillings and the One Pound.

These three stamps are extremely rare, and, as the surcharges are easily capable of imitation, it has been considered desirable not to illustrate them.

In the middle of February, 1885, a communication was received from the War Office, asking that a supply of these stamps might be sent to Major Turner at Aldershot, he being under orders for Suakin. A consignment was accordingly forwarded to him, but I cannot ascertain the quantity of it.

Hitherto, the overprint “**MILITARY TELEGRAPHS**” had been set up in ordinary printer’s type; but, early in January, 1885, it was decided to make some permanent provision for overprinting these stamps, as there then appeared to be very little likelihood of any prolonged period of peace. Accordingly, electro-types of the overprint were ordered, and completed early in March, and a supply struck off; the

two overprints are absolutely identical. The first consignment, with the plate overprint, was sent to Cairo in March, 1885. Again, I cannot give the numbers.

This finishes the first issue, and brings us to the second, or locally surcharged one, which was used in Egypt only.

It would appear that, in 1886, the Director of Army Telegraphs in Egypt found that considerable difficulty was experienced in keeping the accounts, the telegraph charges being reckoned in Egyptian currency, while the stamps had their values in English money; and the difficulty was further increased by the depreciation of English silver which took place about this time. To remedy this, the entire stock of these stamps then in Egypt was surcharged with arbitrary piastre values, in the manner described below.

The extreme dryness of the African climate naturally caused the gummed sheets of stamps to curl up; and that to such an extent, as to make it impossible to surcharge entire sheets at once, either by printing or lithography. The task of surcharging each stamp separately was resolved upon, and was, in July, 1886, carried out by means of a self-inking revolving stamp. The result seems to have been more expensive than satisfactory, still the surcharges are perfectly legible: they are printed in black ink.

To take the values *seriatim*:—

On the ONE PENNY.—A single line, 27 mm. ($1\frac{1}{8}$ inches) long, extends from the upper right-hand corner of the stamp to its lower left-hand corner. In the upper-half of the stamp are the letters "P. T" (*i.e.*, Piastre Turkish) in *sans serif* capitals $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm. high, and together $6\frac{3}{4}$ mm. long, with a point after the first letter; below these is "0.1" in ordinary figures, $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm. high, and together 6 mm. in length. In the lower half is a similar arrangement, only "P. T" is below the figures; they are respectively $5\frac{1}{2}$ mm. and $4\frac{3}{4}$ mm. in length, and $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm. high. (*Illustration 188.*)

This stamp, in its entirety, represents One-fifth of a Piastre, or Two Dimes: it was permissible to bisect it, when each half became of the value of One-tenth of a Piastre, or One Dime.

On the THREEPENCE.—Two parallel lines, 23 mm. long, and some $\frac{1}{2}$ m. apart, run as in the last surcharge, but do not extend so low down. In the upper half of the stamp are, in *sans serif* capitals 3 mm. high, the letters "P. T.", with a point after each letter; below them is "0.25" in ordinary figures. These inscriptions are each 8 mm. in length. The value in the lower half is similarly expressed, but "P. T." is below the figures; their height is as before, and they are respectively $7\frac{1}{2}$ mm. and 8 mm. in length. (*Illustration 189.*)

This stamp, which could also be bisected, was of the value of a Half Piastre, or Five Dimes, each half being, after bisection, a Quarter Piastre, or Two and a Half Dimes.

On the SIXPENCE.—The surcharge, which is in the upper part of the stamp, over the original value, consists of "ONE PIASTRE" in *sans serif* capitals 3 mm. high, the words being respectively 7 mm. and 15 mm. in length: "ONE" is on the left of the head, "PIASTRE" on the right, both reading upwards, and being about 9 mm. apart. (*Illustration 190.*)

On the ONE SHILLING, TWO SHILLINGS, FIVE SHILLINGS, and TEN SHILLINGS.—The surcharges, in *sans serif* capitals 3 mm. high, are respectively "FIVE PIASTRES", "TEN PIASTRES", "TWENTY FIVE PIASTRES", and "FIFTY PIASTRES", the word "PIASTRES" being below the head, and the number thereof above. In each case the surcharge is inside, and follows the curve of the oval frame, over the original value. The lengths of the surcharges, measured

straight across from end to end, are respectively 11 mm. and 14 mm., 9½ mm. and 14 mm., 13 mm. and 10 mm., and 8 mm., and 11 mm. (*Illustrations* 191, 192, 194 and 195.)

On the ONE POUND.—This value is surcharged “**HUNDRED PIASTRES**” in *sans serif* capitals 2½ mm. high, the words together, and measured as before, being 18½ mm. from end to end. Both are below the head, just inside and following the curve of the oval frame. (*Illustration* 193.)

This issue was in use from July, 1886, to the end of the following February. The unused remainders were subsequently brought back to England and destroyed.

In order to avoid this unsatisfactory mode of production, it was determined that the piastre values should be surcharged at the same time as the words “**MILITARY TELEGRAPHS**” were overprinted. Accordingly, overprinted stamps, surcharged as follows, were ordered :—

One Penny, surcharged	“ ONE DIME ” :
Twopence, ”	“ TWO DIMES ” :
Threepence, ”	“ FIVE DIMES ” :
Sixpence, ”	“ ONE PIASTRE ” :
Eightpence, ”	“ TWO PIASTRES ” :
One Shilling, ”	“ FIVE PIASTRES ” :
Two Shillings, ”	“ TEN PIASTRES ” :
Five Shillings, ”	“ TWENTY-FIVE PIASTRES ” :
Ten Shillings, ”	“ FIFTY PIASTRES ” :
One Pound, ”	“ ONE HUNDRED PIASTRES ”.

I should previously have mentioned that ten dimes equal one piastre, of which about ninety-seven and a half are equivalent to our one pound sterling, one hundred piastres being equivalent to one pound Egyptian, usually written thus—£E1.

The twopence and eightpence stamps, as will be remembered, were not in the former issues ; but it was determined to employ them in order to avoid bisection.

The additional surcharge was carried out by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., being printed from ordinary type to save the expense of special plates.

In November, 1886, the overprints were formally approved, and a supply struck off, which was sent to Cairo early in the following February. The numbers were as follows :—

25 sheets of 120 each	(3,000 stamps), of 1 dime:
25 ” ”	(3,000 ”), of 2 dimes :
25 ” ”	(3,000 ”), of 5 ” :
25 ” ”	(3,000 ”), of 1 piastre :
25 ” ”	(3,000 ”), of 2 piastres :
400 ” 84 each	(33,600 ”), of 5 ” :
150 ” ”	(12,600 ”), of 10 ” :
75 ” ”	(6,300 ”), of 25 ” :
25 ” ”	(2,100 ”), of 50 ” :
25 ” 60 each	(1,500 ”), of 100 ” :

In all 71,100 stamps, of the aggregate value of 717,900 piastres. The overprint “**MILITARY TELEGRAPHS**” is similar to that on the last issue: of course, from plates. The values in Egyptian currency were surcharged in black *sans serif* capitals, 3 mm. in height. They are as follows :—

On the ONE PENNY, TWOPENCE and THREEPENCE.—On the left of the head, “**ONE**”, “**TWO**”, or “**FIVE**”; on the right, “**DIME**” or “**DIMES**”, all

reading upwards. The words measure respectively $5\frac{3}{4}$ mm. and $7\frac{1}{2}$ mm., $5\frac{3}{4}$ mm. and 10 mm., and $5\frac{1}{2}$ mm. and 10 mm., and are 10 mm. apart. (*Illustrations* 196, 197 and 198.)

On the SIXPENCE and EIGHTPENCE.—On the left of the head, “ONE” or “TWO”; on the right, “PIASTRE” or “PIASTRES”. The words are $6\frac{3}{4}$ mm. and 11 mm., and 7 mm. and 13 mm. in length respectively, and are 10 mm. apart: they all read upwards. (*Illustrations* 199 and 200.)

On the ONE SHILLING, TWO SHILLINGS, FIVE SHILLINGS, TEN SHILLINGS and ONE POUND.—These surcharges are in straight lines above and below the head: above, “FIVE”, “TEN”, “TWENTY-FIVE”, “FIFTY” or “ONE HUNDRED”; below, “PIASTRES”. The lengths of the words on the different values are respectively $7\frac{1}{2}$ mm. and 12 mm., $6\frac{1}{2}$ mm. and 13 mm., 16 mm. and $13\frac{1}{2}$ mm., 9 mm. and 13 mm., and $18\frac{1}{2}$ mm. and 13 mm. The words of each surcharge are 14 mm. apart, except on the twenty-five piastres, where the space is 15 mm. (*Illustrations* 201 to 205.)

Impressions were registered on the 13th December, 1886. The issue continued in use until the spring of 1890, though the employment was extremely limited, very nearly all the stamps being returned to England and destroyed.

The perforation, which is given above as “ $13\frac{1}{2}$ ”, is not exactly of that gauge; but it is nearer to it than to the smaller gauge of 14.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with an Orb; perforated 14; overprinted “MILITARY TELEGRAPHS” only.

September, 1884.—One Penny, purple.

Threepence, purple.

Sixpence, purple.

Fiscal paper, watermarked “*V R*” in script; perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$; similarly overprinted.

September, 1884.—One Shilling, green.

Two Shillings, green.

Five Shillings, green.

Ten Shillings, green.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with an Orb; perforated 14 by $13\frac{1}{2}$; similarly overprinted.

September, 1884.—One Pound, purple.

Provisionals.

Three of the above stamps, surcharged with pen and ink, with new value.

(early in) 1885.—Sixpence on Ten Shillings, green.

One Shilling on Five Shillings, green.

One Shilling on One Pound, purple.

SECOND ISSUE.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with an Orb; perforated 14; overprinted “MILITARY TELEGRAPHS”, and additionally surcharged (in Egypt) with arbitrary piastre values.

July, 1886.—One Dime on half of One Penny, purple.
Two and a Half Dimes on half of Threepence, purple.
One Piastre on Sixpence, purple.

Fiscal paper, watermarked "*V R*" in script; perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$; similarly overprinted and surcharged.

July, 1886.—Five Piastres on One Shilling, green.
Ten Piastres on Two Shillings, green.
Twenty-five Piastres on Five Shillings, green.
Fifty Piastres on Ten Shillings, green.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with an Orb; perforated 14 by $13\frac{1}{2}$; similarly overprinted and surcharged.

July, 1886.—One Hundred Piastres on One Pound, purple.

THIRD ISSUE.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with an Orb; perforated 14; overprinted "**MILITARY TELEGRAPHS**", and additionally surcharged (in England) with arbitrary piastre values.

February, 1887.—One Dime on One Penny, purple.
Two Dimes on Twopence, purple.
Five Dimes on Threepence, purple.
One Piastre on Sixpence, purple.
Two Piastres on Eightpence, purple.

Fiscal paper, watermarked "*V R*" in script; perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$; similarly overprinted and surcharged.

February, 1887.—Five Piastres on One Shilling, green.
Ten Piastres on Two Shillings, green.
Twenty-five Piastres on Five Shillings, green.
Fifty Piastres on Ten Shillings, green.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with an Orb; perforated 14 by $13\frac{1}{2}$; similarly overprinted and surcharged.

February, 1887.—One Hundred Piastres on One Pound, purple.



SECTION II.

The stamps described in the preceding Section were superseded by a series of eleven values, overprinted "ARMY TELEGRAPHS" in black *sans serif* capitals.

Description.—The various stamps, overprinted as above, are the same as those in Section I, except the lowest value, which is the One Halfpenny postage stamp, printed in vermilion-red, described on page 168; and it seems necessary to do little more than refer our readers to the Illustrations (*nos.* 206 to 216), and append the synopsis. The colour of the appropriating overprint is as follows:—on the One Halfpenny, One Penny, One Shilling and One Pound, black; on the Twopence, ultramarine; on the Threepence and Two Shillings & Sixpence, brown; on the Sixpence, green; on the Eightpence, carmine; on the Five Shillings, mauve; and on the Ten Shillings, red.

Remarks.—All the values, except the One Halfpenny, Threepence and Eightpence, were used during the Ashanti expedition in 1895. At the army manœuvres in 1896 all were employed, with the exception of the Ten Shillings and One Pound; but at those of 1898 none of the series were used.

SYNOPSIS.

FIRST ISSUE.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with an Orb; perforated 14; overprinted "ARMY TELEGRAPHS."

- 1895.—One Penny, purple.
Twopence, purple.
Sixpence, purple.

Fiscal paper, watermarked "V R" in script; perforated 13½; similarly overprinted.

- 1895.—One Shilling, green.
Two Shillings & Sixpence, green.
Five Shillings, green.
Ten Shillings, green.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with an Orb; perforated 14 by 13½; similarly overprinted.

- 1895.—One Pound, purple.

SECOND ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted "ARMY TELEGRAPHS."

September, 1896.—One Halfpenny, vermilion-red.

Fiscal paper, watermarked with an Orb; perforated 14; similarly overprinted.

- September, 1896.—Threepence, purple.
Eightpence, purple.



Appendix.

By the courteous permission of the Board of Inland Revenue, we have been able to inspect the *imprimatur*, or registration, sheets of the various plates authorised to be used for printing the postage, fiscal and telegraph stamps, the history of which has been given in the foregoing pages; and the information so obtained has been supplemented by details, furnished to us by the Board's instructions, as to the use of the plates and the extent of the various printings.

We have arranged the result of our researches in tabular form, in the same order adopted when discussing the stamps themselves.

The tables are divided into thirteen columns, containing, as regards each *imprimatur* sheet:—

- 1.—The number of the plate of the particular value, as indicated in the margins of the sheet and (unless within *parentheses*) on the stamps:
- 2.—The number of the plate, irrespective of value, as given in the margins only:
- 3.—The colour of the impression:
- 4.—The colour of the paper:
- 5.—The watermark:
- 6 & 7.—The dates on which the registered impression was printed, and the official allowance endorsed:
- 8, 9, 10 & 11.—The dates on which the plate was respectively put to press, taken from press, defaced and destroyed:
- 12.—The number of impressions, or entire sheets, printed from each plate:
- and 13.—Such further and special details as may be considered of interest.

We have completed the lists, by the insertion of notes respecting those plates which should have been, but were not, prepared, or, if prepared, were never brought into use. The available records as to the plates of the present issue of postage stamps, and as to some of the overprinted and surcharged stamps, are so very scanty, that we have, as will be seen, omitted mention altogether of the greater part of them.

In giving the number of sheets printed, we have not made any allowance for spoilage or destruction; or for the appropriation, by means of an overprint or surcharge, to any official use or Colonial postal system.

Many of the registration sheets are on paper, in which the watermark is, as regards the impression, inverted, or reversed, or inverted and reversed; but, as such variations were solely the result of carelessness on the part of the printer in handling the paper, we purposely omit all mention of them.

We have, in some instances, been unwillingly compelled to use abbreviations, as follows:—

"*Appd.*" = Approved; "*b.*" = bright; "*bk.*" = brick; "*bl.*" = blue; "*bl'd.*" = blued; "*bn.*" = brown; "*car.*" = carmine; "*C. no.*" = Current-number; "*cons.*" = considerably; "*cr.*" = crown; "*d.*" = deep(ly); "*Def.*" = Defaced; "*Dest.*" = Destroyed; "*dk.*" = dark; "*f.*" = faint(ly); "*ft.*" = faintest; "*gr.-wh.*" = greyish-white; "*l.*" = light; "*la.*" = lake; "*or.*" = orange; "*p.*" = pale; "*P. no.*" = Plate-number; "*Put P.*" = Put to Press; "*s.*" = slight(ly); "*S. H.*" = Somerset House; "*st.*" = slightest; "*Strk.*" = Struck; "*Tak. P.*" = Taken from Press; "*tr.*" = traces; "*v.*" = very; "*verm.*" = vermilion; and "*Wmk.*" = Watermark.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF THE "IMPRIMATUR" SHEETS

In the Archives of the Board of Inland Revenue.

I. Postage Stamps.

A. LINE-ENGRAVED SERIES.

1. THE ONE HALFPENNY.

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put P.	Tak.P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
1	171	lake-red	gr.-wh.	"half penny"	20'6'70	...	20'6'70	13'5'72	...	...	121,500	
2	172	<i>Found to be imperfect after 232 impressions had been made on plate.</i>										
3	173	lake-red	gr.-wh.	"half penny"	28'6'70	...	28'6'70	2'10'73	...	...	192,500	
4	174	"	"	"	4'7'70	...	4'7'70	16'12'73	...	...	264,600	
5	175	"	"	"	19'7'70	...	12'7'70	16'12'76	...	...	533,200	
6	176	"	"	"	19'7'70	...	19'7'70	6'5'76	...	...	402,100	
7	none	<i>Plate never made, as the punch proved defective.</i>										
8	177	lake-red	gr.-wh.	"half penny"	26'7'70	...	...	...	...	26'10'80	...	
9	178	"	"	"	23'12'70	...	9'10'71	...	...	...	...
10	197	p. rose-red	"	"	24'10'72	25'10'72	2'10'73	6'5'78	...	...	386,100	
11	198	"	"	"	"	"	21'1'74	19'5'79	...	...	411,000	
12	220	"	"	"	13'4'74	30'4'74	20'6'74	...	...	26'10'80	...	
13	221	"	"	"	20'4'75	3'6'75	6'5'76	...	...	"	"
14	224	"	"	"	30'4'75	"	16'11'76	...	...	"	"
15	242	"	"	"	16'11'76	...	6'5'78	...	...	"	"
16	...	<i>Never completed, as, after 198 impressions had been made on plate, the roller broke.</i>										
17	...	"	"	"	16	"	"	"	"	"	"	<i>cracked.</i>
18	...	"	"	"	16	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
19	248	p. rose-red	gr.-wh.	"half penny"	16'11'77	...	18'7'78	...	...	26'10'80	...	
20	249	"	"	"	31'12'78	...	27'6'79	...	...	"	"
21	...											
22	...	<i>Completed, but never registered or put to press; destroyed 26'10'80.</i>										

2. THE ONE PENNY. ORIGINAL DIE.

(1)	none	black	gr.-wh.	small crown	15'4'40	27'4'40	15'4'40	...	...	<i>v. inf.</i>	...	Before hardening.
(1)	"	"	"	"	27'4'40	28'4'40	<i>v. sup.</i>	...	...	11'12'41	...	After hardening.
(2)	"	"	"	"	22'4'40	27'4'40	22'4'40	...	...	<i>v. inf.</i>	...	Before hardening.
(2)	"	"	"	"	27'4'40	...	<i>v. sup.</i>	...	...	19'11'41	...	After hardening.
(3)	"	"	"	"	9'5'40	...	...	...	...	—'10'40	...	
(4)	"	"	"	"	18'5'40	...	...	...	...	9' 1'41	...	Not in Archives.
(5)	"	"	"	"	1'6'40	...	...	...	...	<i>v. inf.</i>	...	Before hardening.
(5)	"	"	"	"	11'6'40	...	...	...	...	12'11'41	...	After hardening.
(6)	"	"	"	"	17'6'40	...	...	...	...	9' 1'41	...	} Not in Archives.
(7)	"	"	"	"	6'7'40	...	...	...	...	"	...
(8)	"	"	"	"	31'7'40	...	...	...	...	8' 9'41	...	
(9)	"	"	"	"	6'11'40	...	...	...	...	7'10'43	...	
(10)	"	"	"	"	2'12'40	...	...	...	...	21' 2'43	...	Not in Archives.
(11)	"	red-bn.	(?) f. bld.	"	21'2'41	...	...	...	...	15' 1'42	...	
(12)	"	b. red-bn.	f. tr. blue	"	25'2'41	...	...	...	...	"	...	Unevenly blued.
(13)	"	bk.-red	cons. bld.	"	27'4'41	...	...	...	...	15' 7'41	...	
(14)	"	"	"	"	—	...	...	...	...	8' 9'41	...	
(15)	"	v.dk. bk.-red	"	"	23'7'41	...	...	...	...	21' 2'43	...	
(16)	"	bk.-red	"	"	—	...	...	...	...	"	...
(17)	"	dk. red-bn.	"	"	10'9'41	...	...	...	...	18' 3'42	...	} 1st stamp in 13th row, "L. A.," shows "L" struck twice. Fine coloured line runs across stamps in 3rd row, close to lower edge; similar lines on other parts of the plate.
(18)	"	"	"	"	21'9'41	...	...	...	...	5' 3'42	...	
(19)	"	red-bn.	"	"	3'11'41	...	...	...	...	7'10'43	...	
(20)	"	dk. red-bn.	blued	"	15'11'41	...	...	...	...	"	...
(21)	"	b. bk.-red	st. tr. blue	"	11'12'41	...	...	...	...	21' 2'43	...	Very unevenly blued.

*Issue I
in Red
also Issue II.
in Red*

1st stamp in 13th row, "L. A.," shows "L" struck twice. Fine coloured line runs across stamps in 3rd row, close to lower edge; similar lines on other parts of the plate.
Very unevenly blued.
Last stamps in 12th and 13th rows originally lettered "K. L." in error. An "L" was struck over 1st "K;" and an "M" over 2nd one.

APPENDIX.

2. THE ONE PENNY: ORIGINAL DIE—(continued).

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put P.	Tab. P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(22)	none	red-bn.	(7) st. tr. bl.	small crown	about 30'12'41	21'2'43	...	} Not in Archives. Completed 29'12'41
(23)	"	"	(f) "	"	about 18'1'42	...	...	...	...	"	...
(24)	"	"	v. s. blued	"	4'3'42	...	18'8'43	...	...	"	...
(25)	"	"	s. blued	"	17'3'42	...	27'1'43	...	...	"	...
(26)	"	b. red-bn.	blued	"	22'6'42	...	"	"	...	} On stamp lettered "O.F.", the "O" [struck twice.
(27)	"	red-bn.	"	"	5'9'42	...	"	...	...	7'10'43	...
(28)	"	"	"	"	14'9'42	...	16'9'43	"	...	} On stamp lettered "B.A.", lower part of "B" very much wider than upper: others quite different.
(29)	"	"	st. tr. blue	"	14'11'42	...	18'8'43	...	...	"	...
(30)	"	"	s. blued	"	6'12'42	...	"	"	...	} On stamp lettered "B.A.", lower part of "B" very much wider than upper: others quite different.
(31)	"	"	v. s. blued	"	27'1'43	...	16'9'43	...	...	"	...
(32)	"	bk.-red	s. blued	"	7'2'43	...	"	"	...	} In 15th row, fine line, as on plate (19).
(33)	"	b. red-bn.	"	"	20'2'43	...	"	...	...	"	...
(34)	"	"	blued	"	7'6'43	...	"	25'6'44	...	"	...	} Blueing varies in intensity. 11th stamp in 12th row was lettered "P.K." An "L" struck over the "P." Sheet dated October, but marginal note [states it should be November.
(35)	"	red-bn.	"	"	"	...	"	27'2'45	...	"	...	
(36)	"	"	s. blued	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	...	} Stamps lettered "H.F. and "H.I." placed very much lower than others (in same row.
(37)	"	"	blued	"	7'7'43	...	17'2'44	...	...	"	...
(38)	"	b. red-bn.	"	"	26'7'43	...	"	25'6'44	...	"	...	} Tinge blue at top.
(39)	"	bk.-red	s. blued	"	2'10'43	...	"	"	...	"	...	
(40)	"	red-bn.	"	"	17'1'43	...	"	"	...	"	...	} Slight blueing at top.
(41)	"	b. red-bn.	"	"	6'11'43	...	"	"	...	"	...	
(42)	"	"	v. s. blued	"	23'1'44	...	"	25'6'44	...	"	...	} No blueing.
(43)	"	"	s. blued	"	"	...	"	27'2'45	...	"	...	
(44)	"	red-bn.	"	"	29'2'44	...	"	1'4'46	...	"	...	} Tinge blue at top.
(45)	"	"	blued	"	"	...	"	27'2'45	...	"	...	
(46)	"	bk.-red	v. s. blued	"	4'5'44	...	"	"	...	"	...	} Slight blueing at top.
(47)	"	"	"	"	24'5'44	...	"	"	...	"	...	
(48)	"	red-bn.	blued	"	19'6'44	...	"	1'4'46	...	"	...	} No blueing.
(49)	"	b. red-bn.	d. blued	"	12'9'44	...	"	27'2'45	...	"	...	
(50)	"	"	blued	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	...	} Tinge blue at top.
(51)	"	dk. la.-red	st. tr. blue	"	3'12'44	...	"	1'4'46	...	"	...	
(52)	"	dk. bk.-red	ft. tr. blue	"	17'12'44	...	"	"	...	"	...	} Slight blueing at top.
(53)	"	"	blued	"	7'1'45	...	"	"	...	"	...	
(54)	"	bk.-red	ft. tr. blue	"	25'1'45	...	"	"	...	"	...	} No blueing.
(55)	"	b. bk.-red	gr.-wh.	"	7'2'45	...	"	"	...	"	...	
(56)	"	bk.-red	"	"	25'2'45	...	"	"	...	"	...	} Tinge blue at top.
(57)	"	red-bn.	"	"	9'5'45	...	"	"	...	"	...	
(58)	"	"	v. f. blued	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	...	} No blueing.
(59)	"	"	v. f. tr. blue	"	25'6'45	...	"	"	...	"	...	
(60)	"	"	s. blued	"	"	...	"	15'5'47	...	"	75,000	} Faintest blueing in one corner.
(61)	"	"	ft. tr. blue	"	14'8'45	...	"	"	...	"	84,000	
(62)	"	b. bk.-red	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	96,000	} Faintest blueing in one corner.
(63)	"	red-bn.	s. tr. blue	"	2'9'45	...	"	"	...	"	64,000	
(64)	"	"	gr.-wh.	"	3'12'45	...	"	"	...	"	98,000	} Faintest blueing in one corner.
(65)	"	"	f. blued	"	2'2'46	...	"	"	...	"	73,000	
(66)	"	"	ft. tr. blue	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	101,000	} Faintest blueing in one corner.
(67)	"	"	s. blued	"	17'4'46	...	"	"	...	"	76,000	
(68)	"	"	ft. tr. blue	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	...	} Tinge of orange in colour.
(69)	"	bk.-red	s. blued	"	8'6'46	...	"	2'12'48	...	"	154,000	
(70)	"	"	ft. tr. blue	"	30'6'46 | 30'7'46	...	"	"	...	"	133,000	} Tinge of orange in colour.
(71)	"	b. bk.-red	s. blued	"	21'10'46	...	"	"	...	"	72,000	
(72)	"	"	f. blued	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	...	} Tinge of orange in colour.
(73)	"	dk. bk.-red	ft. tr. blue	"	14'1'47	...	"	"	...	"	...	
(74)	"	bk.-red	v. s. tr. blue	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	...	} Tinge of orange in colour.
(75)	"	"	v. s. bld.	"	19'4'47	...	"	"	...	"	104,000	
(76)	"	"	s. blued	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	126,000	} 1st stamp in and row lettered "B." on plate (77). The "A" was inserted, and plate re-registered as (77B). Blueing deep in parts, almost absent in others. In 19th row every "S" [inverted.
(77)	"	dk. bk.-red	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	v. inf. 82,400	
(77A)	"	dk. red-bn.	v. blued	"	12'1'48	...	"	"	...	"	84,400	} 1st stamp in and row lettered "B." on plate (77). The "A" was inserted, and plate re-registered as (77B). Blueing deep in parts, almost absent in others. In 19th row every "S" [inverted.
(78)	"	"	blued	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	88,000	
(79)	"	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	90,800	} "K" of "K. A." extends beyond [letter-block.
(80)	"	"	"	"	"	...	"	6'3'50	...	"	124,400	
(81)	"	dk. bk.-red	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	...	

2. THE ONE PENNY: ORIGINAL DIE—(continued).

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put P.	Tak.P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(82)	none	dk. bk. red	blued	small crown	12'1'48	...	...	...	6'3'50	...	54,400	
(83)	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	"	...	52,800	
(84)	"	bk.-red	s. blued	"	11'10'48	...	...	...	"	...	108,000	All lettering most irregular.
(85)	"	red-bn.	blued	"	"	...	...	...	"	...	121,600	
(86)	"	"	s. blued	"	"	...	...	...	"	...	118,400	
(87)	"	"	blued	"	"	...	...	...	"	...	128,400	
(88)	"	bk.-red	s. blued	"	20'3'49	...	...	...	"	...	63,300	
(89)	"	"	gr.-wh.	"	"	...	...	...	"	...	79,200	Blued in parts only.
(90)	"	"	blued	"	24'5'49	...	...	...	"	...	70,000	Tinge of orange in colour.
(91)	"	"	gr.-wh.	"	"	...	...	...	22'10'51	...	95,200	Slight blueing in parts only.
(92)	"	red-bn.	blued	"	"	...	...	...	10'3'51	...	72,400	
(93)	"	bk.-red	s. blued	"	6'12'49	...	...	...	"	...	83,600	
(94)	"	"	blued	"	"	...	...	...	22'10'51	...	144,000	
(95)	"	"	v. s. bld.	"	7'1'50	...	...	...	"	...	106,800	
(96)	"	"	blued	"	6'12'49	...	...	...	"	...	136,000	Tinge of orange in colour of impressions.
(97)	"	"	v. s. bld.	"	"	...	...	...	10'3'51	...	100,800	
(98)	"	"	s. blued	"	"	...	...	...	22'10'51	...	133,200	
(99)	"	"	v. s. bld.	"	7'1'50	...	...	...	10'3'51	...	75,600	
(100)	"	"	blued	"	25'2'50	...	...	...	"	...	61,200	Tinge of orange in colour of impression.
(101)	"	dk. bk.-red	v. s. bld.	"	"	...	...	...	"	...	104,400	
(102)	"	bk.-red	cons. bld.	"	12'6'50	...	...	...	"	...	75,600	
(103)	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	"	...	48,800	
(104)	"	"	"	"	"	8'10'50	...	...	"	...	53,200	
(105)	"	"	"	"	"	6'12'50	...	...	22'10'51	...	42,000	In 19th row every "S" inverted.
(106)	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	54,800	
(107)	"	dk. bk.-red	d. blued	"	1'1'51	2'1'51	...	...	10'3'51	...	24,800	
(108)	"	"	v. d. bld.	"	"	"	...	...	22'10'51	...	43,200	
(109)	"	"	"	"	"	6'1'51	...	...	"	...	28,800	
(110)	"	"	d. blued	"	"	15'1'51	...	...	"	...	34,400	
(111)	"	"	"	"	"	27'1'51	...	...	"	...	50,800	
(112)	"	"	"	"	"	6'2'51	...	...	"	...	74,400	
(113)	"	bk.-red	blued	"	26'2'51	27'2'51	...	...	"	...	56,400	
(114)	"	dk. bk.-red	s. blued	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	35,200	
(115)	"	bk.-red	blued	"	"	5'3'51	...	...	"	...	41,200	
(116)	"	"	s. blued	"	20'5'51	24'5'51	...	...	26'5'52	...	60,800	
(117)	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	37,600	
(118)	"	"	"	"	"	27'5'51	...	...	"	...	70,800	
(119)	"	red-bn.	cons. bld.	"	"	30'5'51	...	...	"	...	67,200	
(120)	"	bk.-red	blued	"	"	14'6'51	...	...	"	...	44,000	
(121)	"	"	cons. bld.	"	"	28'6'51	...	...	"	...	60,400	
(122)	"	"	blued	"	25'7'51	25'7'51	...	...	"	...	70,000	Tinge of lake in colour.
(123)	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	75,600	"E" of "E. A." very faulty.
(124)	"	"	"	"	"	2'8'51	...	...	"	...	49,600	
(125)	"	"	"	"	"	3'9'51	...	...	"	...	61,600	
(126)	"	"	"	"	23'9'51	3'10'51	...	...	"	...	62,000	Tinge of orange in colour.
(127)	"	b. bk.-red	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	65,200	
(128)	"	bk.-red	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	59,800	
(129)	"	b. bk.-red	"	"	"	7'11'51	...	...	"	...	44,800	
(130)	"	"	"	"	"	27'12'51	...	...	3'11'52	...	50,800	A little blueing, but very faint and unevenly distributed. Commencing with this plate, lettering in lower angles is larger than previously, and of a different type.
(131)	"	bk.-red	"	"	"	10'1'52	...	...	"	...	48,400	
(132)	"	dk. bk.-red	gr.-wh.	"	6'2'52	19'2'52	...	...	"	...	36,400	
(133)	"	b. bk.-red	v. s. bld.	"	"	21'2'52	...	...	"	...	36,400	Vertical row of "G" of old small type; horizontal row—except and "G" of Faint ["G.G."—of new large type. blueing here and there.
(134)	"	"	gr.-wh.	"	"	23'2'52	...	...	"	...	28,000	
(135)	"	bk.-red	v. s. bld.	"	"	28'2'52	...	...	"	...	46,400	
(136)	"	"	ft. tr. blue	"	"	8'3'52	...	...	"	...	28,800	
(137)	"	"	"	"	"	30'3'52	...	...	"	...	22,800	
(138)	"	dk. bk.-red	blued	"	17'4'52	17'4'52	...	...	"	...	50,400	
(139)	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	32,800	
(140)	"	bk.-red	"	"	"	19'4'52	...	...	"	...	29,600	
(141)	"	"	"	"	"	27'4'52	...	...	"	...	26,000	
(142)	"	"	s. blued	"	"	20'5'52	...	...	13'6'53	...	67,800	

2. THE ONE PENNY: ORIGINAL DIE—(continued).

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Fut P	Tab.P	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(143)	none	bk.-red	blued	small crown	17'4'52	22'5'52	...	3'11'52	...	31,600	"S" of "S.A." inverted.	
(144)	"	b. bk.-red	"	"	4'6'52	11'6'52	...	13'6'53	...	55,000	Upper part of stamp, "T. A.", shows twice—evidently roller applied to wrong place, and then moved. Not a double print.	
(145)	"	"	cons. bld.	"	"	"	...	3'11'52	...	32,400		
(146)	"	bk.-red	s. blued	"	"	"	...	13'6'53	...	47,800		
(147)	"	"	blued	"	"	15'6'52	...	3'11'52	...	43,600		
(148)	"	dk. bk.-red	"	"	"	16'6'52	...	13'6'53	...	49,200	First of series of reserve plates. Tinge of orange in colour.	
(R1)	"	bk.-red	"	"	"	22'11'54	13'3'55	8'8'55	...	...
(R2)	"	"	"	"	"	"	18'4'55	"	...	...
(R3)	"	"	s. blued	"	"	"	10'4'55	"	...	...
(R4)	"	"	blued	"	27'7'52	"	23'4'55	"	Tinge of orange in colour.	
(R5)	"	b. bk.-red	"	"	"	"	13'3'55	"	...	...
(R6)	"	bk.-red	"	"	"	"	14'4'55	"	...	...
(149)	"	"	"	"	"	27'7'52	...	13'6'53	...	60,000		
(150)	"	"	"	"	"	28'7'52	...	"	...	74,800	Tinge of orange in colour.	
(151)	"	b. bk.-red	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	64,600		
(152)	"	bk.-red	"	"	"	"	...	24'8'54	...	...
(153)	"	"	"	"	"	20'8'52	...	13'6'53	...	63,800		
(154)	"	"	"	"	"	14'8'52	...	"	...	57,600	Slight bluing here and there.	
(R7)	"	dk. bk.-red	s. blued	"	16'9'52	never	...	1'12'64	...	...
(155)	"	b. bk.-red	"	"	"	30'11'52	...	24'8'54	...	...
(156)	"	dk. bk.-red	v. s. blued	"	"	17'9'52	...	13'6'53	...	60,000		
(157)	"	bk.-red	"	"	"	"	...	8'2'55	Stamps very irregularly placed, especially "L.I." to "L.L." and "T.I." to "T.L."	
(158)	"	b. bk.-red	s. blued	"	"	3'11'52	...	13'6'53	...	58,800		
(159)	"	bk.-red	"	"	"	30'11'52	...	"	...	50,600		
(160)	"	"	gr.-wh.	"	"	9'12'52	...	24'8'54	...	...
(161)	"	"	ft. tr. blue	"	14'1'53	17'1'53	...	"	On stamps "N.A." and "N.K.", the "N" touches left of square.	
(162)	"	"	"	"	"	27'1'53	...	"	...	...
(163)	"	b. bk.-red	s. blued	"	"	5'2'53	...	8'2'55	...	...
(164)	"	bk.-red	"	"	"	17'2'53	...	24'8'54	...	...
(165)	"	"	"	"	"	12'3'53	...	"	Faint bluing here & there. Tinge of lake in colour. Thin paper.	
(166)	"	"	"	"	"	15'4'53	...	8'2'55	...	...
(R8)	"	"	"	"	"	never	...	1'12'64	...	...
(R9)	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...
(R10)	"	"	v. s. blued	"	"	"	...	"	Faint traces bluing here and there. Tinge of lake in colour.	
(R11)	"	"	s. blued	"	18'4'53	"	...	"	...	...
(167)	"	"	v. s. blued	"	"	18'4'53	...	24'8'54	...	...
(168)	"	"	"	"	"	19'4'53	...	"	...	...
(169)	"	dk. bk.-red	s. blued	"	"	30'4'53	...	"	Tinge of lake in colour.	
(170)	"	b. bk.-red	"	"	"	4'5'53	...	"	...	...
(171)	"	dk. bk.-red	ft. tr. blue	"	"	24'5'53	...	"	...	...
(172)	"	bk.-red	gr.-wh.	"	"	25'5'53	...	"	...	...
(173)	"	"	"	"	20'7'53	19'8'53	...	8'2'55	Faint traces bluing here and there. Tinge of lake in colour.	
(174)	"	b. bk.-red	f. tr. blue	"	"	27'8'53	...	24'8'54	...	...
(175)	"	bk.-red	"	"	"	15'12'53	...	"	...	...
(176)	"	b. bk.-red	s. blued	"	"	12'1'54	...	8'2'55	...	...
(177)	"	"	gr.-wh.	"	"	"	...	4'8'55	Very thin paper. Thin paper.	
(R12)	"	dk. bk.-red	s. blued	"	"	never	...	1'12'64	...	...
(R13)	"	b. bk.-red	v. s. blued	"	"	"	...	"	...	...
(R14)	"	bk.-red	"	"	13'2'54	"	...	"	...	...
(178)	"	dk. bk.-red	d. blued	"	"	17'2'54	...	4'8'55	Very thin paper. Thin paper.	
(179)	"	"	blued	"	"	"	...	8'2'55	...	...
(180)	"	red-bn.	"	"	"	22'2'54	...	24'8'54	...	...
(181)	"	bk.-red	s. blued	"	"	17'3'54	...	"	...	...
(182)	"	"	blued	"	"	24'4'54	...	8'2'55	Very thin paper. Thin paper.	
(183)	"	"	cons. bld.	"	"	26'4'54	...	24'8'54	...	...
(184)	"	dull bk.-red	blued	"	12'7'54	13'7'54	...	8'2'55	...	...
(185)	"	dk. bk.-red	cons. bld.	"	"	18'7'54	...	"	...	...
(186)	"	red-bn.	s. blued	"	"	13'7'54	...	"	Very thin paper. Thin paper.	
(187)	"	b. bk.-red	blued	"	"	"	...	"	...	...
(188)	"	bk.-red	"	"	"	18'7'54	...	"	...	...
(189)	"	"	cons. bld.	"	"	"	...	"	...	...

End of Volume II

2. THE ONE PENNY: ORIGINAL DIE—(continued).

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put.	P.Tak.	P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(190)	none	dk. red-bn.	blued	small crown	11'8'54	11'8'54	...	8'2'55	...	...	...	...
(191)	"	la. red-bn.	cons. bld.	"	"	12'8'54	...	8'8'55	...	...	...	...
(192)	"	dk. la.-red	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...
(193)	"	la.-red	v. s. bld.	"	"	"	...	8'2'55	...	...	...	...
(194)	"	bk.-red	"	"	21'9'54	23'9'54	...	8'8'55	...	...	...	...	Tinge of orange in colour.
(195)	"	b. bk.-red	blued	"	"	"	...	8'2'55	...	...	...	...
(196)	"	bk.-red	s. blued	"	"	"	...	8'8'55	...	...	...	...
(197)	"	"	"	"	"	29'9'54	...	"	...	...	...	...	Tinge of orange in colour.
(198)	"	"	"	"	8'11'54	9'11'54	...	"	...	...	...	...	Tinge of lake in colour.
(199)	"	la.-red	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...
(200)	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...
(201)	"	"	"	"	"	10'11'54	...	"	...	...	...	...
(202)	"	"	v. s. bld.	"	30'11'54	2'12'54	...	"	...	...	...	...
(203)	"	"	"	"	"	20'12'54	...	"	...	...	...	...	Thin paper.
(204)	"	"	"	"	"	11'1'55	...	"	...	...	...	...
RETOUCHED DIE—letters in lower corners only.													
(1)	"	bk.-red	s. blued	small crown	15'1'55	16'1'55	...	8'5'56	...	...	...	...	Thick paper.
(2)	"	"	"	"	"	20'1'55	...	"	...	...	...	...
(3)	"	v. b. bk.-red	gr.-wh.	"	"	22'1'55	...	"	...	...	...	...	Thin paper. S. bld. here and there.
(4)	"	bk.-red	ft. tr. blue	"	"	20'1'55	...	"	...	...	...	...	Tinge of orange in colour.
(R15)	"	"	v. s. bld.	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	221,700	...	"Withdrawn" 1'3'64, and sent to Somerset House.
(R16)	"	"	ft. tr. blue	"	"	28'4'62	...	"	...	...	...	...
(5)	"	b. bk.-red	v. s. bld.	"	1'2'55	3'2'55	...	8'5'56	...	...	...	...	Many letters irregularly placed.
(6)	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...
(7)	"	"	f. tr. blue	"	"	7'2'55	...	"	...	...	...	...
(8)	"	bk.-red	gr.-wh.	"	19'3'55	24'3'55	...	"	...	...	...	...	Slight blueing here and there.
(9)	"	"	ft. tr. blue	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...	Tinge of orange in colour.
(10)	"	"	v. s. bld.	"	"	11'4'55	...	"	...	...	...	...
(11)	"	dull bk.-red	s. tr. blue	"	"	16'4'55	...	"	...	...	...	...
(12)	"	bk.-red	s. blued	"	"	19'4'55	...	"	...	...	...	...
(13)	"	"	ft. tr. blue	"	"	23'4'55	...	"	...	...	...	...	Stamp "Q.L." has double impression of "POSTAGE."
(14)	"	b. bk.-red	gr.-wh.	"	12'5'55	22'5'55	...	"	...	...	...	...	No blueing. } a tinge of orange } a rose }
(15)	"	"	"	"	"	26'5'55	...	"	...	...	...	...	No blueing.
(16)	"	"	ft. tr. blue	"	"	15'5'55	...	22'6'57	...	...	...	...	On stamp, "L. J.", the "J" very lightly struck.
(17)	"	or.-red	gr.-wh.	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...	No blueing.
(18)	"	"	"	"	"	1'6'55	...	"	...	...	...	...	Thin paper.
(19)	"	bk.-red	s. tr. blue	"	"	16'10'55	...	8'5'56	...	...	26,000	...	
(20)	"	"	gr.-wh.	"	"	19'10'55	...	"	...	...	36,000	...	
(21)	"	"	"	"	8'6'55	"	...	"	...	...	29,000	...	Tinge of rose. } No blueing. } Stout paper.
(22)	"	"	ft. tr. blue	"	"	1'8'55	...	22'6'57	...	...	7,000	...	
(R17)	"	"	v. blued	large crown	12'11'55	"	...	"	...	...	191,200	...	
(R18)	"	dk. bk.-red	blued	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...	"Withdrawn" 1'3'64, and sent to Somerset House.
(R19)	"	red-bn.	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...
(R20)	"	dull bk.-red	"	small "	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...	Thinnish paper.
(23)	"	dull la.-red	s. blued	large "	"	17'11'55	...	22'6'57	...	...	62,000	...	
(24)	"	b. bk.-red	v. s. bld.	small "	"	24'11'55	...	"	...	...	80,000	...	
(25)	"	"	gr.-wh.	large "	"	12'11'55	...	"	...	...	45,000	...	No blueing. Tinge of rose in colour.
(26)	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	40,000	...	Thin paper.
(27)	"	bk.-red	blued	"	27'12'55	27'12'55	...	"	...	...	1,011,900	...	"Withdrawn" 22'3'61, and sent to S. H.: not worn out.
(28)	"	dull bk.-red	s. blue	"	"	"	...	22'6'57	...	...	76,000	...	
(29)	"	b. bk.-red	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	93,000	...	A tinge of rose in colour. Thin paper.
(30)	"	bk.-red	v. s. tr. blue	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	88,000	...	A tinge of lake in colour. Thin paper.
(31)	"	dull bk.-red	blued	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	160,000	...	A tinge of lake in colour.
(32)	"	b. red-bn.	s. blued	"	16'1'56	8'2'56	...	"	...	...	130,000	...	Stout paper.
(33)	"	b. bk.-red	"	"	"	"	...	29'10'61	...	...	138,000	...	
(34)	"	"	v. s. bld.	"	"	22'1'56	25'3'62	1'12'64	...	...	724,100	...	Stout paper.
(35)	"	"	ft. tr. blue	"	"	23'1'56	22'6'57	...	...	...	145,000	...	
(36)	"	red-bn.	cons. bld.	"	"	20'2'56	...	"	...	...	1,004,900	...	"Withdrawn" 1'3'64, and sent to [S.H.]
(37)	"	b. bk.-red	v. f. tr. blue	"	2'4'56	19'4'56	...	29'10'61	...	...	263,000	...	Thin paper.
(38)	"	dull bk.-red	"	"	"	24'5'56	...	"	...	...	220,000	...	
(39)	"	b. red-bn.	"	"	7'4'56	7'4'56	...	"	...	...	...	...	"Withdrawn" 1'3'64, and sent to [S.H.]

Plates 16, 17, 18 and 22 first used experimentally in colour. at steam presses.

2. THE ONE PENNY: RETOUCHE DIE—letters in lower corners only—(continued).

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put P.	Tak.P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(40)	none	dull la.-red	ft. tr. blue	large crown		2'4'56	3'5'56	...	22'6'57	...	110,000	
(41)	"	"	s. blued	"	"	"	7'4'56	...	...	...	361,600	" Withdrawn " 7'3'64, and sent to [S.H.]
(42)	"	"	"	"	"	"	23'6'56	29'1'62	1'12'64	...	669,700	
(43)	"	dull bk.-red	gr.-wh.	"	"	"	5'7'56	...	...	...	...	{ Ft. tr. blue in parts. " Withdrawn " 2'4'64, and sent to S.H.
(44)	"	dk. bk.-red	ft. tr. blue	"	"	"	19'7'56	20'4'61	29'10'61	...	601,500	
(45)	"	dull rose-red	gr.-wh.	"	"	25'6'56	26'8'56	...	"	...	110,000	} Very faint bluing here and there.
(46)	"	"	"	"	"	"	27'8'56	28'4'62	1'12'64	...	651,400	
(47)	"	dk. red-rose	s. blued	"	"	"	15'12'56	...	...	...	953,900	" Withdrawn " 30'3'64 } and sent to S.H.
(48)	"	red-rose	gr.-wh.	"	"	"	2'2'57	...	...	...	...	{ Ft. tr. blue in parts. " Withdrawn " 1'3'64 } to S.H.
(49)	"	b. bk.-red	s. blued	"	"	"	3'4'57	...	29'10'61	...	473,200	
(50)	"	"	"	"	"	"	27'6'56	...	...	...	...	" Withdrawn " 2'4'64 } and sent to S.H.
(51)	"	"	blued	"	"	"	26'6'56	...	...	...	...	{ " Withdrawn " 1'3'64 } to S.H.
(52)	"	b. red-or.	gr.-wh.	"	"	11'2'57	7'5'57	...	...	...	...	} Stamps on right-hand half of sheet very irregularly spaced, horizontally, others fairly regular. Plate condemned in consequence, & " withdrawn " { " Withdrawn " 1'3'64 } { 29'10'61.
(53)	"	dk. red-or.	"	"	"	"	12'2'57	...	29'10'61	...	...
(54)	"	Spoiled in making; defaced 22'6'57.										
(55)	"	b. red-or.	gr.-wh.	large cr.	"	11'2'57	21'5'57	...	...	...	...	} F. tr. blue in parts. " Withdrawn " 2'4'64 } and sent to S.H.
(56)	"	"	"	"	"	"	14'7'57	...	...	...	...
(57)	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...	" Withdrawn " 1'3'64 }
(58)	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	10'4'61	29'10'61	...	408,000	
(59)	"	dull rose-or.	s. tr. blue	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	805,200	{ Stout paper. Last sheet blued. " Withdrawn " 2'4'64 } and sent to S.H.
(60)	"	b. red-or.	gr.-wh.	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...	" Withdrawn " 1'3'64 }
(61)	"	car.-rose	"	"	"	18'1'58	8'5'58	30'5'61	29'10'61	...	186,100	
(62)	"	"	"	"	"	"	5'12'59	...	...	...	...	" Withdrawn " 1'3'64, and sent to [S.H.]
(63)	"	"	"	"	"	"	5'3'60	30'5'61	29'10'61	...	145,100	
(64)	"	"	"	"	"	"	5'11'60	...	"	...	19,400	
(65)	"	"	"	"	"	"	14'1'61	...	"	...	10,600	
(66)	"	"	"	"	"	"	13'2'61	17'3'64	...	...	...	" Withdrawn " 17'3'64, and sent to [S.H.]
(67)	"	"	"	"	"	"	13'2'62	...	...	...	250,400	
(68)	"	"	"	"	"	"	9'1'62	...	...	...	...	" Withdrawn " 1'3'64.

RETOUCHE DIE—letters in all four corners.

69	"	Plate finished 10'12'60; defaced 29'10'61, on account of imperfections: never registered.										
70	"	Not registered: rejected on account of a flaw in the steel: defaced 1'12'64.										
71	"	car.-rose	gr.-wh.	large cr.	"	14'3'61	1'3'64	...	9'6'68	...	557,000	} Letters in corners are now, and hence forward, sans serif capitals. Stamps irregularly placed.
72	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	23'3'68	...	522,800	
73	"	car.-red	"	"	"	"	"	...	5'3'68	...	529,900	
74	"	car.-rose	"	"	"	"	"	...	9'6'68	...	531,000	Thinnish paper.
75	"	Not registered: incorrectly laid down for perforation: defaced 1'12'64.										
76	"	car.-rose	gr.-wh.	large cr.	"	7'2'63	1'3'64	...	15'2'69	...	555,500	
77	"	Not registered: incorrectly laid down for perforation: defaced 1'12'64.										
78	"	car.-rose	gr.-wh.	large cr.	"	7'2'63	1'3'64	...	16'1'69	...	615,600	
79	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	3'5'69	...	638,600	
80	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	12'5'68	...	495,200	
81	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	520,300	On stamp "A.S.-S.A.", first "S" inv.
82	"	"	"	"	"	1'3'64	"	...	14'4'66	...	263,400	
83	"	p. car.-rose	"	"	"	"	"	...	11'4'66	...	199,600	Thinnish paper.
84	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	31'1'68	...	369,400	
85	"	car.-rose	"	"	"	"	"	...	23'3'68	...	510,300	
86	"	b. car.-rose	"	"	"	"	"	...	29'2'68	...	460,500	Stout paper.
87	"	"	"	"	"	7'3'64	7'3'64	...	23'3'68	...	462,400	
88	"	"	"	"	"	17'3'64	17'3'64	...	6'1'66	...	199,000	
89	"	"	"	"	"	22'3'64	22'3'64	...	10'10'68	...	503,900	Stout paper.
90	"	"	"	"	"	30'3'64	30'3'64	...	18'1'69	...	471,700	
91	"	p. car.-rose	"	"	"	5'4'64	5'4'64	...	5'2'68	...	384,100	
92	"	"	"	"	"	12'4'64	12'4'64	...	10'5'69	...	567,700	
93	"	"	"	"	"	19'4'64	19'4'64	...	18'3'68	...	455,100	Stoutish paper.
94	"	"	"	"	"	26'4'64	26'4'64	...	23'3'68	...	478,600	
95	"	"	"	"	"	14'6'64	4'7'64	...	17'12'68	...	533,600	
96	"	b. car.-rose	"	"	"	5'10'64	11'10'64	...	18'1'69	...	488,300	
97	"	"	"	"	"	"	7'3'65	...	3'8'69	...	536,800	
98	106	rose-red	"	"	"	10'3'65	20'3'65	...	12'5'68	...	351,400	

2. THE ONE PENNY: RETOUCHE DIE—letters in all four corners—(continued).

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put P.	Tak.P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
99	107	rose-red	gr.-wh.	large crown	5'1'66	...	6'1'66	...	5'6'69	...	355,300	
100	110	"	"	"	"	...	19'1'66	...	12'5'68	...	256,700	Stoutish paper.
101	111	"	"	"	"	...	12'4'66	...	6'1'70	...	372,500	
102	112	b. car.-rose	"	"	4'4'66	...	16'4'66	...	9'4'70	...	495,200	
103	113	"	"	"	"	...	8'8'66	...	8'11'69	...	400,600	
104	114	"	"	"	"	...	22'1'68	...	4'9'69	...	176,400	
105	115	"	"	"	"	...	31'1'68	...	13'12'69	...	202,600	
106	116	"	"	"	"	...	29'2'68	...	16'1'71	...	391,300	Stoutish paper.
107	117	car.-rose	"	"	"	...	18'3'68	...	7'10'70	...	321,000	
108	118	"	"	"	23'3'68	...	23'3'68	...	1'11'69	...	213,500	
109	124	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	5'3'70	...	236,500	
110	125	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	29'4'71	...	316,800	
111	126	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	30'5'71	...	452,700	
112	127	"	"	"	12'5'68	...	12'5'68	...	3'1'71	...	299,400	
113	128	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	15'5'71	...	366,000	
114	129	d. car.-rose	"	"	"	...	"	...	19'5'70	...	233,100	
115	130	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	7'5'70	...	214,000	
116	131	car.-rose	"	"	"	...	"	...	4'2'71	...	350,500	Cardiff Penny
117	132	d. car.-rose	"	"	9'6'68	...	9'6'68	...	8'5'73	...	479,000	
118	133	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	4'5'72	...	440,800	Thinnish paper.
119	134	rose-red	"	"	15'8'68	...	18'8'68	...	17'8'72	...	493,800	
120	135	red-rose	"	"	"	...	8'9'68	...	5'9'74	...	706,800	Stoutish paper.
121	136	p. car.-rose	"	"	"	...	17'12'68	...	17'8'72	...	406,200	
122	137	"	"	"	"	...	16'1'69	...	19'6'75	...	693,400	
123	138	"	"	"	"	...	18'1'69	...	5'11'72	...	447,800	Stoutish paper.
124	139	rose-red	"	"	"	...	"	...	4'5'76	...	597,700	Thin paper.
125	140	car.-rose	"	"	5'2'69	...	15'2'69	...	15'3'73	...	429,700	Thinnish paper.
126	141	<i>Plate never made, as the roller was defective.</i>										
127	142	d. car.-rose	gr.-wh.	large cr.	5'2'69	...	3'3'69	...	11'10'73	...	395,300	
128	143	<i>Plate rejected, as it was out of square.</i>										
129	144	car.-rose	gr.-wh.	large cr.	5'2'69	...	10'5'69	...	8'5'73	...	434,800	
130	145	"	"	"	"	...	5'6'69	...	29'12'74	...	412,000	Thin paper.
131	146	"	"	"	"	...	3'8'69	...	20'4'72	...	320,700	
132	147	"	"	"	"	...	4'9'69	...	13'7'70	...	95,300	Stoutish paper.
133	148	b. car.-rose	"	"	31'3'69	...	1'10'69	...	23'1'71	...	141,400	
134	149	"	"	"	"	...	8'10'69	...	11'1'79	...	793,200	
135	150	"	"	"	"	...	13'12'69	...	27'12'71	...	190,500	
136	151	car.-rose	"	"	1'3'69	...	6'4'70	...	18'1'73	...	299,500	
137	153	d. car.-rose	"	"	31'3'69	...	5'3'70	...	22'5'75	...	596,200	
138	154	"	"	"	"	...	10'3'70	...	9'8'75	...	700,300	
139	155	car.-rose	"	"	2'2'70	...	19'3'70	...	26'10'72	...	194,300	Stoutish paper.
140	156	"	"	"	"	...	9'4'70	...	8'9'77	...	982,500	
141	157	"	"	"	"	...	7'5'70	...	30'1'72	...	181,300	
142	158	"	"	"	"	...	13'7'70	...	15'1'73	...	112,300	
143	160	"	"	"	"	...	7'10'70	...	12'9'74	...	286,700	Thinnish paper.
144	161	"	"	"	"	...	3'1'71	...	30'11'72	...	206,600	
145	162	d. rose-red	"	"	23'12'70	...	16'1'71	...	18'11'76	...	545,000	Thin paper.
146	163	rose-red	"	"	"	...	23'1'71	...	24'11'77	...	460,100	
147	164	"	"	"	"	...	4'2'71	...	26'5'75	...	413,300	
148	165	"	"	"	"	...	29'4'71	...	20'11'75	...	507,800	
149	166	d. rose-red	"	"	"	...	15'5'71	...	1'2'75	...	474,900	
150	167	rose-red	"	"	24'4'71	...	30'5'71	...	15'1'77	...	682,500	
151	168	"	"	"	"	...	14'11'71	...	2'4'74	...	282,800	
152	169	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	20'4'74	...	322,900	
153	180	"	"	"	"	...	27'12'71	...	21'6'73	...	128,400	
154	181	"	"	"	"	...	30'1'72	...	8'1'76	...	415,100	
155	182	"	"	"	"	...	20'4'72	...	15'5'75	...	385,300	
156	183	d. rose-red	"	"	12'1'72	...	22'4'72	...	2'9'76	...	496,800	
157	184	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	19'2'76	...	450,000	
158	186	"	"	"	"	...	4'5'72	...	17'11'77	...	531,000	Impression not in Archives.
159	187	"	"	"	"	...	17'8'72	...	11'11'76	...	489,700	Thin paper.

2. THE ONE PENNY: RETOUCHE DIE—letters in all four corners—(continued).

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put P	Tak. P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
160	188	rose-pink	gr.-wh.	large crown	12'1'72	...	17'8'72	...	3'3'77	...	525,000	
161	191	v. d. rose-red	"	"	"	...	17'9'72	...	12'12'74	...	232,300	
162	192	d. rose-red	"	"	24'10'72	25'10'72	26'10'72	...	8'1'76	...	365,200	
163	194	"	"	"	"	"	5'11'72	...	18'12'75	...	377,300	Thinnish paper.
164	195	"	"	"	"	"	30'11'72	...	4'12'75	...	318,300	Thinnish paper.
165	196	"	"	"	"	"	17'1'73	...	19'5'77	...	483,300	
166	199	"	"	"	"	"	18'1'73	...	3'1'76	...	384,800	
167	200	"	"	"	"	"	8'2'73	...	8'9'77	...	497,400	Stout paper.
168	201	"	"	"	9'4'73	...	8'5'73	...	19'2'76	...	374,300	Stout paper.
169	202	"	"	"	"	...	21'6'73	...	31'1'76	...	233,100	
170	203	"	"	"	"	...	11'10'73	...	6'8'78	...	572,500	Thinnish paper.
171	204	"	"	"	"	...	27'10'73	...	21'10'79	...	906,700	
172	205	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	21'4'77	...	458,600	
173	206	"	"	"	"	...	2'4'74	...	19'5'77	...	303,300	
174	207	"	"	"	14'10'73	23'10'73	20'4'74	...	8'4'80	...	...	Thin paper.
175	208	"	"	"	"	"	5'9'74	...	23'6'77	...	376,900	Stout paper.
176	209	"	"	"	"	"	12'12'74	...	2'9'78	...	313,100	Stoutish paper.
177	210	"	"	"	"	"	29'12'74	...	8'4'80	...	...	Thinnish paper.
178	211	"	"	"	"	"	1'2'75	...	27'1'77	...	245,600	Stout paper.
179	212	"	"	"	"	"	15'5'75	...	5'8'78	...	407,600	
180	213	"	"	"	"	"	22'5'75	...	20'1'77	...	215,500	Thin paper.
181	214	"	"	"	"	"	26'5'75	...	21'6'79	...	478,600	
182	215	"	"	"	13'4'74	30'4'74	19'6'75	...	5'2'77	...	215,200	
183	216	"	"	"	"	"	9'8'75	...	1'7'78	...	376,600	
184	217	"	"	"	"	"	20'10'75	...	8'4'80	...	...
185	218	"	"	"	"	"	4'12'75	...	12'11'77	...	221,300	
186	219	"	"	"	"	"	18'12'75	...	18'5'78	...	304,400	
187	222	"	"	"	20'4'75	3'6'75	3'1'76	...	11'1'79	...	427,800	Stout paper.
188	223	"	"	"	"	"	8'1'76	...	8'12'77	...	231,600	
189	225	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	16'3'78	...	218,000	
190	226	"	"	"	"	"	31'1'76	...	8'4'80	...	...
191	228	"	"	"	3'9'75	23'9'75	19'2'76	...	"	...	...	Thinnish paper.
192	229	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	23'6'79	...	460,000	
193	230	"	"	"	"	"	2'9'76	...	8'4'80	...	...
194	231	"	"	"	"	"	13'11'76	...	23'11'78	...	275,000	
195	232	b. rose-red	"	"	9'3'76	16'3'76	18'11'76	...	8'4'80	...	...
196	233	"	"	"	"	"	15'1'77	...	"	...	...
197	234	"	"	"	"	"	20'1'77	...	30'11'78	...	257,200	
198	235	"	"	"	"	"	27'1'77	...	8'4'80	...	...
199	236	"	"	"	"	"	5'2'77	...	3'4'79	...	314,000	
200	237	"	"	"	"	"	3'3'77	...	8'4'80	...	...
201	238	"	"	"	16'11'76	...	21'4'77	...	6'9'79	...	347,700	
202	239	"	"	"	"	...	19'5'77	...	8'4'80	...	...
203	240	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	"	...	...	Thinnish paper.
204	241	"	"	"	"	...	23'6'77	...	"	...	...
205	244	"	"	"	"	...	8'9'77	...	"	...	...
206	245	"	"	"	10'5'77	...	"	...	"	...	...
207	246	"	"	"	"	...	12'11'77	...	"	...	...
208	250	"	"	"	"	...	17'11'77	...	"	...	...
209	251	"	"	"	"	...	24'11'77	...	"	...	...	Stoutish paper.
210	252	"	"	"	16'11'77	...	8'12'77	...	7'5'79	...	189,100	
211	253	"	"	"	"	...	16'3'78	...	8'4'80	...	...	Thinnish paper.
212	254	"	"	"	"	...	20'5'78	...	"	...	...
213	255	"	"	"	25'2'78	...	1'7'78	...	"	...	...
214	256	"	"	"	"	...	6'8'78	...	"	...	...
215	257	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	"	...	...
216	258	"	"	"	"	...	2'9'78	...	"	...	...
217	259	"	"	"	14'8'78	...	23'11'78	...	"	...	...
218	260	"	"	"	"	...	30'11'78	...	"	...	...
219	261	"	"	"	"	...	11'1'79	...	"	...	...
220	262	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	"	...	...

2. THE ONE PENNY: RETOUCHE DIE—*letters in all four corners*—(continued).

P. no.	C. no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put. P.	Tak. P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
221	263	b. rose-red	gr.-wh.	large crown	31'12'78	...	3'4'79	...	8'4'80	Thinnish paper.
222	264	"	"	"	"	...	6'5'79	...	"	...	...
223	265	"	"	"	"	...	21'6'79	...	"	...	...
224	267	"	"	"	"	...	23'6'79	...	"	...	...
225	268	"	"	"	"	...	27'10'79	...	"	...	...
226	...	} <i>Made, but never registered or put to press.</i>										
227	...											
228	...											

3. THE THREE HALFPENCE.

(1)	none	lilac-rose	v. d. bld.	lg. cwn.	22'3'60	...	{ 22'3'60 } 6'6'70	...	26'10'80	...	{ 10,000 } 66,134	The third stamp in 16th row was lettered "O.P.-P.C.", error never corrected. First "Put. P." date for lilac-rose printing; second for the issue.
2	...	} <i>Not registered or put to press; inaccurately laid down; defaced 20'10'74.</i>										
3	193	car.-red	gr.-wh.	lg. cwn.	13'4'74	30'4'74	10'8'74	...	26'10'80	...	123,500	Stout paper.

4. THE TWOPENCE.

DIE I.—*without white lines.*

(1)	none	...	gr.-wh.	small crown	2'5'40	...	—'4'40	...	27'1'42	...	19,500	} Impressions not in Archives.
(2)	"	...	"	"	31'7'40	...	27'7'40	31'8'40	"	...	9,100	

DIE I.—*with white lines.*

(3)	"	blue	gr.-wh.	small cr.	25'2'41	...	—'2'41	...	6'3'50	...	191,000	Thin letters: "A" open; "O" oval.
(4)	"	"	"	"	6'12'49	...	...	...	8'5'56	...	250,000	Thick letters: "A" closed; "O" [circular.
(5)	"	"	"	"	8'6'55	...	9'6'55	...	29'10'61	...	81,000	White lines thinner.
(6)	"	dk. blue	"	large cr.	11'2'57	...	9'5'57	...	"	...	42,500	

DIE II.—*letters in all four corners.*

7	"	blue	gr.-wh.	large cr.	11'6'58	...	19'7'58	...	29'10'61	...	40,000	Stoutish paper.	
8	"	"	"	"	7'7'55	...	21'9'59	...	"	...	66,000	} Impressions irregularly laid down; never registered; defaced 23'6'68.	
9	"	"	"	"	14'3'61	...	14'3'61	...	13'10'69	...	383,500		Thinnish paper.
10	121												
11	122												
12	123	blue	gr.-wh.	large cr.	1'1'68	...	28'10'68	...	20'2'71	...	30,600	} White lines thinner.	
13	152	d. b. blue	"	"	31'3'69	...	13'4'69	...	3'5'75	...	125,000		
14	170	d. blue	"	"	24'4'71	...	16'9'71	...	26'10'80	...	...
15	227	d. violet-blue	"	"	3'9'75	21'9'75	14'3'76	...	"	...	...
15	227	d. violet-blue	"	"	3'9'75	21'9'75	14'3'76	...	"	...	...

B. EMBOSSED SERIES.

1. THE SIXPENCE.

1	none	11'1'54	...	30'1'54	8'1'57	166,498	} Impressions not in Archives. { Adhesive impressions, probably never issued.
2	"	"	...	—'1'55	

2. THE TENPENCE.

(a)	none	23'5'48	Not in Archives.
1	"	p. red-bn.	cream	none	8'2'53	...	3'1'48	14'3'50	} 122,000 { Six impressions in Archives, in two rows of three. "W.W." is distinguishable on five; but the die numbers are undecipherable.	
2	"	"	"	"	"	...	4'5'50	15'12'52	...	—'5'62		
3	"	"	"	"	"	...	8'2'53	8'12'54	...	—'5'62		
4	"	"	"	"	"	...	8'12'54	28'4'55	...	—'5'62		
5	"	"	"	"	"	...	18'3'89	13'11'93	...	...

3. THE ONE SHILLING.

1	none	25'6'47	...	21'6'47	28'4'55	} 373,000 { There are impressions in the Archives from Dies 2 and 3, but not from [Die 1.
2	"	green	cream	none	8'2'53	...	23'2'54	8'1'57	

C. SURFACE-PRINTED SERIES.

a. Stamps issued prior to 1880.

1. THE TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put. P.	Tak. P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.	
1	465	lilac-rose	white (fiscal), faintly blued, chemically	small anchor	30'3'75	3'6'75	30'3'75	12'6'75	35,000	{ 12th stamp in 8th row lettered "L.H.-F.L."; error never corrected. 20,000 on Anchor; 15,000 on Orb. } } 5 on Anchor, and 34,995 on Orb: for [each.	
2	466	"		"	"	"	"	1'6'75	6'8'75		"
3	473	"		"	"	10'6'75	"	12'6'75	21'4'76		"
4	474	"		"	"	13'7'75	"	21'4'76	3'7'76		"
5	475	"		"	"	"	"	3'7'76	7'9'76		"
6	501	"		white	orb	3'5'76	...	7'9'76	20'3'77		"
7	513	"	"	"	11'9'76	...	16'2'77	5'6'77	...	...	"
8	531	"	"	"	5'4'77	...	4'6'77	13'9'77	...	...	"
9	535	"	"	"	11'7'77	27'7'77	14'9'77	7'12'77	...	...	"
10	543	"	"	"	20'9'77	...	7'12'77	19'3'78	...	...	"
11	547	"	"	"	13'12'77	...	19'3'78	25'7'78	...	...	"
12	555	"	"	"	30'4'78	...	25'7'78	30'9'78	...	...	"
13	565	"	"	"	22'8'78	...	30'9'78	11'2'79	...	...	"
14	568	"	"	"	15'11'78	...	11'2'79	8'5'79	...	...	"
15	575	"	"	"	19'3'79	...	8'5'79	15'8'79	...	...	"
16	576	"	"	"	26'6'79	...	15'8'79	22'10'79	...	...	"
17	581	"	"	"	19'9'79	...	23'12'79	23'3'80	...	...	"
18	583	blue	"	"	22'1'80	...	11'2'80	15'4'80	...	...	"
19	588	"	"	"	6'4'80	...	6'4'80	6'10'80	...	...	60,000
20	592	pale blue	"	"	28'5'80	...	11'10'80	2'2'81	...	...	"
21	625	blue	"	large '80 cr.	3'2'81	...	3'2'81	...	13'1'86	...	"		
22	626	"	"	"	11'6'81	...	9'6'81	...	"	...	"		
23	627	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	"	...	"		

2. THE THREEPENCE.

DIE I.—small letters in corners.

(1)	...	Defective plate, never registered or put to press; destroyed 28'11'61										{ Plate commenced on 16th, and finished on 23rd July, 1861.
(2)	208	carmine	white	heraldic emblems	17'10'61	...	17'10'61	...	...	...	1,500	Reticulated background; never issued.
"	"	"	"	"	19'3'62	...	19'3'62	...	...	...	21,550	Same plate, with background removed.
(3)	218	"	"	"	25'8'62	...	...	...	...	11'4'66	5	With "dot" in border.

DIE II.—large white letters in corners.

4	237	car.-pink	white	heraldic emblems	28'11'64	...	19'12'64	13'6'68	3'12'68	...	53,500	{ 42,495 on Heraldic Emblems, and 11,005 on Spray of Rose.
5	254	"	"	"	18'10'65	...	18'12'67	...	14'10'70	...	96,500	Of these, 5 were on Heraldic Emblems, [and 96,495 on Spray of Rose.
6	307	"	"	spray of rose	8'6'68	...	22'6'69	...	14'5'72	...	74,500	
7	328	"	"	"	20'2'69	...	19'10'71	...	29'2'72	...	35,000	"
8	376	"	"	"	22'2'72	...	29'2'72	...	29'11'72	...	"	"
9	382	d. car.-pink	"	"	22'4'72	...	31'7'72	1'1'73	...	19'12'73	"	"
10	407	p. car.-rose	"	"	6'12'72	...	1'1'73	10'7'73	...	"	"	"

DIE III.—large coloured letters in corners.

11	414	car.-rose	white	spray of rose	21'12'72	...	17'4'73	3'9'73	...	19'12'73	35,000	Probably 30,000 on Spray of Rose. Of this printing, 5 on Spray of Rose.	
12	424	b. car.-rose	"	"	21'6'73	...	4'9'73	11'12'73	...	"	"		
13	426	Defective, and not registered											nil
14	433	car.-rose	white	spray of rose	27'8'73	12'9'73	12'1'74	8'6'74	...	...	35,000
15	435	car.-pink	"	"	25'11'73	...	9'6'74	5'10'74	...	...	"
16	447	car.-rose	"	"	10'6'74	...	29'10'74	19'2'75	...	...	"
17	455	"	"	"	30'9'74	...	20'2'75	12'6'75	...	...	"
18	459	b. car.-rose	"	"	26'1'75	16'3'75	13'7'75	6'3'76	...	...	"
19	468	"	"	"	7'5'75	3'6'75	8'3'76	29'11'78	...	...	"
20	570	car.-rose	"	"	29'11'78	...	29'11'78	v. infra	...	...	"
21	594	"	"	"	15'7'80	...	...	...	...	...	"
20	570	"	"	large '80 cr.	19'2'81	...	v. supra	15'6'81	...	...	"
21	594	"	"	"	18'7'81	...	...	...	...	...	"
"	"	purple & red	"	"	23'11'82	...	...	...	...	...	"

3. THE FOURPENCE.

DIE I.—no letters in corners.

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put P.	Tak.P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(1)	none	carmine	d. blued	small garter	13'7'55	...	6'6'61	...	...	...	122,949	} Paper thick, highly glazed and chemically blued all over. For printings, see page 94.
(2)	"	deep car.	"	"	29'10'55	...	7'6'57	31'10'62	...	...	23,500	

DIE II.—small letters in corners.

(3)	206	car.-verm.	white	large garter	29'11'61	...	30'11'61	8'6'63	...	...	57,500
(4)	216	verm.-red	"	"	27'6'62	...	7'9'63	...	...	11'4'66	67,000
5	224	Never completed, as design of stamp was changed.									

DIE III.—large white letters in corners.

6	244	Plate useless, as silvering did not adhere well to the copper.									
7	247	d. or.-verm.	white	large garter	3'6'65	...	8'6'65	1'12'66	10'12'66	...	34,500
8	248	dk. verm.	"	"	15'8'65	...	23'1'66	15'7'67	...	...	45,000
9	275	"	"	"	2'11'66	...	16'5'67	8'8'68	...	...	42,000
10	276	"	"	"	22'12'66	...	17'3'68	21'11'68	...	...	11,500
11	315	or.-verm.	"	"	10'9'68	...	...	21'3'70	...	...	55,000
12	321	"	"	"	28'11'68	...	21'3'70	11'10'72	...	...	66,012
13	322	d. or.-verm.	"	"	1'1'69	...	11'10'72	11'6'74	...	...	50,000
14	327	verm.-red	"	"	1'4'69	...	8'5'73	16'11'75	...	...	35,000

DIE IV.—large coloured letters in corners.

15	428	vermilion	"	"	10'6'74	17'11'75	v. inf.	...	...	v. inf.	Probably, 15,000 in vermilion.
16	449	d. verm.	"	"	4'8'74	23'10'77	14'6'80	...	...	30,000	5 in vermilion; balance in green.
15	428	sage-green	"	"	1'11'76	v. sup.	5'6'77	...	...	35,000	Impression taken as specimen of "change of colour." 20,000 in green.
17	540	"	"	"	30'7'77	9'8'77	10'6'80	...	...	13'1'86	5 in green; balance in brown.
18	688	mouse-bn.	"	large '80 cr.	15'8'82	...	15'8'82	...	...	...

4. THE SIXPENCE.

DIE I.—no letters in corners.

(1)	none	d. violet	d. blued	heraldic emblems	29'3'56	29'3'56	20'8'62	...	...	133,500	} Paper stout, highly glazed and chemically blued all over.
(2)	176	Defective plate, made in November 1860; never registered; destroyed 28'11'61.									

DIE II.—small letters in corners.

(3)	207	lilac	white	heraldic emblems	17'10'61	...	9'9'62	11'4'64	...	11'4'66	49,000
(4)	212	d. lilac	"	"	15'4'62	...	11'4'64	...	...	"	18,000

DIE III.—large white letters in corners.

5	238	purple	white	heraldic emblems	30'12'64	...	4'1'65	15'7'67	...	...	62,000
6	253	"	"	"	5'12'65	...	22'11'66	21'11'68	...	...	72,000

DIE IV.—large white letters in corners.

7	..	Defective plate; never registered; defaced 25'3'68.									
8	301	lilac	white	spray of rose	23'1'68	...	18'12'68	3'5'70	...	...	60,500
9	329	d. lilac	"	"	20'2'69	...	3'5'70	6'3'72	...	...	55,500
10	331	b. lilac-purple	"	"	1'4'69	...	...	...	...	27'5'72	5

DIE V.—large white letters in corners.

11	375	dk. chesnut-brown	white	spray of rose	5'1'72	...	25'1'72	29'11'72	...	...	35,000
12	381	l. chesnut-brown	"	"	22'4'72	...	30'10'72	10'10'73	...	19'12'73	"

DIE VI.—large coloured letters in corners.

13	413	buff	white	spray of rose	21'12'72	...	11'12'73	19'10'74	...	...	35,000	5 in buff; 34,995 in grey.
14	427	dk. greenish grey	"	"	25'7'73	...	16'10'74	10'9'75	...	...	"
15	442	"	"	"	15'7'74	...	26'11'75	3'11'77	...	...	"
16	488	"	"	"	10'9'75	23'9'75	2'11'77	14'1'80	...	...	"
17	546	greenish grey	"	"	13'12'77	...	21'4'80	v. inf.	...	...	v. inf.	Probably 15,000 on Spray of Rose.
18	593	"	"	"	15'7'80	...	11'1'81	...	...	v. inf.	...	5 on Spray; balance on Crown.
17	546	"	"	large '80 cr.	25'2'81	...	v. sup.	19'7'82	...	...	35,000	Probably 20,000 on Crown.
18	593	"	"	"	12'1'82	...	"	...	...	v. inf.	...	
"	"	purple and red	"	"	23'11'82	...	"	...	...	13'1'86	...	{ On stamp, "I.O.-O.I.", there is no dot under the overprinted "d."

5. THE EIGHTPENCE.

1	503	purple-bn. chrome-yellow	white	large garter	7'7'76	31'7'76	...	...	...	10'1'84	29,995	10,000 of these were in purple-brown; [balance in chrome-yellow.
2	510	"	"	"	11'9'76	...	...	...	...	"	5	

6. THE NINEPENCE.

DIE I.—small letters in corners.

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put.P.	Tak.P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(1)	...	<i>Defective; never registered or put to press; destroyed 28'11'61.</i>										
(2)	205	ochre-bn.	white	heraldic emblems	14'11'62	...	14'11'62	...	...	18'1'66	6,650	
(3)	214	b. bistre	"	"	8'5'62	...	...	...	...	"	5	

DIE II.—large white letters in corners.

4	239	straw	white	heraldic emblems	27'2'65	...	24'5'65	10'1'84	26,505	Of these, 23,500 sheets on Spray of [Rose.
5	255	"	"	"	24'4'66	"	5	

7. THE TENPENCE.

1	286	red-brown	white	spray of rose	22'3'67	...	22'3'67	...	...	10'1'84	14,000	
2	293	p. red-bn.	"	"	30'8'67	...	...	...	...	"	5	

8. THE ONE SHILLING.

DIE I.—no letters in corners.

(1)	none	b. green	d. blued	heraldic emblems	27'6'56	12'10'56	20'8'62	50,000	{ Paper stout, highly glazed and chemically blued all over.
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DIE II.—small letters in corners.

(a) 1	213	pale green	white	heraldic emblems	8'5'62	...	8'10'62	11'4'66	26,000	
(3) 2	215	b. green	"	"	16'6'62	...	...	...	...	"	5	

DIE III.—large white letters in corners.

4	236	green	white	heraldic emblems	28'11'64	...	8'12'64	23'12'70	...	...	116,011	{ Of these, 77,000 were on Spray of Rose. Of these, all except 5 were on Spray [of Rose.
5	256	...	"	"	28'3'66	...	20'2'71	30'9'72	...	...	55,500	
6	330	...	"	spray of rose	20'2'69	...	80'3'72	15'10'72	...	...	35,000	
7	383	b. green	"	"	30'9'72	...	11'11'72	10'7'73	...	19'12'73	"	

DIE IV.—large coloured letters in corners.

8	405	pale green	white	spray of rose	30'9'72	...	10'6'73	24'10'73	...	19'12'73	35,000	
9	425	b. green	"	"	10'7'73	...	21'11'73	14'7'74	...	...	"
10	436	deep green	"	"	25'11'73	...	14'7'74	13'11'74	...	...	"
11	441	green	"	"	23'4'74	30'4'74	14'12'74	24'6'75	...	...	"
12	456	bluish green	"	"	30'9'74	...	24'6'75	20'12'75	...	...	"
13	467	"	"	"	22'4'75	3'6'75	17'1'76	...	...	v. inf.	...	25,000 sheets in green.
14	493	"	"	"	20'12'75	5'1'76	...	...	...	"	...	5 sheets in green.
13	467	p. red-bn.	"	large '80 cr.	21'10'81	...	v. sup.	...	...	"	...	" Proof after alteration of plate."
14	493	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...	"	...
13	467	purple	"	"	3'11'82	...	v. sup.	...	...	13'1'86	...	{ Printed on double sheet of paper, and endorsed, "For change of colour and doubly fugitive ink."
14	493	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...	"	...

9. THE TWO SHILLINGS.

1	285	l. blue	white	spray of rose	5'4'67	...	10'4'67	...	...	v. inf.	2,005	Plate, as first registered, out of square; cut up, put together properly, and re-registered. Of these 29,005 sheets, 1,000 appear to have been in red-brown.
"	"	"	"	"	5'7'67	...	v. sup.	...	...	10'1'84	27,000	
2	...	<i>Never registered or put to press; destroyed 10'12'67.</i>										
3	298	l. blue	white	spray of rose	23'1'68	...	...	...	...	"	5	

10. THE FIVE SHILLINGS.

1	284	pink	white	CROSS PATÉ	18'4'67	...	18'4'67	28'3'74	...	...	49,000	
2	294	pale rose	"	"	5'7'67	...	25'3'74	...	...	13'1'86	19,505	
3	...	<i>Plate imperfect, and never registered; destroyed 30'3'75.</i>										
4	454	car. pink	white	CROSS PATÉ	28'11'74	...	...	...	...	v. inf.	5	{ Endorsed, "Alteration in size of Plate."; and "Ordered—That the Plate, as altered, be brought into use."
"	"	"	s. blued	large anchor	24'10'82	...	...	...	...	13'1'86	10,000	

11. THE TEN SHILLINGS.

1	559	green-grey	white	CROSS PATÉ	6'8'78	...	6'8'78	v. inf.	3,025	{ Endorsed, "Proof after alteration in the size of Plate." Imprimatur is dated 1882; but, from position of sheet in the Archives, it should evidently be [1883.
"	"	"	blued	large anchor	27'1'83	...	v. sup.	13'1'86	4,000	

12. THE ONE POUND.

1	558	bn. violet	white	CROSS PATÉ	6'8'78	...	6'8'78	v. inf.	3,025	{ Endorsed, "Alteration in size of Plate."; and "Ordered—That the Plate, as altered, be brought into use."
"	"	"	blued	large anchor	20'11'82	...	v. sup.	13'1'86	2,000	

b. The Issues of 1880-81.

1. THE ONE HALFPENNY.

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put P.	Tak.P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(1)	...	green	white	large '80 cr.	23'8'80	...	20'9'81	10'9'83	...	10'1'84	...	
(2)	...	"	"	"	18'8'80	...	18'8'80	20'9'81	...	29'3'82	...	
(3)	...	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	...	
(4)	...	} Spoiled in preparation; destroyed 3'3'81.										
(5)	...	}										
(6)	607	sea-green	white	large '80 cr.	1'12'80	...	20'9'81	10'9'83	...	10'1'84	...	
(7)	608	"	"	"	"	...	12'9'83	...	...	v. inf.	...	
(8)	609	green	"	"	12'9'83	...	"	...	...	"	...
(7)	608	slate-blue	"	"	20'2'84	...	v. sup.	...	...	30'8'86	...	} Printed on double sheet of paper.
(8)	609	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	"	...
(9)	610	"	"	"	19'5'84	...	19'5'84	5'8'85	...	13'1'86	...	} Printed on double sheet of paper.
(10)	611	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	...	
(11)	612	p. slate-blue	"	"	21'8'85	...	21'8'85	...	...	19'1'88	...	
(12)	734	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	"	...
(13)	735	"	"	"	13'7'86	...	13'7'86	...	...	"	...
(14)	736	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	"	...	} Printed on double sheet of paper.

2. THE ONE PENNY.

(1)	...	Venetian red	white	large '80 cr.	28'10'79	...	28'10'79	16'1'80	...	11'3'80	...	
(2)	...	"	"	"	15'11'79	...	21'1'80	...	...	29'3'82	...	
(3)	...	} Spoiled in preparing a matrix; destroyed 12'3'80.										
(4)	...	Venetian red	white	large '80 cr.	17'11'79	...	21'1'80	...	...	"	...
(5)	...	"	"	"	28'10'79	...	28'10'79	16'1'80	...	11'3'80	...	
(6)	...	"	"	"	9'12'79	...	...	...	...	29'3'82	...	
(7)	...	"	"	"	31'10'79	...	31'10'79	21'1'80	...	11'3'80	...	
(8)	...	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	...	
(9)	...	"	"	"	15'11'79	...	21'11'79	...	...	29'3'82	...	
(10)	...	"	"	"	17'11'79	...	"	...	...	"	...
(11)	...	} Not registered; destroyed 3'3'81.										
(12)	...	Venetian red	white	large '80 cr.	9'12'79	...	9'12'79	...	...	"	...
(13)	...	"	"	"	1'12'79	...	1'12'79	20'4'81	...	"	...	
(14)	...	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	...	
(15)	...	"	"	"	9'12'79	...	9'12'79	"	...	"	...	
(16)	...	"	"	"	22'1'80	...	...	...	...	"	...
(17)	...	"	"	"	9'12'79	...	3'2'80	20'4'81	...	"	...	
(18)	...	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	...	
(19)	...	"	"	"	"	...	3'6'80	"	...	"	...	
(20)	...	"	"	"	21'1'80	...	"	"	...	"	...	
(21)	...	"	"	"	22'1'80	...	...	...	...	"	...
(22)	...	"	"	"	18'2'80	...	...	...	...	"	...
(23)	...	"	"	"	22'3'80	...	20'4'81	...	...	"	...
(24)	...	"	"	"	2'1'80	...	"	...	...	"	...
(25)	...	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...	"	...
(26)	...	"	"	"	22'3'80	...	...	...	...	"	...
(27)	...	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...	"	...
(28)	...	"	"	"	28'4'80	...	...	...	...	"	...
(29)	...	"	"	"	28'5'80	...	...	...	...	"	...
(30)	...	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...	"	...
(31)	...	"	"	"	18'6'80	...	...	...	...	"	...
(32)	...	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...	"	...
(33)	...	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...	"	...

3. THE THREE HALFPENCE.

(1)	...	Venetian red	white	large '80 cr.	23'8'80	...	24'8'80	...	...	13'1'86	...	
(2)	...	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	"	...

4. THE TWOPENCE.

(1)	...	p. crimson	white	large '80 cr.	13'9'80	...	20'9'80	...	...	13'1'86	...	
(2)	...	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	"	...

5. THE FIVEPENNY.

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put P.	Tak. P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(1)	605	indigo-black	white	large '80 cr.	28'2'81	...	1'3'81	...	...	13'1'86	...	} Printed on double sheet of paper.
(2)	606	"	"	"	10'10'83	...	10'10'83	...	...	"	...
(3)	...	"	"	"	"	...	never	...	...	"	...

c. The Issues of 1881-84.

1. THE ONE PENNY.

DIE I.—14 pearls in each angle.

(1)	630	purple-lilac	white	large '80 cr.	25'5'81	...	25'5'81	15'11'81	} Printed on double sheet of paper.
(2)	631	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...
(3)	632	"	"	"	30'5'81	...	26'5'81	"	...	...	...
(4)	633	"	"	"	9'6'81	...	9'6'81	8'11'81	...	...	...
(5)	634	"	"	"	30'5'81	...	26'5'81	15'11'81	...	...	...
(6)	635	"	"	"	9'6'81	...	9'6'81	8'11'81	...	...	...
(7)	636	"	"	"	15'6'81	...	15'6'81	"	...	...	...
(8)	637	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...

DIE II.—16 pearls in each angle.

(9)	638	purple	white	large '80 cr.	14'10'81	...	14'10'81	11'4'83	} Perforated sheet.
(10)	639	"	"	"	"	...	"	23'6'83	...	...	...
(11)	640	"	"	"	11'11'81	12'11'81	11'11'81	11'4'83	...	...	...
(12)	641	"	"	"	"	"	"	23'6'83	...	...	...
(13)	642	"	"	"	"	"	22'11'81	26'10'83	...	...	...
(14)	643	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	...
(15)	644	"	"	"	"	"	11'11'81	...	...	...	...
(16)	645	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...
(17)	646	"	"	"	16'11'81	17'11'81	15'11'81	14'8'83	...	...	...
(18)	647	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...
(19)												
(20)												
(21)												
(22)												
(23)												
(24)												

These plates, which are at Somerset House, appear never to have been registered or put to press.

(25)	671	purple	white	large '80 cr.	2'5'82	6'6'82	2'5'82	30'10'83	} Perforated sheet.
(26)	672	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	...
(27)	673	"	"	"	16'1'83	...	16'1'83	13'2'84	...	...	...
(28)	674	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...
(29)	675	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...

These plates, which are at Somerset House, appear never to have been registered or put to press.

(30)	676											} Printed on double sheet of paper.
(31)	677											
(32)	678											
(33)	679	purple	white	large '80 cr.	21'8'83	...	21'8'83	15'4'85	...	...	...
(34)	680	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...
(35)	681	"	"	"	27'10'83	...	27'10'83	26'8'84	...	...	...
(36)	682	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...
(37)	683	"	"	"	1'11'83	...	1'11'83	19'12'84	...	...	...
(38)	684	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...
(39)	685	"	"	"	20'2'84	...	20'2'84	24'6'85	...	...	...
(40)	686	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...
(41)	719	l. purple	"	"	21'3'84	...	21'3'84	12'12'84	...	...	...
(42)	720	"	"	"	"	...	"	13'1'85	...	...	...
(43)	721	"	"	"	3'4'84	...	3'4'84	9'12'85	...	...	...
(44)	722	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...
(45)	723	"	"	"	17'12'84	...	7'12'84	...	...	...	...
(46)	724	"	"	"	2'1'85	...	2'1'85	...	...	...	...
(47)	725	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...
(48)	726	"	"	"	15'1'85	...	15'1'85	...	...	...	...
(49)	727	"	"	"	17'4'85	...	17'4'85	28'11'85	...	...	...
(50)	728	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...
(51)	730	"	"	"	29'6'85	...	29'6'85	21'3'88	...	...	...
(52)	731	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...

1. THE ONE PENNY: DIE II.—16 pearls in each angle—(continued).

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put P.	Tak.P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(53)	...	Plate spoiled in preparation.										
(54)	738	l. purple	white	large '80 cr.	7'12'85	...	7'12'85	...	...	...	...	} Printed on double sheet of paper. Marginal letter "D."
(55)	739	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...
(56)	740	"	"	"	14'12'85	...	14'12'85	30'11'86	...	...	...	} Ditto.
(57)	741	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...
(58)	742	"	"	"	29'10'86	...	29'10'86	...	...	...	...	} Printed on double sheet of paper. Marginal letter "F."
(59)	743	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...
(60)	744	"	"	"	4'11'86	...	4'11'86	...	...	...	...	} Ditto.
(61)	745	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...
(62)	746	"	"	"	2'12'86	...	2'12'86	20'12'88	...	...	...	} Ditto.
(63)	747	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...
(64)	748	purple	"	"	26'5'87	...	26'5'87	21'3'88	...	...	...	} Marginal letter "G."
(65)	805	"	"	"	24'3'87	...	24'3'87	15'10'89	...	...	...
(66)	806	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...	} Printed on double sheet of paper. Marginal letter "G," and line round panes.
(67)	807	"	"	"	22'9'87	...	22'9'87	6'4'94	...	...	...
(68)	808	"	"	"	"	...	"	16'12'89	...	...	...	} Printed on double sheet of paper. Marginal letter "H," and line round panes.
(69)	809	"	"	"	1'11'87	...	1'11'87	14'2'90	...	...	...
(70)	810											} Plates 69 and 72, ditto.
(71)	811	Plates never registered or put to press.										
(72)	812	purple	white	large '80 cr.	1'11'87	...	1'11'87	11'2'90	...	...	...	} Printed on double sheet of paper. Marginal letter "I," and line round panes.
(73)	818	"	"	"	23'3'88	...	23'3'88	5'7'93	...	...	...
(74)	820	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...	} Ditto, but letter "J."
(75)	821	"	"	"	21'12'88	...	21'12'88	6'4'94	...	...	...
(76)	822	"	"	"	"	...	"	25'10'92	...	...	...	} Ditto.
(77)	873	"	"	"	1'1'89	...	1'1'89	17'11'93	...	...	...
(78)	874	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	...	...	} Ditto.
(79)	875	"	"	"	4'1'89	...	4'1'89	5'10'94	...	...	...
(80)	876	"	"	"	"	...	"	6'4'94	...	...	...	} Ditto.

N.B.—Plate 80 was the last one registered. Plates 81 to 120 have been made, and (except the last three) put to press: of these, nos. 99 to 101, 105 to 107, 109, 110 and 114 to 117 are still in use.

2. THE THREE HALFPENCE.

(1)	709	purple	white	large '80 cr.	5'10'83	...	20'10'83	...	...	19'1'88	...
(2)	710	p. purple	"	"	20'10'83	...	"	...	...	"	...

3. THE TWOPENCE.

(1)	705	p. purple	white	large '80 cr.	30'10'83	...	3'11'83	...	...	19'1'88	...
(2)	706	"	"	"	31'10'83	...	"	...	...	"	...

4. THE TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.

(1)	707	purple	white	large '80 cr.	5'10'83	...	4'12'83	...	...	19'1'88	...
(2)	708	"	"	"	6'10'83	...	"	...	...	"	...

5. THE THREEPENCE.

(1)	693	purple	white	large '80 cr.	19'6'83	...	12'7'83	...	...	19'1'88	...
(2)	694	"	"	"	12'7'83	...	"	...	...	"	...

6. THE FOURPENCE.

(1)	701	green	white	large '80 cr.	6'9'83	...	16'10'83	...	...	19'1'88	...
(2)	702	"	"	"	16'10'83	...	"	...	...	"	...
(3)	...	"	"	"	"	...	never	...	...	28'2'89	...

} Printed on double sheet of paper.

7. THE FIVEPENCE.

(1)	689	green	white	large '80 cr.	never	...	5'4'83	29'10'83	...	10'1'84	...
(2)	690	"	"	"	"	...	"	"	...	"	...
(3)	711	p. green	"	"	30'10'83	...	16'11'83	...	...	19'1'88	...
(4)	712	green	"	"	19'11'83	...	"	"	...	"	...

} Plates condemned on 29th Oct. 1883.

8. THE SIXPENCE.

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put. P.	Tak. P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(1)	713	green	white	large '80 cr.	20'11'83	...	16'1'84	...	...	19'1'88	...	
(2)	714	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	"	...

9. THE NINEPENCE.

(1)	...	} Never registered or put to press, some of corner letters being misplaced; defaced 22'9'83.										
(2)	"											
(3)	699	green	white	large '80 cr.	17'7'83	...	18'7'83	...	...	19'1'88	...	
(4)	700	p. green	"	"	18'7'83	...	"	...	...	"	...

10. THE ONE SHILLING.

(1)	715	green	white	large '80 cr.	20'11'83	...	8'2'84	...	...	19'1'88	...	
(2)	716	"	"	"	5'12'83	...	"	...	...	"	...

11. THE TWO SHILLINGS & SIXPENCE.

(1)	691	purple	blued	large anchor	19'6'83	...	27'9'83	} Printed on double sheet of paper. } Plates still at press.
(2)	692	"	"	"	"	...	25'6'83	

12. THE FIVE SHILLINGS.

(5)	703	carmine	s. blued	large anchor	6'9'83	...	16'10'83	} Printed on double sheet of paper; } and severed. Plates still at press.
(6)	704	"	"	"	"	...	"	

13. THE TEN SHILLINGS.

(2)	697	blue	s. blued	large anchor	17'7'83	...	3'10'83	} Plate still at press.
(3)	698	"	"	"	1'8'83	

14. THE ONE POUND.

(2)	717	bn.-violet	white	large '80 cr.	31'1'84	...	2'2'84	...	...	...	...	} Plates still at press.
(3)	718	"	"	"	25'2'84	...	25'2'84	...	...	...	...
(3)	"	green	"	"	26'11'90	...	v. sup.	...	...	...	...	} Endorsed, "Registered for colour."

15. THE FIVE POUNDS.

1	526	or.-verm.	blued	large anchor	9'3'82	} Endorsed, "This Plate has already been registered by the } Secretary's Department as a Telegraph Plate. The word } 'Telegraph' (sic) has since been cut out, and the word } 'Postage' is now printed in the space, to render the stamps } 'available for either telegraph or postal purposes.'; and } 'Ordered—That the Plate, as altered, be brought into } use.'" Plate is still at press.
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d. The Issues of 1887-92.

1. THE ONE HALFPENNY.

(1)	749	vermilion	white	large '80 cr.	9'4'86	...	9'4'86	28'2'89	...	} Printed on double sheet of paper.
(2)	750	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	6'4'87	...	
(3)	757	"	"	"	5'1'87	...	5'1'87	...	...	12'3'90	...	} Ditto.
(4)	764	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	27'4'93	...	
(5)	766	"	"	"	19'1'87	...	19'1'87	...	...	28'2'89	...	} Ditto.
(6)	767	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	12'3'90	...	
(7)	823	"	"	"	21'1'88	...	21'1'88	...	...	19'2'91	...	} Printed on double sheet. Marginal } letter "B." and line—with rounded } corners—round panes.
(8)	824	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	"	...
(9)	879	"	"	"	20'5'89	...	10'5'89	...	...	"	...	} Ditto, but letter "E."
(10)	880	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	"	...

2. THE THREE HALFPENCE.

(3)	754	green and purple	white	large '80 cr.	21'9'86	...	21'9'86	...	...	28'2'89	...	} Duty Plate 1, Key Plate 3.
(4)	773	"	"	"	4'8'87	...	20'4'87	"	...	
(5)	...	"	"	"	...	...	26'4'88	...	...	4'10'88	...	} D. P. 4, K. P. 6. Two lines round } D. P. 4, K. P. 7. (panes.)
(6)	865	"	"	"	9'10'88	...	9'10'88	...	...	...	...
(7)	...	"	"	"	...	...	8'11'89	...	...	...	...

&c.

&c.

&c.

3. THE TWOPENCE.

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put.P.	Tak.P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(3)	...	green and scarlet	white	large '80 cr.	...	...	...	...	...	28'2'89	...	Duty Plate 2, Key Plate 3.
(4)	758	"	"	"	27'7'86	...	...	...	...	"	...	" 1, 3, Head Plate 5. Contin-
(5)	867	"	"	"	2'7'89	...	...	...	...	"	...	uous green, and broken crimson, lines round panes.
			&c.			&c.			&c.			&c.

4. THE TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.

(3)	751	dk. purple	blue	large '80 cr.	18'8'86	...	18'8'86	...	...	...	...	} Printed on double sheet.
(4)	760	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...
			&c.			&c.			&c.			&c.

5. THE THREEPENCE.

(4)	762	purple	yellow	large '80 cr.	28'9'86	...	28'9'86	...	...	...	...	} Printed on double sheet. Last sheet is perforated.
(5)	752	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...
			&c.			&c.			&c.			&c.

6. THE FOURPENCE.

(4)	777	green and brown	white	large '80 cr.	8'12'86	} Four sets of plates to each entire sheet. Key Plate 4. Duty Plate 1. K. P. 6. D. P. 3. K. P. 5. D. P. 2. K. P. 7. D. P. 4.
(5)	778	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...
(6)	779	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...
(7)	780	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...
			&c.			&c.			&c.			&c.

7. THE FOURPENCE HALFPENNY.

(1)	...	green and carmine	white	large '80 cr.	15'8'92	16'8'92	15'9'92	...	...	...	...	&c.
			&c.			&c.			&c.			&c.

8. THE FIVEPENCE.

(5)	772	purple and blue	white	large '80 cr.	2'11'86	...	2'11'86	28'2'89	...	} Duty Plate 1, Head Plate 5. " 2, " 6. " 3, " 7. " 4, " 8. Two continuous lines round panes
(6)	776	"	"	"	2'2'87	...	2'2'87	...	...	...	...
(7)	872	"	"	"	10'8'88	...	...	...	...	...	...
(8)	...	"	"	"	...	...	19'8'89	...	...	...	...
			&c.			&c.			&c.			&c.

9. THE SIXPENCE.

(3)	759	purple	red	large '80 cr.	18'11'86	...	18'11'86	...	...	...	...	} Printed on double sheet of paper.
(4)	765	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...
			&c.			&c.			&c.			&c.

10. THE NINEPENCE.

(5)	781	purple and blue	white	large '80 cr.	22'11'86	...	22'11'86	28'2'89	...	} Duty Plate 1, Head Plate 5. " 2, " 6. " 3, " 7. " 4, " 8.
(6)	782	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	"	...
(7)	783	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	19'2'91	...
(8)	784	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	28'2'89	...
			&c.			&c.			&c.			&c.

11. THE TENPENCE.

(1)	...	purple and carmine	white	large '80 cr.	7'2'90	8'2'90	7'2'90	} At press } Not yet put to press. } Printed on entire sheet. Horizontal line blocks, and a continuous lines round plates.
(2)	...	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...
(3)	...	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...
(4)	...	"	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...

12. THE ONE SHILLING.

(3)	761	green	white	large '80 cr.	18'8'86	...	18'8'86	...	...	...	...	} Printed on double sheet: still at press.
(4)	763	"	"	"	"	...	"	...	...	...	...
(5)	...	"	"	"	"	...	26'4'98	...	...	...	...	At press.
			&c.			&c.			&c.			&c.

II. **Fiscalz available for Postage.**

Under the Act of 1881.

1. **THE ONE PENNY—overprinted.**

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put P.	Tak.P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
The overprint of "INLAND REVENUE" was registered on the 4th April, 1860: we could not find an impression in the Archives.												

2. **THE ONE PENNY—large stamp.**

(1)	154	purple	white	foul anchor	25'4'60	...	26'4'60	13'5'62	...	...	60,000	
(2)	155	"	"	"	"	...	13'10'61	16'6'62	...	...	61,000	
(3)	201	"	s. blued	"	14'11'61	...	1'5'62	4'8'62	...	...	50,000	
(4)	209	"	"	"	29'11'61	...	26'5'62	27'1'63	...	...	56,000	
(5)	210	"	blued	"	21'2'62	...	16'6'62	6'1'63	...	...	60,500	
(6)	211	"	"	"	"	...	13'8'62	29'1'63	...	...	47,500	
(7)	217	p. purple	white	"	25'8'62	...	3'1'63	1'5'63	...	...	44,500	
(8)	219	"	"	"	"	...	30'1'63	15'9'63	...	...	39,500	
(9)	220	purple	blued	"	14'1'63	...	9'2'63	16'6'63	...	...	40,000	
(10)	221	"	"	"	"	...	4'5'62	17'8'63	...	...	45,000	
(11)	222	"	white	"	22'4'63	...	17'1'63	29'10'63	...	...	"
(12)	223	"	"	"	"	...	27'8'63	23'2'64	...	...	38,000	
(13)	225	"	"	"	18'9'63	...	21'9'63	17'2'64	...	...	46,500	
(14)	226	"	"	"	"	...	17'2'64	9'6'64	...	...	35,500	
(15)	227	"	"	"	5'11'63	...	10'11'63	24'2'64	...	...	48,000	
(16)	228	"	"	"	16'12'63	...	24'2'64	24'3'64	...	...	11,944	
(17)	229	dk. purple	s. blued	"	"	...	"	25'5'64	...	...	40,000	
(18)	230	purple	white	"	"	...	24'3'64	15'8'64	...	...	45,000	
(19)	232	"	"	"	22'4'64	...	14'6'64	14'11'64	...	...	38,000	
(20)	233	"	"	"	"	...	10'6'64	19'10'64	...	...	47,000	
(21)	234	"	s. blued	"	"	...	25'8'64	11'1'65	...	...	40,000	
(22)	235	"	"	"	"	...	4'11'64	17'3'65	...	...	45,000	
(23)	240	"	white	anchor	2'11'64	...	14'11'64	22'2'65	...	...	38,000	
(24)	241	"	"	"	"	...	16'1'65	1'4'65	...	...	27,000	
(25)	242	p. purple	s. blued	"	13'1'65	...	21'2'65	3'7'65	...	...	41,000	
(26)	243	"	"	"	"	...	31'3'65	"	...	...	35,000	
(27)	245	purple	white	"	1'4'65	...	5'4'65	1'8'65	...	...	"
(28)	246	"	"	"	"	...	4'7'65	22'9'65	...	...	32,500	
(29)	249	"	"	"	17'5'65	...	"	7'10'65	...	...	35,500	
(30)	250	"	"	"	"	...	2'8'65	...	...	...	45,000	
(31)	251	"	"	"	15'8'65	...	7'10'65	14'2'66	...	...	38,000	
(32)	252	"	"	"	"	...	11'12'65	14'3'66	...	...	30,500	
(33)	257	"	"	"	18'10'65	...	18'12'65	5'3'66	...	...	36,000	
(34)	258	p. purple	s. blued	"	5'12'65	...	19'12'65	30'5'66	...	...	46,500	
(35)	265	"	blued	"	21'2'66	...	21'2'66	7'6'66	...	...	36,500	
(36)	266	"	"	"	"	...	5'3'66	11'6'66	...	...	41,000	
(37)	271	"	s. blued	"	28'3'66	...	8'6'66	6'8'66	...	...	29,000	
(38)	272	"	"	"	"	...	9'6'66	14'9'66	...	...	43,000	
(39)	273	"	"	"	24'4'66	...	12'6'66	21'3'67	...	...	45,000	
(40)	270	purple	"	"	22'6'66	...	15'9'66	18'1'67	...	...	42,000	
(41)	277	"	"	"	18'7'66	...	6'12'66	15'7'67	...	...	49,000	
(42)	278	"	"	"	"	...	13'12'66	"	...	...	43,000	
(43)	283	p. purple	white	"	22'3'67	...	26'3'67	21'11'68	...	...	19,000	
(44)	290	"	s. blued	"	5'4'67	...	5'4'67	"	...	...	34,000	

3. **THE ONE PENNY—small stamp.**

DIE I.—reticulated spandrels.

(1)	287	p. purple	white	small anchor	6'5'67	...	6'3'67	22'6'67	...	...	24,000	
(2)	288	"	"	"	"	...	14'6'67	30'10'67	...	...	30,000	
(3)	289	"	s. blued	"	7'6'67	...	7'6'67	"	...	...	35,000	
(4)	292	"	"	"	"	...	22'6'67	"	...	...	41,000	

3. THE ONE PENNY—small stamp: DIE I—(continued).

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put. P.	Tak. P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(5)	296	p. purple	white	small anchor	22'7'67		19'9'67	26'11'67	...	...	24,000	
(6)	297	purple	"	"	"		21'9'67	2'12'67	...	...	28,000	Thin paper.
(7)	299	p. purple	"	"	30'8'67		"	25'5'68	...	...	22,000	
(8)	300	purple	"	"	22'7'67		26'11'67	25'3'68	...	...	22,500	Thin paper.
(9)	302	"	s. blued	"	11'12'67		11'12'67	23'1'68	...	...	21,500	
(10)	303	"	"	"	"		19'12'67	25'5'68	...	...	19,000	
(11)	304	"	"	"	23'1'68		23'1'68	25'3'68	...	...	17,000	Stout paper.
(12)	305	"	"	"	11'12'67		23'12'67	25'5'68	...	...	25,000	
DIE II.—small corner ornaments.												
(13)	311	b. purple	white	small anchor	20'5'68		20'5'68	20'7'68	...	...	30,000	
(14)	312	"	"	"	"		"	29'6'68	...	...	18,000	
(15)	313	"	"	"	8'6'68		30'6'68	5'12'68	...	...	22,000	
(16)	314	"	"	"	20'5'68		20'5'68	21'7'68	...	...	27,000	
(17)	316	"	"	"	17'6'68		21'7'68	14'12'68	...	...	71,500	
(18)	317	"	"	"	"		20'7'68	17'12'68	...	...	80,000	
(19)	318	"	"	"	"		7'12'68	19'7'69	...	...	40,000	
(20)	319	p. purple	"	"	10'9'68		14'12'68	17'4'69	...	...	60,500	
(21)	323	b. purple	"	"	28'11'68		18'12'68	22'4'69	...	...	54,000	
(22)	324	"	"	"	"		20'3'69	31'8'69	...	...	45,500	
(23)	325	purple	"	"	1'1'69		11'5'69	"	...	...	44,000	
(24)	326	"	"	"	"		26'5'69	11'9'69	...	...	42,500	
(25)	332	b. purple	"	"	25'8'69		26'8'69	24'12'69	...	...	53,000	
(26)	333	"	"	"	"		"	15'12'69	...	...	57,000	
(27)	334	"	"	"	"		25'10'69	3'2'70	...	...	51,000	
(28)	335	"	"	"	"		44'12'69	14'4'70	...	...	50,500	
(29)	336	"	"	"	"		23'12'69	30'5'70	...	...	39,000	
(30)	337	"	"	"	10'3'70		6'4'70	6'7'70	...	...	33,000	
(31)	339	"	"	"	"		25'5'70	23'8'70	...	...	42,000	
(32)	340	"	"	"	"		30'5'70	7'10'70	...	...	56,500	
(33)	341	"	"	"	"		29'8'70	18'11'70	...	...	49,500	
(34)	342	"	"	"	"		12'9'70	20'12'70	...	...	41,500	
(35)	346	"	"	"	18'10'70		24'11'70	20'2'71	...	...	40,000	
(36)	347	"	"	"	"		19'12'70	3'4'71	...	...	45,500	
(37)	348	"	"	"	"		24'2'71	26'5'71	...	...	46,500	
(38)	349	"	"	"	"		28'2'71	8'6'71	...	...	44,000	
(39)	366	"	s. blued	"	27'3'71		27'5'71	8'9'71	...	...	40,000	
(40)	367	"	"	"	"		8'6'71	23'8'71	...	...	39,000	
(41)	368	l. purple	"	"	16'6'71		17'6'71	26'9'71	...	...	34,500	
(42)	369	"	"	"	"		8'9'71	22'11'71	...	...	40,000	
(43)	371	purple	"	"	4'10'71		4'10'71	22'12'71	...	...	42,000	
(44)	372	dk. purple	"	"	"		13'10'71	5'2'72	...	...	40,500	
(45)	373	purple	white	"	"		18'12'71	29'2'72	...	...	40,000	
(46)	374	"	"	"	5'1'72		5'1'72	12'4'72	...	...	41,000	
(47)	377	"	"	"	22'2'72		29'2'72	14'5'72	...	...	40,000	
(48)	378	} Plates were defective, and were not registered or put to press.										
(49)	379	}										
(50)	380	purple	white	small anchor	22'2'72		15'4'72	19'7'72	...	...	36,000	
(51)	384	"	"	"	22'4'72		14'5'72	"	...	...	32,000	
(52)	385	l. purple	"	"	"		27'5'72	5'10'72	...	...	40,000	
(53)	386	purple	"	"	19'6'72		19'7'72	2'11'72	...	...	38,000	
(54)	387	"	"	"	1'7'72		5'10'72	10'1'73	...	...	40,000	
(55)	404	"	s. blued	"	8'10'72		never	...	...	...	nil	Plate proved defective.
(56)	406	} Plate defective; never registered or put to press.										
(57)	403	purple	s. blued	small anchor	8'10'72		8'10'72	24'12'72	...	...	40,000	
(58)	408	"	"	"	"		4'11'72	27'1'73	...	...	41,500	
(59)	409	"	"	"	13'12'72		10'1'73	24'3'73	...	...	38,500	
(60)	410	"	"	"	7'1'73		8'1'73	27'3'73	...	...	30,000	
(61)	411	} Plate defective; never registered or put to press.										
(62)	412	purple	white	small anchor	7'1'73		27'1'73	3'4'73	...	...	40,000	
(63)	415	"	"	"	30'1'73		24'3'73	6'6'73	...	...	34,000	

3. THE ONE PENNY—small stamp: DIE II—(continued).

P. no.	C. no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put P.	Tak.P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(64)	416	purple	white	small anchor	28'3'73	28'3'73	26'3'73	...	...	...	31,500	
(65)	417	p. purple	"	"	10'4'73	26'5'73	31'7'73	...	...	...	30,000	
(66)	418	"	"	"	28'3'73	7'4'73	19'6'73	...	...	...	32,000	
(67)	419	purple	"	"	10'4'73	6'6'73	21'8'73	...	...	...	34,000	
(68)	420	"	"	"	1'5'73	19'6'73	2'9'73	...	...	...	31,500	
(69)	421	"	"	"	"	1'8'73	9'10'73	...	...	...	36,000	
(70)	422	"	s. blued	"	21'6'73	21'8'73	10'11'73	...	...	...	34,000	
(71)	423	p. purple	white	"	10'7'73	2'9'73	12'11'73	...	...	...	35,000	
(72)	429	<i>Plate defective; never registered or put to press.</i>										
(73)	430	p. purple	white	small anchor	2'9'73	10'11'73	30'1'74	...	...	...	28,000	
(74)	431	"	"	"	"	"	3'2'74	...	...	...	39,500	
(75)	432	b. purple	"	"	27'10'73	13'11'73	20'1'74	...	...	...	35,000	
(76)	434	"	"	"	"	30'1'74	7'5'74	...	...	...	43,000	
(77)	437	p. purple	"	"	8'12'73	3'2'74	8'5'74	...	...	...	49,000	
(78)	438	"	"	"	"	19'2'74	20'5'74	...	...	...	42,000	
(79)	439	purple	"	"	7'1'74	8'5'74	29'7'74	...	...	...	42,500	
(80)	440	"	"	"	"	21'5'74	20'8'74	...	...	...	42,000	
(81)	443	p. purple	"	"	23'4'74	30'4'74	1'6'74	12'8'74	...	...	40,000	
(82)	444	"	"	"	1'7'74	28'8'74	28'10'74	...	...	...	38,500	
(83)	445	"	"	"	"	20'8'74	3'11'74	...	...	...	42,500	
(84)	446	"	"	"	15'7'74	28'10'74	19'1'75	...	...	...	40,000	
(85)	450	"	"	"	17'9'74	22'9'74	2'11'74	11'1'75	...	...	41,000	
(86)	451	"	"	"	"	"	13'11'74	19'2'75	...	...	44,500	
(87)	452	"	"	"	"	"	11'1'75	31'3'75	...	...	44,000	
(88)	453	"	"	"	"	"	19'1'75	27'4'75	...	...	45,000	
(89)	460	purple	"	"	26'1'75	31'1'75	23'6'75	...	...	...	"
(90)	461	b. purple	"	"	26'1'75	16'3'75	29'4'75	9'7'75	...	...	46,500	
(91)	462	purple	s. blued	"	24'3'75	3'6'75	20'4'75	27'8'75	...	...	39,500	
(92)	463	"	"	"	7'5'75	"	23'6'75	28'10'75	...	...	58,000	
(93)	469	"	"	"	23'4'75	"	9'7'75	8'11'75	...	...	47,500	
(94)	470	b. purple	white	"	25'6'75	2'7'75	30'8'75	7'12'75	...	...	58,000	
(95)	471	purple	"	"	"	"	15'11'75	29'2'76	...	...	50,000	
(96)	472	"	"	"	13'7'75	7'12'75	22'3'76	...	...	...	40,500	
(97)	489	"	"	"	20'9'75	27'9'75	29'2'76	17'5'76	...	...	44,500	
(98)	490	"	"	"	"	"	1'3'76	8'6'76	...	...	52,500	
(99)	491	b. purple	"	"	4'10'75	30'11'75	22'3'76	8'7'76	...	...	40,000	
(100)	492	"	"	"	"	"	19'5'76	27'9'76	...	...	50,000	
(101)	497	purple	"	"	25'4'76	23'6'76	8'6'76	12'9'76	...	...	56,500	
(102)	498	"	"	"	"	"	12'9'76	21'11'76	...	...	42,000	
(103)	499	"	"	"	4'6'76	"	22'9'76	15'12'76	...	...	43,500	
(104)	500	p. purple	"	"	"	"	2'10'76	12'2'77	...	...	48,000	
(105)	502	purple	"	"	7'7'76	18'7'76	13'12'76	15'3'77	...	...	44,000	

DIE III.—medium corner ornaments.

(106)	514	p. purple	white	small anchor	30'10'76	12'2'77	9'5'77	...	...	...	44,000	
(107)	527	b. purple	"	"	8'2'77	16'3'77	21'6'77	...	...	...	50,000	
(108)	528	purple	"	"	1'3'77	9'5'77	23'8'77	...	...	...	52,000	
(109)	529	"	"	"	8'2'77	21'6'77	26'9'77	...	...	...	55,000	
(110)	530	"	"	"	1'3'77	"	16'11'77	...	...	...	"
(111)	536	"	"	"	11'7'77	24'7'77	14'9'77	21'12'77	...	...	50,500	
(112)	537	"	"	"	"	"	26'9'77	8'2'78	...	...	59,000	
(113)	538	"	"	"	30'7'77	18'12'77	18'3'78	...	...	...	54,000	
(114)	539	"	"	"	"	"	27'12'77	27'3'78	...	...	55,000	
(115)	544	p. purple	"	"	13'12'77	11'1'78	17'6'78	...	...	...	6,000	
(116)	545	purple	"	"	12'1'78	27'3'78	12'7'78	...	...	...	51,000	
(117)	548	<i>Plates spoiled in making.</i>										
(118)	549	<i>Plates spoiled in making.</i>										
(119)	552	p. purple	white	small anchor	9'4'78	9'4'78	17'9'78	...	...	...	57,500	
(120)	552	"	"	"	"	"	17'6'78	5'10'78	...	...	60,000	

3. THE ONE PENNY—small stamp—(continued).

DIE IV.—large corner ornaments.

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put.P.	Tak.P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
(121)	553	purple	white	small anchor	17'4'78	5'7'78	3'12'78	...	...	...	51,000	
(122)	554	"	"	"	"	1'10'78	24'1'79	...	...	...	46,500	
(123)	560	p. purple	"	"	1'8'78	3'12'78	25'2'79	...	...	...	49,500	
(124)	561	"	"	"	"	27'12'78	17'4'79	...	...	...	51,100	
(125)	562	purple	"	"	22'8'78	21'2'79	16'5'79	...	...	...	50,000	
(126)	563	p. purple	"	"	26'9'78	22'2'79	29'5'79	...	...	...	"
(127)	571	purple	"	"	19'3'79	20'3'79	16'7'79	...	...	...	"
(128)	572	p. purple	"	"	24'4'79	29'5'79	25'8'79	...	...	...	"
(129)	573	"	"	"	"	25'8'79	25'11'79	...	...	...	49,000	
(130)	574	"	"	"	"	27'8'79	5'12'79	...	...	...	52,000	
(131)	577	purple	"	"	15'7'79	1'9'79	12'1'80	...	...	...	49,500	
(132)	578	p. purple	"	"	26'6'79	5'12'79	1'3'80	...	...	...	33,500	
(133)	579	purple	"	"	15'7'79	14'1'80	8'4'80	...	...	...	49,500	
(134)	580	"	s. blued	"	"	24'3'80	7'7'80	...	...	...	56,000	
(135)	584	p. lilac	white	"	1'3'80	31'3'80	6'8'80	...	...	...	57,000	
(136)	585	Plate spoiled in making.										
(137)	586	p. lilac	white	small anchor	18'2'80	22'5'80	27'9'80	...	...	...	50,000	
(138)	587	"	"	"	1'3'80	18'8'80	1'12'80	...	...	...	63,000	
(139)	590	"	"	"	13'5'80	27'9'80	27'1'81	...	...	...	...
(140)	591	"	"	"	28'5'80	16'10'80	...	...	...	...	...
"	"	purple	s. blued	orb	10'2'81	...	24'2'81	...	...	...	...	"Proof after alteration of Plate."
(141)	617	"	"	"	1'12'80	10'1'81	...	...	...	13'12'82	...	
(142)	618	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	...	"	...
(143)	619	"	"	"	20'1'81	20'1'81	...	...	...	"	...
(144)	620	"	"	"	"	27'1'81	...	...	...	"	...

Under the Act of 1882.

The details of the EMBOSSED SERIES are scanty and uninteresting.

B. SURFACE-PRINTED SERIES.

1. THE THREEPENCE.

(1)	156	p. purple	blued	foul anchor	12'6'60	...	15'6'60	...	...	v. inf.	...	
"	"	"	s. blued	large anchor	26'9'81	...	v. sup.	...	...	10'1'84	...	"Proof after alteration of Plate."

2. THE SIXPENCE.

(1)	172	p. purple	s. blued	foul anchor	26'9'60	...	27'9'60	...	...	...	...
"	628	purple	"	large anchor	23'8'81	...	v. sup.	...	...	...	...	{ A new Current No. "Proof after alteration of Plate."

III. Official Stamps.

THE "V.R."

(A)	none	black	gr.-wh.	small cr.	15'4'40	27'4'40	v. inf.	...	} Impressions before, and after, hardening. On stamp, "O.L.", tail of "R" broken. Traces of stars on stamps, "P.J.", "P.K.", and "P.L."
"	"	"	"	"	9'5'40	v. sup.	6'3'50	...	

N.B.—The official overprints and surcharges—not only in this Division, but also in Divisions IV and V—are represented in the Archives, by impressions on about thirty sheets, or parts of sheets, of various values; and the details are devoid of interest.

V. Telegraph Stamps.

1. THE HALFPENNY.

(1)	5	484	or.-verm.	white	shamrock	13'3'80	}{ "One Penny" plate altered. Only plate for this value.
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2. THE ONE PENNY.

1	480	reddish-bn.	white	shamrock	11'8'75	...	11'8'75	25'11'75	35,000	
2	481	"	"	"	"	...	"	21'1'76	"	
3	482	"	"	"	16'8'75	...	17'8'75	17'2'76	...	...	...	"
4	483	dk.red'sh-bn.	"	"	"	...	17'2'76	...	...	...	...	4,995	
5	484	reddish-bn.	"	"	30'8'75	23'9'75	...	...	...	...	...	5	" Altered for 'Halfpenny' value."

3. THE THREEPENCE.

P.no.	C.no.	Colour.	Paper.	Wmk.	Stk.	Appd.	Put.P.	Tak.P.	Def.	Dest.	Sheets.	Remarks.
1	479	carmine	white	spray of rose	5'8'75	9'8'75	5'8'75	21'3'76	..	...	35,000	
2	487	"	"	"	10'9'75	23'9'75	23'2'76	30'4'78	...	...	"
3	496	"	"	"	21'3'76	31'3'76	11'78	...	...	...	...	27,255 sheets on Spray of Rose.
4	541	b. carmine	"	"	30'7'77	9'8'77	...	...	...	v. inf.	5	
5	550	carmine	"	"	12'1'78	...	...	...	...	"	5	
3	496	"	"	large '80 cr.	17'2'81	v. sup.	...	...	...	...	...	{"Proof after alteration of Plate."; and "Ordered that this altered Plate be brought into use." endorsed on each sheet.
4	541	"	"	"	5'8'81	...	...	...	10'1'84	...		
5	550	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	"	...

4. THE FOURPENCE.

1	525	p. sage-green	white	...	12'1'77	...	15'1'77	...	...	10'1'84	24,995	
2	533	"	"	...	18'6'77	...	...	...	...	...	5	

5. THE SIXPENCE.

1	524	greenish grey	white	spray of rose	12'1'77	...	15'1'77	22'4'80	...	...	35,000	
2	534	"	"	"	18'6'77	...	22'6'80	...	...	v. inf.	5,000	{"Proof after alteration of Plate."; and "Ordered that this altered Plate be brought into use." endorsed on each sheet.
"	"	"	"	large '80 cr.	29'6'81	v. sup.	...	...	10'1'84	2,500		

6. THE ONE SHILLING.

1	478	green	white	spray of rose	28'7'75	9'8'75	28'7'75	22'2'76	...	...	35,000	
2	485	b. green	"	"	30'8'75	23'9'75	22'2'76	25'9'76	...	...	"
3	486	"	"	"	2'9'75	"	11'10'76	1'5'77	...	...	"
4	508	green	"	"	11'9'76	...	1'5'77	22'8'77	...	...	"
5	532	"	"	"	5'4'77	...	23'8'77	1'3'78	...	...	"
6	542	"	"	"	20'9'77	...	1'3'78	9'8'78	...	...	"
7	557	"	"	"	30'4'78	...	20'8'78	9'12'78	...	...	"
8	566	"	"	"	26'9'78	...	9'12'78	13'8'79	...	...	"
9	569	"	"	"	15'11'78	...	19'9'79	2'2'80	...	...	"
10	582	"	"	"	19'9'79	...	2'2'80	6'10'80	...	...	63,000	About 13,000 were in green, and the balance in red-brown.
11	589	"	"	"	13'5'80	...	6'12'80	v. inf.	...		
12	595	"	"	"	15'7'80	...	14'2'81	...	...	"	...	Five sheets from each plate in green. Endorsed, "Proof for change of colour"; and "Ordered that stamps of this colour be brought into use."
"	"	red-brown	"	"	14'2'81	...	v. sup.		
11	589	p. red-brown	"	large '80 cr.	10'2'81	10'1'84	...		
12	595	"	"	"	13'8'81	...	...	...	...	"	...	"be brought into use." endorsed on both sheets.

7. THE THREE SHILLINGS.

1	523	slate-blue	white	spray of rose	12'1'77	...	15'1'77	...	...	v. inf.	...	10,000 sheets on Spray of Rose.
"	"	"	"	large '80 cr.	29'7'81	v. sup.	...	...	...	10'1'84	...	Endorsed, "Proof after alteration of Plate."; and "Ordered that altered Plate be brought into use."

8. THE FIVE SHILLINGS.

1	476	b. rose	white	CROSS PATÉ	5'8'75	9'8'75	5'8'75	24'5'78	...	...	35,000	
2	477	rose	"	"	30'8'75	23'9'75	31'12'79	...	...	...	5,000	
3	567	"	"	"	4'10'78	...	14'5'81	10'1'84	14,005	Of these, 5 on Cross Paté, and 14,000 on Large Anchor.

9. THE TEN SHILLINGS.

1	...	green-grey	white	CROSS PATÉ	17'1'77	...	19'1'77	10'1'84	6,500	
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10. THE ONE POUND.

1	522	bn.-purple	white	sham-rock	12'1'77	...	15'1'77	10'1'84	5,000	
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11. THE FIVE POUNDS.

1	526	or.-verm.	white	sham-rock	17'1'77	...	17'1'77	...	end of 1881	...	1,500	Defaced, by drilling out the word "TELEGRAPH."
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Index.

- Account letter, 153.
Anchor paper, 181.
Aroher, Mr. Henry, amount paid to, for invention, 9
" " letter from, to Mr. Rowland Hill (13th October, 1847), 5.
" " Memorial to Treasury from, 6.
" " perforating by, 51.
" " rouletting by, 5, 51.
- Bacon, J. B., letter from, on alteration of " lettering " (24th August, 1852), 4.
Bettesworth, J. R., letter from, on alteration of " lettering " (11th July, 1857), 4.
Blueing of paper: *see* Paper.
Bokenham, Mr. Wm., letter to, from Mr. Ormond Hill (1st April, 1857), 23.
British Gum, 13.
- Cement: *see* Gum.
Chafford Mills paper manufactory, 69.
Check-letters, 2, 37.
Circular, Post Office: *see* Post Office Circular.
Cleaning stamps: *see* Obliteration.
Control Marks on margins of sheets, 70, 213.
Corbould, Mr. Henry, 18.
" Creation," definition of, 10.
Cross *paté* paper, 138.
Current-number, 2.
- De La Rue & Co., Messrs., perforating by, 9.
" printing of surface-printed stamps by, 70.
" Mr. Warren, letter from, to Mr. Ormond Hill as to blueing of paper (7th Feb. 1859), 88.
Dickinson, Mr. John, letters from, to Mr. Rowland Hill (3rd and 10th April, 1841), 30.
" Dickinson " paper, 12, 64.
" " printing of One Penny and Twopence on, 30.
Die, manufacture of, 1, 12.
Dryden Bros., Messrs., embossing presses by, 57.
- Engraving of dies, 1.
- Faircroft, Dr., successor to Mr. Stacey Wise, paper manufacturer, 12.
Faraday, Professor, consulted by Mr. Rowland Hill, 22.
Forgeries of stamps, 23, 30, 131.
Foul Anchor paper, 179.
Four Flowers: *see* Heraldic Emblems.
- Gum, composition of, 13, 57, 70.
- " *half penny* " paper, 15.
Heath, Mr. Frederick, 18.
Heraldic Emblems paper, 79.
Hill, Mr. Edwin, letter from, to Mr. Rowland Hill, as to blueing of paper (27th January, 1841), 26.
Hill, Mr. Edwin, letter from, to Mr. Rowland Hill, as to supply of One Penny, black (19th January, 1841), 20.
Hill, Mr. Ormond, letter from, to Mr. W. Bokenham, as to One Penny, blue (1st Apl., 1857), 23.
Hill, Mr. Ormond, letter to, from Mr. Warren De La Rue, as to blueing of paper (7th February, 1859), 88.
Hill, Mr. Ormond, letter to, from Mr. R. Turner, as to prussiate of potash paper (9th February, 1859), 97.
Hill, Mr. Ormond, opinion of, as to Mr. Archer's abilities, 9.
- Hill, Mr. Rowland, entry in diary of, as to change of colour of One Penny (20th Jan., 1841), 20.
Hill, Mr. Rowland, entry in diary of, as to forged stamps (5th September, 1840), 24.
Hill, Mr. Rowland, entry in diary of, as to legend on One Penny (30th January, 1840), 18.
Hill, Mr. Rowland, entry in diary of, as to thickness of paper, 26.
Hill, Mr. Rowland, entry in diary of, as to legend on Twopence (30th January, 1840), 46.
Hill, Mr. Rowland, letter from, to Postmaster-General, as to Sixpence (9th August, 1851), 59.
Hill, Mr. Rowland, letter to, from Mr. Archer (13th October, 1847), 5.
Hill, Mr. Rowland, letters to, from Mr. J. Dickinson (3rd and 10th April, 1841), 30.
Hill, Mr. Rowland, letter to, from Mr. E. Hill, as to blueing of paper (27th January, 1841), 26.
Hill, Mr. Rowland, letter to, from Mr. E. Hill, as to supply of One Penny, black (19th Jan. 1841), 20.
Hill, Mr. Rowland, letter to, from Mr. W. Ledingham, as to forgeries (2nd September, 1840), 23.
Humphrys, Mr. William, 34.
- Impressions, extra, at time of registration, 5.
Imprimatur sheet, 5.
Inland Revenue Notice of 24th July, 1855, 86.
" " 28th October, 1856, 93.
- " Jubilee " line, 153.
- " Labels," 16.
Large Anchor paper, 140.
Large Crown paper, 35.
" " (altered), 36.
" " (variety), 39.
Large (1880) Crown paper, 80 stamps to the sheet, 172.
Large (1880) Crown paper, 240 stamps to the sheet, 77.
Large Garter paper, 96.
Ledingham, Mr. W., letter from, to Mr. Rowland Hill, as to forgeries, 23.
Lettering, 2
" alteration of, Circular of July, 1858, as to, 3.
" " letter from Mr. J. B. Bacon as to, 4.
" " letter from Mr. J. R. Bettesworth as to, 4.
- Linton, Mr. W. J., certificate from, as to stamps rouletted by Archer, 8.
- " MARK " in the margins of sheet. 73, 75, 100, 139, 181, 214.
Medium Anchor paper, 182.
" Garter paper, 95.
Military Telegraphs, paper on, read before Philatelic Society, London, by A. B. Creeke, Junr., on 20th February, 1891, 231.
Mulready envelopes, paper for, 12.
- Napier, Mr. James N., perforating machines made by, 9.
Nash Mills paper manufactory, 12
- Obliterating ink, letter from Inland Revenue to Post Office as to (23rd September, 1856), 92.
Obliterating ink, Post Office Notice as to, 30.
Obliteration, fraudulent removal of, Treasury Minute as to (19th December, 1840), 27.

- One Penny, blue, 23.
 " red-brown on " Dickinson " paper, 30.
 One Shilling, forgery of, 131.
 Orb (fiscal) paper, 185.
 " (postage) paper, 75.
 Original die, 1.
 " O. U. S." overprint for Oxford Union Society, 40.
 Paper, blueing of, 26, 88, 97.
 " for line-engraved stamps, 12.
 " " " reduced in thickness, 26.
 " for surface-printed stamps, 69.
 " warrant, 10.
 " " Whatman," 190.
 Perforating by Mr. Henry Archer, 51
 " machines made by Mr. James N. Napier, 9, 32.
 Perforation adopted officially in 1854, 9.
 " altered to " 14," 33.
 " of " 16 " before 1854, 28.
 " of 12 in the issue of 1884, 154.
 " performed at Somerset House, 9.
 " " by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., 9.
 Perkins Bacon & Co., fire at works of, on 11th March, 1857, 21.
 " " printing of line-engraved stamps by, 11.
 Perkins, Dr., experiments on chemically-prepared paper by, 55.
 Plate, 2.
 " for line-engraved stamps, 12.
 " " surface-printed stamps, 69.
 " number, 2.
 " proof in black, 2.
 Post Office Circ. of 29th April, 1840, 44.
 " " 7th May, 1840, 46, 201.
 " " January, 1841, 24, 48.
 " " 12th February, " 30.
 " " 3rd September, 1847, 66.
 " " 27th October, 1848, 62.
 " " " 62.
 " " February, 1854, 58.
 " " 23rd " " 59.
 " " 3rd October, 1856, 104.
 " " 29th " " 93.
 " " July, 1858, 3.
 " " 11th January, 1862, 120.
 " " 19th April, " 78.
 " " 21st " " 78.
 " " 29th " " 78.
 " " " November, " 108.
 " " 10th June, 1867, 124.
 " " " September, 1870, 13.
 " " 20th " " 42.
 " " March, 1872, 112.
 " " 21st April, 1873, 114.
 " " 11th August, " 83, 114, 131.
 " " 9th June, 1875, 71.
 " " 3rd January, 1876, 212.
 " " 24th April, " 212.
 " " 4th September, " 118.
 " " 26th February, 1877, 218.
 " " 23rd September, 1878, 141.
 " " " December, 1879, 148.
 " " 17th February, 1880, 136.
 " " 23rd March, " 213.
 Post Office Circ. of 6th July, 1880, 120, 136.
 " " 21st Sept., 1880, 132, 146, 221.
 " " 15th March, 1881, 150.
 " " June, " 178.
 " " 28th " " 152.
 " " 19th July, " 225.
 " " 13th October, " 212.
 " " 21st March, 1882, 165.
 " " 26th September, 1882, 197.
 " " 20th Feb., 1883, 187.
 " " 3rd July, " 160.
 " " 18th March, 1884, 147, 154.
 " " 30th December, 1886, 168.
 " " 18th February, 1890, 176.
 " " 27th January, 1891, 164.
 " " 24th March, 1896, 206.
 Printing of embossed stamps, 57.
 " line-engraved stamps, 11.
 " surface-printed stamps, 70.
 Prussiate of potash in paper, 88, 97.
 Registration of impression from each plate, 5.
 " Reprint " of One Penny, 37.
 Reserve plates, 12, 29.
 Rondot, Monsieur, 60.
 Rouletting, apparent, really perforation, 28.
 Rouletting by Mr. Henry Archer, 5, 51.
 Rush Mills, Northampton, paper manufactory, 12.
 Shamrock paper, 214.
 " Sheet," (*note*) 14.
 Small Anchor paper, 72.
 Small Crown paper, 19.
 Small Garter paper, 87.
 Somerset House, perforating at, 9.
 Spray of Rose paper, 82.
 Statutes:—Customs & Inland Revenue Act, 1881 (44 Vict., c. 12), 151, 178.
 Revenue Friendly Societies & National Debt Act, 1882 (45 & 46 Vict., c. 72), 151, 187.
 Telegraph Act, 1868 (31 & 32 Vict., c. 110), 212.
 " 1869 (32 & 33 Vict., c. 73), 212.
 Tele. stamps, P. O. Circ. of 3rd Jan. 1876, as to, 212.
 " " 24th April, " " 212.
 " " 26th Feb. 1877 " 218.
 " " 23rd Mar. 1880 " 213.
 " " 19th July, 1881 " 225.
 " " 13th Oct. " " 212.
 Turner & Co., Messrs., of Chafford Mills, 69.
 Turner, Mr. Richard, letter from, to Mr. Ormond Hill (9th February, 1859), 97.
 Twopence, blue, on " Dickinson " paper, 30.
 " V. R." stamp, 201.
 " V R" paper, 60.
 " *V R*" paper, 97, 232.
 Warrant for creation, 10.
 " paper, 10.
 Watermarks, manufacture of, 13.
 Wise, Mr. Stacey, paper manufacturer, 12.
 Wyon, Mr. William, medal by, commemorating visit of Queen to the City, 18, 57.



J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, London.





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9 PRICE 2^d Per Label. 2^d Per Row

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PRICE 2^d Per Label

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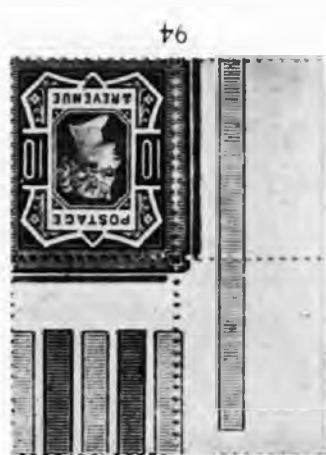
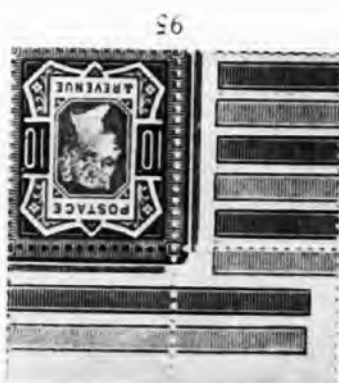
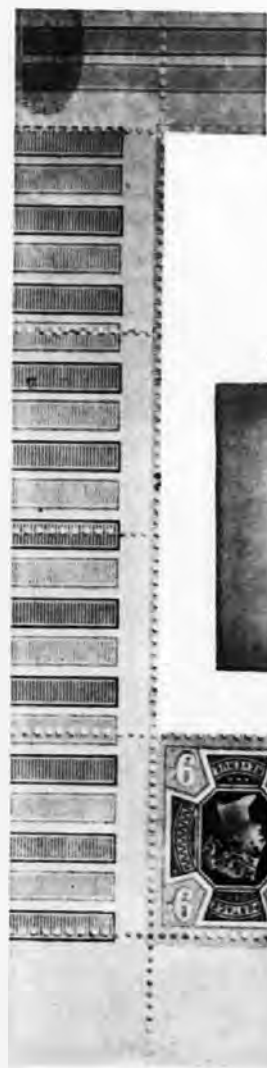


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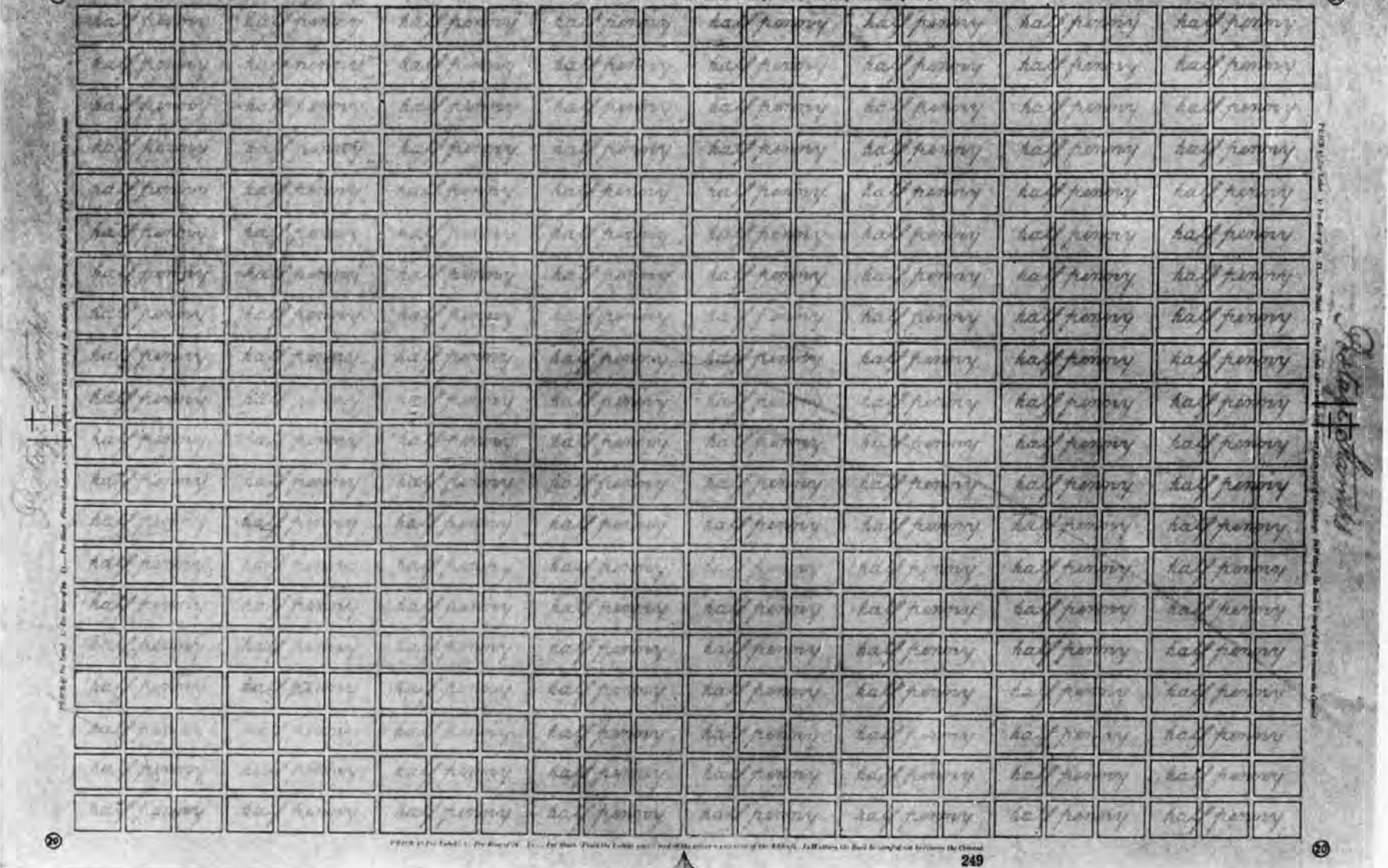


DIAGRAM A.—One Halfpenny, postage, of 1870-80: State II (p. 14) on "half penny" (p. 15).



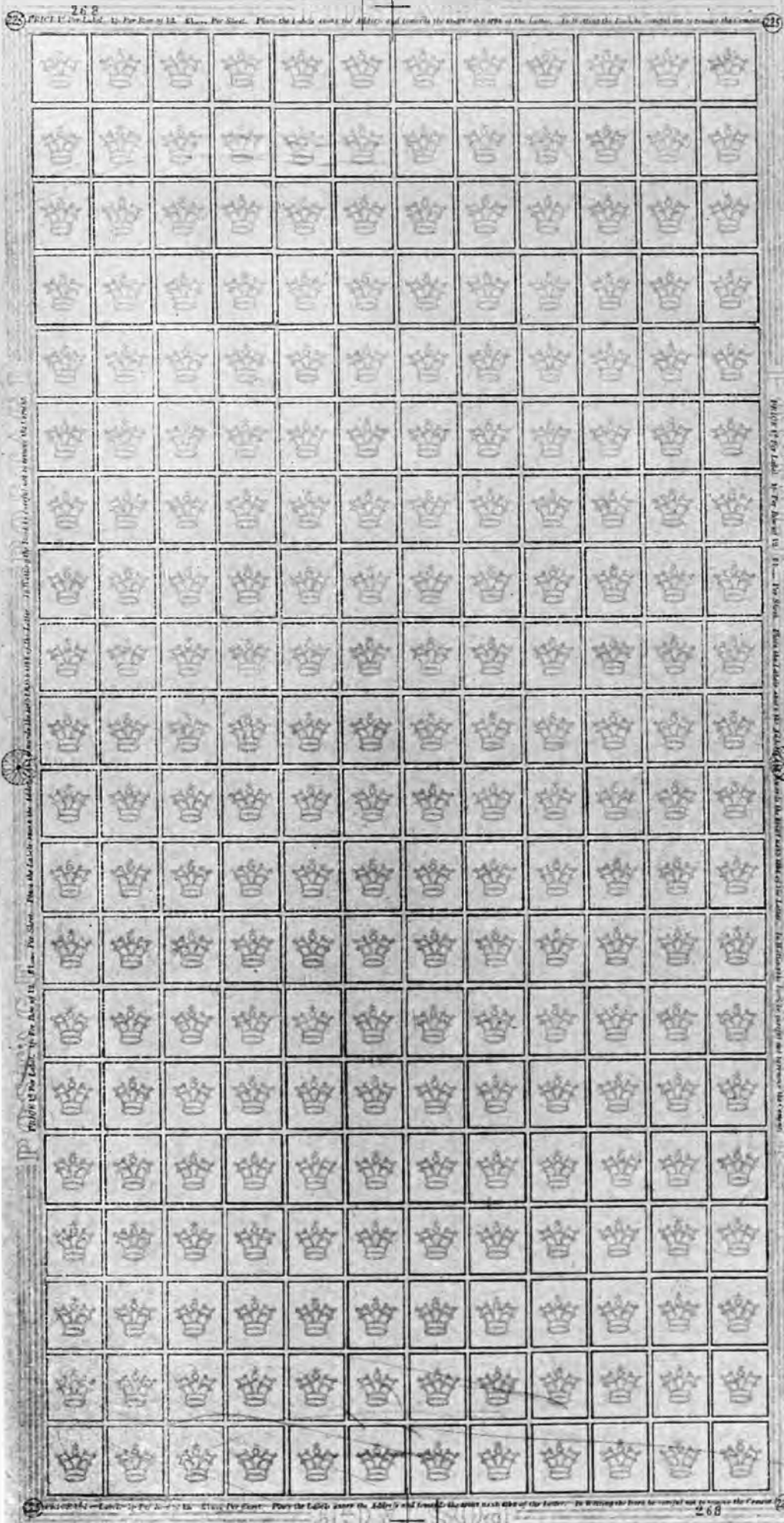


DIAGRAM B.—One Penny, postage, of 1840-79: State VI (p. 39) on Large Crown (p. 35).



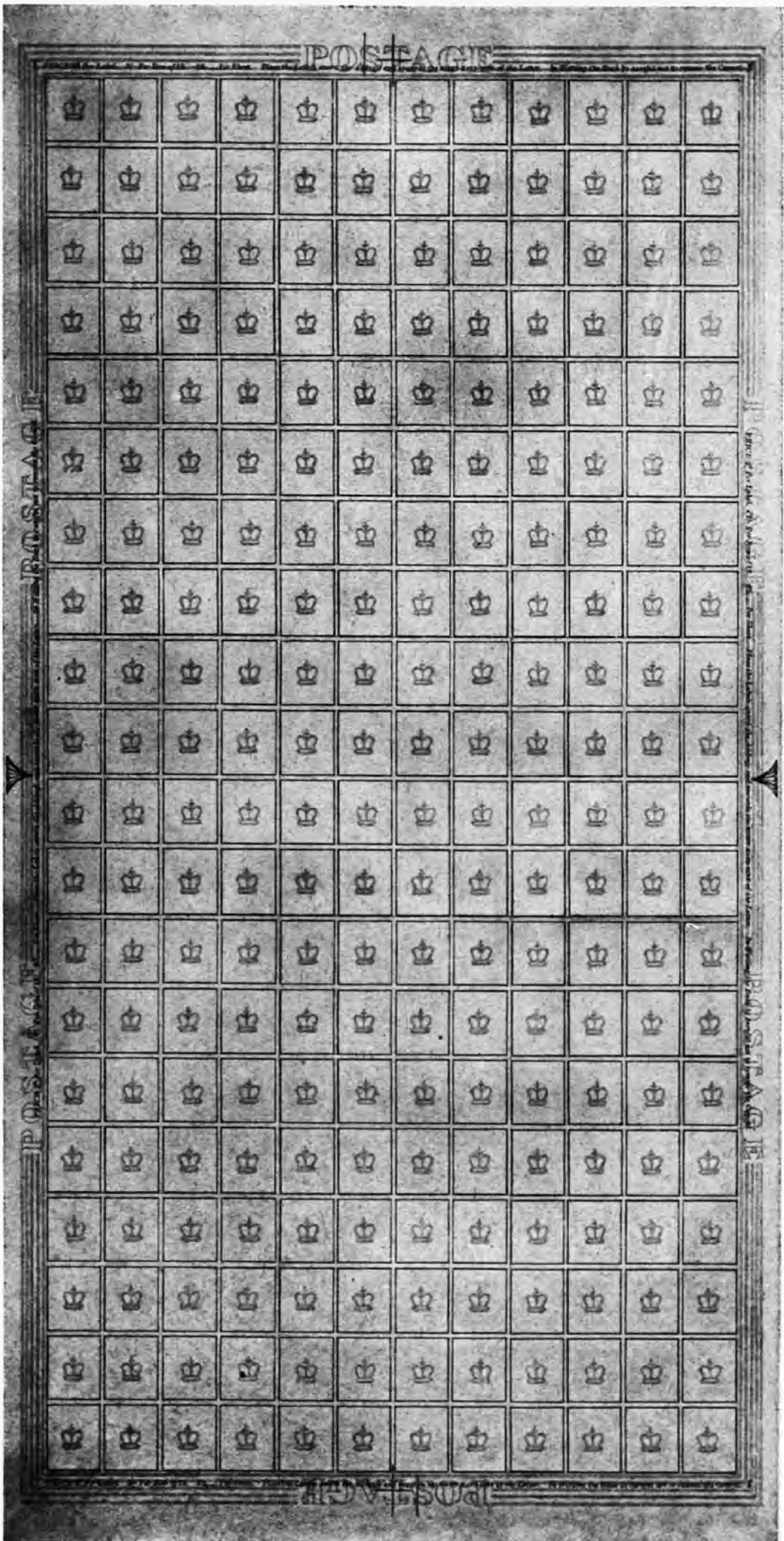


DIAGRAM C.—Twopence, postage, of 1840-80: State III (*p.* 51) on Small Crown (*p.* 19).

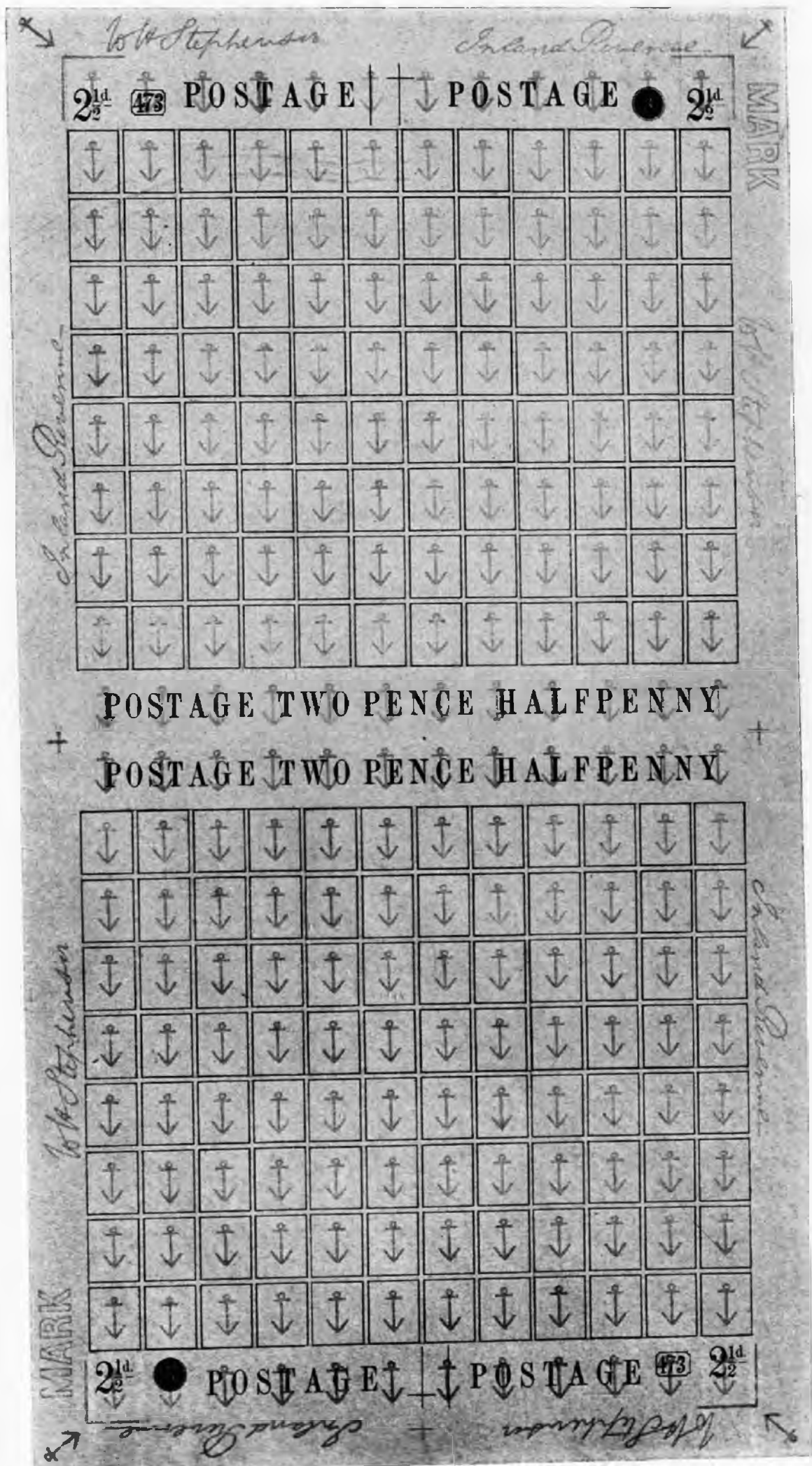
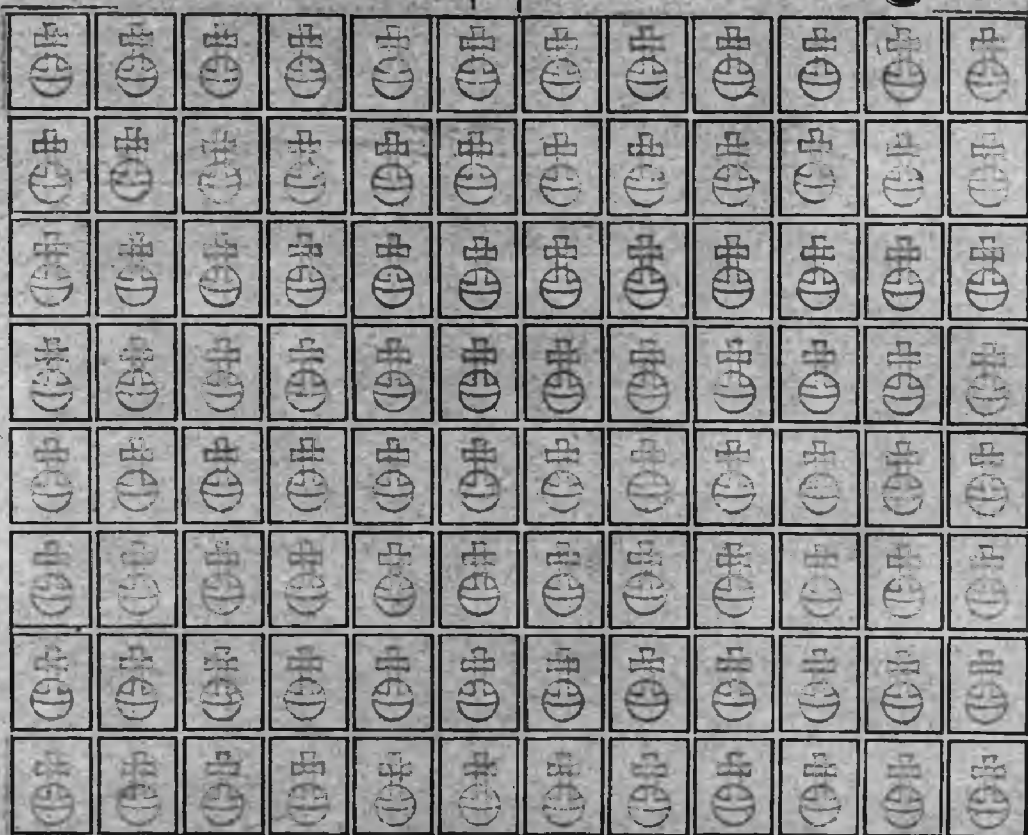


DIAGRAM D.—Twopence H'penny, postage, of 1875-84 : State I (p. 71) on S. Anchor (p. 72).



2½ 547 POSTAGE

POSTAGE II 2½



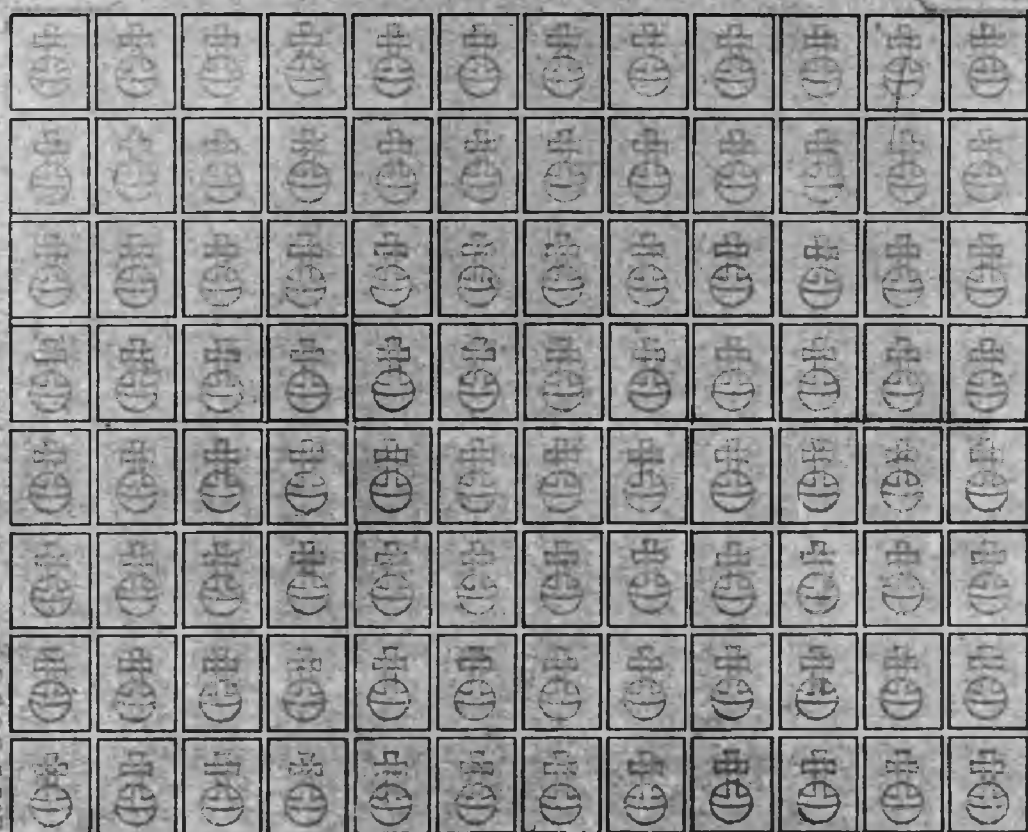
MARK

W. H. Johnson

W. H. Johnson

POSTAGE TWO PENCE HALFPENNY

POSTAGE TWO PENCE HALFPENNY



W. H. Johnson

W. H. Johnson

2½ II POSTAGE

POSTAGE 547 2½

DIAGRAM E.—Twopence Halfpenny, postage, of 1875-84: State II (p. 75) on Orb (p. 75).



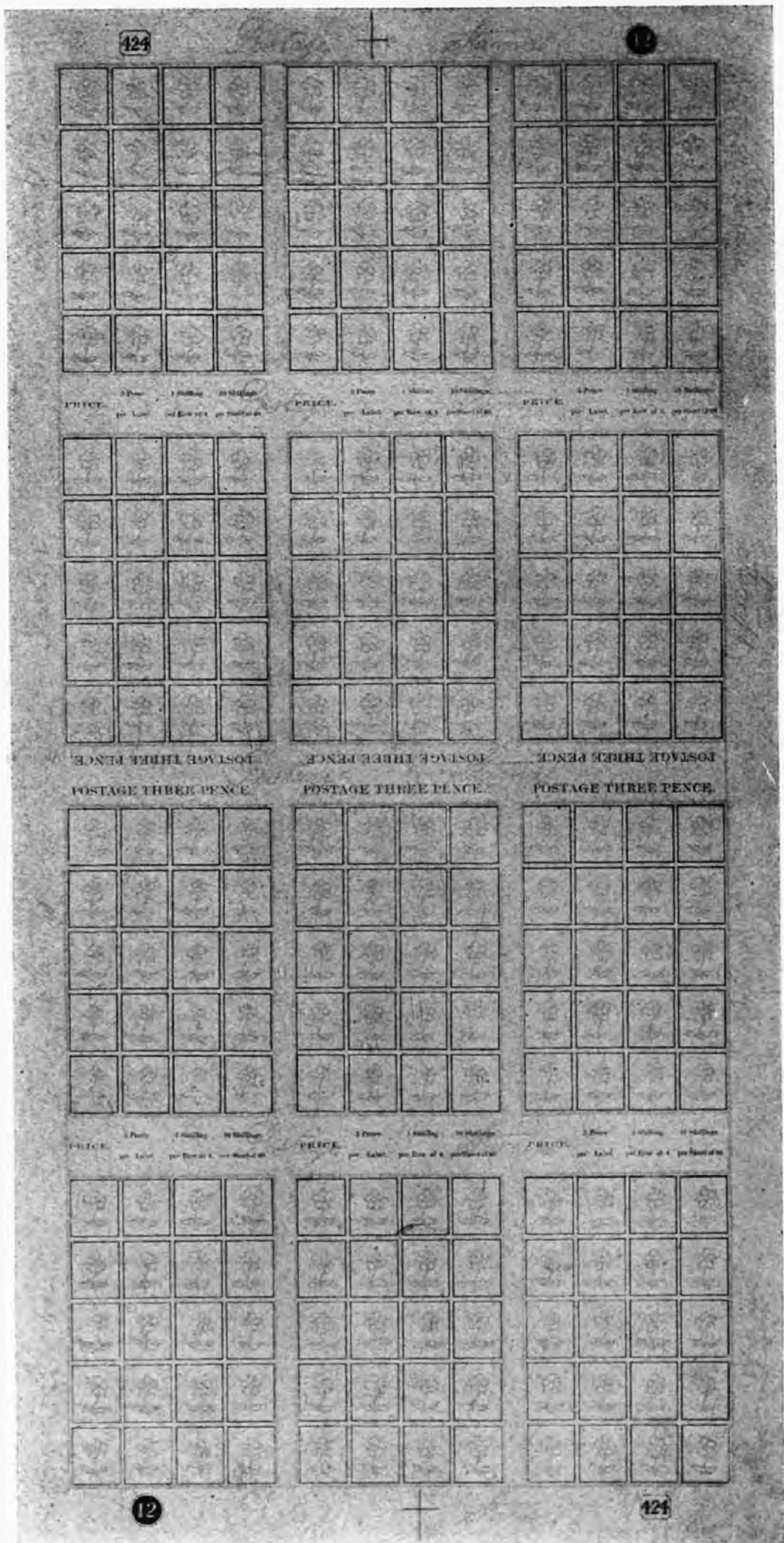


DIAGRAM F.—Threepence, postage, of 1862-84: State III (*p.* 82) on Spray of Rose (*p.* 82).



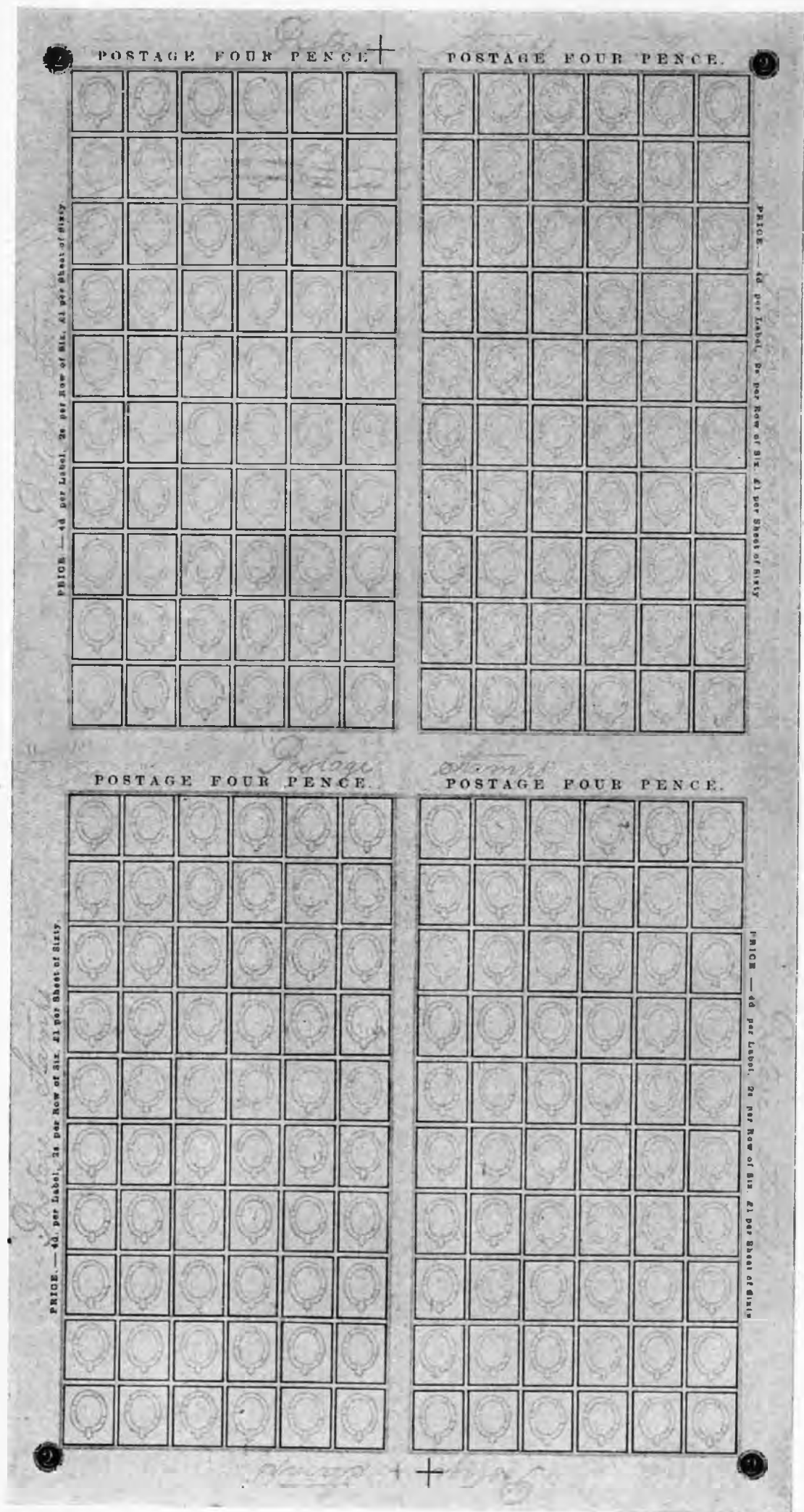


DIAGRAM G.—Fourpence postage, of 1855-84: State II (*p.* 87) on Small Garter (*p.* 87).



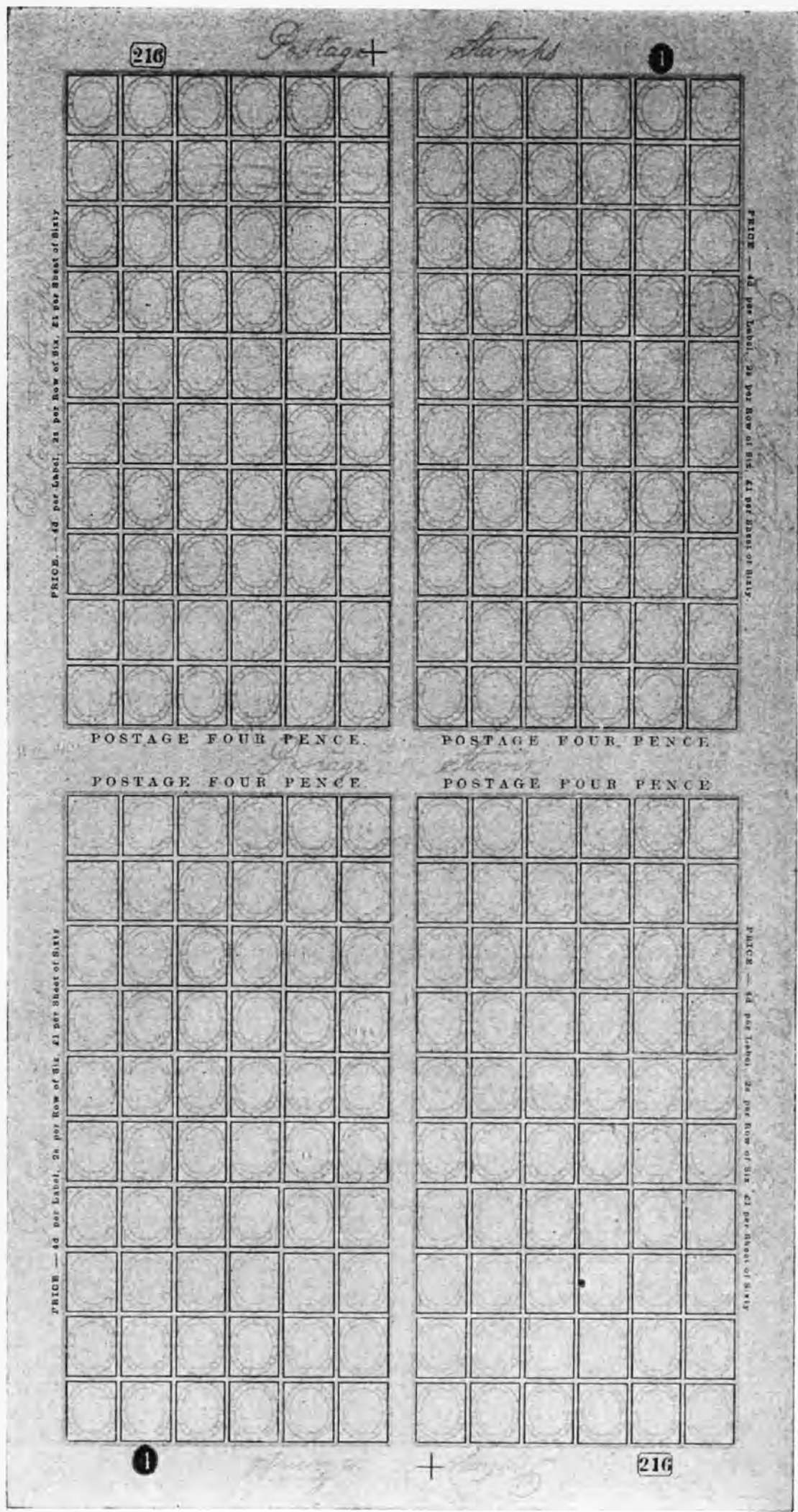


DIAGRAM H.—Fourpence, postage, of 1855-84 : State III (p. 97) on Large Garter (p. 96).



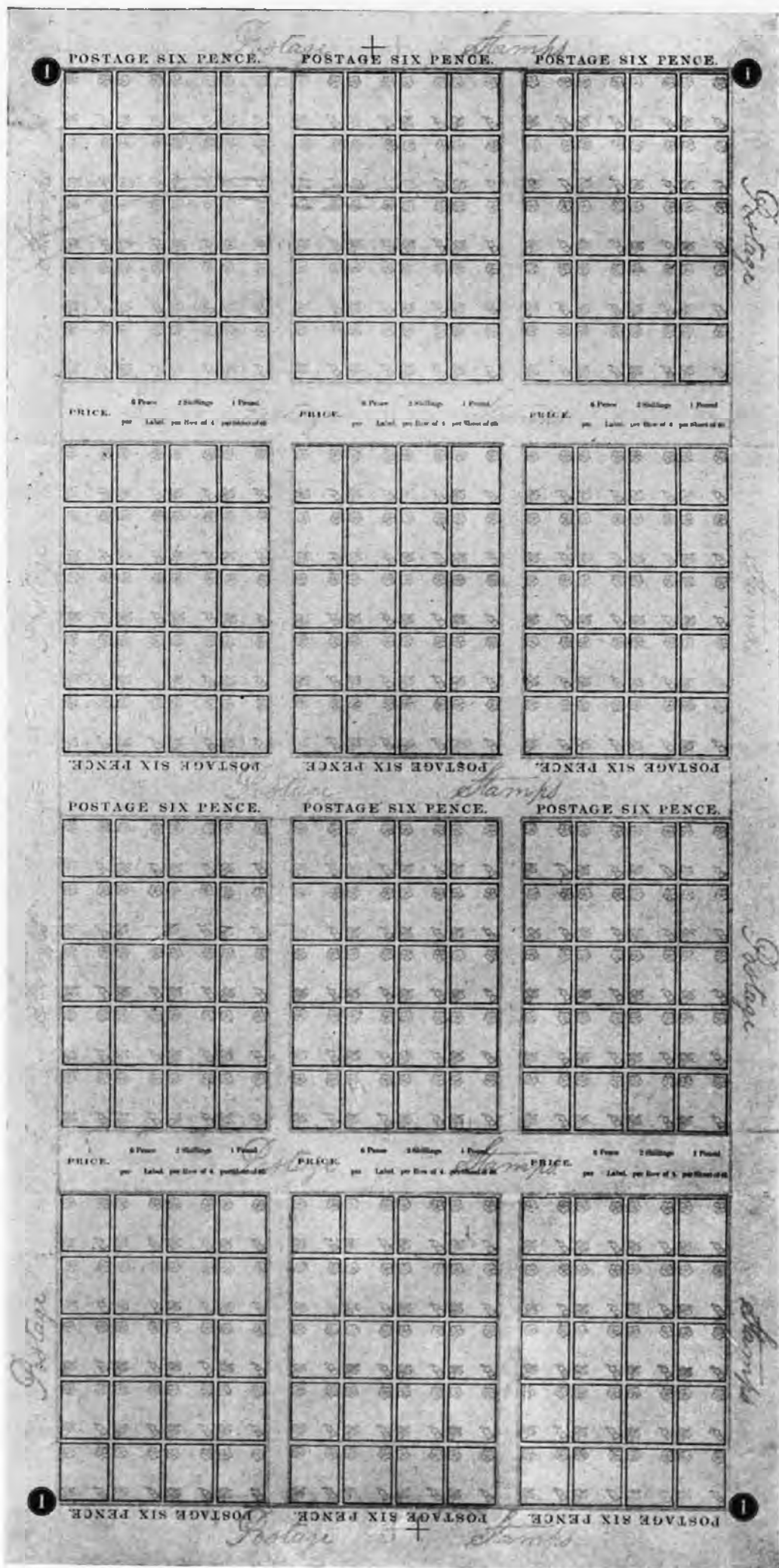


DIAGRAM I.—Sixpence, postage, of 1856-84: State I (p. 105), on Heraldic Emblems (p. 79).

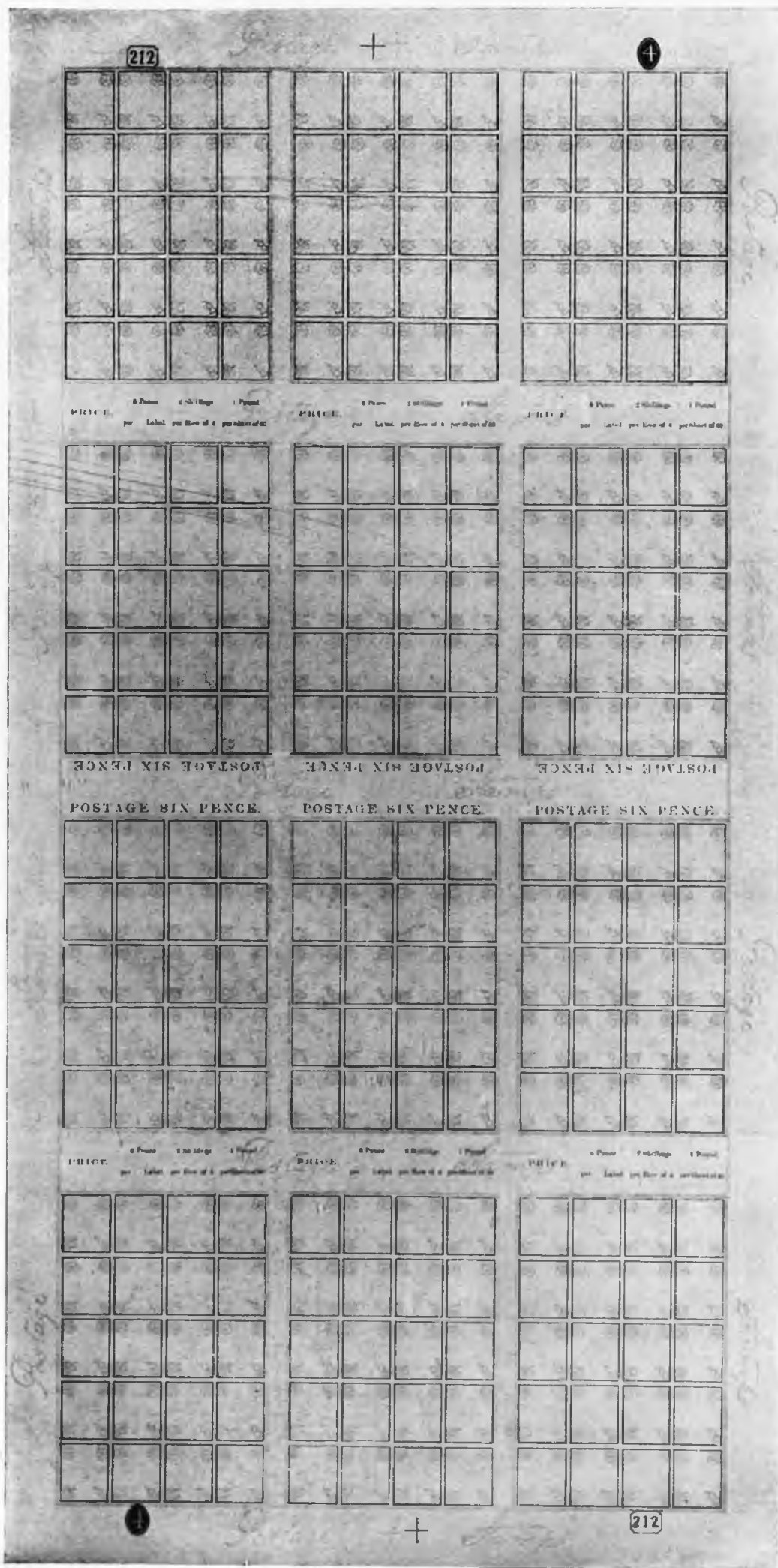


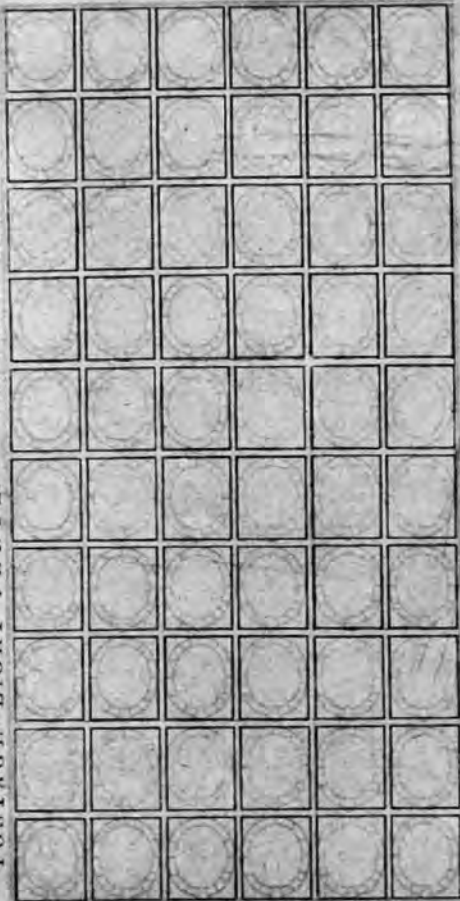
DIAGRAM J.—Sixpence, postage, of 1856-84: State II (p. 109) on Heraldic Emblems (p. 79).



503

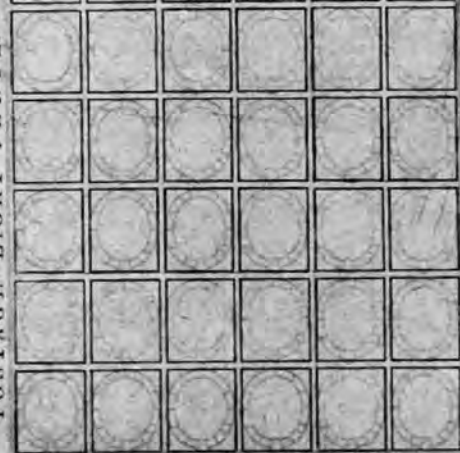
PRICE. 4 Pence per Label. 4 Shillings per Row of 6. 1 Pound per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE EIGHT PENCE.



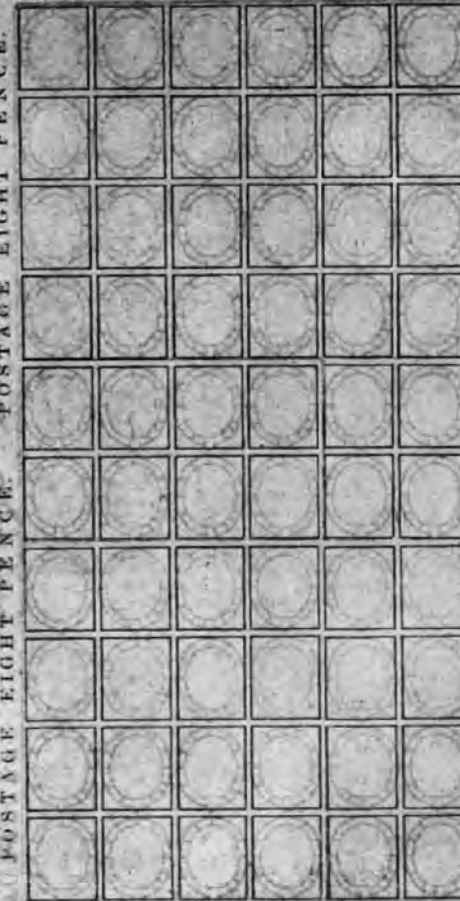
PRICE. 4 Pence per Label. 4 Shillings per Row of 6. 1 Pound per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE EIGHT PENCE.



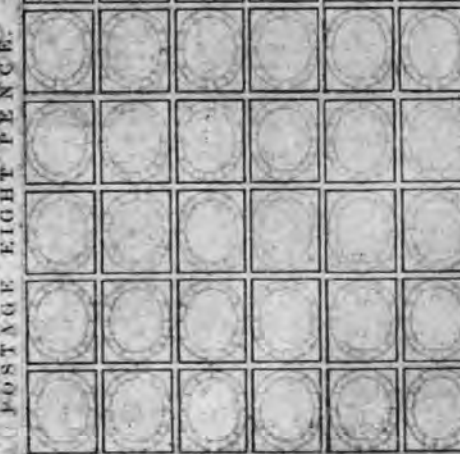
PRICE. 4 Pence per Label. 4 Shillings per Row of 6. 1 Pound per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE EIGHT PENCE.



PRICE. 4 Pence per Label. 4 Shillings per Row of 6. 1 Pound per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE EIGHT PENCE.

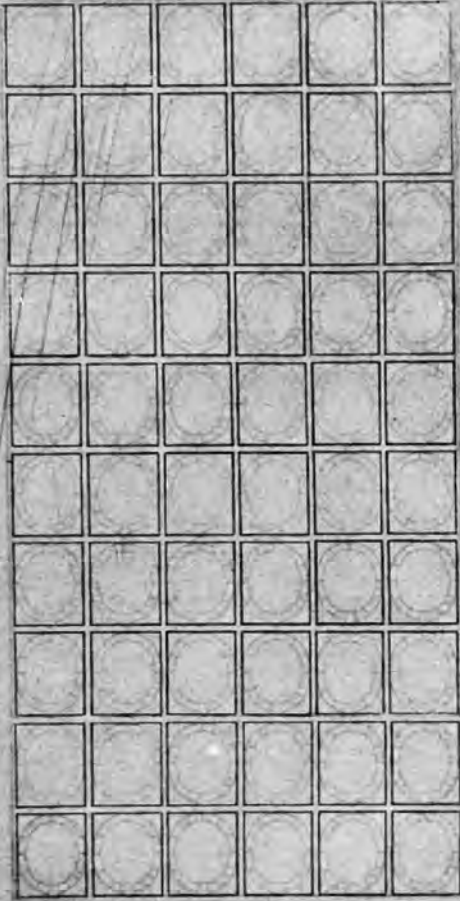


PRICE. 4 Pence per Label. 4 Shillings per Row of 6. 1 Pound per Sheet of 20.

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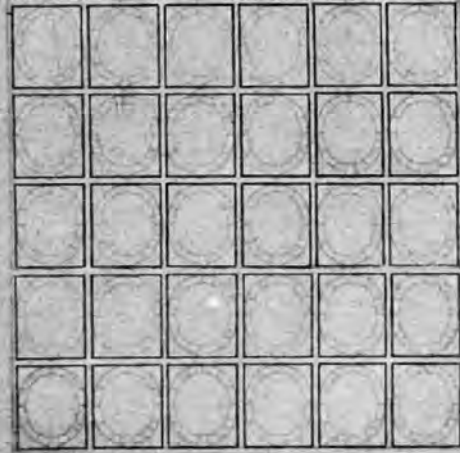
PRICE. 4 Pence per Label. 4 Shillings per Row of 6. 1 Pound per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE EIGHT PENCE.



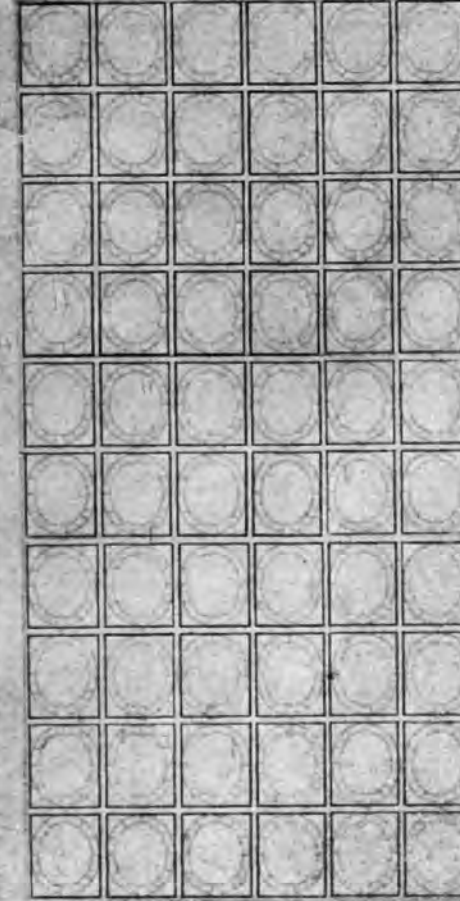
PRICE. 4 Pence per Label. 4 Shillings per Row of 6. 1 Pound per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE EIGHT PENCE.



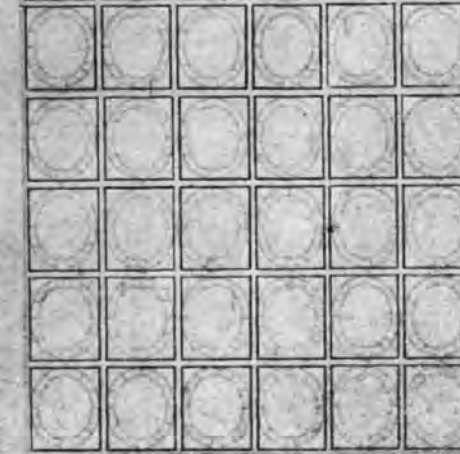
PRICE. 4 Pence per Label. 4 Shillings per Row of 6. 1 Pound per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE EIGHT PENCE.



PRICE. 4 Pence per Label. 4 Shillings per Row of 6. 1 Pound per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE EIGHT PENCE.



PRICE. 4 Pence per Label. 4 Shillings per Row of 6. 1 Pound per Sheet of 20.

503

DIAGRAM K.—Eightpence, postage, of 1876-80: State I (p. 119) on Large Garter (p. 96).



POSTAGE NINE PENCE.

POSTAGE NINE PENCE.

PRICE. Ninepence per Label. 2 Shillings per Box of 4. 12 Shillings per Sheet of 20.

PRICE. Ninepence per Label. 2 Shillings per Box of 4. 12 Shillings per Sheet of 20.

PRICE. Ninepence per Label. 2 Shillings per Box of 4. 12 Shillings per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE NINE PENCE.

POSTAGE NINE PENCE.

PRICE. Ninepence per Label. 2 Shillings per Box of 4. 12 Shillings per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE NINE PENCE.

PRICE. Ninepence per Label. 2 Shillings per Box of 4. 12 Shillings per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE NINE PENCE.

PRICE. Ninepence per Label. 2 Shillings per Box of 4. 12 Shillings per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE NINE PENCE.

PRICE. Ninepence per Label. 2 Shillings per Box of 4. 12 Shillings per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE NINE PENCE.

PRICE. Ninepence per Label. 2 Shillings per Box of 4. 12 Shillings per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE NINE PENCE.

PRICE. Ninepence per Label. 2 Shillings per Box of 4. 12 Shillings per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE NINE PENCE.

PRICE. Ninepence per Label. 2 Shillings per Box of 4. 12 Shillings per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE NINE PENCE.

PRICE. Ninepence per Label. 2 Shillings per Box of 4. 12 Shillings per Sheet of 20.

PRICE. Ninepence per Label. 2 Shillings per Box of 4. 12 Shillings per Sheet of 20.

POSTAGE NINE PENCE.

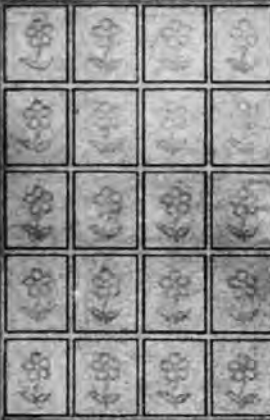
DIAGRAM L—Ninepence, postage, of 1862-77: State I (p. 121) on Heraldic Emblems (p. 79).



POSTAGE ONE SHILLING.

POSTAGE ONE SHILLING.

POSTAGE ONE SHILLING.



PRICE. 1 Shilling 4 Shillings 1 Pound
per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20

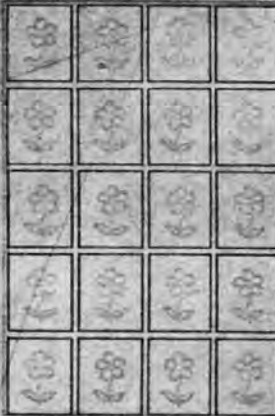
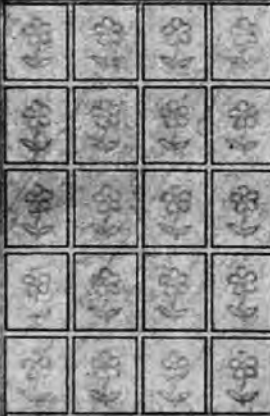
PRICE. 1 Shilling 4 Shillings 1 Pound
per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20

PRICE. 1 Shilling 4 Shillings 1 Pound
per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20

POSTAGE ONE SHILLING.

POSTAGE ONE SHILLING.

POSTAGE ONE SHILLING.



PRICE. 1 Shilling 4 Shillings 1 Pound
per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20

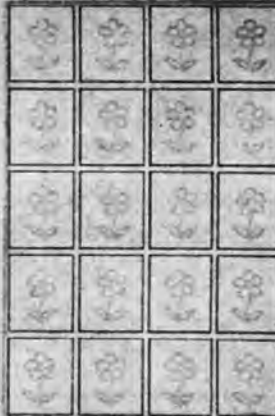
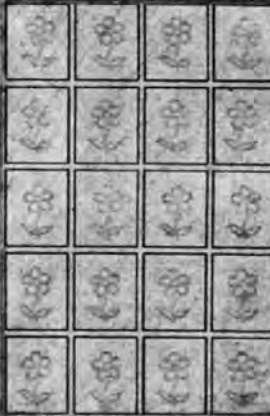
PRICE. 1 Shilling 4 Shillings 1 Pound
per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20

PRICE. 1 Shilling 4 Shillings 1 Pound
per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20

POSTAGE ONE SHILLING.

POSTAGE ONE SHILLING.

POSTAGE ONE SHILLING.



PRICE. 1 Shilling 4 Shillings 1 Pound
per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20

PRICE. 1 Shilling 4 Shillings 1 Pound
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PRICE. 1 Shilling 4 Shillings 1 Pound
per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20

POSTAGE ONE SHILLING.

POSTAGE ONE SHILLING.

POSTAGE ONE SHILLING.



PRICE. 1 Shilling 4 Shillings 1 Pound
per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20

PRICE. 1 Shilling 4 Shillings 1 Pound
per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20

PRICE. 1 Shilling 4 Shillings 1 Pound
per Label per Row of 4 per Sheet of 20

Postage stamps

Postage stamps

Postage stamps

Postage stamps

MARK Postage

Postage stamps

Postage stamps

Postage stamps

DIAGRAM M.—One Shilling, postage, of 1856-84: State VII (p. 131) on Spray of Rose (p. 82).



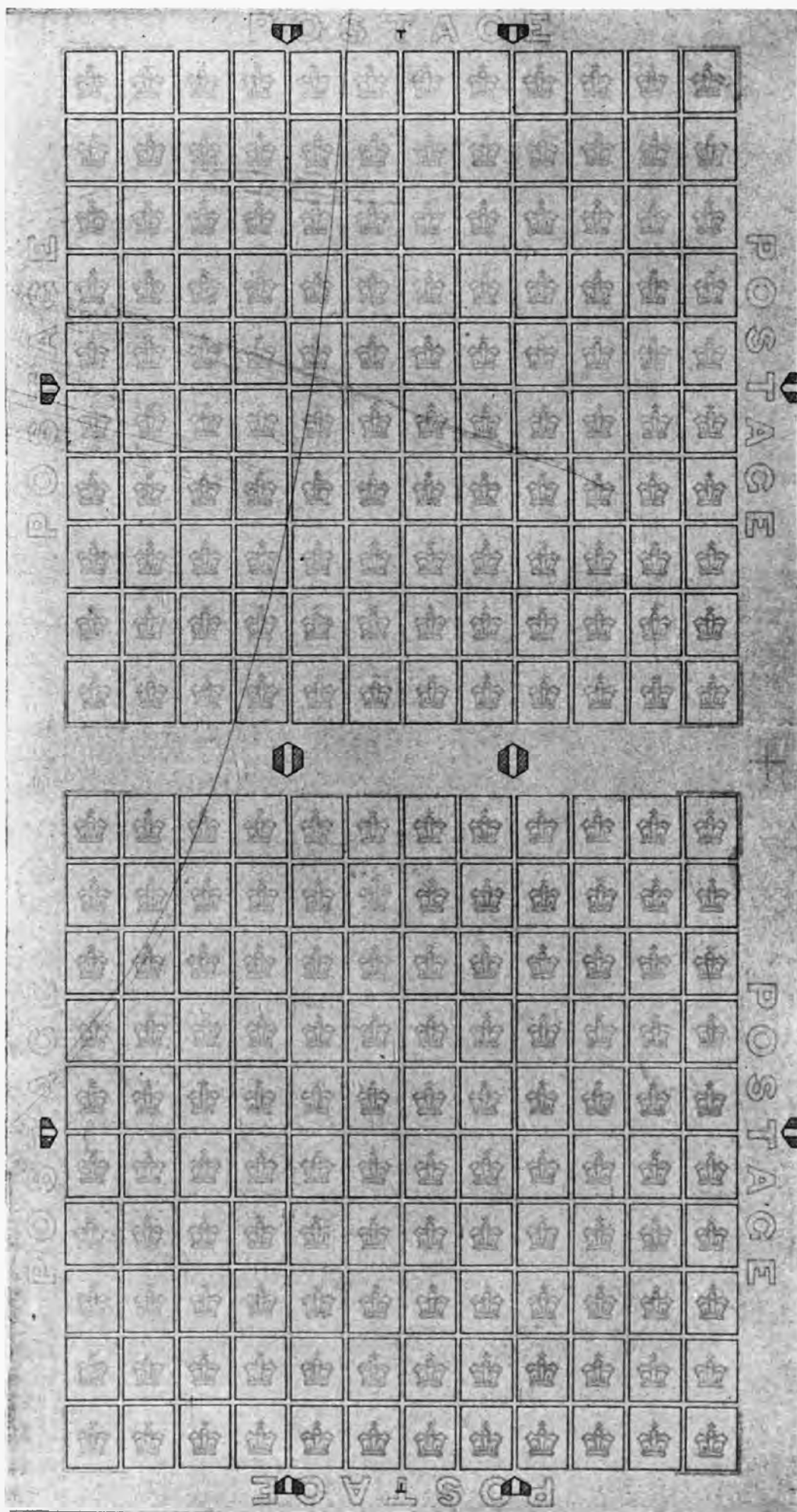


DIAGRAM N.—One Shilling, postage, of 1856-84: State VIII (*p.* 133) on Large (1880) Crown (*p.* 77).



2. M. 117
10. 11. 13

10. 11. 13

10. 11. 13

10. 11. 13

10. 11. 13

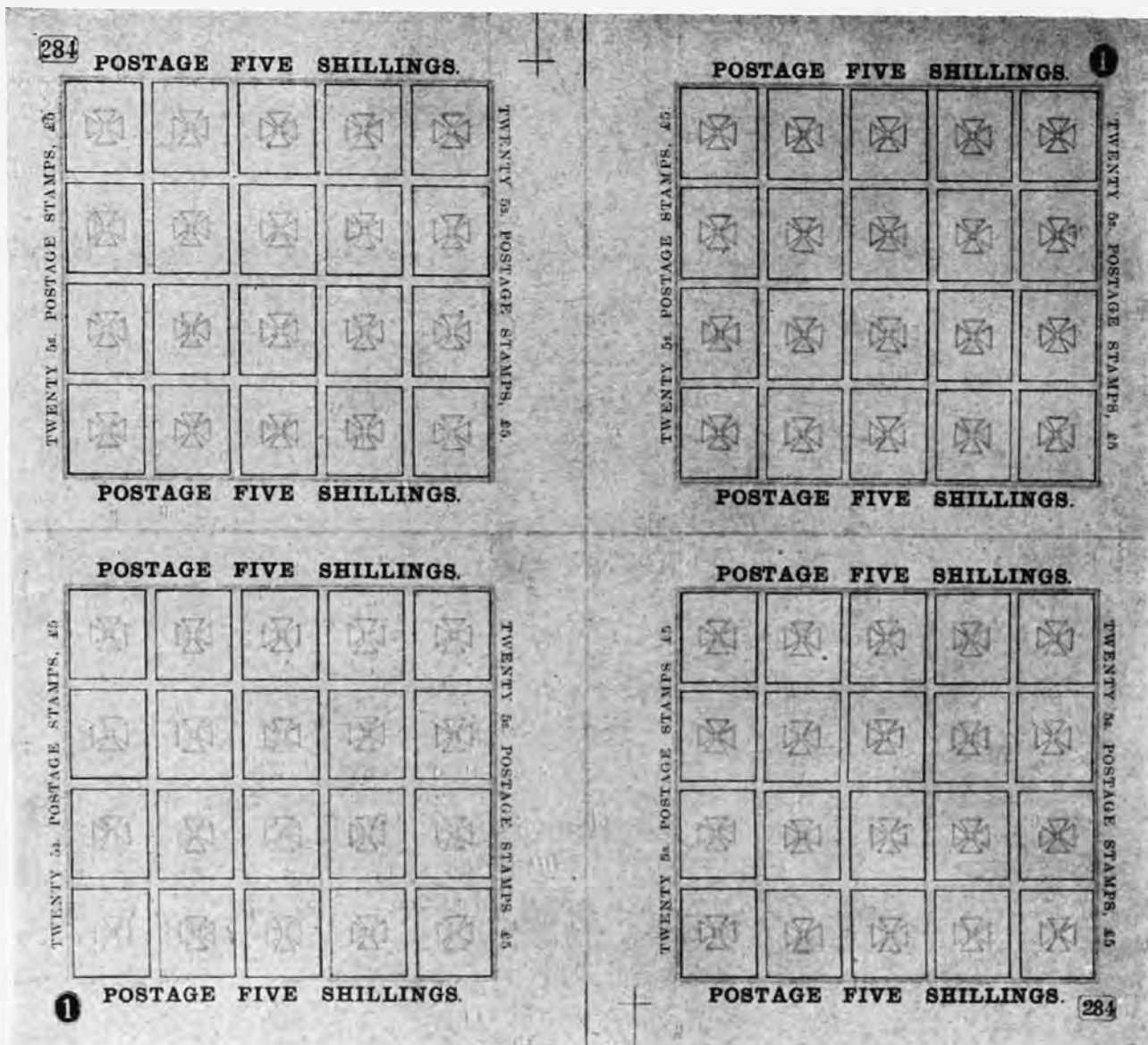


DIAGRAM 0.—Five Shillings, postage, of 1867-84: State I (*p.* 138) on Cross paté (*p.* 138).

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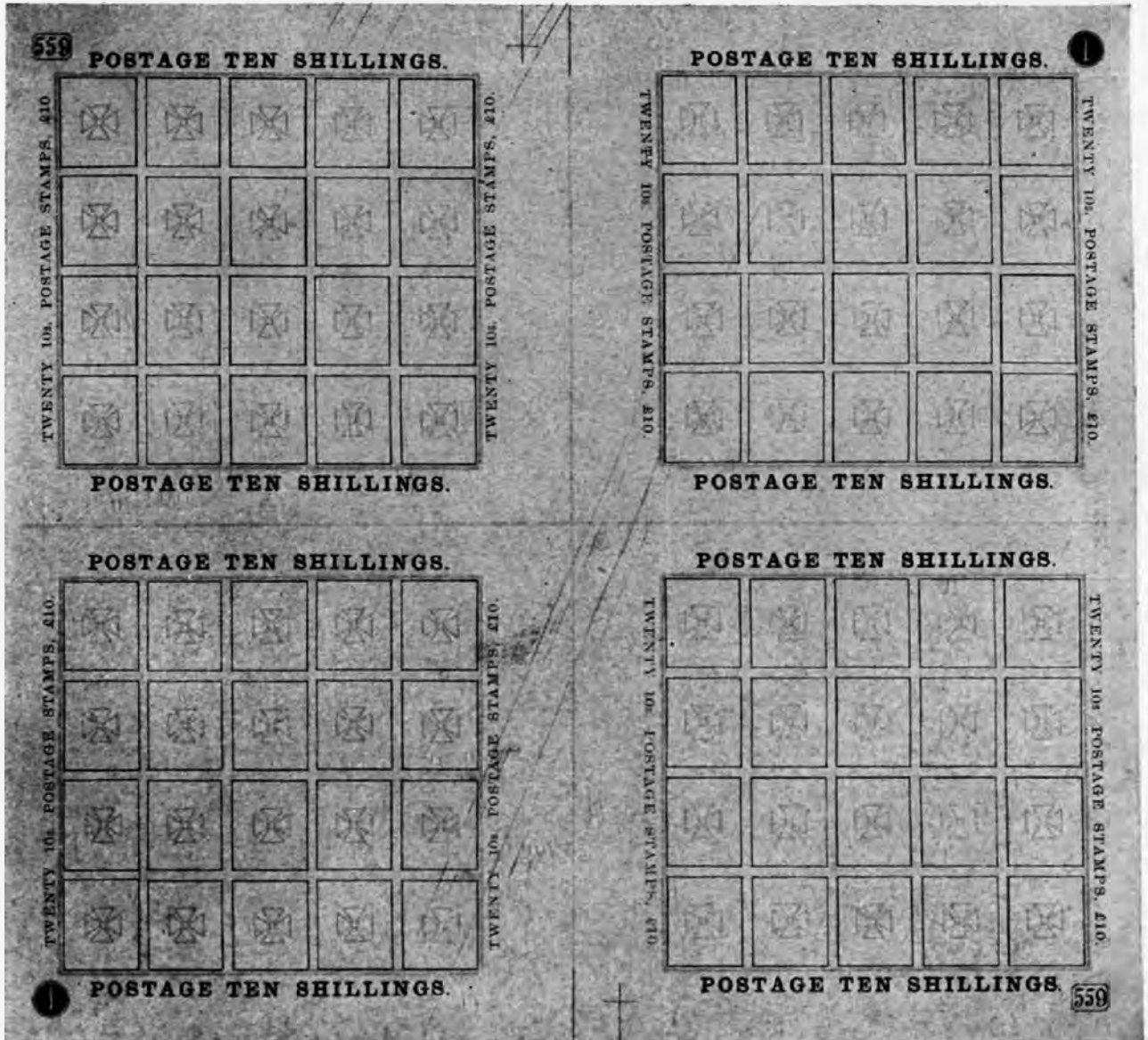


DIAGRAM P.—Ten Shillings, postage, of 1878-84 : State I (*p.* 142) on *Cross paté* (*p.* 138).



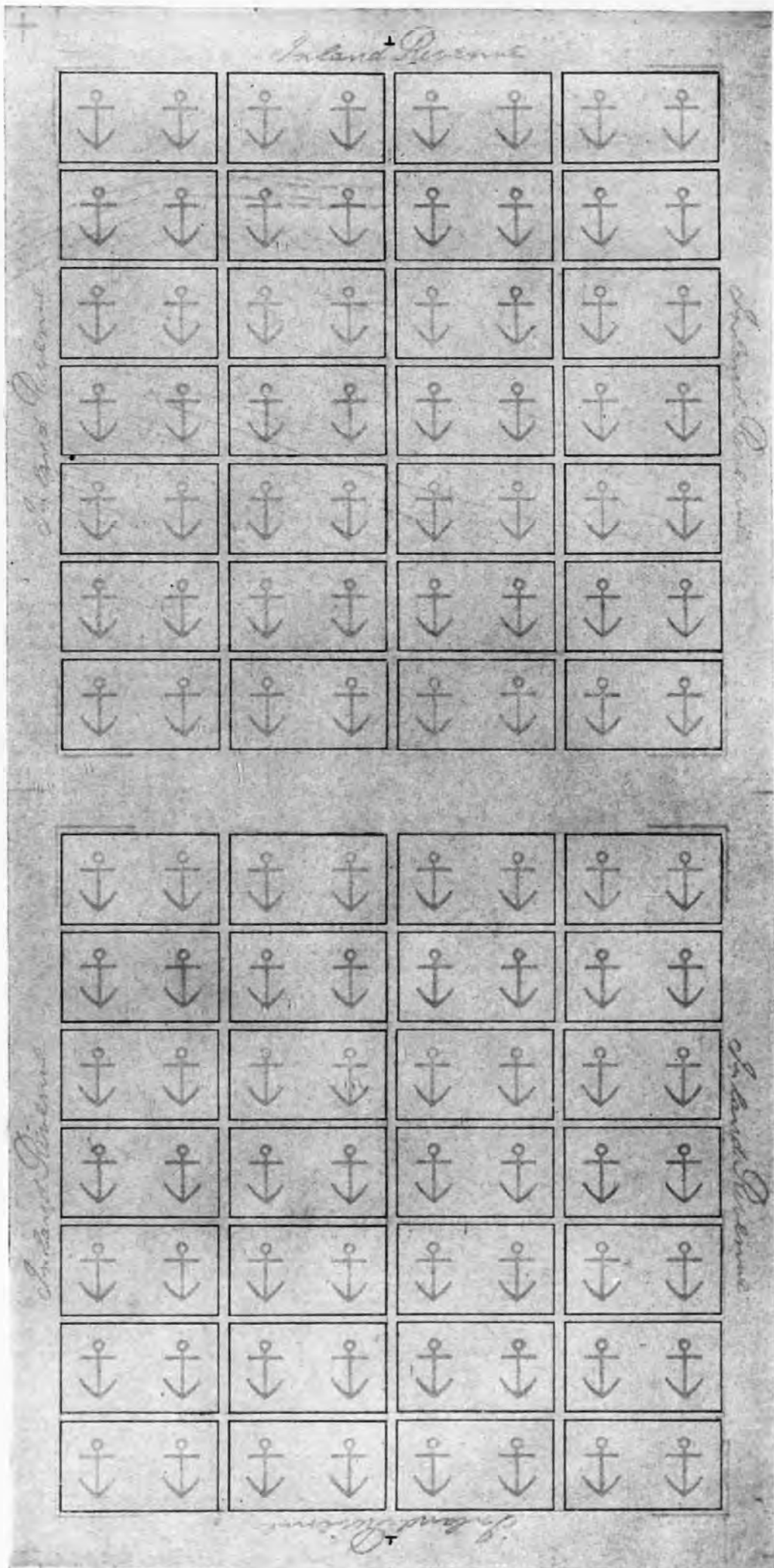


DIAGRAM Q.—Five Pounds, postage, of 1882 (current): State (p. 165) on Large Anchor (p. 140).



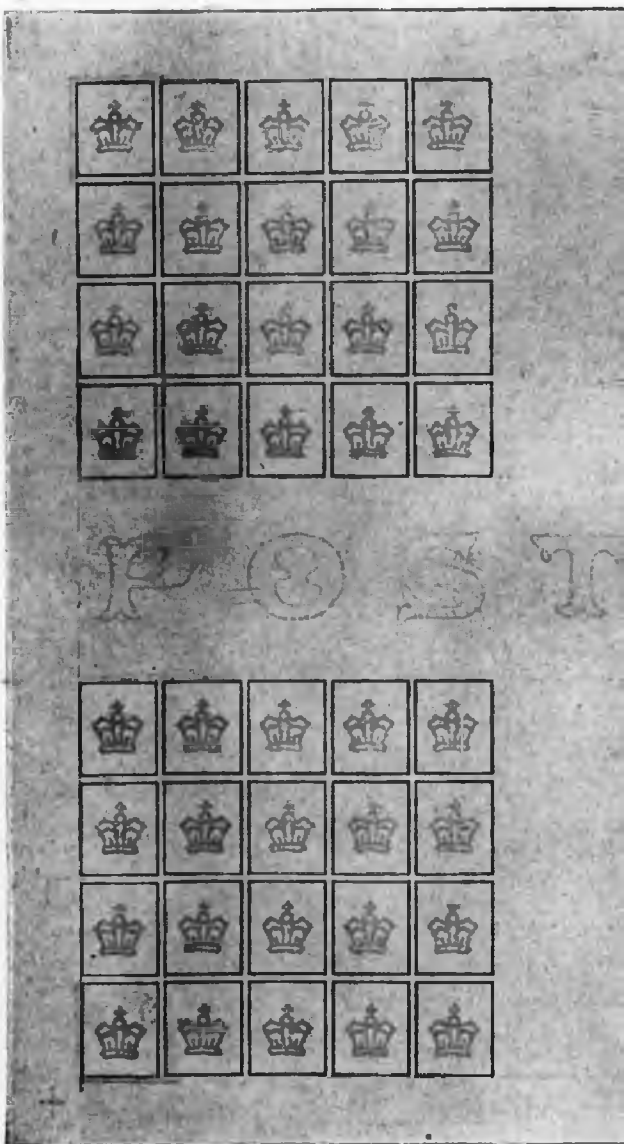
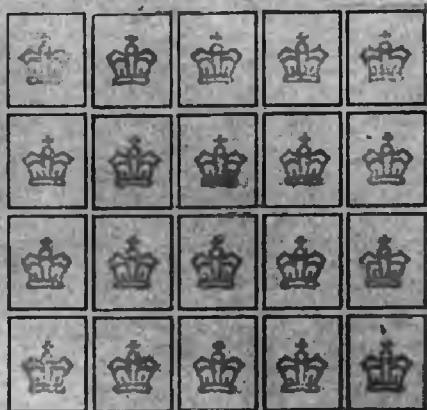
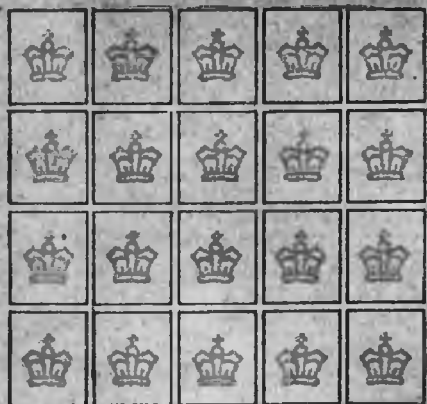


DIAGRAM R.—Fourpence, postage, of 1887 (current):

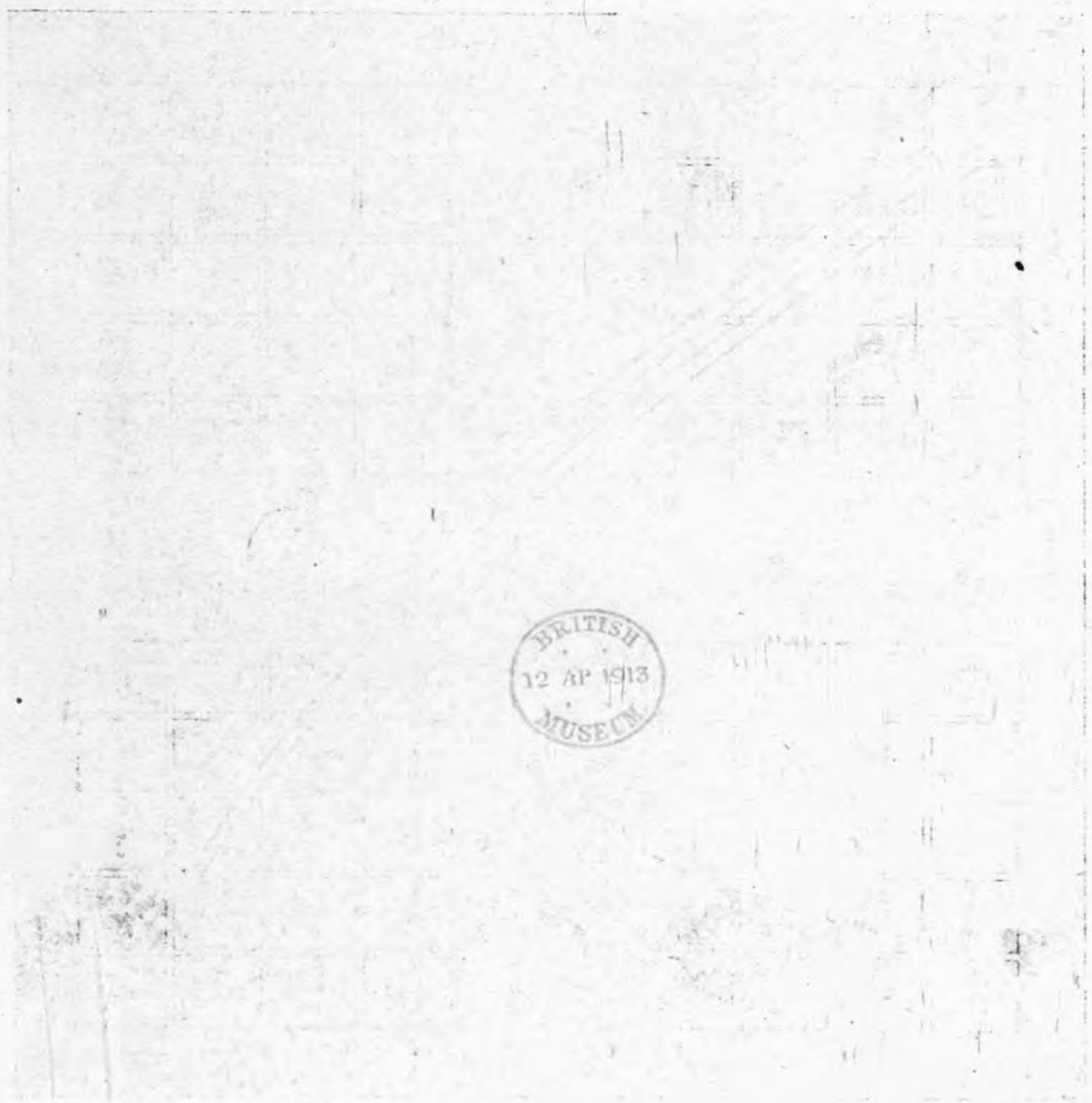


A G E



State (p. 172) on Large (1880) Crown (p. 172).

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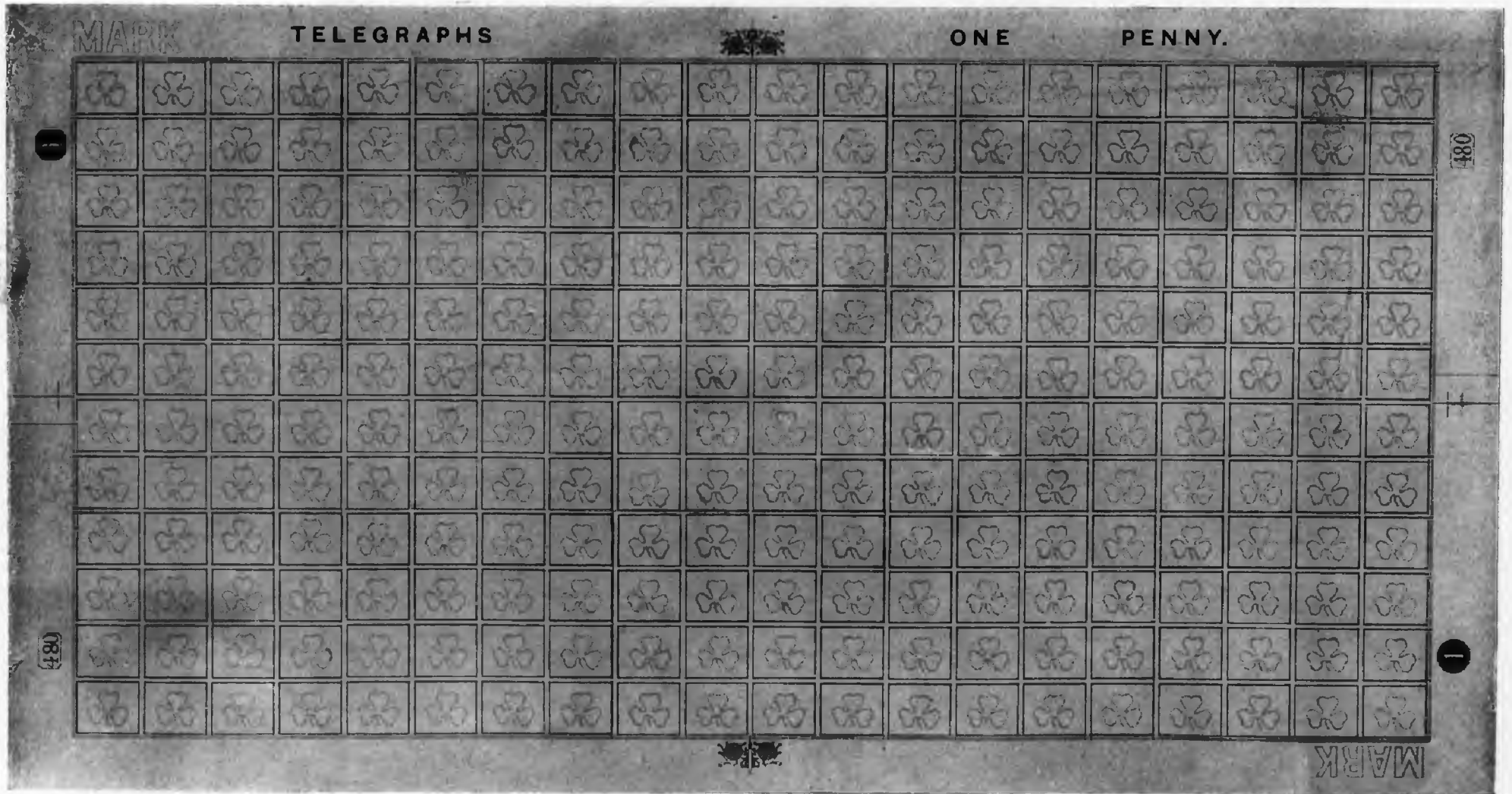
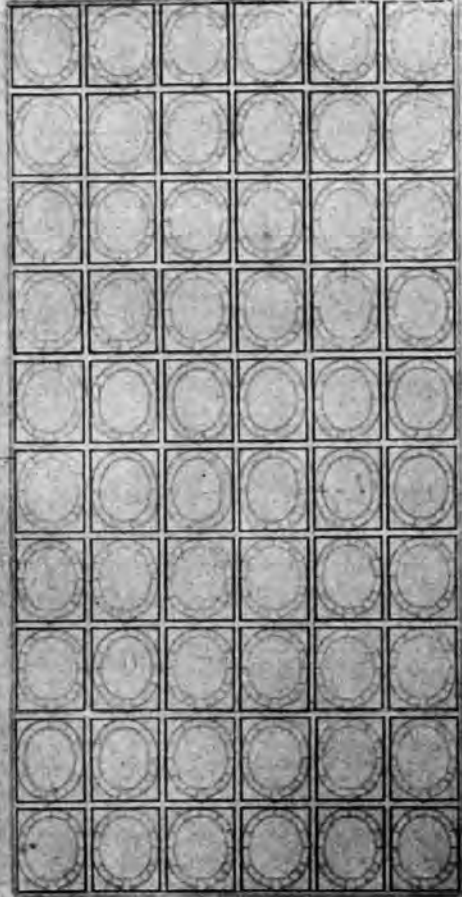
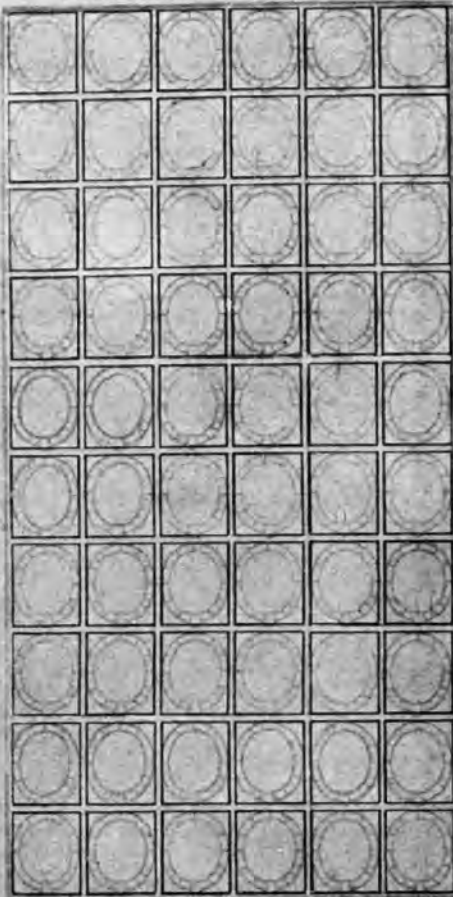


DIAGRAM S.—One Penny, telegraph : State (*p.* 215) on Shamrock (*p.* 214).



TELEGRAPHS FOUR PENCE.

TELEGRAPHS FOUR PENCE.



TELEGRAPHS FOUR PENCE.

TELEGRAPHS FOUR PENCE.

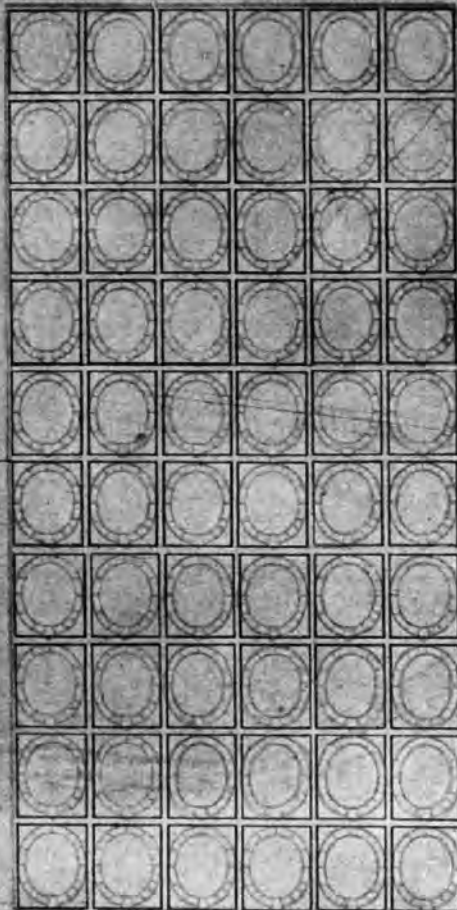
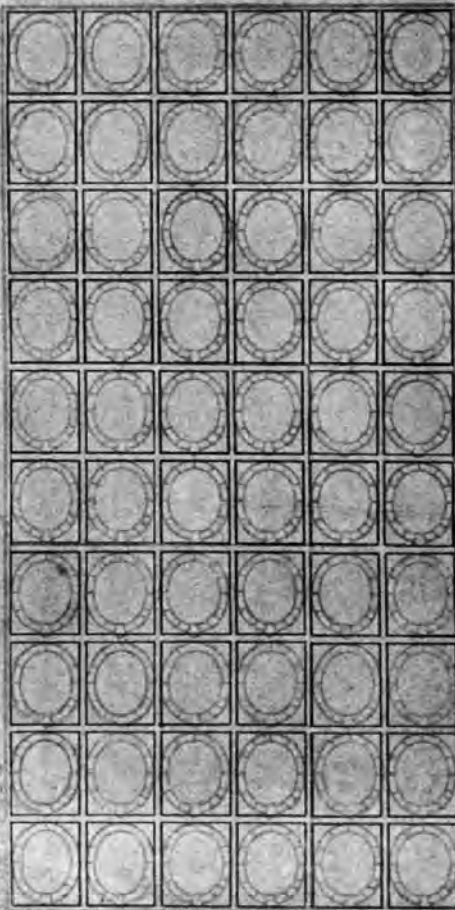


DIAGRAM T.—Fourpence, telegraph : State (p. 218) on Large Garter (p. 96).

Postage

MARK

Postage

Postage

MARK

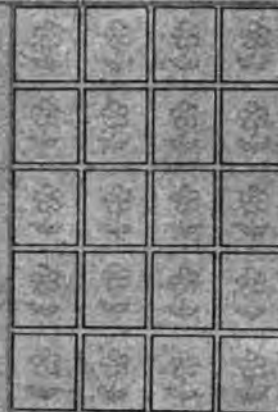
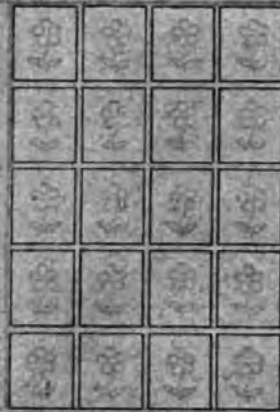
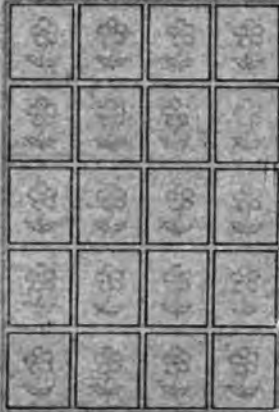
Postage



TELEGRAPHS THREE SHILLINGS.

TELEGRAPHS THREE SHILLINGS.

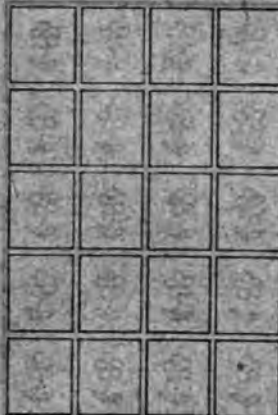
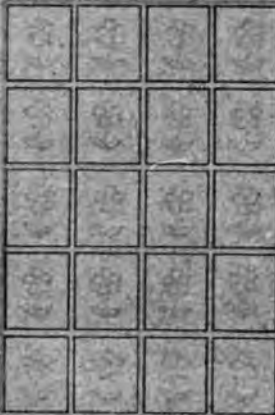
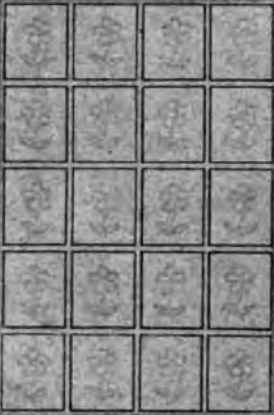
TELEGRAPHS THREE SHILLINGS.



TELEGRAPHS THREE SHILLINGS.

TELEGRAPHS THREE SHILLINGS.

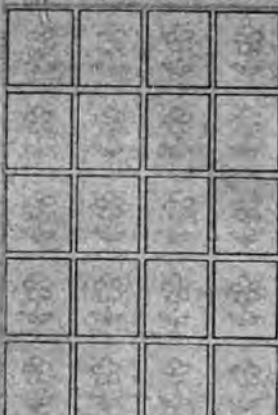
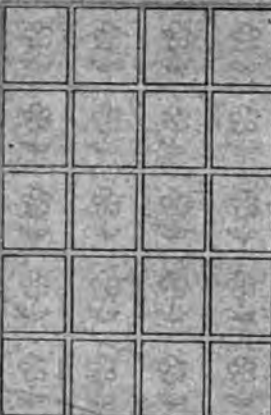
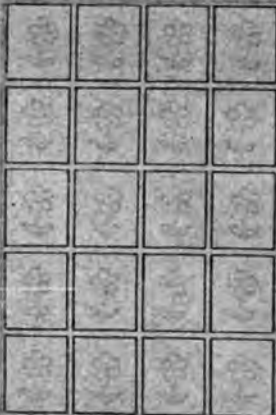
TELEGRAPHS THREE SHILLINGS.



TELEGRAPHS THREE SHILLINGS.

TELEGRAPHS THREE SHILLINGS.

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TELEGRAPHS THREE SHILLINGS.

TELEGRAPHS THREE SHILLINGS.

TELEGRAPHS THREE SHILLINGS.

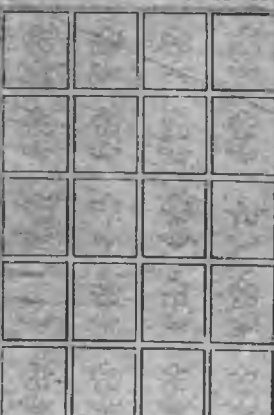
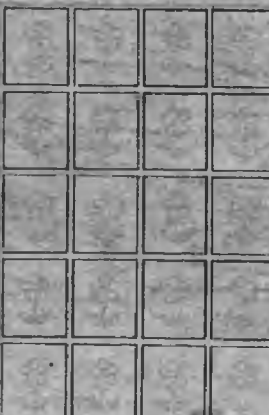


DIAGRAM U.—Three Shillings, telegraph : State I (p. 223) on Spray of Rose (p. 82).

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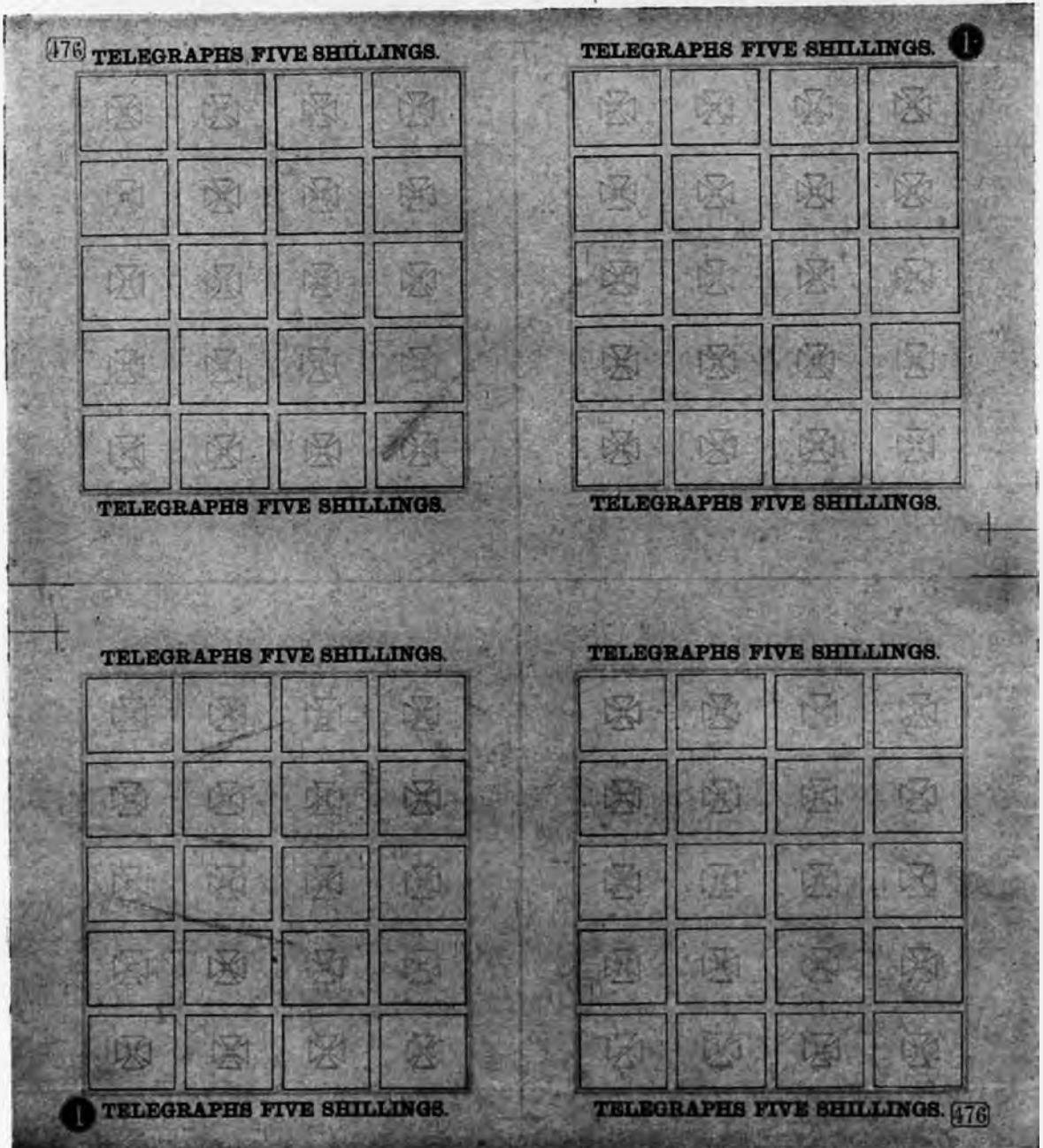
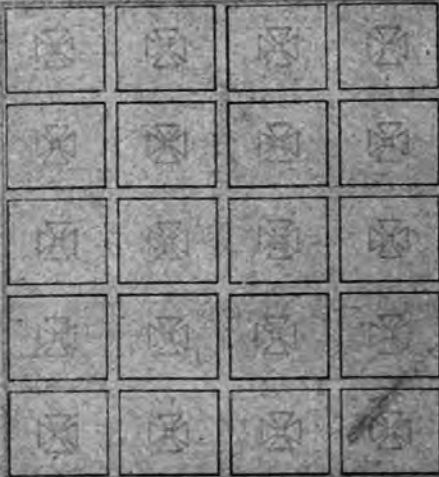


DIAGRAM V.—Five Shillings, telegraph: State I (p. 224) on Cross *paté* (p. 138).

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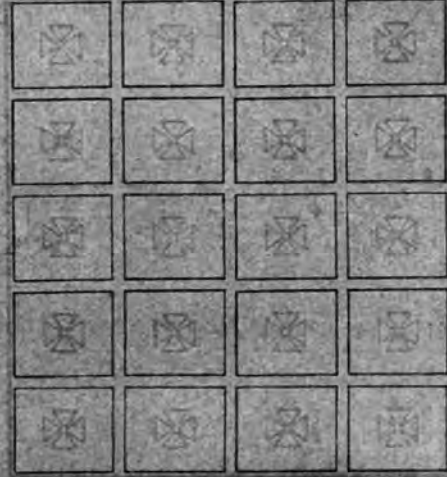
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176 TELEGRAPHS FIVE SHILLINGS.



TELEGRAPHS FIVE SHILLINGS.

TELEGRAPHS FIVE SHILLINGS. 1



TELEGRAPHS FIVE SHILLINGS.

TELEGRAPHS FIVE SHILLINGS.



1 TELEGRAPHS FIVE SHILLINGS.

TELEGRAPHS FIVE SHILLINGS.



TELEGRAPHS FIVE SHILLINGS. 176

DIAGRAM V.—Five Shillings, telegraph: State I (p. 224) on Cross *paté* (p. 138).

BRITISH
12 APR 1913
MUSEUM

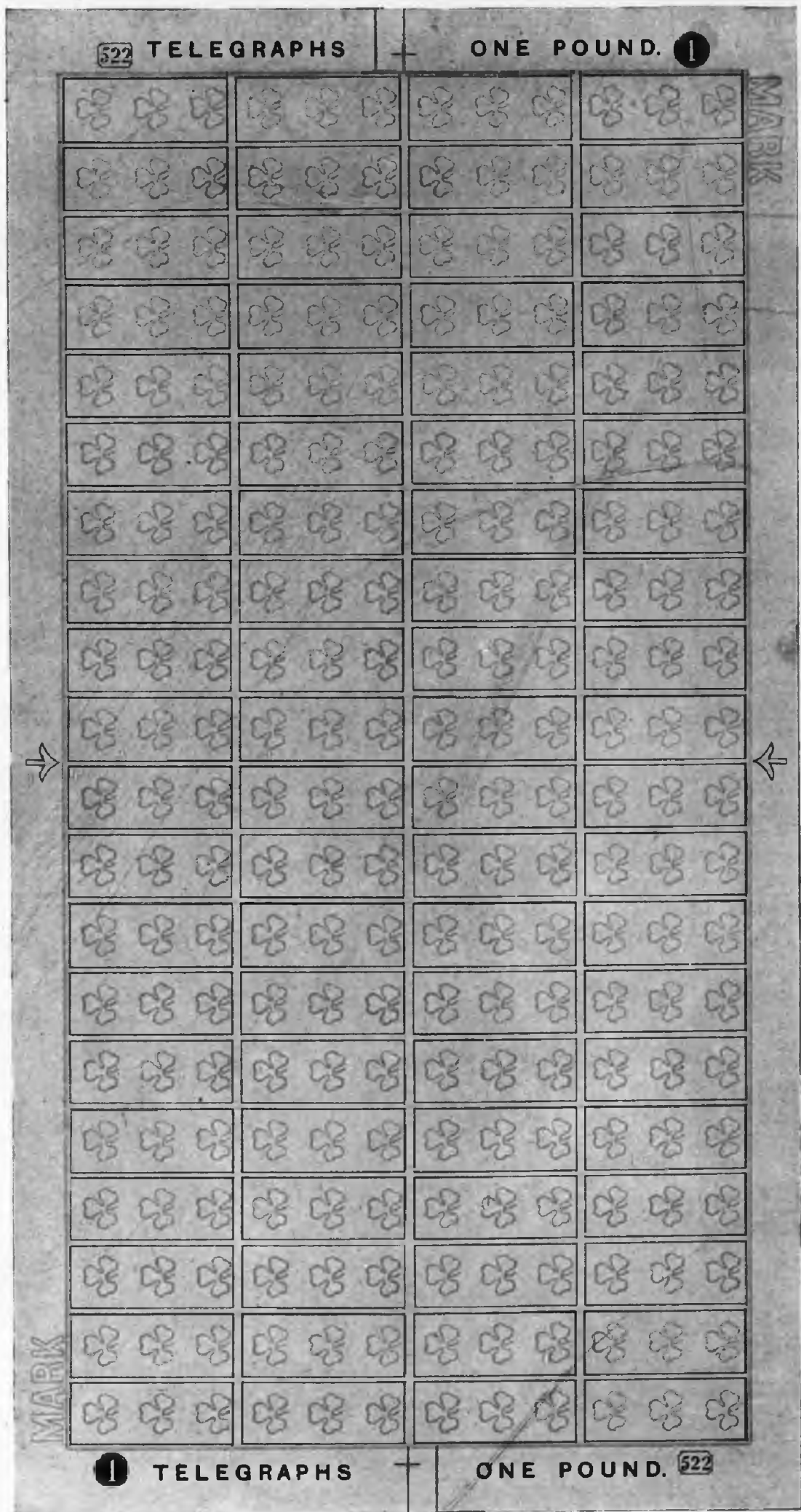


DIAGRAM W.—One Pound, telegraph: State (*p.* 228) on Shamrock (*p.* 214).



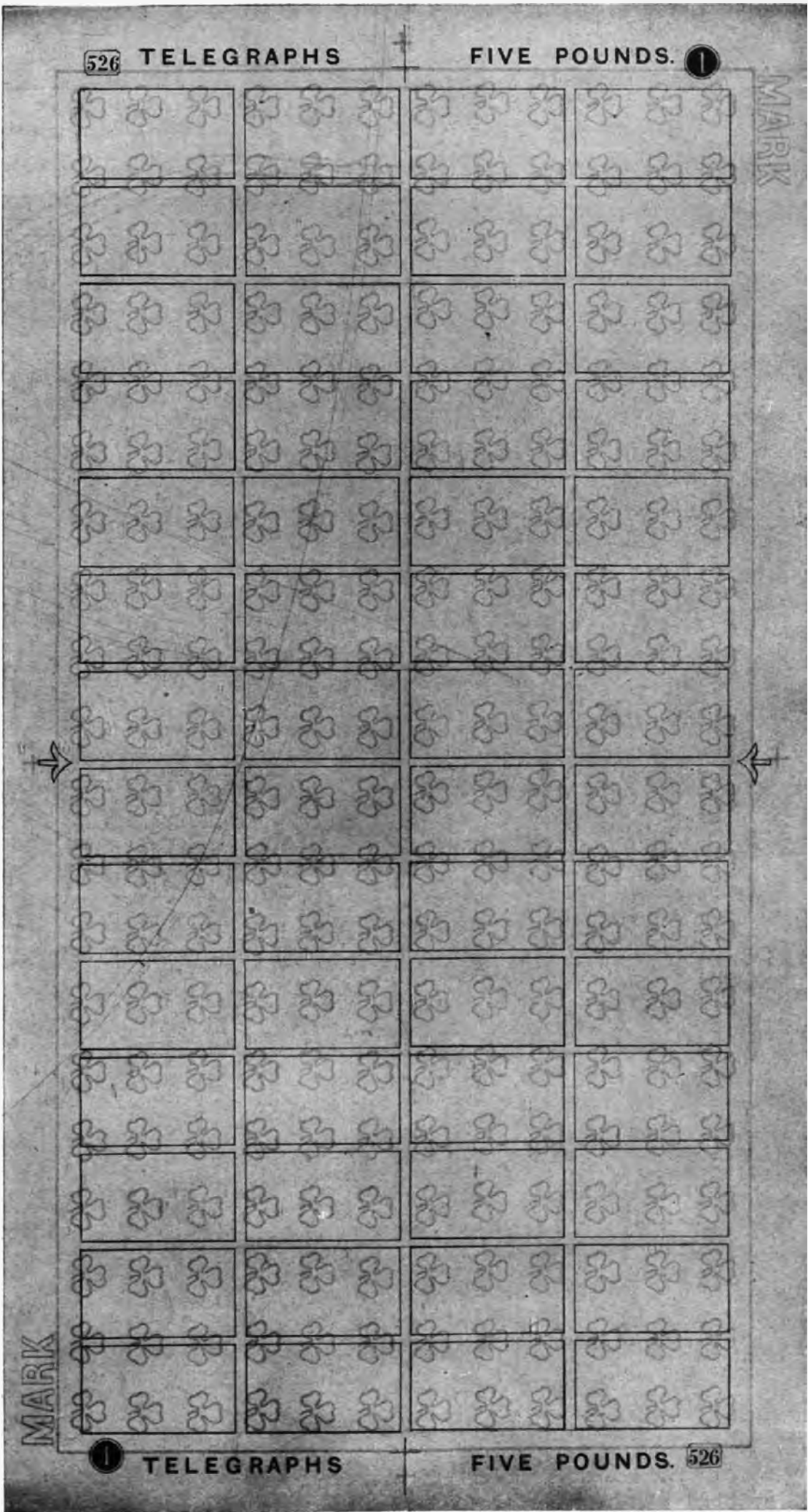


DIAGRAM X.—Five Pounds, telegraph : State (*p.* 229) on Shamrock (*p.* 214).

BRITISH
MUSEUM
12 APR 1913

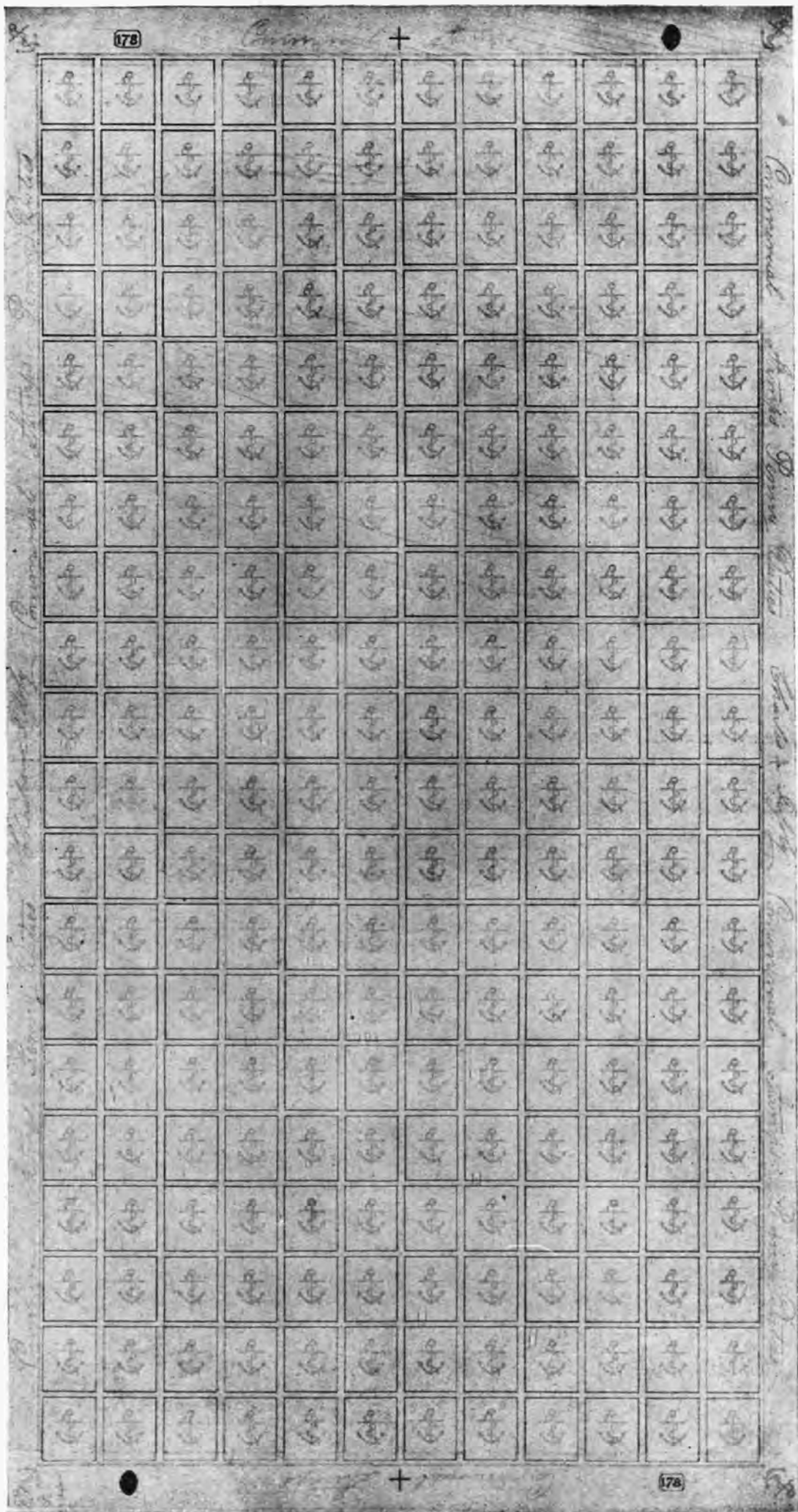


DIAGRAM Y.—One Penny, fiscal, of April, 1860: State (p. 179) on Foul Anchor (p. 179).

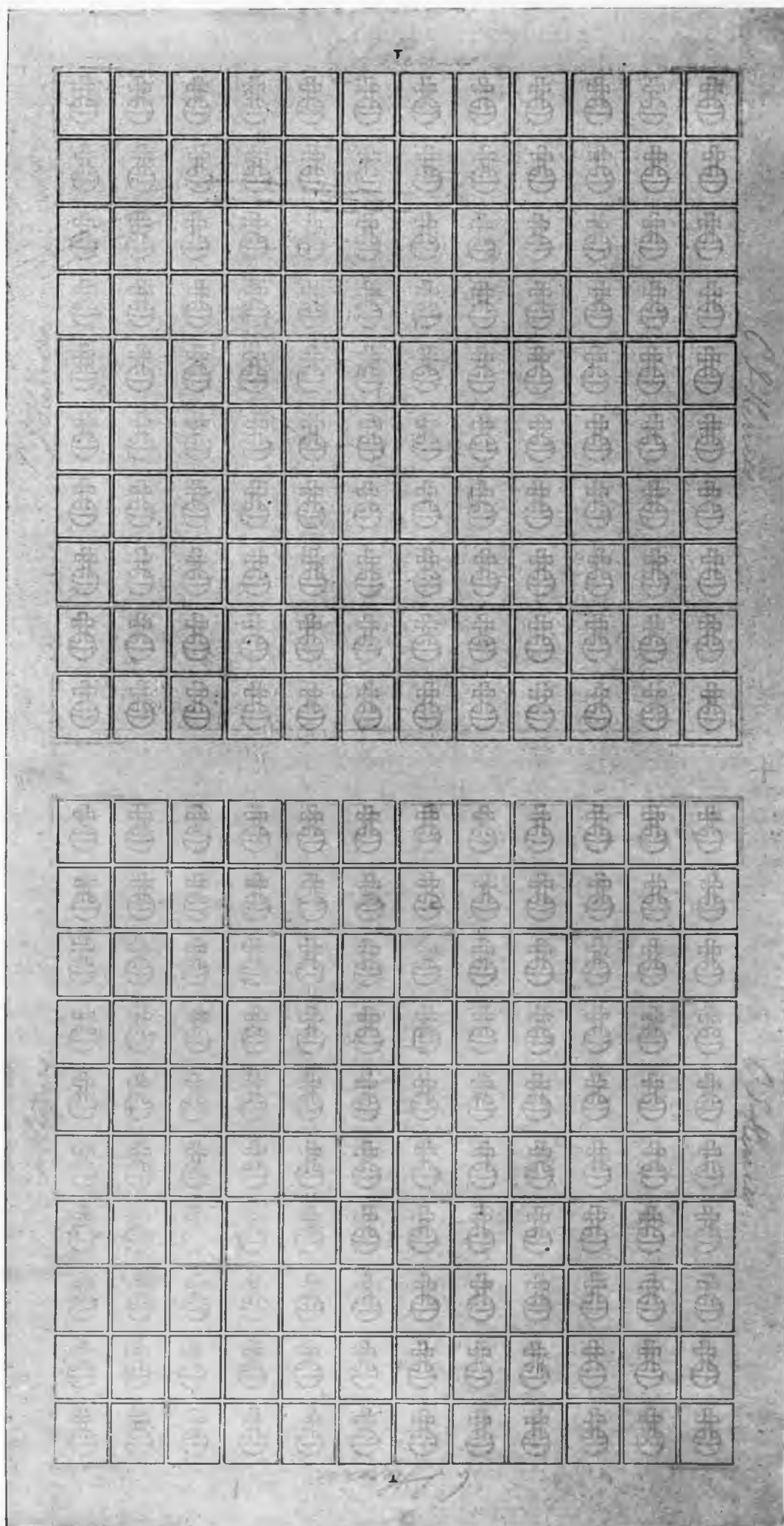


DIAGRAM Z.—One Penny, fiscal, of 1867-81 : State II (*p.* 185) on Orb (*p.* 185).

A HISTORY
OF
THE ADHESIVE STAMPS OF
THE BRITISH ISLES

AVAILABLE FOR POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH PURPOSES

*(WITH TWELVE PLATES OF PHOTO-MEZZOTYPE ILLUSTRATIONS AND TWENTY-SIX
PLATES OF DIAGRAMS)*

Compiled from Official Sources

BY

HASTINGS E. WRIGHT

AND

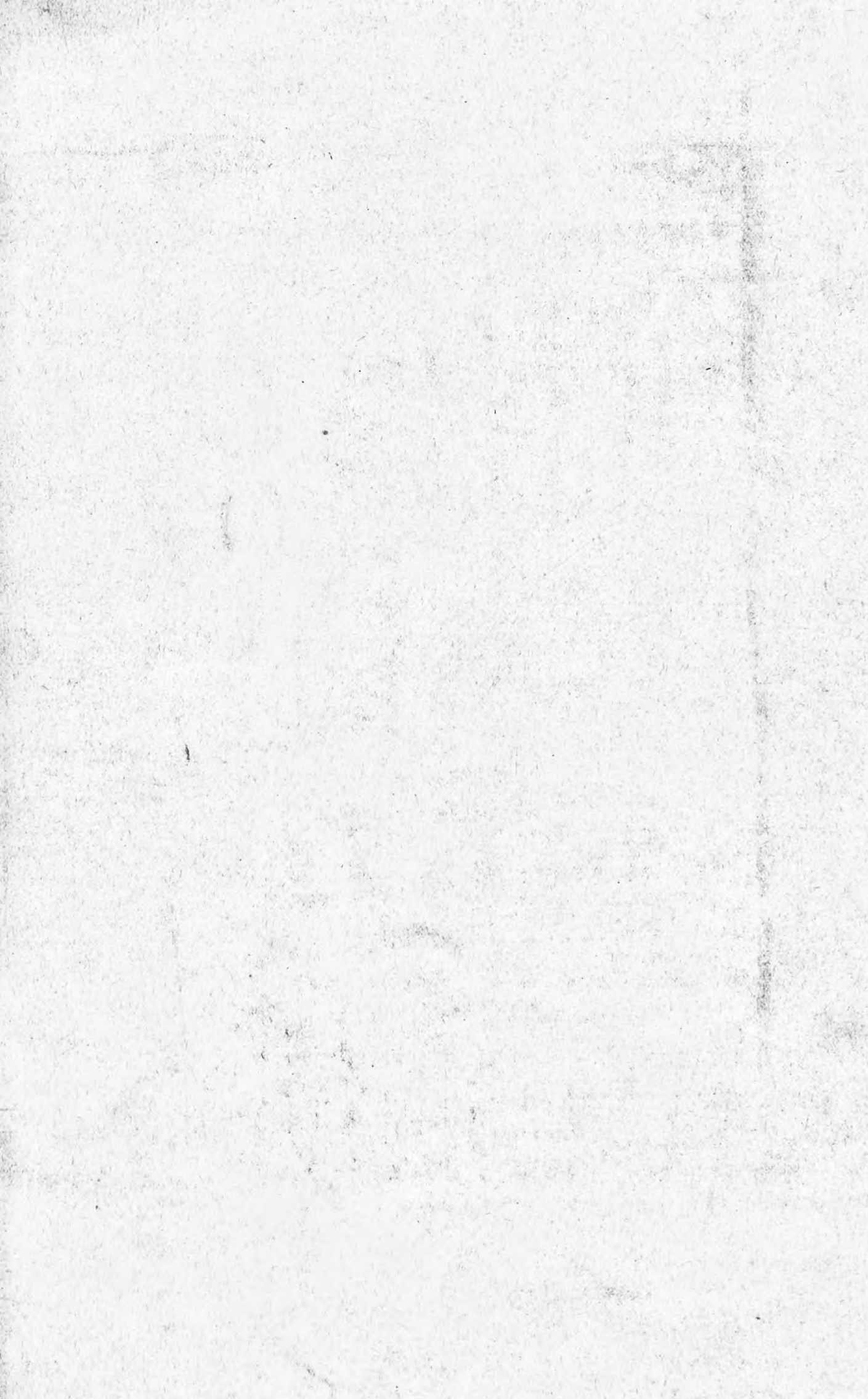
A. B. CREEKE JUNR.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY GORDON SMITH

PUBLISHED BY

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON,
EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND,
LONDON, W.C.

1899.



A SUPPLEMENT
TO
"BRITISH ISLES"

(WITH A PLATE OF TEN ILLUSTRATIONS).

BY
A. B. CREEKE, JUN.



PUBLISHED BY
THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON,
Effingham House,
ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
1903.

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1903.

Addenda et Corrigenda.—*Page 13* :—The One Shilling, green and scarlet, is known with inverted overprint of "GOVT. PARCELS" (*Illustration 227*).
Page 14, last line :—For "11th June," read "4th October." *Page 15, last paragraph* :—Creation, 250 sheets, or 60,000 stamps ; issue, 20 sheets, or 4,800 stamps.
Page 16, second paragraph :—Creation, 125 sheets, or 20,000 stamps ; issue 8 sheets, or 2,000 stamps. "Officials" generally :—As a rule, these were issued very shortly after receipt at Somerset House ; the various dates given in the headings and synopses should be amended accordingly. The use of stamps, overprinted for Government departments, has been discontinued.
December, 1904.

The Adhesive Postage and Telegraph Stamps

OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

A Supplement.

BY A. B. CREEKE, JUN.



HE demise, on the 22nd January, 1901, of our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria necessitated a change in the portrait on the various British stamps; and the well-known head of Her late Majesty is, after sixty-two years, now superseded by that of King Edward VII.

It seems, therefore, a convenient time to bring up to date—so far as the Victorian issues are concerned—the work by the late Mr. Hastings E. Wright and myself, by chronicling the various changes which have taken place, and the additions and discoveries which have been made, since the completion of the MS.; and it will save my readers the trouble of referring to the *Addenda et Corrigenda*, if I here include a fuller note than was then possible. This I purpose doing in a regular manner, following the paging of the book.

Page vi.—There is an amusing error on the last page of the *Preface*. One of the gentlemen—I will not mention names—at Somerset House, to whom I referred as having given us all possible assistance, was inadvertently accorded by me an official position somewhat higher than the one he actually occupied, and he was, I believe, congratulated by many of his colleagues on his informal promotion. He has now retired on a well-merited pension.

Page 9.—The quotation (lines 15 to 20) as to Archer's want of inventive power and mechanical knowledge is from a footnote on page 68 of *Philbrick and Westoby*, and the customary acknowledgment was accidentally omitted.

Page 16.—The *Introduction*, which, as it was not by either Mr. Wright or myself, I may be allowed to consider one of the most interesting features of the book, was written after the greater portion of the work was in print; and

the insertion of an additional chapter alters, from iv. to v., the number of the chapter to which a reference is made in line 24.

This is, perhaps, a trivial correction, but I gladly make it, as affording me an opportunity to refer to the very able and valuable Introduction, for which I was most grateful to my friend Mr. Gordon Smith.

Page 34.—In the second paragraph, under the sub-heading of "*Plate*," we should have stated that the first eighteen (not twenty-two) plates, from Die II. of the line-engraved One Penny value, were certainly in use before the change of watermark from Small Crown to Large Crown, having all been put to press more than eight (not seven) weeks prior to the earliest recorded date of the new watermark.

The plates subsequently mentioned as having been in use with both these papers should run from 19, not from 23.

Page 36.—There is a serious error in the date of the seventh issue of the One Penny, line-engraved, for which I am to blame. The change of colour, from various tones of red to carmine-rose, first appeared amongst the *imprimatur* sheets on the 18th January, 1858; and I put the date of issue as "January, 1858," merely eliminating a *query* which stood against it, without further considering the point.

The corrections in the seventh issue are, therefore: in the heading, the date of issue, "April, 1857"; in the first sub-paragraph a similar alteration, and an antedating of the earliest postmarked copy to 9th April, 1857, for which I am indebted to Mr. Dendy Marshall; and in the third paragraph the consequent inclusion of fourteen extra plates, Nos. 16 to 18, and 22 to 32.

Under the heading of "*Paper*," we stated that the alteration (*viz.* the omission of the two short vertical lines) in the design of the Large Crown took place in 1862. Naturally, we could only chronicle the earliest copy of which we knew; but Mr. S. C. Skipton, in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* for November, 1899, states that he possesses a Twopence stamp, from Plate 8, watermarked with this altered Crown. As this plate was defaced in October, 1861, the variety should be known as the "Large Crown of 1861," to distinguish it from its predecessor.

The temporary recourse, mentioned under "*Perforation*," to the old machines gauging 16, occurred in January, 1858, if not earlier, as a copy of this stamp, in carmine-rose and so perforated, is known postmarked on the 4th of that month.*

Page 39.—Under "*Paper*" of the eighth issue of the One Penny, mention is made of some impressions from Plate 121 on paper chemically treated. This paper was watermarked with the original Large Crown, and both imperforate and perforated copies of the stamps are known.

Page 41.—In the *Synopsis* the Seventh Issue should, as a consequential alteration, also include Plates 16 to 18 and 22 to 32; and the date should be April, 1857.

* For this and other "earliest dates" I am indebted to Mr. L'Estrange Ewen.

From the list of imperforate varieties of the Eighth Issue, withdraw Plates 146 and 191, which I am informed are only known in this condition with trial obliterations; and add Plates 92, 148, 158 and 162.

Page 44.—The footnote should refer to Chapter V. of the Introduction.

Page 50.—There is an uncorrected printer's error in the second footnote: the word "States" should read "Plates."

Page 52.—In the last paragraph to the third issue of the Twopence, line-engraved, we stated that individual copies from Plate 4 are not to be distinguished from those from Plate 5. This is incorrect, as the corner-letters, except "G" and "J," are larger on the latter than on Plate 4, on which they are also generally blurred.

In the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* for October, 1899, Mr. S. C. Skipton, in a most able and interesting paper on the Twopence, line-engraved, convinces me that we ought not to have chronicled, in the fifth issue of this value, impressions from Plate 4 as existing on Large Crown paper. Such copies are not known, and it seems unlikely that they were ever printed. Plate 4, though not defaced until the 8th May, 1856, was very probably discarded when Plate 5 was brought into use, on the 9th June, 1855. This is practically the only instance in which Mr. Wright assumed the existence of a variety which he had not seen, evidently considering that Plate 4 remained, to some extent, in use until it was defaced.

Page 53.—I found, only in time for noting in the *Corrigenda*, that the line between imperforate and perforated stamps, from Plate 4 of the Twopence, had been drawn too early. The error amounts to 1,000 sheets, or 240,000 stamps, by which number the imperforate issue from this plate must be increased, and the perforated printings decreased.

Page 56.—From the Fifth Issue of the Twopence, in the *Synopsis*, all reference to Plate 4 should be omitted.

Page 61.—In chronicling, under the sub-heading of "*Creation*," the number of sheets of embossed Sixpence stamps despatched from the warehouse, the last three periods are incorrectly given: they should obviously be:—

" „ 8th January, to 30th March, 1855 . . .
 „ 2nd April „ 29th June, 1855 . . .
 „ 2nd July „ 29th September, 1855 . . ."

Page 63.—Under the sub-heading of "*Plate*" it should have been stated that blocks of the Tenpence, embossed, are known, from some of the stamps on which the die-number is apparently absent, whilst on the others it is plainly visible: presumably the former are defective impressions.

Page 67.—Under "*Plate*" it was mentioned that Dies 2 and 3 of the One Shilling, embossed, were subsequently furnished with date-plugs, and used for stamping envelopes and telegram forms. This statement—which, as it did not relate to adhesive stamps, was not personally verified—is, I have been informed on very good authority, most probably inaccurate as regards Die 2, dated impressions from which are as yet unknown.

A SUPPLEMENT.

Page 80.—In adding up the paper-warrants for the first issue of the Threepence, surface-printed, I miscalculated the number to the extent of 7,000 sheets.

The *Creation*, at the top of this page, should be 6,853,200 stamps, the warrants being for 288,050 sheets; the result is that 28,550 sheets, or 6,852,000 stamps, were printed from Plate 2 (as issued) of this value.

Page 83.—Consequent on the mistake just recorded, the figures under "*Creation*" at the top of this page require alteration: those in the first line should read "78,960,000" as the number of stamps of the third issue of the Threepence; and "4,321,200" as the number printed from Plate 4 on Spray of Rose paper.

My readers may wonder why there are no consequential alterations to be made on pages 81 and 82. They were originally so numerous that I had those pages reprinted.

Page 90.—There is an uncorrected printer's error in the first column of the tabular statement of the early printings of the Fourpence: the date of the penultimate order for paper was "1-11-55," as in the text on the next page, not "11-1-55."

Page 98, line 8.—After the body of the work was in print, I ascertained that Plate 4 of the Fourpence was taken from press in April, 1865.

Page 99, line 6 from bottom.—In discussing the question as to the die from which the defective Plate 6 of the Fourpence was made, it should have been stated that this plate was ordered a year and nine months subsequently to the "abandonment," not "completion," of Plate 5 (Die II.), which was not required, or even completed, on account of the change in design.

Page 103.—To the end of the first paragraph, dealing with State VII. of the Fourpence, add "(See Diagram N.)"; and delete the similar words from the end of the fourth line below.

Page 110.—There is a similar correction to be made on the upper part of this page, where State IV. of the Sixpence, surface-printed, is dealt with: "(See Diagram J.)" should be at the end of the third, not fourth, paragraph.

Page 116.—Referring to the *Remarks*, at the foot of this page, on the omission of the dots from under the "d" of the overprint on the Sixpence stamps of 1883, lettered $\frac{1}{6}d$, it is clear from a copy in my possession that the omission was subsequently rectified. On this particular stamp the overprint has the two dots as distinctly printed as on normal copies. (*Illustration 217.*) On some specimens of the Sixpence stamp, e.g. those lettered $\frac{1}{6}d$, the dots, instead of being horizontal, are slanting.

Page 119.—In describing the first State of the Eightpence value, we said that the plate-number was placed above the eleventh stamp in the top row of the sheet, and below the second in the bottom row: the actual positions are above the last, and below the first. The sheet is correctly shown in the *Diagram*.



217



218



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Page 122.—To the *Remarks* at the top of this page it is of interest to add that Mr. L'Estrange Ewen chronicles a copy of the Ninepence, lettered **A.I.**, watermarked with Three Roses and a Shamrock, the English emblem having been substituted for that of Scotland.

Page 124.—The asterisk in the second line should have been placed after the word "straw" in the following line. It is in this colour only that stamps from Plate 5 of the Ninepence are known.

Pages 132, 133.—The date of the seventh issue of the One Shilling (red-brown on Large 1880 Crown paper) was given, on the authority of *The Philatelic Record*, as the 15th June, 1881. Through the courtesy of Mr. J. Reclaire, of Rotterdam, I have recently seen a registered envelope, on which is a copy of this stamp, postmarked the 24th May, 1881. There are, on the envelope, two other postmarks of the same date.

The issue may therefore be stated to have taken place in May, 1881.

Page 134.—As an alteration, consequent on the above, the last line of the *Synopsis* of the One Shilling issues should read "May, 1881.— . . ."

Page 153.—Under "*Remarks*," the last of the account-letters, commenced in April, 1884, on the sheets of the superseded One Penny (Die II.) purple, of 1881, was stated to be "**W**." One more letter, "**X**," has since appeared.

Whilst account-letter "**W**" was still in use, the space between the two panes of this value was filled in with forty-eight short vertical line-blocks, similar to those which appeared on the sheets of the Fourpence and other values; and the "Jubilee" line was continued across each end of the space, from pane to pane. This addition was made to ensure a more regular impression, and to obviate the large amount of "printer's waste," the rows of stamps immediately adjoining the central space being sometimes defective, owing to the sudden break in the printing surface. It was not, as has been suggested, to prevent fraudulent user of the strip of plain paper.

In a most interesting paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on November 22nd, 1901, by Mr. Frederick West, it is noted that two batches of this value, with the fourteen dots (Die I.), were printed, one in mauve, the other in pale lilac; and that, as regards the printing from the second die, with sixteen dots, the colours were light mauve-grey (a scarce colour), light and dark lilac, red-lilac and deep purple. The *Synopsis* should be amended accordingly, though the official colour, purple, given by us covers a multitude of shades and tones.

Page 160.—The word "*Plate*" was accidentally omitted from the commencement of the third line, in which is given the number of plates used for the printing of the One Shilling, green, of April, 1884.

Page 161.—In the latest printing of the Two Shillings & Sixpence, the space between the two panes was filled in with thirty-two vertical line-blocks as in the One Penny value; but there is no "Jubilee" line round the panes.

Page 162.—The later printings of the Five Shillings also show the vertical line-blocks between the panes. The final printing of this value

was crimson, and Mr. West, when reading the paper above referred to, showed an extreme in colour approaching a marone or crimson-lake tone. The *Synopsis* can be amended by adding these two colours. The asterisk in the second line of the *Synopsis* should be deleted.

Page 163.—The *Remarks* on the Ten Shillings value should now be supplemented, as in the case of the Half-crown value just mentioned.

Page 166.—The use of the Five Pounds has, since 1897, greatly diminished, there having been a decrease of nearly seventy per cent. in 1898, and the issue of this value has now been discontinued. The total issue of the Five Pounds amounts to 246,822 copies.

Page 167.—The third line from the bottom should now read, "FIRST ISSUE: 1st JANUARY, 1887," as the Halfpenny stamp originally issued on this date was subsequently changed in colour.

Page 168.—Insert after the *Remarks* on the lower part of the page as follows:—

SECOND ISSUE: 17th APRIL, 1900.

Date of Issue.—A Post Office Circular of the 27th March, 1900, announced: "A new Halfpenny stamp (green in colour) will be ready for issue to Postmasters, &c., on requisition, about the middle of April next. The new stamps should not be sold to any persons before the 17th April. On and after that day they may be sold, when specially asked for, at all the offices where they are in stock; but the existing stock of the present (red) halfpenny stamps should be disposed of at each post office before the new stamps are generally sold. . . ."

An early issue took place at Penryn on the 12th April, and at other places before the 17th, in consequence of the stock in red having become exhausted.

Design.—No alteration. (*Illustration 82.*)

Plate.—The plates, not being numbered, are uninteresting, and I have not attempted to ascertain how many were made.

(State.)—As in the first issue.

Paper.—The Large (1880) Crown.

Colour.—Varying shades and tones of green and blue-green.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—As before.

Remarks.—Account-letter "Q" was in use up to the end of the preceding issue, and all the printings in green were lettered "R."

Very shortly after the change of colour, the space between the panes was filled in, as in the case of the One Penny, purple, already described.

Add to the *Synopsis* (which should now have a sub-heading of "FIRST ISSUE") at the foot of this page:—

SECOND ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.

17th April, 1900.—One Halfpenny, green, blue-green (shades of both).

Page 170.—The later printings of the Twopence Halfpenny of 1887 show the vertical line-blocks between the panes, as in the One Penny value.

Page 171.—The first plate used for the Threepence of 1887 was no. 5, and not, as stated, no. 4. This value also shows, in the later printings, the line-blocks between the panes.

Page 173.—In the last but one of the marginal varieties of the Fourpence, the thin horizontal lines are in the space down the centre of the mill-sheet, and therefore appear on the right-hand side of one Post Office sheet, and on the left side of the other.

Page 174.—The description, in "*Remarks*" at the top of the page, of the margins of the sheets of the Fourpence Halfpenny should have been by reference to the last variety but *two* of the Fourpence value. (*Illustration 90.*)

A Post Office circular of April, 1900, announced that the issue of the Fourpence Halfpenny would cease on the exhaustion of the then stock in hand, and that no supplies would be sent out after the 31st August following.

In giving the date when the first plates of the bicoloured Fivepence were put to press, "1896" was inadvertently written for "1886." The error was obvious.

Page 175.—The fourteenth line should have commenced "Plates 3 and 4 . . ." Possibly further plates have since come into use, but, like those of the other values recently current, they are of no interest.

Under "*Paper*" it should now be stated that there are three distinct shades or tones of the red paper used for the Sixpence of 1887.

The vertical line-blocks appear, in the later printings, between the panes of the stamps of this value.

In discussing the *Plates* of the Ninepence, the 31 pairs should have been given as put to press and running from 5 to 35. Plates 1 to 4 belonged to the similar value issued in August, 1883.

Page 176.—The Ninepence and Tenpence stamps were, for some time before they were superseded, issued in full sheets of four panes, not in single panes of twenty as formerly.

The last, and additional, marginal variety of the Ninepence is similar to the last one of the Fourpence, the purple "Jubilee" line being broken at the corners of the panes, but the thin marginal lines being omitted.

Page 177.—The sub-heading to the One Shilling should now read "FIRST ISSUE: . . .".

To "*Remarks*" add that the later printings of this value had the "Jubilee" line round the panes.

Insert, just before the *Synopsis*—

SECOND ISSUE: 11th JULY, 1900.

Date of Issue.—The Post Office circular of 27th March, 1900, after announcing the change of colour in the Halfpenny value, continued :—

"A new One Shilling bicoloured postage and revenue stamp will also be issued about Midsummer next, when the stock of the present single-coloured One Shilling stamp will be becoming exhausted. The stock of the present One Shilling stamps should be sold out; but, as these stamps bear a considerable resemblance to the new green half-penny stamps, and as these two kinds of stamps will for some period to come be on sale together, care must be taken to prevent mistakes. A further announcement will be made, stating when the Shilling stamp will be ready for issue."

The bicoloured Shilling was issued on the 11th July following.

Design.—As before. (*Illustration 96.*)

Plates.—I am not aware how many pairs of plates have been made or used for this issue.

(State.)—There was no change, except that the marginal ornaments were omitted. The *imprimatur* sheet was registered on the 12th April, 1900. (*See Diagram N.*)

Paper.—The Large (1880) Crown paper, as before. (*Diagram N.*)

Colours.—The central portion, including the inscriptions, was in green, and the frame in scarlet, varying to carmine—shades of both.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—The sheets were divided into two panes, before being despatched to Somerset House from the printers.

Each pane was surrounded by two Jubilee lines, the inner being carmine and the outer one green. The latter was broken at each corner.

To the *Synopsis*, which should now have a sub-heading of "FIRST ISSUE.", add:—

SECOND ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.

11th July, 1900.—One Shilling, green and scarlet to carmine (shades and tones of both).

It should be noted that the hexagonal marginal ornaments, indicating where the sheets of certain values were to be divided into £1 sheets, were omitted from about 1899, when the Post Office sheets were either half-sheets of 120 stamps, or entire sheets of 240.

Page 179.—In describing, at the foot of this page, the Foul Anchor paper used for some of the fiscal stamps admitted to postal uses, the dimensions given were not quite accurate. The height of the sheet was 709½ mm. (27½ inches), and of the pane of stamps 676½ mm. (26½ inches).

Page 181.—The Foul Anchor paper, as used for the earliest printing of the first issue of the One Penny Inland Revenue stamp of May, 1860, was similar to that described on page 179, the watermarked words "*Penny Duties*" not being omitted until later.

Page 184.—There is an error in the third issue of the One Penny Inland Revenue stamp of September, 1867. The last plate, no. 120, was discarded on the 5th October, not the 12th July, of 1878.

Page 190.—We now come to the embossed fiscal stamps available, until recently, for postal purposes; and it was from this series that I was accused, by a gentleman holding a very high position at Somerset House, of having omitted a value, viz. THE ONE SHILLING & SIXPENCE.

It is true, as was pointed out to me, that the official archives contain an impression from a die of this value, struck on paper previously overprinted "INLAND REVENUE" in green, the date, as indicated by the plugs, being the same as that on which the first-issued values of this series were registered. I would point out, however, that most, if not all, of these dies were used (on paper suitably overprinted) for many specific duties, as well as for the comprehensive one of "Inland Revenue"; and that, as impressions for registration must be struck on some kind of paper, it was only natural that the paper most extensively used should be selected.

Although I could not find any other record of such an Inland Revenue stamp, I made careful inquiries of two of my official friends. One had, in a private note-book, marked this value "? issued," and the other possessed a full record of the quarterly issues of these embossed Inland Revenue stamps, from their creation early in 1860 up to the end of 1871, but there was not any mention of an Eighteenpenny value.

In view of the above, I am not disposed to admit this value, unless and until a copy, other than the one in the archives, is forthcoming.

Pages 192, 193.—The various dies of these embossed fiscals were registered as follows:—The Threepence, the Sixpence, and the One Shilling & Sixpence on the 4th April, 1860; the One Shilling, the Two Shillings, and the Two Shillings & Sixpence on the 27th September, 1860; and the Twopence and Ninepence on the 20th December, 1870.

In the fifth line of the seventh issue, under "*Synopsis*," there is an error. Impressions from Die E only of the One Shilling, vermilion, on the Orb paper, are known.

Page 197.—To the overprints, used for appropriating postage stamps to the various Government Departments, add:—

(v.) "BOARD
OF
EDUCATION", which indicates its use.

Page 198.—To the list of stamps overprinted "I.R. OFFICIAL" add, at the top of this page, as follows:—

To "C."—Of the issues of 1887-91:—

(b1) The Sixpence.

And below these:—

D.—Of the issue of 1900:—

(a) The One Halfpenny: and

(b) The One Shilling.

Page 200.—Between the Twopence Halfpenny and the One Shilling, insert :—

(br) THE SIXPENCE.

ISSUE : AUGUST, 1901.

Description.—The Sixpence, purple on red, of 1887, was overprinted as above, under a warrant of the 5th June, 1901, and the stamp came into use early in the following July. (*Illustration* 218.)

Remarks.—The large supply of the greenish-grey Sixpence of 1882 would have rendered unnecessary the overprinting of the Sixpence of 1887, if it had not been demonetised by a notice in the *London Gazette*, to which reference is made *infra*: 500 sheets, or 120,000 stamps, were overprinted.

Just before the *Synopsis* of the "I.R. Official" stamps, add :—

(D) STAMPS OF 1900.

(a) THE ONE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE : APRIL, 1901.

Description.—This stamp, issued in green on the 17th April, 1900, was overprinted in pursuance of a warrant dated the 16th June following, and its earliest date of use known to me is in the above month. (*Illustration* 139.)

(b) THE ONE SHILLING.

ISSUE : DECEMBER, 1901.

Description.—On the 18th October, 1901, instructions were given to overprint the One Shilling, green and scarlet, issued in July, 1900, and it appears to have come into use towards the end of the year. (*Illustration* 141.)

Remarks.—The total creation of this stamp was 10 entire sheets, or 2,400 stamps.

There are two distinct types of the "I.R. OFFICIAL" overprint—one thin, the other thick.

Both the thin and thick overprints are to be found on three stamps—the Halfpenny, vermilion (of 1887); the One Penny, purple (of December, 1881); and the One Shilling, green (of 1887).

Page 201.—Insert in the *Synopsis* of these stamps, after the word "Halfpenny" in the second line: "and red for the Sixpence"; and between the fifth and sixth lines :—

July, 1901.—Sixpence, purple (shades) on red paper.

At the end of this *Synopsis* add :—

(d) STAMPS OF 1901.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted in black.

April, 1901.—One Halfpenny, green (shades).

December, 1901.—One Shilling, green and scarlet (slight shades).

Page 203.—To the preliminary list of stamps, overprinted "GOVT PARCELS," add :—

E.—Of the issue of 1900 :—

The One Shilling.

Page 205.—Add before the *Synopsis* :—

(E) A STAMP OF 1900.

THE ONE SHILLING.

ISSUE : APRIL, 1901.

Description.—The bicoloured One Shilling, issued in 1900, was, under warrant of 13th October, 1900, overprinted for the prepayment of official parcels, and appears to have been first used in the following April. (*Illustration* 151.)

Remarks.—The overprint was applied to 150 sheets, or 36,000 stamps. At the foot of the page add :—

(e) A STAMP OF 1900.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; perforated 14 ; overprinted in black.

April, 1901. One Shilling, green and scarlet (slight shades).

Page 206.—The list of stamps overprinted "O.W. OFFICIAL" should now read :—

Only four values were issued ; they are :—

A.—Of the issues of 1881-90 :—

(a) The One Halfpenny :

(b) The One Penny :

(c) The Fivepence : and

(d) The Tenpence.

B.—Of the issue of 1900 :—

The One Halfpenny.

The heading to the issues should be altered to :—

(A) STAMPS OF 1881-90.

After the One Penny, "O.W. Official," add :—

(c) THE FIVEPENACE.

ISSUE : MAY, 1902.

Description.—The Fivepence, originally issued in January, 1887, was overprinted in April, 1902, and was put into circulation shortly afterwards. (*Illustration* 219.)

Remarks.—Of this value only 50 sheets, or 12,000 stamps, were overprinted.

(d) THE TENPENCE.

ISSUE: JUNE, 1902.

Description.—The then current stamp of this value, first issued in February, 1890, was overprinted in May, 1902, and a supply at once forwarded to the Office of Works. (*Illustration* 220.)

Remarks.—The creation was very small—only 10 sheets, or 800 stamps—and the stamp is difficult to obtain, especially in an unused condition.

(B) A STAMP OF 1900.
THE ONE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE: APRIL, 1902.

Description.—On the 23rd October, 1901, a warrant was signed for the overprinting of the One Halfpenny value, then being issued in green. (*Illustration* 152.)

Remarks.—Of this stamp 25 sheets, or 6,000 stamps, were issued.

The *Synopsis* should now read:—

(a) STAMPS OF 1881–90.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted "O.W. OFFICIAL" in black.

March, 1896.—One Halfpenny, vermilion-red (shades).

One Penny (Die II.), purple (shades).

May, 1902.—Fivepence, purple and blue.

June, 1902.—Tenpence, purple and carmine.

(b) A STAMP OF 1900.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted in black.

April, 1902. One Halfpenny, green.

Page 207.—To the list of the various stamps overprinted "ARMY OFFICIAL" add:—

(d) The Sixpence.

B.—Of the issue of 1900:—

The One Halfpenny.

Page 208.—Just before the *Synopsis* of these stamps insert:—

(d) THE SIXPENCE.

ISSUE: JUNE, 1901.

Description.—The Sixpence of 1887, in purple, on red Large (1880) Crown paper, was thus overprinted, under a warrant dated the 11th June,

1901, and the stamp was issued towards the end of that month. (*Illustration 221.*)

Remarks.—Three very distinct shades of the paper are known, and the impression also varies.

(B) A STAMP OF 1900.
THE ONE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE: MAY, 1900.

Description.—The One Halfpenny, green, of April, 1900, was overprinted "**ARMY OFFICIAL**," and issued in this month. (*Illustration 155.*)

The second line of the *Synopsis* should now read:—"Paper (blue for the Twopence Halfpenny and varying shades of red for the highest value) . . ."; and the following should be added:—

June, 1901.—Sixpence, purple (shades).

(b) A STAMP OF 1900.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted "**ARMY OFFICIAL**" in black.

April, 1900.—One Halfpenny, green (shades).

There are two distinct types of this overprint—one thick, the other thin; both are found on the Halfpenny, vermilion, and the One Penny.

As mentioned previously, a fifth overprint has come into use since the main work was published, and those stamps, with head of Her late Majesty, so overprinted, are comprised in:—

SECTION V.

Postage Stamps overprinted "**BOARD OF EDUCATION.**"

These stamps, as their overprint indicates, were for the use of the Board of Education. Six values were issued, of which only the highest two concern us, viz. :—

Of the issues of 1887–1900:—

(a) The Fivepence.

(b) The One Shilling.

STAMPS OF 1887–1900.

(a) THE FIVEPENNY.

ISSUE: FEBRUARY, 1902.

Description.—The lower of these two values was the Fivepenny, purple and blue, first issued in 1887, its overprinting being under a warrant of the 28th January, 1902. (*Illustration 222.*)

Remarks.—The creation amounted to 275 sheets, or 66,000 stamps, of which only 23 sheets, or 5,520 stamps, were issued, the remainder being destroyed.

(b) THE ONE SHILLING.

ISSUE: FEBRUARY, 1902.

Description.—This was the bicoloured stamp of July, 1900, overprinted in pursuance of the above warrant of the 28th January, 1902. (*Illustration 223.*)

Remarks.—Of the One Shilling only 10 sheets, or 2,400 stamps, were issued, out of a total creation of $137\frac{1}{2}$ sheets, or 33,000 stamps, the balance being cancelled.

SYNOPSIS.

STAMPS OF 1887-90.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted "**BOARD OF EDUCATION**" in black.

February, 1902.—Fivepence, purple and blue.

One Shilling, green and scarlet.

Pages 210, 211.—The only addition to the stamps surcharged for use in the Ottoman Empire is in the nature of an error. In the early part of 1902 the then current Forty Paras (on the Twopence Halfpenny of 1887) was found with a double surcharge. (*Illustration 224.*) The necessary insertion must be made on the first page, also in the *Synopsis* on the next.

I notice a slip in the third and fourth lines from the bottom of *page 210*, and in the last line on *page 211*: "March" should, of course, be "February."

Page 232.—In the eleventh line insert the word "or" between "**SIX**" and "**EIGHT.**"

Page 238.—We should have given, under the "*Description*" of the "Army Telegraph" stamps, details of the Two Shillings & Sixpence, a value not included in the preceding Section on the "Military Telegraph" stamps. This value is similar to those described in paragraph II. on *page 232*, the inscriptions being "**TWO SHILLINGS**" above, and "**AND SIX PENCE**" below.

In October, 1899, a further value was issued, viz. the Five Pounds. The stamp is similar to the One Pound, the inscriptions being "**FIVE**" above, and "**POUNDS**" below. (*Illustration 225.*) The overprint is in green.

The vermilion-red One Halfpenny was, in due course, superseded by a similar stamp printed in green, which was overprinted for this service under a warrant dated 9th August, 1901. The type of this overprint differs from that on the vermilion Halfpenny. (*Illustration 226.*)

Mr. L'Estrange Ewen chronicled, in May, 1900, the Five Shillings surcharged, in large purple Roman capitals, "ONE SHILLING," in two lines; and added that the stamp, which appeared to be a local production, was used in South Africa early in 1900.

To the *Remarks* it may be added that the then current values of these stamps were used at the army manœuvres of 1899, and in the Boer War.

Of the Five Pounds value only 10 sheets, or 600 stamps, were printed.

Add to the *Synopsis* at foot of this page:—

THIRD ISSUE.

Fiscal paper watermarked with an Orb; perforated $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$; overprinted "ARMY TELEGRAPHS."

October, 1899.—Five Pounds, purple.

FOURTH ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted as above.

September, 1901.—One Halfpenny, green (shades).

PROVISIONAL.

The Five Shillings surcharged, in purple, with new value.

1900 (early in).—One Shilling on Five Shillings, green.

Page 249.—The *Remarks* as to the printings from Plate 4 of the Three-pence, surface-printed, should read:—

35,495 on Heraldic Emblems, and 18,005 on Spray of Rose.

Page 251.—I think there must be a mistake as to the dates on which it is stated that the *imprimatur* sheets from Plates 13 and 14, of the surface-printed One Shilling, were struck, in red-brown, on the Large (1880) Crown paper. They should apparently be "4.1.81" for Plate 13, and "21.10.81" for Plate 14.

All the British postage and telegraph stamps bearing the head of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria have now been duly chronicled; all, except some few of the officially overprinted series, are obsolete; and the philatelic Victorian era, after enduring for sixty-two years, is practically a matter of history.

In conclusion, I reprint, from the *London Gazette* of 19th April, 1901, the following:—

STAMP DUTIES.

THE Commissioners of Inland Revenue in pursuance of section twenty-two of the Stamp Duties Management Act, 1891, as amended by section ten of the Revenue Act, 1898, hereby give notice that the use of the dies from which the covers and envelopes used for denoting duties of postage at the rates of one penny and two pence and commonly called or known as the Mulready Covers and Envelopes have hereto-

fore been printed, and also of the dies referred to in the schedule hereunder written from which adhesive stamps have heretofore been printed for denoting certain duties of postage and of Inland Revenue, has been discontinued, and that on and after the first day of June, one thousand nine hundred and one, those dies will not be lawful dies for denoting the payment of any duty, and that the duties of postage and of Inland Revenue for which those dies have hitherto been available may and shall, on and after that day, be expressed and denoted only by the dies provided in lieu thereof, which are now in general use for denoting the said duties by adhesive stamps, as in the first part of the schedule mentioned.—Dated this 19th day of April, 1901.

By order of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue,
H. F. Bartlett, Assistant-Secretary.

The SCHEDULE above referred to.

FIRST PART.

Dies for denoting Duties of Postage as follows, of which some have since the passing of the Acts 44 and 45 Vict. c. 12, and 45 and 46 Vict. c. 72, been available for denoting also Duties of Inland Revenue.

Duty.	Dies Discontinued.
1. The duty of one penny	All dies in use previously to those used for the stamps now in general use for denoting this duty, which stamps are printed with the words "Postage and Inland Revenue" thereon and were first issued on the 13th day of December, 1881
2. The duties of one halfpenny, of one penny halfpenny, of two pence, of two pence halfpenny, of three pence, of four pence, of five pence, of six pence, of nine pence, and of one shilling	All dies in use previously to those used for the stamps now in general use for denoting these duties, which stamps are printed with the words "Postage and Revenue" thereon and were first issued on the 1st day of January, 1887
3. The duty of tenpence	All dies in use previously to those used for the stamps now in general use for denoting this duty, which stamps are printed with the words "Postage and Revenue" thereon and were first issued on the 22nd day of February, 1890
4. The duties of five shillings, of ten shillings, and of one pound	All dies in use previously to those used for the stamps now in general use for denoting these duties, which stamps were first issued on the first day of April, 1884
5. The duties payable in respect of the transmission of telegrams	All dies appropriated by words on the face of them to duties payable in respect of the transmission of telegrams.

SECOND PART.

Dies for denoting Duties of Inland Revenue as follows, of which some have since the passing of the Acts 44 and 45 Vict. c. 12, and 45 and 46 Vict. c. 72, been available for denoting also Duties of Postage.

Duty.	Dies Discontinued.
1. The duty of one penny	All dies appropriated by words on the face of them to the duties payable on (1) Receipts, (2) Drafts or Orders for the payment of money to bearer or to order on demand, and also all dies in use previously to the 13th December, 1881, having the words "Inland Revenue" thereon.
2. The duties of two pence, of three pence, of six pence, of nine pence, of one shilling, of one shilling and sixpence, of two shillings, and of two shillings and sixpence	All dies in use previously to the 1st day of January, 1887, having the words "Inland Revenue" thereon.

By this the first demonetisation of British stamps was effected; and when it is remembered how many varieties of the different values were formerly available for postal purposes, it is somewhat a matter for surprise that such a state of affairs should have been permitted for so long.

The Notice is by no means perfect. As regards the lately current One Penny, purple, it demonetised all impressions, except those issued on or after the 13th December, 1881, thus including those from Die I. No mention is made of the Eightpence and Two Shillings values.

Some of the fiscal stamps authorised to be used for postage are from dies described as having "Inland Revenue" thereon; but, as is well known, the only inscription was the value, the impressions being struck on paper previously overprinted with those words.

The mythical One Shilling & Sixpence, embossed fiscal, is solemnly demonetised!

