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Stamp Collecting Notes

BY

W. S. LINCOLN.

ILLUSTRATED WITH OVER 540 ENGRAVINGS OF STAMPS, WATERMARKS, &c

SECOND EDITION.



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PREFACE

TO SECOND EDITION OF

STAMP COLLECTING NOTES.

The success of the First Edition of this Book has induced me to publish a second one, and to add other notes of interest to the collector, at the same time introducing several illustrations of stamps, watermarks, etc., that will make the work more comprehensive to the reader.

This little book is not intended in any way to compete with or supersede the many admirable works on stamp collecting produced by learned members of the Philatelic Societies. All such works, however, so bristle with technical expressions, that, of a necessity, they appeal to a very limited class.

For years past the conviction has been forcing itself upon me that something is needed which will appeal to a much wider constituency: something which, although dealing with all the salient features of what is, perhaps, the most fascinating hobby in the world, will yet be couched in language comprehensible to any schoolboy of average intelligence.

To that end I have compiled this little book. It was as far back as 1854 that I commenced a collection of postage stamps. Since then some millions must have passed through my hands, but whereas I have compiled my numerous catalogues as a stamp dealer, it is rather as a stamp collector that I have written the present work, and to my fellow collectors throughout the English speaking world I respectfully dedicate it.

WILLIAM S. LINCOLN

CHAPTER I.

ON STAMP COLLECTING IN GENERAL.



It is a simple truism to say that philately, or to use the more homely and expressive phrase, stamp collecting, is by far the most popular of all hobbies. In the smallest provincial towns, whether in Great Britain or abroad, just as here in the world's metropolis, enthusiastic collectors may be found. This is demonstrated by the fact that it would be almost impossible to find a town, however unimportant, either in Europe or America, where foreign postage stamps are not exposed for sale.

Not so many years ago, stamp collectors were regarded generally at best as harmless cranks. Nowadays, so far from being merely a frivolous mode of whiling away odd moments, stamp collecting is universally recognised as a study requiring patience, care, and intelligence. As such it attracts members of all the learned professions. Indeed, the number of lawyers who are enthusiastic philatelists, is quite phenomenal. And stamp collecting is by no means confined to any one class of society. Prosperous city merchants are often as keen in the pursuit of rare specimens, as their own junior clerks. Many of the best collections are owned by members of the nobility, even Royalty itself does not disdain the hobby. The late Tzar

of Russia was an indefatigable collector; so was the late Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. H.R.H. George, Prince of Wales too, possesses a valuable collection, and Pope Leo XIII. is also an enthusiast.

Of course these great ones of the earth have in many cases spent fabulous sums in perfecting their collections. With care and judgment, however, it is possible to obtain a valuable collection at quite a modest outlay, and one which, should necessity to part with it ever arise, may be relied upon to realise more than it originally cost. In this respect, stamp collecting is unique among hobbies. The value of old china, old lace, old paintings, and old silver, constantly fluctuates. Many a cabinet of old china, brought together when the æsthetic movement was at its height, would now barely fetch one half the sum it originally cost.

Now and again, of course, an old drawer is turned out, and perhaps a dozen or twenty letters, each bearing a particular foreign stamp, are discovered therein. If it should happen that comparatively few specimens of the stamp in question were known to be in existence, these dozen or twenty coming into the market may to a certain extent affect the price of the stamp. For this reason, whenever hereafter in these pages mention is made of the value of a stamp, we propose only giving its approximate sale price, and qualifying the same with the word "about."



FIG. 1.



FIG. 2.

However to one case of a stamp decreasing in value, there are on record at least a hundred instances of the value of

stamps greatly increasing. As one example among many, in a catalogue we issued in 1873, the one penny (red) triangular stamp (Fig. 1) struck at the Cape of Good Hope in 1861, was priced at half-a-crown. Now it is worth several pounds. Let it be distinctly understood that this refers solely to the stamp generally known as a "wood block." It really was printed from a copper plate, but so roughly executed that collectors generally concluded it was from a woodcut. The ordinary issue (Fig. 2), similar in size and colour, is still comparatively common. It is necessary to mention this, as it is a curious fact that whenever the newspapers record the sale at a good price of any rare stamp, every stamp dealer of note receives numberless letters containing stamps bearing some distant resemblance to the rare one sold. The likeness is often very distant, as the descriptions of stamps sold at auction, as vouchsafed by the ordinary press, are necessarily meagre and often inaccurate. Nevertheless, no matter how common or hopelessly mutilated the specimens sent may be, the worthy possessors ask enormous prices for them and are disappointed, sometimes even angry, when told their treasures are practically worthless.

If a dealer's correspondents are sometimes an occasion of mild worry to him, some of his callers are far more troublesome. For example, a specimen of the half-anna Indian stamp of 1854, red in colour, fetched £10 in the open market. Immediately on this fact being chronicled, every dealer was besieged by retired East Indian officers, or their widows, their sisters, their cousins, or their aunts, all bearing in triumph old letters from India with either half-anna *blue* (Fig. 3) stamps on, or one anna, red.



FIG. 8.

In the former instance their stamps were worth about a shilling each, in the latter about sixpence. In either case their owners retired crestfallen and chagrined.

Sometimes all the persuasion in the world will not convince would-be vendors that their specimens are not of priceless value, and that all the dealers have not conspired together to defraud them. One charming young lady in particular, left me with the remark, "Perhaps its not quite the same, but its much prettier than the nasty old thing you've got in your window marked up £2 10s., so there now"; which was cutting and undoubtedly true. Artistic beauty, however, by no means governs the value of a stamp. Of course, stamp collecting has its artistic, just as it has its historical and its geographical side, and it will be from these and from many other points of view that philately will be considered in the following pages.



CHAPTER II.

ON HISTORY AS EXEMPLIFIED BY POSTAGE STAMPS.



THE first postage stamp ever issued saw the light in 1840, this was the black English penny stamp which has not yet attained a high value. A variety struck with the initials V.R. in the upper corners is, however, exceedingly scarce. This is somewhat remarkable, as it is doubtful

whether the stamp was ever issued other than as an essay. That it was intended for use in a limited sense by the government of the day, the following extract from an official notice of May 7th, 1840, by the then Secretary to the Post Office clearly demonstrates: "I also enclose for your information two specimens of the label stamps 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.

(Signed) W. L. MABERLY,

Secretary."

Since 1840 history has been made very rapidly, and postage stamps have faithfully chronicled each change in the form of government of every civilised state.

To prove this we have only to glance at the stamps emanating from our next-door neighbours, France. The

first set issued in that country was in 1849. It consisted of six varieties, progressing in value from ten centimes to a



franc; stamps of the latter value, by the bye, being found in three tints—lake, carmine, and orange. All alike bear the head of “Liberty,” and are inscribed “Repub Franc.” In December, 1851, after three years’ struggle with the Assembly, Louis Napoléon brought matters to a climax by his famous *coup d’état*, and was elected Prince President of the Republic. Early the following year



we find two stamps appearing, bearing a similar inscription to the previous ones, but in place of the head of Liberty that of Louis Napoléon is shewn. Another year passes, the form of government in France has again changed, and the inscription on the postage stamps is accordingly altered. “Repub.” disappears and in its place is shewn the proud word “Empire.”

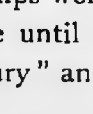
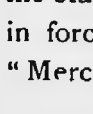


Ten years go by; the Emperor is in the zenith of his power, and a new set of stamps is issued, shewing his Imperial Majesty crowned with the hero’s laurels.

Seven more years elapse, and the sun of Napoléon III. has sunk for ever at Sedan. Once more the head of Liberty is blazoned on the stamps. Again “Repub.” appears in place of “Empire.” The



first stamps issued by the newly formed Republic were somewhat rough, being only lithographed and not perforated. No wonder, for they were struck when Paris was besieged. In 1871



the stamps were better executed. These remained in force until 1876, when “Liberty” gave way to “Mercury” and “Commerce.”



For a still more varied record of governmental changes exemplified in philately we must turn to Spain. The first



postage stamps issued in the Peninsula appeared in 1850. From that date until 1868 a bewildering variety came out, differing in value and in colours, but all alike bearing portraits of Queen Isabella II, except two struck in 1854, on which are shewn the arms of Madrid, and seven issued the same year shewing the arms of Spain.



The reign of Queen Isabella was brought to an end by the Revolution of September, 1868, a Republic proclaimed, and in 1870 a set of stamps was issued bearing a front faced head of "Liberty."



The Spanish people, however, soon tired of a Republic and for a while the ancient throne of Spain went begging. At one time it was thought that a German prince would be appointed, and this was, of course, the immediate cause of the Franco-German war. At last Prince Amadeus of Italy,



was fixed upon, and accordingly, in 1872, a set of stamps was brought forth bearing his portrait. For a few stormy months Amadeus reigned as King, but he was acceptable to

nobody. The adherents alike of Don Carlos and Isabella looked upon him as an usurper, the Republicans objected to a king of any kind, and the clergy, all powerful in Spain, never forgot he was the son of Victor Emmanuel, whose treatment of Pope Pius IX. they resented. So the reign of King Amadeus was soon brought to an inglorious end and a Republic once more proclaimed. An issue of stamps was



produced by the Republican government in 1873, whereon "Liberty" was shewn seated, bearing an olive leaf in her right hand, her left arm resting on a shield. The following year these stamps were

superseded by a set which, in lieu of "Liberty" bore a representation of "Justice." Why the change was made is not very obvious. The stamps were



no improvement upon their predecessors in appearance, both sets being coarsely executed, and no Spanish Republic has yet been conspicuous for its love of either liberty or justice.



On the last day of the year 1874 the monarchy was restored under Alphonso XII., son of the exiled Queen Isabella, and stamps with his portrait on them, front face and facing both left and right, were in use not merely until his death on November 25th, 1885, but until 1889, when stamps came out displaying the likeness of the posthumous son of

Alphonso XII., who was born on May 17th, 1886, to the style and title of His Most Catholic Majesty, the King of Spain. The portrait of the youthful King Alphonso XIII., is now on the stamps hailing from Spain (first in 1889 as an infant 3 years old, and in 1900, when 14 years old).



Of the stamps issued by Don Carlos it will be more appropriate to speak under another heading, but no mention



of Spanish stamps would be complete without reference to the special War Tax stamps issued from 1874 to 1879. These were produced with a view to covering some of the expenses of the civil war then raging. All letters had to bear one of these stamps in addition to the ordinary ones. They bore the inscription "Impuesto de Guerra," and varied in value from five centimos to five pesetas.



The neighbouring kingdom of Portugal, although it has had a far less chequered political career than Spain during the last half-century, has been ruled over by no less than four sovereigns:—Maria II., Pedro V., Louis, and Charles. The Portuguese stamps have in turn given portraits of each.

But for really dramatic history portrayed in postage stamps it is necessary to turn from the pages of an album

devoted to Europe to those allotted to America. There the Mexican issues tell one of the most tragic stories the modern world has known. The first stamps used in Mexico were



struck in 1856, and displayed the portrait of Juárez, although he was not actually elected President of Mexico until 1861. From 1853 he was for years engaged in a struggle for the Presidency, and during the fights between the adherents of President Zuloaga and the followers of Juárez the losses sustained by European residents in Mexico were enormous. Many of the European residents were Frenchmen, and Napoléon III. demanded compensation for the losses they had sustained. This demand Juárez refused to comply with, whereupon the Emperor of the French sent troops to overthrow him. The French occupied Mexico, and in 1863 and the following year issued the "Mexican Eagle" set of stamps. Maximilian, brother of the Emperor of Austria, was, by the French, proclaimed



Emperor of Mexico, and stamps bearing his portrait followed. In the struggle to maintain his position, Maximilian was defeated, and, by command of Juárez, shot in June, 1867. Juárez then caused himself to be re-elected President of Mexico, when stamps appeared with his portrait similar to those of 1856 and 1861. In 1879 President Díaz was elected, and an issue of stamps bearing his portrait was brought out.



Brazil, too, has undergone a change in the form of its government, and the fact has been duly shewn on its postage stamps. From 1843 to 1866 the stamps used in the Brazilian Empire were simple in the extreme. They were



mostly black, the only exceptions being the 280 reis, which was red, the 430 reis, which was orange, and the two newspaper stamps, which were blue. As to inscription they boasted none whatever, and their values were simply shewn



in large white numerals. After this a more interesting set was circulated, displaying the head of the Emperor, Dom Pedro II., and His Majesty's portrait

graced nearly all the stamps until his deposition in 1889, after a reign of 58 years. Since then several varieties have been issued by the present Republic.

These are only a few examples of many that could be quoted, showing how history is illustrated in philately. There is another way in which history has occasionally been exemplified on postage stamps, but that can better be dealt with under a separate heading.



CHAPTER III.

ON COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMPS.



THE stamps referred to in the last chapter all chronicled contemporary history. This chapter, on the other hand, will be confined to the consideration of stamps struck to commemorate great historical events of the past.

The first purely commemorative stamps issued were the two large shield shaped envelope stamps brought out by our American cousins in 1876, in celebration of the centenary of the

Declaration of Independence, which was signed in 1776.

They bore the inscription "1776—1876," and as a design shewed a mail carrier on a pony, and a railway train. The mail carrier on a pony was a representation of the "pony post" by which letters were conveyed across the



American continent before the railway was completed. Fresh carriers were ready at certain points duly mounted, the mail bag was slung from the carrier whose journey had ceased to the one about to start, and consequently the mails were carried with no delay whatever.

Seventeen years later the United States issued a set of large oblong stamps to commemorate the four hundredth anniversary of the Discovery of America. That event, of



course, occurred in 1492, and the stamps, although issued in 1893, bore the inscription "1492—1892." The set consisted of eighteen varieties, each depicting a notable event in the career of Columbus. In variety of design and beauty of execution, this set was the finest produced by any State.



The same year four large envelope stamps were issued in the States, shewing the heads of Columbus and "Liberty." There are varieties of these with, and without a stop after the word "America." also some have two, others three longitudinal lines at the back of the portrait of Columbus.

But Columbus discovered America—not the United States—and several of the Central and South American Governments duly recorded the fact by issuing commemorative stamps of their own. These were, generally speaking, quite equal in design and colouring to those issued by the United States, being only inferior in number and completeness.



The commemorative stamps produced by the Argentine Republic were two in number, and were used only on October 12th, 1892, to commemorate the Discovery of America exactly four hundred years before. They were very fine examples of engraving by the "Compania Sud-Americana de billetes de banco. Buenos Aires."

The same year Honduras brought out eleven ordinary and four envelope stamps, on all of which Columbus was depicted



sighting land. Nicaragua, too, recorded the same event on ten ordinary and five envelope stamps.



Venezuela's contribution to the philatelic records of the great event, was a finely executed stamp to the value of twenty-five centimos, magenta in colour, and similar in general design to the commemorative set issued by the United States. As it bore the inscription "1492—1892; Descubrimiento de la costa firme, 1498," and as it did not make its appearance until 1893, chronologically speaking it had its little eccentricities.



The small Central American Republic of Salvador has issued three sets of commemoration stamps. The first came out in 1892, and consisted of ten varieties, all depicting the landing of Columbus. The second set which was issued in 1893, consisted of three very handsome stamps, larger than the ordinary size; 2 pesos (green); 5 pesos (violet); and 10 pesos (orange). The first named shewed Columbus landing at the spot he called Isabella, in honour of the Queen of Spain; the second bore a picture of the famous Monument

to Columbus at Genoa ; and the third illustrates Columbus starting from Palos, a headland near Huelva, in Spain. It is upon Palos that the monastery of *La Rabida* stands where the great explorer was fitted up, and from whence he was sent on his perilous adventure.



In 1894, these stamps were superseded by three oblong ones of similar values, but differing in colour, being blue, lake, and brown respectively. These are also singularly beautiful specimens of the engravers' art. The 2 pesos variety shews Columbus before the Council ; the 5 pesos depicts him protecting the hostages ; and the 10 pesos portrays his reception by the King and Queen of Spain.



Porto Rico was discovered by Christopher Columbus on November 19th, 1493. In 1893 a very handsome stamp was issued to commemorate the 400th anniversary. On his third voyage, 1498, Columbus discovered Trinidad ; his landing is the subject of the design of a stamp issued in 1898, copied from a stained glass window which was in the Government House and destroyed by fire during the riots of 1903.

On the same journey Grenada was discovered, and in 1898 a stamp with picture of the flag-ship "Concepcion" in which Columbus sailed, was issued to commemorate the event.

Vasco de Gama made important discoveries; of this we are reminded by a fine series of stamps issued by Portugal



in 1898 :—His embarkation from the river Tagus, his flagship St. Raphael, and arrival at Calicut (Madras Presidency) in 1498.



The discovery of Brazil in 1500, by Pedro Alvarez de Cabral, a Portuguese navigator, was commemorated in 1900 by four stamps.



If in 1776, as brought to memory by the first commemorative stamps referred to in this chapter, Great Britain lost a considerable part of North America, twelve years later she found a mighty colony in Australasia. It was in 1770 that Captain Cook discovered New South Wales, but it was not till 1788 that it was actually colonised. Accordingly, in 1888 we find a series of stamps from that Colony celebrating its hundredth birthday. Of the eight comprised in the set, the 4d. and £1 stamps are perhaps the most interesting. The former bears a portrait of Captain Cook; the latter boasts two portraits, a picture of Captain Arthur Phillips gracing the upper portion, and one of Lord Carrington the lower portion of the stamp. Captain Phillips, it may be noted, was the first Governor of the Colony, and Lord Carrington held that post in 1888.

Newfoundland issued a handsome set of stamps in 1897, to commemorate the discovery of that part of the continent by Cabot four hundred years before, and in one out of the fourteen stamps comprising the set, to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Each stamp bore a separate design, with an explanatory description underneath. The values, colours, and inscriptions, were as follows:—



- 1 cent (green). "Our Queen. Sixtieth year of her reign."
 2 cents (lake). "Cabot. 'Hym that found the new Isle.'"
 3 " (blue). "Cape Bonavista. The land fall of Cabot."
 4 " (sage). "Caribou hunting. Newfoundland sport."
 5 " (violet). "Mining. One of the Colony's resources."



- 6 cents (brown). "Logging. One of the Colony's resources."
 8 " (orange). "Fishing. One of the Colony's resources."
 10 " (sepia). "Cabot's ship, the 'Matthew,' leaving the Avon."
 12 " (indigo). "Ptarmigan. Newfoundland sport."



- 15 cents (vermilion). "One of the Colony's resources." (Seals).
 24 " (purple). "Salmon fishing. Newfoundland sport."
 30 " (slate). "Seal of the Colony. Fishermen bringing gifts to Britannia."
 35 " (red) "Coast scenery. An Iceberg off St. John's."
 60 " (black) "Henry VII., who granted charter to Cabot to discover new lands."

The entire set is beautifully executed, and does undoubtedly credit to the American Bank Note Company of New York, which Company has produced them.



Loyal Canada duly celebrated Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee by producing a handsome set of sixteen double-headed stamps, rising in value from half-a-cent to five dollars, shewing the Queen as she was in 1837 and as she was in 1897. The number issued of each value varied considerably; whereas 20,000,000 of the 3 cents stamp were produced, only 150,000 of the half-cent stamp were issued, so there is every probability of the latter becoming rare in time.



Shanghai is another British settlement that has indulged in the luxury of a commemorative stamp. After the war with China in 1841, a Treaty of Peace was signed on August 29th, 1842, whereby China agreed to open five ports to British trade, Canton, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo, and Shanghai, but it was not until 1843 that the ratification of the treaty of peace was proclaimed. In 1893, therefore, a Jubilee 2 cent stamp was struck to commemorate the event. It was printed in red and black, and bore as a design, Mercury on a winged wheel.



The neighbouring Empire of Japan issued two stamps on February 9th, 1894, to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the wedding day of the Emperor and Empress. These are naturally known as "The Silver Wedding stamps."



The marriage of the Crown Prince was commemorated by a stamp representing a pile of mochi cakes and two pairs of chop sticks, one of wood and one of silver, with which the happy

bride and bridegroom were supposed to eat the mochi cakes.



The Greek Government issued a set in 1896, on the occasion of the revival of the Olympic Games at Athens, in which many interesting designs are introduced. They include views of the Acropolis of Athens, and of the Stadium or Arena of Athens where the Olympian games took place, Victory driving a Quadriga or four-horsed chariot, Wrestling Gladiators, an Etruscan Vase of the best period, the renowned Discobolis or discus thrower by Myron, and the statue of Hermes holding in his left hand an infant Bacchus, and in his right, a bunch of grapes. This statue was found at Olympia, in 1877, and it is considered the marvel of Ancient Art, being a masterpiece by Praxiteles, a Greek sculptor, of about 360 B.C.



Stamps were issued during 1900 in Switzerland to commemorate the twenty-fifth year of the Universal Postal Union, which was established in 1875 at Berne, twenty-two countries at that time taking part in the Union, when it was agreed that a rate of 2½d. should be charged for all letters weighing ½ oz. Many other countries have since joined the Universal

Postal Union. Previous to 1875, the rates of postage were much higher, 6d. to 1s. being the usual charge for $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. or $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. letters.

Portugal had a fine set in 1894 to celebrate the fifth centenary of the birth of Prince Henry the Navigator, son of King John I. of Portugal, and in 1895 a set to commemorate the seventh centenary of St. Anthony's birth, which will be dealt with under another heading. Belgium also produced two fine stamps in honour of the Brussels Exhibition of 1897.

Stamps that commemorate by-gone events, give a particular interest to the young stamp collector, marking events and dates in the memory which are never likely to be eradicated, and that, all will agree, is no mean gain.



CHAPTER IV.

ON "LOST CAUSES AND IMPOSSIBLE BELIEFS."



WE have seen how postage stamps record changes in the government of states, and how they have been occasionally utilised to recall to the memory great historical episodes of the past. I now propose to demonstrate how a stamp album may be a silent memento of powers and dominations that have had their day, which, although they still have their adherents, who look back longingly to the old *régime*, may yet be fitly consigned to the region of what Matthew Arnold has pathetically referred to as "Lost

Causes and Impossible Beliefs."



First and foremost in this category come the stamps issued by Jefferson Davis for use in "The Confederate States of America." There were three values of such stamps issued in 1861, 2 cents (green), having a portrait of Andrew Jackson, seventh President of the United States; 5 cents, struck both in blue and in green, bearing a portrait of Jefferson Davis;

and 10 cents, also struck in two colours, blue and rose, with James Madison's portrait on.



During the stormy years 1862 and 1863 several other stamps were issued ; 1 cent (orange), with a portrait of John Calhoun ; 2 cents (carmine), shewing Andrew Jackson's head ; 5 cents and 10 cents, both blue, and both with Jefferson Davis' portrait ; and 20 cents (green), displaying a picture of George Washington. Of these, the 5 cents is to be found clearly printed on smooth paper and printed with a worn die on coarser paper. There were four varieties of the 10 cents stamps. The rarest had the value in words, examples now fetching about fifteen shillings each. The three varieties with the value in numerals differed as to the background around the head. Die No. 1 had a background divided into squares by lines of equal thickness. In die No. 2 the perpendicular lines were thicker than the horizontal ones, making the spaces oblong. Die No. 3, engraved by Messrs. Keatinge & Ball, of Columbia, South Carolina, had lines so thick that the background appeared to be solid.



Besides the official stamps issued by the Confederate government, several towns, Knoxville, New Orleans, Charlestown, Mobile and others, produced stamps for local use.

Although there are veterans in the Southern States who still whistle "Dixie's Land," and cherish a sentimental regard for the memory of "Stonewall Jackson" and other Confederate heroes, probably none of them would seriously desire

to split into two antagonistic countries the now happily United States, and the dream of secession on the part of "The Solid South" is clearly to be classified amongst "Lost Causes and Impossible Beliefs."

The Hanoverian stamps recall a state which, as an independent kingdom, has ceased to be, and are particularly interesting to Englishmen. Hanover, it may be remembered, became an appurtenance of the British Crown when that "wee, wee, German lairdie," as the Jacobites called him, the Elector of Hanover, became King of Great Britain and Ireland, in the person of George I.



The arms introduced in the design of 1851 and 1856 issues, if minutely examined, will be found to be the same as King William IV., with the well known supporters, the Lion and Unicorn, the motto "SUSCIPERE ET FINIRE," being the only difference from the British Arms.

Up to the reign of William IV., Hanover was united to Great Britain, but on the death of William IV., the Salic law being in force there, Hanover passed over the head of Queen Victoria to her uncle, the Duke of Cumberland, who became King Ernest Augustus of Hanover. His son, Prince George, in due course succeeded to the throne of Hanover as King George V., and stamps were issued with his portrait.



They are all still fairly common except the 10 groschen stamp, green in colour, used specimens of which fetch about thirty shillings each. But Prince Bismark had long had designs on Hanover's independence, and during the "Seven Weeks' War" of 1866 Prussia occupied the country, and afterwards annexed it. King George V. died in exile. His

and 10 cents, also struck in two colours, blue and rose, with James Madison's portrait on.



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Up to the reign of William IV., Hanover was united to Great Britain, but on the death of William IV., the Salic law being in force there, Hanover passed over the head of Queen Victoria to her uncle, the Duke of Cumberland, who became King Ernest Augustus of Hanover. His son,



Prince George, in due course succeeded to the throne of Hanover as King George V., and stamps were issued with his portrait.

They are all still fairly common except the 10 groschen stamp, green in colour, used specimens of which fetch about thirty shillings each. But Prince Bismark had long had designs on Hanover's independence, and during the "Seven Weeks' War" of 1866 Prussia occupied the country, and afterwards annexed it. King George V. died in exile. His

son still declines the annuity which the German Emperor would allow him, and claims to be King Ernest Augustus II. of Hanover. He resides principally in Austria; when in England he is known as the Duke of Cumberland, a title that is his *de facto* as well as *de jure*.



United Italy comprises several states of which, as far as their independent existence is concerned, may be written, "Ichabod, for the glory has departed." Modena is one of them, and the stamps issued by the last Duke thereof, Francis V., from 1852 until he was dethroned in 1859 are rapidly becoming scarce.



The stamps that came from Parma are also getting rare. Those issued from 1852 to 1857 all displayed the Bourbon *fleur de lys* under a ducal crown. Of these, the rarest is the 5 centesimi issued in 1854. It was printed in yellow on white paper, and specimens now realise about fifteen shillings each. A still rarer stamp emanating from Parma, was the 80 centesimi, orange, being one of seven struck by the Provisional Government in 1859 after the deposition of the Duke of Parma. Examples of this stamp now sell at about thirty-five shillings each.



The stamps used in Tuscany, prior to its annexation by Victor Emmanuel, have in some cases become very valuable. Specimens of the 2 soldi variety, printed in red brown on bluish paper in 1849, are worth about £8 each, and examples of the 60 crazie, of a somewhat similar tint, £14. In 1859 Victor Emmanuel issued seven stamps with the Savoy cross in lieu of the Tuscan lion and shield, but still bearing the inscrip-



tion "Franco Bollo Postale Toscano." Of these seven, the highest value, 3 lire, yellow, is now an extreme rarity. On the 20th August, 1860, the National Assembly at Florence voted the Union of Tuscany to the Kingdom of Italy, and separate stamps for Tuscany became things of the past.



Of all the defunct Italian States, from a purely philatelic point of view, the Kingdom of Naples and the Two Sicilies are the most

interesting. The stamps issued for use in Naples bore the arms of that Kingdom. Of these the 50 grana stamp is the scarcest. Those issued for Sicily in 1852 bore the portrait of King Ferdinand II., better known as "Bomba."



Apropos of these stamps a curious tale is told. It did not seem right to King Ferdinand that His Majesty's portrait should be disfigured by an ordinary post-mark. So he invented an effacing die, of which we give an illustration showing the design complete, which would mark the top and sides of the stamps, leaving the face of "The Lord's Anointed" apparently surrounded by black curtains. That was admirable in theory; alas, in practice, it often worked out that the curtains came right over the royal face terribly disfiguring it. Whether this was due to hurry on the part of the Sicilian post office officials or was intended to express their sympathy with Garibaldi, who shall say? Italian postal officials are certainly not remarkable for their alacrity, and the circumstance caused much disquietude to poor "Bomba," but he was more disconcerted the following year when he had to flee to England where he died in exile.

Throughout his residence in England the ex-king lived in a state of preparedness, waiting the call he momentarily expected from his affectionate people begging him to resume his heritage. The call never came, and now his son, "Francis III.," or "Bombina" as he has been irreverently styled, has followed him where the cares and troubles of pseudo kingship are unknown.



I promised in Chapter II. to refer later on to the stamps issued by Don Carlos. They were brought out intermittingly from 1872 to 1874. There are nine varieties of adhesive stamps and one envelope stamp known. All are much scarcer used than unused. Indeed, most of the varieties never appear to have escaped the vigilance of the then existing Republican Government, who seized all letters bearing such stamps and confiscated them as being treasonable.



CHAPTER V.

ON GEOGRAPHY AS ILLUSTRATED BY POSTAGE STAMPS.



THE difficulty in attempting to demonstrate how geography is taught by philately, is to know where to begin. One is almost tempted to say that to carefully study a well filled stamp album, is to acquire a liberal education in geography. This fact is now so generally recognised, that most parents encourage their children to collect stamps, and it is an undoubted fact that many school boys thereby obtain a more practical knowledge of geography, than either school manuals or pedagogues are able to impart. Therefore I say most parents encourage their children to collect stamps nowadays, but they did not always do so. I heard of the case of a schoolboy in the early seventies, who gave sixpence for an eightpenny maroon coloured Ceylon stamp, not perforated; it was his entire week's pocket money, and his irate father, upon learning of the purchase, confiscated the stamp, and chastised the boy. Twenty years after, the worthy parent died, and the old stamp was found in his desk. A collector to whom it was shewn, pronounced it valuable. It was put on the market, and sold for £11. No doubt that sum helped to pay the old gentleman's funeral expenses, and his son had long since overcome his feelings of soreness—both mental and physical.

Probably the best way to realise how stamp collecting teaches geography, is to look over a stamp album issued

some ten years ago, and then one of the current year. In the older one the space which sufficed for Africa was very meagre compared with that which is allotted to that Continent now. The reason is obvious. Since the earlier album was published, the European powers have appropriated vast portions of Africa. Indeed, they have parcelled out a great portion of the dark continent, with a nicety and precision only comparable to Joshua's division of the Holy Land in days of old.



Now, wherever civilisation marches, postage stamps follow. Thus in 1890, the British South Africa Company issued a set of seventeen stamps for use in their vast dominions. The facial value of the stamps varied from one halfpenny to ten pounds. Many, especially the high value ones, are exceedingly rare. They are all thoroughly artistic productions, most of them being printed in two colours. All bear the Chartered Company's arms, with the words "British South Africa Company" above, and the motto "Justice, Freedom, Commerce" beneath. In 1892, civilisation had so far advanced in the Company's dominions, that it was found possible to guarantee safety to valuables sent by post therefrom, and registration stamps of the value of fourpence, were accordingly issued.



Not so many years ago barbarism ruled supreme in Zululand, and Cetewayo was king. Now Zululand is a fairly peaceful British Colony, and in 1895 was able to



boast of stamps specially engraved for itself; for seven years prior to that date it had been content with British or Natal stamps surcharged "Zululand."

Nor were the Boers idle while we had been extending our territory. In 1889 they practically annexed Swazieland, and the current issue of Transvaal stamps were used in that region surcharged "Swazieland." These remained in circulation until 1893, when Swazieland became formally a Boer Protectorate.



The stamps emanating from the "New Republic" are also interesting. The New Republic was a settlement of Boers outside the old limit of the Transvaal. The stamps



which were issued in 1886 and 1887 were some of the roughest known. They were produced from hand dies, having the value and date movable. They are all in violet ink on coarse white paper, and are found in ten values, ranging from a penny to half-a-crown. All are exceedingly scarce. Some few, which have the arms of the Republic embossed on them, realise fancy prices. It cannot be said how many varieties might be procured. It is possible that some were issued every day for nearly two years. This is, however, highly improbable, considering how scantily populated the district was. All alike bore the inscription "Nieuwe Republiek," and the words "Zuid Afrika" under the date. In 1888, the New Republic was merged in the Transvaal, and these queer stamps ceased to be used.

Our Portuguese neighbours have also been moving in South Africa, and, as usual, philately records the fact. The most important Portuguese settlement in South Africa is Mozambique. The first stamps used there were issued in 1877, and numbered nine in all, varying in value from five to three hundred reis. Later on the ten, twenty, twenty-five, forty, and fifty reis stamps were



re-issued in different colours. Specimens of each of these five stamps, therefore, are met with in two tints. In 1886 a new set came out, bearing the profile of the late King Louis of Portugal.



In 1893, a Company having been formed to develop the district, stamps of the 1886 issue were surcharged "Compa de Moçambique." In 1894, a series was issued by the Company, shewing the arms of Portugal supported by two elephants.

The same year some very pretty stamps were issued for use in Lourenço Marques, the district surrounding Delagoa Bay. They bear an excellent likeness of Charles I., King of Portugal, in an oval surrounded by the inscription "Portugal: Lourenço Marques." The following is a list of their values and colours:—



5 reis, yellow.	75 reis, rose.
10 „ lilac.	80 „ emerald.
15 „ brown.	100 „ brown on yellow.
20 „ lilac.	150 „ rose on pink.
25 „ green.	200 „ blue on pale blue.
50 „ blue.	300 „ blue on yellow.

A few years back another Company, entitled the "Nyassa Company," was formed to develop Portuguese possessions in South Africa, and three stamps were ordered from and produced in England. They all shew a castle surrounded by the inscription "Companhia do Nyassa," with "Cabo Delgado" above, and "Provincia de Moçambique" below. Their values are ten reis (red), twenty reis (violet), and fifty reis (green).



These were followed by two series of stamps surcharged on the Portuguese stamps, and in 1901, by a finely engraved series introducing giraffes and camels.

CHAPTER VI.

ON THE ECCLESIASTICAL SIDE OF
STAMP COLLECTING.

The connection between stamp collecting and matters ecclesiastical is perhaps not at first sight very obvious. None the less there are quite a number of postage stamps which really possess quite a religious interest. The stamps issued by Portugal in 1895, illustrating the life of St. Anthony of Padua, are good examples. Throughout the world, St. Anthony is known as "St. Anthony of Padua"—except in Portugal or any Portuguese possession—there he is referred to as "St. Anthony of Lisbon," and it is almost a mortal offence to speak of him in the presence of a patriotic "Portugee" under any other cognomen.

The set of stamps in question was issued only from the 12th to the 30th of June, when all Lisbon was keeping the seventh centenary of St. Anthony's birth. Each stamp depicts an incident in the life of the saint. All of them bear at the back a quotation from St. Bonaventure, the full inscription being:—

Centenario de Santo Antonio.

MCXCV. * MDCCCXCV.

O lingua benedicta, quae Dominum semper benedixisti et alios benedicere docuisti : nunc perspicue cernitur quanti meriti fueris apud Deum.

S. BOAVENTURA.

The translation being:

Centenary of St. Anthony. 1195 * 1895.

Oh blessed tongue, which has always blessed the Lord and taught others to bless Him : now more than ever do we see how great is your merit with God.

ST. BOAVENTURE.

The set consists of fifteen ; the 2½ reis stamp has a repre-



sentation of the vision of St. Anthony ; on the 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 reis, St. Anthony is represented preaching to the fishes, which are coming out of the water to listen ; on the 50, 75, 80 and 100 reis, the Assumption of St. Anthony and the rest of values a figure of St. Anthony.

These stamps were issued by the direct order of the King of Portugal, and the Portuguese Government was so interested in the fête held when these stamps were used, that for a month beforehand the postal authorities at Lisbon had instructions to affix on every letter leaving the capital a label advertising the forthcoming event.



In 1897 Belgium issued two large stamps in honour of the Brussels Exhibition of that year, as briefly referred to in Chapter III. These stamps were not wanting in the religious



element, for the 5 cent. (mauve) shewed St. Michael triumphant over evil, and the 10 cent. (brown) displayed St. Michael defeating the Spirit of Evil.

Both stamps bear the coupon now found on all Belgium stamps, whereon is notified in French and in Flemish that the letter on which they are used is not to be delivered on Sunday. When a letter is of such urgency, that a delay from Sunday to Monday morning would be serious, the coupon is torn off, and thus Belgium settles in an eminently practical manner the vexed question of a Sunday post.

Certain stamps formerly used in the Virgin Islands clearly come within the scope of this chapter. Thus the 1d. (green) and 6d. (carmine) stamps used there in 1866 are embellished with a figure of a virgin surrounded by lamps. At first sight this would appear to represent one of the wise virgins of the parable, but as the head of the figure is surrounded with a halo, and as there is a lily in one of her hands, it may possibly be intended for the Virgin Mary. There can, at any rate, be no doubt about the 4d. (brown) and 1s. (rose) stamps issued in 1867. The figure shewn thereon is crowned with stars and stands on a crescent moon, and in the 4d. stamp the ocean is in the background, the whole design being evidently taken from some old picture of the Assumption.



From 1891 until 1898, Leeward Island stamps were used in the Virgin Isles, but in 1899, another special series of stamps was prepared solely for the Virgin Isles, representing the Virgin Mary holding a lily.



A cross has been used as the principal feature in many of the stamps of Switzerland and San Domingo. The stamp struck by Venezuela in 1893 to commemorate the fourth centenary of the discovery of America, of which mention is made in Chapter III., exhibits a picture of Columbus planting the cross in America. One of the com-



memorative stamps issued by the United States in the same year, may also be referred to here. It is the 30 cents, whereon Columbus is depicted in the monastery of La Rabida.

The Cathedral of Montevideo is represented on one of the stamps of that Republic.



St. Paul shipwrecked on the island of Melita (Malta), is the subject of the 10s. Maltese stamp.



The stamps issued in the States of the Church from 1853 until 1870, all have a religious interest to this extent—they all shew the crossed keys and triple crown, which, of course, constitute the ecclesiastical symbol for St. Peter. Occasionally one comes across specimens of the 1853 issue surcharged with a black cross. This implies that they were used in Rome during the great cholera epidemic there. It was represented to Pope Pius IX. that letters leaving the eternal city might spread the disease, so his Holiness had the sheets of stamps, before being sent to the various post-offices, brought to him that he might bless them. Those so honoured were marked with what is generally known as a St. Andrew's Cross. Viewed as a preventative against cholera, this proceeding may, or may not, have proved efficacious; it certainly does not come within the province of this book to determine; but I think it will be admitted on all hands that it was introducing the ecclesiastical element into philately with a vengeance.



CHAPTER VII.

ON PORTRAITURE IN A STAMP ALBUM.



NO one calls a stamp a "Queen's head" nowadays, but not so many years ago the expression was a common one, and was well understood to mean a postage stamp. As a matter of fact, the idealised portrait of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, as a young girl, which graces British and most Colonial stamps is very far from being an accurate

likeness of the august lady who ruled over these realms.

It seems a pity that both the Jubilee and Diamond Jubilee years have been allowed to slip by without an issue of British stamps being struck, shewing the Queen as she really was. Canada, truly, has produced the set of double-headed stamps referred to in Chapter III., and the one cent Newfoundland issue of 1897, also mentioned in the same chapter, shews the Queen as an elderly lady ; but as far as Great Britain itself is concerned, no genuine likeness of the Queen has been attempted.



It is nothing new for Canada to depict the Queen in widow's weeds ; many Canadian bill stamps have so shewn

her, as did the 20 cents (vermilion), and the 50 cents (blue) postage stamps of 1893.

The 1898-1900 issues represented the Queen as she was at the time of the Diamond Jubilee, with graceful flowing veil surmounted by a crown. A very artistic design in every way. Maple leaves (the emblem of Canada) were introduced first in all four corners, but afterwards numerals were introduced in the lower corners. But Canada has not always confined herself to displaying the Queen's head on her stamps.



The tenpenny (blue) stamp of 1851 had a portrait of Cabot and so did the 17 cents (blue) stamp of 1860. The former of these is now very rare. The sixpence (violet) of 1851 and the ten cents (brown) variety of 1860 bore a portrait of Lord Elgin, incorrectly described in some catalogues as the Prince Consort.

Cabot, it may be recalled, was the discoverer of the northern portion of the American Continent, and Newfoundland gave his portrait on the 2 cents stamp of 1897. Like Canada, Newfoundland has varied the monotony of philate-



lical representations of Her Majesty Queen Victoria by introducing several other portraits. There are three varieties of 1 cent stamps, with portraits of H.M. King Edward VII as a lad attired in Highlander's costume. The ten cents (black) stamp of 1862 has a portrait of the King when 21 years old.



A later portrait of His Majesty was issued in 1898 followed at intervals by portraits of other Royalty, H.M. Queen Victoria, H.M. Queen Alexandra, H.R.H. George Prince of Wales, H.R.H. Princess of Wales (Princess May) and an excellent likeness of the pretty little curly headed boy, H.R.H. Prince Edward of Wales.



Before leaving the subject of the Queen's head on postage stamps, mention should be made of a set issued by the Niger Coast Protectorate, which bears a most excellent likeness of the late Queen. The stamps are all beautifully engraved and are a pattern alike to the mother country, and to many of the larger



colonies in that respect. It is no exaggeration to say that the pictorial representations of Queen Victoria placed before some of her loyal subjects on certain Colonial stamps have been positively grotesque. Notoriously was this the case in the Tasmanian first issue of 1853, and a 2½d. stamp used in New Zealand is little better. Some of the earliest stamps hailing from Mauritius, too, had portraits of the Queen which can only be described as humorously insulting. However, as I have before remarked, beauty in design does not necessarily imply that a stamp is valuable, and the two first stamps used in Mauritius in 1847, one penny (red) and twopence (blue), with the words "Post Office," have realised higher prices than any other postage stamps in the world.

The subsequent ones with inscription "Post paid" are equally ugly if not so valuable.

Many foreign stamps bear capital likenesses of the rulers of the countries from which they come ; so much so, that just as we turn to a photo album for portraits of our friends and relations, so we may well turn to a stamp album for pictures of the rulers of the earth.

At the present time the Continental states shewing their rulers' portraits on their postage stamps are Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Holland, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Luxemburg, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Portugal, Roumania, Spain, Servia and Sweden.

Royal personages are not without those little vanities characteristic of less exalted mortals. The stamps issued by King Pedro V. of Portugal demonstrate this, for sets were issued shewing His Most Faithful Majesty with straight hair and with his hair prettily curled. Stamps can also be



made to depict the changes time works in the appearance of a monarch, as in the case of the late King Alexander of Servia, who appeared on his earlier stamps as a lad, and on later ones resplendent in all the glory of whiskers.



Stamps, too, have been issued shewing the Prince of Roumania with whiskers and embryo moustache ; with a slight beard, whiskers, and a rather larger moustache ; and with a full beard, whiskers and heavy moustache.



The earlier Prussian stamps bore a likeness of King Frederick William IV. In 1861 the Prussian eagle took the place of the King's head, and the same

design has appeared on all subsequent Prussian stamps, and has been transferred to the German stamps since the formation of the German Empire.



The most successful of stamp portraiture will be found on the Bulgarian stamps of Prince Ferdinand. Each value has a distinct coloured frame, surrounding an oval miniature portrait of the Prince.

The Bulgarian post card of 1896 bears the head of the infant Prince Boris, on the subject of whose reception into the Greek Church half the crowned heads of Europe were agitated and the Pope himself perturbed.



Queen Victoria's head appears on the stamps of Malta, Cyprus, and Gibraltar, as it did upon the stamps used in the Ionian Isles and Heligoland prior to their transference to Greece and Germany respectively. In their time, too, the stamps of France, Hanover, the Neapolitan Provinces, Saxony, and Sicily, have all borne their rulers' portraits.



In Asia, the best portraits on any stamps are those of the late Shah of Persia. Attired in fez and aigrette, that Oriental Potentate makes a decidedly striking picture, as does the Rajah of Sirmoor upon his stamps. The specimens coming from Sarawak also deserve mention. The 2 cents

stamp of 1868 shews the head of the late Rajah, James Brooke, an intrepid Englishman who subdued and civilised the semi-barbarous natives of Sarawak and ruled over them wisely and well. Later stamps shew the profile of the present Rajah, Charles Brooke, who has continued and completed his uncle's good work.

Strangely, it is to the home of Republics, America, that we must turn for portraiture in postage stamps on a large scale. The bewildering variety of portraits on stamps from the United States would require several chapters devoted



entirely to them to do them justice. But we must mention one of exceptional interest, which has a portrait of Martha, the wife of General Washington. From Washington, downwards, the various

Presidents of the United States have yielded their portraits to different stamps, and their example has been followed by the Presidents of the other American Republics.

"Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown." So wrote Shakespeare, but had he lived in the nineteenth century he would probably have said "Uneasy lies the head of the President of a Republic." The 1883 issue of stamps of Paraguay illustrates this. The portraits on them are those of the Presidents of Paraguay, in rotation from the first to the eighth, as follows :—

1 centavo (pearl)	Rivarola.
2 centavos (green)	Jovellanos
4 " (rose)	Gill
5 " (lilac)	Barreiro.
10 " (blue)	Uriarte.
14 " (brown)	Cabellero.
20 " (scarlet)	Escobar.
30 " (green)	Gonzalez.

Of these, one, President Gonzalez, was deposed, and three,



Presidents, Rivarola, Gill, and Barreiro, were murdered.

Most of the stamps from the Argentine Republic have heads of different Presidents, as do some hailing from Ecuador, Costa Rica, Paraguay and other Central and South American Republics. Chilian stamps bear the head of Columbus, and a recent issue of Peruvian stamps displays portraits. The 2 centavos stamp has a portrait, more or less apocryphal no doubt, of Manco-Capac, the native ruler



whom the Spaniards found when they first went to Peru. The 5 centavos stamp bears a portrait of Pizarro, who discovered Peru, and after massacring ten thousand natives founded Lima, the present capital of that country, and practically reigned there as king until he, in turn, was assassinated by a Spanish faction under Almagro. The stamps of a higher value have a portrait in modern military dress of La Mar.

Certain of the stamps issued by Montevideo bear portraits of President Suarez, President Santos and General Artigas. Some of the stamps of New Granada bear portraits, and circulate throughout all of the nine Departments or States comprised in the Republic. In addition to these, six of the

Departments also issue their own stamps. Of these, some of the stamps of Antioquia, Bolivar, and Cundinamarca, bear portraits; those of Panama, Santander, and Tolima do not.



The stamps proceeding from the Sandwich Isles have displayed likenesses of King Kamehameha III., King Kamehameha IV., King Kamehameha V., Princess Victoria, King Kalakaua, Prince Leleiohoku, Governor Kekuanaoa, Princess Likelike, Queen Kapiolini, Queen Emma, and Queen Liliuokalani. British schoolboys, groaning over the table of English sovereigns, may, after persuing the names just quoted, thank their lucky stars they were not born natives of the Sandwich Isles. The latest arrivals of stamps from the Sandwich Islands, however, bear an inscription "Republic of Hawaii," and there is one with portrait of the President Dole, so there is little chance of having more Royalties, which makes the earlier stamps of more than usual interest in our gallery of philatetical portraiture.

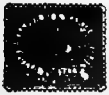
CHAPTER VIII.

ON DESIGNS AND DEVICES ON
POSTAGE STAMPS.



PERHAPS the most striking feature in a collection of postage stamps is the wonderful variety of designs afforded. Next to a portrait, the most common design on a postage stamp is, of course, the arms of the country or state from whence it comes.

At the time of writing the European states displaying their arms on their postage stamps are Bavaria, Bulgaria, Germany, Russia, Switzerland, and San Marino. This last named state, by-the-bye, boasts



of being the oldest surviving republic in the world. It was founded as far back as the fourth century by Marinus. In



extent only about 30 square miles, it is yet entirely independent of Italy or any other country in law, government, finance, and armament. Its army consists of 50 men, and it issues its own coins and stamps.






The Austrian arms appear on the Bosnian stamps, and underneath the king's head on the earlier Hungarian issues. Both




arms and head were given on the 10 kreuzer (brown) stamp issued in 1858 by Austria, but, unlike the Hungarian ones,



the head appeared surrounded by the arms emblazoned on seven shields connected with each other by a band of laurel leaves. The 10 soldi,

used in Austrian Italy at the same time was of similar design. The earlier stamps of Finland bore the distinctive arms of that state, but Finland has been gradually Russianised, and now the stamps all bear the Russian arms. The small value Dutch stamps of  1869 showed the arms of Holland, later stamps of  similar value show large numerals as their chief feature. Italy has reversed this order; whereas the low priced stamps formerly had their values in numerals, this was changed and two very pretty stamps were produced, displaying the Sardinian Cross, under a crown. The 1 centesimo is of a brown tint, the 2  centesimi, a dull red in colour.

 Some of the Danish stamps bear the arms of Denmark, but the bulk of them have, as a design, their value in numerals in a circle surmounted by a crown, with a small posthorn underneath. The stamps of Iceland and Norway are of a very similar character, although some of the Norwegian ones have in the past borne the arms of that country, and some the King's head, while the latest issue of Iceland presents a portrait of the aged King Christian of Denmark.



The arms of the kingdom of Saxony were on its last set of stamps prior to its absorption into greater Germany, although earlier issues bore portraits of King Frederick Augustus and King John. The stamps of Baden also bore the arms of that state, and the stamps issued by Lubeck

and Hamburg bore the arms of those towns respectively.



The stamps used in Bergedorf were distinctly interesting. That small town placed itself under the protection of the two larger Hanse towns, Lubeck and Hamburg, and displayed half the arms of each on its stamps. The Bergedorf stamps were all square, varying in size, the highest value being the largest. They had the letters "L. H. P. A." in the corners, which were the initials of the words Lubeck, Hamburg, Post, Amt. Alas! the protection of Lubeck and Hamburg availed Bergedorf but little, when Prince Bismark determined to incorporate it into the German Empire! The arms of Oldenburg, now also a portion of the German Empire, appeared on its stamps in the old days. In some cases the entire arms, in some the first and second quarterings.

Stamps do not, however, always show the arms of the state. Sometimes they show the arms of a particular city or portion of a country. Thus, some Swiss stamps show the arms of Basle and of Geneva. There are Belgian stamps with the arms of Antwerp and of Brussels, and Peruvian ones with the arms of Lima.



Outside Europe, good specimens of philatelic heraldry appear on certain of the stamps from Ecuador, Costa Rica, Peru, Nicaragua, and Venezuela. Tonga, the principal of

the group of islands known as the Friendly Islands, produced a set of stamps in 1893, bearing the quaint but effective quarterings adopted by that far off spot in the Pacific. Earlier stamps had borne the portrait of King George, who, when he died on February 26th, 1893, was reputed to be over one hundred years old. A later issue of Tonga stamps displays the head of the present monarch, King Jioaji Tubou II.



Although the bulk of British Colonial stamps bear the portraits either of Queen Victoria or King Edward, there are many exceptions. Mauritius, for instance, has issued a series of stamps displaying the arms of that island on a shield. It is not the first time Mauritius has discarded Her Majesty's profile on its postage stamps. The 1857 and 1859 issues had Britannia for a device.



The island of Barbados issued in 1892 a set of nine stamps, varying in value from a farthing to 2s. 6d., whereon the Queen appears in Neptune's car; and in 1897, a set of Jubilee stamps, in the frame of which was inscribed "Victoria : R : I., 1837-1897." The design is very



similar to that on a coin used in Barbados "when George III. was king" when that sovereign was also depicted under

similar circumstances, as shown in our illustration. The earliest stamps from Barbados all had a figure of Britannia, but from 1883 to 1892 the Queen's head appeared.

We learn something about ships and boats if we cull from the album those that are represented there, the earliest from



Buenos Ayres, a steamer of the primitive type, and that very badly drawn.

From British Guiana we have A.I. ships in full sail. Malta, a felucca boat with its two long wing-like sails, and what is more interesting, an ancient galley of the Knights of Malta. Borneo, a prahu boat. German East Africa and most of the other German colonies have ocean line steamers.



Portugal, the ancient ships of Prince Henry and of Vasco da Gama.

United States and several South American Republics, the flag-ship and other ships of Columbus.



Bermuda, a ship entering the famous floating dock. Newfoundland, a yacht in full sail. British New Guinea, a prao, Fiji, with natives in a canoe. Congo, a steamship called a Dahabeah, with a large paddle wheel astern. New Zealand, a Maori war canoe.

If transport by water is illustrated on some stamps, others suggest travel by land, for certain stamps from Peru, the United States, Montevideo, and New Brunswick have all borne pictures of locomotive engines.



Nevis is celebrated for its springs, and the device on the stamps used in that small British possession represents a prostrate figure attended by two others administering water which is flowing from a rock. Both the 1861 and 1867 issues of Nevis stamps were printed in sheets of twelve, each stamp in the sheet being slightly different. If this system were universally adopted what gigantic stamp albums would be required!



The Cape stamps also bear an allegorical figure, "Hope." On the early three-cornered ones the lady is seated with an anchor beside her. In the rectangular stamps, a vine and a sheep are introduced in the picture, to typify the important Cape exports, wine and wool. On the stamps of 1894 "Hope" is represented standing. In the background is the Table Mountain, and in the middle distance the harbour.



In giving a view of the harbour on their stamps the Cape was only following the example of New South Wales, for the 1850 issue of stamps in that colony showed a view of Sydney. There are several varieties of these old stamps, some with clouds in the background and some without. All are now rare. The penny commemorative stamp of 1888, and the envelope stamp of the same year also displayed a view of Sydney. Views may likewise be found on certain stamps from Bolivia, Costa Rica, Liberia, Nicaragua, Salvador, Tasmania and British Guiana.



Valletta.

The little farthing stamp of Malta deserves special mention, it shows the two forts, St. Elmo and Ricasoli, at the entrance of the harbour of



the eruption of 1885.

New Zealand represents several views including the famous pink and white volcanic terraces destroyed in



The only stamp specially printed for the penny Colonial postage which came into force Christmas 1898, was issued by Canada, partly we should imagine to show honour to Henniker Heaton, M.P., whom we must thank for this boon, and partly to show the kind feeling to the old country, the realization of which was so soon followed by the contingents who so bravely fought side by side with their Australian cousins for the old flag.

The device was a map, with the British possessions printed in red. The inscription "We hold a vaster Empire than has been" which appears on these stamps is from one of Lewis Morris' patriotic poems. The whole stanza reads thus :

We love not war but only peace,
 Yet never shall our England's power decrease,
 Whoever guides our helm of State.
 Let all men know it, England shall be great,
 We hold a vaster Empire than has been.



On the opening day of the Pan American Exhibition at

Buffalo (just fifty years after the Great Exhibition in Hyde Park) a little set of six stamps was placed on sale at every post office in the United States, each design having something to do with engineering. East Lake steamer. East express railway train. A motor car. Bridge over the rapids of Niagara. Canal locks at Sault St. Marie, and one of the East ocean steamships.



There is certainly a pleasing variety about Liberian stamps. The 4 cents (green and black) [stamp of 1892 gives an admirable portrait of an elephant and the 1 dollar (lilac and black) stamp of the same issue, an equally good picture of a rhinoceros. Animals of one sort or another figure on quite a large number of stamps.



Thus, a kangaroo is to be found on a New South Wales stamp, llamas on certain Peruvian stamps, a seal and a dog on different Newfoundland stamps, a leopard on French



Congo, a turtle on the envelope of Seychelles, a beaver on



the Canadian, a tiger on the Perak, on Borneo we find a

monkey, a honey bear, a crocodile, and a sambur deer.



Camels and giraffes we have on the Nyassa stamps.

The camel on the Soudan stamps may be mentioned here, although more interesting is the fact that the engraver in minute letters on the bales of goods upon the camels' back introduced, with the shading, the words "Khartoum" and "Berber," thus prophesying the splendid success of Lord Kitchener, as these stamps were issued many months before the advance upon Khartoum.



10 CENTS



Birds furnish the device on a good many stamps. A quetzal bird in the case of Guatemala, an emu and a lyre bird in that of New South Wales. The argus pheasant from



Borneo. From New Zealand we get the kaka parrot, and the apteryx, a curious bird having no visible wings or tail, also a pair of the sacred huia birds, the feathers of which were worn in the hair of the Maori Chiefs. A swan is found on Western Australian stamps, and an eagle on some from the United States. Further, some remarkable birds defying description appear on certain Japanese stamps.

Fishes are not so popular as birds or beasts, but a fish is to be found on the 2 cents (green) oblong stamp used in



Newfoundland in 1865. This, with the sacred shell on the stamps of Travancore, the corals on Tonga, shells on some of the Bahamas stamps, both of Queen Victoria and King Edward, may be taken as the philatelic representation of the wonders of the deep.

From this it will be seen that a good stamp collection may be looked upon almost as an illustrated supplement to a work on natural history, or even as an occasional substitute for a visit to the Zoological Gardens.



CHAPTER IX.

ON POSTAGE STAMPS ODD SHAPED AND EXTRAORDINARY.



F all extraordinary looking stamps probably those produced in British Guiana in 1850 were the most remarkable. To say they were rough is to very inadequately describe their appearance. They were intended to be round, but as they were cut out by hand, the result seldom, if ever, corresponded with Euclid's definition of a circle. There were four of them in all, 2 cents (rose), 4 cents (yellow), 8 cents (green), and 12 cents (blue). All



are exceedingly scarce, specimens of the 2 cents stamp selling at as much as £200.

Stamps nowadays are nearly always rectangular or oblong in shape, there being only a few exceptions. In the past, however, the exceptions were far more plentiful. The triangular Cape of Good Hope stamps are too well known



to need description. Newfoundland also issued a triangular stamp in 1862. It was green in colour and of the value of 3d. It is now becoming rather scarce, unused specimens fetching about 7s. 6d. each. Liberia has some very pretty triangular stamps. New Granada, too, has indulged in the

luxury of triangular stamps in 1865 and 1876. Both were $2\frac{1}{2}$ centavos in value, and lilac in colour.



Obock and Djibouti show us triangular stamps



and Djibouti is the only place with rhombus shaped ones.



Nova Scotia went in for three diamond shaped stamps in 1857; 3d. (blue), 6d. (green), and 1/- (violet). Examples of the latter now fetch about £14 each. They were rather pretty stamps, showing the crown surrounded by the national floral emblems, similar in design to the 1857 issue of Newfoundland except that the latter were square. The difference between the square Newfoundland and diamond shaped Nova Scotia stamps, was actually due to the angle of the numerals in the corner and crown in the centre.

New Brunswick had three diamond shaped stamps exactly the same design as Nova Scotia.



The earlier Spanish stamps were rough in design and execution, but those used in the Spanish possession of the Philippine Islands were even rougher.



The stamps formerly used in the French colonies were remarkable in one respect: although the introduction of perforation as an easy mode of detaching stamps took place as far back as 1854, the French Colonial stamps were imperforate until 1884. From 1860 to 1871 France had a universal Colonial stamp, displaying the Napoleonic eagle with the inscription "Colonies de l' Empire Francais." From 1872 to 1883, inclusive, stamps were used in the French colonies similar to those in vogue in the mother country but not perforated. In 1884 perfora-



tion was at length introduced on the stamps struck for French colonial use, a new set being issued bearing as a design a seated female figure resting on an anchor with a ship in the distance, the inscription being "Colonies Postes." Later on a long series of stamps was issued all of the same design, except that on a label at the bottom of each stamp was inscribed the name of the particular colony from which it came; thus, "Congo Francais," "Guyane" (French Guiana), "Guinee Francaise," "Etablissements de l' Oceanie" (French Oceania), "Nlle Caledonie" (New Caledonia), "Diego Suarez," "Sultanat d'Anjouan," and so on.



For really peculiar looking stamps it is necessary to turn to Asia. Those issued by Shere Ali at Cabul in 1872, for instance. Weird and utterly indescribable they are now



exceedingly scarce. I, myself, have given £60 for two

different specimens on one envelope. The mode of obliterating stamps in Afghanistan is peculiar. After purchasing a stamp, but before gumming on to the envelope, a small piece has to be torn off it, and that is the usual postmark in the dominions of the Ameer. The stamps of Bhopal, Bhoire, Bikanir and Cashmere are also strange looking productions and deserve passing mention.



Extraordinary as most of the foregoing examples are, in one direction or another, no stamps ever received more remarkable treatment than certain ones of the United States, at the commencement of the Civil War. Money was scarce, and tentatively stamps were offered and accepted in lieu of specie. The gum at the back of the stamps was, however, sticky, such being the nature of gum, and the stamps stuck in the pocket or purse; moreover, they soon became frayed and torn. Then brass frames were



introduced into which the stamps were inserted, exposing the face of President, and the value on the stamp which was protected by Talc, and consequently preserved, as shewn in the accompanying illustration.

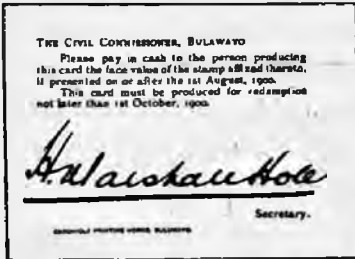
Subsequently a "Postage Currency" was introduced in the form of miniature bank notes, on which, as a design, representations of postage stamps appeared with the inscription "Receivable for postage stamps at any post office." There were four varieties: the 5 cents (brown) and 10

cents (green) each bore a reproduction of a single stamp, but the 25 cents (brown) had pictures of five 5 cents



stamps, and the 50 cents (green) five 10 cents stamps. These were followed by what was termed a fractional currency, also in paper.

During the siege of Mafeking and the consequent interruption of train service, money in the shape of coin became very scarce in Bulawayo. So, cards were printed as shewn by



the engraving, and on the reverse side stamps were put of British South Africa of the values, 3d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s., and these cards passed in currency to the amount of stamp affixed.

It has often been remarked that there is a distinct resemblance in several ways between coin collecting and stamp collecting, and these philatelic coins, or numismatic stamps, call them which you will, form the connecting link between the two hobbies.



CHAPTER X.

ON WATERMARKS, PERFORATIONS, PRINTING AND PAPER.



MANY branches of philately may be of more general interest than the study of watermarks; none are of greater use to collectors. Before attempting to give particulars of some of the most interesting watermarks found on postage stamps, it may be as well to explain for the information of the uninitiated what a watermark really is, and this requires a short dissertation on the art of paper making.

Paper, as we all know, is made of linen and other rags, also straw and various fibrous materials, such as esparto. The rags and fibre are torn to pieces, beaten, boiled and mixed with size, thus forming a pulp. This pulp is placed on a fine continuous sieve, known as a wire gauge sheet, which continually travels along. As it travels the water drains out of the pulp which is then passed over hot rollers, and becomes what we know as paper. If there is to be a watermark, the marks, words, devices, or all of them are worked in fine wire and sewn on to a hollow cylinder of wire cloth, making what is called a "dandy roll." This is placed over the wire gauge sheet in

such a position that the light impression it makes acts upon the pulp just as it ceases to be pulp and becomes paper.

Many people are puzzled by the terms applied by philatelists to the various papers used for postage stamps. Broadly speaking, there are five papers principally employed for the purpose. The most common variety is *wove paper*. This is of a uniform texture, and presents merely a transparent appearance without any configuration on it when held up to the light. The next common is *laid paper*. This is a paper that, held up to the light, shows lines running through it either vertically or horizontally. "Cream laid" note paper, so much used, readily presents an example of this description of paper. When the laid lines run both horizontally



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

and vertically, so as to make little squares in the paper, it is called *quadrillé* (fig. 1). An example will be found in the 15 cents blue stamp of France (fig. 2), and the oblong set of Obock (fig. 3), and Djibouti (fig. 4). *Granite paper*, used for some of the Swiss stamps, is distinguished by the small fibres of silk that are mixed with the paper, and *pelure paper* is very thin and hard. Gold beater's skin has actually been used for postage stamps. This was in the case of the 10 silber groschen (fig. 5) and 30 silber groschen (fig. 6) registration stamps issued by Prussia. Care should be taken not to damp them.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.

To properly deal with the subject of the printing of

postage stamps would require a great deal more space than I have at my command. Broadly speaking, however, stamps may be said to be either engraved, line engraved, lithographed or hand stamped. These are, of course, all modes of surface printing from raised dies. The stamps of the United States, on the other hand, are all printed "direct from plate," just as ordinary visiting cards are. The two so-called Hospital Stamps, issued upon the initiation of the Prince of Wales to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, were produced in the same fashion.

The origin of the word "watermark" is somewhat obscure. It has been stated that the earliest watermarks were in the form of curved lines, like waves, and hence the term. Personally, I hesitate to endorse this view, but after all, the subject is one more within the province of an etymologist than a philatelist.

So much for the production of watermarks. Now for some illustrations. We have not far to travel to obtain these, for our British stamps furnish admirable examples. Here it may be remarked that, although there are collectors who profess to ignore watermarks, it is impossible to properly classify British stamps without a knowledge of the subject; and British stamps are, perhaps, the most difficult of any to successfully arrange.



Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.



Fig. 9.

The early stamps issued by Great Britain had a crown watermark of a very rudimentary design (see fig. 7); but in 1856 the crown received more attention, as shewn in figure 8. The very recent issues have a crown as figure 9.

Of the garter watermark of the 4d. stamp there are three varieties, we give a picture of each because they will enable a collector to distinguish the three issues.



Fig. 10.



Fig. 11.



Fig. 12.



Fig. 13.



Fig. 14.



Fig. 15.

The 1855 issue had a small garter (fig. 10); the 1856 issue a larger one with the holes of the buckle marked (fig. 11). In 1857 another change took place, the garter appearing still larger, but without the holes in the garter, as shewn in figure 12.

Other watermarks found on British stamps are a rose with two leaves (fig. 13), and an orb (fig. 14). Some, too, have two elementary roses in the upper corners, an apology for a thistle in the lower left hand corner, and a fairly well defined shamrock in the lower right hand corner (fig. 15).



Fig. 16.



Fig. 17.



Fig. 18.

A Maltese cross (fig. 16) and an anchor (fig. 17) were used for the higher values of the British stamps, and a smaller anchor (fig. 18) was used for the 2½d. lake.



Fig. 19.

The stamps of 1854 issued by the East India Company were printed on sheets of paper with watermark, which occupied the entire sheet, so that only a small portion of the design is found on individual stamps, and some stamps have entirely missed the design. The watermark has the arms of the East

India Company and their motto : "Auspicio Regis et Senatus, Angliæ ;" the remainder of the design will be seen in the illustration (fig. 19).



Fig. 20.

Most of the stamps used in our Colonies have watermarks ; that on many of them having been changed from C.C. (Crown Colony) to C. A. (Crown Agent), as shewn



Fig. 20.

by the two illustrations.



Fig. 21.



Fig. 22.



Fig. 23.



Fig. 24.



Fig. 25.

The above diagrams do not represent a new constellation or any astronomical wonder, but simply the varieties of stars used as watermarks for Colonial stamps. A long pointed star appears on some Ceylon, Grenada, New Zealand, St. Helena, South Australia, Tasmania, and Victoria Stamps (fig. 21). A star with shorter points appears on Grenada, Montserrat, Natal, Queensland, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Turks Islands (fig. 22). A star of different shape some with one point upwards (fig. 23) and some with two points upwards (fig. 24) were used for stamps of Grenada, South Australia, New Zealand and Queensland.

The five pointed star (fig. 25) is only found on some of the Indian stamps.

Sheets of stamps were produced for Queensland with the words "Queensland Postage Stamps" as a watermark. As this inscription was in large letters, which covered the whole sheet, only a portion of a letter can be traced on each individual stamp.



Fig. 26. Fig. 27.

The later issues of stamps from this Colony have as a watermark the letter Q under a crown in two styles (fig. 26) and (fig. 27).



Fig. 28. Fig. 29. Fig. 30. Fig. 31. Fig. 32.

Very usual watermarks found on South Australian and Victorian stamps are S.A. under a crown and V. over a crown respectively, as shewn in figures 28 and 29, but fortunately for collectors who care for curious varieties, a few of the South Australian 2d. and 4d. stamps were printed on the paper prepared for use in Victoria, and these errors of watermarks will always be scarce.

A somewhat similar mistake was made in the case of some of the 4d. Victorian stamps which were printed on paper intended to be used for 5s. New South Wales stamps, and bearing as a watermark the words "Five Shillings." When this mistake was discovered, another supply of paper was prepared for New South Wales, having a waterwark 5s. in numerals (fig. 30). This was for a short time used both for the 5s. and 20s. of the Centennial issue, but was soon replaced by separate watermarks for each value, 5s. N.S.W. in diamond frame (fig 31) 20s. N.S.W. in round frame (fig. 32).



Fig. 33.



Fig. 34.



Fig. 35.



Fig. 36.

Double lined numerals of value were the watermarks used for the earlier New South Wales (figs. 33, 34, 35 and 36). Tasmania used the first (fig. 33) and last (fig. 36) of these for the 1857 issue.



Fig. 37.



Fig. 38.



Fig. 39.



Fig. 40.

Wire numerals followed the double lined numerals both in New South Wales and Tasmania (figs. 37, 38, 39 and 40).



Fig. 41.



Fig. 42.



Fig. 43.

New South Wales, also using N.S.W. and crown, in two styles, as shown by (figs. 41 and 42), and a simple N.S.W. (fig. 43) for some fiscal stamps which were impressed for postal service.



Fig. 44.



Fig. 45.



Fig. 46.

New Zealand we find in the later issues N.Z. (fig. 44), a single lined star over N.Z. (fig. 45), and a double lined star under N.Z. (fig. 46).

Apart from royal and patriotic emblems the watermarks on some of our Colonial stamps have been borrowed from

the animal and vegetable kingdom. For instance, the first



Fig. 47.



Fig. 48.



Fig. 49.

issue of stamps for Jamaica was watermarked with a pineapple, as shewn in figure 47. The 1864 issue of Indian stamps had an elephant's head as a watermark; otherwise the stamps were similar to those of the 1861 issue, which were not watermarked at all. Before searching for stamps with this watermark it would be well to refer to figure 48, whereby it will be observed that the representation of the largest of beasts is not conspicuous for its anatomical accuracy.

Figure 49 represents a swan which appears as the watermark on the 1862 issue of Western Australian stamps. This particular bird has caused a great amount of trouble. It was customary for years to classify the 1862 issue of Western Australian stamps under two headings; those with a swan watermark and those with no watermark at all. I well remember examining a large number of these stamps and carefully putting aside those which appeared to have no watermark. To make quite sure, I put them all in water when the little swan swam out in every case. It is now established beyond a doubt that all the 1862 stamps bore the swan watermark, although in some cases it is very indistinct. For some time after this the ordinary C.C. and



Fig. 50.

C.A. watermarks were used for West Australia, then special paper was made watermarked W.A. with a crown between the letters (fig. 50).

So much for our Colonial stamps. To return to Europe. The Spanish stamps of 1855 and 1856 should be examined for watermarks. Those of the former year had



Fig. 51.



Fig. 52.



Fig. 53.



Fig. 54.



Fig. 55.

loop lines (fig. 51), those of the latter year cross lines (fig. 52).

Italian stamps have a crown as watermark, and paper with the same watermark is used for the San Marino stamps (see fig. 53). Sweden used a crown (fig. 54). Greek stamps with figure of Mercury have for watermark a crown over letters E.T. (fig. 55.)

Quite unique watermarks, however, were those used in Tuscany prior to the Unification of Italy. Tuscan stamps were printed in sheets of 240, the 1849 issue being watermarked with twelve crowns, and the 1851 issue by wavy

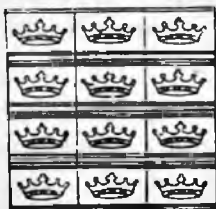


Fig. 56.

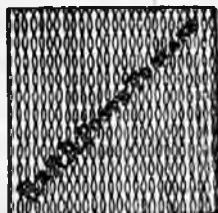


Fig. 57.

lines with an inscription from left to right, as represented, on a greatly reduced scale by figures 56 and 57. The sheets being large only a small portion of the watermark can be found on each stamp, but sufficient to enable the two issues to be separated. There is another way to detect the two issues, altogether apart from the watermark. The 1849

issue was printed on a paper of bluish tint, whereas the 1851 stamps were all produced on white paper.



The old stamps of Naples had Fleur de Lys watermarks. There are 40 Fleur de Lys on a sheet of 200 stamps, so only a small portion of the watermark appears on each stamp; about two of the design (fig. 57) would appear on space of 10 stamps.

Certain of the stamps issued by Lubeck, which has also long ceased to possess a separate fiscal existence, likewise



Fig. 58.



Fig. 59.



Fig. 60.



Fig. 61.



Fig. 62.

have a curious watermark. It is generally defined in catalogues as a watermark consisting of small rosettes. Figure 58 will probably convey a better idea of this than pages of description. The same remark applies to the watermarks on Chinese (fig. 59), Liberian stamps (fig. 60), Siam (fig. 61), and Johore (fig. 62), this last design occurs also on some of the Soudan and Zanzibar stamps.



Fig. 63.



Fig. 64.

The Egyptian stamps of 1865 bore an interesting watermark, consisting of a pyramid surmounted by the sacred lotus of Egypt, as shown in figure 63. The 1867 issue was watermarked with the arms of the Suzerain power, Turkey, a five pointed star over a crescent moon (fig. 64).



Fig. 65.



Fig. 66.



Fig. 67.



Fig. 68.



Fig. 69.

Prussian stamps of King William had a wreath of laurels (fig. 65), and the earlier issue of Hanover a wreath of oak leaves (fig. 66). Norway's first issue had a lion holding axe (fig. 67), later issues had posthorn (fig. 68). Spanish stamps of King Alfonso XII. had a castle (fig. 69).



Fig. 70.

Tonga 1897 issues had a watermark of curious little things which we are told are turtles (fig. 70). They seem to be wandering in various directions perhaps trying to find the Guildhall.

The stamps of Travancore have a peculiar watermark (fig. 71) representing their sacred shell Sankho, emblem of the God Vishnu.



Fig. 71.



Fig. 72. Fig. 73.

Some of the Swiss stamps have an impressed watermark of a cross in oval frame (fig. 72), and on some Roumanian stamps there is an impressed watermark of the coat of arms of Roumania (fig. 73) with motto: NIHIL SINE DEO.



Fig. 74.

It would be quite possible to devote an entire book such as this to the subject of watermarks, but enough has been said to demonstrate that it is a branch of philately well worthy of careful attention. Of course, if stamps are classified in accordance with their different watermarks they should never be gummed down on to the pages of the album direct, but an adhesive stamp hinge, as shewn in figure 74, should be used.

And now a few words on the subject of perforations. Perforations are generally described as being either *Roulette*, *Machine* or *Serpentine*. Figure 75 shews the appearance of

these perforations, both before and after the stamps are separated from each other.

Besides these three, which are the principal perforations, there are others not generally employed, such as *Percé en arc*. This consists of a number of indentations of half circles or crescents. *Pin perforation* is almost the same as *machine perforation*, but instead of the paper being taken out in small circles it is left in. Machine perforations are counted by the number of holes that occur in the space of two centimètres

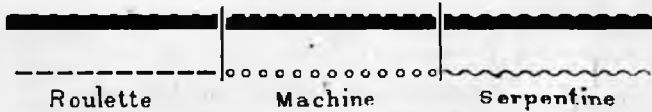


Fig. 75.

and not by the number of holes at the top or side of any given stamp, as shewn on a reduced scale in figure 76.

With a view to assisting collectors in the classification of perforations, I have for some time now published a Transparent Perforation Measure at the not very alarming price

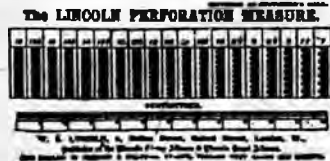


Fig. 76.

of threepence. The need of such a thing is manifest when it is remembered that the value of the stamps of Prince Edward Island, British Guiana, Sierra Leone, Austria, Baden, Finland, Lagos, Russia, and many other countries, varies according to the number of perforations.

CHAPTER XI.



ON SURCHARGES AND ALTERATIONS.

MORE than once in the foregoing pages I have had occasion to mention the word "surcharge." Before giving a few examples of surcharged stamps, it may not be out of place to explain exactly what is meant in philately

by a "surcharge." When a surcharged stamp is referred to it implies that it is one upon which some inscription, device, or figure, has been placed after it has been issued in the ordinary way.

Such an inscription generally denotes a change in the nature of the Government in authority where the stamp is used, an alteration in the value of the stamp, or that it is intended for use in a State other than that from which it emanated. Surcharges are, of course, generally of a provisional nature, stamps so altered being only circulated until those of the particular kind or value required have been produced, hence the tendency of all surcharged stamps is to become scarce.

To illustrate the subject of surcharges occasioned by change of Government, and by alteration in the value of stamps, we cannot do better than turn to those issued in Transvaal.



The earliest stamps used in the Transvaal were issued in 1869. The first remark to be made about them has a very familiar ring; they were "made in Germany." Four, ranging in value from one penny to a shilling, were issued not perforated. The penny (red), sixpence (blue), and shilling (green) stamps, were also issued with roulette perforations. There are to be found two varieties of the sixpenny roulette perforated stamps, the



same in colour, but whereas most have over the Transvaal arms an eagle with outstretched wings like the other stamps in the same set, a few were printed bearing an eagle with wings closer to its body. Used specimens of these latter stamps now sell at about 10/6 each.

The following year the dies were sent over from Germany, and stamps were printed in the Transvaal. The locally printed stamps were blurred and generally badly turned out. The artistic temperament is not much in evidence in the worthy Burgher's character. These stamps are to be found without perforations, with narrow-dented roulette perforations, with broad-dented roulette perforations, and with machine perforations. The roulette perforated specimens, with broad dents, are now becoming very scarce, specimens of the penny stamp realising about £4 each when used, and the threepenny and sixpenny stamps even more.



In 1877, the Transvaal was annexed by Great Britain at the request of the majority of its inhabitants, and during that and the following year, the Boer stamps were surcharged "V. R. Transvaal." In 1879, a regular series of stamps, seven in number, was produced,



bearing Queen Victoria's profile with the inscription in English. Of these the halfpenny (scarlet), shilling (green), and two shillings (blue), are now fairly rare. At times the demand for penny stamps exceeded the supply, and the postal authorities met the difficulty by surcharging sixpenny stamps "1 penny." There are seven varieties of surcharges in red, and seven in black.

In 1880 the Boers declared war against Great Britain. What followed is not pleasant reading to Englishmen. None the less, it is history. In 1881 Majuba Hill was fought and lost—by the English. The Burghers thereupon revenged



themselves on our proceedings of 1877 by surcharging Her Majesty's portrait with inscriptions that look like a vile parody on English. Sixpenny stamps were surcharged "Halvepenny Z.A.R." and "Tweepenny Z.A.R." Fourpenny stamps were surcharged "Eenpenny." The letters "Z.A.R.," it may be stated, stand for "Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek."

In 1884, the British Government having granted the Boers independence, four stamps were issued similar in design to those of 1869.



In 1885 a smaller and neater series was brought out, numbering eleven in all, or if the two shades of brown in which the twopenny stamps were produced are counted, twelve. The lowest value is a halfpenny, the highest, five pounds. This high-priced stamp is green in colour, and exceedingly scarce. In 1894 yet another



issue appeared, bearing the Transvaal arms in an octagon whereon a waggon with two shafts was shewn. This was an error, as waggons in the Trans-

vaal are pulled by a pair of oxen, and the stamps were withdrawn in favour of others, displaying a waggon with one pole, or "disselboom," which would, of course, accommodate two beasts. Another set of the same device was issued in 1896, with values printed in different colours to the rest of the stamp, except the halfpenny, which is all green, these have been surcharged, and how, we shall mention in next chapter.

The instances of stamps being surcharged for use in places other than those for which they were originally intended are plentiful. For example, when in 1886 the southern portion of Bechuanaland became formally a British possession,



Cape of Good Hope Stamps were used in that region surcharged "British Bechuanaland." Old English Revenue stamps and




ordinary English stamps have also been requisitioned for use in Bechuanaland, surcharged in a similar manner. When, in 1888, British sway had extended throughout Bechuanaland, Cape stamps were requisitioned for use in the northern portion of that vast district also.





They were surcharged "Bechuanaland Protectorate." British South Africa Company's stamps may also be met with surcharged "B.C.A.," which implies that they have been used in British Central

Africa, that immense region situated north of the river Zambesi, which was allotted to Great Britain when the European Powers divided Africa amongst themselves in 1891. Portugal for years surcharged stamps "Açores" for use in the Azores, but these have been superseded by stamps inscribed Angra and Horta, two of the principal towns in the Azores. In like manner the old Portuguese stamps surcharged "Madeira" have been withdrawn in favour of

stamps bearing the inscription "Funchal," which is the capital of Madeira.

Surcharges implying alterations in the value of stamps are also plentiful. Thus, Grenada stamps are often found  surcharged. Three-halfpenny, fourpenny, shilling and two-shilling stamps are all to be found surcharged "1d. Postage." Two-shilling stamps may be met with surcharged "4d. Postage," and eightpenny stamps surcharged "Postage and Revenue 1d.," and by way of a change, "1d. Surcharge Postage."

Quite a unique surcharge took place at the Cape, where it was found that the threepenny stamp was so like the penny one by gaslight that mistakes occurred.  The difficulty was temporarily surmounted by surcharging the threepenny stamp with a large black figure 3, and permanently solved by the issue of a new penny stamp quite different in design to the threepenny one.

 The 2½d. stamp of Malta, owing to the Henniker Heaton Colonial penny postage, being no longer required, the remaining stock was surcharged "one penny." Some in error were surcharged "one penny."

So much for surcharges. As far as alterations to stamps are concerned the most interesting case occurred at Naples during the transitional period between the deposition of King Ferdinand II. and the final incorporation of Naples into the present Kingdom of Italy. In the time of King Ferdinand there was issued a ½ grano stamp, lake in colour, bearing the arms of the Kingdom of Naples. In 1860, Garibaldi, who had declared himself "Dictator of the Two

Sicilies," issued the same stamp in blue with the "G" in the die erased and "Te" put in its place. This was because its value was altered, the "G" signifying grano, the "Te"



tornese. This alteration, however, did not satisfy Garibaldi, and the following year he had the arms of Naples partially erased and the Savoy Cross placed over them. Under the cross a trace of the arms, however, can be discerned. This is a guide to ascertain the genuineness of these rare blue $\frac{1}{2}$ tornese stamps, as they should correspond exactly with their $\frac{1}{2}$ grano lake predecessors, with the exception of the erasements.



New Zealand, for a short period, adopted a novel idea of advertising on the back of postage stamps; you could thus discover the best kind of soap to use, the best waterproofs to wear, the best coffee to drink, and best coal to burn, when stamping

your letters, although your friends to whom the letters were sent might remain in ignorance on these subjects until they had carefully soaked the stamps off the envelopes. Messrs. Truebridge, Miller & Reich, of Wellington, N.Z., were the contractors for these singular advertisements.

CHAPTER XII.

ON CHANGES OF STAMPS CAUSED BY WAR.



THE late war in South Africa caused numerous stamps to be produced, which in some measure form a chronicle of the various events. The 124 days' siege of Kimberley and 119 days' siege of Ladysmith however, were not marked by anything special, further than the postcard issued during the Ladysmith siege with view of the tower of the Town Hall pierced by Boer shells, (the subject of the initial of this chapter) but the siege of Mafeking, which

lasted 216 days, will always be remembered by stamp collectors. When the siege commenced, October 13th, 1899, there was only a small stock of stamps, consisting of Bechu-



analand Protectorate, British Bechuanaland and Cape of Good Hope stamps; these were all surcharged "Mafeking Besieged"

and with numerals of value higher than their former worth; increased double on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 6d. and 1s., and three times on the 1d., 2d., 3d. and 4d. There was considerable risk in getting letters out of Mafeking, many lives were lost in the undertaking, and a high rate of postage was charged. One letter sent to us during the siege had stamps amounting to

2s. upon it, the postage before the war would have been 2½d. only. It may be interesting to note the dates of the post-marks upon this letter. It was posted at Mafeking, April 25th, 1900, reached Crocodile Pools, April 28th, Bulawayo, April 30th, and London, June 8th.

The "Mafeking Besieged" stamps being nearly exhausted it became necessary to produce others, so, during the siege, special designs were made and printed, some with portrait



of General Baden-Powell, and others representing Sergeant-Major Goodyear



riding a bicycle. Those with the portrait of the gallant defender of Mafeking were for postage of letters going outside the lines, and those of Sergeant-Major Goodyear were used for letters from the town to the out-posts and forts, until Mafeking was relieved, May 17, 1900.

Lord Roberts entered Bloemfontein March 13th, 1900, and May 28th ordered the stamps of the Orange Free



State to be surcharged "V.R.I." (Victoria Regina Imperatrix) singularly only one letter less than the original inscription VRIJ (free). Later, the sur-



charge was altered to E.R.I., also Cape stamps were sur-

charged "Orange River Colony" and now we have stamps with



portrait of King Edward VII. Pretoria was entered June 5th, 1900, and Transvaal annexed October 25th, 1900, when by command of Lord Roberts the set of Transvaal stamps mentioned in last



chapter was surcharged V.R.I., replaced afterwards by E.R.I. and followed by a set with portrait of our King.



A special stamp was issued by the Boers inscribed "Commando Brief. O.V.S. Franko," and was used at Modder River, Stormberg and other places during early part of the war.



When the Boers occupied Vryburg, Cape of Good Hope, they surcharged Cape stamps Z.A.R.



New Zealand in 1901 issued a stamp inscribed "The Empire's Call" representing volunteers in khaki uniform and figure of Victory in centre.

Victory in centre.



Queensland "Patriotic fund stamp" and the Victoria war stamps will always remind us of the Australian contingents who so nobly and bravely came forward at "The Empire's Call."

That War has caused changes of Governments and therefore changes of stamps, has already been many times referred to in previous chapters, but we should like to enumerate a few other interesting cases.



During the Chinese expeditions for the relief of Peking, 1900, Indian stamps were surcharged "C.E.F." (Chinese

Expeditionary Force) for the use of the Indian and British troops engaged.

Russian and Japanese stamps were also surcharged for the use of the troops of the respective nations who took part in the Relief of Peking.

During the Abyssinian war of 1867-68, when the, then, capital Magdala was destroyed by the British under General Napier, the troops were supplied with Indian stamps of the 8 pies value, and all that were used during the campaign were postmarked F.F. (Field Force), we have some of them which were put aside during the time of the war, but have never seen them mentioned in any catalogue.

Prussia and Austria made war against Denmark in 1864, with the idea of taking Schleswig-Holstein, and issued square stamps. The next year the Duchies were divided, Austria taking charge of Schleswig, Prussia of Holstein, stamps being issued for each Duchy. In 1866 Prussia quarrelled with Austria. The Austro-Prussian war took place, the Austrians were defeated, and Prussia took both Duchies, issuing stamps with inscription "Schleswig-Holstein."



During the 1866 or "seven weeks" war, our stamp albums remind us of various changes made in the map of Europe. Lombardy Venetia was ceded to Italy. So no more Austrian-Italy stamps were issued. Hanover ceased to issue stamps. All envelopes that remained in the various post offices of Brunswick, Mecklenburg Strelitz, Oldenburg and Saxony, were utilised by having stamps of the German Confederation placed over the original stamps—and then overprinted in

minute letters, with the words "Norddeutscher Postbezirk" printed 60 times, the whole being enclosed in a Greek Key border.



The above illustrations will convey the idea, as the adhesive stamps are torn aside to show the envelope stamps underneath.

Stamps were issued by the German Army when they occupied the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine during the Franco-German war of 1870. Alsace and Lorraine (Elsass-Lothringen) were annexed to the German Empire, by the treaty of Versailles, 1871.



A number of French troops under General Bourbaki, were detained in Switzerland. The Swiss Government received them kindly, supplying the soldiers with stamps for their letters free of cost.



Bulgaria issued a set of three special stamps in 1902 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the defence of Shipka Pass during the Russo-Turkish War of 1877.



Stamps with Chilian arms surcharged on Peruvian stamps were used during the war of 1882-83, between Peru and Chili, when the Navy and Army of Peru were nearly annihilated, and the Chilians occupied Peru.





After the Græco-Turkish War, the Turks occupied the province of Thessaly, and issued a set of stamps during the time of occupation, which continued from April, 1897, till the evacuation of Thessaly, by the Turks, May 7th, 1898. Underneath the signature of the Sultan is a view of the town of Larissa, from which the Greeks retreated. The translation of the Turkish inscription on the stamps is:—"Ottoman Empire Post. Special issue for Thessaly the part of conquered country."

We have alluded before to the portraits on the Confederate States stamps.



In 1865, during the war between the Northern and Southern States, the Great Central Fair or Bazaar was held at Philadelphia, and all proceeds were devoted to expenses of nursing the wounded Union soldiers. Special stamps were sold and allowed to be used on letters posted at the Fair.



February 17th, 1898, the United States war-ship "Maine" was blown up in Havana Harbour, and nearly 300 American sailors sent to a violent death. Then came the Hispano-American war. At the commencement of the war stamps were issued with a picture of U.S. ship "Maine." Strictly speaking these were Revenue stamps, but for a time everyone used them on letters in addition to the Postage stamps.



In Spain, War Tax stamps were issued in consequence of the war, an extra charge on all letters; the word "Recargo" meaning additional tax, and "Impuesto de Guerra" War Tax.





When the United States took Cuba, Philippines, and Porto Rico, U.S.A. stamps were surcharged for use in these places.



While speaking of war and causes of war, two stamps we possess may be of interest to our readers. They are the American Duty stamps issued under the Stamp Act of 1765, which was the cause of the War of Independence.



CHAPTER XIII.

ON ERRORS IN POSTAGE STAMPS.



“TO ERR is human,” and the sad fact has been frequently demonstrated in philately. Mistakes have arisen unexpectedly in designs, in colours, in inscriptions, and in surcharges. In a preceding chapter I had occasion to refer to an error in the design on some of the Transvaal stamps, and that was only one of many such mistakes.

A frequent error found when stamps have been printed in two colours is the centre portion reversed. The Italian *segnatasse*, or unpaid letter stamps, are cases in point. Specimens both of the lower value buff stamps with the value in red numerals, and the higher value blue stamps with the numerals in brown may be found with the numerals reversed.



Far greater rarities of this sort, however, are the 15 cents little square stamps of the United States, shewing the landing of Columbus, and the 24 cents of the same issue, depicting the signing of the Declaration of Independence printed with the designs reversed. There is a chance of finding them in old collections. The reversed specimens are worth searching for nowadays, as they fetch at least £25



each. Another scarcity is the Western Australian 4d. blue stamp of the first issue with the swan the reverse way.

The Brazilian 100 reis stamp, printed in red and blue, may be met with the head reversed; indeed, specimens so printed are by no means rare. The



bird in the centre of certain Guatemala stamps can also be sometimes discovered upside down. I have likewise come across some of the oblong stamps used in the Belgian possession of the Congo with the pretty little view in the middle reversed. The makers of these stamps declare that such a thing cannot have occurred, but having actually seen specimens so printed, at the risk of being considered bigoted, I maintain that the error has certainly happened.

Some stamps bear an embossed device; the embossment taking place after the stamp has been printed, and this, too, has led to some reversed varieties being inadvertently turned out. Specimens of the Italian embossed series and those used temporarily in the Neapolitan provinces prior to their incorporation into United Italy, can be found with this error.

Some of the Peruvian 1 dinero stamps of 1862, both of the pink and of the green variety, may be discovered with the arms reversed. They are scarce, however, the green ones especially so.



The Queen's head on the 4 annas, red and blue, Indian stamp of 1854, may likewise be met with reversed, but examples are very rare indeed.



An error was made in the inscription of the New Zealand stamps with view of Lake Wakatipu, the first printing being spelt "Wakiti-pu." These are eagerly sought after by Australian collectors.

Germany, 1902 set, had an error with the 3 pfennig value, one stamp on each sheet of one hundred stamps had inscription "Dfutsches Reich."



Errors in inscriptions are even more common than in designs. Thus the stamps of the 1852 issue of the defunct Dukedom of Modena were all printed from the same die, the value being inserted with moveable type, whereby numerous errors arose, such as Cnet, 5; Cent, 9; Cnet, 10; Ce = t, 10; Cent, 49; Cnet, 40.

The 2 schilling (brown) stamp issued in Lubeck in 1859 has a curious error. In the bottom row of some of the sheets two stamps were inscribed "Zwei ein halb," instead of "Zwei." The error was soon discovered and rectified, so that stamps with "Zwei ein halb" are very rare. Another strange mistake occurred in printing the 1889 issue of



Brazilian newspaper stamps when by some mischance the inscriptions were given in Spanish "Veinte Reis," "Cuarenta Reis" and "Sesenta Reis." Now a form of Portuguese is the language of Brazil, so the stamps were withdrawn, and the following year saw an issue with the inscriptions in Portuguese, "Vinte Reis," "Quarenta Reis," and "Sessenta Reis" respectively.

Of errors in surcharges there are a number of examples. Several such are to be found on Cape stamps. The four-penny blue stamp may be found surcharged "The. ee pence" and "Three pench," instead of "Three pence," and when the threepenny stamps were surcharged with the numeral "3," for reasons explained in chapter xi., by accident the figure 3 was occasionally



reversed. Stamps so treated are now worth about fifteen shillings each. A far rarer error in surcharge occurred on some of the Transvaal penny stamps, when that country was under British rule in 1877. By some means the word Transvaal was spelt "Transvral." The mistake was soon rectified, and specimens so surcharged are extremely scarce. Of errors in watermarks, I gave one or two examples in chapter x.



It will be seen that mistakes of one kind or another have cropped up in all branches of philately; nor have collectors and dealers been always free from errors. Some of the mistakes made in the early days of stamp collecting were very funny. One in particular occurs to my mind. The 1850 and 1858 issues, both of Austria and Austrian Italy, were printed in sheets of sixty-four oblong spaces. There were, for all that, only sixty stamps on each sheet. For reasons which now seem inexplicable, four spaces were filled in by a St. Andrew's Cross. In the 1850 issue, the cross appeared coloured the same tint as the stamps, on a white ground. The 1858



issue had white crosses on a ground the



same colour as the stamps. These labels, or ornamental designs, style them what you will except postage stamps, which they never were, made up the necessary number or *complement* to complete the sheet. By some means the word *complement* became confused with the word *compliment*, and under the heading of "complimentary stamps," they were actually referred to in some catalogues. As such they may be still occasionally found in old collections.

CHAPTER XIV.

ON FORGERIES AND IMITATIONS.



FORGERIES of rare postage stamps, although still far too frequently found, are much less often met with than in years gone by. The most potent factor in bringing about the decline of the once flourishing, though illicit, industry of manufacturing forged stamps, has been the increasing care and attention bestowed upon their hobby by collectors generally.

It is, of course, the minute details in designs and inscriptions that baffle the forger, and although, alas, we shall probably always have him with us, careful consideration of these details on the part of collectors makes his nefarious calling harder to pursue every year.

Colour is, perhaps the great stumbling block to the forger; it is certainly a constant source of trouble to the collector, and a perpetual puzzle to the compiler of a catalogue. If a number of stamps of any one colour are examined, it will be found that the shades vary considerably. To prove this, it is only necessary to take a few duplicate stamps, and divide them into reds, blues, greens, etc., giving a page in an old copy book to each colour. It is surprising the number of different tints that will be found. This is an admirable way of training the eye for colour, and of minimising the chance of falling a victim to the wiles of the forger. Needless to say, owing to variations in printing, different shades are

often obtained of nearly every stamp, but they are all shades of the same colour, whereas forged stamps are often of quite a different colour to those they are intended to imitate, although the difference is not easily discernible until the genuine specimens and the forgeries are placed side by side.

To illustrate my meaning. If you take a good crimson lake paint, you can obtain a large number of different shades from it according to the quantity of water you mix with it, but they will all be shades of same colour. So, too, if you take a carmine paint, you can obtain as many shades of carmine. Apart, some of the shades of crimson lake might be mistaken for some of the shades of carmine, and *vice-versá*. Placed together, the two colours could always be recognised. Now specimens of any particular stamp are all of the same colour though differing in shade, whereas forgeries are frequently of what is really another, although somewhat similar, colour to that of the original from which they are copied.

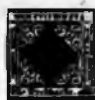
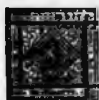
I suppose I could almost fill this book with particulars of different forgeries that have come under my notice during the last forty years. To do so, however, would serve no useful purpose, and would certainly assist forgers to rectify their mistakes in the future. It will be far better, therefore, to give a few instances of peculiarities in certain rare stamps which are generally absent in their imitation. First, then,



a word or two about the early German stamps known as those of Thurn und Taxis. The value of the stamps of the

Northern States was shewn in silber groschen, and of the Southern States in kreuzers, but in both cases the principal device on the stamps was a large numeral. These stamps are rapidly becoming scarce, and the forger has recently been busy on them. Fortunately he has overlooked one important fact, or more probably he hopes his dupes will overlook it. The engraving in the background differs in every value of the genuine stamps, whereas that in the background of every forgery I have seen, has been the same. Thurn und Taxis stamps bear the inscription "Deutsch Oestr Postverein" on the left side, and "Thurn und Taxis" on the right.

The stamps used in Baden from 1850 to 1859 inclusive, also differed in each value as far as the engraving in the background went. In their case the name of the State appeared at the top, and in minute letters on the side was inscribed "Deutsch Oestr Postverein — Vertrag v., 6 April, 1850" (German-Austrian Postal Union—Treaty of 6 April, 1850). The same inscription is to be found on the Wurtemberg issue of 1850.



There are minute marks on the Bremen stamps which were evidently intentionally placed there by the engraver, just as certain little marks are placed on bank notes. Thus,



if the 5 silber groschen (green) stamp is examined, it will be observed that the shading lines are continued right through the figure 5 and the letter S.

The 3 grote stamp (black on blue) has two little white spots in the shading of the centre numerals. These peculiarities are conspicuous by their absence on forgeries.





The stamps of Bergedorf have been forged, but the forgers have been unable to make the circles, which surround the arms, perfect. The imitations shew irregular circles of different sizes. The genuine ones are perfectly regular.



Lubeck stamps have been imitated, but there is an easy way of detecting genuine specimens from false. At the very lowest part in the centre of the real stamps there is a small bar with very minute dots, which vary according to the value of the stamp. The $\frac{1}{2}$ schilling (violet), has one dot over the bar — the 1 schilling (orange), has one dot under the bar — the 2 schillings (brown), two dots under the bar — the $2\frac{1}{2}$ schillings (rose), one dot over and two dots under the bar — and the 4 schillings (green), four dots under the bar —. Every forgery I have seen has had either a plain bar, or a bar with three dots underneath.

In some cases the name or initial of the engraver may be found on a stamp. For example, the English sixpenny, tenpenny, and shilling octagonal adhesive stamps, bore the initials "W. W.," having been designed by William Wyon, R.A., who was chief engraver to the Mint from 1823 until



his death in 1851. The Portuguese issues of 1866 and 1869 had the initials "C. W." (C. Weiner), and the fourpenny octagonal Tasmanian stamps of 1853,



"T. W. C." (T. W. Chard).

The Spanish and Cuban stamps from 1890 to 1896, had the name "Julia" printed in very small letters under the



bust. The particular Julia it may be noted was of the masculine gender, and no relation to Mr. Stead's tame spook. "Julia" was in fact the surname of the engraver of the stamps.

The French "Mercury and Commerce" stamps bear the name of the engraver "Mouchon," whose name also appears on some of the issues of stamps from Abyssinia, Portugal, and Tunis, together with the Brussels Exhibition stamps of 1897, and the Greek "Olympian Games" set of 1896. The two stamps issued by Louis Napoleon as Prince President of the French Republic, had a small "B" under the bust, the initial of Barri, the celebrated engraver to the Paris Mint.



In conclusion, I would point out that there are two errors into which the inexperienced collector is apt to fall. One is this: if he should possess a stamp of the same colour and value as one owned by a friend, but differing in some particular in the matter of design, he is very inclined to jump to the conclusion that one or the other must be a forgery. Truly he may be right in his surmise, but it by no means follows. In 1843, there were issued for use in the Swiss Canton of Zurich two black stamps to the value of four and six rappen respectively. They had at first



horizontal red lines, and later on perpendicular red lines. In the early days of stamp collecting, it was thought there was only one genuine type of these stamps, but it is now known that they were printed in strips of five, each stamp in the strip being somewhat different to its fellows. It is sad to think the standard variety was only preserved in most cases, and the others destroyed. This no doubt in a measure accounts for



the present scarcity of many of these stamps. It cannot be too strongly insisted that it is not wise to destroy any specimen suspected of being, or even known to be, a forgery. It is far better to keep them for future reference, and so be enabled to warn friends against them. A careful comparison of the known forgeries with the genuine stamps is the best way of obtaining a knowledge which will enable you at any time to separate the good from the bad.

The second error common amongst inexperienced collectors is that an unused stamp is likely to be a forgery, whereas an obliterated specimen is probably genuine. As a matter of fact nearly all forgeries are obliterated, indeed I have scarcely ever come across an imitation unused stamp. It is obviously quite easy to forge a post-mark, and if a forgery has its weak points, and every one I have ever seen has had several, the most easy and natural way to hide those weak points is to cover them up with a bogus post-mark.



CHAPTER XV.

ON COMPILING A COLLECTION.



IN no respect is it "more blessed to give than to receive," than in the matter of good advice. We are all quite ready to give good advice, or, at all events, advice which we ourselves believe to be good; very few of us are so ready to accept it. The undergraduate home from Oxford can, and generally does give his younger brothers, still at school, most admirable advice on all matters, from compiling a collection of postage stamps upwards. The younger brothers listen to the advice with more or less impatience and then disregard it.

Nevertheless, I am constantly being asked for my opinion and advice on all matters philatelic. In view of the fact that it is now close upon half a century since I first began to collect postage stamps, this is, perhaps, not to be wondered at. After all, my readers are at liberty to follow any advice I venture to give, or to ignore it at their own pleasure, and if advice in any form is obnoxious to them to disregard the existence of this chapter altogether by not reading it.

One question I have been often asked is this: "Now that there are so many thousand varieties of stamps is it wise to try to collect all?" To this, my reply varies according to

who my questioner is. If he be a young collector taking up stamp collecting as a pastime my answer is "yes," alike for the pleasure to be derived from the extended scope stamp collecting in general gives as for the valuable information to be so obtained. If, on the other hand, my interlocutor is one desirous of taking up the study of philately seriously then I am inclined to advise specialism. By "specialism" I mean drawing an imaginary historical or geographical line and confining the collection to such stamps as come within the line. The line historical might be drawn at the year 1870, and the collection confined to stamps issued prior to that date, or, if it is preferred, to stamps issued after that date. If the line geographical is selected the collector might confine his attention entirely to British and Colonial stamps, or to European stamps, or even to all stamps except European. By this means an approximately complete collection within its own limits may be obtained.

To obtain a really complete collection of all postage stamps, if it is possible, would require leisure and means beyond the reach of all but a favoured few. This is no reason why the ordinary schoolboy or young collector should not collect the stamps of all dates and all nations. He will never obtain a *complete* collection but he may obtain a very good one, and just as schoolboy collections compiled in the sixties and seventies now realise large prices, so his collection may, in course of time, become quite valuable.

Now with respect to preparing postage stamps before inserting them in an album. The *modus operandi* is to soak them in water, thereby detaching them from the envelopes or wrappers to which they had been affixed. That is the rule, but like all rules, it has its exceptions.



Do *not* soak any of the later issues of Portuguese stamps in water. They are printed on paper previously prepared with chalk, and, if put in water, the design disappears. Russian stamps are also made in such a way as not to admit of their being put in water. Some of the British stamps fade if soaked, and if the stamps of Cashmere are so treated the colour entirely disappears, as they are only printed in water colours. In all these cases soak a piece of *white* blotting paper in water, place the stamps face upwards on it, leave them a few minutes in that position, and then gently remove all traces of the paper at the back with a penknife, or, better still, with the philatelic tweezers specially manufactured for that purpose.



Next, with regard to placing the stamps in the album. As stated in Chapter X., I strongly recommend the use of paper hinges, whereby stamps can be turned over to examine watermarks, bad specimens removed in favour of good ones, and any portion of a collection taken out and re-arranged with very little trouble. If, however, a collector is so wedded to old methods that he prefers to fix the stamps direct to the album, good paste is preferable to gum.

As far as the arrangement of the stamps is concerned that must be left to the taste of each individual collector. Some place the stamps in a row as they get them. Others prefer to place them in categorical order, leaving spaces for

such as they do not possess but hope to obtain. Something is to be said for both plans and I do not care to advise in the matter.

When removing stamps from an old album to a new one, if the stamps in the old album have been put in without hinges the best plan is to tear one or two pages of the old album out at a time and place wet white blotting paper on them. Do not be in a hurry to remove the stamps before they are properly soaked, or you will run the risk of tearing them. Do not attempt to preserve the old album. It is quite hopeless to do so; it will never be of any use and in trying to save it you will probably spoil more stamps than it is worth.

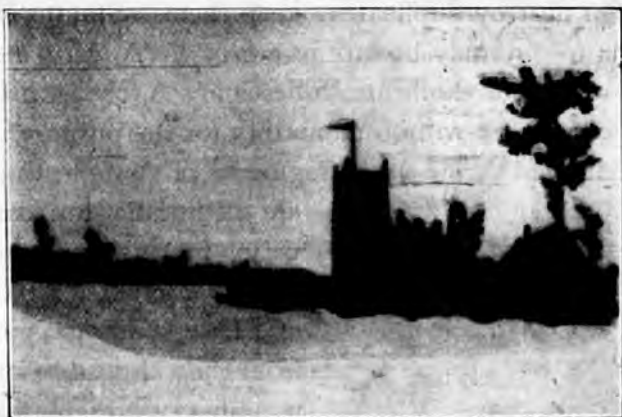
Do not destroy duplicates: keep them. Stamps that are common to-day may be rare to-morrow. A very excellent plan is to keep a duplicate collection. A cheap album or even a copy book will do admirably for the purpose.

Do not even throw away fragments of stamps: those who



are of artistic cult can form very pretty designs from them. I have selected three of these "stamp pictures" from those I possess, of which miniature representations are given; it is needless to say they do not give full justice to them, owing to the lack of colour and being so much smaller than the originals.

The first is a wreath formed entirely of very small fragments of French stamps of Napoleon III. The other two are river



views, the churches, trees and river banks are all composed of fragments of stamps.

Do not maul or finger your specimens, it does not improve them. Once they are in an album they can be admired just as well without being touched.

Do not—but these do not become monotonous—so I will

simply say do not think that in anything I have said in this chapter, or indeed throughout this book, I have been governed by self-interest. I have, as I state in the preface, written it throughout as a collector, not as a dealer. As I know from personal experience, much of the pleasure in compiling a collection is derived from following one's own inclinations and predilections, I will refrain from inflicting any further advice upon my readers.

The writing of this little book has been a pleasurable task, and, in the hope that it may prove of use and interest to them, I leave it in the hands of my fellow collectors.



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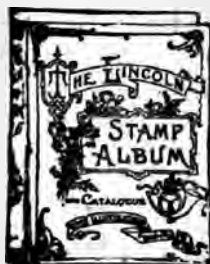


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