

PHILATELIC SECTION.

Bibliotheca Lindesiana.





Grainford 130 (1-4)

GREAT BRITAIN:

LINE-ENGRAVED STAMPS.

By Fred. J. Melville.



Crawford

1304(1)

SIXPENCE NET.



Great Britain:

Line - Engraved Stamps.



Great Britain :
LINE-ENGRAVED STAMPS.

By
Fred. J. Melville,

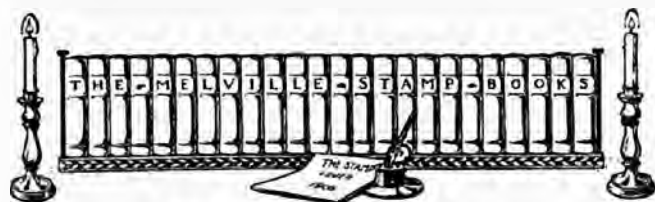
President of the Junior
Philatelic Society.



MDCCCCIX - PUBLISHED - BY - THE
MELVILLE - STAMP - BOOKS,
47, - STRAND, - LONDON, - W.C.



The City Medal.
By William Wyon.



INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

THE present work constitutes an appropriate opening for a series of uniform handbooks on stamps and stamp collecting. Within the limits of a handy pocket book we have dealt with the first adhesive postage stamps, those issued in connection with Rowland Hill's postal reform of 1840.

We have endeavoured to comprise in this and forthcoming handbooks all that is required for ready reference by the collector of the particular stamps under consideration, and offer a convenience in the shape of suitably inscribed gummed labels for affixing to the pages of the collector's album.

For fuller studies of the stamps treated of in the present work the student is referred to Messrs. Wright & Creeke's "A History of the Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles (1899)," published by The [now Royal] Philatelic Society; Messrs. Philbrick and Westoby's "The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain (1881)"; and also to the other books and printed papers mentioned in the bibliography on page 68.

The present series has been embarked upon with the assurance of valued assistance from specialists, and suggestions and communications are cordially invited from collectors.

We are indebted to Mr. S. R. Turner for his original designs, which have contributed so much to the style of the books, and also for his pen and ink diagrams, which will be found of especial value where verbal explanations fall short. We have also to thank Mr. W. H. Peckitt for the loan of stamps, Mr. Charles Nissen for the loan of several blocks and the portrait of Sir Rowland Hill, Mr. P. L. Pemberton for loan of blocks, and Mr. H. H. Harland for assistance rendered in preparing the check list.

Our thanks are also due to Messrs. Charles Nissen and H. S. Hodson, both specialists in the line-engraved stamps of Great Britain, for kindly undertaking the revision of the proofs.



TABLE OF CONTENTS.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE, - - - -	7
CHAPTER I.	
THE PRODUCTION OF THE STAMPS, - -	11
CHAPTER II.	
1840-1880 ONE PENNY, - - - -	42
CHAPTER III.	
1840-1880 TWO PENCE, - - - -	57
CHAPTER IV.	
1870-1880 ONE HALFPENNY, - - - -	62
CHAPTER V.	
1870-1880 THREE HALFPENCE, - - - -	65
CHAPTER VI.	
BIBLIOGRAPHY, - - - - - -	68
CHAPTER VII.	
CHECK LIST, - - - - - -	74



The General Post Office,
London (*circa* 1840).



Great Britain : Line-Engraved Stamps.

CHAPTER I.

The Production of the Stamps.

ON November 9th, 1837, the young Queen Victoria entered the City of London for the first time after her accession, and took part in the celebration of Lord Mayor's Day.

A medal was struck for the occasion, the obverse bearing a portrait of the Sovereign which has been handed down throughout the entire series of the adhesive postage stamps issued in Great Britain during her reign.

Time and again it was suggested to Her Majesty to permit the portrait to be replaced on the later stamps of her reign by contemporary portraits, but the Queen always retained a sentimental interest for that beautiful early portrait.

The medal and portrait had been executed by William Wyon (1795-1851), the leading seal engraver of his time and chief engraver to the mint.

The first Penny Postage Act (182 Victoria, Cap. 52) was passed on August 17th, 1839, and by its

provisions (clauses V.-VIII.) the Lords of the Treasury were empowered "to direct that letters written on stamped paper or enclosed in stamped covers or having a stamp affixed thereto . . . shall, if within the limitation of weight to be fixed under the provisions of this Act and if the stamps have not been used before pass by the post free of postage."

It also empowered them to procure, through the commissioners of stamps and taxes, proper and sufficient dies or other implements for expressing and denoting the rates or duties.

Clause VIII. provides that the duties expressed or denoted by such dies were to be deemed to be stamp duties, and subject to the same pains and penalties for fraud and forgery as stamp duties.

Under the provisions of this Act the Lords of the Treasury invited suggestions in open competition for stamped covers, stamped paper, and stamps to be used separately. About 2700 proposals were received, and none were considered suitable. Mr. Henry Cole, who was assisting Mr. Rowland Hill at the Treasury in arranging the details of his penny postage plan, was then charged with the arrangements for the three kinds of stamps decided upon.



Facsimile of a water colour drawing by Rowland Hill submitted for the approval of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.



Sir Rowland Hill.
From a Photograph.



Sir Henry Cole.
From a Bust in the
National Portrait Gallery.

For the adhesive stamp he went to Messrs. Bacon & Petch (afterwards Perkins, Bacon & Co.), of Fleet Street, informing them that the labels required should be of a size about one inch square, and receiving from them the following day, December 3rd, 1839, their quotation :

“ We would engrave steel dies of the size you gave us, containing work of any conceivable value as to cost and quality, transfer them to any number of plates that could possibly be wanted, and print them in any numbers per day, at a charge of eightpence per thousand stamps, exclusive of paper, which, we understand, would be supplied us ; and, assuming that the numbers wanted would be very large, we have only named a fair price for the printing, and have considered the plates and dies, which ought to be very costly in the first instance, as given in without charge. You are probably aware that having prepared the original die, we could insure perfect facsimiles of it for a century.

“ Our charge would not exceed what we have named above, nor be less than sixpence per thousand ; but what relative position it would take between these two extremes, would depend upon the exact size of the stamp, and the number which the paper would allow us to put upon one plate.

“ We could prepare everything so as to commence printing in a month. Our present belief is that we could print 41,600 labels per day, or double that number in a day and night, from each press employed upon the work.”

Not the least interesting feature of the first stamps was the method of printing them, and it behoves the student of the stamps to make himself acquainted, at least in theory, with the nature of the process by which they were produced. *Household Words*, for February 21, 1852, contains, in an article entitled “ The Queen’s Head,” a very lucid explanation, which is partly followed here ; but we have added a number of details since ascertained, and also endeavoured to illustrate the various stages of the process by diagrams. “ The Queen’s Head,” it is scarcely necessary to state,

refers to the postage stamps which bore the Wyon portrait, and was the common designation of the postage labels in the early days.

The process employed by Perkins, Bacon & Petch was introduced by Mr. Jacob Perkins, the founder of the firm. Mr. Perkins' special profession was that of an *intaglio* engraver. He was a native of Massachusetts, in America, and devoted, from his youth, a great deal of attention to the subject of engraving upon steel. The State of Massachusetts passed a law compelling all banks to use a peculiar form of bank note which he had invented for the prevention of forgery. In 1819, acting on the advice of the British Minister, Sir Charles Bagot, he came to England, hoping to secure the bank note engraving for the Bank of England.

With him he brought four discoveries, the four elements of the work of his art. These were :

FIRSTLY—A mastery in hardening and softening steel, which enabled him,

SECONDLY—To engrave on steel.

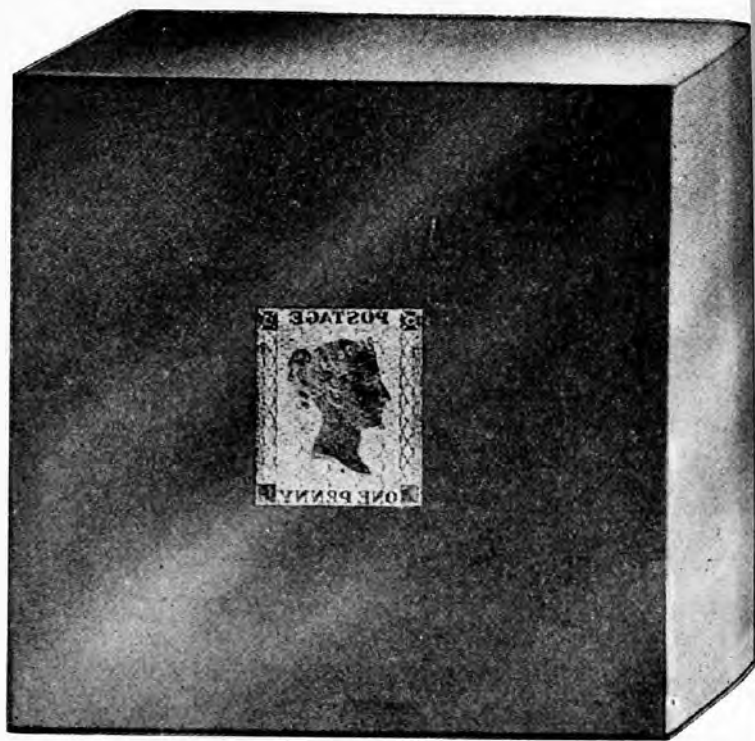
THIRDLY—A process for transferring figures from steel to steel, and thus multiplying the number of plates to be printed from.

FOURTHLY—A new and elaborate style of ornamentation by means of geometrical lathe-work.

The last of these inventions is that which produces the network-looking ground on which Her Majesty's image lies in the postage stamp, and was the invention of a Mr. Spencer. It is the same, in its first principle, as that with which the backs of watches are "engine-turned" by the agency of that description of lathe called a "Rose engine." Mr. Perkins merely elaborated the machine, and applied it to engraving for printing from.



Henry Corbould.
From a Miniature painted by
Edward Henry Corbould, R.I.



The Steel Die.

An approximate reconstruction.

Actual size, 3" square, $\frac{9}{16}$ " thick.

The Bank of England did not take up the Perkins proposals, so, on the advice of Sir Joseph Banks, the inventor set up in business, and the firm of Perkins, Fairman & Heath, afterwards Perkins, Bacon & Petch, now Perkins, Bacon & Co., Ltd., was formed. They secured various contracts for bank note printing, and, as we have seen, in 1840 they got the contract for the new postage labels.

THE DESIGN.—A drawing was made from the portrait on Wyon's medal by Mr. Henry Corbould, for which Messrs. Perkins, Bacon paid the artist £12. This was engraved by one of the Heaths, a family of eminent engravers. James Heath had been appointed engraver to the King [1794], and he was succeeded in that office by his son, Charles. To Charles and also to his son, Frederick, the engraving of the penny stamp has been variously attributed, and with the confusion apparently existing between the authorities, it is not easy to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion on that point.

All the early authorities, including the writer (possibly Charles Dickens) in *Household Words* [1852], and all the writers on postal history who have referred to the subject, agree that Charles was the engraver; Messrs. Philbrick & Westoby [1881] and quite lately [*London Philatelist*, November, 1907] the Earl of Crawford, give the credit to Charles.

Wright & Creeke [1899] state that the head was engraved by Frederick Heath, and it appears from an entry, on April 7, 1840 [*vide Philatelic Record*, xvi. 224] in Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co.'s books, that Frederick received payment for this or similar work, though, as has been pointed out, he might only have given a receipt for the amount on his father's behalf.

Charles Heath was born in 1787, so he would be fifty-three when the "Queen's Head" was engraved. This would not appear to be a too advanced age for the execution of the work. Frederick was born in 1810, and would be thirty in 1840, and we are informed by Mr. Dudley Heath [grandson of Charles] that Frederick assisted his father in the latter years of Charles's life.

Wright & Creeke give no authority for ascribing the work to Frederick, but we have been favoured with the loan of an engraver's proof (see page 22) of the die, one of three taken before the inscriptions were added, and on this, in the handwriting of Edward Henry Corbould [son of Henry Corbould], appears the note :

"Engraver's Proof by Fredk. Heath after Drawing by
Henry Corbould, F.S.A."

Edward Henry Corbould was himself an artist of repute in 1840, and was associated with Frederick Heath in the production of the beautiful 5/- (coin design) stamp of New South Wales; further, he was an original member of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours, founded in 1831. The die proofs of both the 1d Great Britain and the 5/- New South Wales are still preserved by his daughter, who is also a niece of Frederick Heath. Mr. Corbould's evidence is therefore important, as showing that Frederick did have something to do with the work, though it still leaves the possibility open that father and son collaborated.

It may seem strange (though it has no actual bearing on the point) that if Frederick was the actual engraver he should not have been commissioned in 1855, instead of William Humphrys, to strengthen the lines on a copy of the old die. Doubtless, Humphrys [1794-1865] was



Engine-turned background, with space cleared for engraving the head. (*Enlarged.*)



Engraver's Proof of the Die,
with head engraved. (*Enlarged.*)

in the employ of the Perkins firm at the time, and there was no occasion to call in the services of Mr. Heath.

Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. paid £52 10/- for the engraving of the head on the die.

It may not be uninteresting to record that we have received a further claim to a share in the production of the die. This is put forward by a grandson, on behalf of one George Rushall, an engraver in the employ of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. at the time. Rushall, we may judge from specimens of his work submitted to the present writer, appears to have been an adept in the manipulation of the rose-engine. It may not be unlikely, therefore, that his share was the production of the engine-turned background, as shown (with the head portion cleared away) on page 21.

THE DIE.—First of all the design of the stamp had to be engraved on a steel die, the design being reversed and the lines which were to be in colour on the stamps were cut into the metal, in *intaglio*. The die, which was a piece of steel, 3 inches square, by $\frac{9}{16}$ of an inch in thickness, was softened by being placed in a box surrounded with articles that have, when heated, a strong attraction for carbon, and which thus draw the carbon out of it. On the die, thus softened,* the square of fine network, from which the profile is relieved, was engraved by the aid of the improved Rose engine. It is noteworthy, as an evidence of the difficulty of exact imitation, that Mr. J. B. Bacon, in his evidence before the Select Committee on Postage Label Stamps (1852), stated that if his firm were asked which they would prefer—to reproduce that same die again, containing

*The terms "softened" and "soft," in reference to steel, must be taken as comparative only.

the machine work around the Queen's head, unless they had kept all the calculations and divisions upon all the wheels [of the Rose engine], or to make a thousand fresh ones—they would prefer making a thousand; they could do it quicker.

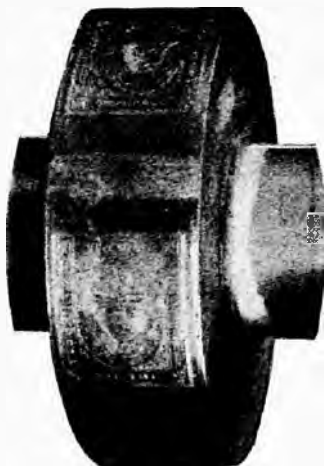
A portion of the engine-turned background was then scraped out in the rude shape of a head, and over this Mr. Heath executed his exquisite vignette from the drawing by Corbould after Wyon's medal.

The hand and the mechanical engraving of the die completed, including the inscription, POSTAGE ONE PENNY, the die, still being soft, was then subjected to the furnace for a hardening process. This time

it was surrounded by matter having no affinity to carbon, the result being that it became even harder than it had originally been.

This steel die is almost imperishable, and its powers of reproduction all but inexhaustible. As every subsequent impression is primarily derived from this one original, not merely uniformity is produced, but actual identity.

THE TRANSFER ROLL.—The method of transferring the die to the plate required an intermediate process. A circular roller of steel was



A transfer roll similar to that used for the line-engraved stamps of Great Britain.



Block of 1d Stamps,
showing corner lettering.



Block of 2d Stamps,
shewing corner lettering.

softened in the same manner as the steel die was softened. The hardened die was impressed on the softened steel roller under great pressure, which transferred the design to the roller. The design thus impressed is a positive, and is in relief, whereas the design on the original die was negative and in recess. The soft roller was then hardened and in its turn transferred to the plate.

THE PRINTING PLATE.—The plates employed for printing the postage stamps were fine oblong pieces of steel. Each plate was large enough to have ranged upon it two hundred and forty penny “Queen’s Heads” —one pound’s worth. The plate was softened, guide lines were made to assist the workman in keeping the succession of transferred impressions in proper or approximate alignment, and the design on the hard transfer roll was then impressed 240 times into the soft plate. The design, which is in relief on the roller, comes in recess on the plate.

ADDITIONS TO THE PLATE.—We have brought the preparation of the printing plate (which is still in its softened state) up to the point where it bears 240 reproductions of the original engraving on the flat die. The design on the die, however, did not represent the complete design of the stamp but 240 copies of the incomplete design, thus :



These were arranged in twenty horizontal rows of twelve impressions each. The lower corners were left blank for the insertion of a series of check letters, which were inserted by means of hardened steel punches. Each punch bore a letter in relief, which it transferred on to the plate in recess, resulting in an inked impression of the letter so punched on the finished stamp. The arrangement of these letters in the first instance was confined to the lower angles of the stamp, the two upper angles containing the small star designs of the original engraving. The lettering in the left hand corner was in alphabetical sequence down the perpendicular columns, and in the right hand corners along the horizontal rows thus :

1st row	AA, AB, AC, AD, etc.,	to	-	-	-	-	AL
2nd row	BA, BB, BC		-	-	-	-	BL
3rd row	CA, CB		-	-	-	-	CL
4th row	DA		-	-	-	-	DL
20th row	TA		-	-	-	-	TL

Before the plate was ready for printing from, the number of the plate was added in the four extreme corners of the plate, and an inscription at top and bottom and at each side which read—

“ Price 1d Per Label. 1/- Per Row of 12. £1 Per Sheet. Place the Labels ABOVE the Address and towards the RIGHT HAND SIDE of the Letter. In wetting the Back be careful not to remove the Cement.”

PRINTING FROM THE PLATE.—The additions of the plate number, the marginal inscriptions, and the corner letters being made, the plate was subjected to the hardening process,* and was then ready for printing from. The printing plates were made in large numbers,

*Some plates were printed from without being hardened.



Charles Heath (b. 1787, d. 1848).
From a Miniature painted by
Andrew Robertson.



Frederick Heath (b. 1810, d. 1878).
From a Photograph.

the original (flat) die being only required to make new transfer rolls.

The presses used for printing the plates were hand presses, and the process does not differ materially from ordinary copper or steel plate printing. The plate is kept warm by gas light, and when ready for printing is placed on the "bed" of the press. The workman takes a bunch of hard blanketing duly charged with the printing ink, and transfers the ink to the plate with a "wriggling" motion, which fills up the engraved lines with the pigment.

Next he carefully and delicately cleans the polished surface of the plate, leaving the ink only in the lines into which it has been forced. A sheet of the approved paper (which is first dampened) is laid evenly upon the plate. The operator turns the wheel of the press, which pulls the "bed" (on which are the plate and the paper) between two cylinders, and they squeeze out

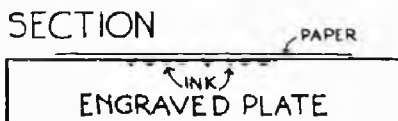


Diagram shewing how the ink on an engraved plate is in the hollowed out lines of the design, whence it is transferred to the paper by pressure.

the ink from the lines indented on the steel upon the paper, and the plate and the paper now duly impressed with 240 "Queen's heads" automatically move back to the operator.

The plate was inked again, and the printing process



Frederick Heath (b. 1810, d. 1878).
From a Photograph.

the original (flat) die being only required to make new transfer rolls.

The presses used for printing the plates were hand presses, and the process does not differ materially from ordinary copper or steel plate printing. The plate is kept warm by gas light, and when ready for printing is placed on the "bed" of the press. The workman takes a bunch of hard blanketing duly charged with the printing ink, and transfers the ink to the plate with a "wriggling" motion, which fills up the engraved lines with the pigment.

Next he carefully and delicately cleans the polished surface of the plate, leaving the ink only in the lines into which it has been forced. A sheet of the approved paper (which is first damped) is laid evenly upon the plate. The operator turns the wheel of the press, which pulls the "bed" (on which are the plate and the paper) between two cylinders, and they squeeze out

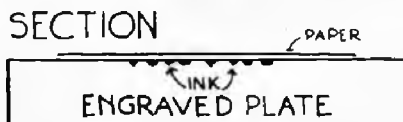


Diagram shewing how the ink on an engraved plate is in the hollowed out lines of the design, whence it is transferred to the paper by pressure.

the ink from the lines indented on the steel upon the paper, and the plate and the paper now duly impressed with 240 "Queen's heads" automatically move back to the operator.

The plate was inked again, and the printing process

repeated as required. The number of impressions each plate yielded varied considerably, but Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. exhibited at the Junior Philatelic Society's Exhibition in Caxton Hall (1908) an impression of the 1d. (1855) stamp in black, being the one millionth impression from the plate. One plate (27) produced in the manner we have described, but from the "re-touched die," to be referred to later, produced 1,011,900 sheets, and was withdrawn on March 22, 1861, and sent to Somerset House, it being noted that it was not even then worn out. Plate (36), also of the same series, produced 1,004,900 sheets.

IMPRIMATUR SHEETS.—Six (?) impressions were taken from each plate before the actual printing began, and from these one was chosen for submission to the Inland Revenue authorities for their approval and registration. This was styled the *imprimatur* sheet, and was retained on file at Somerset House.

GUMMING THE SHEETS.—Before ready for use the sheets had to be backed with an adhesive matter. The sheets of printed paper were laid face downwards upon wooden trays, and the gum was then applied by means of flat brushes. The gum was mixed in steam-heated vessels, then ladled out into pots and kept warm by gas jets while being used by the *employes*. The trays were beaded at the end, so as to enable them to be stacked up in piles for drying without the sheets coming in contact with each other. The drying of the gum naturally crinkled the paper somewhat, and the gummed sheets had to be submitted to a flattening process, for which they were passed through a heavy press which removed every crease.

The writer in *Household Words* tells how "a



1d Stamp perforated by Henry Archer, 1850.



half penny



Watermark Designs, and Proofs from the Dies which stamped the "bits" out of sheet brass for making the watermarks.

great alarm was got up [in the early days of the postage stamps] in consequence of a report that the adhesive glaze used for the backs of postage labels was manufactured of a poisonous material. A prognosis was extensively circulated of a variety of diseases said to be engendered in the systems of rash letter-writers who used their tongues to moisten the labels. Even the cholera was traced to that pernicious practice. The dreadful ingredients of the diabolical manufacture were said to be a mystery. That dark secret we have succeeded in penetrating, and now reveal it, for the benefit of our readers, in two words—'Potato starch.'

The composition of the gum or "cement," as it is styled in the margins of the sheets, probably varied at several periods with the efforts which were put forward to increase its adhesiveness. It is known that gelatine was added to the mixture for that purpose about 1855. Mr. Edwin Hill, before the Select Committee on Postage Label Stamps, in 1852, in answer to question 897, stated that the gum used was potato starch, slightly burnt or toasted, and that (question 892) he did not think there had been any essential difference made in the ingredients.

Nevertheless the gum appears to vary very considerably, and Mr. E. Hill stated that he had been much troubled to account for the differences when he knew that the gum had been taken out of the same cask.

To the gum has been attributed a share in the discolouration of the paper, which, particularly in the red stamps, is noticeable from 1841-1857. The paper appears to have turned a bluish or greenish hue, but it is mostly patchy, and is doubtless due to some chemical

action being set up between various ingredients in some of the matter in gum, paper, or printing ink. Messrs. Perkins, Bacon attribute it to the use of alum as an ingredient used to brighten the coloured ink. The condition of many of the stamps, which have a blued frame at the back, leaving the vignette of the Queen's head in white (generally termed an "Ivory Head" by collectors), supports this view. In any case, specialists now appear to be agreed that the gum had nothing to do with the discolouration of the paper, though, as the gum necessarily damped the paper, it may have assisted the spreading of the blue tint. Mr. H. S. Hodson is of the opinion that the blue tint was caused by the ferric oxide (which was an ingredient of the ink) combining with other impurities (probably in the paper) to form a blue prussiate.



An "Ivory Head."

PERFORATING THE STAMPS.—The system of perforating the stamps was unknown at the introduction of the postage labels, but as in the main the process hitherto described applies to all the line engraved stamps of Great Britain, we may continue our study of the



Jacob Perkins.
From a Bust in the possession of
Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co.



George Rushall.
Employed at Perkins, Bacon & Co.'s, 1840.
From a Miniature.

manufacture of the (later) stamps with a brief description of this process. The introduction of perforation was the result of proposals and trials made by Henry Archer, which trials covered a period of seven years from 1847-53. Specimens of the stamps perforated by the various stages of Archer's machine are collected by the philatelist, and are of considerable rarity. In 1851 a number of his perforated sheets were supplied to the House of Commons for the use of Members of Parliament. It was not until 1853, when the Government had purchased the rights in the invention and the Archer machine, that Mr. James N. Napier, mechanical engineer, was able on behalf of the Government to bring the invention to a practical issue. This resulted in perforated stamps being issued to the public in 1854, as described later.

The sheets of stamps, after being gummed, dried, and pressed, were sent to Somerset House, where the Napier machines, driven by steam, perforated the stamps in horizontal rows, one row at a time, the pins being arranged thus :—



At one operation twelve stamps were thus perforated on three sides only, and the sheet was moved into the next position, where the process was repeated, completing the perforation of the first row, and leaving the next row perforated on three sides; and so the operation was repeated the entire length of the sheet.

The perforating pins were at first arranged to make 16 punctures in the space of 2 centimetres, but it was

found that this weakened the sheets, and the pins, too, were not strong enough. The later perforations were made with 14 pins to the space of two centimetres. a gauge which remained in use to the end of the series of stamps with which the present work deals.

PAPER.—It only remains for us to describe the paper which was supplied to the printers by the Government. It was at first watermarked with a small crown (see page 34) repeated 240 times in the sheet, the margins having the word POSTAGE at top and bottom, and twice at each of the sides, the six repetitions of the word being joined up by a border of five watermarked lines. The paper was at first made by Mr. Stacey Wise, of Rush Mills, Northampton. On his decease his widow continued the business, and later (on her subsequent marriage to Dr. Faircroft) the business was carried on under the style of Faircroft & Co.

The watermark design was stamped out of sheets of thin brass, by means of a steel die. The "bits" (as they are called) were then sent to the paper makers, and were sewn on to the gauze over which the almost liquid pulp is spread in the manufacture of paper. Proofs from the dies, which were used for stamping out the "bits" for later watermarks, are shown on page 34.

The paper used throughout the series of line engraved English stamps was of a greyish-white appearance, but, as already stated, in many cases it has taken a blue or greenish hue from an ingredient in the ink used in printing the stamps. Being hand made paper throughout the series there are considerable variations in thickness and texture.

The greatest care was taken not to permit the leakage of sheets of the watermarked paper. They

were checked out to the printers, who had to account for every sheet under penalty of paying the full face value of the stamps for which the sheets were intended if lost or misappropriated. It is noteworthy that, throughout the forty years during which Messrs. Perkins, Bacon had the contract for printing the stamps, not a single sheet was lost by dishonesty, and not £10 worth (ten sheets) in any way.

It should be borne in mind that while the first "Penny" stamp has been uppermost in our minds during the narration of the method of manufacture, the process is similar for all the line engraved stamps of Great Britain. We are now, however, able to follow the finished stamps through their various changes, and shall deal with any alterations or developments in their manufacture in chronological sequence.

Confining the present brochure to the line-engraved stamps of Great Britain, we have but four denominations, which shall be treated in the following order :—

1840-1880—"ONE PENNY."

1840-1880—"TWO PENCE."

1870-1880—ONE HALFPENNY.

1870-1880—"THREE HALF PENCE."



found that this weakened the sheets, and the pins, too, were not strong enough. The later perforations were made with 14 pins to the space of two centimetres, a gauge which remained in use to the end of the series of stamps with which the present work deals.

PAPER.—It only remains for us to describe the paper which was supplied to the printers by the Government. It was at first watermarked with a small crown (see page 34) repeated 240 times in the sheet, the margins having the word POSTAGE at top and bottom, and twice at each of the sides, the six repetitions of the word being joined up by a border of five watermarked lines. The paper was at first made by Mr. Stacey Wise, of Rush Mills, Northampton. On his decease his widow continued the business, and later (on her subsequent marriage to Dr. Faircroft) the business was carried on under the style of Faircroft & Co.

The watermark design was stamped out of sheets of thin brass, by means of a steel die. The "bits" (as they are called) were then sent to the paper makers, and were sewn on to the gauze over which the almost liquid pulp is spread in the manufacture of paper. Proofs from the dies, which were used for stamping out the "bits" for later watermarks, are shown on page 34.

The paper used throughout the series of line engraved English stamps was of a greyish-white appearance, but, as already stated, in many cases it has taken a blue or greenish hue from an ingredient in the ink used in printing the stamps. Being hand made paper throughout the series there are considerable variations in thickness and texture.

The greatest care was taken not to permit the leakage of sheets of the watermarked paper. They

were checked out to the printers, who had to account for every sheet under penalty of paying the full face value of the stamps for which the sheets were intended if lost or misappropriated. It is noteworthy that, throughout the forty years during which Messrs. Perkins, Bacon had the contract for printing the stamps, not a single sheet was lost by dishonesty, and not £10 worth (ten sheets) in any way.

It should be borne in mind that while the first "Penny" stamp has been uppermost in our minds during the narration of the method of manufacture, the process is similar for all the line engraved stamps of Great Britain. We are now, however, able to follow the finished stamps through their various changes, and shall deal with any alterations or developments in their manufacture in chronological sequence.

Confining the present brochure to the line-engraved stamps of Great Britain, we have but four denominations, which shall be treated in the following order :—

1840-1880—"ONE PENNY."

1840-1880—"TWO PENCE."

1870-1880—ONE HALFPENNY.

1870-1880—"THREE HALF PENCE."





CHAPTER II.

1840-1880. One Penny.



1840.—

THE date for the use of the stamps for the prepayment of postage was fixed for May 6, 1840, by a Treasury minute of April 22, and was communicated to Postmasters and Sub-Postmasters in a Post Office circular of April 25, 1840. The "stamps" referred to included the penny and two penny adhesive labels, and also the penny and two penny Mulready envelopes and covers, which were put into use together. Rowland Hill, in his *History of Penny Postage*, states that the issue began on May 1. "Great, I had the satisfaction of hearing, was

the bustle at the Stamp Office; the sale on this one day amounting to £2500." Thus it appears likely that the labels and the impressed stationery were circulated several days before the time appointed for their use.

The penny adhesive stamp was printed in black (though trials had been made in colours), and plates 1 to 11 are stated to have been printed in this ink. The circular of April 25 gave instructions that the stamps were to be obliterated by a cancelling stamp (sent with the circular to the post-masters concerned) of a Maltese cross design, and with red ink of a peculiar composition.



The ink was to be made up of the following ingredients:—

“ 1 lb. Printer's red ink :
 1 pint Linseed Oil :
 Half-pint of the droppings of Sweet Oil.
 To be well mixed.”

Rowland Hill, who had pinned his faith chiefly to the Mulready covers and envelopes, found these to be much less in demand than the adhesive labels, which at once leaped into popular favour.

“ Meanwhile, the actual production could scarcely keep pace with the public demand, the less so as this took the unexpected form . . . adhesive stamps so fast rising in preference that the great stock of covers which had been prepared proved of comparatively little value. The presses [Perkins, Bacon, & Co.'s] actually at work were producing more than half a million

of stamps per day, but this was insufficient, and sudden addition was not practicable, since, by a relay of hands, the work was already carried on by night and by day without intermission. Of course, such pressure was not without its evils; some of the work being inaccurately and even carelessly executed, so that I began to fear that forgery might be successfully attempted. My apprehensions, however, happily proved groundless; only two attempts, so far as I know, ever having been made, and both of a very bungling character, though in one the author was cunning enough to escape personal detection. In the other, which occurred in Ireland, the offender was convicted and punished. The detection occurred through the fact that a young man had written to his sweetheart under one of the forged stamps, and enclosed another for her use in reply."*

It may here be said that the stamps of Great Britain have very rarely been forged, and the line engraved stamps in particular, with their delicate engine turned background, the beautiful execution of the portrait, and the additional protections of the watermark and the check letters, proved through forty years of use to be practically beyond the abilities of the forger. A lithographed forgery of the 1d. black (detected September 2, 1840), is shown in the Earl of Crawford's collection.

With the penny stamp as first issued, however, there was a difficulty of another nature. The stamp being printed in a fast ink numbers of cases occurred where

* *The Life of Rowland Hill and the History of Penny Postage.* (2 vols., 1880). I. 399.

stamps which had already been used for correspondence were chemically cleaned and used again. The obliterating ink was changed to black, but this did not prove much more effective, as a slight cancellation in black on the black stamp might readily pass unnoticed. Hill consulted Faraday, the chemist, as to the advisability of using an aqueous ink. Many experiments were tried, and the compositions of both printing ink and cancelling ink were varied from time to time.

The plates used for printing these stamps were numbered in the margins at the corners 1 to 11, and the paper was watermarked with the small crown design.



The Penny "V.R." Stamp.

A stamp to which reference should be made here is the penny black, with the letters VR in the upper corners in lieu of the star designs. This was prepared for the use of Government departments, but although specimens were sent out to the post offices, the stamp never came into use. The design of the stamp is similar in every respect to the ordinary penny black, but with the letters V and R in the upper angles.

Some of the copies distributed to the post offices (May 7, 1840) appear to have been used, but most of the cancelled copies found are obliterated with trial marks, some of the sheets being utilised for experiments with cancelling inks.

1841.—It was as a result of the experiments referred to that the colour of the penny labels was changed to red, and the new red labels were issued on February 10, 1841, that date being announced in a Treasury Minute of February 1, and confirmed in Rowland Hill's diary (entry for February 11). Although February 10th was the date of the regular issue of the red penny stamps some few sheets were undoubtedly issued in January, if not earlier. Mr. Hodson has a copy on entire dated towards the end of January, and others bearing even earlier dates are known. Wright & Creeke state that plates 1, 2, 4 to 175, 176 (?) and 177 (?) were printed from for this issue. It is, however, extremely doubtful if plates 4, 6, and 7 were really used for this issue. These three plates were all destroyed 9/1/41 (presumably because they were worn out) and although, according to Wright & Creeke, part of the sheets ordered under a Treasury warrant dated 18/12/40, and 6000 sheets ordered under a warrant dated 4/1/41 were printed in red, yet it is improbable that any but the most perfect plates would be used. In addition to this specialists have failed to discover a single copy of the 1d. stamp in red, which can be assigned to any of these three plates, though copies from the remainder of the first eleven plates are not very uncommon. The impressions of the 1d. red stamp which were enclosed in the circular addressed to postmasters appear to be mostly from plate 5.

Several slight details were added to the margins of the plate as guides to the cutting up of the sheets into half and quarter sheets.

Stamp No. 13 on plate 77 is the interesting error, lettered B only, the right hand corner space being void. The error was corrected, and the plate re-registered at Somerset House as plate 77B. A copy of this error was shown for the first time at the Exhibition of the Stamps of Great Britain held by the Junior Philatelic Society in Exeter Hall, February 3 and 4, 1905.



Variety lettered B only. (Plate 77.)

The colour of the ink used during the period 1841-1854—was red-brown, brick-red (shades).

1852.—With plate 132 a new series of punches was introduced for the check letters, being a trifle larger than those previously in use.

1853.—In this year the watermark underwent a slight modification, being rather taller and thinner.



1854.—About February, 1854, the stamps were issued perforated 16. The method of perforating the stamps was a new invention; in fact, paper had been very little perforated prior to the introduction of the system of severing the stamps on a post office sheet.



Die I. Perforated 16.

which is described in the previous chapter. The plates used for the first perforated penny reds were 152, 155, 157, 160-207, and R[eserve] 1-6. It is stated in *The British Isles* that the reserve plates, 7-14, were never printed from. The colour remained as before.

1855.—The gauge of the perforation was altered to 14, the other details remaining as before, and plates 157, 163, 166, 173, 176-179, 182, 184-204 and R[eserve] 1-6. The change of perforation was not notified officially, and the date can only be approximately fixed by the earliest known dated copy, which is January 16, 1855.



Die II. Perforated 14.

1855.—Towards the end of 1854 it had been noticed that some of the plates gave weaker impressions and did not last so long as the earlier plates from the original die. A copy of the original die was therefrom made, and the copy given to a skilled engraver, Mr. W. Humphrys, in the employ of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. Mr. Humphrys worked upon this copy of the original die, deepening the lines and making a few trifling differences in the resultant plates and stamps, but to all intents and purposes preserving the identity of the original "Queen's head." The plates from the "retouched die," as it is commonly called, were stronger in their delineation of the design, and consequently lasted very much longer. Two plates from this die gave over a million impressions, and one (140) gave 982,500.

To avoid the use of the old original die in mistake for the "new" die, the words OLD ORIGINAL were inscribed upon Heath's die, and the italic capitals "NEW" upon Humphry's "retouched die."

On the introduction of the new die the printers recommenced the enumeration of the plates at No. 1.

Plates 1-18, with reserve plates 15 (?), 17, 18-20, were used before the next change was introduced. (No impression of the reserve plate 15 used prior to 1862 has been discovered.)

POINTS OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DIE I. & DIE II.

	Die I.	Die II.
In the diadem the upper band of jewels appears composed of	round stones	diamond shaped stones
Below the lower row of jewels there is very	slight shading	heavy shading
The lines of shading on the eyelid and the eyeball are	indistinct	clearly defined
The nose is	straight	slightly curved
The nostril is	slightly curved	more arched and more heavily shaded
The upper lip is	short	lengthened and more defined
The lower lip is	lightly shaded and short	heavily shaded and longer
Between the lip and chin is a	slight curve	distinct indentation
The chin has	shading of dots	an extra line conforming to its curve
The band restraining the hair is	hardly visible	clearly defined
The band restraining the hair has	two lines of colour below	has one thick line of colour below
The last two curls in the chignon are	faintly defined	boldly defined and more shapely
The lobule of the ear	curves slightly upward	ends straight at its lowest point, leaving the ear apparently unfinished.
The crosshatching on cheek and neck is	light	heavy



Diagram showing chief differences
between Die I. and Die II.

1855.—The next change to be made was in the watermark in the paper, which in (*circa*) July, 1855, was changed to what is termed "large crown." The design of the watermark is more complicated in its form, and larger in size, the old one having been so small that at times it was not readily distinguishable. The same plates as in previous paragraph, and also Nos. 26-60* (except 53 and 54, which were defective) were used. Both gauges of perforation are to be found



First Large Crown Watermark.

on these stamps, but the later "14" perforation predominates. The stamps are also known to have been used imperforate.

1856-7.—About November, 1856, a quantity (30 reams) of paper was accepted from the makers, which lacked the linear border watermark and the word POSTAGE, which appears six times round the border of the normal paper. Presumably these sheets were utilised, but they only involve a marginal variety, and do not affect the individual stamps.

1857.—The blue discolouration of the paper (page 35) had been a very prominent defect in most of the

*Wright & Creeke are possibly in error in including plates 50 and 51 in this issue. These two plates were constructed with an experimental corner lettering which is easily distinguishable, and although they were officially put to press 27/6/56 and 26/6/56, respectively, they appear to have been kept in reserve until 1861 after which date they are commonly met with (*vide Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *xiv.* 147).

earlier issues of these stamps, and numerous experiments were made to do away with it. The result was, a new ink of a carmine-rose colour (shades) was introduced about March, 1857—the earliest known copy in the new colour and on white paper being dated 25/3/57. From this date the paper retains its original greyish-white appearance. The perforation 14 was now firmly established, but for a short period in 1858 (January and February) the old gauge 16 appears to have been used in some emergency. Probably the use of the 16 gauge began in December, 1857, the earliest known copy being dated 2/1/58.

1861.—In this year a very slight change in the watermark was made, the two vertical strokes jutting up from the base of the crown being removed. This watermark was evidently used concurrently with the previous watermark until 1862.

An error of this watermark, apparently caused by a malformed "bit," has been recorded on stamps lettered MA or ML. Normally the error occurs on the stamp lettered MA, but if the paper was reversed before being printed upon, the error would occur on ML. Similarly, if the error should be discovered inverted it would bear the lettering HA, or, if reversed as well as inverted, HL.



Second Large Crown
Watermark.



Error of
Watermark.

1864.—*Royal Reprint.* In 1864 a request having

been received from some members of the Royal Family who had commenced to collect stamps for copies of the old penny black, the authorities having none of the original stamps available, resorted to a small printing from one of the "penny red" plates (Die II., No. 66), in black. The paper used was the large crown, whereas the original penny black was on the small crown paper. The watermark on the so-called "Royal Reprint" is inverted. A small printing was also made at the same time in red.



1864.—Changes which had already been made in regard to other values of the stamps were introduced into the penny stamp on 1st April, 1864. The changes involved the substitution of additional check letters in the upper corners in lieu of the stars, and the addition of the plate number which was henceforward shown in minute figures on each stamp on the sheet.

To effect these changes the transfer roll was made (from Die II.) in the way already described, and the stars were then cut away from the impressions on the roller leaving them blank like the lower corners. The transfer roll was then impressed upon the plate and the

corners supplied with the check letters by means of the steel punches. A new series of punches with bolder *sans serif* letters replaced the old Roman letters.



Diagram sent out to postmasters pointing out the new method of check lettering and the position of the plate number.

The plate number, too, was added on the transfer roll, the figures being *cut into* the transfer roll, consequently appearing *in relief* on the plates and *white* (i.e., uncoloured) on the stamps.

Plates 71-74, 76, 78-125, 127, 129-225 (all of Die II.), may be found bearing the plate number in the net-work at each side of the stamp, thus :—



Showing the position of the plate number.

The arrangement of the lettering was the same in regard to the lower angles as that already described, but in the upper angles the letters of the lower angles were transposed. Thus the first few rows were lettered—

1st row	AA, BA, CA, DA	-	-	-	-	LA
	AA, AB, AC, AD					AL
2nd row	AB, BB, CB					LB
	BA, BB, BC					BL
3rd row	AC, BC					LC
	CA, CB					CL
4th row	AD					LD
	DA					DL
20th row	AT					LT
	TA					TL

Plates 69, 70, 75, 77, 126, 128, 226-228 were never used, some being defective, the last three not being required owing to the termination of the Perkins, Bacon & Co's contract.

The error of watermark (see page 53) has been recorded as found under the stamps lettered ^{AM}MA₃ on plates 72, 73, 74, 78, 83, 84, 85, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, and 96; and several of these plates are known with the error in stamp lettered ^{LM}ML.

The colour throughout the remainder of the use of this stamp is carmine-rose with a range of shades.

1873.—A small number of impressions from plate 116 were sent in an imperforate state to the Cardiff Post Office in this year. The variety is styled the "Cardiff Penny."



CHAPTER III.
1840-1880. Two Pence.



1840.—

THE design of the two pence stamp issued practically (if not actually) along with the 1d. black was similar in every respect except the value TWO PENCE across the bottom, and the colour which was blue. The price indicated on the margin of the sheet was changed to "*PRICE 2d. Per Label. 2s. Per Row of 12. £2 Per Sheet.*" the remainder of the marginal inscription being as in the penny plates, and the system of check letters (lower angles only) was the same. Plates 1 and 2 were used, the impressions being taken in ordinary blue printers' ink (shades), and the paper bearing the "small crown" watermark. The 2d. stamps were

issued imperforate, in which condition they remained until 1854.



1841.—In or about March, 1841, consequent upon a Post Office Circular issued on February 3 (dated "January, 1841"), the 2d stamps appeared with a white line drawn under the label containing the word POSTAGE, and another over the words TWO PENCE. The cause of the change was the introduction of a new blue ink, more fugitive than that previously used; the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, desiring that the stamps printed in the new ink should be readily identified, ordered a slight change to be made in the plates from which they were printed.

Plates 3 and 4 were used.



Without white lines.

With white lines.

1853.—The second type of small crown watermarks was introduced.



1854.—On January 31 of this year the authorities began to perforate these stamps, the gauge being 16. Plates 4 and 5 were used. The earliest known perforated copy is April 7, 1854.

1855.—The change in the gauge of the perforation already noted in the case of the 1d, from "16" to "14," was made in the 2d about February or March, 1855, the earliest known copy being dated March 4, 1855. The same two plates, 4 and 5, covered this period, impressions from plate 5 being readily distinguishable by the check letters, which are larger in plate 5, corresponding with the larger type of lettering adopted for the penny value in 1852. The two perforations were used concurrently for a time.



1855.—The "large crown" watermark began to be used for the 2d about July in this year, the earliest recorded postmarked copy being July 21. Plate 5 continued in use, and the two perforations were at first used concurrently, the perforation 14 outliving the perforation 16.

1857.—On plate 6, impressions from which were circulated about May, 1857 (put to press May 9), the white lines below "POSTAGE" and above "TWO PENCE" were perceptibly thinner than on the other plates. The earliest known dated copy is July 2, 1857.



Thin white lines. (Plate 6.)

1858.—The new die for the 1d (Humphrys' "re-touched die") was used in making a new die for the 2d value. On the plates made from this die *sans serif* check letters were introduced in all four corner blocks (the stars in the upper ones being erased on the transfer roll) and the plate number inserted in the perpendicular network border at each side of every stamp. Plates 7, 8, 9 and 12 were used, 10 and 11 being discarded as defective. Type II. of the large crown watermark



was used for these and subsequent impressions (and probably the error of watermark may be found as in the 1d), except those from plate 7, which are only found with type I of the large crown watermark; and impressions from 8 and 9, which are found with both watermarks.



Thick white lines and letters in four corners.

1869.—The white lines beneath the word POSTAGE and over the words TWO PENCE were thinner on plate 13 (put to press April 13, 1869) and also on plate 14 (put to press September 16, 1871) and 15 (put to press March 14, 1876). Plate 15 was the last plate used for the line engraved 2d stamps.



Thin white lines and letters in four corners.



CHAPTER IV.
1870-1880. One Halfpenny.



1870.—

THE introduction of a halfpenny postal unit in the rate for inland newspapers, printed matter, patterns and samples, brought about the necessity for a halfpenny postage stamp. A Post Office Circular of September 10, 1870, announced the reduction to come into force on October 1 of that year. The stamp prepared by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. for this denomination was of approximately half the size of the penny and twopenny labels, and the design is arranged differently. The vignette of the Queen's head is in colour on an oval white ground, the oval being framed with an engine-turned border, on the outside of which, on each side, the value is expressed in figures $\frac{1}{2}$ d——— $\frac{1}{2}$ d in uncoloured letters

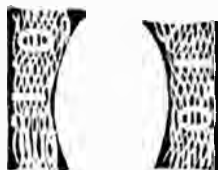
on a ground of solid colour. Sans serif check letters appear in all four corners, and the plate number, in small white figures, is indicated in the engine-turned background, close to the dividing bar of the fraction.

The plates of these stamps bore the design 480 times on each plate, arranged in twenty horizontal rows of twenty-four stamps to the row. The marginal inscriptions were similar to the other line engraved stamps, save that the indication of price read—

"Price 1/2d Per Label. 1/- Per Row of 24. £1 Per Sheet," and the system of check lettering, while on exactly the same principle as before, had to be extended to cover the long horizontal rows of 24 stamps.

1st row	AA, BA, CA, DA, EA,				XA
	AA, AB, AC, AD, AE, etc.	-			AX
2nd row	AB, BB, CB, DB,				XB
	BA, BB, BC, BD, etc.	-	-		BX
3rd row	AC, BC, CC,				XC
	CA, CB, CC, etc.	-	-	-	CX
4th row	AD, BD,				XD
	DA, DB, etc.	-	-	-	DX
20th row	AT,				XT
	TA, etc.	-	-	-	TX

The plates used were 1, 3-6, 8-15, 19, 20, all of which are to be distinguished by the plate number on



Shewing the position of the plate numbers.

the stamps. The paper was specially prepared for this issue with a watermark in script of the words half penny 160 times in the sheet, in twenty rows of eight, so arranged as to allow the word "halfpenny" to extend over three of the stamps. The side margins of the sheet contained the watermark "Postage Stamps," also in script. The stamps may be found with the "half penny" watermark inverted, and also with the watermark reversed. The stamp is also found without watermark printed on the margin of the sheet.

half penny

Watermark extending across three stamps.

The colour of this stamp was lake-red to rose-red, and the perforation gauges 14. Owing to the different arrangement of the plate from the penny and twopenny plates, it was necessary to perforate them, starting from the (either) side, causing a row on either the right or the left side to consist of stamps perforated on three sides only. Imperforate copies also exist of plates 1, 4, 5, and 6. Pairs may also be found imperforate between.





CHAPTER V.

1870-1880. Three Halfpence.



1870.

THE issue of a stamp of the denomination $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. was first contemplated in 1860, when a first plate was made from a die constructed out of a reproduced die of the Humphrys retouch (Die II. of the One Penny). The vignette of the Queen's head was left untouched, but the background and the labels containing the words POSTAGE and ONE PENNY were so erased as to enable a new design to be engraved round the head. This consisted of a white shield-shaped border, composed of three curved bands, each partly touching the extreme outer

edge of the design. On the left-hand curve is the word POSTAGE, on the top curve THREE, and on the right hand curve HALF PENCE all in coloured *sans serif* capitals. The four angles were used for check letters.

When this plate was made, in 1860, 10,000 sheets were printed in lilac-rose, but they were never brought into use owing to the failure to secure Parliamentary sanction to a new rate for which they had been intended. The new rate for newspapers, printed matter, and samples, however, found a use for the plate, which was again put to press in June, 1870, and printed in lake-red for issue on October 1st, 1870. The bulk of the old lilac-rose impressions (stated to be 8962 sheets) had been destroyed in 1867.

Plate 1 bears no plate number upon the stamps; the lettering is on the same plan as the 1d. and 2d. stamps, lettered in all four corners, but the 3rd stamp in the 15th horizontal row is wrongly lettered ^{OP}PC instead of ^{CP}PC. This error is to be found in the old lilac-rose unissued printing, and in the issued lake-red colour.



Pair — the second stamp being the error, lettered OP-PC instead of CP-PC.

It should be stated that the marginal inscription was varied on the plate in regard to the value—

Price 1½d Per Label. 1/6 Per Row of 12. £1 10s Per Sheet, etc.

The watermark was the second type of the large crown.



A second plate (No. 2) was discarded as defective, and on plate 3 (the only other plate employed except plate 1) the figure "3" is inserted in the borders of each stamp, between the lower corner letter and the point where the curved bands commence to cut into the border.



Shewing the position of plate number.





CHAPTER VI.

Bibliography.

NO complete bibliography of the literature of the "Line-Engraved Stamps" of Great Britain could be presented in the present volume, nor would any valuable purpose be served by attempting it if space permitted. The following bibliographical index outlines the principal references to these stamps in standard published works and periodicals, and should prove of convenience and assistance to the student who has access to a good library.

COMPLETE BOOKS AND SPECIALISED PERIODICALS.

CREEKE, A. B., jun. *See* Wright, H. E. and A. B. Creeke, jun.

— "A supplement to British Isles." London, 1903.
* * * Plate.

EWEN, H. L. [Editor]. "The English Specialists' Journal." 17 Nos. Swanage [1-9] and Norwood [10-17], 1895-1897.

A monthly magazine devoted exclusively to the study of the stamps of Great Britain. The contents of the seventeen numbers have not been indexed in the subsequent portion of this index, except in one or two special instances; the student will, however, find the journal of constant reference value.

— "Standard Catalogue of British Stamps." 6th Edition. Norwood, 1898.

MELVILLE, F. J. "The Postage Stamps of Great Britain." London, 1904. * * * Plates.

An elementary primer issued by the Junior Philatelic Society.

NISSEN, C. [Publisher]. "The British Philatelist." London, 1908—in progress.

A specialised journal chronicling new discoveries, varieties, etc., in British stamps.

PHILBRICK, F. A., and W. A. S. WESTOBY. "The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain." London, 1881.

The standard work on these stamps until 1899, when Wright & Creeke's "British Isles" was published. It was issued under the auspices of the (now Royal) Philatelic Society. Supplementary notes to this work appeared in the *Philatelic Record*, V., 80, 95, 112, 148, 169, 200, VI., 23, 96, 133, 155, 196, VII., 92, 150, 165, 194, XII., 161.

WESTOBY, W. A. S. "The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe" (2 vols.). Vol. I., pp. 262-280. London, 1898.

A short, concise study of English stamps.

— "Descriptive Catalogue of all the Postage Stamps of the United Kingdom," etc., issued during fifty years. London, 1891 [2nd edition, 1892].

— See Philbrick, F. A., and W. A. S. Westoby.

WRIGHT, H. E., and A. B. CREEKE, jun. "A History of the Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles," etc. London, 1899. * * * Plates.

This, the chief work of reference and the leading authority on the stamps of Great Britain, was compiled for the Philatelic Society. Very full and documental histories of the issues and valuable tables of statistical digests from the Archives at Somerset House are given. The supplement (*vide* Creeke, A. B., jun.) contains important *addenda et corrigenda*.

INDEX TO THE CHIEF PRINTED ARTICLES AND
PAPERS IN PHILATELIC PERIODICALS.

ABBREVIATIONS.

- B.P.—British Philatelist.
 B.P.S.—Bazaar Philatelists' Supplement.
 E.S.J.—English Specialists' Journal.
 E.W.S.N.—Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.
 G.S.W.—Gibbons' Stamp Weekly.
 L.P.—London Philatelist.
 M.W.S.N.—Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News.
 P.J.G.B.—Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.
 P.J. of I.—Philatelic Journal of India.
 P.R.—Philatelic Record.
 S.C.—Stamp Collector (Birmingham).
 S.C.A.—Stamp Collectors' Annual.
 S.C.F.—Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.
 S.C.M.—Stamp Collectors' Magazine.
 S.G.M.J.—Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal.
 S.M.C.—Smith's Monthly Circular.

NOTE.—Roman figures thus—V. denote the volume, and Arabic figures, e.g. 135, indicate the page. In the E.S.J. and in E.W.S.N. the number of the issue alone is given, and in S.M.C. and the B.P.S. the date of issue is given.

ARCHER PERFORATIONS. *See* Perforation.

BLUED PAPER [Peacock], S.C.A., V., 71.

DATES OF ISSUE [Pearson Hill], S.C.M., III., '92.

Earliest dates [recorded in E.S.J. and in E.W.S.N. at intervals, summarised in B.P. I. 58.].

DIE of the 1½d., 1860 [Kingston], L.P., III., 206.

DIES I and II [Bacon], L.P., VII., 207, *Reprinted*

M.W.S.N., XII., 104; [Creeke & Hilckes].

S.C.F., IV., 53; [Kingston], L.P., III., 166.

P.R., XVI., 129, 200; [Philbrick], P.J.G.B.

VI., 7.

FORGERIES, 1d black, E.S.J., I., 59. Forging of the

V. R., S.C.F., I., 94, S.C.M., VI., 7, 183.

S.G.M.J., I., 27.

- GENERAL. [Bornefeld], S.C.F., XIV., 144 ; [Crawford], L.P., XVI., 248, G.S.W., VIII., 319 ; [Foster], B.P.S., 9th March, '98 ; [Philbrick], P.J.G.B., V., 98, 113 ; P.R., XVI., 194 ; [Plain Anchor], G.S.W., V., 67 *et seq.*, VIII., 261 ; [Skipton], P.J.G.B., IX., 201, 228 ; [Stamford], B.P.S., 24th Feb., '97 ; [Taylor], S.C.M., IV., 35 ; [Westoby], S.M.C., April, '81, p. 25, P.R., XI., 153 ; [Wright], L.P., III., 6, 36.
- GUM, P.J.G.B. [Duerst], VIII., 97 ; [Jones], P.J.G.B., VIII., 116.
- LETTERING [Hodson], P.R., XXIX., 118, 133 ; [Marshall], L.P., XVI., 38 ; [Westoby], S.M.C., June, '99, p. 94 [Skipton], P.J.G.B., VIII., 92 ; plate 77, S.C.F., XII., 110.
- ONE PENNY. The Penny Postage Stamp [Westoby], S.M.C., Nov., '79 ; The Engraving of the 1d Black [Poole], S.G.M.J., XIV., 125 ; Dies of the, *see* Dies I and II ; 1d red [Raffalovitch], P.J.G.B., XIV., 200.
- PERFORATIONS [Warwick], B.P.S., 16th Oct., '95 ; (reprint from *The Expert*), S.C.F., XIV., 160.
- Archer's Perforations [Hodson], P.R., XXVIII., 226 ; [Plain Anchor], XXIX., 12 ; E.W.S.N., VII., 195, P.J.G.B., XI., 192.
- Double Perforations, E.W.S.N., 1329, 1333, 1341, 1353, 1361, 1377, 1469.
- Forged Perforations, B.P.S., 14th March, '00.
- Perforating Machines at Somerset House [Peacock], S.C.A., V., 45.
- [*Vide* also Report from the Select Committee on Postage Label Stamps, 21st May, 1852.]

PLATE NUMBERS [Morley], B.P.S., April, '95, 38; B.P.S., 13th Dec., '99, 10th Jan., '00, 14th Feb. '00, 14th Mar., '00; [Westoby], S.M.C., Mar. '79; ("126" reported) B.P.S., 10th June, '95, S.C.F., I., 173, 179.

PLATES. Notes on the 1d Black Plates [Hodson], P.J.G.B., XVIII., 13; Plates Never Put to Press ["Quilp"], L.P., II., 97, P.J.G.B., III. [to supplement "Review of Reviews II.," 60]. Registration of Plates, E.S.J., 17; Plate of the 1½d [Westoby], S.M.C., July, '99.

PLATING [Kuhn], S.C., II., 134; 1d Black, E.W.S.N., 1229, 1245, 1259, P.J.G.B., XVIII., 13; 2d (1841), [Skipton], E.S.J., 7, 8, *** 2 plates.

POST OFFICE CIRCULAR of 1841, L.P., XII., 31.
[Vide also Wright & Creeke for documentary records, and also Reports of P. O. Select Committees, 1837-1844, and Pamphlets by R. Hill, W. H. Ashurst, Pearson Hill, P. Chalmers, etc.]

ROYAL REPRINT [Ridley], B.P.S., 2nd Dec., '95; [Westoby, Ridley and others], B.P.S., 8th Jan. '96, 25th March, '96.

VARIETIES, Abnormal [Wright], P.R., XVIII., 5; Reprinted in E.S.J., 5, 6 [Skipton], P.J.G.B., IX., 201, 228, (plate 77), S.C.F., XII., 10, (broken corner), P.R., XXVI., 86, (plate number varieties), S.C.F., XIV., 119.

— Cardiff Penny, S.C.F., I., 74, [Id. 1841, "Retouch," i.e., "outer line all round" variety], P.J.G.B., I., VI., 400, P.R., XXIV., 215, 258, L.P., XI., 265, XII., 10, 83, 111, S.G.M.J., XIII., 85, B.P., I., 16.

- V. R. STAMPS, Obliterated [Westoby], P.R., VI., 189, VII., 60; [Pearson Hill, Parr, Earee], B.P.S., 10th June, '95.
- Forgery, S.C.F., I., 94, S.C.M., VI., 7, 183, S.G.M.J., I., 27.
- WATERMARKS, Inverted, E.W.S.N., 1324, 1329, 1337, 1353, 1361, 1533; Large Crown [Plowright], E.S.J., 8; Large Crown, error, P.R., XXVI., 20; Small Crown [Plowright], E.S.J., 6.





CHAPTER VII.

Check List.

BLUED PAPER.—Where the paper shows the blue discolouration referred to on p. 35.

DIE I. and **DIE II.**—Stamps originating from Heath's original die are listed as **DIE I.**, and those from Humphrys' "retouched die" as **DIE II.** (See pp. 49-51.)

GUIDE LINES.—The guide lines drawn on the plate to indicate the positions for impressing the transfer roll were cleaned off the plate before printing from it, but occasionally, when the transfer roll had been slightly out of the correct position, a line, or portion of a line, was left, which shows on the stamp. Such varieties are often incorrectly termed "hair lines."

IVORY HEAD.—(See p. 36.)

LETTERING VARIETIES.—In punching the letters on the plates mistakes were sometimes made. A workman, after indenting a letter slightly, might find it to be badly placed, or the wrong letter. The right letter would then be adjusted and indented upon the plate, which would then show one letter clearly and traces of the first letter. (**DOUBLE LETTERS.**)—The workman occasionally found it necessary to touch up certain of the check-letters which had been imperfectly punched on to the plate. Such retouching was done by hand.

and certain letters are often found enlarged out of all proportion to the lettering upon the other stamps of the plate, and even differing considerably from the letter in the other corner of the same stamp. LETTERS RETOUCHE^d BY HAND.—The letter S frequently occurs the wrong way up (INVERTED S). The only important ERRORS OF LETTERING are the 1d red, lettered B only, and the 1½d red, lettered ^{OP}PC instead of ^{CP}PC. For the convenience of the collector working out the minor lettering varieties a tabulated form is given with the check list.

PERFORATION.—Where the perforating pins were arranged with sixteen pins to the space of 2 centimetres it is styled PERF. 16; the later gauge of fourteen pins to the space of 2 centimetres is styled PERF. 14. Where the machine has struck the paper twice and shows twice on the stamps it is indicated as DOUBLE PERFORATION. Stamps or varieties not perforated are indicated by the word IMPERFORATE, or abbreviated to IMPERF. ROULETTING is a variation of perforating in which a series of short cuts ----- is made by a wheel instead of a series of perforated holes made by means of punches or pins.

WATERMARKS.—Three distinct watermarks, two subsidiary types, and one error of watermark are summarised thus :



Small Crown. Large Crown. Halfpenny in script extending across
1840. 1855. three stamps.



Small Crown.
Second Type. 1853.



Large Crown.
Second Type. 1861.



Large Crown.
Error.

INVERTED WATERMARKS are caused by the paper being fed into the press upside down; REVERSED WATERMARKS by the stamps being printed on the back of the paper instead of on the top surface.

One Penny.

1840.—Die 1. Small crown. Imperf. Small Roman check letters.

1d black.

Varieties.

Early impression (intense black).

Worn plate (grey-black).

Guide lines.

Double letters.

Letters retouched by hand.

Watermark inverted.

V.R. in upper corners (intended but not issued, for official use).

Blued paper.

1841.—Die 1. Small crown. Imperf. Small Roman check letters.

[NOTE.—The paper is more or less blued from 1841 until 1857. From 1857 it is greyish-white].

1d bright red.

1d red-brown.

1d brick-red.

1d plum.

Varieties.

White paper.

Ivory head.

Worn plate.

Lettered B only, the right corner
being void (plate 77).Roller applied twice, leaving two
impressions.

Double letters.

Letters retouched by hand.

Inverted S.

Guide lines.

Outer line all round (occurs on
every stamp on plate 90, and
on various individual stamps
from a number of other
plates).

Watermark inverted.

Rouletted by Archer (11½, 12).

Perforated by Archer (perf. 16);
identified by dates prior to
1854 and by the small Roman
check letters.

Private roulettes.

1852.—Die I. Small crown. Imperf. Larger
Roman check letters.

1d lake-red.

1d brick-red.

Varieties.

White paper.

Worn plate.

Small crown watermark, second
type.

Watermark inverted.

Inverted S.

Ivory head.

Roller applied twice, shewing two impressions (plate 145).

Private wavy roulette.

Napier's perforation (distinguished from Archer's by the check lettering being of the larger type of this issue, and from the 1854 emission by the date being previous to January, 1854).

1854.—Die 1. Small crown. Perf. 16. Larger Roman check letters.

1d lake-red.

1d brick-red.

Varieties.

White paper.

Worn plate.

Watermark inverted.

Small crown watermark. Second type.

Double perforation.

Inverted S.

Ivory head.

Large semi-circular perforation (about 5) somewhat resembling the "wavy" roulette, due to faulty pins; found normally on the left edge of the sheet only, but occurring also on the right when the sheet has been reversed.

1855.—Die I. Small crown. Perf. 14. Large Roman check letters.

1d red-brown.

1d brick-red.

1d orange-red.

Varieties.

White paper.

Worn plate.

Inverted S.

Watermark inverted.

Double perforation.

Ivory head.

1855.—Die II. Small crown. Perf. 14 and perf. 16. Large Roman check letters.

1d brick-red.

1d orange-red.

1d lake-red.

Varieties.

White paper.

Watermark inverted.

Ivory head.

Imperforate.

Double perforation.

Inverted S (perf. 14 and 16).

Roller applied twice, shewing

POSTAGE printed double (perf.

16).

1855 (July).—Die II. Large crown. Perf. 14 and perf. 16. Large Roman check letters.

1d brick-red.

1d red-brown.

1d lake-red.

1d rose-red.

Lettering Varieties.....

Plate.	Lettering.	Variety.	Postmark.	NOTES.

1d red-orange.

1d rose-orange.

Varieties.

Imperforate.

White paper.

Watermark inverted.

Inverted S.

Roller applied twice, shewing
POSTAGE printed double (perf.
16).

Traces of stars in lower right angle
of stamp lettered AD. In early
impressions similar traces can
be seen in the lower left angle.)

1857 (March).—Die II. Large crown. Perf. 14
and (? January, 1858) perf. 16. Large Roman
check letters.

1d carmine-rose (shades).

Varieties.

Imperforate.

Double perforation.

Watermark inverted.

Traces of star in lower right angle
of stamp lettered "A.D." (perf.
14 and perf. 16).

Oxford Union Society's overprint,
"O.U.S."

1861.—Die II. Large crown (second type). Perf.
14. Large Roman check letters.

1d carmine-rose.

Varieties.

Double perforation.

Watermark inverted.

Inverted S.

Error of watermark. (Stamps
lettered ^{AM}_{MA} and ^{LM}_{ML}).

1864.—Die II. Inverted large crown (second type).
Imperf. (Plate 66).

1d black, "Royal Reprint."

1d red " "

1864 (April).—Die II. Large crown (second type).
Perf. 14. Sans serif letters in all four corners. Plate
numbers in side network. (Pl. 71-74, 76, 78-125,
127, 129-225.)

1d carmine-rose.

1d carmine-red.

1d rose-red.

1d rose-pink.

Varieties.

Error of wmk. Stamps lettered
^{AM}_{MA} and ^{LM}_{ML}.

Watermark inverted (known on all
plates except 93, 109, 124,
145, 163, 206, 223, 224.

Imperf. Pl. 78, 90, 92, 100, 103,
107, 108, 109, 110, 114, 116
("Cardiff penny"), 120, 121,
136, 148, 152, 158, 162.

Imperf. horizontally.

Double perf.

Inverted S. Stamp lettered ^{AS}_{SA}.

Oxford Union Society's overprint
"O.U.S." on face, and on
gum (varieties).

Private firms' overprints.

Plate Numbers.—

71, 72, 73, 74, —, 76, —, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83,
 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96,
 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106,
 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116,
 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, —,
 127, —, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136,
 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146,
 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156,
 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166,
 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176,
 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186,
 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196,
 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206,
 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216,
 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225.

Two Pence.

1840.—Die I. Small crown. Imperf. Small
 Roman check letters. No white lines.

2d light blue (shades).

2d dark blue ..

2d violet-blue.

Varieties.

Worn plate.

Watermark inverted.

Double letter.

1841.—Die I. Small crown. Imperf. Small
 Roman check letters. White lines.

[NOTE.—The paper is more or less blued from 1841 until 1857.
 From 1857 it is greyish-white.

2d violet-blue.

2d dull blue.

2d deep blue.

2d pale blue.

Varieties.

Guide lines.

Watermark inverted.

Ivory head.

1854.—Die I. Small crown. Perf. 16. Plate 4
has small check letters, plate 5 larger. White lines.

2d blue.

2d dark blue.

Varieties.

Watermark inverted.

Small crown watermark. Second
type.

Ivory head.

Double perforation.

1855.—Die I. Small crown. Perf. 14. Plate 4
has small check letters, plate 5 larger. White lines.

2d blue.

2d dark blue.

Varieties.

Watermark inverted.

Ivory head.

1855 (July ?).—Die I. Large crown. Perf. 14 and
perf. 16. Larger Roman check letters. Whiter lines.

2d blue.

2d dark blue.

Varieties.

Watermark inverted.

Ivory head.

Double perforation.

1857 (July ?).—Die I. Large crown. Perf. 14 and perf. 16. Large Roman check letters. Thinner white lines (plate 6).

2d blue.

2d dark blue.

2d violet.

Varieties.

Watermark inverted.

Double perforation.

Ivory head.

1858.—Die II. Large crown (type I., plates 7, 8, and 9; type II., 8, 9, and 12). Perf. 14. Sans serif letters in all four corners. Thick white lines. Plate numbers in side network (pl. 7, 8, 9, 12).

2d dull blue (shades).

2d deep blue ..

2d pale blue.

Varieties.

Watermark inverted.

Error of watermark (plate 9).

Ivory head.

Overprinted on back with names of various firms.

1869.—Die II. Large crown (second type). Perf. 14. Sans serif letters in all four corners. Thinner white lines. Plate numbers in side network (pl. 13, 14, 15).

2d dull blue.

2d blue.

2d deep blue.

2d violet-blue.

Variety.

Watermark inverted.

One Halfpenny.

1870.—Wmk. "Halfpenny" across three stamps.
Perf. 14. Letters in all four corners.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d lake-red.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d rose-red.

Varieties.

Imperf. on left side (stamps lettered
 $\begin{matrix} AA & AT \\ AA & TA \end{matrix}$).

Imperf. on right side (stamps
lettered $\begin{matrix} NA & NT \\ AN & TX \end{matrix}$).

Imperf. plates, 1, 4, 5, 6.

Imperf. horizontally (?).

Watermark inverted (all plates).

Watermark reversed.

Without watermark.

Plate Numbers.—

1, —, 3, 4, 5, 6, —, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15,
—, —, —, 19, 20.

Three Halfpence.

1870.—Large crown. Perf. 14. Letters in all
four corners. (Pl. 1 and 3.)

$1\frac{1}{2}$ d lake-red (shades).

Varieties.

Error of lettering $\begin{matrix} OP \\ PC \end{matrix}$ 3rd stamp in
15th row instead of $\begin{matrix} CP \\ PC \end{matrix}$ (pl. 1).

Imperforate (pl. 1).

Watermark inverted.

Prepared but not issued, lilac-rose.
(Pl. 1 prepared in 1860.)

Perf. 14.

Prepared but not issued, lilac-rose.

Perf. 14. $\frac{OP}{PC}$ error.

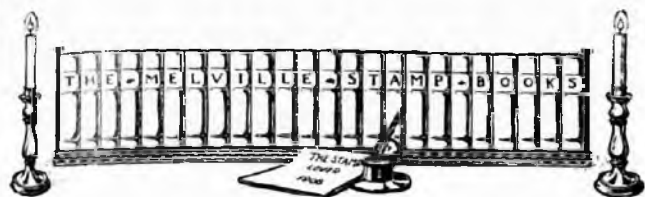
Lilac rose. Imperforate.

Lilac rose. $\frac{OP}{PC}$ error. Imperforate.

Plates [1] (not numbered on stamp), 3 (numbered in network).







ANNOUNCEMENTS.

No. 2 ready in January, 1909.

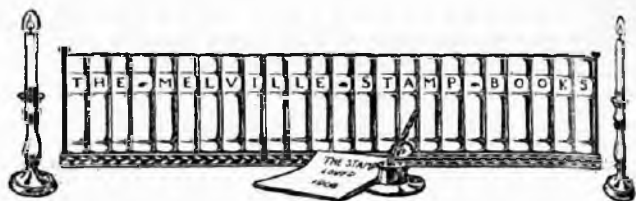
British Central Africa and British Nyasaland.

Illustrated with Maps, Portraits, Original Drawings,
Diagrams, and Stamps.

No. 3 ready in February.

United States, 1855-1869.

Subscription Orders for the first series of eight books (4/2 post free) should be booked at once. Advertisement Rates on application to the Publishers.



NOTICE.

THE MELVILLE STAMP BOOKS can be had from the Publishers at 47, Strand, or at the same price from the following Philatelic Societies and Dealers:—

B. B. KIRBY (Hon. Librarian, Junior Philatelic Society), 74 Alleyn Road, West Dulwich, London, S.E.

H. H. HARLAND (for the Croydon Philatelic Society), Lindale, Parsons Mead, Croydon.

CHAS. NISSEN & Co., 7, Southampton Row, London, W.C.

VICTOR MARSH, 389, Brixton Road, London, S.W.

THE NEW ENGLAND STAMP Co., 12, Bromfield Street, Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

Special terms are quoted to Philatelic Societies and to the Trade for these books, with right of inclusion to the above list in forthcoming issues. For full particulars apply to the Publishers, 47, Strand, London, W.C. Advertisement rates quoted on application to the same address.

In response to several requests, it is hoped to shortly announce the issue of the present volume, "Great Britain: Line-Engraved," in various styles of binding, interleaving, etc. A few large paper (uncut sheets) sets are available for private binding, price 1s 6d.

SPECIALTY:
NEW ISSUES.
(See next page.)

W. H. Peckitt,

47, STRAND, W.C.

DEALER IN
RARE STAMPS.

(See next page.)

NEW ISSUE SERVICE

The only satisfactory way to collect Modern Stamps is to take them in as they are issued. I supply all New Issues of British Colonial Stamps at 10 per cent. over face value to clients of my New Issue Service. Complete Distributions. Simple Accounts. Write for Explanatory Circular.

RARE STAMPS BOUGHT

I am always open to receive Offers of Rare Stamps or Collections, but they must be fine. Only Stamps in the finest condition are of use to me, and I am prepared to pay the best prices if the Stamps are superb.

W. H. PECKITT,

47, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Telephone: Gerrard 3204.

Cables: "Peckitt, London."

GREAT BRITAIN.

HAVING made a speciality of the sale of the stamps of Great Britain, I have had practically ALL THE GREAT RARITIES through my hands. My books contain only FINE copies. No one specialising in Great Britain can afford to neglect my stock, which is one of the most complete in the world, and my prices are very moderate. Here are a few items now in stock:—

LINE ENGRAVED STAMPS.

- 1d black, fine unused and used for plating, etc.
Some nice blocks.
- 1d V.R., magnificent copies.
- 2d blue, all varieties, superb.
- ½d and 1½d, fine. O.P.P.C., error.

Also a fine display of the handsome
Die Proofs, Colour Proofs, etc.

SURFACE PRINTED STAMPS.

- 4d small garter on blue, superb mint.
- 4d medium garter on blue, ,,
- 3d with secret dot, ,,
- 9d hairlines, fine unused.
- 9d plate 5, ,,
- 6d plate 13, fine used,
- 9d hairlines, ,,
- 10d plate 2, ,,

I can also supply all the regular varieties at reasonable prices in *the best condition* always. My stock books are gladly shewn to any collector, or will be sent on approval to serious collectors.

I buy fine Collections of Great Britain for cash.

W. H. PECKITT, 47 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Telegrams and Cables: "Peckitt, London."

Telephone: Gerrard 3204.

SPECIAL ALBUM FOR COLLECTORS OF BRITISH STAMPS.

Loose, Moveable Leaves.

THE SECTIONAL IMPERIAL ALBUM.

Now Ready. Section I. GREAT BRITAIN
(86 pages).

Price 3/9, or post free in Great Britain, 4/-; abroad, 4/3.

THIS Section includes all Postage, Official, Fiscal Postals, and Telegraph Stamps; but although only sold together, each of the above groups is printed on separate pages, and any one of them may be omitted if the collector does not wish to include it, but the section is only sold as a whole at above price.

The following Sections (about 70 countries) are now ready:—

WEST INDIES,
NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES,
AFRICAN COLONIES, and
EUROPEAN COLONIES.

Circular, with full details, prices, and specimen section on correct paper, sent post free on receipt of card.

BINDERS.

These are extremely simple, and will hold from 20 to 200 leaves each.

No. 33—Bound in Cloth, 6/6, post free in U.K.
„ 34— „ Morocco, 15/6 „ „

Collectors in U.S. and Canada can get Circular and Price with duty added from

STANLEY GIBBONS, Inc.,
198, BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

All others should apply to

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,
391, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(Opposite Hotel Cecil).

JULES BERNICHON,

4, RUE ROCHAMBEAU (Square Montholon),

Telephone 250-95.

PARIS,

Telephone 250-95.

*Member of the Jury at the Philatelic Exhibitions of
Geneva, 1896—Turin, 1898—Manchester, 1899—La Haye, 1901—
Berlin, 1904—Paris, 1894, 1900—*

Makes a Speciality of

RARE STAMPS, USED AND UNUSED,
OF ALL COUNTRIES.

LARGE STOCK. Without rival in France.

FRANCE, singles, pairs, blocks of 4, *tête-bêche*, essays.

FRENCH COLONIES provisionals. EUROPE.

BRITISH COLONIES. HOLLAND AND COLONIES.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

ENVELOPES, entire. POST CARDS and pneumatic cards.

CUT ENVELOPES. RUSSIAN LOCALS.

Official Catalogue of the Société Française de Timbrologie.

The most complete of all Catalogues. 2 vols., 1700 pages,
10,000 illustrations, 187,000 prices. Post Free, Frs. 5.60.

General Catalogue.

The preceding Catalogue, but reduced to 1030 pages.
Post Free, Frs. 3.50.

SPECIAL TERMS TO THE TRADE.

PRICE LIST OF SETS IN PREPARATION.

Nearly 3000 Sets, including Russian locals.

SENT FREE ON APPLICATION.

THE BRIGHTEST
AND BEST——
PHILATELIC WEEKLY.

The
Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.

SEND POSTCARD FOR
SPECIMEN COPY

TO

SIR ISAAC PITMAN & SONS,
LIMITED,

1, AMEN CORNER,

LONDON, E.C.

GREAT BRITAIN STAMPS.

A SPECIALITY is made of the Stamps of Great Britain, and we have ready to show (or send) to Collectors the following large Stock Books:—

UNUSED.

Two books of Postage Stamps, Plate Numbers, Official Stamps, etc.

USED.

Four books of Postage Stamps, including a superb lot of the early 1d and 2d, the embossed, and the later issues.

TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

A special book, comprising many very rare varieties in the Stamps of the Private Companies, and a fine lot of the Government Issues, Plate Numbers, etc., etc.

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

A good lot, Used and Unused.

BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD.

A special book, with many rare varieties marked at specially low rates.

FISCAL POSTALS, etc.

A special book, with many rarities, especially in the Embossed Stamps.

FOR Collectors abroad we have some scores of smaller blue Approval Books of British Stamps, and shall be pleased to send Special Selections of any group or class of Stamps on receipt of particulars of what *you* would care to see.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

(Opposite Hotel Cecil).

DAINTY BOOKLETS, CATALOGUES,
PRICE LISTS, FOLDERS, and all
classes of Every-day Work, executed
with taste and promptitude. —

TO THE STAMP TRADE
we give SPECIAL TERMS and
SPECIAL ATTENTION. Your en-
quiry will be esteemed. —

WOOD & SON,

PRINTERS,

62 HIGH STREET,

... PERTH. . . .

We are the Printers of this dainty
Booklet, and are also Printers of
"The Stamp Lover," and to the
Junior Philatelic Society. This in
itself is a guarantee of good work.
Write us if you are interested.

GIBBONS' STAMP WEEKLY,

WITH WHICH IS AMALGAMATED

"THE MONTHLY JOURNAL."

*The most popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the
General Collector and Specialist.*

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be had for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post free:—3 months, 1/8; 6 months, 3/3; 12 months, 6/6.

The last number in each month is a special number that is edited by Major EDWARD B. EVANS, and which contains Original Articles by the leading writers of the day.

The other numbers are edited by CHAS. J. PHILLIPS.

About every other number contains an offer of a SPECIAL BARGAIN to Subscribers.

Many numbers will contain a List of Stamps we wish to purchase for cash.

During 1909 an important Series of Articles will appear upon

THE POSTMARKS OF THE BRITISH ISLES From 1840 to the Present Time,

compiled from Official Records by the late Mr. J. G. HENDY, Curator of the Records Room, General Post Office (with many hundreds of illustrations).

Arrangements have also been made for many important Articles by the Leading Philatelists at home and abroad.

Specimen Copies sent post free on application.

NEW 100-PAGE PAMPHLET, containing over One Thousand Packets and Sets of Stamps at bargain rates, and full particulars of Stamp Albums, Catalogues, Handbooks, and all Requisites of the Stamp Collector sent post free on application to

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

(Opposite Hotel Cecil).

Collectors in the United States and Canada should apply to

STANLEY GIBBONS, Inc.,

198, BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

DAINTY BOOKLETS, CATALOGUES,
PRICE LISTS, FOLDERS, and all
classes of Every-day Work, executed
with taste and promptitude. —

TO THE STAMP TRADE
we give SPECIAL TERMS and
SPECIAL ATTENTION. Your en-
quiry will be esteemed. —

WOOD & SON,

PRINTERS,

62 HIGH STREET,

... PERTH....

We are the Printers of this dainty
Booklet, and are also Printers of
"The Stamp Lover," and to the
Junior Philatelic Society. This in
itself is a guarantee of good work.
Write us if you are interested.

GIBBONS' STAMP WEEKLY,

WITH WHICH IS AMALGAMATED

"THE MONTHLY JOURNAL."

*The most popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the
General Collector and Specialist.*

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be had for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post free:—3 months, 1/8; 6 months, 3/3; 12 months, 6/6.

The last number in each month is a special number that is edited by Major EDWARD B. EVANS, and which contains Original Articles by the leading writers of the day.

The other numbers are edited by CHAS. J. PHILLIPS.

About every other number contains an offer of a SPECIAL BARGAIN to Subscribers.

Many numbers will contain a List of Stamps we wish to purchase for cash.

During 1909 an important Series of Articles will appear upon

THE POSTMARKS OF

THE BRITISH ISLES

From 1840 to the Present Time,

compiled from Official Records by the late Mr. J. G. HENDY, Curator of the Records Room, General Post Office (with many hundreds of illustrations).

Arrangements have also been made for many important Articles by the Leading Philatelists at home and abroad.

Specimen Copies sent post free on application.

NEW 100-PAGE PAMPHLET, containing over One Thousand Packets and Sets of Stamps at bargain rates, and full particulars of Stamp Albums, Catalogues, Handbooks, and all Requisites of the Stamp Collector sent post free on application to

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

(Opposite Hotel Cecil).

Collectors in the United States and Canada should apply to

STANLEY GIBBONS, Inc.,

198, BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE.

¶ Publications of all kinds, printed in English and Foreign languages, for Stamp Collectors, and those forming useful or general libraries, supplied on moderate terms. I have stock valued £1000.

¶ I want to buy Publications of all kinds, especially those issued before 1880—Catalogues, Price Lists, Handbooks, Journals, etc., of *any country*: also Libraries and Accumulations.

VICTOR MARSH (J.P.S.),

DEALER IN PHILATELIC LITERATURE,

389, BRIXTON ROAD, LONDON, S.W.

Postal Correspondence.

Interviews by Appointment.

THE COLLECTOR'S SALE AND EXCHANGE MART,

161, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.

(Next to Anderton's Hotel).

SUPPORTED BY COLLECTORS FOR COLLECTORS

OPEN 9 A.M. TO 9 P.M.

STAMPS SOLD ON COMMISSION.

SPECIAL TERMS FOR RARE STAMPS.

STAMP COLLECTIONS REGISTER.

We have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this "*Stamp Collections Register*" in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the "*Stamp Weekly*" the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our paper, we also issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send it to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to "*G.S.W.*"

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register* :—

- 1.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1 1/-) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent. (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4.—Collections should be sent to 391, STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5.—Collections may be inspected at 391, STRAND, W.C.
- 6.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.
- 10.—Collectors are advised to fix the very lowest price they will accept, in the first instance, as this will ensure a quicker sale and save correspondence.
- 11.—It will greatly facilitate a sale if the owner will calculate the current catalogue price of his stamps, and state the number of stamps in his collection.

Do you want to purchase a really Cheap, Specialized, or General Collection? If so, consult our "*Stamp Collections Register*."

Do you want to sell your Collection, or any part of it, at the small commission of Ten per cent.? If so, enter it in our "*Stamp Collections Register*," and the announcement will be seen by more than Twenty Thousand Collectors—a greater publicity than you can obtain by any other means.

List of nearly Fifty Collections entered on the Register, sent post free on demand.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,
391, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

THE STAMP LOVER.

A MONTHLY
ILLUSTRATED
MAGAZINE
FOR STAMP
COLLECTORS.

Edited by FRED. J. MELVILLE.

The Magazine is the Official Organ of the Junior Philatelic Society, and is sent, post free, to every member. Annual Subscription, 2/6 ; Entrance Fee, 2/6. (No Entrance Fee for ladies, or for applicants under 21.)

THE STAMP LOVER

Is the largest of the Monthlies, is from 24-36 large pages monthly, and is superbly illustrated. Specimen Copy and Application Form for Membership sent, post free, on application to the

STAMP LOVER OFFICES,
44 FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.

J. W. JONES,

UNIVERSAL

PHILATELIC PROVIDER,

444, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

I carry a FINE STOCK of RARE and MEDIUM STAMPS of ALL COUNTRIES, including a Splendid Display of

GREAT BRITAIN LINE-ENGRAVED STAMPS

All my Stamps are in good condition, and are priced at MODERATE PRICES. Send for a Selection on Approval.

SETS—

List of nearly one thousand free on application.

Great Britain, 1840, 1d and 2d,	-	-	2/6
Great Britain, embossed. 6d, 10d, 1/-,	-	-	14/-
Great Britain, K.H., 2/6, 5/-, 10/-, and £1,	-	-	9/6
Transvaal, 6d, first issue,	-	-	12/6
Oil Rivers, ½d to 1/-,	-	-	10/-
Niger Coast, ½d to 1/-, first issue,	-	-	20/-
Germany, 1900. 1 to 5 mks.,	-	-	9/-
Bosnia, 1895, pictures, mint, complete perf., 9½d,	-	-	25/-
Bosnia, imperf.,	-	-	24/-
Austria Jubilee, 1 to 35 heller,	-	-	1/-
Morocco Agencies, 40c in blue,	-	-	15/-
1 peseta in blue,	-	-	40/-
France, current set to 5 francs,	-	-	1/6
Etc., etc.			

444, STRAND, LONDON.

THE
BRITISH PHILATELIST

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

For Collectors of British,
Postage, Telegraph, Revenue,
& College Stamps, Post Cards,
and Envelopes (illustrated).

SUBSCRIPTION—ONE SHILLING PER ANNUM,
Post Free.

SPECIMEN COPY FREE.

ESSAYS, PROOFS, AND
SPECIMEN STAMPS
OF
BRITISH LINE-ENGRAVED,
ALSO SURFACE PRINTED.

SELECTIONS ON APPROVAL.

PRICE LIST OF BRITISH STAMPS FREE.

CHAS. NISSEN & CO.,
7 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON, W.C.
Telephone 5181 Holborn.

BOOKS BY FRED. J. MELVILLE.

POSTAGE STAMPS WORTH FORTUNES.

(SECOND EDITION.)

Illustrated with over 100 Photographic Reproductions of the
World's Rarest Postage Stamps.

POST FREE, 7d.

A PENNY ALL THE WAY.

THE STORY OF PENNY POSTAGE.

FULLY ILLUSTRATED.

The story of Penny Postage is related from its earliest inception
in 1659 to the consummation of Penny Postage between
Great Britain and America on 1st October, 1908.

SECOND EDITION, POST FREE, 7d.

*A few copies of the First and Second American Editions are
also available at 1/- each; post free, 1/1.*

HAWAIIAN POSTAGE STAMPS

IN THE COLLECTION OF
MR. HENRY J. CROCKER OF SAN FRANCISCO.

A Reprint, with eight fine Plates, of an Interview with the
Owner of the greatest collection of these Stamps.

POST FREE, 1/2.

47, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF CHINA.

With an account of the Chinese Imperial Post.
Illustrated with Collotype Plates.

1/-. POST FREE, 1/1.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF SARAWAK.

With an account of the Sarawak Post Office.
Illustrated with Collotype Plates.

1/-. POST FREE, 1/1½.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF HAYTI.

A fascinating study of the Stamps of the Black Republic.

1/-. POST FREE, 1/1.

47, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF
GREAT BRITAIN.

1/-. POST FREE, 1/1.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF
THE UNITED STATES.

OUT OF PRINT.

The only Illustrated Handbook on the Postal Issues of the great American Republic. Will be partly re-written, and issued in new form in the Melville Stamp Books.

SIAM: ITS POSTS AND
POSTAGE STAMPS.

6d. POST FREE, 7d.

ABC OF STAMP COLLECTING.

19 PLATES. 160 PP.

The handiest and best Guide for the beginner, and a most readable book for medium and advanced collectors.

AT PRESENT OUT OF PRINT.

47, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

THE LADY FORGER.

A Philatelic Play, as staged and produced by the Junior
Philatelic Society.

2/6. POST FREE, 2/7.

THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

The only Guide and Index to this great collection.
With Portraits and Illustrations.

1/-. POST FREE, 1/1.

47, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

THE QUEEN'S AND HIGH CLIFFE HOTEL, CLIFTONVILLE, MARGATE.

PHILATELISTS will find this an ideal Hotel for a holiday, and often meet many other Collectors. Grand situation in own private grounds. Over 100 sunny Bedrooms looking over the sea. Lecture and Recreation Room. Private Orchestra. Complete installation of Electric Baths, etc. Renowned Cuisine and Choice Wines. Electric Light and Lift. Hairdressing Saloon. Dark Room. Library and Reading Room—principal Philatelic Papers taken. Tennis and Croquet Lawns. Billiards. Adjoining sands and sea bathing. Near three Golf Links. Inclusive terms from 10/6 per day.

Tariff from the Managing Director,

A. LEON ADUTI, F.R.P.S.L.

Gummed Labels for use in Blank Stamp Albums

PRESENTED WITH No. 1 OF THE MELVILLE STAMP BOOKS.

Great Britain.

Great Britain.

Great Britain.

Great Britain.

LINE ENGRAVED SERIES, 1840-1880.

HEAD OF QUEEN VICTORIA, AFTER WYON'S CITY MEDAL OF 1837.

ENGRAVED BY HEATH.

PRINTED BY PERKINS, BACON, & CO.

1840, WMK. SMALL CROWN, IMPERF.

1840, WMK. SMALL CROWN, IMPERF.

1d. BLACK.

2d. BLUE.

1841, WMK. SMALL CROWN, IMPERF.

1841, WMK. SMALL CROWN, IMPERF.

1d. RED.

2d. BLUE.

1854, DIE I., WMK. SMALL CROWN, PERF. 16.

1854, DIE I., WMK. SMALL CROWN, PERF. 16.

1855, DIE I., WMK. SMALL CROWN, PERF. 14.

1855, DIE I., WMK. SMALL CROWN, PERF. 14.

1855, DIE II., WMK. SMALL CROWN, PERF. 16.

1855, DIE II., WMK. SMALL CROWN, PERF. 14.

1855, DIE II., WMK. LARGE CROWN, PERF. 16.

1855, DIE II., WMK. LARGE CROWN, PERF. 14.

1852, LARGER ROMAN CHECK LETTERS.

1857, WHITE PAPER.

1861, WMK. LARGE CROWN (SECOND TYPE), PERF. 14.

1864, ROYAL REPRINT, WMK. LARGE CROWN (SECOND TYPE).
INVERTED, IMPERF.

1864, PLATE NUMBERS.

1855, DIE I., WMK. LARGE CROWN, PERF. 16.

1855, DIE I., WMK. LARGE CROWN, PERF. 14.

1857, WMK. LARGE CROWN, PERF. 14.

1858, PLATE NUMBERS, 7, 8, 9, 12.

1869, PLATE NUMBERS, 13, 14, 15.

1870, WMK. HALFPENNY, PERF. 14.

1d. ROSE RED, LAKE RED.

1870, WMK. LARGE CROWN, PERF. 14.

1d. LAKE RED.

DIE II.: DIE I. RE-ENGRAVED BY HUMPHIRYS.

1857, WMK. LARGE CROWN, PERF. 16.

HISTORICAL.

1855, DIE I., WMK. SMALL CROWN, PERF. 14.
 1855, DIE I., WMK. SMALL CROWN, PERF. 14.
 1855, DIE II., WMK. SMALL CROWN, PERF. 16.
 1855, DIE II., WMK. SMALL CROWN, PERF. 14.
 1855, DIE II., WMK. LARGE CROWN, PERF. 16.
 1855, DIE II., WMK. LARGE CROWN, PERF. 14.

1852, LARGER ROMAN CHECK LETTERS.

1857, WHITE PAPER.

1861, WMK. LARGE CROWN (SECOND TYPE), PERF. 14.

1864, ROYAL REPRINT, WMK. LARGE CROWN (SECOND TYPE)
 INVERTED, IMPERF.

1864, PLATE NUMBERS.

1855, DIE I., WMK. LARGE CROWN, PERF. 16.

1855, DIE I., WMK. LARGE CROWN, PERF. 14.

1857, WMK. LARGE CROWN, PERF. 14.

1858, PLATE NUMBERS, 7, 8, 9, 12.

1869, PLATE NUMBERS, 13, 14, 15.

1870, WMK. HALFPENNY, PERF. 14.

1d. ROSE RED, LAKE RED.

1870, WMK. LARGE CROWN, PERF. 14.

1½d. LAKE RED.

DIE II.: DIE I. RE-ENGRAVED BY HUMPHIRYS.

1857, WMK. LARGE CROWN, PERF. 16.

HISTORICAL.

BLUED PAPER.	BLUED PAPER.	WHITE PAPER.	WHITE PAPER.
PERFORATED 14.	PERFORATED 14.	PERFORATED 16.	PERFORATED 16.
ROULETTED BY ARCHER.	PERFORATED 16 BY ARCHER.	PERFORATED 16 BY NAPIER.	
IVORY HEAD.	IVORY HEAD.	INVERTED WATERMARK.	INVERTED WATERMARK.
IMPERFORATE.	IMPERFORATE.	WORN PLATE.	WORN PLATE.
HAIR LINE.	HAIR LINE.	THIN WHITE LINES.	THICK WHITE LINES.
OUTER LINE ALL ROUND.		ROMAN LETTERS (LOWER CORNERS).	
LARGER ROMAN LETTERS (LOWER CORNERS).		ERROR OF WATERMARK.	
V.R. IN UPPER CORNERS.		CARDIFF PENNY.	"A.O." VARIETY.
DOUBLE LETTERS, ETC.	DOUBLE LETTERS, ETC.	DOUBLE PERFORATION.	
DOUBLE PERFORATION.		OP—PC ERROR.	PLATE NO.....
POSTMARKS.	POSTMARKS.	PROOFS.	ESSAYS. SPECIMENS.
PRINTED IN SHEETS OF 240.		PRINTED IN SHEETS OF 240.	
PRINTED IN SHEETS OF 240.		PRINTED IN SHEETS OF 240.	
O.U.S.	PRINTED IN SHEETS OF 480.	ROLLER VARIETY.	