

PHILATELIC SECTION.







Ву

Fred. J. Melville,

President of the Junior Philatelic Society.



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1d. Retouch.



#### INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

THE present work contains a fairly complete survey of the postage stamps of Nevis. As regards documental matter much had been already placed upon record by Mr. B. T. K. Smith. from whose article in the Philatelic Record, 1906, we have drawn the list of consignments and some other statistical matter. Those of the earlier consignments which are available were first given in the London Royal] Philatelic Society's West Indies. There have been a number of articles, notably one by Mr. I. N. Luff and another by Mr. A. de Reuterskiold, on the plating of Nevis stamps; but for the most part the guides for reconstructing the plates of the engraved and lithographed stamps contained in the present work are new, and will, we think, be found to be much simpler and more readily memorised than the old style of plating by the outlines of the hills.

We have to thank Mr. W. H. Peckitt for placing at our disposal his stock book and a superb collection of these stamps, from which we have drawn freely for illustration purposes. Mr. S. R. Turner has very

kindly contributed the diagrams.

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1d. Second Retouch.



# Nevis.

#### CHAPTER I.

### Postal Arrangements.

THIS island colony is one of the Leeward Islands in the British West Indies. It is situate off the south coast of St. Christopher (commonly called St. Kitts), with which island Nevis now shares an executive and a legislative council. Nevis is 4 miles long and 3 miles broad, and forms a single mountain (an extinct volcano) 3200 to 3500 ft. high. It is said to be one of the most beautiful and fertile of the Antilles, its staple crop is sugar, and its Capital is Charlestown.

The population of the island colony in 1901 was

12,774.

Until May 1, 1860, the postal arrangements of the island were under the control of the British Postmaster-General. The history of these early postal arrangements is indissolubly connected with the whole system applying to all the British West Indies. An Order in Council in 1688 (James II.) authorised the setting up

of a post office in Jamaica, the earliest act we have been able to trace being 9 Anne c. 10 (1710), which authorised the British Postmaster-General to set up chief letter offices "in each of the Islands in the West Indies, called the Leeward Islands, and appoint sufficient Deputies under him for the better managing, ordering, collecting and improving the Revenue hereby granted.

Nevis is specifically mentioned in the list of rates of

postage authorised by this Act.

All Letters and Packets passing Single, one from London unto Jamaica, Barbadoes, Antegoa, Montserrat, Nevis, and Saint Christopher's in America, and from any of those Places, to London.

sixpence.

Double, three shillings.

Treble, four shillings

Ounce, six shillings.

Letters and Packets from any part of the West Indies to New York were charged single, fourpence; double, eightpence; treble, one shilling; ounce, one shilling

fourpence.

From the preamble of this Act it is evident that posts had already "been established at great Charges by Packet Boats" to the West Indies, but the service does not appear to have been set upon a permanent footing until 1755. In later years there arose a big controversy with regard to the control of the colonial posts and their revenues by the home authorities. In the case of the West Indies, partly as a result of an official visit by Anthony Trollope, who was at that time in the service of the General Post Office, the change of control from the home to the colonial authorities came about in 1860. In the meantime the old West India packets had been abandoned in 1840 in favour of a contract for the conveyance of the mails by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co.

The Postmaster-General, in his [fifth] report on the Post Office for the year 1858, states that the privilege of using English postage stamps was accorded in that year to the British West Indies. The earliest use of such stamps at Nevis that we have noted is a cover bearing two 6d. stamps (no letters), dated 29 May, 1858. An earlier cover, dated 29 April, 1858, has simply the usual mark inscribed, "Paid at Nevis," without any adhesive stamps. The number on the cancelling stamp used at Nevis, by which English stamps used there may be identified, is A 09, all the letters being passed through the one office at Charlestown, the Capital of the island.

On March 28, 1860, an Act was passed by the Council and Assembly of Nevis, which provided for the taking over of the administration of the colony's

postal arrangements by the local authorities.

AN ACT to provide for the Control and Management of the Local Post Office. Dated 28th March, 1860.

#### ABSTRACT OF THE ENACTMENTS.

#### Preamble.

- 1. Officer administering the government to appoint some fit and proper person to the office of Postmaster. Postmaster to enjoy the privileges, and possess the authorities, incidental to his office.
- 2. Salary of Postmaster to be 601. sterling, with an allowance of 241. like money, for stores and office rent. Postmaster to make no additional charge on the revenues of the colony.

- 3. Forms of transatlantic and intercolonial letter bills, and of office accounts, to be according to the direction of the Postmaster-General. If Postmaster-General make no order with respect thereto. the same to be in such form as the officer administering the government, in Council, shall order and direct.
- 4. Post-office to be kept open daily from ten to three o'clock (Sundays and holidays excepted), but if mails be received at the office on any day before six p.m., the same to be delivered within one hour afterwards. President, in Council, to decide on the amount to be charged by Postmaster on letters posted after the hours fixed for closing the mail-bags.
- 5. The transmission of mails to and from the colony to be in the manner prescribed by any existing contract with Her Majesty's Government.
- 6. Island post-stamps, when issued, to be recognised and received in payment of postage.
- 7. The rates of postage on letters, newspapers, and book packets, to be such as are, or may be hereafter prescribed in any Treasury order, convention, or circular instruction from Her Majesty's Postmaster-General.
- 8. System of registration to be continued, unless otherwise directed by order of Her Majesty's Postmaster-General.
- 9. Postmaster to remit monthly to Receiver-General the amount of postage collected, less Id. the half ounce on each letter received from the United Kingdom. Remittances to be made in British gold or silver, or in bills of exchange, not exceeding 30 days' sight.
- 10. Postmaster to deliver to Treasurer, monthly, a certified account of the postage collected, and after deducting the amount remitted to Receiver-General, pay over the surplus.
- 11. Postmaster to enter into Bond with one or more sufficient sureties for the faithful performance of the duties of his office. Bond to be in the penal sum of 100l., and sureties to be approved by the President, In the event of the death or insolvency of sureties others to be substituted.

WHEREAS, the control hitherto exercised by Her Majesty's Postmaster-General over the post-offices in the colonies will cease and determine on and from the first day of May now next; and it has become necessary, in consequence, to make provision for the control and management of the Post-office in this. Her Majesty's Island of Nevis: Be it therefore enacted, by the officer administering the government of the said Island, and by the Council and Assembly of the same.

1. That it shall be lawful for the officer administering the government, to appoint, under his hand and seal, some fit and proper person to the office of Postmaster, and also, from time to time, at pleasure, to remove any such person, and upon any or every vacancy either by removal or by death, or otherwise, to appoint to such office some other qualified person; and any person so appointed as aforesaid, shall have and possess all the powers, profits, privileges, and authorities heretofore enjoyed or exercised by any former Postmaster, or which may belong to, or be incidental to, such office.

2. That the said Postmaster shall be entitled to, and shall receive, in monthly payments, from and out of the Public Treasury of this Island, by warrant, under the hand of the officer administering the government, a salary at the rate of 60l, sterling per annum, with an allowance, at the rate of 241. like money per annum, for the purpose of providing, for the future use of his said office, the necessary stores hitherto supplied from the London General Postoffice: and it shall not be competent for such Postmaster to make any additional charge on the general revenue of the said Island, nor any deduction from the Post-office revenue which he shall or may collect, for or with respect to office rent, clerk's salary, or for any other expense or purpose; but that the said sum of 24l, shall be paid to, and accepted by the said Postmaster in each and every year, in full satisfaction of every charge or expense attending the management and direction of his said office (other than his own salary), incidental or otherwise.

That the intercolonial and transatlantic letter-bills, and all necessary accounts to be kept with the General Postoffice, shall be in such form and manner as may be hereafter, and from time to time, ordered and directed by Her Majesty's Postmaster-General; and should no such order or direction be made, then in such form and manner as may be ordered, directed or prescribed by the officer administering the government, for the time being, in council.

4. That the Post-office shall be kept open from ten of the clock in the forenoon to three of the clock in the afternoon (Sundays and holidays excepted); and if the mails shall arrive at Post-office at any time after three and before six of the clock P.M., the same shall be delivered within one hour after the receipt thereof. And it shall be lawful for the officer administering the government, in council, to fix, from time to time, the amount to be charged by, and allowed to, the Postmaster, on letters received after the hour fixed for closing the mail-bags on the day on which the same are directed to be despatched.

5. That the transmission of the mails from this Island to the United Kingdom, or to any of Her Majesty's possessions, or to any foreign country or place whatsoever, shall be in such manner and at such times as shall or may be ordered, directed, mentioned, or prescribed in any contract now existing, or which may hereafter be entered into and made with or on behalf of Her Majesty's government for the conveyance of the mails to and from the Island of Nevis.

6. That from and immediately after the issuing of any Island postage-stamps all letters, newspapers, or bookpackets, to which such Island postage-stamps of sufficient value to cover the postage may be affixed (such Island postage-stamps not being previously obliterated or defaced), shall be received and dealt with precisely as letters, newspapers, or book-packets upon which the postage is paid in

money.

7. That all rates of postage now existing for the transit of letters, newspapers, or book-packets from this Island to any country or place whatsoever, or from any country or place whatsoever to this Island, or which shall or may be hereafter stipulated for, in any postal convention concluded between Great Britain and any foreign country, or which may, from time to time, hereafter be ordered or directed in or by the provisions of any Treasury order or circular, or other letter from Her Majesty's Postmaster-General, shall be the rates

of postage for which letters, newspapers, or book-packets shall be respectively liable on the delivery thereof, and none other.

- 8. That the system of registration as is now established, with respect to letters, newspapers, and book-packets, shall be continued as heretofore, unless otherwise directed by order of Her Majesty's Postmaster-General.
- 9. That the Postmaster shall remit to the Receiver-General of the Post-office revenue, at the expiration of each and every month, the sum or sums shewn, by his account for such month, to be due to the General Post-office (the calculation in such account for letters to the United Kingdom being made at the rate of 5d. the half-ounce, with a credit therein of 1d. the half-ounce for each letter received therefrom); and such remittance shall be made by him either in British gold or silver, or in a bill or bills of exchange, made payable in London to the order of the said Receiver-General of Post-office revenue, at not more than thirty days' sight.
- 10. That the Postmaster shall, on the first day of each and every month, or on the second day if the first shall be Sunday, deliver to the Colonial Treasurer, for the time being, a certified account, in writing, shewing the gross amount of the postage collected by him for and during the preceding month, and shall, after deducting the amount to be remitted to the General Post-office for such preceding month, pay over to the said Colonial Treasurer, for the public uses of the said Island, the surplus money remaining in his hands.
- 11. That every Postmaster shall, on his appointment, enter into a recognizance to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, with one or more good and sufficient sureties, jointly and severally (such surety or sureties to be approved of by the officer administering the government), for the faithful performance of the duties of his said office; and such recognizance shall be in the penal sum of 1001, of sterling money, and shall be taken by the Chief Justice of the said Island, and lodged for safe custody in the office of the Colonial Secretary; and in the event of the death or insolvency of such surety or sureties, or either of them, if more than one, the said Postmaster for the time being shall enter into a similar recognizance with another or other good and sufficient surety or sureties in the place and stead of him or them so dying or becoming insolvent, as aforesaid.



CHAPTER II.

# The Designs of the First Stamps.

THE chief interest to the stamp collector lies in the early types of Nevis postage stamps, which, through various minor changes in the manner of production, did service in the colony from 1861 to 1879. They are limited to four denominations, 1d., 4d., 6d., and 1/-, which were first issued in 1861, pursuant to the Act already referred to.

As the most important feature of his stamps, the student will always be interested to trace the designs to their origin. The frame designs of the first four types adopted in Nevis were simply adapted from the identical values then current in Great Britain, as the comparative

illustrations will shew :-



Great Britain 1d.



Nevis 1d.

## DESIGNS OF THE FIRST STAMPS. 19



Great Britain 4d.



Nevis 4d



Great Britain 6d.



Nevis 6d.



Great Britain 1/-.



Nevis 1/-

The central feature of the design, which is similar in all four values, was the subject of much speculation in the early numbers of the Stamp Collectors' Magazine, the following suggestions being summarised by Mr. Overy Taylor in the issue of that periodical for May 1, 1865:—

"1. The current opinion respecting the stamps of Nevis is, that the three female figures are intended to typify active

benevolence [S.C.M., ii., 80].

"2. The idea intended to be conveyed by the representation on the Nevis postage stamps is, that Nevis, being poor, either was, is, or ought to be supported by her sister islands [ii., 89].

"3. That 'the device is intended to represent the Goddess of Health administering the water of a mineral spring in

the island to a sick person '[ii., 96].

"4. That the Nevis stamps are copies of the great seal of the island, and represent a lady giving bread to the once starving inhabitants."

The point was settled in the Stamp Collectors' Mazagine of Jan. 1, 1867, by a long communication from the Postmaster of Nevis, Mr. J. B. Brown, which we quote in extenso:—

"The device on the Nevis postage stamps is a facsimile of the great seal of the colony, and represents, issuing out of the side of a hill, a stream of water, which, falling to the ground, forms a pool, wherein which a sick female is reclining, supported with one hand by a companion, who extends the other to the presiding genius, or nymph of the stream, for a bowl which the latter is filling from a pitcher of water drawn from the stream.

"There are, at about a quarter of a mile from the principal town (Charlestown), certain mineral springs, called the Bath Springs. Many years ago the proprietor of the land, where some of these springs are situated, opened two of tepid and one of hot water; over the latter and one of the former rooms were erected and fitted up for the convenience of

invalids, while to the other tepid spring a pipe was affixed for drinking purposes. An hotel, of almost palatial dimensions, and of very imposing appearance, called 'Bath House,' with several outbuildings, etc., was erected, and the surrounding grounds laid out in gardens.

"There are numerous other small springs in the vicinity and scattered over the leeward parts of the island; but just below the drinking spring of the Bath House, a spring (the most considerable of that nature in the island) issues from the side of the hill, forms a large pool, and runs in a continuous stream, called the Bath Stream, deepening and widening as it flows, till it expands into a large pond on the sea shore, about five hundred yards from its source. This spring is not enclosed nor covered, and is used by those who cannot pay the fee of sixpence charged at the Bath House, and also serves as a washing place. Although the spring is extremely hot, the stream varies in heat, and in some places is cold.

"The baths have been of high repute, and the island was much resorted to by invalids when the hotel was properly kept. The extraordinary powers and unfailing efficacy of the Nevis baths have been long well known in the medical world, and have been celebrated in every treatise descriptive Mr. Osborne, in his 'Guide to the of the colonies. Madeiras, West Indies, etc., says :- Nevis is celebrated for its mineral springs. The principal hotel is the Bath House, which is situated on a rising ground, and commands a view of the town, the adjacent country, and the sea. may be considered one of the most salubrious localities in The House is distant from the landing place about a quarter of a mile. Appertaining to this establishment are hot and tepid baths possessing most valuable medicinal properties.' Sir Hans Sloane says he mastered a severe cough by bathing in and drinking the waters during a few days' stay on the island. At one part of the stream which supplies the baths there are two springs-one so intensely cold as to produce a chill through the whole frame, and the other too hot to be borne by the naked foot. 'An invalid,' writes Mr. Coleridge, 'with a good servant, may take up his quarters here with more comfort than any other house of public reception in the West Indies."

"It will be seen from these extracts that the baths have always been the great institution of the colony; hence the

device of the great seal.

"I have been informed by the Honourable George Webbe, F.R.A.S., Treasurer, etc., and old inhabitant, and a gentleman who was for many years Chief Justice, and who three times administered the Government, and by the Honourable John A. Iles, Colonial Secretary, also an old public officer, that the great seal of the colony was made between thirty and forty years ago, after a design by Mr. Colquhoun, the agent for this island in England, who submitted the device for the approval of the Government, to

represent the healing virtues of its celebrated baths.

"The stamps were first introduced into this colony, under the administration of Mr. Musgrave (the present Governor of Newloundland), in 1861. The one shilling stamps are used to prepay postage to England, and with a sixpenny, fourpenny, or penny stamp, as the case may be, in transit through England; on heavy letters inter-colonially, and on book packets. Sixpenny stamps are used to prepay the registration fee on letters, the postage on books over 8 oz. and under 12 oz., etc. Fourpenny stamps are used to prepay postage on letters inter-colonially, and to America. The penny stamps serve to prepay the postage on newspapers, prices-current, soldiers and seamen's letters, and books under 4 oz. These are the principal uses to which the stamps are put; they are also used one with another to represent values not represented by either."





CHAPTER III.

## The Manufacture of the Stamps.

THE stamps of each of the four denominations were printed in small sheets of twelve stamps each, disposed in four horizontal rows of three stamps. They were manufactured in London by Messrs. Nissen & Parker, the printers of the first issues of Virgin Islands and Shanghai postage stamps. The stamps were at first printed direct from steel plates, the plates having been produced without the use of a die, each stamp being separately engraved by hand upon the polished surface of the steel plate. The result of this method of production is that every stamp on the sheet varies in some degree from each of its neighbours, and all the four values can be "plated," i.e. each individual stamp can be allocated to the precise position it occupied on the plate, and single copies may thus be "reconstructed" into sheets.

It may be well to recall the leading traits and features of stamps printed from an engraved plate. In the first place, the design on the plate is produced by a series of cuts into the steel, so that the design instead of standing up in relief is literally sunk into the plate in recess. The design in the present case was copied twelve

times on to the plate for each denomination.

# SECTION PAPER ENGRAVED PLATE

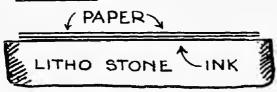
Sectional diagram illustrating how the ink is applied to sunken lines in engraved plate.

As the design is in recess on the plate the ink has to be forced into the hollows, which is done by the use of a wad of blanket smeared with ink (instead of with the composition roller familiar in type printing). This wad not only presses the ink into the sunken lines of the design but leaves its deposit on the flat surface of the plate which is not required to print. This superfluous ink is wiped off. A sheet of paper is then damped, laid on the plate and both are passed into a hand press which squeezes the ink out of the engraved lines on to the paper producing a slight embossing effect on the paper, and leaving the printed lines standing up in little ridges on the surface of the paper. A clear understanding on this point will assist the collector materially in distinguishing the stamps of the first issue of Nevis from those which were later produced by another process.

The stamps were all printed in the manner just described from 1861 until 1876. A fresh supply of the 1d. value sent out by the printers in November, 1876, was produced by lithography, but as the original plates were used to transfer the design to the lithographic stone we get in the lithographed stamps an identity of design with those printed from the engraved plates. The only difference is in impression. The colour of the impression is generally sufficient for

#### MANUFACTURE OF THE STAMPS. 25

# SECTION



Sectional diagram shewing that the ink lies quite level with the surface on the lithographic stone.

identification; there is a coarseness about a lithograph compared with an engraving, the lines in the latter usually being quite clean and fine, while in the litho-

graph they are often blotchy.

The process of lithography is dependent in the first place upon chemical action. To transfer the design from the engraved plate to the lithograph stone the plate is first inked with a special greasy composition, and an impression is pulled on a piece of transfer paper. The impression on the transfer is similar in appearance to that on the finished stamp, but it now has to be slightly damped and laid face downward on a clean lithographic stone and subjected to pressure. The ink on the paper transfers on to the stone which then has a replica of the original plate in greasy transfer ink. This ink fills the pores of the stone immediately below it, and would spread but for the application of a dilute gum to the surface of the stone which fills up the pores where they are not already filled with transfer ink. The superfluous gum is washed off, that necessary for filling the pores of the stone having meanwhile dried in. The stone is damped before the ink roller is passed over it. The ink is of a greasy nature and does not adhere to the parts where the stone is wet, but only to the parts where the water has not remained by reason of the greasy transfer ink which outlines the design. Water will not combine with grease, and it is in this fact that the basis of lithography lies, all the inks used in the process being mixed with a greasy component,

generally prepared linseed oil.

While it is well to know the outline of the process the chief point to note is that there is neither recess nor relief in the design on the stone. It is perfectly flat, and where an engraving by reason of its recess on the plate will give raised lines in the finished impression, and where typography and type printing will tend to print through on to the back of the paper; the impression of lithography does neither, but is simply transferred to the paper by flat contact without sinking or

raising any part of the paper or of the design.

The stamps under consideration were printed first from the engraved plates and later from lithographic Typography does not concern the collector of these particular issues, though this process was used for producing the De la Rue type of stamps for Nevis in 1879. In distinguishing between the engraved stamps and the lithographed we have to bear in mind that the engraved shew the ink more or less raised in ridges, sometimes shewing a reversed colourless indented impression on the back and the lines are mostly clean and defined; the lithographed shew the ink dead flat on the paper, the lines printed with less definity and occasionally shewing a tendency to fill up (particularly in the shading of the hills in the centre design), and having no sign of the lines of the impression shewing through to the back, except such as may be due to the presence of the colouring matter on the face.

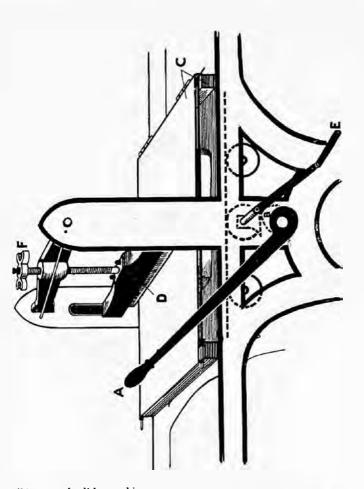
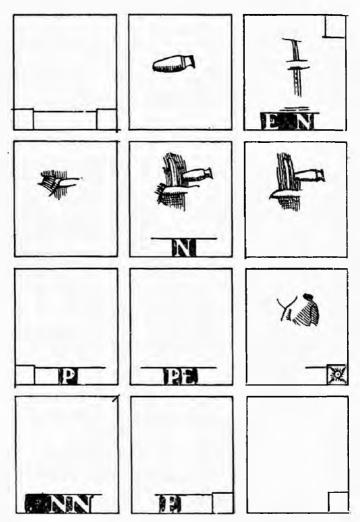


Diagram of a lithographic press.

The pressure is applied by the lever A being lowered which brings the cam B upright; this raises the carriage C into contact with the scraper I), which gives the means of taking the impression as the carriage can now be pulled through by means of the handle E. The scraper can be regulated by means of the screw F for any thickness of stone.



An illustrated guide to the plating of the Id. Nevis.



#### CHAPTER IV.

## Reconstructing the Plates.

It has already been stated that the plates are composed of twelve stamps, each differing in some degree from all of its neighbours. In order to distinguish the positions which single specimens occupied on the complete sheet, we have been able to indicate definite points of difference for each individual stamp on each of the four plates. The differences set down here are common to both the engraved and the lithographed issues, though reference is occasionally made to various additional markings of some prominence which occur in the lithographed stamps.

The specialist will endeavour to reconstruct his single specimens into sheets by assigning each copy

to its particular position on the plate.

## The One Penny.

The design of the 1d. value consists of the allegorical group in a rectangular frame, the vertical sides of which are formed by reticulated network which varies in the manner of joining the corner squares on each stamp; the stars in the corners vary also. At the top is a straight coloured label containing the white

letters NEVIS, and at the bottom a similar label bearing the value in words ONE PENNY. The lettering shews more or less marked variations. The method hitherto adopted of plating these stamps and the other values of the series was by the form of the outline of the hills, which, however, may now be disregarded by the discovery of more definite indications of the identity of every individual stamp, though occasionally where used copies are being plated the collector will find it useful to compare and confirm, by means of the hills, the lettering and the reticulated borders.

The definite markings of the 1d. value (common to both the engraved series and the lithographed

stamps), are as follows :-

No. 1.—The top line of the left bottom corner square

juts out of the rectangular frame.

In the bottom right corner the frame lines are continued beyond the rectangle.

At the outside of the top right hand square

there is a slight point of colour.

There is a fine scratch starting under the E of NEVIS and extending right into the hills.

No. 2.—The pitcher has a double-lined neck band.

There is a strong and separate line of

shading above NNY.

No. 3—The top frame line juts out to right, and the bottom line of the top right square juts in.

The rock line immediately above waterfall

is one continuous line.

The waterfall is comparatively straight below the arm.

The centre bar of E in ONE is at a lower level than normally.



The One Penny.

No. 4.—The drapery on extended arm of the kneeling

figure shews a clear white spot.

The right lower ray of the star in bottom left corner juts diagonally through the frame line.

No. 5.—Comparatively large second N in PENNY which has flat foot to second vertical stroke. (This is quite a different N from the large N in No. 10, and it does not join the previous letter at the top).

The water does not appear below the arm.

No. 6.—There is a diagonal cut of colour below and between the "PE" of PENNY.

The waterfall is in one straight line not

extending below arm.

No. 7.—The P of PENNY has a distinct coloured spot in the curve.

The dot after the Y of PENNY is raised.

The left outer line juts out below the bottom line.

No. 8.—Coloured spots on P and E of PENNY.

The frame is a single line at the right (similar to No. 11 only in this respect).

No. 9.—The top line of the ONE PENNY tablet juts into the right corner square and joins the ray of the star.

There is no outline to the shading of the

décolleté of the standing figure.

No. 10.—Very broad second N in PENNY, the top of which joins the top of the first N.

The ray of the top right star extends through

the corner of the rectangle.

No. 11.—The bottom line of the lower right angle is broken near the Y of PENNY.

There is a coloured flaw on the bottom stroke

of the E of ONE.

The frame line at the right is a single line (as also in No. 8).

No. 12.—The bottom line extends beyond the frame to right.

The Y of PENNY is very cramped and the

period is minute.

There is a square hollow at the top of the cliff.

#### The Four Pence.

The 4d. stamp has the central device enclosed in a circle, with curved labels above and below containing the inscriptions NEVIS (top) FOUR PENCE (bottom). In confirming positions of copies on the plates, the positions of the ends of these labels will be of assistance, as also will the positions of the curves above NEVIS and below FOUR PENCE; the circular lines at the sides; and the position of the hand of the reclining figure in relation to the lettering of the word FOUR. Here again, as in all values, the outline of the hills has hitherto been the chief means of identification, though, as in the case of the 1d. value, there are other markings which can be more readily memorised.

No. 1.—The left top serif of 1 of NEVIS slopes upwards nearly touching the white line of the label.

No. 2.—The inner vertical frame line at left runs right through the white line and out of the frame at the top.

The hair on the shoulder of the standing

figure is missing.

No. 3.—The head of standing figure is very close to the circular line.

The water descends on to the reclining figure.

No. 4.—The base of the pitcher is broken.

There is a much shorter stroke on the breast of the standing figure.

No. 5.—The left vertical white line of the bottom right

square is very thick.

In the triangular space there is a vertical white cut instead of dots under the final E of PENCE.

The left end of the Nevis label extends

through the vertical white line.

No. 6.—The space between the circle and outer line at the left is all white.

The mouth of the standing figure is open.

There is a faint coloured dot over the N of NEVIS.

No. 7.—The vertical white lines at each end of the Nevis label are both very thick above the circle, but are normal below the circle.

There is a strong neck band on the pitcher.

No. 8.—The FOUR PENCE label breaks into vertical white line at the right.

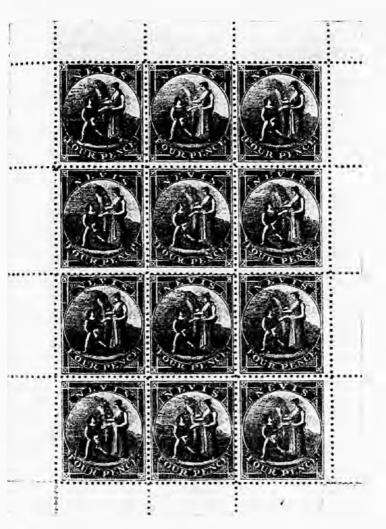
On some of the lithographed stamps there is a white flaw on the dress of the reclining

figure near the right hand.]

No. 9.—The top and bottom frame lines jut out to

the right.

No. 10.—Under and between the letters PE two of the short vertical lines have joined, making one short thick white line. A similar mark appears above and between the "VI" of NEVIS.



The Four Pence.

The outer line of colour framing the Four Pence label does not appear to be fully drawn under the label.

The shading of the shoulder strap of standing figure is composed of short cuts almost horizontal.

No. 11.—There is a very large thick R in FOUR.

The dress of the standing figure nearly touches the circle above the final E of PENCE.

One of the short vertical white lines under

C of PENCE is thick.

There are two small coloured dots in the circular white line in lieu of the continuation of the first slanting outer line of the Nevis label.

No. 12.—The foot of the reclining figure (which shews on all the other numbers on the sheet as a small white spot) is missing.

The outer circular line cuts across the diagonal white line framing the Nevis label.

#### The Six Pence.

In the 6d. the central device is again in a circle. The name of the colony and the value appear respectively above and below in letters of colour on a white ground, in straight tablets curved at the end. There is a vertical panel at each side broken near the centre by the circle. The corners are occupied by foliated ornaments. The guide lines which have been used by the engraver to indicate the size of the lettering in the tablets are not of much service in plating as they are too numerous. The relative positions of the circle, the panels and the frame lines are of some assistance.



The Six Pence.

C

No. 1.—There is a distinct dot after the v of NEVIS.

The lines of shading on the bodice of the kneeling figure are vertical.

No. 2.—There is a dot before N of NEVIS.

There is no neck line on the pitcher.

The shoulder strap of the reclining figure is shaded with short horizontal cuts instead of long diagonal lines.

No. 3.—The circle joins the frame line at the right.

No. 4.—The line on the breast of the standing figure is long and angular.

There is a heavy tress of hair on the shoulder

of the standing figure.

No. 5.—There is a dot close to the N of NEVIS.

The neck of the pitcher is indicated by a dot instead of a line.

No. 6.—There is a dot after E of NEVIS.

The left hand of the reclining figure is partly cut away by the shading of the dress.

No. 7.—There are several extra lines crossing the wavy lines in the right hand panel at the bottom.

No. 8.—There is a dot before the N of NEVIS, but it is level with the top of the letter instead of as in Nos. I and 5.

No. 9.—The centre line of the top left corner ornament is missing. The waterfall scarcely shews below the arm of the kneeling figure.

No. 10.—The line which finishes off the shading of the bodice of the kneeling figure is missing.

No. 11.—There is a short white line within the circle just above the P of PENCE.

No. 12.—The lower right hand junction between the circular lines and the outlines of the panel is irregular.

#### The One Shilling.

In the 1/- value the allegorical picture is enclosed in an oval with curved bands of colour bearing the inscriptions above and below. The corners are filled in with network, and a series of interlaced loops connect the upper and lower curved labels at each side. The junctions of these loops with the labels is of service in plating, while the position of the hand of the reclining figure compared with the lettering immediately below it, and the train of the dress of the standing figure compared with the lettering of SHILLING, make this denomination comparatively easy to confirm.

The distinctive marks rendering such confirmation scarcely necessary except in heavily postmarked copies

are:-

No. 1.—The G of SHILLING is very round and the

terminals nearly close up.

In the lithographed stamps (and possibly in the later engraved stamps), there is a long scratch from the head right down the arm of the standing figure.

No. 2.—There are no horizontal lines on the waterfall

above the arm.

No. 3.—The top and bottom outer lines jut out to the right.

The hand of the reclining figure is over the

second vertical stroke of the N of ONE.

No. 4.—There is a coloured cut below the right of I of NEVIS in the white oval line.

There is a faint scratch on the oval band, about 1 mm. from the beginning of the NEVIS label.

No. 5.—The outer line of the loop meeting the NEVIS label at the left is broken.

The first long fold of the apron of the standing

figure is white and unshaded.

No. 6.—There is a coloured cut below V of NEVIS.

The network at the right joins the NEVIS label in a single point.

No. 7.—The inner line of the loop meeting the NEVIS

label at the left is broken.

The outer frame lines at the bottom left turn out to a point.

No. 8.—A line juts out over the left shoulder of the

standing figure.

There is a cut to the left below 1 of NEVIS.

There is a cut between the bottom frame

lines under the second L of SHILLING.

No. 9.—There is a cut between the outer frame lines at the right, opposite G of SHILLING.

No. 10.—The cheek of the reclining figure has a long

vertical cut.

The horizontal line enclosing the network at the top cuts into the white space above E of NEVIS

No. 11.—The foot of the reclining figure appears like

a dot to the second I of SHILLING.

There is a cut of colour above the NEVIS label, between the letters E and V.

No. 12.—There is a long white line behind the dress

of the kneeling figure.

The N of NEVIS is unusually large.



The One Shilling.



Imperforate between. The third stamp shews the "cross on hill" variety.



#### CHAPTER V.

#### Classification of the First Stamps.

the first types of Nevis stamps were produced and shewn the several distinguishing features of the stamps upon each sheet. It now remains to classify the issues. Fortunately the consignment dates from 1866-1878 are available in the Royal Society's work on the West Indies. They are:—

```
December 18th, 1866 -
                          10,000 stamps ( 834 sheets) 1/-.
                          20,000
                                         (1667
                                                     ) 4d.
                          20.000
                                         (1667
                                                     ) Id.
June 29th, 1871
                          12,000
                                         (1000
                                                     ) 1d.
April 29th, 1872
                          12,000
                                         (1000
                                                     ) 1d.
March 14th, 1873 -
                          18.000
                                         (1500
                                                     ) 1d.
August 10th, 1874-
                           2.040
                                         (170
                                                     ) 4d.
May 18th, 1875
                           6,180
                                           515
                                                     ) 1d.
                                    **
                                         ( 212
                           2,544
                                                     ) 4d.
May 1st, 1876 -
                           2,040
                                         ( 170
                                                     ) 4d.
June 16th, 1876
                                            84
                                                     ) 1/-.
                           1.008
                                    .,
                                          6 500
                           6,000
                                                     ) Id.
December 13th, 1876 -
                                         (2000
                          24,000
                                                     ) 1d,
                           3,000
                                         ( 250
                                                     ) 4d.
                                    ••
                           1,000
                                         (83 th
                                                     ) 1/-.
```

```
February 15th, 1878 - 12,000 stamps (1000 sheets) 4d.
1,200 ... (100 ... ) 6d.
12,000 ... (1000 ... ) 1d.
1,200 ... (100 ... ) 1/-.
November 21st, 1878 - 2,004 ... (167 ... ) 1/-.
1,200 ... (100 ... ) 1d.
```

The stamps were first engraved, and were printed on a greyish paper. All four values shew the paper bleuté at first. The sheets were perforated with a single line machine gauging 13. The colours as first issued were:

1d. dull lake (shades). 4d. dull rose ( ., ). 6d. grey. 1/- green (shades).

Apparently the first of the consignments mentioned above (December 18, 1866) were the first to appear on white paper, perforated by a single line machine gauging 15. The earlier supplies of the 6d. value seem to have sufficed for the needs of the colony until 1878, for this denomination does not come with this perforation. The colour of the 4d. was changed to orange-yellow, obviously to avoid confusion with the 1d. denomination. The colours were:—

1d. vermilion (shades).
1d. lake-red (1871).
4d. orange-yellow (shades).
1/- blue-green (,,, ).
1/- yellow-green (1876). (,,, ).

The variety of the 1/- yellow-green on vertically laid paper is of the greatest rarity. Generally the laid lines shew prominently on the surface of the stamp.

An interesting variety occurred on the last printing from the engraved plate of the 1/- value. This variety

#### CLASSIFICATION OF FIRST STAMPS. 45

is known as the cross on the hill, and consists of a cross-shaped flaw near the summit of the hills, caused probably by the accidental dropping of a graver or other tool on the plate. The position of the stamp with this mark is No. 9.

We have proofs of the Id. dull lake, 4d. blue, 4d. dull purple, and 1/- green on white wove paper. Mr. Douglas Mackenzie (Stamp News Annual, 1893, p. 50) states that all values exist in the form of proofs on this paper, but he does not give the colours. We have

not seen a proof of the 6d. value on paper.

The Royal Society's book states that proofs of all values exist on thick white card in black, purple, ultramarine, blue-green, carmine, orange, and dark blue. Entire sheets of such proofs of the Id., 4d., 6d., and I/- are mentioned in the Auction Epitome, 1888-9.

The Stamp Collectors' Magazine (Jan. 1., 1867) states that "Proofs of the die, before it was finally approved or finished in its present state, also exist; these latter are of the very highest degree of rarity." As no die was used in the production of these stamps the exact nature of the proofs described has not been ascertained, but they may have been proofs taken during the engraving of the plate to shew how the work was progressing. In such case they may have been pulled in black.

There appears to be some doubt about the date when the Id. stamps were first lithographed instead of printed direct from the engraved plate. Mr. B. T. K. Smith (*Philatelic Record*, XXVIII., 8) queries the June 16, 1876, issue as probably lithographed, which is very likely as the plate had been shewing signs of wear for several years. The December

consignment there can be no question about. All the values were printed by lithography in 1878. The perforation 15, which had been in use for the later engraved stamps, was continued on the lithographs. except in the final printing of the Id., which was perforated 11 1/2.

The lithographed stamps include the values:— 1d. vermilion-red (shades) Perf. 15 and Perf. 115. " ) Perf. 15. 4d. orange 6d. brownish-grey (

1/- green

The lithographed 1d. stamps provide several interesting retouches on stamps Nos. 1, 9, and 12 on the sheet. Only one has yet attained catalogue distinction, this being the well-known "herring-bone" variety.

(See frontispiece.)
The so-called "herring-bone" retouch occurs on stamp No. 1, which was apparently not engraved so deep on the original plate as the other eleven stamps. There is scarcely any outline to the hills to mark where they leave off and where the sky begins. The retouch, which would be effected on the lithographic transfer or on the stone, consists of five or more comb-shaped marks which have the effect of defining clearly the summit of the hills, and of heavily marking several ridges at a somewhat lower level.

There are also about eight short slanting lines drawn high up on the hills, near the second band of

the reticulated network on the left.

Another and separate retouch was effected on No. I stamp consisting of three rows of short vertical lines between the dress of the kneeling figure and the reticulated border. (See plate facing Chapter I.)

#### CLASSIFICATION OF FIRST STAMPS. 47

The retouch on No. 9 stamp shews several clearly defined dots in the sky above the head of the standing figure.

Stamp No. 12 was also the subject of a retouch on

the dress of the standing figure.

All the above retouches are perforated 15.

The cross on the hill variety of the 1/- green occurs in the early lithographs on stamp No. 9, but it is cleared away on the later ones, the stamp with the cross removed shewing a white patch on the brow of the hill.

Of perforation varieties the 1d. and 1/- exist imperforate. The 1/- is known perforated on three sides only (this including the cross on hill variety, as in the illustration on page 42), and imperforate vertically.





CHAPTER VI.

Typographed Stamps and Provisional Issues.

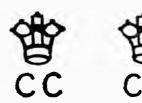


N July 1st, 1879, Nevis joined the Postal Union, and at the end of the same year a 2nd. stamp was issued in the then current De la Rue general design for the postal issues of British Colonies. The following year the 1d. value was issued in the same design. Both values were printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. on paper watermarked Crown CC and perforated 14. There are shades of the colours of both values.

1d. lilac (shades). 2½d. red-brown ( ,, ).

The consignments of these two values are given as follows in Mr. B. T. K. Smith's list.

Date of Despatch. 1879. November 7th, 780 stamps (13 sheets) 2½ pence. 4.980 ) 1 penny. 1880. May 14th. (83 ) 21 pence. 1,620 (27 October 30th, -5,400 ) 1 penny. (90)(90 1881, March 28th, -5,400



In 1882 the same two values, 1d. and 2½d., with the 4d. value added, appeared on the new Crown CA paper, perforated 14. The 1d. value was recorded in the *Monthly Circular*, in April, 1882. The 6d. value printed in green was added in 1883, but it belongs to this group, as the list of consignments will shew.

The colours were :—
Id. lilac (shades).
2½d. red-brown.
4d. blue (shades).
6d. green.

The printings were :-Date of Despatch. 10,020 stamps (167 sheets) 1 penny. 1882, January 31st. -" ) 4 pence. 5.040 (84 August 10th, - -9.960 ) 1 penny. (166 1.080 (18 ) 21 pence. ( 35 ) 4 pence. 1883, May 9th. - -2.100 1.020 ) 6 pence.

In 1882 and 1883 recourse was made to various provisional stamps for postal use. The stamps of both the old lithographed and the new typographed series which had been overprinted REVENUE were requisitioned

for postal use.

The old 1d. lithographed stamp was bisected for use as ½d. without surcharge, as also was the new 1d. lilac bisected and used at first without any overprint. On September 4, 1883, the 1d. lilac was overprinted with the name of the Colony and the value "NEVIS ½d." twice on each stamp in such a manner as would allow of the original stamp being halved for use as two stamps of the lower denomination. The overprint was applied in black and in purple; it may be found in both colours reading up or reading down on either the left or the right vertical half of the stamp; both colours of the overprint may be found doubly impressed.

The retouches of the 1d. lithographed stamp may be

found overprinted REVENUE and postally used.

The synopsis of the provisional stamps is as

follows :-

Old Type. Lithographed. Overprinted REVENUE. Perf. 15.

ld. bright red (including retouches).

4d. orange. 6d. grey.

New type. Surface printed. Overprinted REVENUE. Perf. 14.

ld. lilac.

4d. blue.

6d. green.



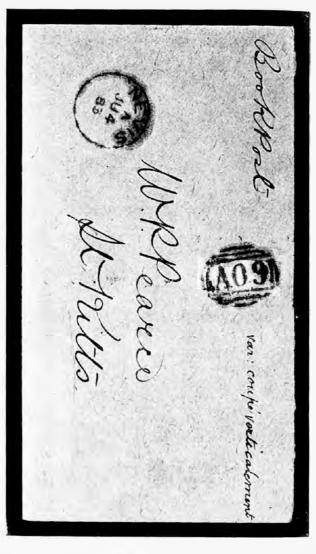
Half of the 1d. lithograph with two 1d. lilac stamps used as  $2\frac{1}{2}d$ .



1d. Overprinted for use as two 2d. stamps.



Bisected 1d. (overprinted) and used as ½d. stamp.



Half of 1d. lilac used as &d., without overprint.

One Penny Stamps Bisected for use as Half Penny Stamps.

1d. vermilion (lithographed, Perf. 15).

1d. lilac.

Overprinted "NEVIS 1d."

Id. lilac, black overprint (varieties).
Id. lilac, purple overprint (varieties).

In November, 1883, a consignment was despatched containing a new series, including a new value and several of the old denominations in new colours. These were the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d.,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., and 4d., all printed on Crown CA paper. There was no new printing of the 6d. until 1888, when the colour of this value was changed from green to chestnut. A 1/- value printed in lilac appeared in 1890.

The values are :-

```
d. green (shades).

ld. carmine ( ,, ).

2d. ultramarine ( ,, ).

4d. grey ( ,, ).

6d. chestnut

1s. lilac.
```

Unused specimens of all these values are known imperforate, though they do not appear to have been ever used in this condition.

The consignments were :-

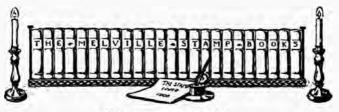
```
Date of Despatch.
                          10.140 stamps (169 sheets) \frac{1}{2} penny.
1883, November 6th, -
                           4,980
                                         (83
                                                    ) I penny.
                           5,100
                                         (85
                                                    ) 23 pence.
                                                 ••
                           4,980
                                                    ) 4 pence.
1884, January 29th, -
                           5,100
                                         (85
                                                    ) I penny.
                           9.900
      May 21st, -
                                         (165
                                                 \frac{1}{2} penny.
                          10.020
                                         (167
                                                    ) I penny.
                                                 **
                           5,100
                                         (85
                                                    ) 25 pence.
                           5.100
                                         (85)
                                                    ) 4 pence.
```

August 7th,	19,920 10,200 5,160	stamps	(332 (170 ( 86	sheets)	½ penny. 1 penny. 2½ pence.
	5,100	11	(85	**	4 pence.
1887, May 16th,	9,720 10,080	**	(162 (168	**	) I penny.
1888, May 12th,	10,020	"	(167	••	) 4 pence. ) <del>1</del> pence.
	10,020	**	(167	,,	1 penny.
October 15th, -	2,100	11	( 35	., )	6 pence.
1890, March 5th,	6,000 6.000	**	(100	,,	) ½ penny.
	3,000	11	(50	**	) 1 penny. ) 2 <u>5</u> pence.
	6,000	••	(100	**	) 4 pence.
	3,000	**	( 50	**	6 pence.
	2,040	**	( 34	**	) 1 shilling.

Mr. B. T. K. Smith, to whom we are indebted for the later consignment statistics, gives the following table shewing the quantities of remainders of the Nevis stamps which were sold by the Crown Agents to Mr. T. H. Thompson in 1892.

	Total	Unused	Quantities
	Consignments.	Remainders.	Used.
3d. green	55,980	7,227	48,753
1d. carmine	51,060	5,872	45,188
23d. blue	13,260	5,045	8,215
4d grey	26,280	4,332	21,948
6d red-brow	n 5,100	2,944	2,156
1/- lilac	2,040	1,457	583





#### CHAPTER VII.

#### Bibliography.

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

2 A.J.P.—American Journal of Philately, 2nd series.

A.P.--American Philatelist.

B.P.S.—Philatelists' Supplement to the Bazaar.

L.P.-London Philatelist.

M.P.J. Morley's Philatelic Journal.

P.J.G.B. Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.

P.J. of I.—Philatelic Journal of India.

P.R. - Philatelic Record.

S.C.F. Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

S.C.M.—Stamp Collectors Magazine. S.C.R.—Stamp Collectors Review.

S.G.M.J .- Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal.

S.N.A .-- Stamp News Annual.

NOTE.—Roman figures thus—V.—denote the volume, and Arabic figures—135—indicate the page. In a few cases the date takes the place of the volume number.

CONSIGNMENTS [Maycock]. P.R., XXVIII., 44.

See also under GENERAL, notes by B. T. K. Smith, and the London Society's West Indies.

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[Overy Taylor], S.C.M., III., 65; [J. B. Brown], S.C.M., V., 11, 58; [Rambler], S.N.A., 1892, 64; [Mackenzie], S.N.A., 1893, 50; P.R., XVIII., 99; [Firth], S.N.A., 1893, 53; 2 A.J.P., VII., 170; [Turner], B.P.S., March 25, 1896, p. 51; [B. T. K. Smith], P.R., XXVIII., 4, 23.

p. 51; [B. T. K. Smith], P.R., XXVIII., 4, 23. PLATING [Reuterskiöld], P.J.G.B., VII., 67; [Willett], S.C.F., I., 138, 154; [Luff], 2 A.J.P., IX., 392. REMAINDERS. S.G.M.J., VII., 192; P.R., XVIII.,

99.

TAPLING COLLECTION. S.G.M.J., VI., 9.

Varieties [Phillips], S.G.M.J., VII., 34. Plates. M.P.J., I., 17, 33; S.C.F., II., 289; [Corwin], A.P., III., 169.





#### CHAPTER VIII.

#### Check List.

1861.—Engraved and printed in London by Messrs. Nissen & Parker on unwatermarked greyish wove paper. Perforated 13.

1d. dull lake.

1d. lake.

On bleuté paper.

4d. dull rose (shades). On bleuté paper.

6d. grey.

6d. pearl-grey.

On bleuté paper.

1/- green.

1/- pale green.

On bleuté paper.

1866.—Engraved as before, but on unwatermarked white paper. Perforated 15.

ld. dull vermilion.

Id. vermilion.

1d. lake-red (1871).

4d. orange-yellow.

4d. deep orange-yellow.

1/- pale blue-green.

1/- blue-green.

1/- yellow-green.

1/- deep yellow-green.

Cross on hill (yellow-green), No. 9. Laid paper (deep yellow-green). , (bright yellow-green).

, (cross on hill).

1876-78.—Lithographed by Messrs. Nissen & Parker on unwatermarked white wove paper. Perf. 15.

1d. pale vermilion-red.

ld. vermilion-red.

1d. deep vermilion-red.

ld. dull lake-red.

1d. lake-red.

Imperforate (vermilion-red).

" (pale vermilion-red).

Half used as 3d. (vermilion-red).
Retouch. No. 1 on sheet. "Herring-bone" on hills.

Retouch. No. 1 on sheet. Lines drawn between dress of kneeling figure and the border.

Retouch. No. 9 on sheet. Dots in sky above head of standing figure.

Retouch. No. 12 on sheet. On dress of standing figure.

4d. orange-yellow.

4d. orange.

Imperforate.

6d. brownish-grey (shades).

1/- chalky-green (shades).

I/- deep green.

Čross on hill (chalky-green), No. 9. Imperforate (chalky-green).

Imperforate vertically (chalky-green).

Perforated on three sides only (chalky-green). Cross on hill perforated on three sides only.

No. 9 with cross removed (deep green only).

(This variety shews a white space on the hills caused by the removal of some of the lines of

shading).

1878.—Lithographed on unwatermarked white paper. Perf. 113.

1d. vermilion-red (shades).

1879-80.—Typographed in London by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. Watermarked Crown CC. Perf. 14. 1d. lilac (shades).

2 d. red-brown (shades).

1882.—Typographed as before, but watermarked Crown CA. Perf. 14.

1d. lilac (shades).

Half used as 3d.

21d. red-brown.

4d. pale blue.

4d. blue.

6d. green (1883).

1883.—Provisionals overprinted locally.

"d." in black on half 1d. lilac (left-half).
"d." ... (right-half).

Surcharge reading upwards. ,, downwards.

"¿d." in purple on half 1d. lilac (left-half).

"¿d." ,, ,, (right-half (right-half).

Surcharge reading upwards.

,, downwards.

1883-90.—Typographed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. Watermarked Crown and CA. Perf. 14.

d. dull green.

d. green.

Imperforate.

1d. pale carmine.

ld. carmine.

1d. deep carmine.

Imperforate.

2½d. pale ultramarine.

21d. ultramarine. Imperforate.

4d. pale grey.

4d grey.

Imperforate.

6d. chestnut (1888).

1/- lilac.

Imperforate.

1882.—Fiscals used for Postage. Old Type. (Lithographed). Overprinted REVENUE. Perf. 15.

Id. bright red.
Retouches.

4d. orange.

6d. grey.

New type. (Typographed). Overprinted REVENUE. Perf. 14.

Id. lilac.

4d. blue.

6d. green.





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