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ISAAC VAN ALPHEN,
Postmaster-General of the South
African Republic.

## THE STAMPS

OF

## THE TRANSVAAL

A Reference List

and Guide to Values

BY
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LONDON:
SIR ISAAC PITMAN \& SONS
1 Amen Corner, E.C.
(1902.)


## Preface.

DURING the first British occupation the stamps of the Transvaal were great favourites with leading specialists like Mr. Tapling, Mr. Castle, Mr. Douglas Garth, Mr. Bacon and others. But when the country passed out of British hands the interest in its issues declined, and has since been preserved by only a few. Now, however, that the country is once more, and finally, included in the British Colonial Empire the old interest is being re-awakened and collectors are buying hard and fast before the rise.

Historically, the stamps of the Transvaal hold a very unique position. First we have the crude and early issues of the First Republic, then the makeshifts and final Queen's Head issue of the British occupation, and then the restored issues of the Second Republic and its subsequent issues and new designs, and now there is a reversion to British authority and British Colonial issues.

The early issues are full of those interesting varieties of paper, printing and perforation that mark crude local workmanship. They are free from dangerous forgeries, and there are only two reprints.

The stamps of the Transvaal have been neglected by many because they have been considered difficult to understand and to arrange. But, thanks to the industry of Mr. Emil Tamsen, official records have been examined and published, and everything is now conparatively plain sailing for the Philatelist.

The least understood of all are the issues of the First Republic, and, as a consequence, they are ridiculously under-valued. In most cases the printings were of a very limited character. The wise will do well to secure those early issues before the market awakens to their real rarity and value. From a Philatelic point of view, I have found the first printings of far more interest than any subsequent issues. I
have spent more time in their collection and study than in all the other issues combined, and the interest remains unabated; and, I may add, the scope for further study and inquiry seems unlimited.

In all prices my values are, in unused for mint copies with good margins, and in used for fine copies, good margins and lightly cancelled.

At first I thought of attempting to put a value to every stamp, but I soon found the task to be a hopeless one. It could probably be done successfully by a committee of specialists, but not by an individual collector. I have, therefore, confined myself to the pricing of the normal issues and those varieties that are still among the attainables.

In the matter of varieties, I have confined the list to those which are known to exist. This leaves a wide field for further discoveries.

Colours: Shades are to be found in all varieties in most of the printings.

There are a few minor varieties with which I have not thought it worth while to burden this list.

I need scarcely add that I shall be very thankful for any corrections or suggestions which may enable me to perfect this List of the Postal Issues of the Transvaal for inclusion some day in a more pretentious work.

Carisbrooke,
Birdhurst Rise, Croydon.



## Early Printings.

$\mathrm{O}^{-}$F all the issues of the Transvaal, none give more scope for further study than the printings of the First Republic. Much has been done in the direction of separating and classifying the various printers' stamps; indeed it may be said that we can now definitely locate the stamps of each printer, with two exceptions. We have not yet sufficient data to enable us to separate the 6d. stamps printed by Borrius from those printed by the Stamp Commission.

I am inclined to think that Borrius used for most of his printings a thinnish, soft opaque paper, and that he rouletted most of the stamps he sent out. The Stamp Commission, on the contrary, I believe, used many kinds of paper-thickish, hard paper; coarse paper; hard, surfaced paper; thin paper; and pelure paper. But to clearly differentiate these printings we need stamps on original envelopes between 1870 and 1874 . I shall be glad of any evidence that will help me in this direction.

I have no doubt that we shall eventually be able to locate, not only the stamps of the various printers, but even the stamps of each printing.

Many collectors have regarded the first issues as being very complicated and very puzzling. To the true Philatelist they are the most interesting of all the stamps of the Transvaal. They reflect the crude state of the printing and local stamp production of the period, with all their interesting makeshifts. The mere accumulator will do well to buy his stamps from some well-arranged Dealer's Stock Book from which he can copy chapter and verse, but the Philatelist will find the study and arrangement of the early printings of the First Republic of the Transvaal, with such help as he will be able to gain from this Reference List, one of the most pleasurable in the whole range of Philately.

The following tables will afford some clue to the real rarity and coming value of those early printings. For years they have been a drug on the market. But the tide has turned, and the wise Philatelist will do well to secure a pick of good copies whilst they are to be had at reasonable prices.

## Printed by Otto (Mecklenburg).

| Printed |  |  |  | 1d. | 6 d. | Is. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1869. | .. | .. | .. | 4,800 | 800 | 400 |

Printed by M. J. Viljoen (Pretoria).


Printed by J. P. Borrius (Potchefistroom).


In black ink.

Printed in Germany.


Total printing of both values
47,320
Printed by P. Davis \& Son (Pietermaritzburg, Natal).


Printed by the Stamp Commission (Pretoria).


Summary of Total Printings.

| Printer. | Id. | 3 d. | 6 d. | I8. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Local, Viljoen .. | 23,200 | - | 29480 | 12,600 |
| do. Borrius .. | 65.480 | 8,040 | 144,800 | 24,040 |
| German, Otto .. .. .. | - | 8,000 | 39.320 * | - |
| Natal (Pietermaritzburg), Davis.. | 24.120 |  | 40,600 | - |
| Local Stamp Commission .. | 116.760 | 24,000 | 198,200 | - |
| Totals .. | 229.560 | 40.040 | 452,400 | 36.640 |
| Summary. Id. <br> 3 d. <br> $6 d$. <br> is. | $\therefore$ | - | 229,560 |  |
|  | -* | . . | 40,040 |  |
|  | - | * | 452,400 |  |
|  | * $\cdot$ | * | 36,640 |  |
| Total printed of all values of the First Republic 758,640 |  |  |  |  |
| - Type of 3d. No dies or plates sent out with stamps. |  |  |  |  |



## The First Republic.

FOR years I have been endeavouring to identify and classify the various printings of the First Republic. In many cases I have succeeded, but much remains to be done by future students. So far as I am able I have, in the following list, classified the more important and interesting. The few words of description that I have added will, I trust, enable those who take up the study to classify with very little trouble all those of which we can speak with certainty. The production later on of stamps on original envelopes will probably enable us to complete the classification.


Type I.


Type II.


Type III.

## Printed by Otto, Germany.

1869. (Issue legalised 1870.) On thin wove paper; white, crinkled, gum. Stamps of this issue are distinguished by their sharp, clear printing, crinkled gum, thin and superior paper; and the is. in particular, by its unmistakable emerald green. Imperforate and fine roulette. Imperforate copies are very rare. Type I.


Varieties: Tête bêche.

| Tete beche. | Imperforate. |  | Unused. | Used. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | $f_{5}$ s. $d$. | f. s. d |
| Is. emerald green | . | .. .. | - | --- |
|  | Fine | Rouletie. |  |  |
| 6d. light blue | . | .. . | - | -- |
| 1s. emerald green | - | .- $\cdot$ | - | -- |

## Printed by Viljoen at Pretoria.

1870. April 4. Printed on paper already gummed, sent from Germany. Impressions indistinct and blurred. Paper thin wove as in first German printings. Imperforate and fine roulette. Type I.
```
                                    Imperforate.
1d. Indian red .. .. .. .. I 10 0 2 10 0
```



```
    Fine Rodlette.
```

April 26 and May ro. On thick hard paper, yellow streaky gum, fairly even printing. Imperforate and fine roulette. Type I.

## imperforate.



Varieties: Tête bêche.

## Imperforate

1s. yellow green.
6.

July 4. On thickish paper, blotchy printing, and all fine roulette. Whitish gum. Type I.
fine Roulette.

| $\checkmark$ Id. Indian red |  |  | . |  | o | 0 |  |  |  | - |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - Id. crimson | . | $\cdots$ | .. | 5 | o | - |  |  |  |  |
| -6id. ultramarine |  |  | .. | 1 | - | - | 0 |  |  |  |
| 14. dark green |  |  |  | 2 | - | - | 1 | - |  |  |

Varieties: Tête bêche.


## Printed in Oermany.

1871. June 30. The first 3d., printed on thick, hard, wove paper. Very clear printing. Imperforate and fine roulette. Type II.
imperforite.


## Printed by Borrius, Potchefstroom.

In all, Borrius made six printings of the id. value, one of the $3 \mathrm{~d} . ;$ thirteen of the 6 d. , and three of the is. The Id. black, the 3d., and all three shillings can be identified, but the other id. and 6 d . printings cannot be separated from some of the printings of the subsequent Stamp Commission. Those that cannot be separated are listed together under the head of Printings by Borrius and Stamp Commission.
1870. Sept. 28. By some misunderstanding Borrius began printing the Id. value in black. It was an error, but the 24,000 stamps so printed were accepted and issued. Imperforate and fine roulette. Type I.

Imperforate


Variety: On thin, translucent paper.

## Fine Roulette

id. black .. .. .. .. .. 10 o o
1872. Dec. 25. On thin, opaque paper; clear printing. Fine roulette. The opaque paper in the 3 d . of this printing marks the difference that distinguishes this Borrius 3 d . from the pelure, translu cent paper of the 3 d. of the Stamp Commission, classified later on under "pelure." 3d. Type II.; id. and Is. Type I.

## Fine Roulette.

| 1d. red |  |  | . | . | 1 | 10 | o |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3d. lilac |  | .. | . . | . | 2 | 0 | - | 1 | - | - |
| 1s. pale green |  | - | . | $\cdots$ | 2 | 10 | - | 1 | o |  |

Variety: Tête bêche.
Fine Rodlette.

> Is. pale green
1873. April 19 and 24. On thin wove paper; printed in a darker green than the last issue and sometimes blurred. Fine roulette. Type I.

Fine Roulette.
1s. dark green .. .. .. .. 2 го ○ 1 ○ 。

Variety: Tête béche.
Fine Rouletie.
1s. dark green

## Printed in Germany.

1874. A 6d. value with the so-called improved eagle of the 3 d . type, on good quality thin wove paper, clearly printed by the German engraver. Fine roulette. Type III.

Fine Roulette.
6d. ultramarine .. .. .. .. I o o o

## Printed by Davis, at Pietermaritzburg.

1874. Sept. On good wove paper, mostly well-printed, but best known as being the only perforated issue of the First Republic. Perforated, $12 \frac{1}{2}$. Type I.

Perforated 12 z


## Printed by Borrius or Stamp Commission.

1871-76. Various printings of the Id. and 6d. values, not otherwise classified and which it is almost impossible yet to apportion between Borrius and the Stamp Commission. Personally, I am inclined to believe that all the Borrius printings were fine rouletted, and that most of the Stamp Commission stamps were imperforate, very few being rouletted. Type I.


Variety: Tête bêche.
6d blue .. ... imprrforate.

## Printed by the Stamp Commission.

1875-6. Brown gum. On thick, hard paper, very dark brown gum. Imperforate, fine, and wide roulette. Type I.


Variety: Tête bêche.
6d. blue

1875-6. Pelure paper, mostly clear printing. Imperforate, fine, and wide roulette. Id. and 6d. Type I.; 3d. Type II.

Imperforate.

| rd. red | . | . | .. | . | .. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3d. lilac | .. | . | .. | . | .. | 1 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| 6d. blue | .. | . | .. | . | .. | 1 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 |


|  |  |  |  | R | ett |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | nuse |  |  | Use |  |
| rd. red | - | - |  | .. | . |  |  |  |  |  | ${ }_{0}^{d}$ |
| 3d. Jilac | .. | .. | . | . | . | 3 | 10 | 0 | 3 | 0 | $\bigcirc$ |
| 6d. blue | . | . |  | . | . | 3 | 10 | $\bigcirc$ | 2 | 10 | - |
|  |  |  | Wi |  | Er |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Id. red | - | - | . | - | - |  | 10 | $\bigcirc$ |  | - |  |
| 3d. Jilac | .. | . | . | . | . |  | 10 | $\bigcirc$ | 6 | $\bigcirc$ | 0 |
| 6d. blue | . | . | . | . | . |  | - | 0 |  | Io |  |

Variety: Tête bêche.
Gd. blue .. .. .. .. ..
1875-6. Printings on hard, surfaced paper, easily distinguished as being one of the first lot subsequently surcharged "V.R. transvaal." Imperforate, fine, and wide roulette. Type I.

| Imperforate. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| id. vermilion <br> 6d. bright blue | . | .. | . |  | 1 | 15 | 0 | 1 | 5 | - |
|  | . | $\cdots$ |  |  | 4 | Io | - | 1 | $\bigcirc$ | - |
| Fine Roulette. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| rd. vermilion | $\cdots$ | .. | . | . | 5 | 5 | - | 3 | 10 |  |
| Wide Roulette. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1d. vermilion | - | * | - | +. |  |  |  | 5 | - |  |

1875-6. Printings on coarse, soft paper, identified as being part of the printing subsequently overprinted "V.R. transvaal." Imperforate, fine, and wide roulette. Type I.

Imperforate.

| Id. red | . | - | - |  | $\bigcirc$ | 0 | 1 | 15 | 0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6d. blue |  |  | - | 2 | 10 | 0 |  | 10 | 0 |
| 1s. yellow green |  |  |  |  | 10 | - |  |  | 0 |

## Fine Roulette

| rd. red | . | . | - | - | - |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6d. blue | . | . | . | - | -- |
| 1s. yellow green | . | . | - | - |  |
|  | Wide Roulette. |  |  |  |  |
| ıd. red | $\cdots$ | -* | $\cdots$ | --- |  |
| 1s. yellow green | . | . | . | -- |  |

Varieties: Tête bêche.


Minor varieties, $1870-6$ :-
Defective " Zes " in the Gd.
Defective corner, "6" barred out, in the 6 d .
Compound roulettes.
Pin perforations.


## British Occupation.

IN 1877 the British authorities took over the government of the Transvaal and converted it into a Crown Colony. The British flag was hoisted in Pretoria on the 12th April, 1877, but it was not till the July following that a distinctly British issue of postage stamps was made. Then the stamps of the South African Republic were overprinted "V.R. transvaal" in capital letters as in Type IV.
1877. July. Red surcharge.

Type IV. overprinted on the stamps of the South African Republic; on the 3d. of Type II. and on the 6d. and is. of Type I. It is surmised that the overprint was first tried in red, and that after a small quantity had been issued in that colour it was abandoned in favour of the more distinct surcharge in black. Only the 3d., 6d., and is. values were surcharged in red. All are known imperforate, fine roulette and wide roulette, and some with the other varieties set out in the following list.


Type IV.

| Imperforate |  |  |  | Unused. <br> \& s. $d$. | Used.$E \text { s. } d$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3d. lilac .. | $\bullet$ | + | - | - | 6 | 0 |
| 6d. blue .. | . | . | . | - | 5 | c |
| 1s, yellow green. | * | + | - | -- | 4 | 10 |
| Fine Rouletie |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3d. lilac | - | $\cdots$ | - | - |  |  |
| 61. blue .. | - * | . | . . |  |  | - |
| Is, yellow green. | . | . | - |  |  |  |
| Wide Roulette. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3d. lilac .. | * | * | . |  |  | - |
| 6d. blue .. | $\cdots$ | . | * |  |  |  |
| Is. yellow green | . | . | . |  |  |  |

Same: Surcharge Inverted.
Unused. $\quad$ Used.
$\notin s . d$.

Imperforate.
6d. blue
Tête bêche.
1s. yellow green
Wide Roulette

Wider spacing between "V.R." and "transvaal." These are very scarce. Only one is found on each sheet of 80 stamps, but as it is not generally known it may sometimes be picked up priced as the common surcharge.

## Imperforate



No stop after " $R$ " of " V.R"
imperforate.
6d. blue
Same: Surcharge Inverted.
Wide Roulette.
19. yellow green.. .. .. .. -ー

No stop after "transvaal"


Double surcharge.
imperforate.
6d. blue
Double surcharge : one in red and one in black. Only two or three copies are known of this great rarity.

## Imperforate.

3d. lilac
Surcharge on back instead of face of stamp.
Imperforate.
3d. lilac
Minor varieties :-
Defective " Zes" in the 6 d .
Defective cornor, " 6 " barred out, in the 6 d .
Misplaced "L" in transvasl in all values.
Compound roulettes?
1877. Black surcharge. Pelure paper.

This is evidently an over-printing of a small remainder of the pelures of the Republic. In fine condition it is an exceedingly scarce stamp, and unused, mint, it is a rarity.

|  | imperforate |  | Unused. | Used. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| ıd. vermilion |  | .. .. | $\begin{array}{ccc} E & \text { s. } & d \\ 8 & 0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} E \\ 3 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ |
|  | Fine | Rodlette. |  |  |
| 1d. vermilion | .. | .. .. | - | - |

1877. Black surcharge.

The id. on the hard surfaced paper and on the coarse soft paper ; 3d., 6 d. , and is. on coarse soft paper. All apparently remainders of the last printings made by the South African Republic. All imperforate, fine roulette, wide routette, \&c.

Imprrforate.


Same: Surcharge Inverted.
imperporate.


Tête béche.
Imperforate
1s. yellow green..
Wider spacing between "V.R." and "transvaal." Note remarks on this variety in foregoing chronicle of the red surcharge.

Imperporate.


No stop after " $R$ " of "V.R" -- Imperforate.

| rd. vermilion | .. | .. | .. | . | - |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 6d. blue | .. | .. | . | .. | . |  |
|  |  | Wide Rouletie |  |  |  |  |
| Is. yellow green.. | .. | .. | .. | - |  |  |

Same: Surcharge Inverted
imperforate.
1s. yellow green.. $\quad$ Wide Roulatte.
ss. yellow green. .
No stop after " Transvall '
Imperforate.

Same: Surcharge Inverted.

## Fine Roulette

1s. yellow green..
Minor varieties:-
Defective " $Z$ es" in the 6 d .
Defective corner, " 6 " barred out.
Misplaced $L$ in "transvaal," in all values.
Compound Roulettes.
Bisected stamps, 6d. and is.
1877. August 31st. Black surcharge. Rose coloured paper.

The 6d. value printed in blue on rose coloured paper. A peculiarity of this issue is that the surcharge inverted is more common than the normal surcharge. Imperforate, fine roulette, wide roulette, \&c.

Imperforate.


Same: Surcharge Inverted.

> Imperforate



Same: Surcharge Inverted.

|  | Imprrforate |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6d. blue on rose.. | . | - |
|  | Fine Roulette .. a a |  |

Surcharge omitted.
-Imperforate
6d. blue on rose.
Minor varieties :-
Defective " Zes."
Defective corner, " 6 " barred out.
Bisected stamps.
1877-8. Coloured papers. Surcharged in capitals and small letters.
Types V. and VI. overprinted on a fresh printing from the old plates of the Republic made on coloured papers. In this issue the overprint is altered from all capitals to capitals and small letters. The two types-Roman and Italic V.R.--were used on the same sheet. The Roman "V.R." is the commoner type. As before, the Id. and 6 d . values are of Type I., and the 3 d . of Type II. Paper, coloured wove. Imperforate, fine roulette and wide roulette, \&c.

Roman V.R., i.e., overprinted with Type V.

| V. R. |
| :---: |
| Transvaal |
| Type V. |

ImPERPORATE.


Same: Surcharge Inverted.
Unused.
$f=d s i d$

Imprrforate.

| sd. red on blue .. | . | - |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3d. lilac on buff.. | . .. .. |  |
| 6d. blue on green | .. .. .. | - |
| 6d. blue on blue. . | .. .. $\quad$. |  |
|  | Fine Roulette. |  |
| 6d. blue on green | .. .. . |  |

Tête bêche:-

## Imperforate.

6d. blue on green 6d. blue on blue. .

No stop after "V" of " V R." and the letters closer together.
imperforate.


No stop after " $R$ " of "V. $R$ "
Imperforate.


No stop after " $V$ " or " $R$ " and the letters closer together. impreforate.
id. red on orange .. .. .. -- --

Both stops between the " $V$ " and " $R$ " and letters wider apart. impirforate.
6d. blue on green
Error: "Transvral." This error occurs once in each sheet. It is one of the most popular rarities of the Transvaal.
imperforate.
id. red on blue ..
Fine Roulette.
rd. red on blue ..
Error: Surcharge omitted. It is believed that one sheet escaped being surcharged, as only a few copies are known.

## imperforate.

6d. blue on blue..

Italic "V.R.," i.e., overprinted with Type VI.

$$
V . R .
$$

Transval

Type VI.
In this Italic "V.R." series there is no 6 d . blue on green, and the varieties, which are so plentiful in the Roman "V.R.," do not occur in the Italic "V.R.," which is nearly three times as rare as the Roman "V.R."

| . |  | Unused. | Used. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | ¢ s. d. | ¢ s. d. |
|  | Imperforate the s. |  |  |
| Id. red on orange | . .. $\quad$. | 110 | 10 o |
| 3d. lilac on buff.. |  | 20 | 015 |
| 6d. blue on blue. . |  | 510 | 1 o |

## Fine Roulette.

id. red on orange
3d. lilac on buff..


6d. blue on blue..
Wide Roulette.


3d. lilac on buff.
Same: Surcharge Inverted.
Imperfokate
6d. blue on blue..
Fine Joulette.
6d. blue on blue..
1879. April 18. Coloured papers, continued.

Two printings from the old plates of Type II., surcharged in black with Types V. and VI. (Roman and Italic V.R.)

Roman V.R.


Same: Surcharge Inverted.

[^0]3d. lilac on green

Italic V.R.


Same: Surcharge Inverted.

## Imperforate.

3d. lilac on green
Varieties:-
Misplaced stops after " $V$ " and " $R$."
1879. August to September. Coloured papers, continued.

Further printings from the old plates, id. Type I., and 3d. Type II. Surcharged in black with Type VII., in which it will be noted the letters "V.R." are smaller and closer together. The notable variety in this issue is the small capital T to " Transvaal, which is found in both id. and both 3d. values. It occurs four times on each sheet, and is very scarce.


Small capital T to $\mathrm{T}_{\text {ransvaal }}$.
Id. red on yellow
1d. red on orange
3d. lilac on green
3d. lilac on blue.
Id. red on orange

Imperforate.


Smaller "R" in "V.R."

[^1]1878-1880. Queen's Head issue.
Type VIII. Head of Queen Victoria. Seven values, issued at various dates from 1878 to 1880 . Printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson \& Co., London, on greyish, white wove, thinnish paper. Some of the supplies were watermarked with the name of the paper maker. Perforated $14 \frac{1}{2}$.

1879. April and May.

Prowisional " I Penny" on 6d. Queen's Head issue.
According to the Official Stamp Record of the Transvaal there were three printings of the provisional surcharge of " 1 Penny" on the 6 d . of the Queen's head issue of 1878 . The official entry reads as follows:
" 1879 . April 22. Reduced 18,0006 p. stamps to 1 p.
$\begin{array}{ccccc}\text { May } & 28 . & , " & 6,0006 \mathrm{p} . & , " \\ 36,000 & 6 \mathrm{p} . & \text { to I } \mathrm{p} . \\ \text { to I } \mathrm{p} .\end{array}$

Some of the sheets were overprinted in red ink, and some in black ink, but we have no definite information that will enable us to say which printings were in red and which were in black.

Mr. Tamsen surmises that the first lot, 18,000, was probably overprinted in red, and that, as red did not show up very clearly, the subsequent printings of 6,000 and 36,000 were done in black. The scarcity of copies of the surcharge in red certainly warrants this supposition.

There are seven types of surcharge on each sheet printed.

## 1 Penny

Type 1,

1 Penny
Type 2.

1 Penny
Type 3.

1 Penny
Type 4.

1 Penņ 1 Penny 1 PENNY
Type s
Type 6.
Type 7.

The following summary of the numbers of each type on each sheet will be useful for reference :-

Red surcharge, 18,000.
Type 1, 11 on sheet, 300 sheets, 3,300 printed.

| $"$ | 2, | 4 | $"$ | 300 | $"$ | 1,200 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $"$ | 3, | 4 | $"$ | 300 | $"$ | 1,200 |
| $"$ | 4, | 9 | $"$ | 300 | $"$ | 2,700 |
| $"$ | 5. | 2 | $"$ | 300 | $"$ | 600 |
| $"$ | 6, | 5 | $"$ | 300 | $"$ | 1.500 |
| $"$ | 7. | 25 | $"$ | 300 | $"$ | 7.500 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Total 60 ." 300 .. 18,000
Black surcharge, 42,000.
Type 1, 11 on sheet, 700 sheets, 7,700 priuted


Total 60 .. 700 .. 42,000

And the following diagram, taken in connection with the photographic reproduction of the types from our sheet of the black sareharge will help collectors in reconstructing the plate :-


Red surcharge:-

Type 1. Slanting serif to top and thin serif to battom of figure .. .. ..
.1 2. No serif to bottom of figure ..

1. 3. Heavy serif to bottom of figure and thin serif to bottom of "p "


Black surcharge :-
Type 1. Slanting serif to top and thin serif to bottom of figure

217 0 1100
, 2. No serif to bottom of figure. . ..
 thin serif to bottom of "P" ..
. 4. Heavy serifs to bottom of figure and bottom of "P" .. .. .. 3100 1100
" 5. Tailless " y "


3100
7. "Penny" all in sans-serif capitals ... $\quad$ I $\begin{array}{llllllll} & 5 & 0 & 0 & 15 & 0\end{array}$



## Second Republic.

THE Transvaal was handed back to the Boers in August, 188r, but a clause in the Convention stipulated that "all unused postage or revenue stamps issued by the Government since the annexation shall remain of value, and shall be accepted by the coming Government against the amount expressed thereon." And Mr. Tamsen tells us that when the British officials left the country on August irth, 1881, they handed over to the new authorities the following postage stamps, all of the Queen's Head Type (Type IX.) :-

| Id. | 3d. | 4d. | $6 d$. | 15. | 23 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 90,160 | 150,080 | 224,000 | 159,010 | 7 | 4,000 |

By the Convention of 188 r the country was given the name of "Transvaal State," and it was not till the Convention of 1884 that it blossomed out, by authority, into the "South African Republic." The balance of British issued stamps appear to have lasted over this interregnum, the 6d. not being exhausted till 1886.
1882. August IIth, and February 20th, 1883. "Een Penny" on 4 d .

When the stock of the id. value of the Queen's Head series ran out, in August, 1882, 12,000 of the 4 d . value of the same series were surcharged "Een Penny," and in February, 1883, another lot of 30,000 was similarly overprinted. These stamps are still fairly common, but the variety inverted is a rarity. A still greater rarity is a similar surcharge, but in larger letters, and having the appearance of being hand-stamped.


Type IX.


Same: Surcharge Inverted.
"Een Penny" on 4 d . Type IX


Larger Surcharge: Similar letters.
"Een Penny" on qd. Type IX...
1883. Reissue of old design, Types I. and II.

At various dates in 1883 there were reprintings from the old plates, Types I. and II. There are many distinct shades, owing to the several separate printings. The most marked is the 3 d . brown, a scarce stamp in fine used condition, and a great rarity unused. The 3d. black on rose is a very much underrated stamp. Only 23,520 were printed.


Typel


Type 11 .

| Perforated iz. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Id. grey black |  |  | 010 | 9 | 0 | o |
| Id deep black | - | .. |  | - | 0 | 2 |
| 3d. black on rose | - |  | 08 | 6 | 0 | 8 |
| 3d. pale red | . | . | - 3 | 6 | 0 | 1 |
| 3d. vermilion | - | . | 07 | 6 | 0 | 2 |
| 3d. brown |  | .. |  |  | 1 | 10 |
| 1s. pale green |  |  |  | o | 0 | I |
| is deep green | . | .. | 110 | - | 0 | 2 |

Tête bêche.

```
IS greell
```

1885. New design.

In 1885 stamps of a new design, ordered from the Government printers of Holland, were received and issued. Paper white wove, unwatermarked.

This is the only series of stamps issued by the Transvaal which yields any variety of perforations. Mr. Tamsen tells us that the perforation of the first supplies received from Holland was $12 \frac{1}{2}$ by 12. All the stamps of this series were not issued on the same date, but for the purpose of simplifying their collection I have grouped them all as a series under the general date of 1885.

The variety perforated $1 I_{\frac{1}{2}}$ by 12 is due to an irregularity in the machine, which caused the first stamp in each row to have the
horizontal gauge $11 \frac{1}{2}$ instead of $12 \frac{1}{2}$. But only the 1 d., 3 d . and 4 d . values have been found perforated II $\frac{1}{2}$ by 12 : others may exist.


Type X.

1885. May gth and August 25th. "Halve Penny" on 3d. red and Is. green.

To supply a deficiency of $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. stamps a number of the 3 d . on white paper, Type II., and rs. green, Type I., were overprinted with the words "Halve Penny" in black, in one line in the centre of the stamp, with a bar on each side. The stamps were surcharged in two panes of $4^{0}$, five rows of io stamps. In the left-hand pane the surcharge reads downwards, and, in the right-hand pane, upwards. Used copies of the is. are scarce.


Type XI.
Surcharge reading downwards.
Perforated 12
"Halve Penny," in black, on 3d. red o 26 do. Is. green o to 6

Surcharge reading upwards.


Tête bêche.
Perforated 12.
"Halve Penny." in black, onis. green
1885. September 1st. "Twee Pence" on 6d. Queen's Head.

To meet the demand for a 2d. stamp, the balance of stamps of the 6d. black Queen's Head type were overprinted in red "Twee Pence, Z.A.R.," reading upwards, in the centre of the stamp in two lines between two vertical bars. Some sheets were surcharged in error, "Halve Penny. Z.A.R." Copies of the error are scarce, especially in used condition.


Type XII


Type XIII.

Prrforated 14
Twer Pence, in red, on 6d. of Type VIII... .. .. .. $0 \quad 36$

Error: Surcharged "Halve Penny" instead of "Twee Pence."
Perforated 14
"Halve Penny." in red. on 6d. of
Type VIII. .. .. .. .. 5 o
1885. Sept. 26. "Halve Penny," in black on 3d., Type IX.

A further supply of $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. stamps being demanded, 30,000 of the 3 d . mauve, Type IX., were overprinted in black, " Halve Penny," between two vertical bars, in the centre of the stamp reading downwards. There is an error, " PRNNY" for " Penny," and there is a minor error of an inverted " N " in "Penny." As the letters are bearded this makes a distinct variety, and is not generally known.


Type XIV

1887. January 15. "2d." on 3d. mauve, Type IX.

To meet a further deficiency of 2 d . stamps, 90,000 of the 3 d . mauve of Type IX., were surcharged, in black, " 2d.," two horizontal bars cancelling the original value at the bottom of the stamp. In the first five horizontal rows the " 2 " has a curved foot, but in all the stamps of the last row the foot of the " 2 " is straight.


Type XV.


Type XVI.

Curved foot to the figure " 2 ." Type XIII.


Straight foot to the figure " 2." Type XIV. The stamps in the last row of the sheet are.all of the straight foot variety. The straight foot " 2 ," perf. $11 \frac{1}{2} \times 12$, of which there is, of course, only one on each sheet, is a scarce stamp, and is not often met with even at the price quoted.

Perforated 12交 By 12.


1887-1890. Type IX. Varieties of perforation. The I3 $\frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}}$ perfs. are all scarce, and some of the stamps perf. $12 \frac{1}{2}$ are even scarcer, many being very difficult to get in fine condition, unused. Used, most of the $12 \frac{1}{2}$ perf. are common enough.


1893. Provisionals.

In this year there was a very heavy outcrop of provisionals, which may be grouped as follows :-
" $2 \frac{1}{2}$ Pence," in one line, in black, on is. green of Type IX., on 2nd January.
" $2 \frac{1}{2}$-Pence," same surcharge, but in two lines, in black, on is. green of Type IX., on 24th June.
" 1 Pence," in one line, in black, on 6d. blue of Type IX., on 26th January.
"Halve-Penny," in two lines, in red, on the 2d. olive-bistre of Type IX., on 27th May; and the same surcharge, in red, on the same stamp, on 2nd July.

All perforated $12 \frac{1}{2}$.
1893. January 2. " $2 \frac{1}{2}$ Pence," in one line, in black, on is. green of Type IX. The using up of the Is. value perf. $12 \frac{1}{2}$ for this surcharge accounts for the great scarcity of the is. perf. I2t unsurcharged, unused.


Type XVIL (with error).
Perforated 12d

Same: Surcharge Inverted.

|  | Unused. | Used. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Perforated 12 l . | E s.d. | E \$ d |
| 21 Pence, in black, on 1s. green | 2 0 |  |

Error: Fractional line misplaced, thus, " $2 / 12$,"
This error is said to have been discovered and corrected after only a few hundred sheets had been printed. I have one sheet with the error, and another sheet with the fractional line corrected. The error occurs in the last stamp in the top row of the sheet.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Perforated } 12 \frac{1}{2} \text {. } \\
& \text { " } 2 / \frac{1}{2} \text { Pence," in black, on is. green .. -_, } 2 \text { 10 } 0
\end{aligned}
$$

Same: Surcharge Inverted.
The number inverted is said to have been very small-only a few sheets. It certainly is a very scarce variety, and requires much searching for.

Perforated 12t
" $2 / \frac{1}{2}$ Pence," in black, on is. green ..
1893. June 24. " $2 \frac{1}{2}$-Pence," in two lines, in black, on is. green of Type IX.

The surcharge was probably changed from one line into two for appearances, as the one line was somewhat wide and required careful printing to keep it from overlapping the edges of the stamp.


Type XVIII.
Prrforatrd 12d.
Pence," in black, on 1s. green
Same: Surcharge Inverted.
Perforated $12 \frac{1}{2}$
" 2 2
Pence." in blact, on is. green .. o 8 o
1893. January 26. " 1 Penny," in one line, in black, on 6 d . blue of Type IX.

The printing of this surcharge was very carelessly done. In the third row, 8th stamp, the second " $n$ " in "Penny" has a peculiar bent-up appearance. It is, however, only a damaged letter, but it occurs in the early printings with unbroken letters. Sheets are found with the overprint almost diagonal, and pairs may
be made up of surcharged and unsurcharged, whole rows at one side or the other escaping the overprint.


Type XIX.

|  | Unused. | Used. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Perforatid $12 \frac{1}{2}$. | 2 s.d. | $t$ s.d |
| '1 Penny." in black, on 6d. blue | $0 \quad 06$ | 0 0 |

Same: Surcharge Inverted.
Perporated 12d.
" 1 Penny." in black, on 6d. blue .. o 30
Same: Double Surcharge. I have not seen any unused copies of this variety, and have reason to believe that most, if not all, were used, or postmarked to order.

Perporated $12 \frac{1}{2}$.
" 1 Penny." in black, on 6d. blue
1893. May 27. "Halve-Penny," in two lines, in red, on the 2d. olive-bistre of Type IX. Some good people who are inclined to multiply varieties in every possible manner, create them ad lib. in this overprint, as in many cases the two lines vary in their position, the capital letters on some stamps being level, in others they vary to the right or left.


Type XX
Perforated $12 \frac{1}{2}$
Halve
Penny," in red, on 2d. olite-bistre .. o $\quad 4$
Same: Surcharge inverted.
Perforatrid $12 \frac{1}{2}$

1893. July 2. "Halve-Penny," in two lines, in black, on the 2d. olive-bistre of Type X. The last 29,580 of this surcharge were printed in black ink owing to an error of the printer, and as the stamps were required for immediate use there was no time to cancel them and print another supply. As nearly 300,000 were printed of the red surcharge, it will be seen that the black surcharge is a very much scarcer stamp than the catalogue price (as taken from Gibhons) would indicate.


Same: Surcharge Inverted.
Perforated 12d.
" Halve
Penny," in black, on 2d. olive-bistre.. o 3 o
1894.5. Wagon with shafts.

New design, engraved and printed at the Dutch Government printing offices at Haarlem. A so-called fault in the design is the two shafts to the wagon instead of the disselboom, characteristic of the Boer wagon. The is. value of this series has been accounted a scarce stamp, but its scarcity has been more apparent than real. Before its issue the so-called defect of two shafts in the design had been discovered, and some folks imagined from this that only a small quantity of the is. value, then printing, would be struck off. Consequently, the issue was largely bought up and hoarded by speculators on the spot, and a temporary scarcity was thus set up. Fancy prices were asked and paid for copies. But the artificial scarcity has not been maintained, and the stamp is now probably fully priced at 15 s . unused, and 9 s . used. Perforation $12 \frac{1}{2}$.


Type XXI.

## Perforated $12 \frac{1}{2}$.

| 17d. grey | . | - | $\cdots$ | . | $\bigcirc$ | 0 | 6 | 0 | - |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Id. carmine | . | $\cdots$ | . | . | 0 | I | 0 | 0 | - |
| 2d. bistre .. |  | $\cdots$ | . | . | - | 1 | 0 | $\bigcirc$ | - |
| 6d. blue |  | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ |  | - | 3 | 6 | $\bigcirc$ | 0 |
| 1s. green |  | * |  |  |  | 15 | o | 0 | 9 |

1895. Wagon with pole.

The previous design was slightly altered to remedy the so-called fault of two shafts to the wagon, now giving the wagon a disselboom or pole. Otherwise the design does not seem to have been interfered with, and therefore cannot be described as redrawn. The 5 s. and ros. values promise to be the scarcest stamps of this series. The 5 s . especially is very scarce unused, and is probably underpriced at $£^{2}$. Perforated $12 \frac{1}{2}$.


Type XxII.


## 1895. Provisionals.

In the early part of this year further provisionals were issued, as follows:-
"Halve Penny," Type XX. in capitals and small letters, in two lines, with bar above and below, surcharged in red on is. green, wagon with pole. A curious error is the spelling of the word "Penny" "Pennij." This occurs once on each sheet, but is said to have been discovered and corrected before many sheets had been printed. The normal surcharge is also found inverted, but I have not heard of the error inverted. A double surcharge is chronicled, but I have not heard of a clear double impression. Perforated $12 \frac{1}{2}$.

" $1 d$.," Iype XXII., in large italics, surcharged in green, on the $2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. violet of 1885 , with bar below obliterating the original value.

There are two minor varieties of this surcharge, one in which the " $d$ " is somewhat wider apart from the " 1 ," and the other a square instead of a round stop. The surcharge also exists inverted. Perforated $12 \frac{1}{2}$.


Type XXIV.
6d. rose, Type XXIV., fiscal, rendered available for postal purposes by overprinting it with the word "Postzegel" in green. The necessity for this peculiar stamp has never been very apparent, and there were strong suspicions at the time that speculation by officials had something to do with its issue. There certainly were somewhat curious dealings in remainders of the issue.


Surcharge Inverted.


Error: "Pennij" instead of "Penny."

1896. Bi-coloured series.

The postal authorities of the South African Republic are said to have agreed with the Cape Colony and the Orange Irce State to issue a series of stamps in which the various values should be of uniform colours for all three countries, the $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$., Id. and $2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. to be in the Postal Union colours. In conformity with this agreement the colours were all changed as follows. The design remained unaltered, but a variety was introduced in the printing of the value on every stamp in green. Perforated $12 \frac{1}{2}$.

## Perforated 12t.




## Second British Occupation.

1900. June 18. South African Republic stamps overprinted V.R.I.

After an interregnum of nine years of Boer rule the Transvaal once more becomes a British Colony. Once more its issues are overprinted with initials asserting the dominance of British rule.

On the 18th June, 1goo, the British Army under Lord Roberts having entered Pretoria and taken over the Government of the Transvaal, the military authorities overprinted the stock of postage stamps of the South African Republic which fell into their hands with the letters "V.R.I." All values seem to have been plentiful except the 5 S., 1os. and $£ 5$, which are of the 1895 issue. Perforated $12 \frac{1}{2}$.


Type XXV.
Overprinted V.R.I.


Surcharge inverted.


Error: "V.I.R." instead of "V.R.I."
Perforated 12k.


2d. dark brown and green
Minor varieties :
Initial "I" in "V.R.I." dropped below the level of the other initials.
Omitted stops.
Abnormally large stop.
1gor. Same stamps of the South African Republic overprinted "E.R.I.' on the accession of King Edward VII.

```
hd. green.. .. .. .. .. -
Id. carmine and green .. .. .. o o z
```

1gor. The 2d., last current stamp of the South African Republic, overprinted "E.R.I." and further surcharged "Half-Penny" in two lines, the supply of the $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. green having been exhausted.

```
Half
    Penny " on 2d. brown and green
```

1902. Once more the head of the British Sovereign appears on a full series of postage stamps for use in the Transvaal. The stamps are all of one design throughout the series, with one slight variation ; the lower values, up to and including the is., are inscribed " Postage " on one side of the design and "Revenue" on the other side; the higher values, i.e., 2s. $6 \mathrm{~d} ., 5 \mathrm{~s}$. and ros. are inscribed with the word "Postage" on both sides. The stamps are printed by De la Rue on thin wove paper, are watermarked Crown C.A., and are perf. I4.


Type XXII.



[^0]:    Imperforate

[^1]:    Id. red on orange

