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The Philatelic Record Handbooks. No. 6.

HANDBOOK
OF THE
POSTAGE STAMPS
OF
SWITZERLAND

From the German of
ERNST ZUMSTEIN

With Six Collotype Plates
and Illustrations in the Text

LONDON

THE PHILATELIC RECORD

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AUTHOR'S PREFACE

In the following work the Author hopes to have met a need which has been more and more felt recently, that for a survey of the stamps of Switzerland, which should be as complete and extensive as possible, particularly with regard to the principle varieties and errors and to the classification of the chief shades of various issues. I hope to present in addition to a careful description of the issues up to 1881, a detailed treatment of the following issues, such as will furnish a guide to the specialist in the arrangement of his collection. The text is based upon minute study of the Federal archives and upon examination of the literature of the subject, and it presents for that reason some interesting information.

Notwithstanding the great interest which has been shown in this work, and the encouragement which has been received from specialists on all sides, I am fully aware of the difficulties of my undertaking. The desire to bring under consideration at once the historical, technical and commercial sides of my subject, according to their respective importance, made it clear to me from how many different standpoints such a work may be undertaken. Besides what approval my book may receive it will also not fail to receive criticism, and as real criticism can only be of value to a work of the kind I hope to obtain information of all kinds as to observations, experience and divergent views which may serve the interest and tend to further the knowledge of my subject. Rome was not built in a day, and a later edition of my book will possibly see many alterations required.

In addition to the general details, considerable attention has been given to the obliterations. The postal stationery has also been treated in full, as have also the more interesting essays, an exhaustive account of which would have overstepped the limits of this handbook. Some remarks are also necessary as to the method upon which the prices have been included, as the subject is one offering great diversity of opinion. The prices are the result of practical experience, reflecting the average market prices current in Switzerland, and are subject to the usual conditions whereby special prices are paid for scarce shades, etc.

For the historical portion, especially that of the early issues, I have constantly used the pre-eminent work by P. MIRABAUD and A. DE REUTERSKIÖLD, *The Postage Stamps of Switzerland*, 1843-62.

In conclusion I must tender my warmest thanks to all who have been of service to me with material and information. I owe special thanks to Baron A. de Reuterskiöld, of Lausanne, for his kind revision and amplification of my manuscript, as well as for permission to use the illustrations from the above-mentioned work; furthermore to Herr A. Strassle and Dr. O. Stiner, of Berne, my thanks are due for general assistance. I trust that my book may find a friendly and considerate reception from collectors, and that it may do something to introduce new friends to philately.

ERNST ZUMSTEIN.

Berne, October 1908.

PREFACE TO THE ENGLISH EDITION

In presenting Herr ZUMSTEIN'S *Spezial-Katalog und Handbuch über die Briefmarken der Schweiz* in an English version for the first time an accessible and adequate account of the stamps of a most interesting country is available. The reception which the original edition has received fully justified its Author's hopes, and there is little doubt that the great revival of interest in the stamps of Switzerland is due largely to his book. This work makes no pretension to being an exhaustive treatise, but aims to place in the hands of the specialist a fair groundwork of information.

It has not been considered desirable for several reasons that the present edition should be a literal translation of the original. Primarily the original was a dealer's catalogue as well as a handbook, and its form had to undergo alteration to suit the pages of *The Philatelic Record*, where it has appeared serially. Further, the general arrangement of the original edition was somewhat different to the form which is generally adopted by English philatelic writers, and consequently, although the actual text varies but little from that of the original, there has been some alteration in the grouping of the reference lists for greater simplicity and convenience, certain varieties have been omitted in such lists, all prices have been omitted and other minor changes have been made throughout. The appendix describing and illustrating obliterations has also been perforce omitted, as have certain portions not dealing with actual postage stamps.

It may be useful to point out that the more important omissions—the prices and the section on obliterations—can be consulted without difficulty in the original edition by those unfamiliar with its language.

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1850, 2½ rappen POSTE LOCALE, 40 types
1850, 5 rappen, RAYON I, 40 types
1850, 10 rappen, RAYON II, 40 types
1852, 15 rappen and 15 centimes, RAYON III, 10 types
-

Erratum. Page 33, Heading 1909 should be 1900.

ERRATA
in the Plates.

The Publishers regret that two of the Collotype Plates have errors of reconstruction.

Plate I. 2½ rappen, Ortspost : No. 33 is incorrect.

Plate IV. 10 rappen, Rayon II : Nos. 11 and 12 are incorrect.

The correct types are here given.



No. 33
2½ rappen, Ortspost



No. 11
10 rappen, Rayon II



No. 12

HANDBOOK OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF SWITZERLAND

PART I.

THE CANTONAL STAMPS OR STAMPS USED BY SEPARATE CANTONS BEFORE THE INAUGURATION OF THE SWISS POSTAL ADMINISTRATION.

ZURICH.

Zurich was the first of the Swiss Cantons to introduce the prepaid postal system originated in England. On the basis of a report of the Postal Administration to the Council of State on the simplification of the postal organisation it was decided on 21 January 1843 that postage stamps should be issued.

Two values were created, viz. : 4 rappen, for letters sent within the limits of the district of a post office (the local 'radius') and 6 rappen for letters outside this radius to the neighbouring Cantonal districts. The 4 rappen value was, however, here and there employed for correspondence to other districts, and the 6 rappen to other cantons, both methods of employment being contrary to the original enactment. Both values appeared during the first days of March 1843, and were printed by lithography by Orell, Füssli & Co. of Zurich. The design consisted of the figures '4' or '6' in the centre of an upright rectangle, on an obliquely latticed black ground. The impression was in black on white paper ruled with red lines, with inscription 'Local Tax' below for the 4 rappen value and 'Cantonal Tax' for the 6 rappen value. The number printed is unknown. The stone was prepared in the following manner. Drawings were first made of each value five times side by side. These strips of five types were then transferred twenty times on to the stone, so as to make up a sheet of 100 stamps in ten rows of ten. Since it is not possible, however skilful the drawing may be, to make five exactly alike, five different types of each value exist.

At that time the Zurich currency was in rappen, schillinge and florins (gulden). The gulden, according to present value 2.29 frs., was equivalent to 40 schillinge of 4 rappen, so that the rappen according to present value was equivalent to about 1.4 cts. The 4 rappen was therefore equal to 5½ cts. and the 6 rappen about 8½ cts.

The stamps were issued un gummed and gummed as need arose.



FIG. 1



FIG. 2

March, 1843. Imperf.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| 4 rappen, black. | With perpendicular red lines. | 5 types. |
| 4 " " | With horizontal red lines. | 5 types. |
| 6 " " | With perpendicular red lines. | 5 types. |
| 6 " " | With horizontal red lines. | 5 types. |

Variety :

- 6 rappen, black. (Type III) Retouched in background. No. 98 on the sheet.

The 4 rappen was sometimes 'split' and used with a whole stamp as equivalent to a 6 rappen stamp.

The retouching of the 6 rappen was done upon the stone, and was necessitated by the faulty nature of the lithographed transfer or design No. 98; the oblique lines in the upper left background were repaired with coarse strokes. A copy of the stamp which occurs as No. 39 in the sheet, which was described by Mr. M. P. Castle in the *London Philatelist*, January 1897, is not to be regarded as retouched. All examples printed up to 1846 show no flaw, but those issued between 1846 and 1849 show a white spot. The type was not, however, retouched. There was on the whole plate only one single retouch which was done before the issue.

In the *Schweizer Bric/marken-Zeitung*, Vol. XXI., July 1908,¹ M. P. Mirabaud, who shortly before his death had taken up the reconstruction of the plate of the 6 rappen, described several flaws and varieties, of which the following are the most interesting :—

- | | |
|---------|---|
| No. 7. | Flaw in the figure and obliterated 'e' in 'Taxe.' |
| No. 25. | Fine stroke from the frame between the 'R' and 'I' of 'ZURICH' to the head of the figure '6.' |
| No. 39. | Tolerably clear flaw in the left background, not found in the first printings. |
| No. 42. | Dot in the background. |
| No. 72. | Flaw in the background. |
| No. 90. | Spot in the head of the figure '6.' |

¹ Translated in *The Philatelic Record*, Vol. xxi, August 1908.

The 4 and 6 rappen are also known without the red lines. In all probability ninety-nine per cent. of these are fakes in consequence of washing or bleaching. However, the genuineness of some specimens is not excluded, since the impression of the red lines might easily be overlooked.²

GENEVA.

A few months after Zurich the Canton of Geneva issued stamps, consequent upon proposals submitted to the Grand Council by M. de Candolle. On 13 September 1843, the Council decided on the issue of a 5 c. stamp for franking letters within the district of the town post. For letters addressed to places within the canton outside this limit portion of the district it was necessary to apply two stamps. Since Geneva had already adopted the French currency, the value at that time agrees with that of to-day.

The first stamp was issued at the post offices of Geneva and Carouge on 1 October 1843, and is known as the 'double Geneva.' It was lithographed by Schmid, of Geneva, and shows the arms of the town of Geneva in black on apple-green paper, with the inscription 'Poste de Genève,' above and 'Post Local' below. As the name 'double Geneva' implies, there were two stamps side by side, serving as a whole for the cantonal postage, with inscription | 10 | PORT CANTONAL | Cent. | across the top. They were made up in sheets of 50 double stamps in ten rows of five, and as far as is known 60,000 copies were issued.



FIG. 3

1 October 1843. Imperf.

5 c. + 5 c. yellow-green

By a decision of the Government Council, 14 March 1845, the rate of postage was reduced from 1 April and fixed for the whole canton as follows:—For letters of 1 oz. weight, 5 c.; for letters of 1 to 3 oz. weight 10 c. The ounce at that time weighed about 31 grammes, being one-sixteenth of the French pound (500 grs.)

In consequence of this decision a new 5 c. Stamp was issued, known as the 'Small Eagle.' Apart from other small variations the stamp differs from the first issue in that the size is somewhat larger and there is no crown above the eagle. The inscription under the arms is no longer 'Post Local' but 'Post Cantonal.' It was lithographed by Schmid, of Geneva, and 120,000 copies were printed.

² In September 1862, reprints were made of the 4r. and 6r. of Zurich, on a paper thinner than the original one, without the red lines. Most of the Zurich stamps without red lines found in collections are probably these reprints.—ED.



FIG. 4



FIG. 5



FIG. 6

1 April 1845. Imperf.

5 c. yellow-green (Fig. 4)

In the year 1847 followed the issue of the stamp known as the 'Large Eagle.' Since no documents or vouchers have been found in the archives, the reasons for this issue are based solely on conjecture. Probably the lithographer made a new die, differing slightly from that of the foregoing issue, in which the wing of the eagle touches the frame containing the Arms. Further, after the exhaustion of the stock of paper, another of a darker colour was used, probably without the knowledge of the Postal Administration.

1847. Imperf.

5 c. yellow-green (Fig. 5)

22 August 1848. Imperf.

5 c. dark green

50,000 copies were issued of this stamp.

Specialists can find the three following varieties of the 'Large Eagle,' on both pale and dark green :—

Type 1. The thick perpendicular frame line on the left side of the arms passes into the banderole, with inscription, above. Between the letters I.H.S. in the sun thin perpendicular lines are more or less visible.

Type 2. The left black frame line passes right up to the upper border of the banderole with inscription. In the sun the letter S is particularly clear.

Type 3. The above-mentioned line runs nearly up to the middle of the banderole with inscription. The large letters in the sun are mostly very indistinct.

Besides the above mentioned stamps there is another in green on white paper, in design like the 'small' and 'large' eagles but with a crown on the eagle's head. This is cut from the Geneva letter cover with impressed stamp, which was issued on 27 February 1846. The cut stamp can only be regarded as a variety and has, as such, only a real value when it is found on the whole or a portion of a letter. It is met with chiefly after 1848, so that it may be considered as having been issued in 1849, as far as it is permissible to speak of it as an official issue.

Stamp cut from envelope, used as adhesive (Fig. 6)

5 c. green

BASLE.

Basle was the third canton to adopt the use of postage stamps. Of official documents bearing thereon only an extract from the minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the "Basler Postkammer" has been found, dated 28 June 1845, in which a Herr Bischoff reported on the new organisation of the Postal Administration which was to be put into force on 1 July 1845.

Only a single stamp of 2½ rappen was issued. The Basle currency was reckoned

according to Swiss francs, one of which was equivalent to 10 batzen or 100 rappen, equal to 1.43 francs present value; the value of the stamp was therefore about $3\frac{1}{2}$ cts. Letters, in weight up to 1 lot = $15\frac{1}{2}$ grammes, sent inside the town were required to be franked with one stamp. For the despatch of letters between the town and the suburbs or to the remaining districts in the canton two stamps were to be used, as well as for letters above 1 lot in weight within the town.

The design consists of a flying white dove with a letter in its beak in the centre of a carmine-red shield, in consequence of which the stamp is known by the name of the 'Basle dove.' The inscription in a semicircular band in black on a white band, runs 'STADT POST BASEL' and is crowned with the arms of Basle (a crozier). The lower corners contain on the left the figures of value ' $2\frac{1}{2}$ ' and on the right the designation 'Rp.' on a blue ground.

The original was engraved on copper, from a design of the architect Berry, by Krebs, at Frankfort-on-the-Main, and was printed in sheets of 50, in ten rows of five stamps. The number issued is unknown.



FIG. 7

1 July 1845. Imperf.
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ rappen, black, blue and carmine

Contrary to the experience of the cantons of Zurich and Geneva the stamps of Basle seem to have found but little appreciation. At the end of 1847 their use had greatly fallen off, so that up to the issue of the Confederate stamps no provisionals for the transition period were created.

STAMPS OF THE TRANSITION PERIOD ISSUED BY THE SEPARATE CANTONS AFTER THE CONFEDERATION HAD TAKEN OVER THE POSTAL SERVICE.

The sole rights of the carriage of letters and small sealed objects, as well as the conveying of passengers by regular means of transport service of the Confederation were reserved by the Swiss Federal Constitution of 12 September 1848. The Confederation was therefore authorized to buy up, on payment of a corresponding indemnity from the cantons and from existing private undertakings, material belonging to the postal services. By this means the whole postal service was in principle raised to a department of the Confederate rule. There was, however, considerable difference between the theoretical establishment of this principle and the complete practical realisation of it. A decree of the Federal Assembly of 28 November 1848 determined the date for taking over the whole postal service by the Federation as from 1 January 1849, while simultaneously the necessary period was allowed to the cantons for the transformation of their postal services. During the transition period the cantonal stamps which had already appeared were still available for use.

It was not until June 1849 that the decree of the Provisional Committee came into force by which Switzerland was divided into eleven postal districts, still existing at the present day, and the rates as to weight and the routes to be followed were fixed. A "lot" or half an ounce (about $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes) was taken as the unit of weight. The distances were divided into four zones or radii, from 0 to 10, 10 to 25, 25 to 40, and over 40 leagues. The taxes imposed were in accordance with the following table:—

	Zone I	Zone II	Zone III	Zone IV
	Rp	Rp	Rp	Rp
Up to $\frac{1}{2}$ lot ..	5	10	15	20
$\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 ..	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	15	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	30
1 to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$..	10	20	30	40
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 ..	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	25	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	50
2 to 4 ..	15	30	45	60
4 to 8 ..	20	40	60	80
8 to 16 ..	25	50	75	100
16 to 1 pound ..	30	60	90	120

The interval of time from the taking over of the postal service by the Confederation to the issue of the Federal stamps was a definite transition period. In it the Cantons of Geneva and Zurich, which already had their own systems of prepayment, issued new stamps. To indicate the approaching centralisation of the postal service the device on the stamp of the Confederate arms, a white cross on a red field, was chosen. These stamps are generally known under the incorrect names of "Vaud," "Neuchatel" or "Winterthur." These designations were used in the first catalogues of Moens and others, and in spite of their incorrectness have remained up to the present day. The "Vaud" was at one time employed in the district of Nyon in the place of a Federal stamp of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ rp. "Poste locale," and the "Winterthur" was similarly employed in the district it served. The origin of the name "Neuchatel" has not been discovered.

GENEVA.

1st POSTAL DISTRICT (With the Vaudois District of Nyon).

The Federal Council was empowered by Article 4 of the law of June 1849 to establish a local post in populous centres with an important volume of correspondence with the undermentioned reduced rates instead of the tariffs given on the previous page.

Up to 2 lot	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ rappen.
2 to 4 ..	5 ..
4 to 8 ..	10 ..

This reduction was already in force in the Canton of Geneva before the promulgation of this Article, as the existence of the 4 c. stamp, the true date of the issue of which is unknown, proves.

The 4 c. and 5 c. Geneva stamp, known as the "Vaud," contain in an oblong rectangle in black on white paper, a posthorn, the circle of which is filled by a white cross on a red field, surrounded by arabesques. Above the horn are the words POST LOCALE on a white band and below in a small white shield the value 4 c. or 5 c. The colour of the red field shades off from dull red to vermilion or carmine. They were produced by lithography by Schmid, of Geneva, in sheets of 100. The number issued is unknown.

As the archives of the Canton of Geneva of this date were destroyed by fire, it is not likely that the exact number issued and the true date of issue will be definitely ascertained. The original drawing was transferred 100 times on the stone, whereby the following more important varieties can be distinguished. Type 26 of the sheet has on the right, a small white flaw and the "A" in "LOCALE" is almost invisible. In type 16 there is a similar flaw on the left side. Type 81 shows a large black spot on the mouthpiece of the posthorn.



FIG. 8



FIG. 9

October 1848. Imperf.

4 c. black and red

By a decree of 22 January 1850 a new value 5 centimes was issued in place of the 4 c. stamp, available for both the town and Canton of Geneva. The stock of 4 c. stamps still remaining had from the date of the new issue an equivalent franking value to that of the 5 c. stamp.

The original stone of the 4 c. stamp was used for the preparation of the new value, so that both stamps are the same with the exception of the figure of value. The figure was erased and replaced by "5" drawn by hand. The drawing of the figure is naturally not exactly the same on each stamp, so that 100 types exist.

22 January 1850. Imperf.

5 c. black and red

The last stamp issued for the postal district of Geneva, of the value of 5 c., was that incorrectly known as the "Neuchatel," which appeared probably in August 1850.

It is probable, from the postmarks on entire letters, that the Canton of Geneva, after the employment of the 5 c. "Vaud," did not use for local correspondence the new Federal stamp "Post Locale," but issued for its own particular use the so-called "Neuchatel."

In the centre of the stamp in an upright rectangle are the Swiss arms, surrounded with arabesque ornaments. The cross is unframed. Inscription above the arms in an arched band "POST LOCALE"; under the arms the value "5 centimes"; black impression on white paper, the shield in red. Lithographed by Schmid of Geneva, and from essays which have been seen it is to be gathered that they were printed in sheets of 100. The number issued is unknown.



FIG. 10

August 1850. Imperf.

5 c. black and red

ZURICH.

8th POSTAL DISTRICT.

A decree of 18 January 1850, issued by reason of the law of June 1849, authorized the district postal authorities to introduce, in places with active correspondence,

so-called "prepayment cards" at a reduced rate. The $2\frac{1}{2}$ rappen stamp of Zurich, which is generally known under the incorrect designation of "Winterthur," owes its origin to this permission. From postmarks it is concluded that the stamp was issued in March 1850, and it appears to have been used in the larger towns of the Cantons—Zurich, Zug, Schaffhausen and Thurgau. In an oblong rectangle the stamp shows a shield in brownish red, crossed with horizontal lines. In the centre is a black posthorn, the circle of which is filled by a white framed cross, fastened above by a string. Below the posthorn in a semicircle stands the inscription "ORTSPOST. POSTE LOCALE." The white corner labels bear in black the designation of the value, above "R" on the left and " $2\frac{1}{2}$ " on the right, and below *vice versa*. The stamp was printed by lithography on white paper. The single stamps are on all sides separated from one another by a red arrow wound round by serpentine lines.

Since no documents relating to these stamps exist either in the Federal archives or elsewhere, no information is available as to the number of stamps on the sheet or their arrangement. Herr Fierz, of Zurich, has in his collection a block of 33, the arrangement of which points to a sheet of 50 stamps.

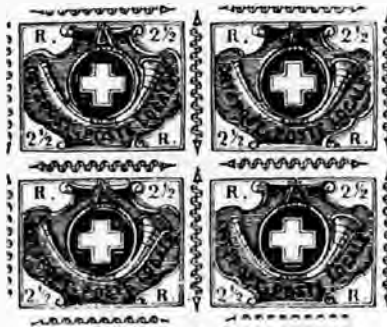


FIG. 11

March 1850. Imperf.
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ rappen, black and brownish-red

PART II.

THE FEDERAL STAMPS ISSUED BY THE CONFEDERATE POSTAL ADMINISTRATION.

On 2 and 4 June 1849 there appeared, as mentioned in the previous chapter, two decrees regulating the postal system and establishing the rates of postage. The first divided the province of Switzerland into eleven postal districts, namely, Geneva, Lausanne, Berne, Neuchatel, Basle, Aarau, Lucerne, Zurich, St. Gall, Chur and Bellenzona. As the outcome of the regulations affecting the rates of postage, the local post was, for the first time in many of the larger villages, properly organised and simultaneously the prepayment of letters by means of postage stamps introduced (8 April 1850). The rates for local postage were fixed as follow :—

For 2 lot	2½ rappen.
2-4 „	5 „
4-8 „	10 „

At first one value only, the 2½ rappen, was issued, bearing the inscription "Ortspost" or "Poste Locale," and the result was that heavy letters required many stamps to frank them. Unfranked local letters were subject to the usual rates; exceptions to this, however, were Zurich, Basle and Geneva, which had already imposed a higher charge for unprepaid letters. In accordance with the decree of 9 September 1850, two further values (Rayons I and II) were issued on 1 October of the same year, for correspondence within the country. Henceforth letters could only be prepaid by means of postage stamps, although hitherto prepayment in money had been permitted. Outside Switzerland the stamps issued still had no currency, their use being restricted to the authorised district limits, (cf. the postmark R L, "Rayon Limitrope"), together with the neighbouring villages in Savoy, Constance, and some others, according to special arrangements made with them.

As the legend specifies, the 2½ rappen "Ortspost" or "Poste Locale" served only for local correspondence; the 5 rappen "Rayon I" for the first and the 10 rappen "Rayon II" for the second zones, in accordance with the table given on page 88. Letters for zones III and IV, as well as those beyond the weight limits, received stamps of the requisite amount. Until the year 1852 the stamps were sold according to the Swiss currency, which was actually standard in the divisions of Berne, Basle, Solothurn, Freiburg, Aarau, Vaud and Wallis. The Swiss franc (¼ neuthaler) was worth at that time 10 batzen or 100 rappen, equivalent to-day to 1fr. 43 c. Geneva, as has already been stated, adopted the French monetary system, and the "Rayons" were there bought at the following prices: 5 rappen, Swiss value, (7.15 centimes French value), in Geneva 8 centimes; 10 rappen (14.3 centimes French value), in Geneva 15 centimes. To this anomalous position the new decree of

25 August 1851, which came into force 1 January 1852, put an end, in altering the decree of 4 June 1849 and introducing the French standard throughout Switzerland. On 25 December 1851 the post offices had to return their stocks of stamps to Berne, and until 1 January 1852 no stamps were obtainable, so that it was necessary to resort again to prepayment in money. All the stamps of the old currency were declared obsolete after 1 January 1852. The result of this alteration was the issue of a new provisional value of 15 centimes for Zone III (Rayon III). Further, the districts were divided into three zones only, and an ordinary letter not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ lot in weight now cost

Zone	I, within a radius of	2 miles,	5 centimes
	II, " "	2-10 "	10 "
	III, " "	over 10 "	15 "

Registered letters bore a double charge. For printed matter the rates were

	Zones I and II	Zone III
Not exceeding 4 lot	5 centimes	10 centimes
4-8 lot	10 "	20 "
8 lot to 1 pound ..	15 "	30 "

ORTSPOST AND POSTE LOCALE.

The stamps with the inscription ORTSPOST were originally intended for German Switzerland, and those with POSTE LOCALE for French Switzerland. This distinction was not, however, strictly adhered to, and both stamps were sometimes distributed in the other part of the country than that they were supposed to serve. In the centre of a shield is seen on a red ground the white Helvetian cross; the shield is crowned by a post-horn, over which stands within a white label the inscription ORTSPOST or POSTE LOCALE; the value is at the bottom, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ at the left and Rp. at the right, on a white ground; outside the inner white ground the rest of the space is filled in with scroll ornament; impression in black on white paper, the shield in red. The whole of the stamps of this issue were lithographed by Durheim at Berne. Forty designs were first drawn upon the stone in five rows of eight, and transfers were taken from this original stone to make up a sheet of 160 stamps. In the arrangement of the 40 types of the "Ortspost," some variation occurred, presumably owing to the fact that the lithographer erased from the printing stone single designs which had failed to transfer properly and replaced them with other types from the original stone. The following varieties are met with:—

Types 3-2-3 instead of 1-2-3	Types 7-7 instead of 7-8
11-10 " 9-10	15-15 " 15-16
27-26 " 25-26	39-39 " 39-40
35-34 " 33-34	

All types so found together are rare.

The "Ortspost" and "Poste Locale," as well as the 'Rayons' I and II, are found both with and without the border of fine black lines to the cross.

The printing of the "Poste Locale" was done both from the original stone and from the transfer-stone. Specimens of the former printing are recognisable from the superiority of the impression, especially in the border defining the white ground, which appears as two distinct lines, with cross-hatching between them, as well as by the lines of the ornamental border round the shield, and by the grey colour of the printing. In the case of stamps printed from the stone prepared from transfers, the border round the white ground appears as a single thick line, and the printing is not so distinct. Of this printing there exist, moreover, impressions from a very worn state of the plate.

The actual numbers printed are unknown, but they may be determined approximately by the help of the statistics of stamps sold given later.



FIG. 12



FIG. 13



FIG. 14



FIG. 15

5 April 1850. Imperforate. 40 types

ORTSPOST

2½ Rp. black and red, with frame to cross (Fig. 12)

2½ Rp. black and red, without frame to cross (Fig. 13)

POSTE LOCALE

2½ Rp. black and red, with frame to cross (Fig. 14)

2½ Rp. black and red, without frame to cross (Fig. 15)

The red in the shield is found in all shades.

RAYONS I AND II.

The difference between the "Rayons" and the local-post stamps consists solely in the alteration of the figure of value and in the inscription RAYON I or II. The method of manufacture was the same, but the stamps were printed in three colours instead of two. The colour of the ground of the 5 rp. is dark blue of various shades, the impression black on white paper, the shield in red. The 10 rp. value has the ground in yellow, all else the same as the 5 rp. In both stamps the cross is found with and without border to the cross and also with an 'oily' frame.

Whether the framing of the cross on the stamps was present from the beginning or was added subsequently has formed the subject of much discussion. One view is that it existed on the original stone but was afterwards erased, while another conjectures that it was drawn upon the stone at a later date. According to MM. Mirabaud and de Reuterskiöld neither opinion is correct, and they held that the stamps were first issued without the framing, that this was afterwards added and that finally it was removed. To this removal the traces of the lines definitely found on certain stamps, both 5 and 10 rp., bear witness, and the non-existence of the frame from the beginning would seem to follow from the numerous colour proofs in the State archives which show no frame. The frame certainly helped to bring into greater prominence the cross, which, owing to the heavy smudgy red colour, was without it often indistinct. From a heraldic point of view it was, however, an error, for which reason it was removed. The 'oily' framing probably resulted from the process of eliminating the lines of the frame to the cross. On the places from which the lines were erased some material settled, which caused this portion of the design to print so as to give the appearance of an oily border to the cross.

With regard to the occurrence of certain shades both with and without the framing to cross opinions are divided, and the whole subject is still somewhat obscure, and worthy of investigation. The existence, for example, of the 5r. in greenish blue and in violet-blue, with genuine framing, has been questioned, but they are included in the list given below on considerable authority. The extent to which the traces of the framing, after it was removed, are visible varies greatly, some specimens showing it fairly distinctly, and the same types are naturally found both with and without such traces, since the erasure varied in the different panes of the full sheet of 160 stamps. There are certain minor varieties of the 'Rayons,' chiefly consisting of omissions in the scroll ornaments.

The number of stamps printed is shown by the statistics as to sales and remainders given below.



FIG. 16



FIG. 17

1 October 1850. Imperforate. 40 types

RAYON I

With frame to cross

- 5 Rp. dark blue and red
- 5 Rp. greenish blue and red
- 5 Rp. violet-blue and red

Without frame to cross

- 5 Rp. blue and red
- 5 Rp. bright blue and red
- 5 Rp. dark blue and red
- 5 Rp. violet-blue and red
- 5 Rp. grey-blue and red
- 5 Rp. greenish blue and red

RAYON II

With frame to cross

- 10 Rp. yellow and red

Without frame to cross

- 10 Rp. lemon-yellow and red
- 10 Rp. orange-yellow and red
- 10 Rp. brownish-yellow and red
- 10 Rp. brown and red

Both stamps are found showing portions of the lines of the frame round the cross, varying more or less in distinctness.

As the printing in three colours was expensive, a simplification was resorted to, the 5 rp. being printed in blue on white paper, with red shield, the colour surfacing being omitted. The preparations for printing the 10 rp. in yellow and red on white paper were also made, but the printing was not carried out. Reference to the statistics given below will show the number printed of this stamp, which was probably issued in April 1851.

April 1851. Imperforate. 40 types (as before)

RAYON I

With frame to cross

- 5 Rp. dark blue and red
- 5 Rp. bright blue and red

Without frame to cross

- 5 Rp. bright blue and red
- 5 Rp. milky blue and red
- 5 Rp. dark blue and red

This stamp is also found showing portions of the lines of the frame round the cross, varying more or less in distinctness.

RAYON III

The stamps of this issue, which the lithographer Durheim proposed to print in black, white and red, were, owing to lesser cost of production, produced in a single colour only. The shield is now hatched in perpendicular lines (the heraldic 'tincture' for red), and the cross framed. For the production of the stamp the original stone

of the "Ortspost" served, and transfers of the second and third vertical rows were used (the first row being probably avoided as it had become somewhat worn). The inscription and the figures of value were removed and "RAYON III" and "15 Rp." inserted. After the first printing, with small figures of value, the letters "Rp" were erased from the 160 stamps on the stone and "Cts" was put in by hand. The stamps with the value in rappen were intended, as before, for the German-speaking part of Switzerland, and those in centimes for the French, but this distinction, as previously stated, was not rigidly adhered to. The total number printed of the Rayon III amounted to about 2,000,000, of which about 100,000 had the value "15 Cts."



FIG. 18



FIG. 19



FIG. 20

1 January 1852. Imperforate. 10 types
Value in Rappen. Small figures (Fig. 18)

15 Rp. brick-red

15 Rp. rose

Value in Centimes (Fig. 19)

15 Cts. brick-red

15 Cts. rose

15 Cts. dark-red.

Although the issue of the above stamps was intended to be a provisional one only, it was found necessary, in consequence of the delay in the preparation of the new stamps (1854), for a further issue to be made. This time the stone was made from transfers of the fourth and fifth vertical rows of the "Ortspost" original stone. No difference in the words of value was now made, and the figures of value were drawn of larger size. The actual date of issue is not known, but it may be safely taken as about the middle of 1852.

June to July 1852. Imperforate. 10 types

Value in Rappen. Large figures (Fig. 20)

15 Rp. brick-red

15 Rp. rose

The statistics relating to the sale of stamps during 1851-4 are very interesting, as are those relating to the destruction of the remainders in the years 1854 and 1857.

There were sold :—

			Rayon I	Rayon II	Rayon III
		2½ Rp.	5 Rp.	10 Rp.	15 Rp.
1851	..	502,810	1,592,901	997,851	—
1852	..	—	1,334,930	1,680,678	1,083,758
1853	..	—	368,300	457,160	229,020
1854	..	—	369,330	441,902	294,862

In accordance with a resolution of 24 October 1854 the following remainders, which were held as reserve stock by the printer, were burnt :—

84,000 10 Rp. yellow, Rayon II, in sheets, gummed
744 sheets [partly] printed in yellow
527 sheets [partly] printed in red.

On 11 May 1857 there were further destroyed :—

529,410 5 Rp. 328,422 10 Rp. 276,454 15 Rp.

which were partly in sheets and partly in separated stamps, and there were also a few sheets of the Cantonals. At the same time the destruction took place of a quantity of un gummed sheets, as follows:—

1,400 sheets 5 Rp. on blue paper
 2,800 sheets 5 Rp. on white paper, a few of which
 had the shield and cross in colour
 2,200 sheets 5 Rp. black on white paper.

From the above it is evident that the shield on all except the few sheets referred to was without colour or cross.

1,734 sheets 10 Rp. black on yellow paper, with red shield and white cross
 3,600 sheets 10 Rp. black on yellow paper, shield without colour.

The whole of the foregoing stamps were declared obsolete on 1 October 1854.

HELVETIA SEATED, IMPERFORATE.

The production of the first Confederate stamps from 1850 to 1854 by lithography was very costly, and moreover unsatisfactory from a revenue point of view, since stamps so manufactured were more easily imitated than by a typographic process. As the Federation had already in contemplation the issue of new stamps on 1 January 1852, the Director of the Mint, Dr. CUSTER, went on a special mission in 1851 to Paris, London and Munich, to study foreign methods and machinery for printing, with the idea of the production of stamps by the Mint at Berne. The Bavarian process, that of ordinary relief printing, seemed to be most suitable, and was accordingly selected. Opinions were much divided on the choice of a becoming design for the new issue; in a letter of 15 April 1851, from NAF, Postmaster-General, to the engraver MERZ, of Munich, we read:—

All states have adopted the same design as depicted on their silver coins, either a bust of the King or Queen, or the German eagle, etc. For republics the symbol of the nation is most suitable, perhaps a beautiful female figure together with the arms of the country. I have had the two enclosed designs prepared by an artist at Berne; on one of the drawings the value of the stamp is especially conspicuous, and on the other its tri-lingual application is well brought out.

At first the issue of three values only was contemplated, viz., 5 rappen brown, 10 rappen blue and 15 rappen orange-yellow. The original die was prepared by the engraver VOGT, of Munich. Since the Mint at Berne was not yet provided with the necessary plant, for the purpose of hastening on the delivery the printing was in October 1851 handed over to WEISS, the University printer in Munich, under the control of the Bavarian Postal Administration, the paper to be employed being the same as that used in Bavaria, with silk threads traversing its substance. The colour of the threads was to be blue-green. Various difficulties, however, arose in regard to the printing, so that the issue to the public was considerably delayed, and the Postal Administration ordered the provisional issue of the 15 r. Rayon III.

In 1852 it was decided to add to the stamps of the new issue another value, 40 rappen green, for the purpose of prepayment of letters to Germany and Austria. In July 1852 the preparation was at length so far advanced that the true colours of the stamps, 5 r. brown, 10 r. blue, 15 r. rose, instead of orange-yellow, and 40 r. green could be fixed. On 6 October 1852 Weiss wrote, at the same time sending samples of the stamps, that he had the following quantities ready:—

100,000	5 r. stamps, red-brown	250,000	15 r. stamps, pale rose
200,000	10 r. „ pale blue	150,000	40 r. „ pale yellow-green

Although the stamps were too pale in colour, and some could easily be mistaken

for others in artificial light, the Postal Administration accepted those already printed, but ordered further supplies of the 5 r. to be a deeper brown in colour, and the 40 r. in a darker green, and in spite of the fact that the paper of the first impression proved too thin, the printer continued its use in order to exhaust the existing stock. Thus originated the first issue, Munich impression on thin paper, of which up to the middle of September 1853, besides those already supplied in paler colours, the consignment was

1,000,000	5 r.
1,900,000	10 r.
900,000	15 r.
500,000	40 r.

Owing to the prolonged delay in the preparation of the printing plant at the Mint, the Postal Administration continued the issue of the Munich impression up to 15 September 1854. By that date sufficient time had been obtained for the preparation of the Berne impressions, so that there was no fear that after the use of the Munich stamps it would be necessary to fall back upon the "Rayons" again. The Rayon issue was in use up to the end of September 1854, so that the Rayon stamps and those of the later design may be found used together on the same letter.

On 14 October 1854 the Berne mint supplied to the Postal Administration 50,000 of a new value, 20 rp. orange-yellow, as the first delivery from this establishment.

Consequent upon agreements made with neighbouring States, the Federation arranged that from 1 October 1854 the stamps were available for foreign correspondence. On the same date the franking of letters with stamps was made obligatory; printed matter was, however, excepted, as there existed no low value stamps for the rates charged on this. In order to obviate the necessity for many low values being applied to packets for abroad, Herr KOHLER, the Postal Director of Lausanne, proposed, on 12 October 1854, the issue of a new value, 1 fr. with black silk thread, and this was actually issued on 12 February 1855.

As already mentioned, the stamps were provided with a silk thread, added to the undersurface of the paper in order to render the production of forgeries more difficult. The threads were placed at regular intervals in the space filled with the paper pulp in such a way that one thread ran through each row of stamps. Not only are threads found of different thicknesses, but also stamps may be met with having a double thread or with none at all. The cause of these irregularities is to be found in defects of manufacture, for if the distance between two threads was greater than the height of a stamp, one row of stamps would be found without any thread, while the next row would have two. The colour of the thread of the first Munich issue, officially designated as *blue-green*, is actually a *dark emerald-green*. From 1855-57 the paper bore a thread of different colour for each value, but owing to the inconvenience and cost of this variation, the threads were, after a period of two years, made uniformly green, with the exception of the 1 fr., the only difference from the first issue being that the colour was a lighter and brighter green. The change of the colours in the years 1855-57 was due to a proposal of Dr. Custer, Director of the Mint, and took place as follows:—

July 1855,	5 r. with yellow thread
June 1856,	10 r. with red thread
July 1855,	15 r. with blue thread
May 1857,	40 r. with red-brown thread.

Dr. Custer found the yellow thread too pale, and scarcely visible in artificial light, so that he proposed a second change. In view, however, of the large stock of paper with this thread, the Postal Administration would not sanction this; but after a time a practical solution was arrived at, whereby the stock with yellow thread was employed for the least used value, the 1 fr., while the 5 r., probably at the beginning of 1857, received a clearly visible black thread. The 20 rp. was the only value

which was exempt from all these changes and experiments, and continued with the green thread unaltered.

The many abnormalities of silk thread are probably for the most part to be referred to discoloration; for example, white and yellow threads were originally green. The fact that all types with dark green threads are also found with yellow threads and that those with pale green threads (1859-60) in like manner exist with white threads seems to prove this. The change in the colour of the threads is usually associated with one in that of the stamps, since it was not easily possible to reproduce the original colour exactly in a new printing. This is especially the case with the 5 r., in which most changes of the silk thread took place, while there are also several colour changes from pale brown to dark brown.

Besides the silk threads the paper of this issue also calls for special observation. The stamps delivered by Weiss, of Munich, are printed on thin paper, on which the printing in relief is quite apparent. In the later printings at Berne, thin, medium and finally thick paper were employed successively. The thin paper for the first Berne issue was obtained from Bavaria, but the other varieties were made in Switzerland. The differentiation of the various papers is in individual cases tolerably difficult, and by the mere feel requires considerable practice. The determination of the thickness may be made by a Schraub micrometer. The general variation is: thin paper .4 to .6 mm; medium .7 to .8 mm.; thick .9 to 1.2 mm.

We now arrive at the general description of the design. In an upright rectangle is an allegorical representation of Helvetia, seated, crowned with laurel and holding spear and shield, on a background of small diamonds shaded alternately with perpendicular and horizontal lines. The background is enclosed by four white lines forming a frame. The frame contains above the inscription "FRANCO," and in the other parts the value in the three languages of the country; German, 5 RAPPEN; French, 5 CENTIMES; Italian, 5 CENTESIMI. The squares formed in the four corners by the crossing of the white lines each contain a star-shaped white rosette. Figure, shield and inscriptions appear in relief, more or less prominent according to the thickness of the paper used.

The impression was made in sheets of 50, which were halved and consignments made into parcels of 10 half-sheets, *i.e.*, 250 stamps. The total deliveries from the Berne Mint from 14 October 1854 up to 31 December 1857 were in accordance with the following figures, taken from the official statistics in the Federal archives:—

	5 rappen	10 rappen	15 rappen	20 rappen	40 rappen	1 franc
1854 ..	175,000	—	—	950,275	—	—
1855 ..	1,500,075	775,050	1,175,050	200,050	775,075	250,325
1856 ..	1,775,000	2,325,000	1,475,000	725,000	400,000	250,000
1857 ..	2,671,275	1,854,950	2,280,175	921,075	144,500	45,500
	6,121,350	4,955,000	4,930,225	2,796,400	1,319,575	545,825



FIG. 21

MUNICH IMPRESSION.

1854. Thin paper. *Emerald-green thread.* The figures following the colour show the number printed of that shade.

15 September 1854.

- 5 Rp. red-brown (100,000)
- 5 Rp. fawn (1,000,000)
- 5 Rp. rusty brown
- 10 Rp. pale blue (200,000)
- 10 Rp. bright blue (1,900,000)
- 15 Rp. lilac-rose (250,000)
- 15 Rp. bright rose (900,000)
- 40 Rp. pale yellow-green (150,000)
- 40 Rp. bright yellowish green (500,000)

The issue of 1854 shows some defects on the plate, especially in the case of the 5 rp. value.

BERNE IMPRESSION.

- A. 1854-55. Thin paper. *Emerald-green thread.* (Remainder of the Munich paper).
 4 November 1854.
 5 Rp. grey-brown (750,000)
 5 Rp. blue. Error.

Authorities are of a different opinion as to the origin of this error or whether it is really an error or an essay. Our own researches show the possibility of the existence of the stamp in a colour different from the proper one, since at the time the printing of the stamps was not so carefully controlled or inspected as at the present day. We have seen a single example of the error and lately we have heard of the existence of a letter, despatched from St. Immer (Switzerland) to Mülhausen, on 13 May 1855, on which, together with a brown 5 Rp. stamp, two blue ones of 5 Rp. were used in place of two 10 Rp. stamps.

- 29 May 1855.
- 10 Rp. blue (1,725,000)
- 14 February 1855.
- 15 Rp. rose (375,000)
- 14 October 1854.
- 20 Rp. orange-yellow (1,150,000)
- 30 March 1855.
- 40 Rp. bright green (bluish) (775,000)

VARIETIES : With other threads.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) <i>Yellow thread.</i> | (b) <i>Yellow-brown thread.</i> |
| 5 Rp. red-brown | 40 Rp. pale yellow-green |
| 5 Rp. brown | (c) <i>Blue thread.</i> |
| 10 Rp. blue | 5 Rp. yellow-brown |
| 15 Rp. bright rose | 10 Rp. blue |
| 40 Rp. pale yellow-green | 15 Rp. bright rose |
| 40 Rp. bright green | 40 Rp. pale yellow-green |

- B. 1855-57. Medium paper (manufactured by Sihl, Zurich). Various coloured threads.

- July 1855. *Yellow thread.*
- 5 Rp. brown (2,500,000)
- 5 Rp. brown. With double thread
- 5 Rp. brown. Without thread
- February 1857. *Black thread.*
- 5 Rp. brown
- June 1856. *Carmine-red thread.*
- 10 Rp. blue (shades)
- 10 Rp. blue. With double thread
- 10 Rp. blue. Without thread

- July 1855. *Blue thread.*
 15 Rp. rose (shades)
 15 Rp. rose. With double thread
 15 Rp. rose. Without thread
- April 1856. *Green thread.*
 20 Rp. orange (shades)
 20 Rp. orange. With double thread
 20 Rp. orange. Without thread
- May 1857. *Garnet thread.*
 40 Rp. green (shades)
 40 Rp. green. With double thread
 40 Rp. green. Without thread
- February 1855. *Black thread.*
 1 Fr. grey-lilac
- August 1856. *Yellow thread.*
 1 Fr. grey-lilac (300,000)

VARIETIES : With other coloured threads.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (a) <i>Blue thread.</i> | (b) <i>Blue-black thread.</i> |
| 5 Rp. brown | 15 Rp. rose |
| 10 Rp. blue | |
| 20 Rp. orange | |

- C. 1857-60. Thick paper. Various coloured threads.
- 5 Rp. violet-brown. *Black thread*
 - 5 Rp. yellow-brown. *Black thread*
 - 10 Rp. grey-blue. *Carmine thread*
 - 10 Rp. dark blue. *Bright red thread*
 - 15 Rp. bright rose (pale or dark). *Pale blue thread*
 - 40 Rp. bluish-green. *Garnet thread*
 - 40 Rp. yellowish-green. *Garnet thread*
 - 1 Fr. pale grey-lilac *Yellow thread*
 - 1 Fr. grey-blue. *Yellow thread*

All the above are to be found with double thread. The 5 and 10 Rp. are found bisected and used for half their values and two-thirds of the 15 Rp., cut obliquely, employed as 10 Rp.

- D. 1860-62. Thick paper. *Dark green thread.*
- 5 Rp. violet-brown
 - 5 Rp. black-brown
 - 10 Rp. blue
 - 10 Rp. dark blue
 - 10 Rp. greenish blue
 - 15 Rp. dark rose
 - 15 Rp. pale rose
 - 20 Rp. orange
 - 20 Rp. dark orange
 - 20 Rp. yellow-orange
 - 20 Rp. brown (1861). Error
 - 40 Rp. bright green
 - 40 Rp. dark green
 - 40 Rp. blue-green

The 20 Rp. and 40 Rp. may be found bisected and used for half their values, and one quarter of the 20 Rp. used for 5 Rp.

The genuineness of the error 20 Rp. brown is very doubtful, and the brown colour is probably to be referred to some unknown cause of oxidation. In the Federal Archives some correspondence exists which seems to prove that some examples of the stamp were printed in brown, but careful investigation in all the offices of the district to which the stamp was distributed have failed to show that it was ever received, so that the explanation of the change of colour by chemical action is more probable.

VARIETIES: With other coloured threads.

(a) <i>White thread.</i>	(c) <i>Blue thread.</i>
5 Rp. violet-brown (1860)	10 Rp. dark blue (1859)
10 Rp. dark grey-blue (1859)	15 Rp. bright rose
15 Rp. bright rose (1860)	40 Rp. green
20 Rp. reddish orange	(d) <i>Bronze green thread.</i>
40 Rp. green (1862)	5 Rp. violet-brown
(b) <i>Yellow thread.</i>	(e) <i>Yellow brown thread.</i>
5 Rp. violet-brown	20 Rp. orange (1859)
10 Rp. dark blue	
15 Rp. bright rose (1859)	
20 Rp. orange (1859)	
40 Rp. green	

On 6 February 1862, the Federal Council promulgated a new law of postage rates, including a regulation for the franking of printed matter. A single rate for the whole of Switzerland was established in accordance with the following table:—

Not exceeding	15 grammes	2 rappen
"	50	5 "
"	250	10 "

This law came into force on 1 July 1862, and caused the issue of a new value, the 2 rappen. Since the new arrangements for the printing of the succeeding issue at the Mint in Berne were not complete, the value had to be prepared in the current design and printed on silk thread paper. The impression was in grey, and 400,000 copies were issued.

1 July 1862. Imperforate. Thick paper. *Deep green thread.*
2 Rp. grey

VARIETIES: With other silk threads.

(a) <i>White thread.</i>	(b) <i>Yellow thread.</i>	(c) <i>Bright green thread.</i>
2 Rp. grey	2 Rp. grey	2 Rp. grey

Two and a half copies of this stamp, obliquely cut, may be found used as 5 Rp., and one and a half as 3 Rp., but these must not be confused with the Italian provisional (*infra*) which was used only on printed matter.

The postal agreement with Italy, concluded on 8 August 1861, fixing the postage on printed matter at 3 Rp., which likewise came into force on 1 July 1862, postulated the issue at this date of a 3 Rp. value. Having regard to the projected issue of a new series of stamps, arrangements were made for the provisional creation of a 3 Rp. value on silk thread paper, by the official authorization of the application of one and a half 2 Rp. stamps. This provisional was available for three months, until the issue of the new series of 1862.

1 July 1862. Provisional. Imperforate. Thick paper.
3 Rp. = One and a half 2 Rp. grey

In the early issues halved stamps had already been applied for franking letters, for the sake of convenience when a stamp of the necessary value was wanting, but with the single exception of this provisional 3 Rp., made up of one and a half 2 Rp. stamps, for the prepayment of postage on printed matter to Italy, which lasted for the three months from 1 July to 30 September 1862, such an expedient had never been officially recognised. By a circular of 26 January 1854, all Post Offices were instructed to treat letters bearing portions of stamps as unrepaid. Even in 1862 this order was strictly observed, so that halved stamps postmarked after 1862, with few exceptions, may be regarded as fabrications. MM. Mirabaud and de Reuterskiöld mention an exception with regard to Geneva, where on the despatch of a large number of printed circulars at the same time, it was only necessary to pay half the normal tax on all copies over 20. Instead of claiming the repayment of the amount of the

reduction from the Post Office the sender preferred to deduct it directly in the postage by the employment of halved stamps which, as already stated, was not permitted officially, but allowed without remark. In the same way in Geneva circulars are to be found bearing 5 Rp. stamps instead of 10 Rp. according to regulations, with the obliteration "Affranchissement modéré." The stamp is generally fastened on the middle of the back, so as to be destroyed on opening the letter.

In conclusion mention must be made of the withdrawal and destruction of the stamps of the 1854 type. The 15 Rp. value found no place in the new series, and on 29 December 1862, and 24 February 1863, 549,211 copies were destroyed as they were gradually withdrawn from circulation. All the remaining values were declared obsolete from 1 August 1863, and the remainders burnt in number according to the following table :—

1863	2 Rp.	5 Rp.	10 Rp.	15 Rp.	20 Rp.	40 Rp.	1 Fr.
August ..	9,467	7,721	1,879	40	4,971	14,701	3,868
October ..	—	88	—	—	13,643	170,732	292,098
November ..	1,178	5,335	1,943	2	1,043	2,972	529

HELVETIA SEATED, PERFORATED.

The new series of stamps appeared toward the end of the summer of 1862, considerably later than the Postal Administration originally intended. Their issue was due in part to the promulgation of a new law of postal tariffs by the Federal Council, which came into force on 1 July 1862, at the same time as the postal agreement with Italy dated 8 August 1861. The new series differed in many respects from the earlier issue and the reasons for this are of general interest. Although the method of printing the 1854 issue was considerably cheaper than the production of the first Federal stamps by lithography, yet the cost of preparation was still too high in comparison with that of other States. Whilst the cost in neighbouring countries figured out at from 30 to 90 centimes per 1,000 copies, in Switzerland it amounted to 1 fr. 25 c. per 1,000, so that it appeared desirable to attempt an economy. As a cause of this considerable difference in cost the somewhat greater size of the stamps of 1854 is to be considered. Of more importance, however, was the cost of the silk thread paper, the advantage of which, moreover, was soon a matter of doubt. The Wurtemberg government interested itself especially in the Swiss method of printing, as shown by a letter of 24 November 1859, in which special reference is made to the question of the silk threads. It is therein established that the threads are not always in the centre of the stamp and lie so deep as often to be imperceptible in artificial light, so that they do not completely fulfil their object as safeguards against falsifications. In consequence most countries had given up the use of silk thread paper. Furthermore, perforation of the stamps, that is of the margins, which had been generally adopted by other countries, serves a double purpose, both as a safeguard against forgery (since the manufacture of a perforating machine costs time and money), and also facilitates the separation of the stamps by the Post Office officials and the public. In spite of the more expensive method of manufacture the old stamps were not found particularly superior in beauty to those of other countries. According to official documents the public found amongst other defects that Helvetia had horns, that the eyes were shut, (the features not being recognisable), that the figure should be seen in profile as on the coins, etc., grounds sufficient to take in hand a change in the manufacture and design.

The law of 6 February 1862 fixed the rates as follows :—

Within Switzerland :

Prepaid letters up to 10 grammes in weight	10 cts.
Unpaid " " " "	15 cts.
From 10 to 250 grammes double these rates.	
Printed matter up to 15 grammes	2 cts.
15 to 60 grammes	5 cts.
50 to 250 grammes	10 cts.

Letters up to 10 grammes in weight, the office of issue of which was not more than two hours distant in a straight line from the office of destination, came under a local tax (local radius) of 5 cts. Registered letters paid double rates. The new stamps were nine in number, inasmuch as the new values 3, 30, 40 and 60 cts. were added to the earlier denominations, while the stamp of 15 cts. was abolished. The 2 cts. value was used especially for the franking of printed matter for internal transit, and the 3 cts. for the service to Italy, as has been already mentioned. The 30 cts. stamp also served for postage to Italy.

The following table gives particulars of the issue and the purpose of the different values :—

2 cts. grey	1 October 1862	For printed matter up to 15 gr. in Switzerland.
3 cts. black	1 July 1862	For printed matter up to 40 gr. to Italy.
5 cts. brown	1 October 1862	For local letters up to 10 gr.
10 cts. blue	1 October 1862	For letters up to 10 gr. in Switzerland and within the radius limit.
20 cts. orange	1 August 1863	For registered letters up to 10 gr. in Switzerland.
30 cts. vermilion	1 October 1862	For letters up to 10 gr. to Italy, France and Belgium.
40 cts. green	1 August 1863	For letters up to 15 gr. to Germany.
60 cts. bronze	1 August 1863	For letters up to 7½ gr. to Spain.
1 fr. gold	1 August 1863	For letters to certain transmarine countries.

Besides the perforation as security against falsifications it was proposed to introduce into the groundwork of the stamp a secret mark. A line in the hatching which made up the background was to be broken, so as to be visible only with a lens. This proposal, however, does not appear to have been realised, for the Postal Administration adopted a "transparent-mark" as it is called in the official correspondence, recommended by the Chief Controller of Posts FUCHS. This transparent or control mark shows the Federal cross in a double-lined oval and is different to a natural watermark ; it is even incorrectly termed an artificial watermark. Whilst the natural watermark is added to the moist paper this control mark is impressed on the paper in the dry state. The paper passed between a smooth cylinder and a steel plate bearing 400 patterns, which were thus impressed into the paper. The impression was often so strong as to cause the oval pattern to fall out of the stamp, and the mark is visible on the front of the stamp, although actually the paper was impressed on the reverse side.

With regard to the above mentioned criticism of the issue of 1854, Helvetia appears more in profile in the new series and further changes were also effected. In an upright rectangle appears the allegorical representation of Helvetia with shield and spear in profile on a reticulated groundwork of perpendicular and horizontal lines, with figures of value in the four corners. The upper part of the frame bears the inscription "HELVETIA", below the designation "FRANCO." The sides are filled up with a symmetric ornamentation. Coloured impression in semi-relief on white paper. The preparation of the original die was entrusted to the engraver, J. RIES, of the Royal Mint at Munich, whilst the printing was done in the Mint at Berne. A smooth white, hard and dense paper was supplied by the manufacturer, SIHL, of Zurich, and of such size that 400 stamps could be printed on each sheet. Of especial interest

is the fact that for relief printing the paper must be gummed before the impression is made, so that the gum does not collect in the depressions caused by the relief. In consequence the manufacture was tolerably complex and slow. Owing to the addition of yellow sugar the gum was fairly dark and of a brownish colour.

The archives afford no means of checking the quantities issued of this issue. The statistics given at the end of this chapter, show the actual use of the stamps from 1852 to 1882, from which the necessary conclusions with respect to the increase and expansion of the postal traffic can be ascertained.



FIG. 22

July to October 1862. Perforated 11½

2 cts. dark grey	20 cts. dark yellow (1863)
2 cts. pale grey (silver-grey)	20 cts. pale orange (1874)
3 cts. black	20 cts. dark orange (1874)
3 cts. deep black	30 cts. pale vermilion (1863)
5 cts. grey-brown (1862)	30 cts. dark vermilion
5 cts. yellow-brown (1866)	40 cts. yellow-green (1863)
5 cts. dark brown (1874)	40 cts. pale green
5 cts. chocolate-brown (1879-81)	40 cts. dark green
10 cts. blue (1862)	60 cts. copper-bronze
10 cts. pale blue (1863)	1 fr. gold-bronze
10 cts. greenish blue	1 fr. pale gold
10 cts. dark blue	1 fr. dark gold
20 cts. yellow (1863)	

The 5, 10 and 20 c. are found cut in half obliquely, and used for half their values. The 60 c. was to have been sulphur-yellow, but since this colour did not come out well after printing, the bronze colour was chosen.

VARIETIES :

- (a) Figures of value doubly impressed, once inverted.
5 cts. chocolate brown (1879-81)
- (b) With figure of value in lower left corner doubly impressed.
5 cts. brown
- (c) With figure of value doubly impressed.
10 cts. blue
- (d) With doubly impressed "F" in word "FRANCO."
1 fr. pale gold

An explanation is necessary with regard to the origin of the 5 cts. with doubly impressed figures in the four corners. The original steel die in high relief consisted of Helvetia with the four portions of the frame and the four figures of value, which latter were interchangeable. For the preparation of the galvanos the original die was pressed into a soft metal plate and 400 such impressions built up a plate of four sections each with 100 designs. After the impression of the values of 5, 10, 25 and 50 cts. it was found on inspection that in each section one design was reversed. These were then carefully rectified, the inverted impression being obliterated by powerful repressing, not altogether, as we have seen, with success. In connection with this matter we may explain the double impression of the letter "F" on the 1 fr. catalogued above. In this case the first impression on the metal plate was probably

too weak, so that a re-impression was made, which, however, was not quite in register with the first impression, so that on the stamp the traces of a second arm and also of a second spear are to be seen.

On 12 July 1866 the Postal Administration of the Federal Council demanded the creation of a 50 cts. value. The origin of this is to be referred to the active traffic with England, the tax on which amounted to 50 cts., and hitherto had to be paid by the use of several values. The choice of the colour raised some difficulties, and it was proposed to abolish the 60 cts. and use the colour for the new stamp. Finally, it was decided to retain the 60 cts. bronze, and by official decree of 12 January 1867 violet (lilac) was chosen for the 50 cts. stamp.

With the increasing use of stamps a new kind of fraud appeared, the obliterations of used stamps being removed by chemical washing, and the stamps re-gummed and used again. For protection against manipulation of this kind the stamps must be strongly and deeply obliterated, and the obliteration mark made insensible to chemical treatment. In the course of the year 1863 exhaustive experiments on the cleaning of obliterations with turpentine, chloroform, etc., were made. Simultaneously many protests were received from the public with regard to the 10 cts. and 30 cts. stamps, that the obliterations were not easily visible. On account of the introduction of envelopes with impressed stamps it was resolved on 10 January 1867, to print the 10 cts. in red and the 30 cts. in blue, partly in agreement with the colours of the corresponding values in Austria and North and South Germany, and partly because the obliteration on the red colour was more visible than on the earlier blue. The old 10 cts. blue and the 30 cts. vermilion were gradually used up.

1867. As above.

10 cts. pale rose	30 cts. dark ultramarine
10 cts. carmine-rose	30 cts. Prussian blue
10 cts. purple	50 cts. pale violet
10 cts. bluish red	50 cts. dark violet
30 cts. pale ultramarine	

VARIETY : Double impression.
10 cts. carmine-rose

On 1 September 1868 new postal agreements with Baden, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, the States of the North German Confederation and Austria came into force, by which a uniform tariff of 25 c. was established instead of the different rates obtaining hitherto. The tariff was fixed at 10 c. for correspondence in the zone limit (*Rayon limitrophe*).

For the prepayment of this single rate of 25 c. a new value in bright green was prepared, whilst the 40 c. green and the 60 c. bronze were no longer printed, but the stock gradually used up as required. From this period these values were chiefly employed in internal correspondence up to 1874-75.

1 September 1868. As above.

25 c. yellow-green
25 c. green
25 c. bluish-green

VARIETY : Figure of value double impressed.
25 c. green

The entrance of the French army of the East, under General Bourbaki, into Swiss territory in January 1871, gave rise to the issue of a special gratis stamp. This served for the transmission of the unpaid correspondence of the interned French to districts in France not in the possession of the Germans. Letters from France to the interned soldiers was also forwarded gratis from the frontier.

In view of the fact that the necessary issue was entirely unforeseen, the design and paper were exceptionally primitive. The stamp consists of a simple oblong rect-

angle in the form of a label with the inscription in black : " Militaires français internés en Suisse. Gratis " ; the paper is red, of a quite common quality and gummed. The impression was made in sheets of 224 labels in four panes of 56, eight rows of seven stamps ; the two panes on the right are *tête-bêche* with respect to the two on the left. It is unknown where and by whom they were printed. According to the view of a competent authority the stamps were probably printed in Berne to the extent of not more than 1,000 sheets. In cases where the stamps were wanting the Postal Authorities marked the correspondence simply with the obliteration " FRANCO " or with the word " Gratis " in MS.

January 1871. Imperf.

Gratis, pale violet

Gratis, pale rose

VARIETY: c of " français " without cedilla.

Gratis, pale violet

There are six copies of this error in each pane, viz., numbers 1, 12, 29, 49, 51 and 52.

Up to the year 1871 the Berne Mint, under the inspection and control of the Director, A. ESCHER, had charge of the printing of the stamps. On 21 July of the same year the Postal Authorities represented to the Federal Council that the preparation of stamps might be handed over to private firms again, as in 1854. In consideration of the fact that by the competition of several private firms lower prices might be obtained, the Federal Council authorised the conclusion of an agreement with the Director of the Mint by which the latter undertook the delivery of stamps, official envelopes and telegraph stamps. Escher, in company with some other individuals, founded a private establishment for the preparation of stamps and postal stationery, which supplied the whole needs of the Federation up to the year 1882. Notwithstanding this supply of stamps by a private company, the printing continued, as before, on the machines and partly within the precincts of the Federal Mint.

At the beginning of the year 1874 a change in the paper and in the colours took place. In lieu of the strong dense paper, a thinner paper of a satin surface, with a whiter gum, was chosen, which took a better and clearer impression. Early in 1875 the 2 cts. was changed in colour ; the 15 cts. value was re-introduced at the same time, partly due to the representation of a bookseller of Basle, named Hintermeister, in 1874.

February 1874. Perf. 11½

2 cts. red-brown

2 cts. pale yellow-brown (ochre)

2 cts. dark yellow-brown

1 *January 1875. Perf. 11½*

15 cts. lemon-yellow

15 cts. bright yellow

The adhesion of France to the Universal Postal Union on 1 January 1876 rendered the 30 cts. superfluous, and its place was taken by a similar stamp of 40 cts. for the simplification of the prepayment of letters to various countries. The stock of the 30 cts. was used up and no more printed of this value.

1 *August 1878. Perf. 11½.*

40 cts. grey

40 cts. dark grey

The steady development of the post brought about a continually increasing activity in postal affairs. The governments imparted mutual knowledge of the experiments which they made with regard to the printing of stamps, as well as of the profits and losses of the different experiments and apparatus. They also exchanged series of stamps in use from time to time so that the genuineness and the authorization of the stamps actually used might be proved. In consequence of the increase of

international postal traffic the proposal would naturally arise for the foundation of a universal postal union. Already in 1863 the United States of America, at a conference in Paris, proposed regulation of the international traffic. Finally, in 1874, a Conference was held at Berne for the discussion of a project, which had been worked out by the German Postmaster General Stephan, for an international agreement, the merits of which as regards the satisfactory development of international postal matters are sufficiently known. At this congress, amongst other important conclusions, the principle of a single tax for a single letter in international correspondence was established, and the creation of an international bureau at Berne decided. This convention was signed by the delegates of all the States with the exception of France, and thereby the Universal Postal Union was founded at Berne in October 1874. It came immediately into force, and was adopted by the delegates of the following States: Germany, United States of America, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Egypt, Spain, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxemburg, Montenegro, Norway, Holland, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Servia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey (with Bosnia, Herzegovina and Bulgaria). On 3 May 1875 France also entered into the convention. Many difficulties were, however, encountered in carrying out the Berne Convention of 1874, so that in 1876 a further conference was found necessary, and from that date up to the next congress in Paris of 1878 a complete broadened and worked out universal postal agreement became an accomplished fact. The establishment of the international Bureau carried with it the obligation to place every new issue of the Postal Administration there for the information of the other States signatory to the agreement.

To render forgery more difficult and on other technical grounds another kind of paper, the substance of which was permeated with blue and red veins or threads, known as granite paper, was used from 1881 onwards. The paper was very thin, the gumming good, but somewhat thick and brittle; for the rest the series is similar to the previous one, and bears the impressed control mark.

1881. *Granite paper.* Perf. 11½.

2 cts. yellow-brown (ochre)	25 cts. green
2 cts. dark yellow-brown	40 cts. pale grey
5 cts. chocolate-brown	40 cts. dark grey
10 cts. rose	50 cts. pale violet
10 cts. carmine-rose	50 cts. dark violet
15 cts. lemon-yellow	1 fr. gold
20 cts. red-orange	

VARIETIES: (a) Figures of value doubly impressed, once inverted.

- 5 cts. chocolate brown
- 50 cts. pale violet
- 50 cts. dark violet

(b) Figure of value in lower left corner doubly impressed.

- 5 cts. chocolate-brown

On 1 October 1883 all stamps of the series 1862 to 1881 were declared obsolete, and by a later decree exchange for new stamps at the Post Offices was permitted up to 1 January 1884. The time allowed for exchange was, however, extended to 1 April 1887. A decree of the Postal Administration of 1 July 1887 notified that the remainders of this issue would be offered to the public for collecting purposes at the following prices:—

For orders of 100 to 10,000 copies	Over 10,000 copies
2 cts. Fr. .60 per 100	.. Fr. .50 per 100
5 cts. 1.00 „	.. .80 „
10 cts. 1.00 „	.. .80 „
25 cts. 1.50 „	.. 1.20 „

Quantities of less than 100 were not generally sold.

The remaining values were not offered separately, but only in sets at the rate of 15 fr. per 50 sets, consisting of the nine values, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 40, 50 cts. and 1 fr. ; for orders of 10,000 sets, 12 frs. per 50 sets, and for more than 10,000 sets, 10 frs. per 50 sets. For single sets the price was 50 cts. The stamps were sold without any overprint and no distinction was made between white and granite paper.

The stamps of the series 1881 often bear forged postmarks from the year 1882 onwards, with the place names Basle, Biel, Geneva, Lausanne, Lucerne, Morges,

STATISTICS OF THE SALE OF
from 1852

YEAR	NUMBER OF						
	2 Cts.	3 Cts.	5 Cts.	10 Cts.	12 Cts.	15 Cts.	20 Cts.
1852	—	—	1,334,930	1,680,678	—	1,083,858	—
1853	—	—	1,433,390	1,794,532	—	1,192,042	—
1854	—	—	1,662,861	1,990,986	—	1,380,492	125,360
1855	—	—	1,649,671	1,824,282	—	1,364,500	573,545
1856	—	—	1,777,850	1,924,663	—	1,494,063	639,136
1857	—	—	1,916,268	1,977,779	—	1,595,894	669,982
1858	—	—	2,235,078	2,127,062	—	1,785,347	756,495
1859	—	—	2,447,392	2,178,751	—	1,808,079	775,000
1860	—	—	2,665,436	2,333,592	—	1,681,028	779,368
1861	—	—	2,896,470	2,555,181	—	2,049,414	870,603
1862	1,042,493	107,817	3,350,166	5,991,494	—	984,750	1,166,995
1863	2,082,022	268,371	4,115,643	10,304,428	—	—	1,306,588
1864	2,456,777	291,978	4,782,385	11,671,922	—	—	1,371,188
1865	2,695,085	309,492	5,303,210	12,985,323	—	—	1,540,189
1866	3,080,655	381,687	4,641,114	14,160,534	—	—	1,723,167
1867	3,383,138	380,476	6,104,855	12,864,351	—	—	1,749,647
1868	3,652,241	360,761	5,770,366	10,352,411	—	—	1,727,360
1869	4,048,144	361,969	6,358,795	10,232,284	—	—	1,505,275
1870	4,303,579	404,691	6,945,024	10,055,799	—	—	1,527,631
1871	4,824,250	497,858	7,522,248	10,257,122	—	—	1,531,841
1872	6,575,344	585,564	8,880,262	10,857,078	—	—	1,576,724
1873	6,984,345	667,712	10,590,530	11,883,567	—	—	1,683,246
1874	7,446,543	637,346	10,511,339	12,437,704	—	—	1,866,873
1875	8,167,940	372,600	11,166,488	12,208,337	—	—	1,722,571
1876	8,867,887	49,351	11,948,257	12,142,095	—	953,200	1,625,195
1877	9,753,098	77,650	14,108,743	14,656,928	—	949,010	1,968,354
1878	10,096,100	60,475	18,656,500	21,628,350	—	1,188,350	4,774,270
1879	11,181,345	53,600	20,800,000	23,808,532	—	1,295,150	4,648,975
1880	11,777,360	171,800	21,281,950	25,414,500	—	1,247,920	4,843,725
1881	12,285,560	67,400	22,577,007	26,929,405	—	1,164,570	5,124,340
1882	11,820,415	79,263	23,372,592	27,445,452	507,715	1,105,453	5,066,099

Zurich, etc. The obliteration "Ausser Kurs" which is found on many of these stamps was for the purpose of rendering impossible the repeated exchange of large quantities purchased at a nominal value during the second exchange period 1884-87. This is the first and, up to the present, the only time that the Swiss Postal Administration did not annul its remainders, but dealt with them commercially, a transaction fortunately unique in Switzerland.

THE STAMPS OF SWITZERLAND
to 1882

STAMPS SOLD							VALUE	
25 Cts.	30 Cts.	40 Cts.	50 Cts.	60 Cts.	1 Fr.	Total.	Fr.	Cts.
—	—	—	—	—	—	4,099,466	397,393	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	4,429,964	430,429	—
—	—	175,400	—	—	—	5,335,100	584,547	60
—	—	383,860	—	—	63,365	5,859,273	801,212	25
—	—	429,000	—	—	87,246	6,351,958	892,151	45
—	—	484,618	—	—	69,465	6,714,006	930,284	—
—	—	536,456	—	—	74,686	7,515,124	1,032,816	55
—	—	650,500	—	—	78,750	7,938,472	1,105,406	55
—	—	840,500	—	—	78,678	8,558,602	1,216,536	80
—	—	952,059	—	—	75,390	9,399,117	1,338,087	90
—	66,506	1,077,782	—	—	80,000	13,868,003	1,702,918	17
—	594,786	1,060,968	—	117,709	87,592	19,938,467	2,308,628	23
—	596,541	1,133,717	—	233,556	92,632	22,630,706	2,603,652	93
—	999,256	1,059,220	—	236,157	104,601	25,232,533	2,904,336	72
—	1,985,712	565,601	—	114,309	137,632	26,790,411	3,156,824	21
—	1,979,479	465,391	412,863	96,632	133,222	27,570,054	3,198,317	09
373,736	1,790,254	286,828	448,378	68,839	103,092	23,835,261	2,867,250	85
964,900	1,860,073	32,450	219,270	41,735	82,133	25,706,218	2,762,878	50
1,089,247	1,991,156	18,550	277,175	23,038	100,649	26,736,539	2,886,707	46
1,365,349	2,199,829	31,775	282,942	36,640	116,674	28,666,528	3,113,738	49
1,500,747	2,171,391	25,475	325,703	5,927	130,019	32,634,234	3,327,360	25
1,623,493	2,258,065	2,634	344,389	1,497	146,518	36,185,996	3,568,127	71
1,704,050	2,398,459	8,850	335,075	3,223	140,541	37,509,973	3,770,265	09
2,497,042	1,778,561	—	263,000	800	129,432	39,210,011	3,852,935	90
4,182,490	144,089	—	204,108	150	89,646	40,206,468	3,739,118	82
4,736,331	189,434	—	243,889	—	98,796	46,782,233	4,366,047	16
6,187,025	182,150	1,739,550	1,032,659	—	712,942	66,258,371	7,958,995	50
6,598,300	10,700	2,179,900	1,018,656	—	623,091	71,498,246	8,391,319	60
7,132,400	—	2,427,395	1,094,943	—	689,959	76,081,952	8,990,670	20
7,563,265	—	2,622,180	1,130,222	—	741,812	80,206,361	9,515,698	30
7,880,432	—	2,593,150	1,065,983	—	754,870	81,691,424	9,687,154	04

FIGURE OF VALUE AND HELVETIA STANDING.

After the sixties the Federal Archives give but little further information as to postal matters and the existing decrees of the following years in possession of the Swiss Postal Administration are unfortunately not accessible. If then, on the one hand the historical treatment of the issues from 1882 is somewhat meagre we can on the other make some interesting communications concerning the printing and preparation of the stamps.

The brittle paper of the issue of 1878-81 or, more exactly, the brittleness caused by the gumming, rendered desirable the use of some other kind of paper. Further, the postal authorities sought for the simplification and cheapening of the process of impression in relief, with the troublesome gumming of the paper before printing. Besides these factors the foundation of the Universal Postal Union served as a further excuse for the issue of a new series of stamps. The idea of a new issue was contemplated as early as 1879, but difficulties in the preparation of the original dies delayed the printing so that it could not be made till April 1882.

The new series appeared in two different designs, one for the lower values up to 15 cts., and another for the stamps from 20 cts. upwards. A new value of 12 cts. was included, which had been urgently desired by the public. The design for the lower values, 2, 3, 5, 10, 12 and 15 cts. shows in the upper half of a rectangular frame the federal cross on a vertically lined background, surmounted by a semicircular band with the inscription "HELVETIA" in antique block type. The lower half of the frame is filled up with an oblong, white, octagonal, ornamented shield bearing the figure of value, on a dark background. The upper part of the frame and both the sides bear the inscription "FRANCO" on a white label.

The values up to 15 cts. of this design are simply typographed. The original die was prepared by the engraver BURGER, of Berne. He cut in relief the exact design in steel, from which a large number of blocks were made in brass in the works of the Federal Mint. In order to preserve the original die, the Mint prepared a number of the steel dies in relief, which served for the preparation of the separate brass blocks. The little-used values, 3, 12 and 15 cts. were printed in sheets of 100, in ten rows of ten, from a set of plates made by binding one hundred separate brass blocks in a solid frame. The impression of the more frequently used 2, 5 and 10 cts. stamps was made similarly from formes of 200 blocks or two panes of 100. The paper was of such a size that four ordinary panes of 100 stamps could be printed on one sheet. In the case of the values 3, 12 and 15 cts. with formes of 100 designs the paper had to pass through the machine four times for the complete printing of the paper, and in the case of the 2, 5 and 10 cts., with formes of 200 brass designs, only twice. During the printing of the 2, 5, 10 and 12 cts. stamps in the eighties it happened exceptionally, in a small edition only, that the iron bars forming the frame were raised, so that they received colour together with the plate and produced a coloured border round the stamps.

The printing was entrusted to the firm of STAMPELI & Co., of Berne, up to the summer of 1906, from which date the newly constructed Federal Mint took over the printing of these stamps on new machines erected specially for the purpose. In the year 1880, the Federal Council had resolved to reserve the manufacture of postage, postage due and telegraph stamps, as well as postcards and envelopes, to the Federal Mint. This principle, however, was not completely carried out with respect to the issue of 1882, as the printing was still in private hands, and only the gumming and perforation was undertaken at the Mint.

The higher values, from 20 cts. upwards, were of the following design :—Nearly the whole rectangular frame is filled with an upright double oval, the upper

margin of which bears the inscription "HELVETIA" whilst the sides each contain eleven stars symbolical of the twenty-two Swiss Cantons. Within the the oval on a dark ground, in white, is the picture of Helvetia standing, with spear and shield, looking to the right. The lower margin of the stamp shows the figures of value in the centre and right and left the word "FRANCO" on a white scroll. Both the upper corners show the figures of value on a white shield. For the preparation of these stamps copper-plate printing was selected. Matrices were prepared from the original steel die and from these an intermediate plate was obtained by pressing into leaden plates; the latter were then surfaced with graphite, and copper was electrolytically deposited so as to furnish the plates for use. From the method of preparation such plates are termed "galvanos."

Up to the year 1900 the printing was done in hand-presses, for which plates of 200 stamps prepared in the above-mentioned manner were used. After 1900 the contractor, GIRARDET, constructed on his own initiative a copper-plate printing press which rendered possible the printing with plates of 400 stamps. These later plates were divided into four panes, of 100 stamps each, with space between each pane of 32mm. The distance between the separate stamps was about 5mm., but the distances between the separate designs and also between the four panes vary more or less.

Owing to daily severe and continual use, the plates were replaced by new ones, but it also happened that the printer by polishing and retouching some weak places in different stamps sought to obtain better results in printing. Owing to this circumstance arose many corrections or retouches. The original plates served only for the preparation of the plates for use, never for the direct printing of the stamp themselves. It thus easily happens, that the plates for use show retouches or re-engravings which do not exist on the original plates and are different in themselves.

The plates, after use, were returned to the custody of the Postal Administration, and, after one example of each kind had been retained for the collection, were destroyed. The last plates for copper-plate impression of the values 25cts. and 40 cts. were no longer prepared by the electrolytic process, but by means of a new etching process in steel. The printing of the stamps with HELVETIA standing was entrusted to the firm MÜLLHAUPT & SON from 1882 to 1886, and to MAX GIRARDET, of Berne, from 1886 to 1906. The printing of the whole series was in colour on white paper. For the typographical printing paper of the best quality was used, in order to render possible a fine clear impression; for the copper-plate printing a somewhat coarse and less surfaced paper was chosen, on which the different tones and shades appeared to the best advantage. The paper of both kinds was supplied by the firm SIHL, of Zurich.

After the abolition of printing in relief the gumming of the stamps before printing was no longer necessary, and accordingly from 1882 it was done first by hand and from the year 1906 by a special gumming machine, which simplified the procedure considerably, and in making it easier rendered possible a much more even layer of gum. The gum itself consisted of a mixture of six parts pure gum and one part dextrin. The application of pure gum, without the admixture of dextrin is not desirable, as it renders the paper more brittle and imparts to it a greater tendency to curl up. After gumming followed the perforating. The cross in double oval was then applied as a control mark as before.

In the issues of 1882 onwards the perforation plays so great a role in the comparative values of the different stamps that it is necessary to devote some words to it. The perforating machines in use at the Federal Mint for the perforation of Swiss stamps allowed of the perforation of 100 to 300 stamps, or one to three sheets, at one operation. The sheets to be perforated were fixed in a special frame, which was placed between two sheets of brass, the upper of which contained the necessary pins for the perforation of 100 stamps, arranged so as to pass accurately into corresponding holes in the lower plate. By means of a lever the machine was closed up

and the pins of the upper plate were pressed through the sheets into the corresponding holes in the lower plate and the perforation thus effected.

The Federal Mint in Berne contains four perforating machines driven by power. For the perforation of the stamps there were three different kinds of perforating plates. The existence of these three kinds is due to the fact that the dimensions of the paper in different printings is liable to variation from the normal size, narrower or broader, and this variation has to be met by alteration in the perforating. As causes of these changes of dimension we may look to the expansion of the paper in consequence of unequal moistening for the copper-plate printing, as well as irregularity in quality, nature and thickness, which would occasion differences in the perforation of one half to a whole tooth per stamp. To these causes may often be attributed bad centering; especially bad is the centering of the stamps of all values issued to the public in the year 1898. In this year stamps are found with white borders of from three to four mm.

For the most part the perforations found are $11\frac{1}{2}$ for the typographed values, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, and exceptionally $11\frac{1}{2}$ for the values printed from the copper plates. From 1882 to 1891 the perforation $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ predominates, with the exception of the large perforation $9\frac{1}{2}$ of 1889, described later on.

The quantity issued of these stamps, in use for many years, is of slender interest to collectors. In the case of rarer varieties the quantity issued is given in the following list, with the stamp in question.



FIG. 23



FIG. 24



FIG. 25

1 April 1882. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$. Impressed control mark.

A. Ordinary white paper

- 2 cts. olive-brown
- 5 cts. violet-brown
- 10 cts. rose
- 12 cts. milky blue
- 15 cts. golden yellow

This issue appeared simultaneously with those on granite paper.

B. Granite paper

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2 cts. olive-brown (pale to deep) | 10 cts. vermilion |
| 2 cts. deep grey-brown | 10 cts. scarlet |
| 3 cts. grey-black | 12 cts. milky blue |
| 3 cts. pale grey (shades) | 12 cts. sky-blue |
| 3 cts. deep grey | 12 cts. greenish blue |
| 5 cts. violet-brown (shades) | 12 cts. deep blue |
| 5 cts. deep violet | 12 cts. ultramarine (shades) |
| 10 cts. rose (shades) | 15 cts. yellow |
| 10 cts. deep carmine | 15 cts. orange-yellow |
| 10 cts. deep red | 15 cts. lemon-yellow |

The 2 cts. may be found with plain ground instead of vertically lined background to the cross. This variety is caused by the quality of the paper and heavy inking. The 15 cts. is recorded in some catalogues as existing *lête-bêche*, but in the opinion of most authorities this is a fraudulent variety. Of the 15 cts. yellow 16,200,000 copies were printed, of which about 600,000 were destroyed as remainders.

1 April 1882. White paper. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$

20 cts. brown-orange	40 cts. deep grey
20 cts. reddish orange	50 cts. pale blue
20 cts. pale orange (1901-02)	50 cts. bright blue
20 cts. orange (1882 and 1903-05)	50 cts. deep blue
25 cts. blue-green (1882-87)	1 fr. pale claret (1882-91)
25 cts. yellow-green (1887-91)	1 fr. claret (1882 and 1890-91)
25 cts. bright green (1887-91)	1 fr. red-brown (1888)
40 cts. pale grey	1 fr. lilac-red
40 cts. steel grey	

VARIETIES :

- (a) Double impression.
20 cts. orange
- (b) Retouched "4" in upper left corner.
40 cts. grey

March 1889. Perf. $9\frac{1}{2}$

20 cts. pale orange	40 cts. grey
20 cts. orange	50 cts. pale blue
25 cts. pale green	50 cts. blue
25 cts. green	1 fr. pale claret
40 cts. pale grey	1 fr. claret

The large perforation $9\frac{1}{2}$ owes its origin to the circumstances of loud public complaints that the perforation $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ was too narrow, so that the stamps were difficult to separate. As an experiment the Mint provided another machine with perforation $9\frac{1}{2}$. Soon after the issue, however, further complaints arose that the perforation was now too large and that the stamps separated much too easily. Accordingly the large perforation was given up and in the same year the old perforation $11\frac{1}{2}$ was again used.

1891. As above. Perforated $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$

20 cts. yellow (1891-93 and 1897)	40 cts. steel-grey (bluish) (1901-03)
20 cts. red-orange (1897-99)	40 cts. deep grey (1891-1903)
20 cts. pale orange	50 cts. bright blue (1891-96)
20 cts. deep orange (1891)	50 cts. steel-blue (1891-96)
25 cts. yellow-green	50 cts. pale blue (1891-97)
25 cts. bright green	50 cts. deep blue (1897-1900)
25 cts. pale green	1 fr. pale claret
25 cts. deep green	1 fr. deep claret
25 cts. sage-green (1894-99)	1 fr. deep lilac-red
40 cts. pale grey	

VARIETIES :

- (a) Retouched between the letters of the word Helvetia.
25 cts. yellow-green
- (b) Retouched "4" in upper left corner.
40 cts. grey

As already mentioned, the printing of the stamps from copper-plates was up to 1900 done on a hand-press, and consequently the colour was applied, the paper moistened, and finally the printing done by hand. It is clear that all these manipulations would give different results, especially if the printer did not observe exceptional care. Hence originate all possible shades, sharp or indefinite impressions, and all the known variations. The machine printing press worked considerably more evenly and more exactly, while the separate operations were all attended to mechanically, yet still various irregularities exist, due to imperfect operation of the colour rollers. In 1901, in consequence of the very heavy use of the old original plate, a new one was brought into use.

- 15 *December* 1899. Change of colour. Perf. 11½
- 15 cts. grey-lilac (1889-97)
 - 15 cts. reddish lilac (1897-98)
 - 15 cts. pale red-violet (1897-1901)
 - 15 cts. deep red-violet
 - 15 cts. violet (1901-05)
 - 15 cts. deep violet (1904-05)
- 1 *March* 1891. Perf. 11½ × 11
- 3 fr. yellow-brown (1901-02)
 - 3 fr. brown (1908)
 - 3 fr. pale brown (1902-5)
- The same. Perf. 11½ × 12
- 3 fr. yellowish olive-brown (1891)
 - 3 fr. grey-brown
 - 3 fr. yellow-brown (1891-1900)
 - 3 fr. deep yellow-brown (1902-3)
 - 3 fr. deep brown (1900-05)
 - 3 fr. pale brown (1903-05)
- 1 *July* 1892. Perf. 11½ × 11
- 30 cts. copper-brown (1892-96)
 - 30 cts. fawn-brown (1894-1900)
 - 30 cts. black-brown (1900-1)
 - 30 cts. brown (1904)
- The same. Perf. 11½ × 12
- 30 cts. chestnut-brown (1891)
 - 30 cts. deep red-brown (1901-02)
 - 30 cts. pale red-brown (1903-5)
 - 30 cts. yellow-brown (1901-05)

This value exists in innumerable shades : those given above may serve as a basis around which further shades may be grouped.

Article VI. Section 1 of the special regulations in the Universal Postal agreement of Washington (15 June 1897) provides for the adoption by the contracting countries of uniform colours for certain stamps. This enactment affected three values, viz., green for the ordinary inland value of 5 cts. (5 pf., ½d., 5 centesimi, etc.), red for the international post card rate of 10 cts. (10 pf., 1d., 10 centesimi, etc.), and blue for the franking of an ordinary letter in international traffic, 25 cts. (20 pf., 2½d., 25 centesimi etc.). In January 1899, after the old stocks had been used up, the Swiss stamps underwent the colour changes thereby required.

- 30 *January* 1899. Perf. 11½
- 5 cts. pale green
 - 5 cts. green
 - 5 cts. deep green

These stamps show many small imperfections in the impression and also in the perforation.

- 26 *June* 1899. Perf. 11½ × 11
- 25 cts. deep blue (1899-1902)
 - 25 cts. ultramarine (1900)
 - 25 cts. deep ultramarine
 - 25 cts. blue (1899-1902)
 - 25 cts. steel-blue (1901-02)
 - 50 cts. yellow-green (1899-1901)
- 26 *June* 1899. Perf. 11½ × 11
- 50 cts. deep yellow-green (1899-1900)
 - 50 cts. steel-green (1904-05)
 - 50 cts. green (1898-1905)
 - 50 cts. deep-green

VARIETIES :

- (a) Retouched in background between head and spear
25 cts. dark blue
- (b) Retouched in background above shield
25 cts. dark blue
- (c) Retouched in several places in the oval
50 cts. green
- As above. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$
 - 25 cts. ultramarine (1902-04)
 - 25 cts. steel-blue
 - 25 cts. blue (1903-05)
 - 25 cts. deep blue
 - 50 cts. blue-green (1901-03)
 - 50 cts. yellowish green (1903-04)
 - 50 cts. pale green
 - 50 cts. green
 - 50 cts. sage-green

VARIETIES :

- (a) Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$
25 cts. ultramarine
- (b) Retouched in several places in the oval
50 cts. green

The many shades, varieties and imperfections of design in the issues from 1882 are extraordinary, and they originate, as before mentioned, from all sorts of accidents in the preparation. The many shades which exist in the stamps printed by the copper-plate process are due to the fact that in operating with the hand-press the pressure would vary in strength, and this would exercise a considerable influence on the shades.

THE JUBILEE STAMPS OF 1909

In the year 1900 it was 25 years since the foundation of the Universal Postal Union in the old Town Hall at Berne. The Swiss Federal Council took up the initiative for the arrangement of a great official commemorative festival in Berne on 2 July 1900, to which representatives of all the Postal Union States were to be invited. In fixing, in the middle of April 1900, the official programme for this festival, the Postal Department, in conjunction with the Department of the Interior, was invited to issue on this occasion a suitable illustrated post card, and a special postage stamp. After a general and careful consideration of this issue, both with regard to the artistic as well as the technical aspects, the Postal Department was convinced that if a commemorative stamp was to be created which would be satisfactory from an artistic point of view the method of copper-plate printing should be chosen for its manufacture. At the same time it was seen that the time up to 2 July was too short to apply the copper-plate process and render possible the manufacture and issue of the stamps to the Post Offices. It therefore promised, apart from the issue of a Jubilee stamp, to issue an illustrated post card of 5 cts., for which a suitable design was already in hand, and for the preparation of which there was also sufficient time. Nevertheless the Postal Department was instructed to prepare and issue Jubilee stamps in copper-plate impression of the values of 5, 10 and 25 cts., and Post cards of 5 and 10 cts. The somewhat hurried issue of these commemorative stamps left much to be desired and the stamps show a number of flaws and defects of impression, of which we only

mention the more important. The colours of the three values were chosen in accordance with the regulations agreed to at the Congress in Washington of 1897, namely, 5 cts. green, 10 cts. red, and 25 cts. blue.

The design shows an allegory of postal affairs in an upright rectangular frame double the size of the ordinary stamps. A female figure, three-quarters the size of the stamp, with waving hair and wings of Mercury attached, grasps with the upwardly stretched left hand a telegraph pole, to which the Federal Arms are fastened by a band. The right hand directed downwards scatters letters. The background is formed of a partially visible globe. A curved white band at the top of the stamp bears the inscription "JUBILÉ DE L'UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE" and another, half rolled up, at the foot, the dates 1875-1900. Near the lower left corner is a white shield with the figure of value. The female figure, which was received with very divided opinion, provided material for all sorts of caricatures and more or less witty products of the pictorial post card industry.

S. FLORIAN, of Paris, prepared the original die from the design of D. GRASSET. The printing was entrusted to MAX GIRARDET, of Berne, and was effected in colour on white paper. The plates corresponded in size and arrangement with those of the ordinary stamps, with the difference that each pane contained 50 instead of 100 stamps, as they were double the size of the ordinary ones. The separate panes of 50 stamps were halved and placed on sale in half sheets of 25 stamps.

The hasty preparation of the first printings left its traces not only in the actual printing but also in the perforation. Some days before the commencement of the Congress the printer delivered the first parcels. The perforation in the offices of the Mint should have quickly followed, but it appeared that the contractor for the printing plates had wrongly estimated the size of the plates so that there was not one of the Ries machines suitable for that size. Luckily an old discarded Ries machine was discovered, by the help of which the perforating could be performed in case of need. The sheets, however, had to be passed through twice, once for the horizontal rows and again for the vertical rows. The perforation extended right across the margin of the sheets and is especially recognisable where it crosses the corners of the stamps. For later deliveries of the stamps from the printer there was time to manufacture a special Ries machine with which the whole sheet could be perforated at once. This was used also for the re-engraved stamps.

The stamps were in use from 2 July to 31 December 1900, in which time the following quantities, in round numbers, were issued :—

5 CTS.	10 CTS.	25 CTS.
21,000,000	17,000,000	6,000,000

The so-called re-engraved stamps are included in these figures. The quantities of the latter are in round figures :—

5 CTS.	10 CTS.	25 CTS.
5,400,000	1,900,000	4,200

and of the last value, when no longer available, 350 were destroyed. In all, ordinary and re-engraved together, there were destroyed about :—

5 CTS.	10 CTS.	25 CTS.
200,000	300,000	250,000

The Postal authorities still possess some remainders of the ordinary and re-engraved types, which are reserved for the Archives and are definitely lost for the purpose of the private collector.

At this point it must be remarked that the expression "re-engraved" for the latest editions is incorrect and does not correspond to fact. All, including the plates last in use, originate from the same original die and the same plates in relief, but the

later galvanos are considerably harder, sharper and more deeply cut, while there was sufficient time for more careful printing.

The stamps show as control marks the impressed cross in double oval, with the sole difference, that two are to be found on every stamp.



FIG. 26

2 July 1900. Perf. 11½

A. First plate. Poor impression

- 5 cts. green (shades)
- 5 cts. yellow-green (shades)
- 10 cts. carmine-rose (shades)
- 10 cts. carmine
- 25 cts. blue
- 25 cts. ultramarine

VARIETIES of the 5 cts.

- (1) Without letter "D" in imprint at base of stamp (6th stamp in left pane). First perforation
- (2) Without the word "FLORIAN" in imprint at base of stamp (10th stamp in right pane)
- (3) Flaw on fore-arm near the insulator
- (4) Flaw in lower part of the shield bearing the Arms
- (5) Broken line by the insulator, lying across the telegraph wires
- (6) Horse-shoe shaped mark by right eye and nose of female figure (9th stamp of left half sheet). Second perforation.

VARIETIES of the 10 cts.

- (1) With flaw on left fore-arm (4th stamp of left half sheet)
- (2) With star under "J" of "JUBILÉ" (16th stamp of left half sheet). Second perforation
- (3) With wire running across the hand to the top of the shield bearing the Arms
- (4) Right upper arm with a kind of vaccination mark (12th stamp of left half sheet). Second perforation
- (5) The so-called "crucified" flaw on the left-hand (19th stamp of left half sheet). Second perforation
- (6) Flaw on right fore-arm (25th stamp of right pane). Second perforation
- (7) Large white circular flaw on right hip of figure.

VARIETIES of the 25 cts.

- (1) With large flaw on upper margin of shield with figures of value. (One stamp on each half sheet)
- (2) With double-lined upper frame to shield with figures of value
- (3) With large flaw under the figure "2"
- (4) With caterpillar-shaped mark on shield bearing the Arms.

B. So called re-engraved plate (clearer printing, lined figures of value)

1 August 1900
5 cts. yellow-green
5 cts. dark green

VARIETIES:

- (1) With a kind of band on fore-arm
- (2) With caterpillar-like mark on the envelopes in right lower corner (20th stamp on right half sheet).

1 November 1900
10 cts. carmine-rose
10 cts. carmine (shades)

VARIETIES:

- (1) With scratch round the word "FLORIAN" in imprint at base of stamp
- (2) Female figure with a sort of head-dress of feathers (25th stamp of the right half sheet). Second perforation
- (3) With caterpillar-like mark on shield bearing the Arms (10th stamp of right half sheet). Second perforation.

28 December 1900
10 cts. purple
25 cts. blue

The official issue to the Post Offices of the re-engraved 25 cts., blue has been much disputed. By careful research, however, it has been established that the stamp was sold in Berne. Moreover, several copies are known used upon letters with post-marks, dated 30 or 31 December 1900.

Of the very numerous varieties of these stamps only some of the more important have been mentioned above. For an exhaustive study of them the reader is referred to the work: NEVEU-BALLUET. *Étude sur les timbres du Jubilé*. Lausanne, 1906.

FIGURE OF VALUE AND HELVETIA STANDING (CONTD.)

September 1902. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$

1 fr. dull carmine
1 fr. carmine (shades)

The same. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$
1 fr. carmine (shades)

The ground for the colour change is to be sought in the fact that the colour hitherto in use left much to be desired in the impression, the new carmine-red colour being much more suitable. It is to be observed that in this issue the figure "1" in the left upper corner is narrow and that in the right upper corner broad.



FIG. 27

1 November 1904. The same, with smaller figures of value (Fig. 27).

Carefully printed from a steel plate. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$

40 cts. steel-grey

40 cts. dark grey

The same. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$

40 cts. grey

This stamp is usually given in the catalogues as perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, but it was actually perforated by the $11\frac{1}{2}$ Reis machine. Since the spaces between the separate stamps on the plate were very irregular, the first Reis machine used did not suit the *format*, so that the stamps were badly centred, which was also the case with the second Reis machine. Specimens perforated $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ are rare.

For the printing of this stamp new plates, clearly and deeply etched in steel were prepared. The stamp differs from those of previous issues in that the figures "40" in the centre of the base and in both the upper corners have a somewhat different shape and are smaller, while in consequence of the deeper etching the details of the design are sharper and clearer than was the case with the previous issues.

FIGURE OF VALUE AND HELVETIA STANDING, NEW WATERMARK.

On 5 August 1905 the Postal Administration informed the post offices that a new white paper, suitable for copper-plate printing, would be used for the 20 cts. value. In place of the old impressed control mark a natural watermark in the form of an unframed cross was introduced. This watermark was distributed over the whole sheet in such a manner (about 80 to the half sheet) that portions of several crosses are to be found on every stamp.

During the same month the 25 cts. and 30 cts. values were issued on this paper, the remaining values as the old stocks were exhausted. The granite paper, as formerly, was retained for the values from 2 to 15 cts., but it was provided with the new watermark. The printing of the lower values was entrusted, as before, to the firm STAMPFLI AND Co., of Berne, and of the higher values to M. GIRARDET. For the latter, as already stated, white paper was employed. The numbers printed of the values 20 cts. and upwards on the white paper with the new watermark were as follows:—

20 cts.	16,000,000	40 cts.	8,000,000
25 cts. (old plate)	10,000,000	50 cts.	9,000,000
25 cts. (new plate)	66,000,000	1 fr.	6,000,000
30 cts.	10,000,000	3 fr.	500,000

1905. Cross and figure of value. Granite paper. Watermark Cross. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$

2 cts. olive-brown (shades)

3 cts. grey (shades)

5 cts. green (shades)

10 cts. scarlet (shades)

10 cts. vermilion

12 cts. blue (shades)

15 cts. red-violet (shades)

1905. Helvetia standing. White paper. Wmk. Cross. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$

20 cts. orange (shades)

25 cts. blue (shades)

30 cts. brown (shades)

40 cts. pale grey

50 cts. green (shades)

1 fr. bright carmine

3 fr. yellow brown (shades)

VARIETIES : With retouches.

- 20 cts. orange
- 25 cts. blue
- 30 cts. brown
- 50 cts. green
- 3 fr. yellow-brown

On the 20 cts. the horizontally lined ground between the figures of value in the upper corners is cross-hatched with perpendicular lines. The plate of the 20 cts. was not re-engraved, but was retouched without the knowledge or permission of the Postal Authorities. When the latter became aware of the fact, the plate was immediately withdrawn. The number issued of this variety, therefore, is relatively small and at most amounts to one million. Neither the public nor collectors noticed the differences at the time, so that the right moment for acquiring them passed by and these stamps are now specially sought for.

The complete plate, a large one of 400 stamps, consisted of four panes, and these were separated and again divided into upper and lower half panes of 50 stamps before they were issued to post offices.

In the first, second, and fourth panes of the plate there are only isolated retouches. In the 50 stamps of the lower half of the third pane there are over 44 clearly re-touched stamps. On the eight different half panes of the complete sheet of this stamp the following are the retouched stamps, those with the vertical cross-hatching in the upper horizontal lines being only considered here, although most of the panes show also other retouches :

- | | | |
|-----------|-------------|---|
| 1st pane. | Upper half. | Nos. 1, 3-11, 14 and 33 |
| " | Lower half. | No. 3 |
| 2nd pane. | Upper half. | Nos. 21, 22, 43 |
| " | Lower half. | Nos. 5, 6, 7, 24, 25, 27 |
| 3rd pane. | Upper half. | Nos. 19, 46 |
| " | Lower half. | All with exception of Nos. 5-10 |
| 4th pane. | Upper half. | None. |
| " | Lower half. | No cross-hatched retouches, but Nos. 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 32 have the upper horizontal lines strongly retouched. |

In the lower half of the second pane there are also retouches in the background of Nos. 35, 39, 40, 48, 49 and 50. In all four lower half-panes No. 41 has a white flaw over the figure "2."

The 25 cts. blue shows a retouch between the spear and the head of Helvetia. A new steel plate was brought into use for the printing of this stamp in December. Proof impressions show all details of the design much clearer than in the earlier issues.

There are various retouches on the 30 cts., generally small, but one in the background, which occurs on the 41st stamp in the lower half of the second pane, is very marked. There are similar light retouches in the background of the 50 cts., and in the 3 fr.

1905. As before. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$
- 20 cts. orange (shades)
 - 40 cts. grey (shades)
 - 50 cts. green (shades)
 - 1 fr. carmine-rose
 - 1 fr. carmine (shades)
 - 3 fr. yellow-brown (shades)

VARIETY : With retouches.

- 3 fr. yellow-brown

1905. As before. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$
- 25 cts. pale blue
 - 40 cts. grey (shades)

HELVETIA STANDING, GRANITE PAPER, NEW WATERMARK.

Instead of discussing in chronological order the new typographed issue of the lower values of the year 1907, which are the forerunners of the new issue of all values, and therefore belong to the latter, we continue with the last copper-plate impressions. At the end of 1906 the contract with M. GIRARDET for the delivery of the copper-plate printed stamps ceased and was not renewed, as an issue of new typographed stamps was in contemplation; the printing of these was to be done in the new building of the Federal Mint in Berne, which had been equipped with special machines of modern construction for this purpose. For various reasons, however, only the values up to 15 cts. of the new issue could be put into circulation during the year 1907, so that the stocks of the stamps as previously printed had to be supplemented. The Postal Administration transferred the printing of these to the firm of BENZIGER & Co., of Einsiedeln, and delivered to them the remainder of the granite paper which had been previously used for the lower values and was now of no further use. The impression was made on a steam press from plates of 200 stamps. The numbers of the stamps printed by Benziger & Co. were as follows:—

20 cts. . .	8,000,000	50 cts. . .	4,400,000
25 cts. . .	27,000,000	1 fr. . .	3,200,000
30 cts. . .	4,600,000	3 fr. . .	500,000
40 cts. . .	6,800,000		

In consequence of the use of defective plates, which had become very worn, many varieties are to be found, as well as differences in the shades.

1907. Helvetia standing. Granite paper. Wmk. Cross. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$

20 cts. yellow (shades)

20 cts. orange (shades)

25 cts. blue (shades)

30 cts. brown (shades)

40 cts. grey (shades)

50 cts. green (shades)

1 fr. rose

1 fr. carmine (shades)

VARIETIES: With retouches.

20 cts. deep orange

50 cts. green

1 fr. carmine

The plates which the firm Benziger & Co. received from the Postal Administration for the 20 cts. stamp were in a very corroded state. They were, however, used with other defective plates, but were carefully cleaned previous to use. The second impressions of Benziger & Co. are distinguished from the first by being finer and more careful, but they show the vertical cross-hatching as on the previous issue. The second impression of the retouched 20 cts. was found in but few post offices, and at most only about 1,500 were printed, so that the stamp is exceptionally scarce. In the case of the 50 cts. the most important retouches are on Nos. 1, 11, 21, 31 and 41 of the upper half-pane; the 1 franc has small retouches by the head on Nos. 26 and 37 of the lower half-pane.

As before. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$

25 cts. blue (shades)

30 cts. pale red-brown

3 fr. yellow-brown (shades)

VARIETIES: With retouches.

30 cts. pale red-brown

3 fr. yellow-brown

There are several retouches on the 30 cts., the most important being Nos. 41 and 43 of the lower half-sheet. The retouch on the 3 fr. consists of vertical cross-hatching in the oval to the left of the spear, two stamps in each half-sheet.

TELL'S SON AND HELVETIA ISSUE.

The progress in the technique of typographical printing and the growing demand for an improvement in the designs of the postage stamps, which was increased as years went on, resulted ultimately in a new issue. The adverse criticism of the design (cross and figure of value) in use up to this time continued, and in the daily press the public demanded more and more energetically the withdrawal of this design of little artistic value. A competition arranged in the year 1900 by the Postal Authorities for the selection of a new stamp design did not attain the success hoped for, and certain celebrated artists were invited to join in a more limited competition in the year 1905. This resulted in the preliminary acceptance of two designs, one by ALBERT WELTI, a painter of Munich, later of Berne, for the values from 2 to 5 cts., and another by CHARLES L'EPLATTENIER, a professor of drawing, of Chaux-de-Fonds, for the values from 10 to 15 cts.

Departing from the hitherto usual representations of Helvetia, Welti's stamp shows on a dark background Tell's son, with the pierced apple in the left hand, while the right hand grasps the bow-string of a vertical cross-bow passing over the boy's head. Above this central design is a band in the colour of the stamp, with the inscription "HELVETIA" in white. On the right and left of the picture, as a border to the stamp, are coloured horizontal lines, somewhat broader in the lower corners, allowing space for the figures of value, which appear in the colour of the stamp. A small white band between the figures of value bears the word "FRANCO." To the 2, 3 and 5 cts. was allocated the design of Welti, but the 10, 12 and 15 cts. were prepared from that of Charles L'Eplattenier. The latter shows the bust of Helvetia in profile, looking to the left, with the Federal Cross on the breast, on a horizontally lined background. The left hand holds a twig of laurel, the right grasps together with a twig of oak the ornamental handle of a sword. A ridge of snowy peaks separates the picture from the lined background. The figures of value are in the two upper corners on the lined background, while a white band at the base of the stamp shows the inscription "HELVETIA."

The original die and the galvano printing plates for Welti's design were prepared by the firm of BERTHOLD & Co., of Berlin. The preparation of the original die for the design of the values 10 to 15 cts. was assigned to the engraver GEEL, of Chaux-de-Fonds, but this die was never brought into use, since the firm HENZI & Co., of Berne, by means of an etching process, obtained such satisfactory results that a die made by this process was chosen for the preparation of the plates of these values.

The values of 2 and 5 cts. were printed from plates of 400, and those of 3, 10, 12 and 15 cts. from plates of 200, at the Federal Mint in Berne. All the stamps were printed in single colours on granite paper and machine-gummed.



FIG. 28



FIG. 29

11 November 1907. New designs. Granite paper. Watermark Cross.

Perf. 11½

- 2 cts. olive-yellow (shades)
- 3 cts. brown (shades)
- 5 cts. green (shades)
- 10 cts. rose
- 10 cts. red (shades)
- 12 cts. yellow-ochre
- 15 cts. violet (shades)

VARIETY: Helvetia on partially white ground.

10 cts. red

In the issue of 1907 the watermark is much less visible, sometimes so indistinct that stamps appear to be without watermark, in error. The watermark does, however, actually exist, but has almost disappeared by the process of glazing the surface or calendering the paper by more or less strong pressure between rollers.

HELVETIA, BI-COLOURED SERIES.

From the limited competition of 1905 a design by L'Eplattenier was also chosen for the values from 20 cts. to 3 fr. of the new issue, though subject to certain changes, which are described in what follows. The picture in his composition is as simple as it is effective. It shows Helvetia, in a free and unrestrained attitude, sitting on a rocky mass, looking to the right. The left arm rests lightly on the right knee, while the right holds a sword entwined with laurel. The federal cross adorns the breast. On the left at the foot of the rocks is the inscription "HELVETIA," whilst the free space on the right up to the margin of the stamp is filled up with a miniature Alpine landscape. The background is formed of a solid mass of colour from which the two figures of value in the upper corners rise as if in relief. All values appear in two colours: Helvetia and the figures of value in pale colours and the background with the shadows in dark ones. The printing was done at the Federal Mint from plates of 200 in two panes of 100 stamps, 10 rows of 10, on granite paper. These plates were no longer manufactured by a galvanic process, but by a multiple photographic transfer process of the original design on to a brass plate rendered sensitive to light, on which the design was not engraved, but etched with acids. The printing was performed on a two colour press, the printing in two colours being done at the same time. For the purpose of this two colour printing two plates are necessary; one contains the background, the design and shading of Helvetia, the other the base of the figure, the figures of value and the frame.

The issue consisted of the following values: 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 70 cts., 1 fr. and 3 fr. The watermark is the same as on the issue of 1905, a simple cross repeated 80 times on the sheet.



FIG. 30

August—December 1908. New design. Granite paper. Watermark Cross.
Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$

Background in second colour.
20 cts. yellow and orange-red
25 cts. pale blue and dark blue
30 cts. yellow-green and yellow-brown
35 cts. yellow-orange and pale green
40 cts. yellow and red-violet. Type 1.
40 cts. yellow and dark violet. Type 2.
50 cts. pale green and dark green
70 cts. yellow and deep brown
1 fr. grey-green and carmine
3 fr. lemon-yellow and olive

The design of the 40 cts., which was first issued, (Type 1), differs from that of the remaining values in that the shading on the neck is deeper, the shading of the rocks, of the left side of Helvetia, and under the right arm much clearer and deeper. In the shading of the rocks on the right side the name of the artist in full is tolerably clear; on all the other values only the initials C. L. are to be found. This stamp, owing to the lack of larger plates, was printed in panes of 100, so that for a sheet of 400 the paper had to be passed four times through the press. The first printings of the 30 cts., 40 cts. and 50 cts. consisted of 4,000,000 copies.

Early in 1909 the values up to 15 cts. appeared in modified designs. The values 2 to 5 cts. show a solid background of colour with the figure of value to the left of Tell's son; in the case of the values from 10 to 15 cts. a new half length figure of Helvetia looking to right appears with the inscription HELVETIA in coloured letters on a white ground at the top of the stamp.



FIG. 31



FIG. 32

January—February 1909. Modified designs. Granite paper. Watermark Cross.
Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

2 cts. yellow-brown
3 cts. deep violet
5 cts. green
10 cts. carmine
12 cts. yellow-brown
15 cts. red-violet

PART III.

UNPAID LETTER STAMPS.

The idea of the employment of unpaid letter stamps dates from the year 1863, and designs for such stamps are known which were prepared at that time. For purposes of the control and account keeping of the amounts to be charged on unfranked or insufficiently franked letters or parcels the postal authorities issued a special series of unpaid letter stamps in the year 1878. By special order of the Postal Department a set of eight values was created, viz., 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 cts., 1 and 5 fr. A decree of April 1878 expressly declares that the unpaid letter stamps should have no value in the hands of the public, and therefore should not be delivered to the public either for cash or in exchange. As the stamps were thus defined for use only for the purposes of the internal postal service, in the choice of a design there was but little need for a pleasing or tasteful appearance, so long as the distinguishing value should be clearly visible. The main feature of the design is, in consequence, the figures of value surrounded by a double circle containing 22 stars, in an upright rectangular frame. The corners between the frame and the inner circle are adorned with a double-winged wheel. In the case of the 1c. the background of the circle is lined, but it is white in the remaining values, and in the next issue the 1 c. became white also. The values 1, 5 and 10 cts. were issued in July 1878, for letter post, and followed in August of the same year by the 2, 20, 50, 100 and 500 cts.

By an ordinance of 16 December 1878, the Postal Administration authorized the use of 5 franc unpaid letter stamps for the franking of parcels, in order to avoid the necessity for the application of a large number of postage stamps. The unpaid letter stamps had, however, to be fixed by the officials of the post offices themselves, since they still possessed absolutely no value in the hands of the general public. In the year 1884 the application of the 5 fr. value for parcels was temporarily suspended, but in the same year it was re-established. A decree of 31 January 1880 announced the issue of a new value of 3 cts.

All values were printed in blue on white paper by the private company founded by the Director of the Mint, ESCHER, which, as already mentioned, supplied all stamps and postal stationery for the Swiss postal authorities up to the end of the year 1881. After the close of this contract they were printed by the firm STAMPFLI & Co., of Berne, and from 1906 by the Federal Mint.

Although the manufacture of the unpaid letter stamps was by simple typography in plates of 200, the process was complicated by the fact that the design of the stamp was printed first and then the figures of value. For printing a plate was used which printed off the design of the stamp without the central portion, in the case of the first issue in blue, later in blue-green, and afterwards in green. A second plate consisted of formes in which the appropriate figures of value were placed, which at a second impression printed these figures in blue or later in red. The nature of this process of printing in the figures of value will explain why the position of the figures

is not always that of the centre of the stamp, owing to occasional irregularity in the setting.

The following table shows the number of unpaid stamps of each value sold from 1878 to 1886 inclusive:—

1c.	..	..	..	604,682
2c.	..	..	..	332,940
3c.	..	..	..	541,007
5c.	..	..	..	4,358,924
10c.	..	..	..	9,167,476
20c.	..	..	..	9,101,011
50c.	..	..	..	4,271,075
100c.	..	..	..	3,621,608
500c.	..	..	..	1,352,101
Total				<u>33,350,824</u>



FIG. 33



FIG. 34

1878-80.	White paper.	With impressed watermark.	Perf. 11½
	1 c.	blue	
	2 cts.	..	
	3 cts.	.. (shades)	(1880)
	5 cts.	.. (shades)	
	20 cts.	..	
	50 cts.	.. (shades)	
	100 cts.	.. (shades)	
	500 cts.	.. (shades)	

As we shall see later, the Postal Authorities in the year 1891 authorized the sale of the unpaid letter stamps to the public, but according to regulation the stamps so issued had to bear a special obliteration "SPECIMEN." This word is generally printed obliquely across the stamp, but is also found horizontal. Overprints "UNGÜLTIG" or "ANNULÉ" in red, blue, green, etc., are also found

1882-83.	As before.	Thin granite paper.	Perf. 11½
	10 cts.	blue	
	20 cts.	.. (shades)	
	50 cts.	..	
	100 cts.	..	
	500 cts.	..	

1883-84.	As before.	Colours changed, figures of value red.	
	Granite paper.	Perf. 11½	
	5 cts.	blue-green	
	10 cts.	..	
	20 cts.	.. (shades)	
	50 cts.	..	
	100 cts.	..	
	500 cts.	.. (shades)	

This issue is also found overprinted "SPECIMEN"

- 1884-85. As before. Colours changed, figures of value red.
 Granite paper. Perf. 11½
 5 cts. yellow-green (shades)
 10 cts. „ (shades)
 20 cts. „ (shades)
 50 cts. „ (shades)
 100 cts. „ (shades)
 500 cts. „ (shades)
1890. As before. Colours modified, figures of value dark red.
 3 cts. medium green
 3 cts. „ figure of value, carmine
 5 cts. „
 10 cts. „
 20 cts. „
 50 cts. „
 100 cts. „
 500 cts. „

As already cursorily mentioned, in the year 1891 the Postal Administration authorized the issue of unpaid letter stamps to the public for stamp-collecting purposes, under the following conditions:—

“The stamps will only be supplied cancelled with the overprint “SPECIMEN” or at special request with a dated postmark. The Postal Administration will only issue them to the public against Reimbursement Orders* or on prepayment at face value. For orders of upwards of 1,000 copies of each sort of a higher value than 5c. the price will be reduced to 50 fr. per 1,000, disregarding face value.”

1892. As before. Colour changed, figures of value dark red.
 3 cts. olive-green
 5 cts. „
 10 cts. „ (shades)
 20 cts. „
 50 cts. „
 100 cts. „
 1 c. „ bright red figure of value
 1 c. pale-green „ „ „
1899. As before
 20 cts. grass-green
 50 cts. „
 100 cts. „
 500 cts. „
1900. As before
 50 cts. bright grey-green
1901. As before. Figures of value bright red.
 5 cts. olive-green (shades)
 10 cts. „ (shades)
 20 cts. „
 50 cts. „
 100 cts. „
 500 cts. „
1903. As before. Figures of value bright red.
 5 cts. dark-green
 10 cts. „
 20 cts. „

* *Nachnahme*. A post office system of reimbursement of payments made for value received through the post.

Since there was no further use for the 500 cts. value, on 1 May 1905, by a decree of the Postal Administration, the value was withdrawn.

1906.	As before
5 cts.	pale green
10 cts.	"
20 cts.	"
50 cts.	"
100 cts.	"

It is self evident that the later shades of all values did not appear at the same time, since the remainders of the stocks were not used up at the same rate. A transition is also noticeable from the dark red to the bright red figures of value. Any other varieties of shade may be readily arranged under the categories given above. Copies may also be found with the figures of value showing clearly on the back, especially in the darker printed values, without the ornamental lines, etc. (which have vanished in consequence of the heavier impression). Essays in various colours also exist.

As in the case of the postage stamps, after the exhaustion of the old stock of paper with the impressed control mark (cross in oval), the unpaid letter stamps were printed on the new paper watermarked with the unframed cross. The values of the series appeared gradually and even at the present time not all of them are to be obtained at every post office.

1908-09.	Granite paper.	Watermark Cross.	Perf. 11½
	1 c.	pale green	
	5 cts.	"	
	10 cts.	"	
	20 cts.	"	
	50 cts.	"	
	100 cts.	"	

PART IV.

CANCELLATIONS, PROOFS, ESSAYS, ETC.

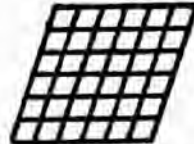
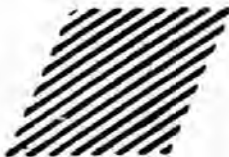
CANCELLATIONS.

The variety and occurrence of the many cancellations used upon the stamps of Switzerland offers a large and interesting field to the collector, and their study and classification demand much time and attention. A complete treatment of the matter does not come within the scope of this Handbook, and the following is a brief outline of the more important cancellations found. A profound and most thorough examination of the whole subject is already available in the work of MM. Mirabeau and de Reuterskiöld.

From the political independence of the various Cantons it will be understood that the cancellation stamps took various forms. Zurich and Geneva, which looked to the English standards in the introduction of postage stamps, also selected a cancellation stamp after the English model, while Basle continued in use the circular stamp with date, such as was everywhere in use before the introduction of postage stamps. The Zurich cancellation remained always the same, and was a federal cross within a quatrefoil pattern, with dots between the leaves. The ink used was generally red for post offices of town districts and black for those of the cantons. That of Geneva was of the form of a rosette, sometimes with, sometimes without the cross; also grille or lattice cancellations of various types. The Basle date-stamp remained consistent in design, and was impressed in red.



ZURICH



GENEVA



BASLE

During the Transition Period the cantonal stamps being still current they were postmarked with the new federal cancellations, chiefly of the grille or lattice form, as well as with the earlier designs. There were also used the following federal postmarks: P.P. (port payé), in black, for Zurich; PP in circle or rectangle, in red and black, PD (payé jusqu'à destination) in red, blue and black, LG in rectangle, in red and blue, all for Geneva; PP in oval, in red and black for Basle. The types of these last cancellations are very numerous, and they are found in ink of several colours. There were also other less common cancellations in use, among which may be mentioned that comprising the word FRANCO in several styles, and those of town names in capitals. The circular stamp, with name of town and the date, was also in use.

On 1 August 1851 a uniform grille cancellation came into use, and after the results of an inquiry, conducted by means of experiments in the removal of cancellations by Herr Kuster, the postal authorities were satisfied that this form of obliteration was by far the best adapted for the purpose, and its employment was made compulsory for all post offices on 7 December 1854. The experiments showed that obliterations in ordinary ink were useless, as they could be removed fairly easily with acids. The most indestructible were the grille cancellations, impressed with ink made from fine soot (Paris black) and linseed oil, and this was also definitely selected. To the use of this oil is due the fact that oily marks are found on the stamps.

The cancellations found on the 'Helvetia' issue, imperforate, are similar to those used during the transition period, including the PP, PD etc. series in similar variety, the many types of the grille cancellation, and later the circular stamp, with place name and date, which last from about the year 1857 became almost exclusively the means of obliteration, and has continued to be so up to the present day.

PROOFS, ESSAYS, ETC.

The following is a list of the best known proofs, colour trials, essays, etc., of the stamps of Switzerland.

CANTONAL STAMPS.

BASLE, 1845, 2½r. green and brick-red.

GENEVA, 1847, 5c. small eagle, and 5c. large eagle, both in black on white paper, the latter being also known in black on card.

ZURICH. Essays of the 1843 type are known with figures 18 in the lower left corner and 43 in the lower right corner, in black on white paper with red lines. (Fig. 35)

GENEVA, 1850 ('Neuchatel'). Essay with outlined cross in white ground, 5c. black. Of this a sheet of 100 stamps is known, printed in black on yellowish white paper. (Fig. 36)



FIG. 35



FIG. 36



FIG. 37

RAYON ISSUES.

1850. 5r. black on yellow, with border to cross. (Fig. 37)
 1853. 5r. black and blue on white.
 5r. black and blue on white, without cross and ground within the shield.
 10r. yellow on white.

Of these proofs only five or six copies are known.



FIG. 38



FIG. 39

HELVETIA SEATED, IMPERFORATE.

1854. 20r. Essay in colourless relief on deep carmine, sulphur-yellow and grey-blue papers. This essay probably derived its origin from the 1853 issue of Sardinia. (Fig. 38)
 1854. Type of the issued stamp.
 (a) Heavy impression on thin paper, with emerald green thread.
 5r. blue, rose, green
 10r. yellow. (Also known with blue thread).
 (b) Lighter impression on thicker paper, with thread.
 10r. yellow-brown (shades)
 20r. orange (red thread)

Both are found with two threads.

Artist's proofs of the 10r. in yellow-brown, printed singly, with wide margins, on paper of various kinds without threads, are also known.

Colour trials exist as follows :—

- | | |
|---|---|
| 5r. green, blue, light brown,
dull red, dark brown.
These are known <i>tête-bêche</i> . | 20r. violet (many shades),
grey, grey-blue, black,
gold, citron-yellow. |
| 10r. yellow (many shades),
grey. | 40r. bright green |
| 15r. grey, vermilion (shades). | 1fr. grey-blue. |

HELVETIA SEATED, PERFORATED.

- 1862-81. Die proofs, hand printed, in deep sharp printing, are known in black, on card, of the 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40, 60 cts. and 1 fr. (Fig. 39)
 Proofs on the original paper, with impressed watermark, imperf.
- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 2c. black-brown | 30c. vermilion on reddish,
bronze, gold |
| 5c. vermilion-red, bronze,
gold | 40c. green |
| 10c. blue on bluish | 60c. yellow |

The same, perf.

2c. black-brown

5c. stone-grey

10c. yellow - brown on

reddish and on white

On horizontally laid paper, perf.

40c. vermilion, milky blue, stone-grey, green

On vertically ribbed paper, imperf.

5c. gold

Colour trials. Paper of various thicknesses, without watermark, imperf.

2c. red on gold, blue on silver,

violet on silver, black on

rose, green, blue, lilac and

buff, grey, grey-black, blue,

rose, blue-green, bright

green, yellow, yellow-

brown, orange, vermilion,

red-brown, red-violet, lilac,

flesh. All are known perf.

and some printed both

sides.

3c. black on blue, yellow

(shades) brown and lilac.

All are known perf.

5c. bright blue, ultramarine,

carmine, vermilion, brown,

prussian blue, violet, yel-

low, yellow-brown, slate-

blue.

10c. blue, blue on bluish,

brown on yellowish.

20c. blue, ultramarine, grey,

(all imperf. and perf.),

reddish-gold.

25c. carmine, yellow, blue,

brown.

40c. sulphur-yellow.

1867-81. On thick paper, without watermark, in the original colours, imperf. and perf.

2c. yellow-brown

5c. chocolate-brown, grey-

brown

10c. rose-carmine

15c. yellow

20c. yellow. Also on very thick paper.

25c. green

30c. blue

40c. green, grey

50c. violet

1fr. gold

Most of these proofs exist also with overprint "Specimen."

1881-2. On granite paper with impressed watermark, perf.

5c. green, rose-carmine

10c. green, dark brown

Several of the proofs of this issue are known with trial cancellations.

FIGURE OF VALUE AND HELVETIA STANDING.

Die proofs exist of the former type, without figure of value, in black on thin white paper, and in green and in red on white paper.

On thick paper, without impressed watermark, narrow 2, perf.

2c. rose, black-brown, yellow-brown

On thinner paper, with watermark, perf.

2c. vermilion, blue, violet.

The same, perf.

2c. violet, yellow-brown

5c. violet-brown

10c. rose

12c. bright blue

15c. yellow

On granite paper, with watermark, imperf.

3c. grey

5c. brown-violet

10c. rose

12c. rose, yellow, bright blue

15c. yellow

Proofs in black on card.

20, 25, 40 and 50c.

On white paper.

30c. brown (thick paper)

50c. claret, grey-black (horizontally laid paper), orange (with watermark), light blue (thick paper), light violet (thick paper), green.

1fr. claret (thick paper), light rose, blue green.



FIG. 40

On card. With small figure of value, imperf. (Fig. 40)

25c. claret, yellow, yellow-green, slate-grey, lilac, carmine.

The imperforate stamps of this issue, which are frequently met with, are from printer's waste.

JUBILEE ISSUE.

1900. Die proofs, imperf.

5c. green, with and without figure of value

10c. red

25c. blue

All of fine impression. Very few copies are believed to have come into private possession.

PART V

TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

The Telegraph Service was originally served with special stamps, and some description may not be out of place here.

The design consists of a double oval band in a rectangular frame bearing the inscription 'TELEGRAPHIE' with the value at the base; the middle of the oval contains the white federal cross on a red background, with white ornamentation. The stamps were, like all stamps and entires of that period, printed in the Mint at Berne, by the private firm founded by the Director of the Mint ESCHER.



FIG. 41

- 1867-77. White paper. Impressed control mark. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$
- 5 cts. black and red (1877)
 - 10 cts. carmine (1877)
 - 25 cts. grey and carmine
 - 50 cts. blue and carmine
 - 1 fr. green and carmine
 - 3 fr. gold and carmine
 - 20 fr. rose and carmine
1876. As before.
- 3 fr. brown and carmine

Of the last-mentioned stamp some good forgeries exist. Various essays of these telegraph stamps are also to be found, unperforated and perforated, with and without impressed watermark.

1882. Granite paper. Impressed control mark. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$
- 5 cts. black and red
 - 10 cts. carmine
 - 25 cts. grey and carmine
 - 50 cts. blue and carmine
 - 1 fr. green and carmine
 - 3 fr. brown and carmine
 - 20 fr. rose and carmine

The use and issue of telegraph stamps was stopped on 1 October 1886.

PART VI

ENTIRES : ENVELOPES, WRAPPERS AND POSTCARDS.

ENVELOPES

CANTONAL POST. GENEVA.

The first entiere was issued by the Canton of Geneva in the year 1845, in the form of an envelope, in three sizes. The impressed stamp was of a similar design to that of the adhesive stamps, with Arms, in green.



FIG. 42

5c. green. Sizes 140 × 55 mm. ; 140 × 75 mm. ; 140 × 100 mm.

The greater part of these envelopes had the stamps cut out and used as adhesives, so that used copies are rare.

ENVELOPES OF THE SWISS POSTAL ADMINISTRATION.

The Swiss Post Office Circular of 1 June 1867 gives the following notice respecting the issue of the Swiss postal covers.

By resolution of the Federal Council of 16 July 1866 two different envelopes of 5 c. and 10 c. will be put on sale. The Federal Council has also authorized two other envelopes of higher value in addition to the above-mentioned. The Postal Administration will commence with the sale of these envelopes on 1 July 1867. The post offices and depots need not apply the obliterating stamps but should not receive any covers which have been already used. Supplementary stamps to cover the postage are in that case to be applied.

The dimensions of the envelopes are 49 × 28 and 49 × 38 "linien," (1 linie = about 3.5 mm.). The envelopes of 5 Rp. bear a brown stamp and those of 10 Rp. a red one. The dimensions of these are 7 × 5½ "linien," and they show in the centre the federal arms with a branch of Alpine rose on each side, a dove with letter above and below the figures of value in rappen, on either side eleven stars. The stamp is placed in the upper right corner of the address side of the envelope. The flaps are gummed and embossed in relief.

The envelopes will be issued as follows :—

- (1) 10 r. in small format
- (2) 5 r. in small format
- (3) 10 r. in large format
- (4) 5 r. in large format

The small sized envelopes of 10 r. were issued on 1 July 1867, but for the remaining varieties the exact date of issue cannot be determined, since sufficient stocks are not ready for sale. The envelopes are made up into packets of 100 with a band round them, and 10 such packets are again united into a parcel. Less than one such parcel is not issued by the Mint Authorities.

The post offices and depots sell to the public the envelopes without distinction of format at face value, and in any quantities desired.

Up to the year 1881 the printing of the entires in the Federal Mint at Berne was carried on by the oft-mentioned private firm of the Mint Director ESCHER. From 1883 envelopes were no longer printed, but the remainders were gradually used up. From 1882 the printing of post cards was handed over to the firm RIEDER & SIMMEN, and later to their successors RÖSCH & SCHATZMANN; from 1907 the Federal Mint took up the printing of all entires. The wrappers were from the first up to 1907 printed by the firm STAMPFLI & CO. For the manufacture of all the entires typography was employed, with the single exception of one of the wrappers, to which reference will be made later. From 1882 the paper was mostly supplied by the paper factory at Biberist.



FIG. 43

- 1867-68. Stamp in upper right corner. Impressed wmk. : Dove flying to left.
- 5 r. pale brown
 - 5 r. red-brown
 - 10 r. rose
 - 25 r. yellow-green
 - 25 r. green
 - 30 r. blue

VARIETY : Wmk. impressed on wrong side, dove flying to right.
10 r. rose

Double impressions exist of all these envelopes as well as "albinos." The stamp of the envelopes was printed with a so-called "Monogram-press," and it frequently happened that the printer placed two or three sheets at one time under the press, whence arose the albinos. It is quite incorrect to say that all albino envelopes must necessarily bear an impression in colour. If the printer noticed the error, he placed the sheet a second time in the press, whence arose the double impressions. Many of the albinos, as well as the double impressions, escaped the control-mark, and were so sold at the post offices. Envelopes without watermark do not exist, though sometimes in folding the watermark does not fall on the front side but in one of the folds, where it must be looked for. In the case of the 10 r. envelopes especially, for a long time an exceptionally thin paper was employed, on which the impressed watermark was almost invisible. It also arises that the watermark may be found on the envelopes from above to below instead of from left to right, and *vice versa*.

We may list therefore :—

DOUBLE IMPRESSIONS.

5 r. pale brown
5 r. red-brown
10 r. rose
25 r. green
30 r. blue

ALBINOS.

5 r. brown
10 r. rose
25 r. green
30 r. blue

1869-72. Stamp on left. Wmk : Dove. Flaps curved and rounded.

5 r. brown
5 r. dark brown
10 r. rose
25 r. green
25 r. yellow-green
30 r. blue

The 5 r. and 10 r. exist with reversed watermark, the 25 r. with inverted watermark and all values with both varieties of flap as albinos.

1874. As before. Stamp on left. Wmk. : Ornamental figure of value. Small format.

5 r. red-brown
10 r. carmine-rose

These envelopes are probably proofs for paper, and in any case very few copies were issued. The 5 r. may be found with reversed watermark.

In 1873 it frequently happened that the stamp was cut from envelopes, stuck on private envelopes, and used again. A decree of February 1873 provided for the stamping of private envelopes with the official stamps, but the public made extremely little use of this permission.

1874. As before. Stamp on left. Wmk. Cross surrounded by 22 stars and on the four sides the figure 10. Small format.
10 r. carmine-rose.

The watermark is found in different positions and reversed. As far as is known no "albinos" are known of this issue, though such ought to exist.

By special private request a part of the 10 c. envelopes was delivered with the stamp impressed on the right flap at the back of the envelope.

VARIETY : Stamp at back.
10 r. carmine-rose

1876. As before. Stamp on left. Wmk. : Dove. Large format, 148 × 116 mm.
10 r. carmine-rose
25 r. green

VARIETY : Wmk. : Dove flying to right.
10 r. carmine-rose

1876. As before. Each flap cut in a semi-circular shape.
10 r. carmine-rose
25 r. green

1877-78. As before. Small format.
5 r. black-brown
10 r. carmine (aniline)

The 10 r. exists with reversed wmk.

1878. As before. Large format. Upper flap cut round.
10 r. carmine
25 r. dark green

The 10 r. exists with wmk. Dove flying to right, and both values are found as albinos.

1879. As before. Wmk. : Arabesques and the cross with shield between double lines, running in ribbon form diagonally from left to right. Small format.
 5 r. black-brown
 5 r. brown (shades)
 10 r. carmine
 25 r. green

The 5 r. and 10 r. are found with reversed watermark, and all values as "albinos."

1880. As before. Paper as in the issue of 1879 with watermark, Dove. So-called "Intermediate issue."
 5 r. dark brown
 5 r. brown
 10 r. carmine
 25 r. dark yellow-green
 25 r. dark bluish green

The 10 r. and 25 r. are found with watermark, Dove flying to right.

In 1887 the further issue of Envelopes by the Federal Postal Authorities ceased.

In September 1907 the Postal Administration decreed that envelopes and cards, which were provided with a firm's imprint, could be impressed with stamps of the values 2, 5, 10, 12 and 15 cts. Up to 1 October the impression was made with the old stamp design, Cross and figures of value, whilst from that date they were replaced by the new stamps in issue, with the figure of Tell's son and Helvetia. Since this decree was little observed, and very little use made of it, the issues of the various values remained rather small. The impression of the stamp was made gratuitously on the part of the postal authorities, on two machines constructed specially for this purpose, in quantities of at least 500 copies per value.

1907. Stamps impressed on any size envelopes. Types of current postage stamps.
 2 cts. yellow
 5 cts. green
 10 cts. red
 12 cts. blue
 15 cts. violet

1907. The same. Stamps changed, Tell's son for the 2 and 5 cts., Helvetia for the remaining values.
 2 cts. yellow-brown
 5 cts. green
 10 cts. red
 12 cts. pale yellow
 15 cts. blue-violet

All possible sizes of envelopes were impressed with these stamps.

WRAPPERS

With regard to the issue of wrappers, the official journal of the Swiss Post Office for 21 November 1872, gives the following information :—

The Postal Administration announces the provision of wrappers for franking printed matter, impressed with a stamp of the requisite value, and the same will be obtainable at all post offices. The wrappers are gummed at one end to facilitate fastening, and the sheet is divided into separate wrappers by coloured lines. Wrappers will be issued for 2 rp. and 5 rp., in various sizes. The prices will be as follows :—

(a) 5 rp. wrappers : Per sheet of seven, 40 rp.

(b) 2 rp. wrappers : Per sheet of eleven, 25 rp.

Single wrappers, any size : 5 rp. at 6 rp. each, 2 rp. at two for 5 rp.



FIG. 44

1871. Rectangular design, 19 × 23 mm. In the centre a large figure of value, above a white semi-circular ribbon, on which the word CENTIMES, on the left a wreath of laurel, on the right one of oak leaves, at the top a white cross, at the bottom a band of ribbon on which appears the date of issue, 20 3 71, in each corner a post-horn. Printed by lithography, on greyish white paper. Red dividing-line to mark width of each wrapper. (Fig. 44).

2 cts. dull rose
 2 cts. brick-red
 5 cts. dull rose
 5 cts. rose
 5 cts. brick-red



FIG. 45



FIG. 46

1873. Oval design, printed in coloured relief. Greyish white paper, vertically laid. (Figs. 45 and 46)
 2 cts. rose to carmine
 5 cts. rose to carmine
1874. Similar design. Change of colour.
 2 cts. grey-brown
 5 cts. red-brown
1875. As before. Quadrillé paper.
 2 cts. light brown to yellow-brown
 5 cts. brown to dark brown
1879. As before. Thin, roughish white paper.
 2 cts. yellow-brown to ochre-brown
 5 cts. dark brown to black-brown
1883. As before. Thin, yellowish, very stout tough paper.
 2 cts. black
 5 cts. red
- 1886-7. As before, but printing not in relief.
 2 cts. black
 5 cts. brick-red
1896. As issue of 1883.
 2 cts. black
1897. Similar design, but shield with double-lined border. Yellow paper.
 2 cts. black
 5 cts. red

1899. The same. Change of colour.
5 cts. green
- 1902-3. New format, yellow, thick manilla, without border lines.
2 cts. black
5 cts. green
1907. Wrappers with private imprint, impressed stamp as the adhesive stamps of the same issue, Cross and figure of value.
5 cts. green (2,000 impressions)
1907. New design. Tell's son issue, yellow paper, printing in relief.
2 cts. yellow-brown
5 cts. green
1908. On whitish paper.
2 cts. yellow-brown
5 cts. green
- VARIETY: stamp on right.
5 cts. green
- Feb. 1909. Modified type, Tell's son. Whitish paper. Stamp on right.
2 cts. yellow-brown

III. POSTCARDS

On 23 July 1870, the Government, following upon an order in the Federal Council of 24 June 1870, resolved as follows:—

The Postal Administration is authorized to issue correspondence cards at 5 rappen each for inland service. The cards can be registered by the addition of stamps to the value of 5 rappen. The Council is also authorized to bring into use correspondence cards for service with other states at analogous postal rates.

The size of these cards is 122 by 85 mm. ; the front bears a stamp of the value of 5 rappen and provides for the address, the other side serving for the correspondence. With regard to the use of correspondence cards with foreign countries the Council reserves the right of future consideration. For the German States and Austria-Hungary the same means of correspondence may be used until further notice, subject to the before-mentioned additional rate. For other countries the correspondence cards can be used only at the full letter rate, prepaid. The correspondence cards are intended for use between countries requiring prepayment of postage ; insufficiently paid correspondence cards will be forwarded.



FIG. 47

1870. Impressed stamp, Swiss arms surrounded with Alpine roses and edelweiss, on each side eleven stars, above a dove, beneath figure of value. Whitish card, with ornamental border.

5 cts. rose
5 cts. vermilion

This card is found with long and short wavy line under super-
scription, and also without wavy line.



FIG. 48

1873. Design changed. Above white cross in shield, figure of
value on mosaic ground, on either side of the oval eleven
stars. Stamps in relief.

5 cts. rose

There are several varieties of this card, owing to broken
letters in the inscription.

1874. The same. Colour changed.

5 cts. black-brown



FIG. 49



FIG. 50

Larger size, 140 x 90 mm., and different borders. With in-à-a
before third line for address. (Figs. 49 and 50)

5 cts. brown
5 cts. black-brown
10 cts. rose

Reply card.

5 + 5 cts. black-brown

1875. The same, but without in-à-a

5 cts. brown
10 cts. red



FIG. 51

1875 The same, but without border to card.

5 cts. brown
5 cts. black-brown
5 cts. red-brown
10 cts. red

1879. The same, yellowish paper. Size 90 × 143 mm. Inscription tri-lingual.
 5 cts. black
 10 cts. red
- Reply cards.
 5 + 5 cts. black
 10 + 10 cts. red
1886. The same, but impression not in relief, yellowish card.
 5 cts. black
 10 cts. red
- 1888-9. The same, with the addition of 'Nur für die Adresse'; after 1890 control number in lower left corner.
 5 cts. black
 10 cts. red
- Reply cards.
 5 + 5 cts. black
 10 + 10 cts. red
- All are found with 'Adresso' instead of 'Adresse.'

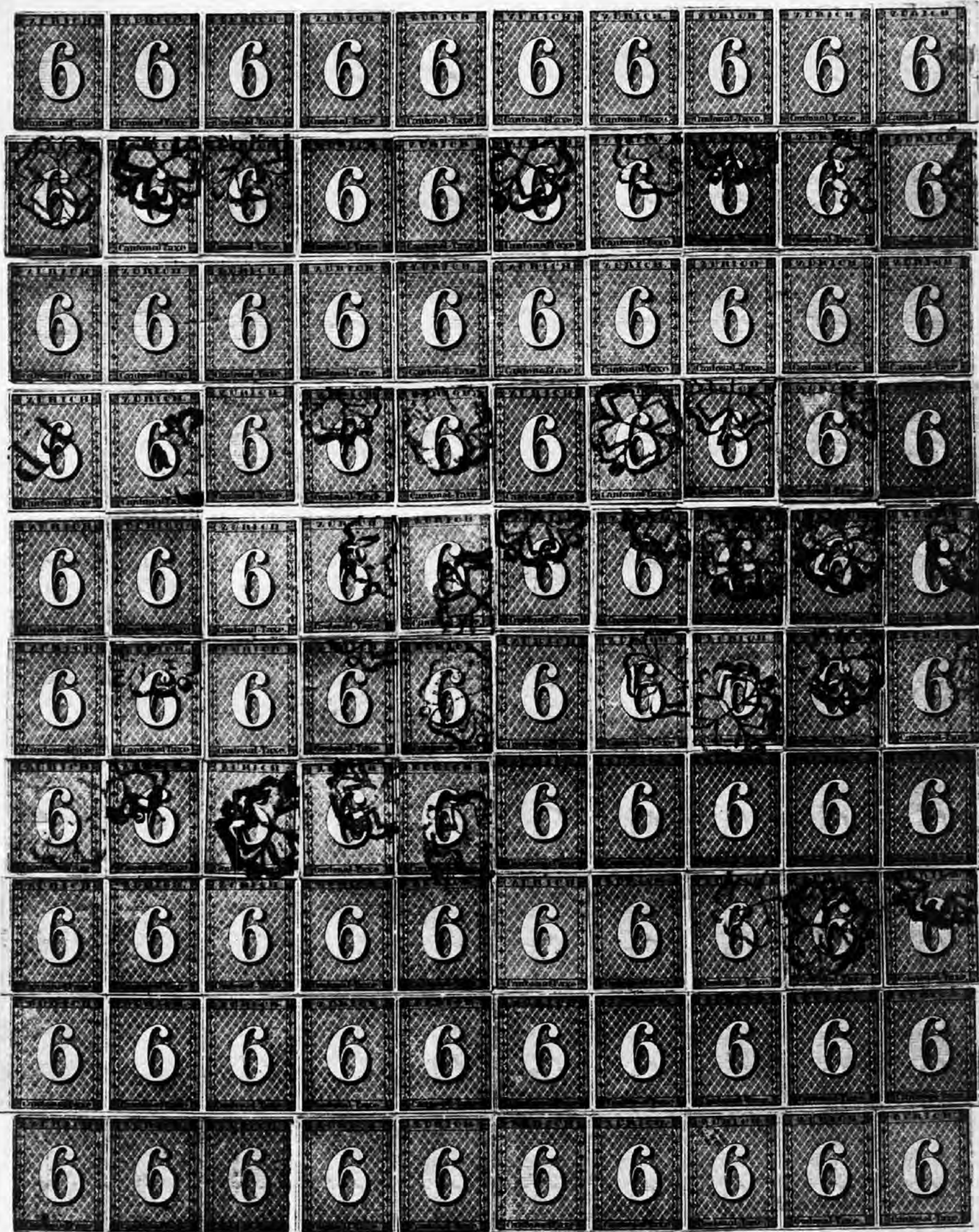


FIG. 52

1891. Jubilee card commemorating the 600th anniversary of the Swiss federation. Stamp as previous issue. On the back representation of the Rütli Oath and Tell's Chapel.
 5 cts. black
 10 cts. red
1892. Design altered, shield with double-lined border. Yellowish card.
 5 cts. black
 10 cts. rose
- Reply cards.
 5 + 5 cts. black
 10 + 10 cts. rose
- With control numbers in lower left corner.
1893. Jubilee card. Inscription: Rütli und Gotthardpost.
 5 cts. red
1894. Exhibition postcard for Zurich, printed in blue.
 5 cts. black
1900. Card issued to commemorate the 25 years jubilee of the Universal Postal Union. Stamp at left, an enlarged design of the Jubilee stamps.
 5 cts. green
 10 cts. carmine
1906. As 1892 issue, with additional inscription.
 5 cts. black
 10 cts. red
- Reply cards.
 5 + 5 cts. black
 10 + 10 cts. red

1907. Design as for stamps of the same period, Cross and figure of value, impressed on cards with private imprint.
- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2 cts. yellow-brown | (Not more than 4,000 printed) |
| 5 cts. green | (" " " 5,000 ") |
| 10 cts. red | (" " " 2,500 ") |
| 12 cts. blue | (" " " 3,000 ") |
| 15 cts. violet | (" " " 500 ") |
1907. New designs. Tell's son for the 5 cts. card, Helvetia to the right for the 10 cts. Front of card divided, part for address and part for correspondence. Thin yellow card.
- | |
|--------------|
| 5 cts. green |
| 10 cts. red |
- Reply cards.
- | |
|------------------|
| 5 + 5 cts. green |
| 10 + 10 cts. red |

FINIS



SWITZERLAND

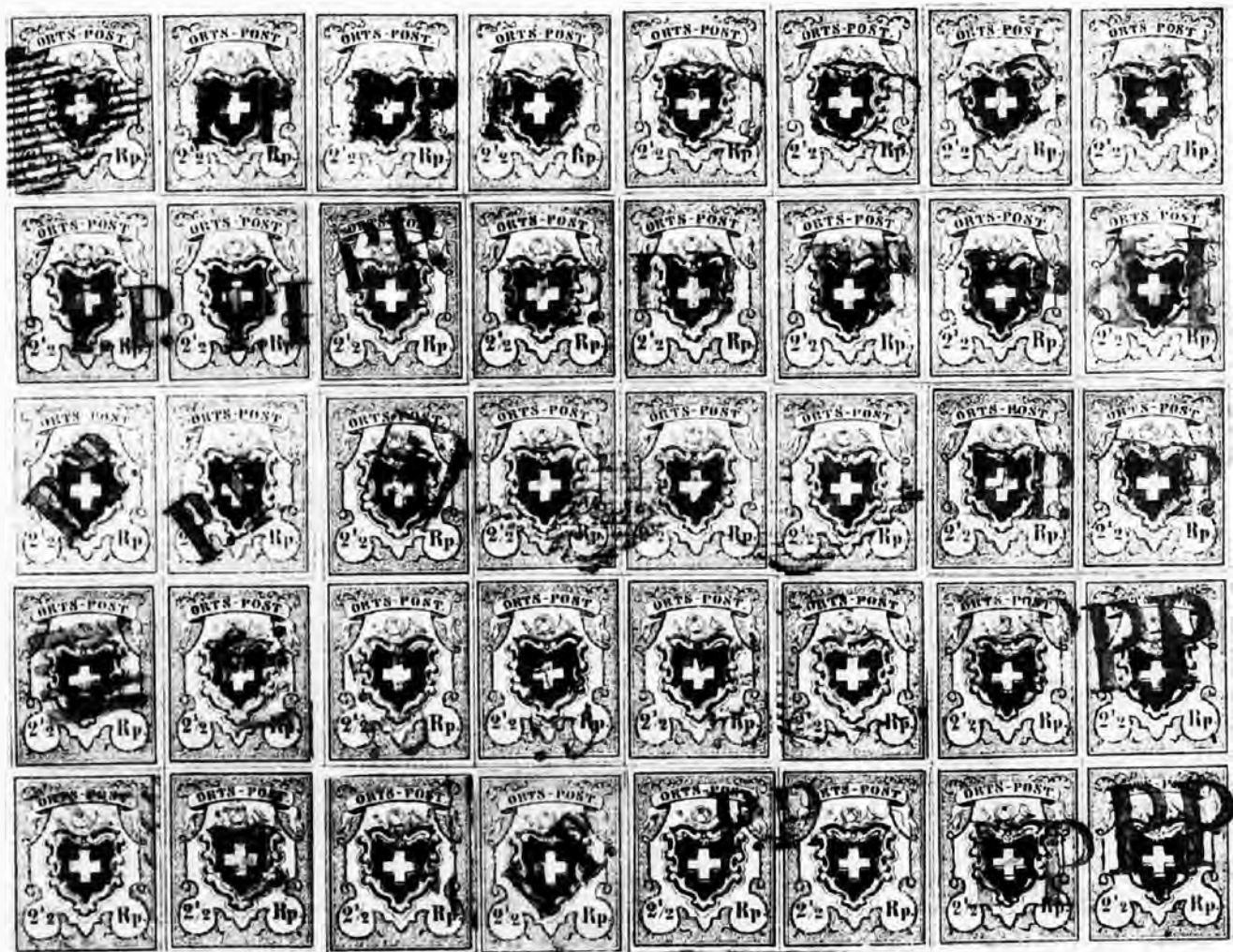


Plate I 1850 2 1/2 Rappen ORTSPOST 40 Types

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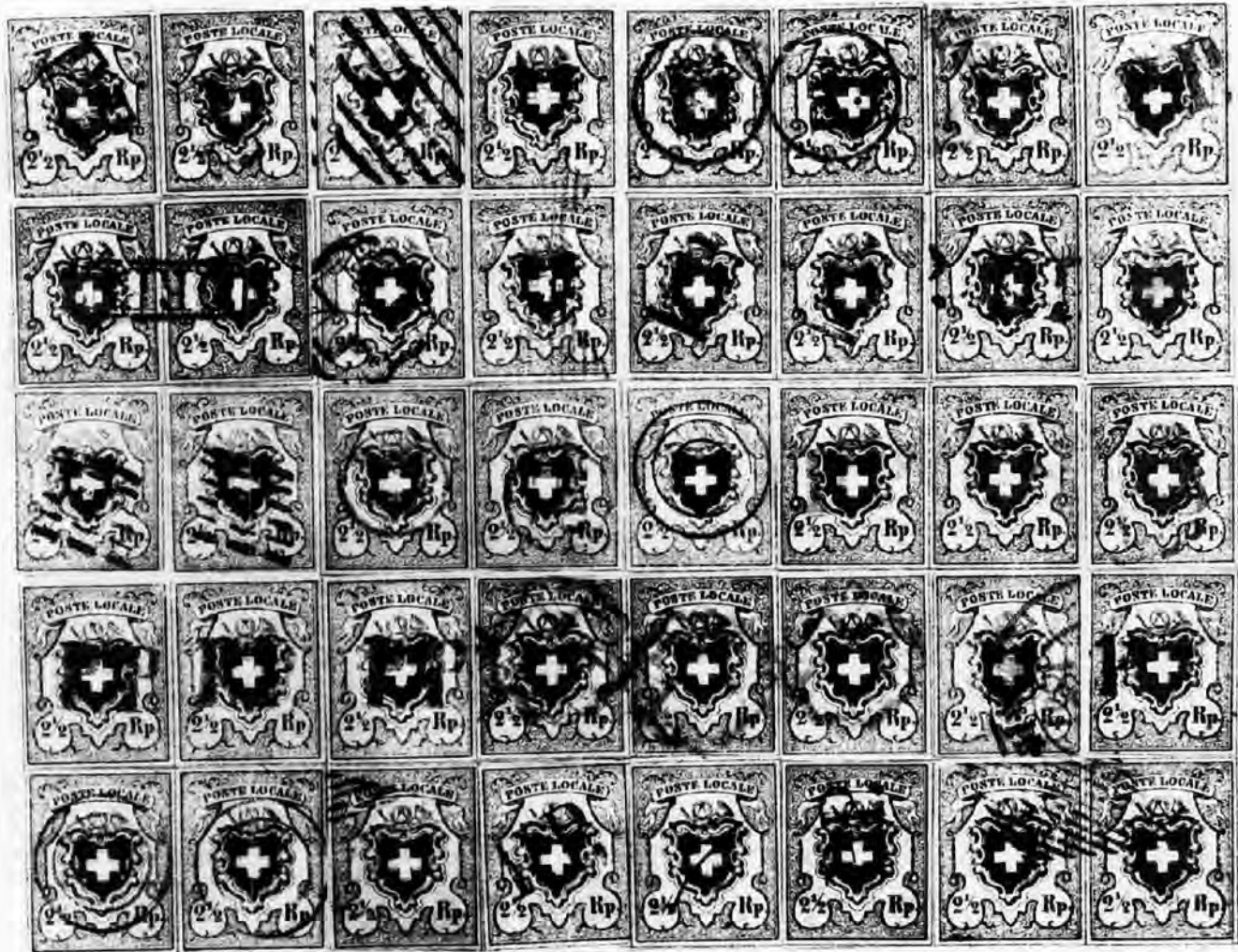


Plate II 1850 2½ Rappen POSTE LOCALE 40 Types



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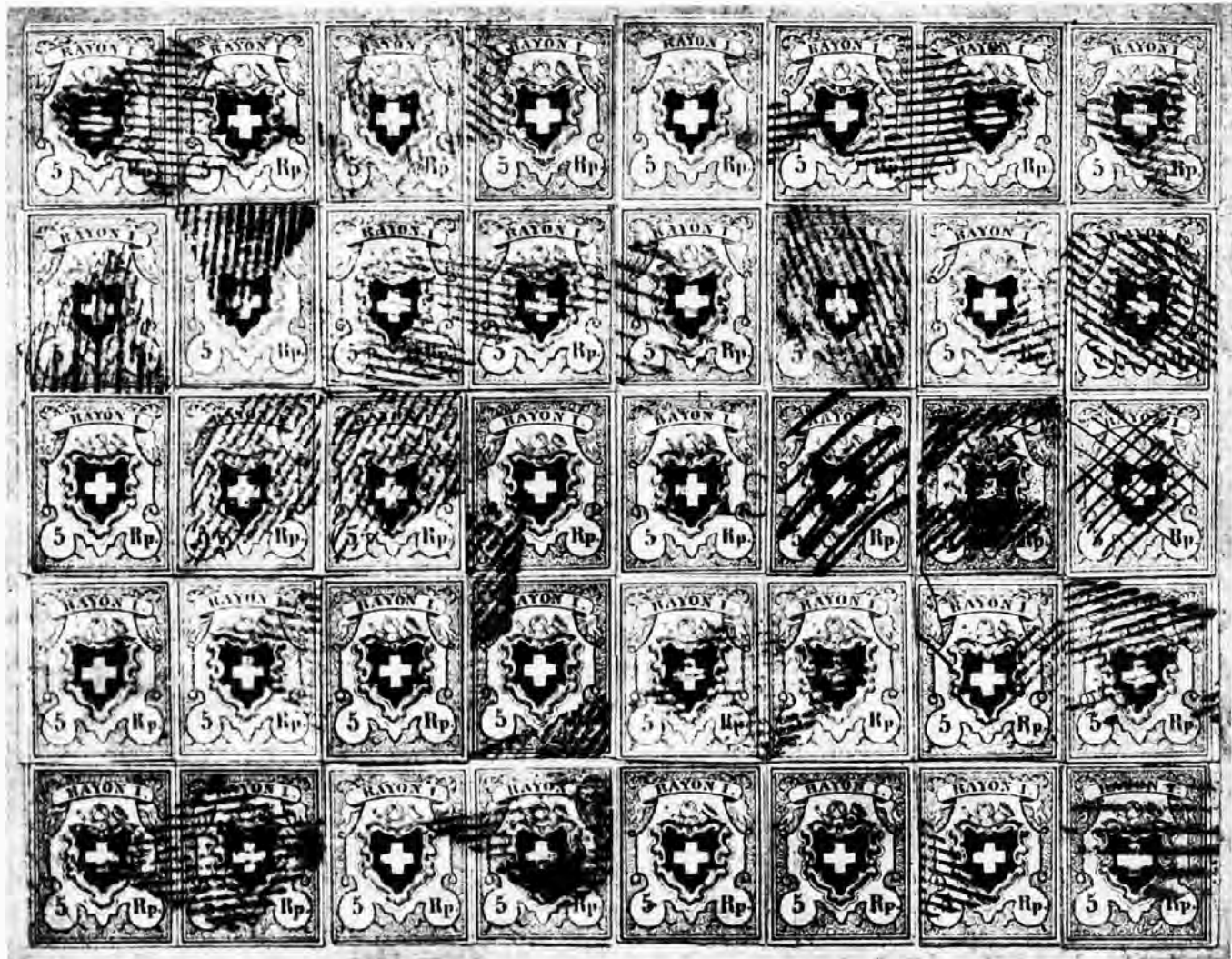


Plate III 1850 5 Rappen RAYON I 40 Types

SWITZERLAND

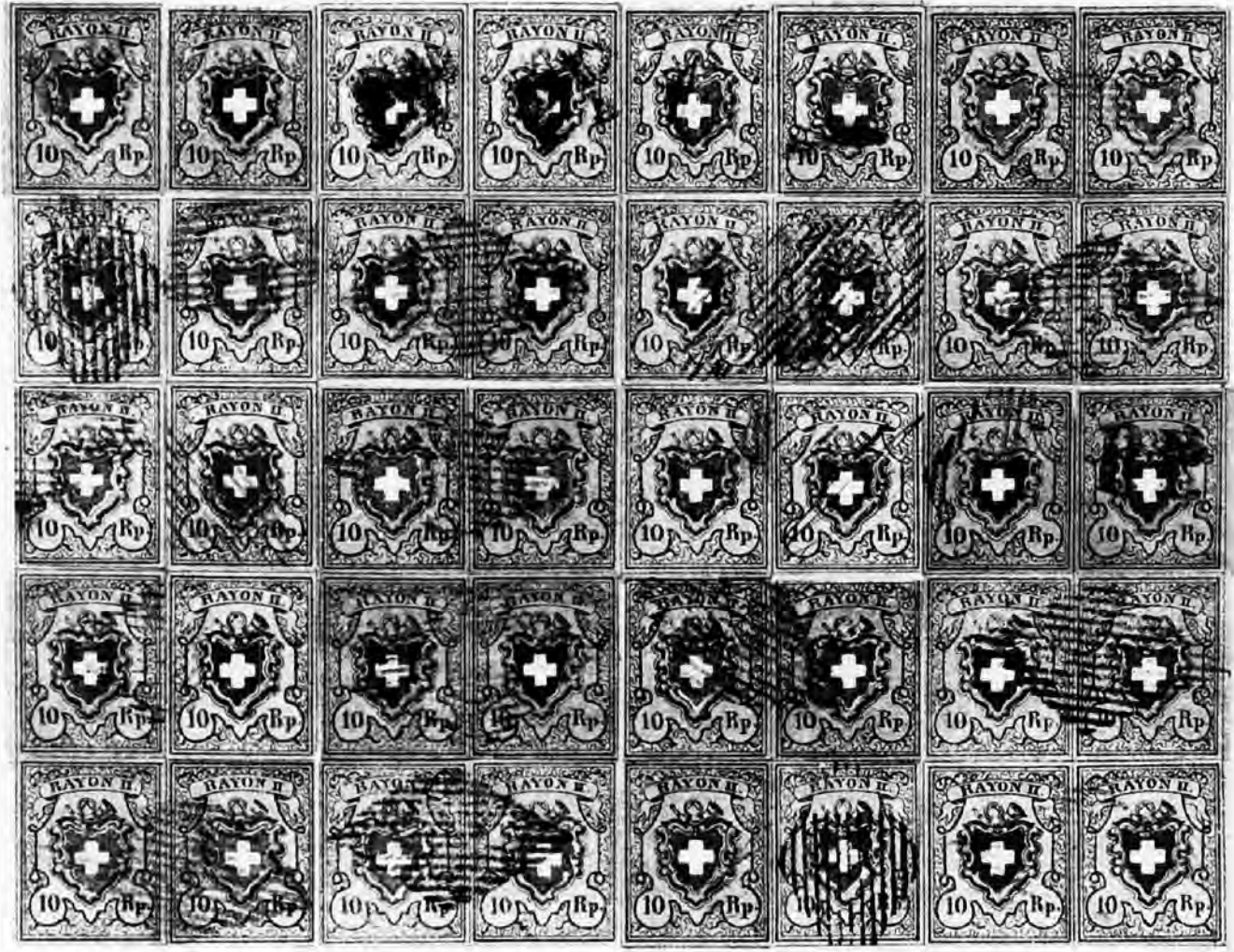


Plate IV 1850 10 Rappen RAYON II 40 Types

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15 Rp. Small figures



15 Cts.



15 Rp. Large figures



