

THE Stamp Chronicle and Circular.

No. 2.

FEBRUARY, 1893. 3d. Quarterly, post free.

The STAMP CHRONICLE.—All Communications to be addressed to R. T. HABERSTRAW, Park Terrace, Swansea.

We will exchange copies with all Philatelic Journals, a blue cross here denotes "Exchange Copy."

SUBSCRIPTION.—1/- per annum, post free to any part of the World. For Advertising Rates see Cover.

We shall probably enlarge No. 3. Intending advertisers please note.

EXPENSIVE POSTAGE.

THE interesting Post Museum at Berlin, has lately received a noteworthy addition, in the shape of a letter cover dating from last century. The letter was sent from Philadelphia to the great grandfather of the late possessor of the cover. The cover bears the postmarks of Philadelphia, London, Calais, Brussels, The Hague, Amsterdam, and Hamburg, so that the route adopted in those days were evidently a very circuitous one. The date of the missive is between 1760 and 1789, but the actual year cannot be determined, as the cover gives no date. The cost of transmission was no less than five thalers—twelve schilling of Mecklenburg money, or eighteen mark, ninety pfennig of modern German money.

A QUEER POST OFFICE.

THE smallest, simplest, and best-protected post-office in the world, is in the Straits of Magellan, and has been there for many years.

It consists of a small painted keg or cask, and is chained to the rocks of the extreme cape, in such a manner so that it floats free, opposite Terra del Fuego.

Each passing ship sends a boat to take letters out and put others in. This curious post-office is unprovided with a postmaster, and is, therefore, under the protection of all the navies of the world.

PERSONAL.

THE greatest stamp collectors in the world are Philippe Ferrari, son of the late Duchesse de Galliera, and the Czar, whose collection is said to

be worth £120,000. The Czar began his collection when a boy, and has been adding to it ever since. M. Ferrari, who is said to have cast away a fortune, because he said it did not belong to him, hoards stamps as misers hoard money.



Another Postal Curiosity.

THERE is an old shoe now touring through the United States which has travelled thousands of miles, and never had a cent of postage paid on it. There are about 200 tags attached to it, and something like 150 of them bear the stamps of different post offices.



CENTRALIZATION.

ONE cannot but notice the advance of centralization. A glance over an old album will be a striking proof. Here we see the quaint stamps of Modena, Parma, Tuscany, Sicily, Naples and the Roman States, which are now represented by the stamps bearing the profile of King Humbert. So it has been with Germany. The old provinces and states are now merged into the greatest empire of Europe, and their former stamps relegated to the catalogue of rarities.

The latest instance is the centralizing of seven colonies into the one series of the Leeward Isles. Again, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, P. Edward Island, Vancouver, British

Columbia, all now federated as the great Dominion of Canada, and very probably Newfoundland will shortly follow. There are other examples. But the preceding suffice to show that the march of centralization is upon us, and there are rumours of an Imperial Penny Postage; matters may go even further, and I dare not whisper the end of it all.



A Great Philatelic Library.

I. K. TIFFANY Esq., the distinguished philatelist, kindly sends some interesting figures relative to his interesting philatelic library. It contains copies of 1800 numbers of British journals, 300 British catalogues, 96 British auction sales catalogues, and innumerable other philatelic publications published over here. These are the figures of Mr. Tiffany's British stamp library, and his collection of American publications is an unique one. There are altogether nearly 1000 journals, and 11000 numbers, to say nothing of some 2000 catalogues. We should, indeed, revel in this sea of philatelic literature, which must be one of the sights of the States.



SOME of our contemporaries have ignored our invitation to exchange. We much deplore this, and would point out, that if only for courtesy's sake, we expect them to reciprocate. Our American friends are far more thoughtful; our best thanks to them.

THE PHILATELIC WORLD.

TEN millions of Postal Cards are used daily in the United States. Great Britain makes away with 230,000,000.

ROUGHLY speaking, the largest stamps ever issued—the American newspaper stamps of 1865, are about fifty times the size of the smallest ones—the Mecklenburg-Schiverin $\frac{1}{4}$ schilling issue of 1856.

FRANCE is thinking of changing her stamps, and high time too. Germany too, contemplates a new issue bearing a model of the statue Germania, as the present stamps are being extensively forged.

THREE tons of stamps are despatched daily from Somerset House, and at Christmas time this quantity is more than trebled. By the bye, the post office authorities have been “defrauded” by some ingenious, but not over scrupulous persons painting the stamps on unposted letters with a mixture of starch and gum, which dries invisible, but permits the postmark to be removed with a sponge and water.

HANDY, ingenious and cheap is our verdict on the Patent Combined Pencil Case and Calendar received from Mr. Thompson, Y. M. C. A., King's Lynn. Dealers will find it a marvel of usefulness at 6d.

THE Jubilee Envelopes issued

last July are being offered in Australia at 6/- each, unused, in London at 9d. each (under cost).

JANUARY 1ST. was a notable day in New York, judging by the lengthy article on the new Columbus stamps, profusely illustrated, which appeared in the “N. Y. Herald” of that date. It also gave interesting particulars anent the rarer kinds of the old U. S. A. stamps. The commemoration stamps are marvels of microscopic engraving.

THE neatest catalogue of the season is issued by the Bath Stamp Co. It is an example to other dealers. Mr. Hy. Fisher, late of Fisher, Titley & Co. is the manager, and he has begun business well.

THREEPENCE is cheap indeed for the 60 page book—“Surprise” we have received from Mr. Lewthwaite, North Road, Egremont, Cumberland.

OTHER papers received with thanks:

Stamp Collector's Herald, Quibs, Canadian Philatelist, International Philatelist, Stamp Collector, P. J. of Great Britain, S. C. Journal, S. C. Monthly, Union Jack, Cantonian, Extract & Advertiser, the Stamp, Monthly Offers, Smith's Monthly, Philatelic Fraud Reporter, Missouri Philatelist, L'annonce, Timbrologique, Chicago Stamp News, Dominion Philatelist, Corriere Filatelico, Italiano, and Quaker City Philatelist.

NEW ISSUES AND NOVELTIES.

Barbados. Mr. P. J. Painter writes us that he has received the current 1d. envelope surcharged $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in dark violet, evidently done with a hand stamp.

(Presumably providing for cases of envelopes being used unfastened).

Brazil. Envelope, 200 reis, violet, embossed head of Liberty, on white.

Cape of Good Hope. New wrapper, $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. similar to the 1d. one, grey on manilla.

British N. Borneo. 4 cents rose, surcharged 1 cent in red.

Bulgaria. 50 stotinki, green, perf. 15.

Costa Rica. 1 to 50 centavos, surcharged OFICIAL in black.

Curacoa. Postcards, 5 cents, brown and blue; $7\frac{1}{2}$ cents, carmine.

Egypt. Stamp for official correspondence, no value, red-brown, no unused copies are allowed to reach the public.

Eritrea. The Italian settlements on the Red Sea have now a postal outfit. The current Italian have been overprinted "Eritrea Colonia." Also post and letter cards.

Finland. 70 kopecks, brown, centre orange.

Paraguay. 1c. grey; 2c. green; 4c. carmine; 5c. violet; 10c. blue; 14c. brown; 20c. carmine; 30c. yellow-green; 40c. dark blue; 60c. yellow; 80c. blue; 1 peso olive. All except the last four bear the portraits of Presidents since 1870.

Shanghai. 2c. green; 5c.

red; 15c. violet; 20c. brown.

Siam. 24 atts purple and green, surcharged 4 atts black.

Venezuela. The current 5 and 10 centimos have been hand stamped in violet "RESOLUCION DE 10 OCTUBRE 1892."

Victoria. Letter card 1d. brick red on grey.

United States. 1 cent blue,—"Columbus in sight of Land"; 2 cents maroon,—"Landing of Columbus"; 3 cents light green,—"Flag Ship of Columbus"; 4 cents blue,—"Fleet of Columbus"; 5 cents brown,—"Columbus soliciting aid of Isabella"; 6 cents purple,—"Welcome of Columbus"; 10 cents brown,—"Columbus presenting Natives"; 15 cents green,—"Columbus announcing his discovery"; 30 cents brown,—"Columbus at La Rabida"; 50 cents blue,—"Recall of Columbus"; also values of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 dollars, illustrative of other Columbian incidents.

**NOTICE I**

Our next issue will be substantially enlarged.

SUBSCRIBE!

IN ANSWERING ADVERTISEMENTS
KINDLY MENTION THIS PAPER.

Printed for the Publisher by WILLIAM LEWTHWAITE, North Road, Egremont, Cumberland.



THE Stamp Chronicle and Circular.



The Official Organ of "The Middlesex Stamp Exchange Society."

Vol. 1. No. 3.

MARCH, 1893.

One Half-penny.

NOTICES.

SUBSCRIPTION.—One shilling per annum, post free anywhere. Agents wanted all over the world. Very remunerative terms.

We will exchange copies with philatelic journals; contemporaries failing to acknowledge this number, will not be sent further issues.

Articles, notes, etc., on Stamps always accepted.

Correspondence in French, German, and English.

All Communications to:—

R. T. HABERSTRAW, 20, Park Ter., Swansea.

THE MIDDLESEX STAMP EXCHANGE SOCIETY

TO MEMBERS.

It is with pleasure that I beg to inform you that I have made arrangements with the publisher, whereby the "S. C. & C." (commencing with this number) shall be the official organ of the M. S. E. S. Reports as to the progress of the Society will appear from time to time, and *members* will have the privilege of advertising at reduced rates, provided the ad. is sent to me. Yours truly, P. J. PAINTER (Secy.).

REPORT.

FOR the February Packet, 25 sheets, value £34 18 0 were sent, and for the March Packet, 21 sheets, value £26 14 6. It will thus be seen that there is a decrease in the number of sheets for the March Packet. This is due to one or two members sending in their sheets just after the packet is posted. Members please note that sheets should be sent in not later than the 25th of the month. In consequence of the February Packet having been delayed by one member, it has not yet finished its round.—P. J. P.

EN PASSANT.

THE "S. C. & C." has been received very favourably by the philatelic public, and we trust this number will please them all. We rely on our readers help and encouragement to enlarge again.

* * *

The Stamps of Bechuanaland are likely to be soon withdrawn, and speculators are already stocking all they can procure.

* * *

THE higher values of the U. S. Columbian stamps are very rarely used, and we may as well inform our readers that the first enthusiasm over, the Americans are beginning to grumble at the size of the stamps, and large business firms do not use them at all. The newspaper press is agitating for their recall, and one paper chronicles an error in the 1 cent stamp, an "R" instead of a "B" in "Columbus"; consequently there will be a demand for this value. A new special U. S. delivery stamp has been issued; colour orange.

* * *

CANADA is about to have new stamps to the value of 20 and 50 cents respectively, same design as at present; also a new postcard, larger than the one in use, presumably for price lists, etc. The 15 cents will consequently become scarce. A Letter Card is also in preparation. — Apropos of Letter Cards, we may soon expect them for India.

MESSRS. the Bath Stamp Co. inform us that one J. Newell, trading as the Anglo American Co. 28, E-den Street, Kingston-on-Thames, has by false pretences, defrauded that firm out of a very considerable sum. We shall feel much obliged if any of our readers, who know of the scamp's whereabouts, will write to us.

* * *

THE dealer residing at 183, Strand, is no doubt thriving immensely on his peculiar mode of business. Verb sap.

* * *

WE have decided to establish a Private Sale and Exchange Column in this journal. Rates, 15 words 3d. Collectors will find it invaluable.

* * *

NUMEROUS exchanges received. Best thanks to all.

* * *

AN estimate has been made by "The London Philatelist" of the extent and value of existing postage stamp collections, based in part upon an actual census taken for the purpose. The conclusion arrived is that the 115 members of the London Philatelic Society resident in this country possess collections to the total market value of £125,000. The collections out of Great Britain are put down at £100,000. Hence it appears that the home and birthplace of the system of prepayment of postage by stamps takes, as no doubt it ought to do, the lead in stamp collecting enterprise.

The Dark Side of Philately :
OR
COLLECTING AS IT IS.

LIKE all other phases of life and character, stamp collecting has its dark as well its bright side. The enormous increase in the ranks of philatelists has resulted in a proportionate increase of fraud, and it requires a cool head and a keen eye, to escape the wiles of the stamp rogue.

There are some individuals whom society would never look on askance, that is, in the light of rogues, yet they cannot be termed, by any means, the friends of collectors, rather the opposite. I refer to the many postmasters and government officials, who trade on the whims of philatelists, and reap a large harvest from the sale of "new issues" and spurious provisionals, neither of which are usually required, and for places not one in ten can localise, and whose inhabitants are in no need of postal outfits whatever. Such are the harpys that prey on the collector and dealer alike, and at the present time more conspicuous than ever. Of the innumerable "new issues" that have poured on the philatelic public during the past year, I doubt if a third were not issued for the consideration of collectors. Surcharges are the most prolific sources of revenue to the indigent governments, who turn the existence of philatelists to such account. They can be produced very economically, and always command

a ready sale. The Portuguese and the French are great offenders in this respect. On the slightest provocation, and often times without, stamps are adorned with the most extraordinary surcharges, for colonies of unpronounceable nomenclature, and mysterious locality. The latest freak is due to the Italian government, and they inflict on us a postal outfit for Eritrea, but where this is, I have no idea. Another Obock, I fancy.

It is evident the Italian officials have found that the sale of their numerous "provisionals" and "officials" have had a very satisfactory effect on their slender finances, and like other business-like, but not over scrupulous governments, find in the philatelic market a very welcome source of revenue.

A more dangerous phase of the dark side of philately, is the extensive forgery of stamps, which despite the commendable energy and precaution of a few societies, is greatly on the increase, and every day brings some fresh specimen of the counterfeiter's skill. It is plain that the art of stamp forgery has reached a very standard, when the very watermarks are not only manufactured, but *taken out*, and others substituted. The rarer the stamp, the more liable it is to be extensively, and in many cases, cleverly counterfeited. Everyone, I suppose, is acquainted with those precious Samoan "reprints" of which there is a waste paper supply at present, although the younger collectors buy

them, in the conviction they have a very rare stamp, and the *originals* are very difficult to procure. Not so long ago, 50,000 sets were confiscated at the London Docks, and it would have greatly benefited Philately had the consignees name been disclosed.

The transfer of Heligoland to Germany resulted in an immediate flood of reprints, and ultimately, forgeries and "facsimiles." The supply however, far exceeded the demand, and collectors are now exceedingly chary of purchasing them. The Lubeck and Bergedorf "reprints" are familiar with many of my readers, and as there are collectors to buy them, so long will they be offered for sale. No doubt you have seen stamps of Burmah, Mysore, and Sedang advertised by a great many dealers. The two former are decidedly bogus, and quite worthless, as to the latter, there is a little tale afloat of an ambitious settlement in Borneo issuing them in emulation of the British colony, but I—well, doubt it!

I could cover scores of pages with records such as these, but at some future time I may write more fully on the subject. I may, however add, that in our country we are also subject to the cunning of the forger, and as only one instance, I have seen scores of red penny English transformed into the scarcer black 1840 issue, and I doubt not but that there are many such bogus ones on the present market.—X.Y.Z.

THE PHILATELIC WORLD.

THE first collector to secure the Columbian stamps of the U. S. A. was the young queen of Holland, who had a complete set in November.

MR. Sterling of New Jersey found a New Haven Stamp amongst a bundle of old letters he paid 9 cents for. He now wants £500 for his lucky find.

MR. Mitchell, the postmaster of New Haven, is still alive, and has the plates of his rare 5 cents in his possession. A few years ago, to satisfy the wishes of some collectors, he struck off a limited number of the New Haven stamps, and signed them in the usual way. These are known as the reprints, but even as such command from £6 to £6 10 apiece.

WE may, so I hear, have an opportunity to purchase reprints of the very rare post office Mauritius, the old dies having been found.

THE smallest postcard in the world is issued by an Auckland (N. Y.) firm. The value is $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and the size $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. by $1\frac{1}{2}$ in.

IN Stuttgart there is, and has been for the past 50 years, a local post, which has three daily deliveries, to the government posts two. It only exists within the town itself.

THERE has just been a rise of 50 per cent in the value of Nova Scotia cent issues. Speculators note, and benefit thereby.

STANLEY Gibbons' have paid 780 dollars for a 5 cents blue 1861 stamp issued for the city of Livingston (Alabama).

It is rumoured that a well-known London firm of stamp dealers will soon follow the Mekeel Co. failure.

THE other day a postal card was sold for 50 dollars, because it had gone all round the world after the person to whom it was addressed, and bore 72 postmarks.

It was evident that means had been taken before, and to cause it to be sent on through 72 post-offices. The original address and the supplemental ones were written in very small characters, and most of them in red ink, as if on purpose, so as not to take from the distinctness of the postmarks.

THE London Philatelic Society have on view just now a fine collection of stamps, post-cards, wrappers, postal envelopes, and telegraph stamps of all periods, issued in British India and Ceylon. The Exhibition is to be seen at the Society's rooms in Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, opposite Messrs. W. H. Smith's establishment.

Try an advertisement. Circulation 2,000 copies.

The Rush for the Argentine Columbian Stamps.

THE 12th of October was the day fixed by the Argentine Postmaster for the sale of the Columbus commemoration stamps. Early on the morning of that day, an immense crowd assembled at the general post office at Buenos Ayres, and occupied every inch of space in the neighbouring streets.

When the doors were opened a tremendous rush ensued.

The additional clerks employed in distributing the stamps had to work hard to supply the excited buyers, and every moment the crowd became larger and more clamorous. At length the officials found they were unable to cope with the violence of the would be purchasers, who were beginning to fear that they would not be supplied, and recourse was made to the military, who succeeded in somewhat calming the crowd.

Only 100 of each kind, at the most, were supplied to any one person, but the 400,000 stamps issued were soon disposed of, and in a very short time, the officials announced to the great chagrin of many disappointed ones, that no more were to be obtained.

An Englishman on the spot paid £10 for ten 5 centavo stamps, and another £2 for a single one. A Buenos Ayres dealer in possession of two pounds worth, cleared over £40 profit. What the value of these stamps will be in a few year's

time can best be imagined.

(*Das Echo.*)

Postal Affairs in Monte Video.

It seems there is a systematic postal robbery going on here, and not only are the stamps un gummed from the envelopes, but in many cases the contents of the letters wholly abstracted, and on October 12th very few of the Argentine Columbus stamps ever reached their destination through here.

TRADE ITEMS.

DEALERS looking for bargains will find them in the surplus stock price list issued by the Bath Stamp Co. Bath. It is indeed calculated to soon empty the pockets of a bargain hunting speculator.

* * *

THE Northern Stamp Co. Bradford, issue an extremely cheap and well arranged price list for Collectors. They send it gratis to applicants.

* * *

WE have received a most useful work from Messrs. Underwood & Co. 158, Stockwell Park Road, S. W. entitled "The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Great Britain," at the price of 6d. ; it ought to be seen by every philatelist.

FOR SALE! 1,000
Subscriptions at 1/- each Sub.

United States Envelopes:— COLUMBIAN SERIES.

A MONTREAL correspondent writes us that the new U. S. envelopes are expected out shortly. The design consists of an embossed stamp, circular in shape, larger than that of the present envelope series. They will bear the profiles of Columbus and Liberty, and above this, the figure of an eagle with outstretched wings, surmounted by a shield similar to that used in the arms of the U. S.

Following are particulars of the new envelopes:—

SIZE	DENOMINATION	COLOUR
3 $\frac{1}{8}$ by 5 $\frac{1}{8}$ in.	1 cent.	Blue.
"	2 cents.	Maroon.
"	5 cents.	Chocolate.
3 $\frac{3}{4}$ by 6 5-16 in.	1 cent.	Blue.
"	2 cents.	Maroon.
"	5 cents.	Chocolate.
"	10 cents.	Brown.
4 $\frac{3}{8}$ by 5 $\frac{3}{8}$ in.	1 cent.	Blue.
"	2 cents.	Maroon.
"	5 cents.	Chocolate.

All on cream paper. A 4 cent series will probably be issued later. As the registration fee in the U. S. has been reduced, a new stamp of the Columbus series, value 8 cents will be issued. Probably one will be issued in connection with the 1890 series.

THE POSTAL UNION.


PRIOR to 1874, postal communication between different countries was regulated by special agreements

in each case, which naturally rendered international intercourse difficult and complicated. The first step towards a reform, which has been attended with such wonderful and beneficial results, came from Germany in the shape of a proposal for an International Postal Congress.

This Congress met in Berne, in 1873, with the result that an agreement for an International Postal Union was drawn up and signed by the delegates. Twenty two countries joined the Union, including the whole of Europe.

The second Postal Congress met in Paris, in 1878; ten other countries joined the Union, which from that time has been known by its present official title, "International Postal Union." The two next Congresses were held in 1885 (Lisbon), and in 1891 (Vienna), at which several other countries and colonies joined the Union.

The extraordinary development of the Union is due to the efforts of the chief countries concerned to render postal communication as easy and as cheap as possible. The increase in the number of letters, post cards, and packets of all kinds since the establishment of the Union has been enormous. It is estimated that a daily average about 45,000,000 of letters, post cards, etc., are conveyed between the different States of the Postal Union.



Wholesale Postal ROBBERIES.

A VIENNA correspondent writes: the Roumanian police have discovered a conspiracy among postal officials to rob the post systematically. For a long time past the public have complained of not receiving money letters and journals. In Bucharest 150 post officials are members of this conspiracy.



STATISTICAL.

THE daily despatch to the provinces from the General Post Office is, on the average, about 2,000,000 letters in 3,253 bags; 726,000 newspapers in 1,836 bags; and to various districts of London 367,000 letters in 1,115 bags. The letters delivered in the City number 700,000. The registered letters forwarded to the provinces daily are 27,000 and are sent in 1,718 bags. From the foreign branch there are 95,000 letters and 85,000 newspapers despatched every Friday to the Continent, and 150,000 letters and 250,000 newspapers to the Colonies and foreign countries. The total average turnover is 3,000,000 letters, newspapers, packets, and books.



NEW ISSUES AND NOVELTIES.

Argentine Republic. There

is now another 25 centavos stamp of the Belgrano type, and 1 and 2 pesos with portrait of San Martin.

Bosnia. 20 kreuzer, yellow green, current type.

Brazil. Newspaper stamps, value 10 and 20 reis, green.

British Guiana. REPLY POSTCARD, 2 cents, carmine on buff.

British North Borneo. 1 cent, orange, current type.

Bulgaria. 15 stotinki, orange—(issued late last year and omitted by us.)

Cashmere. $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, emerald green, dated 1923.

Ceylon. A Service Postcard has been issued here; for official correspondence only.

Dutch Indies. $2\frac{1}{2}$ gulden, brown, head in blue (of young Queen.)

Fiji. The 6d. rose has been surcharged "FIVE-PENCE" in two black lines.

Greece. 40 lepta blue, perf. and imperf.; Athens impression.

Guiana. (French). Those surcharges again! "OF O5" on 15 cent blue.

Luxemburg. A correspondent informs us of the issue of new stamps for this state, bearing the effigy of the Grand Duke Adolphus; values are:— $12\frac{1}{2}$ centimes grey; 20 cent. orange; 30 cent. pale green; $37\frac{1}{2}$ cent. green; and 50 cent. brown. Also values of 1, 2, and 5 francs issued on the first of this month.

Mauritius. We have 2 cents violet surcharged 1 cent, and the 15 cents overprinted "One cent";

both in black. We learn a Registration envelope of 12 cents, blue has been issued.

Nicaragua. The 1893 issue bears the following design:—Six mountains with a rising sun behind, and a Phrygian cap on a pole. The numerals of value are in the angles; the inscriptions are "CORRES" on the top, "U. P. U." on the left, "1893" on the right, and "Republica de Nicaragua" on a scroll under the central design, with "CENTAVOS" at the foot. Values:—1c. brown; 2c. vermilion; 5c. blue; 10c. slate; 20c. red; 50c. violet; 1 peso brown; 2 pesos green; 5 pesos rose; and 10 pesos orange. The above values are issued in slate, overprinted "FRANQUEO OFICIAL" in red. There are also ENVELOPES on salmon coloured paper of the values of 5c. blue; 10c. lilac; 20c. red; 30c. chocolate; and 50c. violet. WRAPPERS, 1, 2, and 4c. green on salmon paper.

Roumania. Unpaid letter stamp, 50 bani green, wmk "Arms."

Salvador. 20c. orange and 25c. maroon surcharged "Un Centavo" in black. The 1893 issue consists of the following design, portrait in uniform, with inscription "CORRES DEL SALVADOR" in a scroll at the top, with "A. C." under "DEL," and in each of the upper angles is "1893"; at the foot the value in words in two lines, and in numerals in each angle. Values, 1c. blue; 2c. red-brown; 3c. purple; 5c. brown; 10c. light-brown; 11c. vermilion; 20c. green; 25c. olive-brown; 50c. orange, and 1 peso. There are also new envelopes, wrappers, and post cards. Space does not permit a just description of these.

Tonga. New stamps of 1d. red and 2d. brown, and 8d. lilac are to hand. The former bears arms on a shield, the two latter have the portrait of the late King George.



THE Stamp Chronicle and Circular.



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of
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A
JOURNAL
FOR
PHILATELISTS.

Vol. 1. No. 4.

APRIL, 1893.

One Half-penny.

NOTICES.

SUBSCRIPTION —One shilling per annum post free to any part of the world.

Articles, Notes, etc., on philatelic matters always welcome.

Representatives required in every town in the United Kingdom, also a few foreign correspondents.

We have appointed the following agents, from whom this journal can be procured immediately after publication :—

LONDON.—P. J. Painter, 9, Third Avenue, Queen's Park, W.

The International Philatelic Press Agency, 86, Leadenhall Street, E.C.

Benjamin and Sarpy, 1, Cullum Street, E.C.

The Stamp Agency Co., 62, Scovell Road, Boro' S.E.

Argent and Co., 22, Hazelville Road, Hornsey Rise, N.

BATH.—The Universal Philatelic Advertising Agency, Sydney Buildings.

The Bath Stamp Co., Bridge Street.

BRADFORD.—W. R. Durie, 48, Springcliffe.

YORK.—H. Fox, 18, Tanner Row.

KING'S LYNN.—G. W. Thompson, Y.M.C.A., St. Jame's Street.

The Middlesex Stamp Exchange Society.—REPORT.

FOR the April Packet I received 32 sheets, value £59 15 4. This is, besides being an increase of £33 over the March packet, by far the best packet we have had since the Society was established in November last.

There are a few members who I think might send in better sheets, and I take this opportunity of informing them that the better the sheets, the more satisfactory will be the results.

NEW MEMBERS.

F. H. Ulph of Falmouth
W. J. King of Oxford
J. G. Stanley of London

J. Wilson of London
Guy Semple „
P. Deverell „

P. J. PAINTER, *Secretary.*

EN PASSANT.

AN inquisite reader wishes to know when the *Irish* stamps may be expected. We have referred him to Mr. Gladstone.

* * *

WE cannot say much for the "article" by Mr. Morrison in this month's "Stamp Collector's Journal." It is a pity a paper like the *S. C. J.* should waste its columns over rubbish such as that. We can only presume it is an oversight on Mr. Nunn's part.

* * *

THE members of the *I. P. P. U.* are evidently finding a lot to grumble at in the workings of this society, lately. Perhaps the officials are getting overworked. We trust matters will run smoothly as heretofore. Some of the societies in the *U. S. A.* are models of philatelic unions.

* * *

A NICE, new set of stamps from the Cook's Islands may be expected very shortly. An improvement on those we have would be welcome.

* * *

THE one cent *U. S. A.* Columbian stamp has undergone a deal of scrutiny lately, owing to the reports spread by the enterprising *Yankee Journalist*, of an error in the printing. A good magnifying glass will shew that the "B" in "Columbus" is there, but somewhat indistinct.

* * *

WE are going ahead rapidly, and the demand for advertising space is

such, that several ads. are held over. We would remind intending advertisers, that our rates cannot stand long at their present ridiculously low figures.

* * *

WE are printing an extra supply of this number expressly for canvassing purposes, and hope all receiving a copy, will do justice to themselves, and subscribe without delay. We absolutely guarantee the full year's numbers.

* * *

WE regret having to disappoint applicants, but we *cannot* supply any further copies of No. 1; all we have at present, are reserved for the yearly volume.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of "The Stamp Chronicle."

DEAR SIR.

I read with interest the article on "The Dark Side of Philately." In it is made mention of impoverished states, and mercenary officials often making "new issues," "provisionals," "officials," etc., for the sake of gaining a dishonest penny out of Philatelists. It is my opinion that if Philately is to flourish, and not be buried in ignominy and ridicule, a stand should be made against such states, and their "new issues," etc. To obtain such result, I suggest that every society should "boycott" such stamps, and assign them no place in their collections.

I remain, yours etc., E. W. V. Y.

News for Collectors.

Another Jubilee Stamp.

A NEW postage stamp will be issued by the Italian Post Office on the silver wedding day of the King and Queen of Italy. It will give profile likenesses of their Majesties. The announcement of this event, our Paris Correspondent says, caused a sensation yesterday at the Postage Stamp Exchange in the Champs-Élysées.

The First Post-Cards.

THE first post-cards were introduced in Austria on the first of October, 1869. The idea was first mooted by Dr. Stephan, Director-General of the German Post Office, but Professor Herman improved it to practicability.

North Germany hastened to follow the example of Austria. On the first of July, 1870, post-cards were adopted.

Then followed successively, in the years 1870-1871, Belgium, England, Suxemburg, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway. France only adopted them in 1873. Bulgaria was the tardiest of the European Governments to issue them. Other parts of the world soon followed Europe's example, but China still holds aloof; it is never in much of a hurry where improvements are concerned.

RECENT FORGERIES.

ECUADOR.—First Issue.—½ real blue and 1 real yellow (Gibbons' type 872).

GUINEA.—First Issue.—50 reis green, with small surcharge (Gibbons' type 1078).

ITALY.—1869.—Unpaid letter stamps 40 and 50 centesimi and 1 lira (Gibbons' type 1239). 1878—Provisional newspaper stamps, with inverted surcharges (Gibbons' type 1235). (Very dangerous forgeries).

NOVA SCOTIA.—1860-64—12½ cents., black (Gibbons' type 1714). (Also a dangerous forgery, with wrong perforation, and on very thick paper).

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—1872—4 cents., green (Gibbons' type 1918). (Paper also too thick).

ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON.—1885—5 cents on a 2 cents brown, with inverted surcharge.

SCINDE DAWK.—½ anna, circular red. (A very dangerous forgery).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PROVIDENCE LOCAL.—1846—5 cents and 10 cents black. (Very dangerous forgeries of complete plate).

NEW HAVEN LOCAL.—1845—5 cents red and blue.

VICTORIA.—1852—2 pence, brown (Gibbons' type 3133). (The specimen shown to the Association has the letters B S in lower corners. It also exists with forged roulette).

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—2c. on 8c. yellow, black surcharge.

WARNING.

FOREIGN STAMPS IN DISPUTE.—On Friday, at the Bow County Court, Frederick Deane, of 7, Buiganak Road, Thornton Heath, was summoned at the instance of Mr. Charles Francis Postlethwaite, foreign stamp and colonial agent, of 61, Hampton Road, Forest Gate, for the recovery of the amount of a very valuable collection of stamps, which had been obtained on approval. The defendant did not appear, and judgment was given against him for the amount claimed by Mr. Postlethwaite.

The Stamp Market.

(Each month, we shall give below, the current prices of the better class of stamps, as realised at auctions, etc., for the guidance of philatelists.)

Baden, 18 kr. green, 10/-
 Great Britain, £5 orange, £1 18
 Saxony, 3pf. £3 3
 Great Britain, 2/- red-brown, 15/-
 Ceylon "Star," perf. 1/9 green, unused, £1 10
 Cape, Woodbuk, 4° blue, £1 10
 Canada, 12 pence black, unused, £3 8
 Newfoundland, 1/- carmine-vermilion, used, £8 5
 Virgin Isles, 1/- red, unused, £1 4
 Great Britain, 4d. sage-green, imperf. and unused, £1 8
 Phillipine Isles, 1885, 5c. red, unused, £2 10

Queensland, first issue, 2d. blue, imperf. £3
 France, 1 franc, orange, £2 2
 Basle, 2½ rp. £3 15
 Cape Triangular, 1/- emerald-green, 15/-
 Nova Scotia, 1/- violet, £8 10
 Trinidad, "Lady Mcheod" stamp, unused, £14

WATERMARKS.**How to remove them.**

THERE are many dodges to induce an invisible watermark to show itself. Of the methods which we are going to describe, if one fails, try the next. (1) Hold it up to the light and look through it. (2) Cut a rectangle, rather smaller than the stamp, in a piece of card about the size of your hand; hold the stamp over the hole, and look through it (the card serves to shield all light from the eyes, except that which passes through the stamp). (3) Moisten the back of the stamp in the normal way (*i. e.*, lick it), then lay it face downwards on the table for a minute or more. This swells the fibres of the paper, but the watermark does not swell so much, and consequently becomes visible in most cases. (4) Remove the gum by gently scraping with a knife while the stamp is still moist. (5) Give the stamp a good soaking in water for a quarter-of-an-hour, and then take it out and lay it, face downwards, on something black. Wetting with benzine is said to show the watermark well; but we do not

think much of the plan, and it makes the stamps smell so disagreeably. Sometimes the watermark is more visible when looked at with one's back to the light than it is when looked through. If no watermark is to be seen when all these plans have been tried, you had better label the stamp "unwatermarked." Some countries are particularly difficult. We put into our albums many Western Australians, with the note "swan watermarked," but the swan is visible on perhaps one stamp out of fifty. Bahamas, Granada with star, Gambia Falkland Islands, and many others, often refuse to exhibit their watermarks. But you must know what to look for, and be able to recognise a portion of the watermark. In the Grenadas, for instance, there will commonly be nothing to be seen but perhaps one ray, or, at most two rays of the star, right up in a corner of the stamp. Then again, to know whether a watermark is CC or CA is often extremely difficult, for the letters frequently come so very low down on the stamp, that it is impossible to say what they are. In the red 1d. English, with crown watermark, it is not always easy to say whether it is the small or large crown; for, though they are not at all alike, yet when the upper branches or wings of the large crown are invisible, the watermark may very easily be mistaken for the small crown.



Canadian Notes.

THERE is a chance of Newfoundland joining the Dominion. If so, look out for a rise in the value of Newfoundland stamps. We will know something in June.

* * *

OVER 26,000 stamps of the 3 cent denomination were destroyed last year.

* * *

THERE is a rumour that we are to have a new issue of adhesives, bearing the portrait of the Queen in widow's weeds.

Trade Notes.

THE business look out is rather good for this time of the year, in stamps I mean, of course, which is very pleasing intelligence.

* * *

FIVE new stamp papers see the light this month. Three out of them do not appear to have a great future before them.

* * *

THERE have been a multitude of handsome Price Lists this year, but that issued by Mr. Postlethwaite, of Forest Gate, stands in the front rank. The contents are most exhaustive, and comprises any amount of good things for the collector.

* * *

MESSRS. Argent and Co's address is now 22, Hazelville Road, Hornsey Rise. Their retail list is a cheap one, we must say.

NEW ISSUES AND NOVELTIES.

Barbados. WRAPPER. $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in violet, on 1d. carmine on buff.

British Guiana. POSTCARD. 2 x 2c. carmine on buff. Messrs. The Bath Stamp Co. inform us that they have received the 3 cents vermilion card, surcharged 2 CENTS.

British Levant. 300 of the current $\frac{1}{2}$ d. have been surcharged 40 paras.

Canada. We have received the new wrapper, value 1 cent blue, oval design on cream paper. Also a new postcard, value 1 cent black, size 6 x $4\frac{1}{2}$, and reply card, same design. There was also issued a letter card, red on pale blue, value 3 cents, and two handsome stamps, 20 cents vermilion, and 50 cents blue, adhesives.

Ceylon. Here is another crop of surcharges! ENVELOPE, $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. in blue, on 5c. ultramarine. REGISTERED ENVELOPE. 10 cents in black, on 15 cents rose. POSTCARD. 2 cents in black on 3 cents.

Dutch Indies. 15c. brown, adhesive; head of young Queen.

France. The 10c. is surcharged "10 CENTEMOS" in two lines in red for use in Tangiers.

Lagos. The $1\frac{1}{2}$ x $1\frac{1}{2}$ brown on buff reply card, has been altered in red to 1 x 1d.

Liberia. *The Stamp News* chronicles the 3c. adhesive in RED.

Mexico. POSTCARDS. 2c. red and green on white, and 2c. ultramarine and red on white.

Morocco. An entirely new

set of stamps has been issued here. The value is at the bottom, "POSTE" at the top, "MAZAGON" on the left, and "MAKABECH" on the right side. In the centre, the sun is partly seen behind mountains; in the foreground is a little vegetation, and a square label bearing the value in numerals. VALUES:— 5c. green; 10c. blue; 25c. rose; 50c. violet; and 1 fr. orange.

Natal. Reply card, brown on buff, $\frac{1}{2}$ d. x $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

North Borneo. 6c. in black, on 8c. green; *inverted* surcharge.

Portugal. ENVELOPE. 25 reis, green on buff.

Russian Locals. Stamps have been issued for Bogorodsk, Charkoff, Irbit, Ochansk, Rjeff, and Zienkow. We will not trouble our readers with the details, which are painfully wearisome.

Seychelles. SURCHARGES. 3c. in black, on 4c. red and green.
15c. " 16c. brown and blue.
45c. " 48c. yellow and green.
90c. " 96c. violet and carmine.

Surinam. ADHESIVES. $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. carmine; 15c. grey. POSTCARD. $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. carmine; on rose-white,

Swazieland. The post-card of the Transvaal has been requisitioned for this territory by obliterating the original name in three bars, and adding the words "Swazieland" in violet.

Transvaal. 1d. in black, on 6d. blue.

Western Australia. ADHESIVES. 1d. in green, on 3d. brown, also a new 6d. stamp, of the same type as the 4d.

HOW POSTAGE STAMPS ARE MADE.

Some of the Precautions Taken in Printing Them.

POSTAGE stamps are made under conditions of great secrecy. In fact, certain officials in the service of the Government, whose duties have considerably to do with stamps, have, they admit, never seen them printed. The contract for the stamps which are used in the United Kingdom is in the hands of Messrs. Thomas De la Rue and Co., whose immense factory is in Bunhill Row. Here not only are British stamps turned out by the million, but also huge numbers of stamps intended for the colonies.

Owing to the care which is exercised in the works to exclude strangers, it is a far more difficult matter to see a postage stamp printed, than it is to watch a Bank of England note produced, and a visit to the Mint presents no such difficulties, as those which have to be overcome before the "open sesame" is gained to the big establishment in Bunhill Row.

There are special grounds for these precautions.

In the first place, there are certain secret processes in printing postage stamps; and secondly, the whole place, for reasons which will be mentioned, is kept securely under lock and key. Moreover, always on the watch, the Government maintains a staff of fifty vigilant

inspectors. Their duty is to take care that no postage stamps are illicitly manufactured. A sharp lookout is kept lest water-marked paper be introduced surreptitiously, and, in addition, whenever a machine is stopped that it may be repaired or cleaned, a hood is fitted over the working parts, and it is locked up. The plates from which the stamps are printed, are also under lock and key in special safes, and it becomes an impossibility for any work to be carried on without the knowledge of the inspectors.

The Government is not content even with these safeguards. The contractors are not permitted to manufacture the postage stamp paper themselves. It is supplied to them in sheets, which are counted out as scrupulously as bank-notes. A sheet of paper which is destined to become 240 penny stamps, is valued precisely at £1. Supposing the printers fail to return to the Government the exact number of sheets counted out to them, with a certain percentage for waste, which, too, has to be produced, they are charged at the rate of twenty shillings for every sheet that is missing. What applies to the penny stamp may be said also of all other values, the highest of which is £5—an oblong stamp, not, however, much used.

"What are the protections against forgery?" was the question asked of a gentleman who knows more about postage stamps than anybody else in London.

"Well," said he, "there is first the water-mark and next the colour. The water-mark consists of a crown, and to each stamp there is one crown. On a sheet intended for penny stamps there are 240 crowns. There is nothing special about the paper except the water-mark."

"What about the colour?"

"That is applied by a secret process, and the result is that the stamps cannot be cleaned and used over again. These fugitive inks are a strong protection, for when you try to remove the obliteration marks the colour of the stamp itself will disappear first."

An inspection of stamps which have undergone this test bears out this last remark. In one example, the colour has faded before any progress has been made in rendering the mark of cancellation less distinct, and in another instance, a word written in ordinary ink across the stamp, has been cleaned off with the colour of the stamp beneath it, leaving a white band.

It may not be generally known that in the selection of the designs for a new set of postage stamps, the responsibility does not lie with the makers, but with the Post Office authorities, who, on the last occasion, appointed a special committee to pick out patterns from many thousands which were submitted to them. The existing stamps represent the survival of the fittest. Although it is claimed that the set which first appeared in the Jubilee year are not without artistic merit, this

consideration alone did not govern the choice.

(Will be concluded in our next.)

Private Sale & Exchange Column.

Rates:—30 words for 1/-; two insertions.

Collection of about 2 to 5,000 stamps wanted. Send full particulars with price to:—P. J. PAINTER, 9, Third Avenue, Queen's Park, W.

Save money by sending your circulars for distribution to the British Mailing Agency. Address:—W. R. DURIE, 48, Springcliffe, Bradford, Yorks.

Wanted, to exchange or purchase cheaply, adhesive stamps, etc., of the colleges of Oxford and Cambridge. Also Finland and Holland adhesives in quantity.—F. A. BELLAMY, 4, St. John's Road, Oxford. (Member of the Middlesex Stamp Exchange Society).

WANTED!

PROVISIONALS as soon as issued. 15% commission given.

Also the early issues of Ceylon and South Australia. Send with lowest price to:—

P. J. PAINTER, 9, Third Avenue, Queen's Park, London, W.

SAVE 12s. 6d. in the £.

By placing your printing in the hands of a cheap but trustworthy printer. Entire businesses conducted at low rates. Estimates free. The printer of 17 different papers.—WILLIAM LEWTHWAITE, North-rd., Egremont, Cumbd. All parcels carriage paid.

THE STAMP CHRONICLE AND CIRCULAR.

Vol. 1. No. 5.

MAY, 1893.

One Half-penny.

NOTICES.

SUBSCRIPTION.—One shilling (25 cents, = 1 mark, = 1fr. 10c. = 1 krone), post free to any part of the world. Unused stamps of lowest values accepted in payment.

Articles, Notes, particulars of new issues, etc., always welcome.

Correspondence in English, French and German.

Representatives required in every town in the United Kingdom, and for foreign countries. Terms free. Canvassing circulars supplied.

We have appointed the following agents, from whom this journal can be procured immediately after publication.

UNITED STATES.—Ralph P. Spooner, 37 Thirty Second-st., N. Y.

LONDON.—P. J. Painter, 9 Third Avenue, Queen's Park, W. (*Wholesale*). The International Philatelic Press Agency, 86 Leadenhall-st., E.C. Benjamin and Sarpy, 1 Cullum-st. Fenchurchst. E.C. The Stamp Agency Co., 62 Scovell-rd., Boro', S.E. The Bell Stamp Co., 101 Dartmouth-rd., Forest Hill, S.E. Edward Taylor, 20A New North Road, N. Argent and Co., 22 Hazelville-rd., Hornsey Rise. Eastoe and Co., 68 Neville-rd, Upton, E.

BATH.—The Universal Philatelic Advertising Agency, Sydney Buildings. The Bath Stamp Co., Bridge-st.

BRADFORD.—W. R. Durie, 48 Springcliffe.

YORK.—H. Fox, 18 Tanner-row.

KING'S LYNN.—G. W. Thompson, Y. M. C. A., 81 St. Jame's-st.

Middlesex Stamp Exchange Socy.

REPORT.

TWENTY three sheets value £40 11 3 have been received for the May packet.

I would again request members to send in their sheets by the 25th of each month, as I received no less than six on May 1st.

In future, sheets that arrive after the 28th of the month, will be held over for the following months packet, and in no case will a sheet be

sent on to join a packet, even if a stamped envelope is enclosed.

P. J. PAINTER, *Secretary*.

En Passant.

IN all probability, there will be separate stamps for Ireland, should the Home Rule bill be passed, but it rests with the future Irish Government. What will the design be, I wonder?

* * *

THERE are not many, I fancy, who are aware of the existence of postage stamps in this country, adorned with a portrait other than that of Queen Victoria. I have seen them, however. They bear the likeness of "Queen Maria Theres, Princess of Bavaria," which is surrounded by a latin inscription similar to that on our coins, but including the name "Mary IV." These, I must explain, are issued by the Jacobite League, and can be obtained for 3/- a hundred, gummed and perforated!

I HAVE been often struck with the miserable perforation of the Queensland stamps. It might be done with a pin to all appearances, and I have seen some stamps with the lower line of perforation completely obliterating the value inscription.

I NOTICE the Argentine Columbian stamps are not fetching the extravagant prices some people want us to believe. A pair were sold the other day for half-a-crown, and they have been advertised at not much more.

THE contents of some present day stamp papers are miserable in the extreme. About four or five columns of egotism, and some stamp auction clippings, constitute the greater part of the contents of very many philatelic journals having

pretensions to "influence" and "interesting matter" (sic). Whilst I am about it, I would respectfully invite a comparison of contents and price with some of our contemporaries.

I AM a stranger to "S. C. & C." readers, but I freely invite correspondence, and I have the assurance of the Editor that all interesting letters will be published. One or two stand over, owing to pressure on space.

DEALERS who have suffered from stamp thieves, are hereby informed that the pages of the "S. C. & C." are in future open for the insertion of names of any persons who have been found swindling the trade. Please note.

FISCALISTS are going ahead. They have now an exclusive journal, and an association of their own.

THE French Postmaster General proposes to issue books of postcards with counterfoils attached, similar to those in a blank cheque-book, so that each correspondent may make such an entry on the counterfoil as to date, circumstance, and address of the card as he might in the blank of his cheque-book. The cards are to be numbered, and the numbers to be repeated on the counterfoils.

—TIMBRO-PHIL.

HOW POSTAGE STAMPS ARE MADE.

Some of the Precautions Taken in Printing Them.

(Conclusion.)

"WHAT was the main point to be studied?" an expert was asked.

"The chief thing was that when a stamp had been obliterated, or cancelled, the Post Office people, by artificial light, should be readily able to distinguish the different values. It was important that they should be as able to do this at night as during the daytime, and more especially was it necessary in the checking off of the telegraph rates. Until the Jubilee, stamps used in this country were of a single colour, but since January, 1887, the 1½d., 2d., 4d., 5d., and 9d. have been printed in two colours; and since February, 1890, the 10d. stamp has also been in two colours. Since last September the 4½d. stamp has been similarly treated, for it has been found that the two colours give a much better contrast."

Stamps printed at the factory are sent in reams, not to the General Post Office, as one might imagine, but to Somerset House, where they are stocked.

It is very well known that stamps are used not merely as postage labels, but for inland revenue purposes, and perhaps that is the reason why the Post Office is not permitted to manage its own stamp distribu-

tion.

The way that stamps get into circulation, is simple.

When a local postmaster wants to replenish his store, he sends to Somerset House, and in return receives a parcel of stamps. Somerset House informs the General Post Office of the transaction, and the postmaster also acknowledges the receipt of the stamps in a daily return which he has to make to St. Martin's-le-Grand. The postmaster has to take his own precautions against theft, for they are charged to him, and he has to account for them in his daily balance sheet.

Yet, curiously enough, nobody ever knows the exact number of stamps which are sold for postage. Since the day when a certain Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Gladstone) realised the inconvenience of having no penny receipt stamp at hand, and used a postage stamp instead, the one stamp has been available for a double purpose, the Government, in view of the great public convenience the plan confers, has given up the attempt to distinguish postage from inland revenue.

"But," the writer objected when talking the matter to a high official, "how can you tell what the earnings of the Post Office really are?"

"Well," he replied, "if the Post Office was a joint stock company, we could not allow an inland revenue stamp and a postage stamp to

be identical, for we cannot 'ear mark' the one to distinguish it from the other; but as the money all goes into one purse, it doesn't matter. The Post Office pays for all stamps, and it can tell exactly how many of them are used for telegrams. It estimates the amount which properly belongs to postage, and it hands over the balance to inland revenue."

A black penny V.R. postage stamp, unused, was recently sold in Edinburgh for £6 5s. The plate for printing such a stamp is still preserved. The writer recently handled another plate, from which one million of the old red penny stamps had been printed.

Of course, the British Government is beyond the suspicion of making money out of philatelists. Not so some of the colonies. Certain of them, when an issue has become rare, and in great demand at a fancy price, have not been above ordering their contractor to reprint a few specimens for sale at a premium.

As one example, a fourpenny St. Vincent stamp, bearing a Queen's head resembling the old English penny stamp, has been converted into a fivepenny stamp by printing "5 pence" across it. It is alleged that this stamp was issued expressly to raise £100 to repair the Post Office, and it is on record that churches in Borneo and public buildings elsewhere have been built by the

money similarly obtained from the pockets of people who make stamp collecting their hobby.

THE END.

Philately's Enchantments.

By A. R. E.

AN old subject under a new title; but the pleasures and beauties of stamp collecting have struck me somewhat differently to what I have ever seen them expressed or commented upon, and I would point out to X. Y. Z. that there is a *bright* side of philately.

How aptly we find the rise and fall of empires and republics represented by our stamps, and how singularly interesting it is to trace out these historical events. The little island of Cuba we find quietly residing under the yoke of Spain, until when by a spirited revolution of very short duration, they endeavoured to shake off the yoke of the mother country, but failed. The tale of this brief and unsuccessful revolution is told us by the Cuban stamps. The long array of general issues for the colony, then that one little stamp issued by the revolutionists, but never used, shows how rapid was the rise and fall of the revolutionary party. Then follows the ceaseless array of the colonial issues, as a symbol of the restoration of peace and order.

Then again, what a lasting reminder of the great American Civil War is furnished us by those stamps issued by the Confederate States of America, bearing the familiar profile of their first and only President, Jefferson Davis, and in examining the dates and years of issue we see clearly the short life of this republic and its cessation prior to the Union.

Other interesting historical references are very numerous. The alternative rise and fall of the French Empire and Republic as illustrated in the stamps of France. The Peruvian Revolution, as shown by those "despised and rejected" surcharges, which we find so numerous. And the Mexico Santillio issue of 1864 clearly shows the failure of Maximilian to reach the (prospective) Mexican throne, and how he became so sure of success as to issue these stamps, yet failed at the near completion of his ambitious scheme.

In no manner is the scope and sway of an empire so shown as by its colonial stamps. Take Great Britain in countries large and small, governed by her in all parts of the world, we find the profile of "our gracious Queen" as a sign of Britain's widespread authority and dominion. Not only Britain, but other great European powers:—France, Portugal, Spain and Denmark, and others such have in their colonial issues, a fair illustration of the size and range of their dominions.

Much can we learn by a careful study of the historical associations of these little attractive stamps so widely and eagerly sought after.

Trade Items.

PHILATELISTS naturally wish to get as many stamps "first-hand" as possible. To those in want of Oriental stamps, and desirous of saving the middlemen's profits, the large, exhaustive, and handsome catalogue of Tchakidji and Co., of Constantinople will prove very welcome. A copy can be had for 2½d.; it is worth much more.

* * *

MR. W. T. Taylor has removed to 75, Freehold Street, Hull.

* * *

DEALERS, this journal is the finest philatelic advertising in Great Britain. Its rates are emphatically the lowest, and its influence is sure and far-reaching. Try it.

* * *

AN advertiser writes us that he finds the S. C. & C. a "genuinely good advertising medium," and books a continuance of his advertisement. Verb sap.

Postage Stamps OF THE YEAR.

MANY causes have combined to render the past year notable from

a stamp collector's point of view; indeed, both in the number of new issues and the reasons for their appearance, the last twelve months have been sufficiently remarkable.

Roughly speaking, there have been about 1,500 distinct postage stamps issued during that period, and when we add to this the number of minor varieties of perforation, errors in surcharges, etc., the total becomes a somewhat startling one.

The reasons for their appearance have been various. The reduction of the postage between Great Britain and the Colonies necessitated the employment of various provisional stamps of different values, called into existence by the exigencies of the lower rates. Most of these have now been superseded by the regular issues, and bid fair to become more or less scarce in the future.

The extension of the Parcel Post has likewise been responsible for fresh stamps, notably our own 4½d. value. This, though originally intended for the numerous parcels between one and two pounds in weight, is also much used for registered letters, as it just prepays the 2½d. rate, plus the registration fee of 2d.

Very few of the new issues, however, have not so good an excuse for their appearance.

Some of them, such as the annual issue for certain Central American States, owe their origin almost

entirely to the desire of the authorities to replenish their exchequers at the expense of the philatelist. For these the collector should wait until the next yearly batch comes out, when the remainders of the superseded issue can be purchased for a small sum.

To a similar motive must be ascribed the large number of "provisional" stamps emanating from various French colonies and possessions, the very existence of some of which had hardly been known before their inhabitants were seized with this insatiable desire for fresh stamps—and many of them. However, an authorised permanent issue has at length been made, and it is to be hoped that we have seen the last of the "provisionals."

The same remarks may be said to apply to the provinces and towns into which Portugal and her colonies have recently been divided for postal purposes—a partition necessitating some 400 different stamps, without counting the varieties formed by surcharging and utilising various remainders of former issues.

Nor, indeed, have all Her Majesty's subjects been during the past year absolutely free from all desire to turn an honest penny at the collector's expense. The inhabitants of certain small states in India must pass their whole existence in writing and posting letters, to judge by the number of new issues their post

offices are constantly providing ; yet nevertheless, they seem to need the schoolmaster's services badly, judging by the numerous errors in spelling shown on their stamps (in some cases even extending to the name of the state itself).

However, perhaps the end is in sight ; for each year, we are glad to say, finds an increase in the number of collectors who pay no attention to these *interesting* and *curious* varieties.

The spread of our colonising influence is shown by the issues for the Oil Rivers Protectorate, and the Cook Islands. The Protectorate extends over the coast district between the Rio del Rey and Lagos, with the exception of the Niger Mouth, which is part of the Royal Niger Company's territory ; while the Islands lie nearly 1,000 miles south-east of Samoa, and are best known as containing Raratonga, one of the earliest seats of missionary efforts in the South Seas.

The death of the King of Holland, so long ago as 1890, is responsible for a new series for that realm, differing from the corresponding values of the former set merely in the substitution of the head of the girl queen Wilhelmina for that of his late Majesty.

The issue of the series of French Colonial stamps previously referred to—each set of which is the counterpart of the others save for the altered name it bears—does not

perhaps tend to decrease the monotonous sameness of appearance.

(*Will be concluded in our next*).

NEW ISSUES AND NOVELTIES.

Argentine Republic. 3 cents orange, same type as current issue.

Brazil. 100 reis, pink. The design is a new one. In the centre is an effigy of Liberty, enclosed in a circular band inscribed " Republica dos E V do Brazil," "Correios" above, and below, "Reis 100 Reis."

Cape. The 2d. has been overprinted "One Penny" in black.

Ecuador. *Le Timbre Post* chronicles the adaption of some of the 1892 issue inscribed "Telegrafos" into postage stamps by cutting off the inscription ! Really, *this* is too much.

Fiji. Three stamps of a new type are now in use here. We have the 1d. black, 1d. green, and 5d. blue. A native in a boat with the sun behind him is the central design, and we understand a 2d. stamp is to follow. We will wait awhile, however.

France. Messrs the Bath Stamp Co., send us the current 5 centimes overprinted "Cavalle," "Dédèagh," and "Port Lagos" in red. We have also the 15c. and learn that the 10, 25 and 50 centimes are surcharged in the same manner.

Jhind. The post officials of this state evidently have an eye to business. We have whole sheets *postmarked* of the obsolete issues.

Mauritius. We have the 8 cents blue overprinted in black thin capitals one cent, and sincerely trust this is the last of the recent batch.

Portugal. The *Monthly Journal* chronicles the obsolete 50 and 100 reis surcharged "Provisorio," and we have the new type 100 reis brown on yellow.

Queensland. The 2d. blue has been surcharged 2½d. in black.

St. Vincent. The *Record* chronicles the 2½d. black on 4d. claret.

Tasmania. *Le Timbre Post* reports the ½d. stamp design embossed in green on wrappers.

United States. Two new 8 cents stamps have been issued, one is of the Columbus series, and the other represents General Sherman, brown.

The new envelopes are also to hand. We are indebted to J. K. Tiffany, and to Messrs The Bath Stamp Co., for some fine specimens used and unused of the 1 cent blue; 2 cents maroon; 5 cents chocolate; and 10 cents brown. The design is as previously chronicled herein, but somewhat disappointing in appearance. It looks "clumsy" in our opinion, and the stamp would be improved were it smaller, as it is, it occupies no inconsiderable

portion of the whole envelope.

WANTED ADDRESS.

5/- Reward given. 2/6 each address. J. NEWELL, late trading as Anglo-American Stamp Co., 26, Eden-st., Kingston-on-Thames; and Edward COLLINS, late of Ceylon Villa, 36, Queen's Crescent, London, N.W.

Any information desired by The BATH STAMP Co., BATH

Private Sale & Exchange Column.

Rates:—30 words for 1/-; two insertions.

Collection of about 2 to 5,000 stamps wanted. Send full particulars with price to:—P. J. PAINTER, 9, Third Avenue, Queen's Park, W.

Save money by sending your circulars for distribution to the British Mailing Agency. Address:—W. R. DURIE, 48, Springcliffe, Bradford, York.

1,000 handbills, 7 × 5½, printed in grand display type and sent carriage paid for 4/-. Specimen post free.—WILLIAM LEWTHWAITE, North Road, Egremont, Cumberland.

Wanted, to exchange or purchase cheaply, adhesive stamps, etc., of the colleges of Oxford and Cambridge. Also Finland and Holland adhesives in quantity.—F. A. BEL-LAMY, 4, St. John's Road, Oxford. (Member of the Middlesex Stamp Exchange Society).

SPECIAL! 100 Colonials 8½d. post free. 50 4½d. 50 unused 9d. HABERSTRAW, Park Terrace, Swansea.

70 stamps, no German, including Argentine, U. S. Columbus, Mexico, Rajpepla, Venezuela, West Australia, Japan, etc., 3½d. Breaking up collection, sheets on approval, half price. Address:—J. W. J., "Stamp Chronicle" office.



THE
Stamp Chronicle
and Circular.



A
JOURNAL
FOR
PHILATELISTS.

The
Official
Organ
of
The
Middlesex
Stamp
Exchange
Society.

Vol. 1. No. 6. JUNE, 1893.

One Half-penny.

NOTICES.

SUBSCRIPTION.—One shilling (25 cents; 1 mark; 1fr. 10c.; 1 krone), post free to any part of the world. Unused stamps of lowest values accepted in payment.

Articles, Notes, Particulars of New Issues, etc., always welcome.

Correspondence in English, French and German.

Representatives required in every town in the United Kingdom, and for foreign countries. Terms free. Canvassing circulars supplied.

We have appointed the following agents, from which this journal can be procured immediately after publication.

UNITED STATES.—Ralph P. Spooner, 37 Thirty Second-st., N.Y.

LONDON.—P. J. Painter, 9 Third Avenue, Queen's Park, W. (WHOLESALE.)

The International Philatelic Press Agency, 86 Leadenhall-st., E.C.

Benjamin and Sarpy, 1 Cullum-st., Fenchurch-st., E.C.

The Stamp Agency Co., 62 Scovell-rd., Boro', S.E.

The Belle Stamp Co., 101 Dartmouth-rd., Forest Hill, S.E.

Edward Young, 20A New North-rd., N.

Argent and Co., 22 Hazelville-rd., Hornsey Rise.

Eastoe and Co., 68 Neville-rd., Upton, E.

Underwood and Co., Stockwell Park-rd., Brixton.

BATH.—The Universal Philatelic Advertising Agency, Sydney Buildings.

The Bath Stamp Co., Bridge-st.

BRADFORD.—W. R. Durie, 48 Springcliffe.

DORSET AND DISTRICT.—H. L. Ewen, Swanage.

YORK.—H. Fox, 18 Tanner-row.

KING'S LYNN.—G. W. Thompson, Y.M.C.A., 81 St. Jame's-st.

The Middlesex Stamp Exchange Socy.—REPORT.

FOR the June Packet 26 sheets value £42 5s. 6d. have been sent in. Since the April packet started on its round, the Society has been strengthened by the addition of 3 more members, thus bringing the total membership to 34.

If any member has an article of interest for publication, the editor of this paper would be glad to receive same.

P. J. PAINTER, (Secretary)

En Passant.

As will be observed, space is somewhat encroached upon by advertisements this month. If this continues, we shall have to enlarge, I believe.

THE 9 cent 1875 U. S. A. news-paper stamp is rapidly increasing in value.

WHITFIELD King and Co., have their office papered with unused "stamps" in 48 varieties. It is said they spent over £125 on the job.

ORDERS for the Columbian stamps in advance from Europe, reached the sum total of \$200,000.

THE Postmaster of Panama warns philatelists against some bogus surcharges on the current postage stamps, the post officials having issued none.

THE French, who pride themselves on their being the leaders of Art in Europe, are very much disgusted with their inartistic stamps. They point out with envy how America have succeeded in handing to posterity the features of their great presidents. They suggest, therefore, that each of the stamps represent some great man or woman from the annals of French History.

THE *Philatelist* devotes a page to poetry, sentimental and otherwise. *Das Echo* comes out regularly with comic effusions!

SOME new yankee stamp papers are the Ohio Stamp, the Philatelic Puck, Philatelic Argosy, Collector's Press, Pennsylvania Philatelist, American Collector, Philatelic Sun. There is also the Philatelic Journal of Canada, which booms a monthly plate of new issues in their original colours! An oriental stamp paper is likewise announced, and all this shows that philately is very lively indeed just now.

THE Oil River Protectorate is now formed into a separate state, under the title of the Niger Coast Protectorate, so there will be new stamps in due course.

A FEW copies of No. 2 are for sale, price 1½d. each, post free. Address the publisher.

—TIMBRO-PHIL.

The Dull Season.

ABOUT this time of the year, the so-called dull season in stamps commences, and dealers of doubtful mind, and slow business ability, loudly bewail its evil effects on their trade and custom, heedless of the fact that they act like so many sheep, blindly "following the lead," when as good a business can be

This paper reaches phil. in Europe, Asia, Africa, America & Australasia.

done in the summer as other times of the year.

Being one of the traditions of the trade that a dull stamp season is in force about this time, the great majority of dealers religiously keep to this belief, and as sure as the warm weather comes around, so there arises a general groan from the "trade" about the dullness of business.

Hardly one bestirs himself to step out of the beaten path, and help to alter the state of affairs.

The connection formed amongst customers in the winter months is gradually allowed to fall off as the milder weather approaches; the "dull" season is at hand, the average dealer says, and he therefore believes it useless to continue his regular trade, and when customers naturally drop off, he folds his arms resignedly and says, "Ah, well! this is the usual dull time of the year."

When almost everyone in the stamp business acts the same old comedy regularly every twelve months, with a blind disregard of the fact that he is acting very stupidly, is it to be wondered that such a state of things exists.

Some dealers actually go so far as not to advertise during the summer months, because it is the "dull season!"

That is the time to do so, that is the time to advertise, and those dealers with enough common sense

in them to see the truth of this, act up to it, and reap the benefit accordingly.

The condition of affairs I have briefly dwelt upon, needs a prompt and energetic reform, and once this is done, it will be much to the gain of philately, and its devotees in general.

I, myself, follow the course I think the only sensible one, and my business continues the same from month to month; I lose nothing, and profit much by it.

—DER HANDLER.

The Postal Service in Morocco.

UP to late, there has been no post in Morocco.

Missionaries and special couriers were the only means by which these half civilized people correspond with Europe. The country has no roads nor railways; there are no bridges over the rivers, and therefore communication with the various towns is worked by couriers on their camels. Tangiers on the coast, in sight of Gibraltar, is the official capital, where of late, all the European powers have their Ambassadors and Consuls.

England and Spain have established Post Offices. France also, in 1888.

Thus for the present there are in Tangiers three postal centres. The Spanish, using the current

You like our appearance? Then why not subscribe? Only 1s. remember.

stamps of Spain; the English using the Gibraltar stamps, and the French using the ordinary French stamps with a Spanish surcharge of value,—the 5 and 25c. in red, and 50c. and 1 peseta in black; the stamps with a 15c. surcharge, offered for sale, are spurious.—(*Das Echo.*)

Since the above was penned, probably there has been a separate and distinct issue, designated the "Tangier-Fez," stamps of which are now to be procured used and unused.—(*Ed.*)

Postage Stamps of the Year.

(*Conclusion.*)

ABOUT which so many complaints are made, but against these may fairly be put numbers of recent stamps which afford a pleasing relief from the old stereotyped designs.

Among these may be mentioned the new issue for Barbados, the design of which is highly allegorical, and its appropriateness equally unintelligible. Nevertheless, it affords a picturesque and welcome relief from the eternal sameness of the well-known "De La Rue" types which seemed to be gradually supplanting all the varied and quaint designs formerly used in our Colonies and dependencies.

Liberia also has enriched our albums with a series of delicate and beautiful steel engravings, comprising, besides emblematical devices and its President's portrait, some fine pictures of the fauna and flora of that favoured region, while the set for Nicaragua commemorate the anniversary of the discovery of America, the scene chosen being the moment when Columbus has just sighted land.

Other American States have followed this example by making certain stamps and other postal stationery mementoes of the great navigator, several of these special stamps, etc., having been in use for one day.

In this respect, however, the palm must be awarded to the United States, which have issued a complete series (to be current only during the present year) of stamps, the main design of which is some striking incident, or portrait, connected with Columbus. The stamps are probably the finest set ever issued; but, as they only came into use on January 1st, a description of them does not fall within the scope of this article.

Address all Communications to:—

R. T. Haberstraw,

20, Park Terrace, Swansea.

Exchange with all stamp papers.

Advertisers, our Rates are the lowest. Can you afford to lose the chance?

Trade Notes.

MESSRS Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. have removed to fine spacious premises at 391, Strand, of five stories high.

Do you find trade dull? If so, find new customers. The only SURE way is to advertise your wares in this paper. Surely 2,000 copies will secure you a large return. Try it. Our rates are still the lowest in this country. We are making arrangements to enlarge our size, and consequently rates will go up with a rush.

THE attention of dealers is drawn to Fisher Titley and Co's advertisement. Wholesale lots at low prices are very welcome now-a-days.

The Art of Stamp

✠ Mounting. ✠

IT is now-a-days quite a *sine qua non* that stamps be mounted in such a manner that the watermark, if any, can be examined; and the simplest plan is by gumming a piece of thin paper to the top edge of the stamp, which, when dry, is turned down behind the stamp, and forms a paper hinge, by which the stamp is fastened into the book, while the stamp itself can be turned up when required to show the back.

When you have a lot of stamps to mount, the best plan is as follows: Get a sheet of thin paper (foreign note-paper will do), lay it on a piece of blotting paper, gum about one-sixteenth-of-an-inch of the top edge of each stamp, and fasten the stamps side by side along the edge of the sheet of paper, pressing a bit of blotting paper on each stamp as you fix it, to absorb the superfluous gum. When the row of stamps is full, take your scissors and cut the whole strip off, leaving the strip of paper rather smaller than the length of the stamp, *i.e.*, so that, when folded back, the paper may not show below the bottom of any stamp. Proceed in this manner till you have mounted all your stamps. Then, to separate them from each other, you take a strip, and hold it with the stamps pointing away from you, and cut across the strip from the edge of it to the corner of the first stamp, and go along the whole strip in the same manner, letting the cuts be very slightly oblique, so that no portion of the hinge shall show when turned down. If the last cut of the last stamp in the row presents any difficulty, turn the strip over, and cut it while holding it up to the light. We always finish a whole batch thus far before we begin to separate the stamps from each other, which is done by tearing them carefully apart. The paper hinge is then folded down behind the stamp, and the date,

One shilling secures you a copy monthly for one year. Subscribe now.

perforation, watermark, etc., can then be written on the hinge, underneath the stamp. To mount in the album, a very tiny drop of gum is put in the centre of the back of the hinge. This is the whole art of mounting on the hinge system. If you prefer ready-made and ready-gummed mounts, buy them of dealers for about 3s. or 3s. 6d. per 1000. In any case, be careful that the fold of the hinge comes exactly along the top edge of the stamp. Collectors who ought to know better put the paper mount to cover half the stamp and have the fold at half-an-inch from the top edge, so that not only is the watermark more or less hidden, but in turning up the stamp for examination the top part of it gets creased, as with such mounting it is impossible to turn the stamp up so that it shall lie face downwards, which it does if mounted according to our plan.

New Issues and Novelties.

(We shall be very grateful for particulars of any new stamps, etc., for insertion under this heading.)

Argentine Republic. Post-card, 3c. yellow, on buff. Letter Card, ditto.

Bolivia. *Le Timbre Post* chronicles the adaption of the 5c. and 10c. fiscals (deep blue) for postal purposes here. They are surcharged "Transacciones."

Belgium. We are indebted to Jules Leger, Esq., for the new "Dominical" stamps. The 10c. is of the usual size, but with a small label attached to it at the foot, bearing the words, "Not to deliver on Sunday" in French and Dutch, separated by perforation. Colour, reddish-brown on white. We gave an intimation of this issue in our first number.

Brazil. *Der Philatelist* chronicles the 10 reis, blue, 20, ochre, and 50, green, of the new issue.

Hayti. There are the 3c. grey, and 5c. yellow-brown now in circulation of the current type.

Roumania. Wrapper, 1½ bania, black on light blue.

Sandwich Isles. *The Stamp News* states that a large number of obsolete issues are to be surcharged as provisionals.

Spain. Apropos of the article on "Morocco" in this issue, we learn from an American paper that a 15 centimes stamp has been issued for the Spanish post offices in that country, colour blue.

Transvaal. It seems the ½d. current type has been printed in the colour of the 4d. (green).

Turk's Island. Adhesive, 2½, blue, wmk. C.&C.A.

Victoria. A French journal states that the 1s. stamp is now printed in red.

Zululand. The British 3d. is now surcharged in the usual manner for this country,

Roumania. Messrs the Bath Stamp Co., oblige us with the new 5 bani postcard. The arms are in the left corner, and stamp in the right. "Carta Postala," colour, green on grey.

ART IN PHILATELY.

By ROWLAND CHALMERS MILLAIS.

PERHAPS the chief charm in stamp collecting is the unique and pleasing appearance of a well-filled album of varied contents. The innumerable shades of colour, the different shapes and sizes, and the many artistic and beautiful designs form an attraction of no mean kind to other than the philatelist, in fact, many a ribald sceptic has been entered in the service of philatelia, merely attracted by the artistic inducements of the "hobby."

Foremost among the many pictorial gems of the album, appear the exquisitely engraved stamps of the South and Central American States, which, always peculiarly intricate and unique in design have of late years reached the highest pinnacle of excellence.

The last issue of Honduras is a magnificent series of handsomely tinted frames enclosing the portrait of the President.

Nicaragua excels itself this year, as also does Ecuador, which latter state, perhaps, bears the palm for

beauty of design and originality in conception. The "Deficit" and Telegraph stamps recently issued by Chili are also most handsome stamps, particularly the latter.

Everyone is familiar with the view of San José on the 1862 Costa Rica issue, which is perhaps one of the best of the earliest examples of art in stamps. Of late years this state has contented itself with unassuming portraits of Generals and Presidents.

The "Map" of Panama is very familiar to collectors, and it is worthy of note that the 4/- New South Wales is the only other stamp with a map as its centre design. Some of the early issues of the Granadian Confederation are perfectly unique, as regards peculiarity of conception, and intricacy of design; they are splendid examples of the engraver's skill, and always a striking feature in an album. Further North the limited States claims our attention, and their magnificent Columbian issue will hold its own for many a year to come among the gems of the album.

Our own Colonies are not strikingly conspicuous, by reason of the monotonous De La Rue type, and most pictorial curiosities are to be found in the earlier issues, especially as regards the Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and kindred issues.

Speaking of the Colonies, I have observed that New South Wales is

Splendid original articles in preparation. Subscribe, and don't miss them.

always noticeable for novelty in design, as compared with her sister colonies.

Barring some of the old German States stamps, European issues cannot be termed anything out of the common if we except the peculiar San Marino types.

Russia is remarkable for some very pretty blends of colour, especially in the earlier issues, and her local stamps are in many instances gorgeously arrayed in all the colours of the rainbow, with a judicious dash of gold and silver, which by the bye, is to be observed to good effect in the Aalborg issues.

Scandinavian Locals are always conspicuous in the best filled albums by reason of their gaudy colours and quaint design.

After all is said, however, for all round excellence, and sensible and attractive conception of design, give me the present British stamps, which if not so "pictorial" as the stamps I have briefly mentioned, are objects of the greatest admiration, as faultless specimens of engraving.

I may as well mention that many of those countries and states who issue stamps of many colors and striking design, do so with an eye to the profits to be derived by their sale to philatelists.

If the collector will take up his album (as no doubt he often will!), and scan its pages, he will discover other examples such as I have briefly

described of stamp representative of
"ART IN PHILATELY."

Private Sale & Exchange Column.

Rates.—20 words for 6d.

Collection of about 2 to 5,000 stamps wanted. Send full particulars with price to:—P. J. PAINTER, 9, Third Avenue, Queen's Park, W.

Save money by sending your circulars for distribution to the British Mailing Agency. Address:—W. R. DURIE, 48, Springcliffe, Bradford, York.

1,000 coloured handbills, 7x5½, printed in good display type on paper seven colours and sent carriage paid for 4/-. Specimen post free.—WM. LEWTHWAITE, North Road, Egremont, Cumberland.

Wanted No. 1 "S. C. & C." 1½d. each offered. Address Publisher.

SPECIAL! 100 Colonials 8½d post free; 50 4½d. 50 unused 9d. HABERSTRAW, Park Terrace, Swansea.

Wanted to exchange or purchase cheaply, adhesive stamps, etc., of the colleges of Oxford and Cambridge. Also Finland and Holland adhesives in quantity F. A. BELLAMY, 4, St. John's Road, Oxford. (Member of the Middlesex Stamp Exchange Society).

70 stamps, no German, including Argentine, U. S. Columbus, Mexico, Rajppeepla, Venezuela, West Australia, Japan, etc., 3½d. Breaking up collection, sheets on approval, half price. Address:—J. W. J., "Stamp Chronicle" office.

H. P'Estrange Ewen, Swanage, Dorset, has several books of English Stamps, carefully arranged, which he will send on receipt of satisfactory references. New catalogue of English stamps, complete, 6d. post free.

GRATIS! We will give 50 different stamps to all applying for sheets (4d. in the 1/- discount). Enclose 1d. stamp for postage.—W. CORNISH & Co., Hoe-st., Walthamstow.

Send your advertisements for this column as early in the month as possible.



THE Stamp Chronicle and Circular.



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JOURNAL
FOR
PHILATELISTS.

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Published by **R. T. Haberstraw**, Park Terrace, Swansea.

Vol. I. No. 7.

JULY, 1893.

One Half-penny.

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DORSET AND DISTRICT.—H. L. Ewen, Swanage.

YORK.—H. Fox, 18 Tanner-row.

KING'S LYNN.—G. W. Thompson, Y. M. C. A., 81 St. Jame's-st.

All Communications to 20, Park Terrace, Swansea.

The Middlesex Stamp Exchange Society.—REPORT.

The July packet is a very poor one, only 19 sheets having been sent in, value £27 3s. 9d.

I beg to request all members to do their best and send in good sheets for the August and September packets.

In next month's report, I shall have something to say regarding a member who I have detected changing stamps, etc.—P. J. Painter, Secy.

En Passant.

Now that philatelists are expecting "Home Rule" stamps—although the G. O. M. does not approve of an issue—it may be of interest to readers to



learn that an essay of a 24 cents stamp, in green, of the "Fenian Republic" was prepared, and we give a reproduction of the design, from a block kindly lent by Messrs A. Smith and Co., Bath.

THE 6 cents Columbus stamp will be one of the rarest of the series, used. Dealers over here are paying their friends to put them on letters as overcharge, merely to secure specimens. I have in my possession a fine block of twelve 10 cents used.

ONE of the most amusing things it has been our lot to peruse, appears in a French contemporary, the editor of which rashly attempts an "article" in English, by way of a novelty, which it certainly is. It fairly bristles with appalling blunders and mistakes, and this is an extract:—"What galery of noble names!! Nicaragua, the volcanic mountain, China, the dragoon!" which is slightly confusing. The writer says:—"American stamp collectors mostly know very little about foreing countries"; this is

rather severe on our yankee friends, but the article, altogether, deserves perusal, and will shame many a "sketch" in our so-called comic papers. It is a lesson to over zealous editors.

THE catalogue of British American Stamps in the *Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser* is a sample of the articles really of interest to philatelists, which the average philatelic paper too often ignores now-a-days, and which we would like to see more of.

THE *Philatelic Review of Reviews* is all very well, but what do the editors of the various journals say to having their best articles "cribbed." It is certainly a cheap method of filling ones paper, and one not usually coming under the title of plagiarism, but still it is to my mind, a rather cool proceeding.

THE *Stamp Collector's Journal* is devoting a little more space to philatelic reading this month, which is something to be thankful for.

WILL the editor of *Krumb's* accept my best thanks for his courtesy.

AMERICAN friends, kindly remit in Columbian values.

J. STANHOPE, a wealthy farmer in Indianapolis, U.S.A., has papered his best parlour with nearly \$4,000

Will you show this to a philatelic friend, please.

worth of Columbian stamps of all denominations.

CHINA has made application for admission to the Postal Union. The native organization will entirely disappear, and be replaced by an Imperial Post Office.

THERE is a professional stamp repairer about here, who for a small fee will dexterously repair torn or mutilated stamps. His specialty is in restoring the margin to cut envelope stamps.

STANLEY Gibbons Limited, exhibit a postal wrapper almost entirely covered with all values of the recently issued provisional stamps, postmarked.

—TIMBRO-PHIL.

To the Editor S. C. and C.

DEAR SIR,

I agree in part with your contributor on the "Dull Season," but at the same time it is a fact that many collectors take their holidays about this time, and trade suffers to a certain extent. This is however, not sufficient reason for entirely abandoning business, and as a protest against this, the article was a welcome one.

Yours, etc,

ANOTHER DEALER

ALL we ask for is a fair trial of our advertising space. Our rates defy comparison in the U.K.

"Reprints."

A COPY of the above work is to hand, and it should be in the possession of every philatelist in the land. To such, it is absolutely indispensable, as it discriminates 'twixt the reprint and the original in such a clear and concise manner that it can be easily understood and acted upon. The work is well illustrated, and tastefully bound. At rs. 6d. it is marvellously cheap, even in this age of cheap literature, and it is to be had from Messrs. Hilckes, Kirkpatrick and Co., 64, Cheapside, E.C.

Trade Notes.

SOME business maxims not to be passed unheeded. They speak by truth.

If you have a good business, advertise and keep it; if not, advertise and get it.

IN dull time advertise for customers, and in brisk times advertise for more customers; to be successful advertise persistently.

AN advertisement drops the same thought into a thousand minds at almost the same moment.—*Alexis de Tocqueville.*

A MAN can get along without

This footnote idea is up-to-date; like the paper, perhaps.

advertising, so can a wagon without grease—but it goes hard.

THIS journal is circulated in every quarter of the United Kingdom, and in shops in London, to none but those interested in stamps. 2,000 copies of your advertisement are seen by as many, and more collectors, etc., therefore, poor results are impossible. Our foreign circulation equals a fourth of our whole issue.

ALFRED Williams', Benjamin and Sarpy's, Gaedeckens', Boucard and Pottiers' and Postlethwaite's wholesale lists to hand.

Trade Notes

New Issues and Novelties.

Bolivia. We learn from the *Monthly Journal* that the *Newspaper Stamps*, supposed to have been issued in commemoration of a railway opening, are utter frauds, and were got up by a Parisian. We had warnings from private sources at the time, and consequently neither stock or collection contains a single specimen.

Cape of Good Hope. A new stamp is in preparation, of handsome and appropriate design.

Lagos. 1/2d. card surcharged 1d. in black.

Nicaragua. A new postcard is to hand, blue and red, value 2 cents, of striking design.

Seychelles. We have received a sheet of the 16 cents surcharged 12 cents.

Shanghai. The *Monthly Journal* reports the issue of two adhesives:—1/2c. in blue, on 15 cents violet, and 1c. in blue, on 20c. brown.

Switzerland. The Confederation intend issuing a special postcard to commemorate the fiftieth year of stamps in Switzerland. Value 5c. colour mauve.

Venezuela. Sen. V. Colenzos sends us the new 25c. stamp. It is of very handsome design. Colour, blue.

—EDITOR

The Penny Stamps of Gt. Britain.

By H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN.

The general idea among collectors is that the used penny stamps of Great Britain, especially the red ones, are worthless or nearly worthless, and consequently little attention is paid to them. This is no doubt due to the very low prices offered by dealers for them, who in buying large quantities, have to allow for the large percentage of bad specimens they usually find. These damaged stamps are worthless for philatelic purposes, but no doubt do well enough for covering vases, or for making "snakes."

What varieties should be collected? A general collector would

We want readable articles and notes. This is what we are aiming for.

probably be satisfied with six or a dozen of the most distinct. A specialist, on the other hand, should not be content with used specimens only, but should also have a collection of unused, and used on original covers, and not of a dozen varieties, but of several hundreds. Then, again, single specimens should not only be sought, but also pairs, strips and blocks. Again, a set of stamps showing the various cancellations used, would be an interesting addition to a collection. A specialist, too, should not forget shades, nor any errors or curiosities, which would make a collection more interesting. Specimens with large margins, especially if showing part of the inscription, early impressions, and those from worn plates, all these should have spaces allotted them. I will now give a list of varieties of the penny stamps which have been issued since May 1840.

1840. 1d. black. Shades may be found varying from deep black to grey. The watermark, a small crown, is sometimes found inverted. The variety, well known as the "1d. black V. R." has these two letters in the upper angles in the place of the usual stars. The cancellation employed was a Maltese Cross, in red until the middle of February, 1841, and in black until 1844, when it was superseded by one of parallel lines in the centre of which was the official number of the cancelling office. This latter is found in black,

and occasionally in violet or blue. The numbers of the London offices, 1 to 12, were inserted first in 1843, in the centre of the Maltese Crosses. The 1d. black was in use until June, 1841, but the 1d. red was procurable at a few offices as early as January, so that specimens are to be found with the Maltese Cross obliteration in red, though these are exceedingly rare. All the above named are to be found on the 1d. of 1841.

1841. 1d. red. Specimens with inverted watermarks are not very rare. The chief varieties of this stamp are to be found on the back, instead of the face as usual. First, the head sometimes appears white, while the remainder of the back is blue or greenish-blue. These are known as "ivory heads." On other stamps the head appears deep blue on a bluish-green back ground. Sometimes the paper has not a trace of blue, and is known as white, though it is yellowish. Again, the paper is sometimes thick and sometimes thin. This stamp was printed in a large number of shades of red, so that a hundred varieties should be easily obtained.

1847. In this year Mr. Henry Archer made his first trial of his perforating machine. This machine made jagged cuts of varying length, and at different distances from each other, while that of 1848, made regular incisions. The improved machine of 1849 perforated sheets

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with irregular oval-shaped holes, 15 to every 2 centimetres. 5,000 sheets were altogether experimented on, most of which were destroyed, only a few finding their way to the public through post offices. A few sheets are said to have been given by Mr. Archer to some of his friends. Perforated stamps were first generally issued in April 1854. At first they were perforated 16, and stamps thus perforated were issued until December 1855, and again temporarily in February and March 1858.

(To be concluded in our next.)

The Black List.

Philatelists in general are WARN-ED against the following.

E. S. Haddon, Goodwood House, Bognor.

J. Newell, (late) 28, Eden Street, Kingston-on-Thames.

A. Ambler, 24, Mansfield Road, Haverstock Hill.

T. Cuthbert, 33, Southampton-st., Hampstead Heath, N.W.

R. J. Pale, 62, Commercial Road, Bournemouth.

F. Howard, The College, Cleobury Mortimer, Salop.

H. Gray, 324, Mile End Road, E.

Gas. T. Gibbs, 31, Sycamore-rd., Smethwick.

H. Heath, (late) 183, Strand, London.

(Dealers, etc., who have been victimised are requested to send lists of defaulter's names as early as possible. No charge for insertion.)

Correspondence.

J. K. TIFFANY, ESQ.—Did our last reach you, please? Several letters went astray by that Mail.

GILBERT AND CATO (Durham).—You may send us a mixed parcel for cash, on approval. Append prices and register.

ALLAN F. LITTLE, ESQ. (Kalkaska).—We now await yours. Thanks.

H. E. DEATS, ESQ.—To save you inconvenience, we send (new Jersey) a reserved copy of No. 1. Kindly acknowledge safe receipt.

Private Sale & Exchange Column.

Rates.—20 words for 6d.

50 Stamps, all different, many obsolete, post free 3d. 10 varieties of clean and entire Postcards, post free 6d. 12 varieties of cut Postcards, including used and unused, post free 3d.—The Belle Stamp Co., 101, Dartmouth Road, Forest Hill, S. E.

Wer mir 100 marken seines Landes sendet, erhalt ebensoviele guten gros sbrtannien und Colonien.—R. T. Habers-traw, 20, Park Terrace, Swansea, Eng-land.

Send for specimens of the Pocket Cata-logues, now preparing, to Wm. Lewth-waite, Steam Printer, North Road, Eg-remont, Cumberland. One customer says—"You have saved me £4 10s. as your estimate was that amount below any other estimate received." Send business card for trade terms, which is offered to all business men.

Wanted, Gibbon's Catalogue. State date. Cash, or exchange stamps, or Smith's 1862 Catalogue, bound. A. T., Editor, "Stamp Chronicle."

For 6d. Fancy. A 20 word advertise-ment brought before 2,000 readers for the small sum of 6d.

Write to Melzer for Cheap Approval Sheets. 25% discount.—34, Lancaster Road, Westbourne Park, London, W.

Have you anything to Exchange, or to dispose of? Then you will find this col-umn a cheap medium.

When answering ads. please mention this paper.

H. l'Estrange Ewen, Swanage, Dorset, has several books of English Stamps carefully arranged, which he will send on receipt of satisfactory references. New Catalogue of English Stamps, complete, 6d. post free.

Offers invited for 500 well assorted Railway Stamps. Wanted British philatelic papers for advertising purposes.—Union Jack, Egremont, Cumberland.

Gratis. We will give 50 different stamps to all applying for sheets (4d. in the 1/- discount). Enclose 1d. stamp for postage.—W. Cornish and Co., Hoe-st., Walthamstow.

70 stamps, no German, including Argentine, U. S. Columbus, Mexico, Raj-pepla, Venezuela, West Australia, Japan, etc., 3½d. Breaking up collection, sheets on approval, half price. Address:—J. W. J., "Stamp Chronicle" office.

Save money by sending your circulars for distribution to the British Mailing Agency. Address:—W. R. Durie, 48, Springcliffe, Bradford, Yorks.

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1,000 coloured handbills 7x5½, printed in good display type on paper seven colours, and sent carriage paid for 4/-. Specimen post free.—Wm. Lewthwaite, Steam Printer, North Road, Egremont, Cumberland.

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